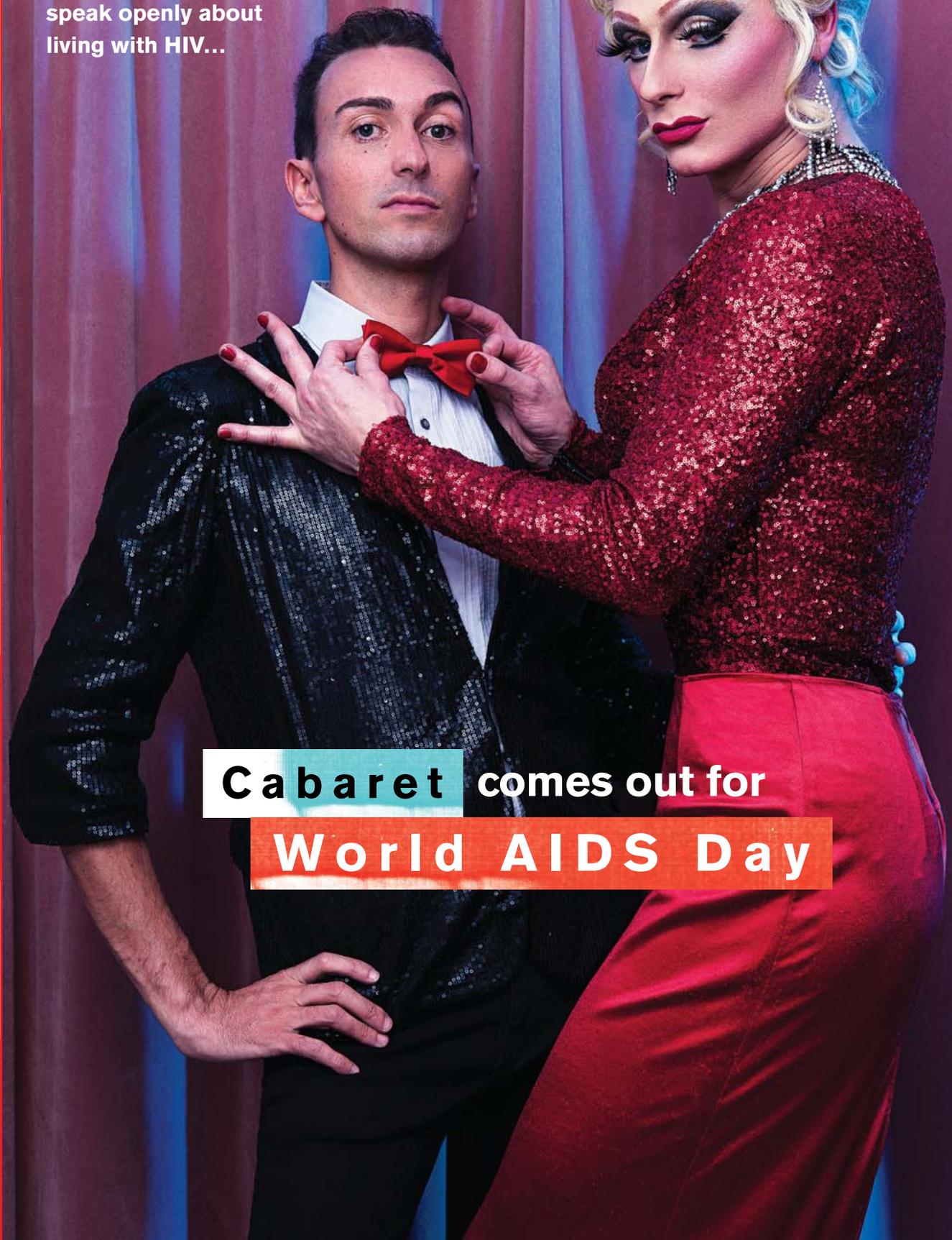


Drag performer **VANILLA LUSH** and QX writer **JASON REID** break the silence to speak openly about living with HIV...



Cabaret comes out for
World AIDS Day

Honestly

Lush



Almost 1 in 8 gay and bisexual men in London are HIV positive. The gay scene is a huge community yet so few drag performers, DJs or scene personalities are openly HIV positive. As World AIDS Day approaches, **Vanilla Lush**, who is well known on the cabaret circuit as one third of drag troupe The Supreme Fabulettes, is making a statement and coming 'out' as HIV positive. Speaking to Cliff Joannou, Vanilla – aka Aalbert Martijn Smit - hopes his actions will help others feel they can be more open about their status, and make those who are HIV negative to think twice before judging others who are living with the virus...

found out I was HIV+ in September of 1999 when I was 21 years young.

In the summer of '98, the Amsterdam gay scene was wild: clubs, pubs, saunas and drugs were part of every day life, and as a young student from the provinces I thought

it couldn't get any better. I had come out to my typically Dutch parents a few years before, with no trouble at all I must add, and moved to the big city to study with full support of my mum and dad.

Dad even sorted me out a list of nightspots to avoid, courtesy of his colleagues at the Amsterdam police force.

Med school turned out to be terribly boring in comparison to club life and drag so after a few months I dropped out. I would instead host parties and lip-synch songs as Amsterdam's hottest new drag queen - or so I thought. The reality was I was off my face most of the time barely able to spell my own name, let alone remember the lyrics to the latest floor filler by Two Unlimited.

Half a year went past and I met a lovely guy who, after a few months of whirlwind romance, asked me to move in with him. I told my parents the news, picked up my things, and moved to London. We enjoyed settled life together, working during the week while going out clubbing

once or twice a month. After about six months living together we decided to go for a health screening. His results came back the next week and were all clear. The following day we went to collect mine and were told the shocking news. I tested positive for HIV. I will never forget the look on his face.

I remember it very clearly: we thought everything would be fine because he was fine, right? Wrong. Everything fell apart. Not only had I been diagnosed HIV+, now it was very likely I had infected the man I loved. An awfully long wait for his new results began.

To help us to come to terms with my status in the mean time, we attended several gay forums where you talk endlessly, hoping for an epiphany. I thought of myself as far too Dutch for all this and assumed I could just accept my diagnosis for what it was, tell my parents and move on. So my forum-breakthrough would be just that. I picked-up the phone and called them. Bless my parents, they wanted me to come home and look after me. I convinced them that this was not necessary, that everything would be all right and that I would look after myself. London was, after all, the best place to be for HIV+ men, with excellent services and support, so I would be better off staying here.

Luckily, a few months later, my boyfriend was given the all clear, but our



relationship did not last. I found myself single in London, and I threw myself at the club scene.

After ten years of mad parties, even madder after-parties and ignoring my status completely, my immune system was so run down it could not take anymore. I found myself with a fungal lung infection and a CD4 count below 120. I was put on anti-viral drugs immediately and have been on them ever since. As a result, my health improved dramatically and within a few months my viral load was undetectable. My CD4 count is slowly but steadily improving and I am looking forward to living the rest of my life, responsibly, with HIV.

My status now doesn't bother me. It's part of who I am, but does not define me. I hope my story will help others somehow.

“Being a HIV+ male still carries a lot of stigma: some people look at us as if we carry the plague.”



Photo: Franc-Off Godevi



Vanilla on...

My biggest fear about ‘coming out’ as HIV positive...

Being a HIV+ male still carries a lot of stigma: some people look at us as if we carry the plague. Most HIV+ men actually look after themselves much better than those who don't know their status.

On being judged...

Those that I have told about my status I have told for a reason. They are the people whose opinions matter, people I love, and those I want to share my life with. I guess I will come under fire now by some others for my past, and I am sure this will upset me, but I know my true friends don't judge me.

On the gay scene forcing HIV positive people to hide their status...

I don't think the scene does this actively, but I do think that better education in society in general on the subject would create an atmosphere of acceptance rather than the fear created by ignorance.

How friends reacted...

I have so far been very lucky in my experiences. A few people found the news hard to deal with and are no longer part of my circle of friends.

The biggest misunderstanding about HIV is...

Some people still think that being HIV+ will somehow stand in the way of me living a fulfilling long life. I am not about to let it.

The one thing I'd like people to understand about HIV is...

Long gone are the days where HIV was a death sentence. Yes, it's a lifelong condition, and it requires you to look after yourself. But that is life: you have to look after yourself, and each other!

“My status now doesn't bother me. It's part of who I am, but does not define me. I hope my story will help others somehow.”



Reid

about living with HIV

As a reader, you won't know him as well as the many DJs and drag queens that are featured in these pages every week, but QX writer **Jason Reid** is a very familiar face on London's queer cabaret scene. He knows practically every well-heeled performer, wannabe pig in a wig and seasoned stage legend going. He's worked for QX for some years now reporting on cabaret, and is a hugely valued member of the team. This week, he tells his story about why the virus almost killed him, his survival and how today he is fit, well and living a full life... with HIV. This is the first time he is discussing it publicly.



2

2005 was quite the year for me. Managing and living above a central London gay bar, life was manic to say the least.

Partying almost every night with friends, regularly grabbing just a few hours sleep a night (well, day) before opening the bar, my routine in a way became my downfall. During the late summer of that year, I started to experience flu-like symptoms. However, the coughing, aches, drastic weight loss and having to put an upturned bucket in the shower to sit on because of exhaustion became the norm for me. My life was too fast to deal with it, so I didn't.

I remember waking up on September 1st, hardly able to move. Something was wrong. At that time I was at my flat in East London so I booked an emergency appointment with my GP. She sent me straight to the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel. I was admitted immediately. I still had no idea what was going on at this point. Tests were carried out that night including one for HIV.

I said to the nurse, "There's no way I've got it, is there? I was tested six months ago." I made a habit of testing regularly, despite being unaware of the symptoms. I can recall his knowing expression now, but

didn't think anything of it at the time.

The next day the results returned; a doctor sat by my bed and told me I was HIV positive, an aggressive strain, with a CD4 count of 9 (normal is 500-1500) and a viral load in the millions. I was also weighed, which I'd subconsciously stopped doing, and weighed in at just over seven stone. He explained my condition further, saying I had Pneumocystis pneumonia (PCP) and that I'd been 'caught just in time.' In layman terms I had AIDS.

My parents arrived that evening and I just remember my father having trouble processing it at first, but that didn't last long. During the next three months of hospitalisation they were there twice a week (or more) like clockwork, through every complication. They watched me seize as cryptococcal meningitis and the HIV attacked my brain; they sat in ambulances with me when things were very grave; they watched doctors give me one blood transfusion after the next; they were patient as I lashed out because of cognitive impairment and confusion; they rode a much scarier emotional roller coaster than I did. My mother told me afterwards that they wouldn't speak a word on the train journeys back. 'Most of the times we just couldn't.'

Looking back, I think I was probably in a state of shock the whole time. I was in survival mode. No time to stop and think. That came after.

Eventually, I was moved to a specialist

HIV hospice (as it was known at the time), Mildmay. A more homely setting that dealt with end-of-life care and rehabilitation. Thankfully, I slipped into the latter category. Many there didn't. There the dedicated team built my immune system back up and treated the HIV dementia that had impaired my faculties, such as communication and writing. I returned to Mildmay last week, for the first time since my discharge in December 2005, and even though the hospital is newly refurbished and in a different location, and their work is mostly neuro cognitive, thankfully rarely dealing with fatalities anymore, the work they do, and the passion they all display doing it hasn't changed one iota.

HIV changed my life. It changed my family's life. Much more than can ever be expressed in a single article. The post-traumatic stress that followed still haunts me, and depression is something I deal with on a constant basis. However, I'm now nine years down the line, and healthy, on combination therapy. And I'm very proud of myself and my journey to this point. My advice would be: listen to your body, respond accordingly and get tested. I was very lucky to survive and I'm very grateful.

When my father passed away two years ago, my mother asked me to arrange his funeral, I made a point of including this line in the sermon: "My father was there for his children, constantly, without judgement, just love." That's the key, less judgement, more love.

My advice would be: listen to your body, respond accordingly and get tested. I was very lucky to survive and I'm very grateful."

His biggest fear about 'coming out' as HIV positive is...

People's lack of understanding and eagerness to slap derogatory labels on individuals have always been my biggest concerns. Since the first known infections, over thirty years ago, treatment for HIV/AIDS has come so far, yet the stigma that attaches itself to living with what is now nothing more than a chronic medical condition remains. Stigma is the new killer. It's why I've always kept my status relatively private. Accept me for who I am as a person, not because I made a mistake nine years ago.

On the support he had from friends and family...

My mother and father supported me through every single step of my time in hospital and the rehabilitation process. Even coming from a strict Catholic background, they never pried. I'm very lucky in that respect. Close friends, too, have been the same. One of my closest, Bette Rinse, has always known, constantly remaining a rock for me. These relationships are built on unconditional love. I know there are people in society that do judge, so I've never been one of those people to shout about my status. Firstly, I don't want to have to go through that constant interrogation process, and second, I made inner peace with my diagnosis years ago.

On the gay scene forcing people to hide their status...

The scene doesn't actively encourage openness. We all have personalities that we like to display in public, which stifles frank talk of such things as HIV, mental health and drug/alcohol/physical abuse. I can count on one hand the scene workers (drag artists/DJs/promoters) that are openly positive. I don't believe you should feel compelled to, but if we feel judged by our own community then what hope is there for us in wider society? People put far too much emphasis on the 'how did you get it?' side, too. What does that matter? It's an irrelevant and leading question that pre-judges an individual.

The worst reactions to his status...

During a short spell in the hospital, the doctors didn't know the 'procedure' for dealing with HIV patients. I was quarantined and anyone that entered my room had to do so in full medical gear (masks etc). That wasn't the pleasantest of experiences. I've also had issues registering with dentists, as some are still wary about treating those with HIV. And those that do, tend to have a procedure of 'double-gloving.' It shatters your confidence right there and then.

On relationships...

Dating can be a minefield when you're HIV+. When do you tell them? How do you tell them? Coping with the rejection and your confidence being shattered by something you have no control over. And having to possibly go through that process every time you meet someone new, even though the chances of contracting the virus from someone whose viral load is undetectable, such as myself, is statistically less than someone who doesn't test and assumes themselves to be negative. Now that's a Russian roulette.

On educating other people...

Things have got a lot better, especially since the advent of social media, regardless of what you think of it as a source of mass communication. People are now more informed and have easier access to that information. QX does a great job too with articles such as these, which raise awareness and help slowly ebb away at the stigma. Education lacks on a wider scale though. Ask someone who's not privy to that information what they know about HIV and the response won't be very positive (excuse the pun). Religious organisations and people's ingrained cultural beliefs have demonised the condition as a 'gay disease' for years. We need to reverse that, and normalise how it's perceived.

The one thing he'd like people to know about living with HIV...

Whilst it changed my life dramatically, life goes on. In time I've learnt to live and control the physical symptoms, but for me, the mental scars are the hardest to cope with. Everyone's HIV experience is different though, so please, don't generalise. Acceptance and love is all anyone wants in life. It's not the death sentence it once was, but people shouldn't see that as an excuse for complacency. And if a mistake does happen, don't brush it aside, deal with it before it deals with you.

Photo: Franc-Off Godevi



I am

Anonymous

'Anonymous' is a 20 something drag artist currently working on the London scene who was diagnosed HIV+ in 2011. They have chosen not to disclose their identity for this article because they feel it's the not the right time for them to do so, on both a personal and professional level. However, they agreed to answer our questions posed by Jason Reid...

W

What is your biggest fear about 'coming out' as HIV positive?

The stigma on the scene that is still here; the reaction from people that I get involved with and a fear of being lonely.

Do you feel judged by others because of your HIV status?

The people that do know are close friends and family. I definitely don't feel judged by them because they support me 100%. Again the worry is there, that if I came out to more people then I would be judged.

Does the gay scene force people to hide their status?

I think in most cases it does cause people to hide; the stigma is rife and people's reactions can be horrendous. I partly feel shame because I was in a drug-fuelled relationship that led to me being totally naive. I was given a concoction of drugs and it was his opportunity to change my life forever.

What have been the worst reactions about your status?

I was on a date once and I told this guy about my status and he just walked away. I never heard from him again. Also I was with some good friends one day and they were taking the mickey out of someone they knew who had HIV. I remember sitting there feeling absolutely sick and horrified by the ridiculous comments and I thought to myself, 'If I were to tell them about me, would they treat me the same way?'

Do you feel there is a lack of education about HIV in the general society?

"I was on a date once and I told this guy about my status and he just walked away. I never heard from him again."

Absolutely, I think more education needs to be available to understand everything about the virus. With that education you'd hope the stigma will dissipate. Too many people are ignorant and naive to the whole thing.

What's the biggest misunderstanding about you being HIV positive?

Sometimes people tar you with a slogan when you tell them; they think to themselves "Oh they must've been a total whore." Well, no, that wasn't the case with me and everyone's situations are so different. Don't judge what you don't understand.

What would you like people who are HIV negative to know about living with HIV?

That it isn't a life sentence anymore; you won't catch anything from kissing someone; you can still love and care for someone living with HIV and still have sex, you just have to be safe. Don't walk away from someone if they tell you, support that person and be there no matter what. Most importantly end the stigma, we are in 2014. It has to end now.

"Too many people are ignorant and naive to the whole thing."



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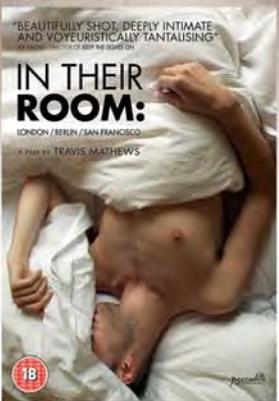
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QX asked resident snapper **Chris Jepson** to swing by **G-A-Y Bar** and pose these three questions to its customers...

1. Would you have **sex** with someone who was **HIV positive**?

2. Do you ask some if they are **positive** or **negative** before you have sex?

3. Why is it important to **test** for **HIV**?



Dan, 23

1. Yes, but only in a relationship.
2. No, always have safe sex.
3. So you know your status so if you slip up you're not putting other people at risk.



Jack, 18

1. No.
2. Yes, I always try to ask.
3. To know your status.



Lee, 37

1. Yes, but I always have safe sex.
2. No, always have safe sex and assume everyone has HIV.
3. Make sure you know your status and health.



Thion, 24

1. Yes.
2. Yes, always.
3. To make sure you are clear.



Michael, 19

1. No.
2. Yes.
3. To know about the other person and yourself.



Adrian, 29

1. Yes.
2. No, I would hope they would say something, but I always have safe sex.
3. There's so much HIV about you can't tell who has it so it's important to know.



Craig, 31

1. No.
2. Yes, always.
3. Safety reasons for you and your partner.



Phillip, 23

1. No.
2. No, I always have safe sex.
3. So you are aware of your status.



Jeremy, 735

1. Yes.
2. No, I treat everyone as if they are HIV positive and always have safe sex.
3. You need to know your status, it could save your life. It's not rocket science, it's common sense. Midday on Monday at G-A-Y Bar I will have a HIV test and instagram and tweet out my results to show how quick and easy it is. There really is no excuse. World AIDS Day is about HIV and AIDS awareness, so time to be aware of your status

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. The facts are that 1 in 8 gay men in London are HIV positive. You most likely already have had sex with somebody who is positive. The responsible thing to do is always have safer sex and use condoms.

2. A person's health is their private matter. They may choose to share their status with you or they may not. It's a shame that we put such stigma on HIV - if we didn't, HIV positive guys would feel more comfortable being honest about their status.

3. Knowing your status puts you in control of your health. Being diagnosed early is crucial to managing HIV. Medication is more effective if diagnosed early and it also helps stop the spread of HIV by lowering the amount of virus in a positive person to undetectable non-infectious levels.

G-A-Y Bar (30 Old Compton Street, Soho) will be hosting its **HIV Testing Service on World AIDS Day**, Monday 1st December from midday-9pm. Sexual health clinic **56 Dean Street** will be on hand with all their expertise and you can receive your results in private and with the full support of the clinic's fully trained staff. G-A-Y will donate £10 to the Elton John AIDS Foundation for every person that tests.

Plus, the **G-A-Y Balloon Release Memorial** at 10pm is an opportunity to remember anyone you've lost, not just to HIV/AIDS. Make a donation and buy a biodegradable balloon G-A-Y Bar reception and write the name of someone you would like to remember on it.



G-A-Y

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SATURDAY 29th NOV

LIVING WITHOUT YOU
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ONLY THE YOUNG



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SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER
THE X FACTOR REIGNING CHAMPION
SAM BAILEY
The X-FACTOR 5th Place



Let's Talk About Gay Sex & Drugs — World AIDS Day

'Let's Talk About Gay Sex & Drugs' hosts a World AIDS Day special, including a gay scene 'Older & Younger Discussion of HIV'. Patrick Cash writes on what the event is about.



Photo: Laurie Poole

Being gay, being a drug user and being HIV positive all have one thing in common: whether you're just one, or all three, you can still be fucking fabulous. But it's often surprisingly difficult for people who aren't gay, don't use drugs or aren't HIV positive to see past the paint drying and understand gay doesn't mean deviant, drug user doesn't mean addict, and HIV doesn't mean AIDS. And so another factor unites the gay, drugs and poz: prejudice.

Pride exists to show the world how fabulous LGBT people are, and happy in their sexualities. Rose McGowan may make negative comments about gay men dancing around in Speedos, but come on, *Charmed* was cancelled in 2006 – Rose who? Babes, your ever-lengthening rock climb back to cultural relevance ain't gonna be through bashing the gays.

Yet for a gay teenager discovering his sexuality for the first time, outlets like dancing in Speedos at Pride are sparse. It's not like you shoot your first load over whatever hardcore gay anal porn Google for an iPhone delivers, and then rock up at school the next day in a 'Fists Across America' T-shirt. The next stage, from hitting puberty to however long it takes to come out, involves performance.

You're pretending to be the perfect, straight supermarket product. Even if you are the campest thing since Alan Carr dressed up Cher's Chihuahua in pink stilettos, there's still a strong likelihood that you'll deny your sexuality at some

point during your adolescence. This creates not only a gulf of intimacy with your family and friends (referencing David Stuart's theories), but it's also a silencing of your own voice; essentially you're living your life like Paris Hilton on auto-tune.

Nowhere does this stigmatised silence around being gay rear its rubber-gagged mouth more than in the muffling of gay male sex. That rimming scene in *Queer as Folk* is still probably the most explicit TV has got, a series now fourteen years old. No one's seeking to shove a gay cock down every mouth, but the lack of speech around the subject contributes to the widespread myths around anal sex in general; in particular that it must involve a lot of literal shit. See my arts review of the National's *John* this week.

Discussion of HIV, 'to connect with people.'

Hedonism and partying are hardly gay-only pleasures; straight girls in bunny ears vomming after one-too-many VK Blues abound in Leicester Square, as there are Essex lads buying overpriced MDMA in Elephant & Castle. But pleasure can be chased for the wrong reasons, especially when the drugs are intertwined with a sex that may reflect rippling psychological shimmers. Problems can arise when the drugs in question take away inhibitions, and rational thinking, and bothering to reach for condoms.

Intimacy is one of the key issues slipping through and under these words, like coiling snakes and ladders.

Intimacy is created, on a surface level, by the sharing of speech and speaking

So 'when in Rome...,' and the Romans, you're finding out from your hook-up app, take a fuckload of drugs.

Then there's coming out. Finally, you're free. You're in London, you're gay, and the scene's before you like a glittering sports day of holes to pole and poles to vault. But behind the glitter, it's a massive, very anonymous city and sometimes a lonely city. So 'when in Rome...', and the Romans, you're finding out from your hook-up app, take a fuckload of drugs. Maybe you'll try mephedrone or G or crystal meth to fit in.

Or you might try them, as gay porn star Kayden Gray said in our Young People's

of secrets. As well as the intimacy of two people together, there is also the bonding intimacy of a community. This is why we've set up the community forum 'Let's Talk About Gay Sex & Drugs', where we talk about gay sex, drugs and HIV, because they exist, they're important to us as gay men and anybody should be able to have their say.

On World AIDS Day, we'd love for you to come and join in the sharing, whether you want to speak or listen. All welcome.



FEATURED SPEAKERS

Dylan & Jack, Writers & Podcasters

Dylan B Jones and Jack Cullen are two writers and close friends who met as freelancers for *Gay Times* in 2010. "Dylan & Jack" is their podcast in which they relay their adventures on the London gay scene today.

Episode 8 of their podcast was entitled "London's Mephedrone Meltdown" and so the boys will be revisiting and developing this discussion.

<https://soundcloud.com/dylanandjack/dylan-jack-episode-8-londons-mephedrone-meltdown-and-desert-island-dicks>

Tom Perry, National AIDS Trust

"NAT (the National AIDS Trust) is the UK's leading policy and campaigning charity dedicated to transforming society's response to HIV. We champion the rights of people affected by HIV and campaign for positive and lasting change.

Drugs have always been both a well-being and HIV prevention issue.

However, over the past few years, patterns of problematic drug use among gay and bisexual men have been changing."

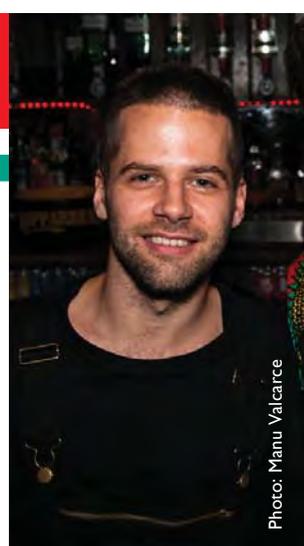


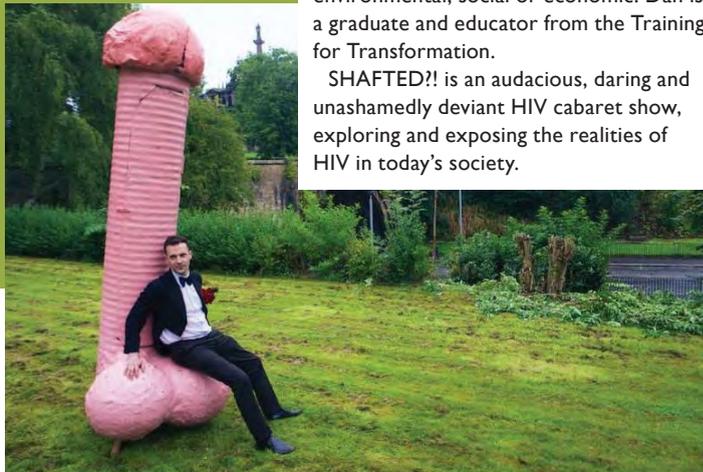
Photo: Manu Valcarce



Photo: Miles Elliot

Greg Mitchell, Writer & PrEP advocate

“Though we may not yet have a cure for HIV, and may not yet have a vaccine, we do now have something that can stop us being infected. For me it seems like a miracle, and I would like to dispel the myth that those men who go on PrEP are behaving irresponsibly, when actually the reverse is true.”



Dan Glass, SHAFTEd?!

Dan Glass is an award-winning activist, performer and writer. He mobilises on a range of issues whether racial, environmental, social or economic. Dan is a graduate and educator from the Training for Transformation.

SHAFTEd?! is an audacious, daring and unashamedly deviant HIV cabaret show, exploring and exposing the realities of HIV in today's society.

THE OLDER & YOUNGER DISCUSSION OF HIV

Following on from our 'Young People's Discussion of HIV' in September, there will be a short panel discussion of HIV, and a Q&A, featuring two older and two younger well-known figures on the gay scene.

Stewart Who?, Writer & DJ

I'm unsure if LGBT youth are interested in listening to the experiences and 'wisdom' of a greying gayer like myself, but I'm always curious to hear what the kids think. Frank chat between the generations is one of the best ways to maintain and nourish what we loosely call a community- and HIV/AIDS is still OUR hoo-ha, like it or not. It has to be said, I learned an awful lot off the old clones smoking weed at the back of The Colherne in the mid '80s.



Photo: JayEff

David Stuart, Drug Use Advisor at 56 Dean Street

24 years living with HIV. My HIV tainted my sex and polluted what should have been an innocent rite of passage. My HIV robbed me of my innocence. I shared my HIV with my gay brothers; my HIV made me a killer. My HIV made me untouchable to half of my community, and a chem-



play thing to the rest. My HIV destroyed me, and my HIV re-made me. My HIV tears my community apart in prevention debate, and unites it in crisis. My HIV stole my health... For a while.

But I got that back.
I also have a voice, an opinion and no shame.

Photo: Darren Orbell



Sam DMS, DJ

If the younger gay community had more of an understanding as to what this virus is and how important it is to know your status I think maybe it would encourage people to get tested more often and know their status. Talking about HIV is almost taboo with some people and I think it is this that needs to change! Let's talk about it peeps!

Pretty Miss Cairo, Performance Artist

I remember being at school in a PHSE lesson with the teacher giggling every time she referenced the penis. I don't, however, remember being told about the ins and outs of HIV and AIDS, or many other important things for that matter. Education is important, and we must continually learn and grow as we get older.



LET'S TALK ABOUT GAY SEX AND DRUGS
drugs + sex + you

'Let's Talk About Gay Sex & Drugs – World AIDS Day' is on Monday 1st December at Manbar (79 Charing Cross Road, WC2H ONE) from 7.30pm. Free entry. Sign up for a five minute slot at the venue, or online at:

www.facebook.com/LetsTalkAboutGaySexAndDrugs



the Informer

World Aids Day Special



"G-A-Y will donate £10 to the Elton John AIDS Foundation for every person that tests."

G-A-Y for W-A-D

G-A-Y will be hosting its annual testing service on World AIDS Day, Monday 1st December at G-A-Y Bar from midday-9pm. Sexual health clinic **56 Dean Street** will be on hand with all their expertise and you can receive your results in private and with the full support of the clinic's fully trained staff. G-A-Y will donate £10 to the **Elton John AIDS Foundation** for every person that tests.

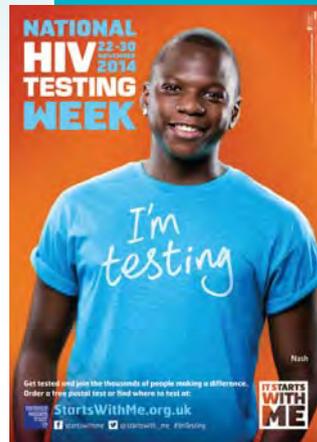
Plus, the G-A-Y **Balloon Release Memorial** at 10pm is an opportunity to remember anyone you've lost, not just to HIV/AIDS. Buy a bio-degradable balloon G-A-Y Bar reception and write the name of someone you would like to remember on it.

HIV Testing at GAY Bar
G-A-Y Bar, 30 Old Compton Street, Soho
1st December, midday-9pm



National HIV testing week

HIV and sexual health charity **Terrence Higgins Trust** is to mark **National HIV Testing Week** by re-launching its highly popular postal HIV testing service for gay and bisexual men. The **Fastest Direct Service** is a collaboration between Terrence Higgins Trust and **Public Health England**, with additional funding and support from HIV Prevention England. It is available free of charge to gay and bisexual men living in England. Men wanting to test will be able to place an order at www.startswithme.org.uk and receive an HIV test kit delivered to their door.



Terrence Higgins Trust relaunches postal HIV testing service
National HIV Testing Week
Runs to Sunday 30th November
www.startswithme.org.uk

Venues raise funds for GMFA

GMFA is known for its honest, plain-talking and up-to-date information and campaigns on HIV and sexual health. To fund these resources, GMFA relies heavily on the generosity of donors and community fundraising events such as those during the World AIDS Day period. Please support generously on World AIDS Day or donate online.

GMFA makes those donations work hard in the following ways:

- £5 helps provide 225 gay men with accessible sexual health information and advice on GMFA's website, www.gmfa.org.uk
- £10 helps provide social support to gay men living with HIV
- £50 helps fund a social media campaign targeting gay men in 'high risk' areas
- £100 helps FS magazine reach over 400 readers via print, web and mobile app, providing vital sexual health information.



Monday 1st December
www.gmfa.org.uk/donate

**Get speakers
Make
donation!**

Powerful, portable and Bluetooth-enabled, **BeoPlay A2** is the social speaker designed to travel about on your person. It's got a little gismo called True360 omni-directional sound, which spills out purity of aural heaven, all day long. For every BeoPlay A2 purchased until the 31st December 2014 quoting QX Magazine, the store will donate £10 to **Terrence Higgins Trust**. Donation only valid on A2 purchases at Bang & Olufsen Islington.



BE0 PLAY A2 - £299

Bang & Olufsen, 227 Upper Street, N1 2UQ

islington@bang-olufsen.co.uk

Dean Street's Project 5000 Test for HIV at home



Dean Street at Home is encouraging gay men to get involved in Project 5000 this **National HIV Testing Week** after alarming new data reveals approximately 27,000 people living with HIV in the UK don't know they have the virus. Project 5000, run by Dean Street at Home, encourages people to test for HIV by ordering a free home HIV test through its website www.deanstreetathome.com to reach their target of distributing 5000 testing kits this National HIV Testing Week. The service is designed for gay and bisexual men who want a convenient and discrete HIV test delivered straight to their door.

www.deanstreetathome.com

Chem-Smart

Are you injecting

Methamphetamine, Mephedrone, Ketamine or another drug?

We provide information and support regarding

- Your injecting technique
- Vein damage
- How to reduce your risk of contracting blood borne viruses
- Correct preparation
- What equipment to use
- Concerns about others injecting you



A non-judgemental and confidential service.

We also offer needle and syringe exchange tailored to your needs.
No appointment required.

Wednesday 6-9pm
32a Wardour Street, London, W1D 6QR
020 7287 8743

**NATIONAL
HIV 22-30
NOVEMBER
2014
TESTING
WEEK**

Free Rapid HIV Testing

www.westlondongmp.org.uk
0800 587 8302 / 020 3322 6920

HOUNSLOW
Thurs 6-7.30pm

LADBROKE GROVE
Sun 2-4pm
Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm

EALING
Wed 6-8pm

SEE WEBSITE FOR EXTRA TESTING WEEK CLINICS

90%
of clients seen
in 15 minutes
or less!



Scan this QR code on your
smartphone for our clinic details

west london
gmp
gay men's project



Jocelyn Brown



Danny Krivit

"A one-off celebration of dance music, and to raise vital funds and awareness for the Terrance Higgins Trust and New York's GMHC."



Bryan Chambers

NY meets LONDON

Legendary New York club **Paradise Garage** joins forces with **Ministry of Sound** for a one-off celebration of dance music, and to raise vital funds and awareness for the Terrance Higgins Trust and New York's GMHC. All profits go to both charities, and they've got a target of £20,000. Which if you plant us by the bar, we're sure won't be a problem.

The line-up includes US legends and the UK figures responsible for bringing the Paradise Garage ethos to Britain. The Box welcomes **Danny Krivit**, **Joey Llanos**, **David DePino**, **Victor Rosado**, and a live performance from **Jocelyn Brown**. In 103, **Justin Berkmann** joins a bill featuring **Kenny Carpenter**, **Ricky Morrison**, **Frankie Foncett**, **David Piccioni**, and a PA from **Bryan Chambers**. Handsome in the Baby Box features **Horse Meat Disco**, **Jeffrey Hinton**, **The Reflex**, and **Fidel**.

VIP Tables are on sale through Mr. Sykes Modern Concierge, and include table, VIP entry and drinks package.

A Night Of Paradise

Sunday 30th November, 4pm-late

Ministry of Sound, 103 Gaunt Street, Elephant and Castle, SE1 6DP



Marc Almond

Mildmay Carol Concert 2014

Join the Mildmay Carol Concert for a joyful evening of carols, readings and spectacular solo performances. Hosted by the **Canon Roger Royle**, there'll be a solo performance by the internationally acclaimed and award-winning musician **Marc Almond**, special guests include **Anita Dobson**, soprano **Sally Harrison**, baritone **Mark Llewelyn Evans** and choir **Diversity**.



Anita Dobson

St Botolph without Aldgate, Aldgate High Street, EC3N 1AB

Tuesday 16th December, 7pm

www.mildmay.org



Lulu Guinness

Wear a Ribbon



Shaun Leane



Lulu Guinness

Lulu Guinness and **Shaun Leane** have created some beautiful brooches – inspired by the Red Ribbon, the symbol of HIV support – to raise funds for the National AIDS Trust. All funds will go towards the charity and helping them continue their work and campaigning for rights of those living with HIV.

Brooches On Sale For WAD

nat.org.uk

Price: £19.99

Charity begins at Prowler



"Prowler Soho is renowned not only for its high profile in-store events, but also for its charity fundraising activities."

Prowler has always been proud of its place within the community. Part of **MPG Group**, which has a company-wide partnership with seven charities, Prowler Soho is renowned not only for its high profile in-store events, but also for its charity fundraising activities. This year Prowler Soho has once again invited a number of partner charities to "shake, rattle and roll" in the lead up to World AIDS Day, in essence creating a World AIDS Week.
Thursday 27th, 5-8pm (GMFA)
Friday 28th, 5-8pm (GMFA)
Saturday 29th, midday-430pm (GMFA)
Saturday 29th, 4.30-7.30pm (Positive East)
Saturday 29th, 7.30pm onwards (GMFA)
Sunday 30th, 2-5pm (AVERT)

World AIDS Week

Prowler, 5-7 Brewer Street, W1F 0AF

NATIONAL HIV 22-30 NOVEMBER 2014 TESTING WEEK

I'm
testing

Jimmy

Get tested and join the thousands of people making a difference.
Order a free postal test or find where to test at:



StartsWithMe.org.uk

startswithme @startswith_me #ImTesting

**IT STARTS
WITH
ME**

Is life treating you well?

New wellbeing choices for gay men



James Miller

L

ondon has the largest population of gay men in Europe. Our urban scene is famous the world over, and access to ever more sophisticated digital media means that meeting likeminded guys has never been easier. Current equality legislation has finally granted us the right to marry, adopt and generally live the life we want to live.

But are we happy?

Many gay men continue to feel isolated and unable to cope. A complicated set of lifestyle challenges and aspirations can make us believe that we've failed in some way, and issues with sexual identity, health and the ageing process can leave us in need of support that's hard to find.

Living Well, an independent, not-for-profit social enterprise was founded more than a decade ago to support men living with HIV. The Living Well team now offers its experience and expertise to all gay men to help them discover ways to find more meaning in their lives, as well as the chance to give something back to the community. A range of services, from one-to-one counselling to group initiatives, has been launched by Living Well to support gay men in improving the quality of their life and, in doing so, benefit the gay community as a whole.

We see clients with a variety of concerns and issues – relationship concerns, feelings of isolation, career worries or anxieties about alcohol or substance dependency – so have tailored workshops to provide useful, practical advice. These workshops are great way to explore and gain a better insight into life's challenges. One-to-one counselling, meanwhile, offer really supportive pathways to positive change for individuals.

Whether it's health, work or personal problems that are preventing you from getting the best out of life, speak to one of our team who will match you up with the best services and practitioners to work with your needs.

Sometimes we just need to take time to look and see things from a different perspective. These three Living Well services do just that, and will support you to value what you have and achieve what you want:

One to One

Living Well are offering a range of affordable wellbeing services for gay men from one to one Life Coaching to get your life back on track or the counselling with our experienced therapists.

Wellbeing Weekend

Our very popular Happiness Weekend workshops delivered by Ana and James will leave you with a greater awareness about what makes you happy and a plan to make those changes. These workshops are a great way of spending a weekend and preparing for the future.

Personal Development

Our new drama therapy workshops provide a safe and effective way to look at a whole range of issues, and they've received glowing endorsements from participants: 'A most rewarding experience that left me feeling much more aware.'



Living Well Team Members
Deamion Broni and Clare Bleasdale

Any one living with HIV in our funded boroughs (Brent, Camden, Islington, Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham, Wandsworth, Hounslow and Ealing) may be able to access these services free of charge. For others please use the vouchers with the advertisement.

Living Well workshops and therapies take place in venues around Soho and West London.

Please call Clare on 020 3137 3373 or email clare@livingwellcic.com or for more information go to our websites: livingwellcic.com or mayflyonline.com

New Wellbeing

CHOICES

for Gay Men



Counselling

If you are dealing with difficult emotions, whatever the reason, our experienced therapists will support you.



Life Coaching

This popular, motivating service will help you value what you have and achieve what you want.



Group Workshops

Join our hugely popular Wellbeing and Happiness weekend groups.

Are you feeling low or unable to cope? Perhaps you want a change of career to something that excites you. Or maybe you'd just like to put the fun back into your life and the chance to meet some lovely people.

Please get in touch

Call Deamion / Clare on 020 3137 3373 or email info@livingwellcic.com

*Services free to anyone living with HIV residing in funding Boroughs.

Voucher

30% OFF

HAPPINESS WEEKEND

CODE LW0215

VALID UNTIL 28TH FEBRUARY 2015

Voucher

50% OFF

COUNSELLING / LIFE COACHING

FIRST TWO SESSIONS | CODE LW121

VALID UNTIL 28TH FEBRUARY 2015

the *Inform*er

The who, what, why, where & when of gay London...



Let's face it, poetry is interesting, but its fun factor increases ten fold when everyone's slaughtered!

SPOKEN SLUR

Scottee presents a fast-paced poetry piss up for those who don't like poetry. Sounds right up our street! Let's face it, poetry is interesting, but its fun factor increases ten fold when everyone's slaughtered! This time round, your readers include Damien Slash and Paul Kindersley, The Fabulous Russella, Jack Rooke, Cheryl Dole and Winnefred Wyld.

FRAFF: Poetry For Drunk People

Friday 5th December, 7.30pm

Rich Mix, 35-47 Bethnal Green Road, E1 6LA

£8 advance, £10 otherwise. richmix.org.uk



House of Trannies



Celebrity photographer Ki Price will be teaming up with acclaimed artist Ted Roger for a new photo/illustration exhibit that takes a closer look at the East London drag community. The concept will take them out of basement clubs and place them in everyday situations – we honestly can't wait to see the results! Queue shocked faces in Haggerston Tesco.

VICTOR/VICTORIA

Musical comedy *Victor/Victoria* enjoyed its British premier at the Bridewell Theatre in 2004 and now Sedos — the City of London's leading amateur theatre company — brings the show back to the theatre. Set in Paris in 1934, *Victor/Victoria* follows a penniless singer (Victoria Grant) as she colludes with a struggling club artiste to fool the elite of Paris that she is a female impersonator (Victor). Complications arise when a Chicago businessman/Gangster finds himself attracted to the star and is forced to question his own sexuality. Comedy ensues until Victor confesses 'he' is not really a man and they conventionally fall in love.

Bridewell Theatre, Bride Lane, off Fleet Street, EC4Y 8EQ

Runs to 6th December, 7.30pm. Saturday matinees at 2.30pm. £16 (£13.50 concessions), £18 (£15.50 concessions). Buy 10 tickets and get a 10% discount.

Box office: www.sedos.co.uk

Photo Exhibition

Thursday 4th December, 6pm

Milk Bar, 3 Bateman Street, Soho, W1D 4AG

WORLD
AIDS DAY

1 DECEMBER
2014

Rash? Fever?

Flu-like symptoms?

(and had unprotected sex recently?)



You could be in the early stages of HIV infection, called seroconversion.

If so, you're super-infectious, and may benefit from treatment.

Seroconverters are fuelling the continuing epidemic of HIV in gay men.

Test regularly.

See us immediately if you have any of these symptoms.

Burrell Street Sexual Health Centre,
4-5 Burrell Street, London SE1 0UN

Lloyd Clinic, Guys' hospital, London Bridge SE1 9RT

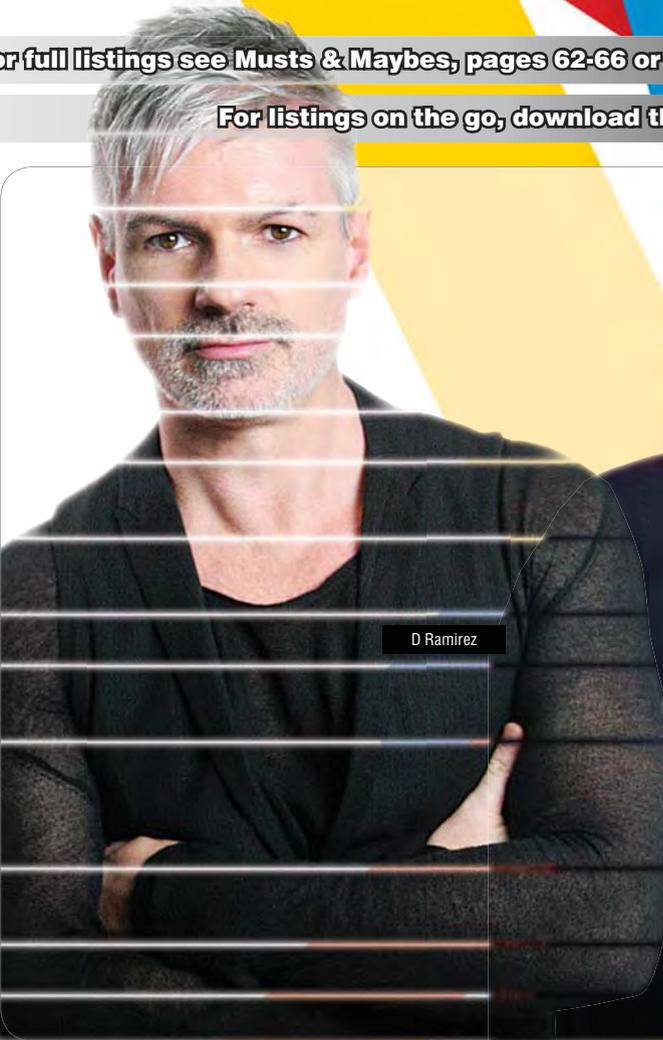
020 7188 6666 www.burrellstreet.co.uk Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

**Burrell
Street**

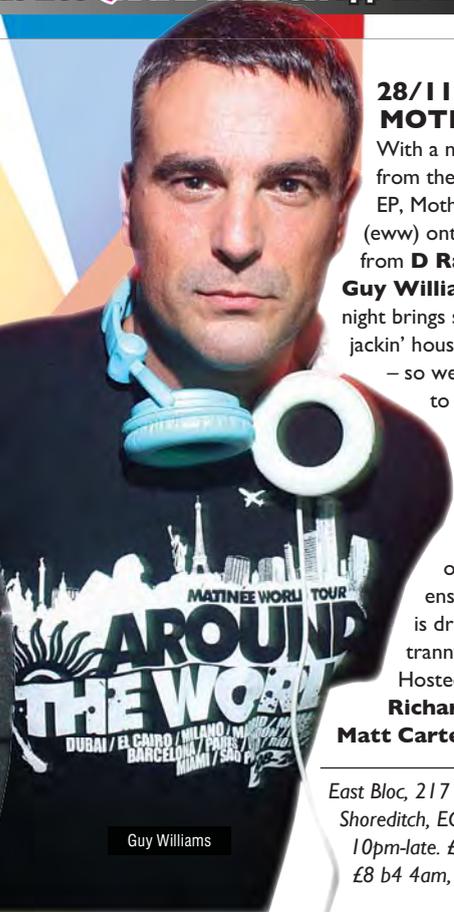
Sexual Health Centre



CLUB NEWS



D Ramirez



Guy Williams

28/11/14: MOTHERLOAD

With a name derived from their successful EP, Motherload spurts (eww) onto East Bloc from **D Ramirez** and **Guy Williams**. The night brings some deep and jackin' house to the table – so we're intrigued to see how the it goes down at the hot 'Bloc! **Jame Campbell** will also be on hand to ensure the sweat is drippin' like cheap tranny at a wig sale. Hosted by **Nanimal**, **Richard Jones** and **Matt Carter**.

East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN.
10pm-late. £5 b4 12.30am, £8 b4 4am, £5 after.

DALSTON SUPERSTORE

117 Kingsland High Street, Hoxton, E8 2PB

28/11/14: DIRTY DIANA

That filthy slag is hitching up her skirt around Dalston again this weekend. We're surprised she's stopped bleeding from Halloween (make of that what you will). This time **Mikki Most** will be joined by residents **Conner West** and **Samantha Togni**.
9pm-3am. Free b4 11pm, £5 after.



Mikki Most

29/11/14: HOMOELECTRIC

Jamie Bull returns with his London/Manchester institution. Two floors filled with techno, house and disco with special guests **Sasa** (In Flagranti) and **Will Tramp**.
9pm-4am. Free b4 10pm, £5 after.



Samantha Togni



Jamie Bull





SAT. 6 DECEMBER 11PM
7AM

WE Party

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
GAYDAR

£15
ADVANCE TICKETS
AVAILABLE NOW AT
ORANGENATION.CO.UK
AVAILABILITY
LIMITED

4TH ANNIVERSARY

Sex Shop

PRE PARTY
ROOM SERVICE
THURS 27TH NOV
MIABELLA
GREEK STREET

PRE PARTY
create
THURS 4TH DEC
SHADOW LOUNGE
BREWER ST

WE Party Star Di

MANUEL DE DIEGO

The WE Party London Residents

STEVE PITRON B2B GONZALO RIVAS
D'JOHNNY B2B JAMIE HEAD

HOSTED BY: JJ CLARK, ALFONSO CINQUE, MAURICIO ORIZ & JAKE COOK

Room Two

BORDELLO
WHORE HOUSE MUSIC

FEAT. MASSIMO
PARAMOUR
& FAT TONY

PLUS THE
CLONE ZONE
SEX SHOP

CZ
clonezone

PLUS GUEST
PORN STAR HOST!
LUCIO SAINTS

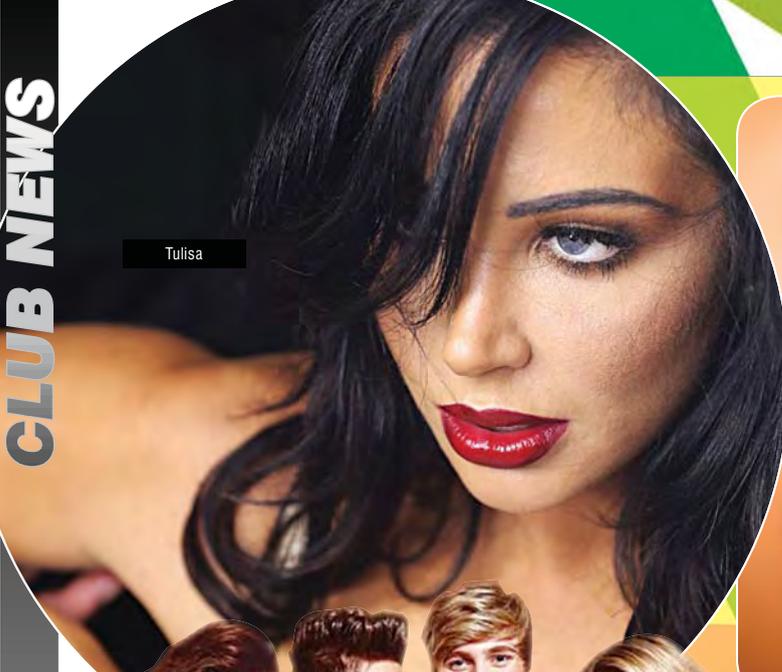
WEPARTYONTOUR.COM

CORONET

NEW KENT ROAD SE 1
2 MINS FROM ELEPHANT & CASTLE TUBE

/WEPARTYGROUP

Tulisa



Stevi Ritchie



NEXT WEEK

The powerhouse vocals of **Sam Bailey** return to Heaven on Saturday 6th December.



Only the Young

29/11/14: G-A-Y presents TULISA Plus X Factor's Stevi Ritchie and Only the Young

The most talked about UK star of 2014, **Tulisa**, makes her hugely anticipated return to the world of music with her new single 'Living Without You'. After a tumultuous year and a half, emotionally documented in her BBC show 'Tulisa: The Price Of Fame', and a surprise guest spot at the judges' houses in X Factor, she's back on stage at G-A-Y. Plus, supporting her will be X Factor's **Stevi Ritchie** and **Only the Young**. It's gonna be a BIG night.

Heaven, under the Arches, Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 6NG. 10.30pm-5am. £4 wristbands at G-A-Y Bar.

29/11/14: MEMBERS

A concept that has risen to fame in Berlin begins to secrete itself on the London gay scene – where happy house brings happy homos. For their third edition, **Marc Miroir** will again unite with **Handmade** – a regular at Members. Also joining the party this time around, you'll find some familiar faces of Shoreditch, including **Borja Pena**, **Chris Camplin** and **Pep Sanchez**. **Jacqui Potato** will be hosting (they're propping her up by the bar).

East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-6am. £7 b4 midnight, £9 after.

Chris Camplin



Borja Pena





SINK
THE
PINK

Winter Ball

SOPHIE ELLIS-BEKTOR

SINGING ALL THE CAMP CLASSICS

AND

BRIGHT LIGHT BRIGHT LIGHT

A CELEBRATION OF THE FINEST
EAST LONDON PERFORMERS, COLOUR,
DRAG, CLUB KIDS, ART AND FASHION

SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER
8:00-3:30

TROXY

TICKETS: SINKTHEPINK.CO.UK



29/11/14: TIK TOK

Barcode is sizzling up the temperature again this weekend with DJs **Chris Barker, Nico de Ceglia, Steven Artis** and other guest DJs for their huge Tik Tok World AIDS Day party. Hosts include **La Pequena, Deborah Ombres** and **Raul Pony** and all will be helping to collect money for gay men's charity **GMFA**.

Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-8am. Free before 10pm, £8/10 after 10pm.



La Pequena



A Man to Pet

29/11/14: EAGLE MEMBERS' REWARD PARTY

For their World AIDS Day special Eagle London will be hosting an uplifting party celebrating life and supporting the fight against HIV and AIDS, supporting **GMI Partnership** and **Wandsworth Oasis**. Starring DJs **Adam Turner** and **Lee Thomas**, it'll be hosted by the one and only **A Man to Pet** with a huge prize giveaway including flights to Amsterdam, a night out at Eagle Amsterdam and two nights in a hotel. Sign up as an Eagle London member at the bar or online throughout November for free and Eagle will donate £1 to charity for every new member.

Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-4am. Free entry invites for members, guests pay £5 on the door.



Jocelyn Brown

30/11/14: A NIGHT IN PARADISE

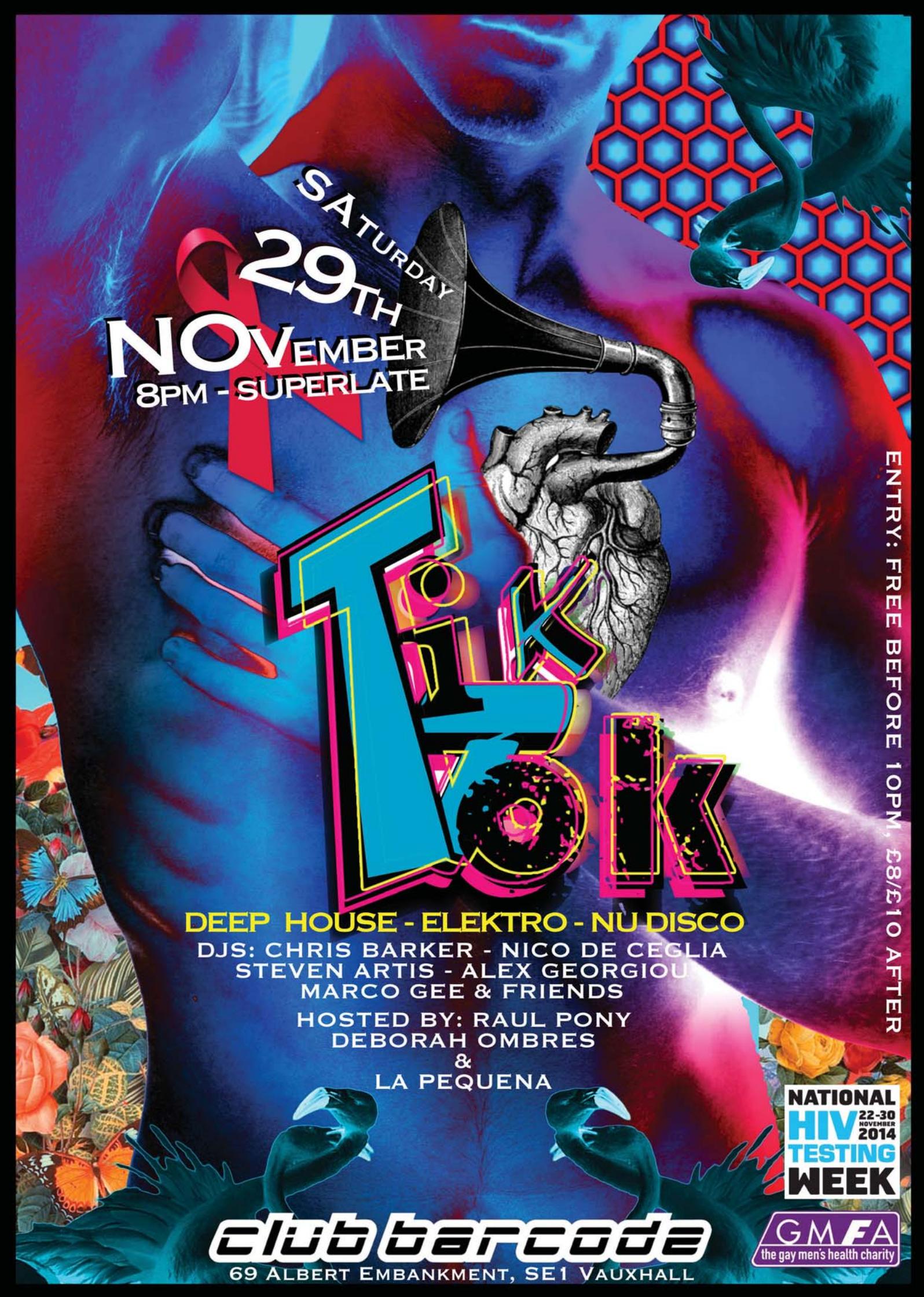
The evening before World AIDS Day, and two legendary clubs have joined forces to raise awareness and funds for two HIV charities, one based here in London and the other in New York; just like the clubs! NY night **The Garage** flies to the Big Smoke and takes residence in the **Ministry of Sound** in an attempt to raise £20,000 for GMHC in the USA and the UK's own THT. DJs include **Danny Krivit, David DePino, Jeffrey Hinton, Kenny Carpenter, David Piccioni** and a live PA from **Jocelyn Brown**.

Ministry of Sound, 103 Gaunt Street, Elephant and Castle, SE1 6DP. 4pm-midnight. £20.



Danny Krivit

SATURDAY
29TH
NOVEMBER
8PM - SUPERLATE



TALK

DEEP HOUSE - ELEKTRO - NU DISCO

DJS: CHRIS BARKER - NICO DE CEGLIA
STEVEN ARTIS - ALEX GEORGIU
MARCO GEE & FRIENDS

HOSTED BY: RAUL PONY
DEBORAH OMBRES

&
LA PEQUENA

ENTRY: FREE BEFORE 10PM, £8/£10 AFTER

NATIONAL
22-30
NOVEMBER
2014
HIV
TESTING
WEEK

club barcode

69 ALBERT EMBANKMENT, SE1 VAUXHALL

GMFA
the gay men's health charity



Adam Turner

Chris Mears

01/12/14: Popcorn World AIDS Day Fundraiser

Taking place on World AIDS Day itself, it's quite possibly London's biggest gay fundraising event for people living with HIV or those affected by AIDS. Raising vital funds for the **Elton John AIDS Foundation**, the chosen charity that **G-A-Y** and **Heaven** are supporting for some time now with over £276k raised so far! And in the spotlight tonight is none other than hot-as-hell diving champ **Chris Mears**, who returns to the Popcorn decks for another mega set of big-ass shaking beats on the main floor.

Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 11pm-5.30am. FREE with wristbands from G-A-Y Bar.



VOGUE FABRICS

Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, N16 7XB.

02/12/14: Vogue Fabrics is launching some exciting new midweek nights in the upcoming weeks, including **'Clap Trap'** on the 2nd December, which is a new series of performance, talks, Q and A, and readings from a rich array of performers. It begins with celebrated performance artiste **La John Joseph** alongside **Katherine Angel** and **Rupert Smith**.
Doors 7pm. £5.

04/12/14: On Thursday 4th you won't want to miss the **R&She** special with **Feyago** the 'Best Hip Hop Act India' who won Best Music Video #50 at the VHI Video Awards 2015. A producer and social activist, he'll be doing a very special one-off set at VF. R&She is the definitive night dedicated to the queens of R'n'B and hip-hop.
7.30pm-12am. £7.



La John Joseph

Photo by Michel Diechx



W A I D

2014

RAISING MONEY FOR



ELTON JOHN
AIDS FOUNDATION

POPCORN
HOUSE | DANCE | RNB

MONDAY 1 DECEMBER 2014 11PM - 5.30AM
SPECIAL GUEST DJ: CHRIS MEARS

HEAVEN

FREE ENTRY ONLY WITH A WRISTBAND FROM G-A-Y BAR OR A STUDENT CARD. FREE ENTRY STRICTLY BEFORE 1AM. 18+. ID REQUIRED. LAST ENTRY 3.30AM. R.O.A.R
UNDER THE ARCHES | VILLIERS STREET | LONDON | WC2 | NEAREST TUBE: EMBANKMENT | WWW.POPCORN-HEAVEN.COM | GPS: WC2N 6NG

Design: D Sharp Media Limited. Contact: info@dsharpmedia.co.uk

SG PRODUCTIONS LIMITED presents



A Lad In Tights

with Stephanie Von Clitz as
Aladdin

Join Aladdin, Princess Nymphomaniac, Widow Wanky, Wishy Washy, The Very Evil Abanazer, and the most outrageous, campest Genie in pantomime history!

This show promises to be bigger, bolder, camper, ruder than ever before!

DEC 2nd 2014 to JAN 4th 2015

Upstairs At The Prince Of Wales,
150-151 Drury Lane, London WC2B 5TD
Previews 2nd and 3rd Dec - Tickets £15
Tickets £18 from Ticket Web
www.ticketweb.co.uk 0844 477 1000

QX SPECIAL PRICE
2nd Dec
Tickets
ONLY
£12

Martin Witts & Lesley Ackland for Leicester Square Theatre present

Starring
Miss Dusty 'O'
as The Evil Mangelina

★★★★★
"The funniest
thing you'll
see this
Christmas"
SoSo Gay
Dick 2012



Sleeping Booty!

London's No. 1 Adult Panto
From the Creators of Dick!

Tuesday 25 November - Saturday 17 January

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE BOX OFFICE 08448 733433 leicestersquaretheatre.com

DJ OF THE WEEK SEAN SIRRS @ RVT SUNDAYS



SEAN SIRRS CLUB CHART

1. M & S - 'Automatic Lover' (this is not just a remix)

My collaboration with the uber talented Markus W - and my first foray into production. This has been brilliantly received at the RVT. Immensely proud as this captures my spirit perfectly.

2. Thomson Twins - 'Hold Me Now' (Nivek Tek vs Keith Kemper remix)

The crowd just go NUTS to be dancing to such an 80's classic in 2014. Original vocals to boot!

3. Ella Henderson - 'Ghost' (DJ Grind remix)

My track of the summer. Sublime vocals and a hugely dance floor friendly remix from DJ Grind.

4. Cyndi Lauper - 'Time After Time' (Bent Collective remix)

One for the RVT massive! Cyndi's emotional vocals over energetic and bouncy beats. Wonderfully wistful and uplifting.

5. Leanne Rimes - 'How Do I Live?' (Cahill remix)

Massive vocals and hands in the air, uplifting remix from the Cahill Crew. This one comes from the heart for my amazing and brilliant partner.

6. Karl Fox - 'Go Your Own Way' (Cahill remix)

Anyone who knows me will confirm my love of Fleetwood Mac.

7. Professor Green - 'Little Lies' (Wideboys Dub)

Something different for me. Just love the Dub mix and the looped vocal.

8. Conchita Wurst - 'Heroes' (Vauxhall Boys remix)

Quietly and confidently The Vauxhall Boys continue to produce amazing remixes, loved by our RVT crowd and always in my sets. Massive respect to these two talented and lovely guys.

9. Holly Johnson - 'In And Out Of Love' (Rich B & Phil Marriott remix)

Awesome comeback track from the legendary Mr Johnson, mixed to perfection by two of my favourite DJs.

10. Duran Duran - 'Rio' (Club Camberwell remix)

Martyn continues to turn out fantastic, epic, floor-friendly remixes.

Tell us in one tasty sentence who Sean Sirrs is...

Sean Sirrs is a Wasabi Burger, lots of exciting quality flavours, expertly blended. With or without cheese.

And your music style?

Eclectic, happy and uplifting.

Enjoying such a long, unbroken weekly residency has allowed me the freedom to develop my own style, which combines my personality with that of the iconic Royal Vauxhall Tavern and our amazing and loyal crowd.

Describe a night at RVT Sundays to the uninitiated...

Inclusive, attitude free and fun! The RVT has always been a very special and historic venue. We have a little secret (or not so secret) family atmosphere that every week welcomes so many of our community. We are lucky that one of our own - James Lindsay - has once again invested so much to ensure the Vauxhall Tavern continues to serve the L.G.B.T. community. We have an amazing, committed and professional team of which I am proud to be a part. The RVT continues to offer safety and laughter, top tunes and happy memories to all. Our Sunday nights are the perfect way to round off your weekend.

Describe a night at RVT Sundays to the uninitiated...

Inclusive, attitude free and fun! The RVT has always been a very special and historic venue. We have a little secret (or not so secret) family atmosphere that every week welcomes so many of our community. We are lucky that one of our own - James Lindsay - has once again invested so much to ensure the Vauxhall Tavern continues to serve the L.G.B.T. community. We have an amazing, committed and professional team of which I am proud to be a part. The RVT continues to offer safety and laughter, top tunes and happy memories to all. Our Sunday nights are the perfect way to round off your weekend.



RVT Sundays is at The Vauxhall Tavern (372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY) every Sunday, 2pm-2am.

HEART RACING. THRILLING. UNFORGETTABLE. UP FOR IT?

Terrence
HIGGINS
TRUST



Running a marathon with Terrence Higgins Trust will make you feel like an absolute superhero, especially when it also means standing shoulder to shoulder with people living with HIV.

If you're up for the challenge, we're sure one of our magnificent marathons will be just what you're looking for.

BRIGHTON
MARATHON
12 APRIL 2015

VIRGIN MONEY
LONDON
MARATHON
26 APRIL 2015

BMW BERLIN
MARATHON
27 SEPTEMBER 2015



Still working up to being a full-time superhero? We've got lots of shorter runs in store to make you feel epic. Find out more and register at: www.tht.org.uk/running or email: fundraising@tht.org.uk

The HIV and sexual health charity for life

Terrence Higgins Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales (no. 288527) and in Scotland (SC039986).
Registered office: 314-320 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8DP. Tel: 020 7842 1600 | Fax: 020 7812 1601
Email: info@tht.org.uk Please visit tht.org.uk for more information.



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MEMBERS!

MEMBERS is one of Berlin's most happening gay nights, with a vibe for the underground and tech-house beats. We had to find out more!

Describe MEMBERS in five words.

Music, men, boys, buzz, Berlin.

Tell us about MEMBERS' craziest night ever...

The craziest night was really one summer party which was just exploding with people. There is a great garden and guys can dance outside all night long. No other club in Berlin can offer that. Tom Clark was playing and there was no stopping him. He was playing hour after hour on top of what was scheduled and the crowd kept screaming. The club was boiling inside but people wanted to be part of it. There was also the garden to cool off and to make the craziness complete, there came a summer shower but everyone kept dancing outside in the rain, too. That was particularly nice when the sun came out again in the morning and there was a real magic vibe.

How would you describe the music policy?

We are trying to bring music that guys will like and that is in that segment we like ourselves. We play supreme House and Tech-House, which is mostly new, so we can take the guys dancing on a long musical journey instead of playing hits. That is different to really most gay parties, believe it or not. Marc Miroir is serving as a sort of musical director and we really have thorough discussions on who to invite, since we don't have your average 2-3hr set but like our DJs to be able to build up their climaxes and payoffs. Usually we have one headliner and one newcomer, to give new faces a chance, apart from our dear residents.

What sets the club apart from the other Berlin gay nights?

It's really mainly two things that sets MEMBERS apart from the other parties: the music and the men. The typical crowd of MEMBERS is very mixed. We always find this variety to be the striking trait of the party. It is not like you are an outsider if you don't have the right muscles to flaunt, and you don't have to outdo yourself in

"From flamboyant club kids to the sturdy bearded men, muscle guys, young and stylish boys, men, drag queens - all united by their love of music."

crazy outfits and makeup to be part of the fun! But if you do, you will always find plenty of others who do also. So it's really from flamboyant club kids to the sturdy bearded men, muscle guys, young and stylish boys, men, drag queens - all united by their love of music. Young and old like you would not expect at one party and in the end you may be really surprised who ends up making out with whom!

How have the MEMBERS LONDON nights compared to the Berlin events?

London has crazy parties! We've had a full house at East Bloc since May this year. Since we are only once every three months, we like to keep more continuity with the music. It's been great to come with our Berlin residents and to meet the London DJs we like the best: Borja Pena, Chris Camplin, Pep Sanchez... Even the clubs are a bit comparable, as both are more intimate than your big clubs, so it's just more flirtatious and guys are closer together in one hot spot. Each party does have their own vibe and the crowd in London is very vibrant. I've seen the hottest guys. In Berlin we don't have hosts, so I've really been enjoying that a lot! It's a great way to do a party.

Tell us about the new track you've just released...

On 'Let Me Go', Marc Miroir teams up with Elif Biçer on PASOmusic. What a perfect combination! Elif is well-known through her collaborations with several Ostgut Ton artists, like Steffi, Ben Klock or Murat Tepeli. Her voice is outstanding and you can hear her passion for music in every single syllable.

Where can people download it from?

'Let Me Go' is out Dec 1st on Beatport exclusively and then on other digital download sites like iTunes etc as well. The vinyl will come out just before Christmas and we have some very exciting remixes in store to come out next year.



MEMBERS is at East Bloc
(217 City Road, EC1V 1JN)
on Saturday 29th November from 10.30pm-6am.
£7 before 12am, £9 after 12am.



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G-A-Y

G-A-Y Porn Idol Final with Michelle Visage
20/11/14
Heaven, under the Arches,
Villiers Street, Charing
Cross, WC2N 6NG

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY
CHRIS JEPSON

LAST THURSDAY saw the climax of weeks of preparations and heats as the Porn Idol Express steamed in to town for the last time this year. Dishing out the compliments and critique from their first class cabin, Baga Chipz and Mary Mac were joined by the über fabulous Michelle Visage - singer, TV host, head judge from Ru Paul's Drag Race, and indeed Ru Paul's bestie, while in standard class 14 contestants prepared to bare all in their bid for the £1,000 cash prize.

As is befitting a grand final, all the performers put 100% into their acts with costumes and gimmicks galore. Bow ties around penises, nipple tassels, comedy chicken costumes, pole antics, gymnastic prowess and leather accoutrements were all paraded and flaunted for our delectation. But it was cutie Colby in American football attire that won our hearts, and the only three 10s from the judges, with a personalised pair of undies for each judge. When it came to dishing out the dosh, however, it was all down to a dance-off between Darren, a 24-year-old Essex pharmacist, and George ("please don't show my cock in the magazine"), a 20-year-old economics student.

As Little Mix's Jade watched from the VIP balcony and the confetti exploded overhead it was Darren's performance that was given the gold star and £1,000 which sent him scurrying off to the nearest car dealership to put down a deposit on his first four wheels.

This year's Porn Idol has been the best by miles. Guest judges from home shores and the US have really lifted the quality and enthusiasm of the contestants and made for many nights of brilliant entertainment. I have no idea what to do on a Thursday now until it returns in March! A huge well done to Jeremy and his dedicated team of boys for their weeks of relentless cajoling that resulted in this five star production.



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TheMenWhoFell2Earth
 4th Birthday
 22/11/14
 East Bloc, 217 City Road,
 Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY
CHRIS JEPSON

IN WHAT HAS been a tough economic climate for clubs recently, anything that lasts more than a couple of years is a rarity, but last weekend we took our hats off, raised a glass and shook our booty with promoters Tony and Dan!

TheMenWhoFell2Earth collective raved it up as they celebrated four fabulous years at our favourite east London low down dirty dance spot, East Bloc. Ruling over the main room was part Horse Meat Disco legend, part globe-trotting real and proper house music wiz and full-on über brilliant Severino. Any party with Seve beaming out over the controls is always a.ma.zing.

Also making a welcome return, room 2 saw East End Debbie bring their unique blend of female-fronted legends to the dance floor with Blondie, Tina and classic Madge realness. Every room, corridor, nook and cranny was packed with party people of every persuasion from glam tranny and fucked-up draaaag to the hottest, cutest boys on the planet mixing and

getting messy in this hedonistic homo hideaway. TMWF2E... We salute you.





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QUEER NATION

QUEER NATION at
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22/11/14
69 Albert Embankment,
Vauxhall, SE1 7TP

WORDS BY
DAN MOORE
PHOTOS BY
JOEL RYDER

BARCODE NEVER FAILS to deliver a smashed-tastic evening of dirty-house tunes and half-naked muscle studs slutting it up on the dancefloor, and this Saturday proved to be no exception. No prisoners were taken this weekend as Patrick Lilley presented Queer Nation's 24th birthday party, delivering a dose of

soulful American house and classic floor thrillers till the early hours of Sunday morn!

DJs Big John Freeman and Patrick Lilley took charge of the front bar spinning the decks to the legendary R&B and disco beats! The snapback studs were shaking their groove thing to the likes of Michael Jackson's 'Sunshine' and The Trammps's, 'Disco Inferno'. The atmosphere was burning up with C & C Music Factory's, 'Everybody Dance Now' and a variety of Whitney Houston classics thrown in to turn it up a notch!

For all you house music fanatics, a special treat was awaiting in the main room as DJs Supadon and special guest Booker T proved they were all about the bass by blaring out

their renowned, American house beats. The Vauxhall kids took centre stage under the glistening ceiling of disco balls while getting down and dirty to the best soulful American house tunes on demand!





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WORDS AND PHOTOS BY
MARK STOREY



COLD AND WET. That was the start to our night last Friday. Hoxton in da east was our destination and we could not wait to get in out of the chilly night. But inside venue Rolling Stock and Bang! was pumping with an uber sexy crowd, the second installment of this newbie on the club scene block. I must say what a chic

addition it is, too. The gawjess Borja Pena was sharing his magic as only he does best, and the sexy Spanish rocket was keeping the dancefloor going off just right. Fredi Dimanche and Gina Shim provided added aural pleasures to our ears as a friendly crowd was lapping up all the tunes that were delivered. Doing fab job hosting and sashaying around the club was the delectable Johanna Londinium, looking ever resplendent. This is really shaping up to be a Friday to be attended. Finishing us up was the one and only mister Paul Heron on deck duty. One couldn't ask for more can they? "It's fun and wild yet very intimate. Like a party that happens in your living room with all your best friends," promoter Alexander Han told us. QX loves Bang!





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Raising the Bar



KU BAR

30 Lisle Street, Chinatown, WC2H 7BA

Ku Bar are gearing up for their annual fundraiser (and their biggest auction yet!) - raising as much money as possible for **The Food Chain** on World AIDS Day, Monday 1st December. Last year they raised their highest amount at **£17,100 in ONE evening!** This year they're determined to beat it again!

Lots to be auctioned include **tickets to Ascot, a holiday to Italy, a vineyard trip, a box at The National Opera**, as well as **West End Show tickets, lunch at The Ritz and Skyy In The Cloud...** All to raise money for a great cause. This year, bidders can even choose to place a reserve bid online! Check out the WAD site: ku-bar.co.uk/wad

Plus their biggest auction and tradition: the famous **Ku Bar Boys Auction** where you can date one of the boys.



Myra Dubois

THE BLACK CAP

171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY

The Black Cap is going all out collecting for **GMFA** this World AIDS Day weekend with **Myra's Club Comedy Cabaret** on Friday 28th November from 10pm-3am. Saturday sees **T.L.C. #noscrubs** come to the fore at £6 all night entry, from 10pm-3am and don't miss **Fever** by Sadie Skinner on Sunday 30th. Then on World's AIDS Day itself, Monday 1st December, the Christmas Tree is erected!



MANBAR

79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE

A very special event of **Let's Talk About Gay Sex & Drugs** is coming to Manbar for World AIDS Day on Monday 1st December. Everyone who wants to speak gets five minutes on the stage to air their opinion, and all are welcome, whether to speak or listen. No judgement, no villainising!

Featured speakers will also talk engagingly about sex, drugs and HIV on the night; including **Tom Perry** from the **National AIDS Trust**, PrEP advocate **Greg Mitchell**, young gay podcasters **Dylan & Jack**, and **Dan Glass** from HIV queer cabaret activist group **Shafted?!**, bringing his huge inflatable penis to the party (true story).

To finish, there will be the **Younger & Older Discussion of HIV** where four well-known gay scene figures from different generations discuss how they perceive the virus: DJ **Stewart Who?**, drugs advisor **David Stuart**, DJ **Sam DMS** and performer **Pretty Miss Cairo**. Followed by an open Q&A with the audience.



Sam DMS



Pretty Miss Cairo



David Stuart



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Raising the Bar



Will Bond



Munroe Bergdorf



Adam Turner



Mutya Buena

CIRCA

62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN

Oi, lady? Have you heard the latest gossip? Those naughty slags at Circa are staying up later than ever! For the rest of the year, Circa will be open until 4AM every weekend for the rest of the year! There's nowhere in Soho going as long and hard as they are! Come join them and the sexiest line up of late night DJs anywhere in homo-leanin' London with **Munroe Bergdorf** and **Will Bond** on Friday 28th November, and **Adam Turner** and **Jonathan Bestley** on Saturday 29th!



Jonathan Bestley

THE TWO BREWERS

114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ

Guess what's happening at The Two Brewers on Friday 28th November? They've only got former Sugababe herself **Mutya Buena** 'She's Just a Real Girl', hosted by **CK** with DJ **David Robson** and **Demon**. In support of **GMFA**, open 5pm until 4am, with free entry before 10pm, £7 after. You know this is going to be one big night to remember!



Connie Lingus

HALFWAY TO HEAVEN

7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF

Friday 28th sees DJ **Little John** and special guest **Connie Lingus** playing special event 'Friday Night Live!' at Halfway to Heaven from 9pm, open until 3am. On Saturday 29th you'll find **Saturday Market Slash Swap Shop** with **Rose Garden** from 4pm, followed by **Camp Disco** with **Justin Swift** from 9pm, open until 3am. And Sunday 30th is a very special **CK Sunday World AIDS Day** from 4pm, followed by **An Evening With Mrs Moore** from 8pm with DJ **David Robson**.



Rose Garden



Mrs Moore

RAISING THE BAR →

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Raising the Bar



Marcus Collins

WEST 5

56 Pope's Lane, Ealing, W5 4NB

We kid you not when we say that the magnificent **Marcus Collins**, as he's totally

become known in the trade, is back in town on Saturday 29th November and storming onto the stage of West 5! Marcus became a much-loved cockthrob heartthrob when he was on The X Factor and is now wowing the gays with his smooth crooning and charismatic sexiness. Catch him while you can!

THE RVT

372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY

The masterful **David Hoyle's** 'Illustration' series continues to wow on Thursdays at the RVT and this Thursday 27th looks set to be no exception. Doors 7pm, show 8.30pm, £10. On Friday 28th **Push the Button** storms back into town playing all the hits from DJs **Hits&Mrs**, which can be requested via Twitter: @PTButton



David Hoyle



THE ROEBUCK

84 Ashmole Street, Oval, SW8 1NE

Sadly **Soul Cocina** has stopped for the Christmas period so you'll miss out on your sizzling Latin food intake on Tuesdays, but to make up for it a new, exciting partnership with much-loved Vauxhall club **The Eagle** has swung into town! Yes, get yourself along to The Roebuck on Friday 28th November from 8pm for a party with Eagle DJs, free pink gin shots, free entry to Men Inc at The Eagle and all ales just £3 a pint! The Roebuck are also looking for part-time bar staff at the moment, if you or anyone you know are looking for part-time work.



G-A-Y BAR

30 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UR

Alongside all-day HIV testing, at 10pm in G-A-Y Bar there will be a G-A-Y Balloon Release Memorial. Buy a bio degradable balloon at G-A-Y Bar reception and write the name of someone you would like to remember on it. A remembrance not just for World AIDS Day, but to remember anyone you've lost. See also page 8 and 12.





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Matt Bogard

COMPTONS

51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN

Host **Tom Knight** has teamed up with DJ **Matt Bogard** and Compton's of Soho to present a party night of uplifting House and fundraising in support of **GMFA** this World AIDS Day, 1st December. Matt will be spinning his magic from 8pm. Entry is free and with happy hour prices of £2.50 a pint on selected lagers from 5.30pm it'll be so much easier dig in your pockets for the much-needed change that will go to support GMFA, one of the favourite gay men's charities!



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11 Soho Square, W1D 3QE

From Sunday to Thursday, The Edge is open from 4pm with last entry at 1am. On Friday & Saturday, they're open from midday, with last entry at 2am, plus the kitchen is open with daily offers on special! Stellar DJs on rotation include **Aamyko**, **Chris S**, **Keyth David** and **Nick Shepherdson** playing the latest commercial, house, pop and chart remixes on the ground floor, with Guilty Pleasures upstairs on Friday and Saturdays!



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19/11/14

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WORDS BY JASON REID

PHOTOS BY ALEX WIGHTMAN



LONDON HAS BEEN AWASH WITH AMERICAN DRAG STARS

over the last few months, from judging strip contests to throwing the odd wobbly in Camden, and serving it up in Ealing. Us drag devotees really have been spoilt, haven't we?

It was the turn of Willam to swing by for a whirlwind visit last week. Hosted by Mary Mac, sporting a seasonal ginger rinse, and supported by the barmy Bambi Boo, Tiffany Diamanté and Virginia Wright, with the very extraordinary Alfie Ordinary tinkling the ivories in the piano lounge.

The star of the show didn't disappoint, with a full set including the hugely popular 'Blurred Byenes' and 'Boy Is a Bottom' numbers, all in a luscious Serengeti look. Hear her ROAR!

Devoted fans fired random (and scarily specific) questions, whilst never allowing their smartphones to leave the air of course, and Willam provided the answers, in her typically sharp and frank fashion: "Why have you never visited Ireland?"

"I have dumbass! If they have the cheque, I have the talent."

Wrapping up the show with a Spanish number, which she's clearly made a point of learning after joking about it on Drag Race, she then settled down for the onslaught of Willam worshippers who queued up to get their moment with the star during the meet and greet.

When the madness subsided I got to have a chat with her, too. I was quite taken by her very dry wit and ability to work an audience, be it on or off stage. Oh, and she signed my recent interview with her: "Jason of QX. I've had less invasive liposuction. Thanks for prying me wiiiide open."

Time to reopen my eBay account.



If they have the cheque, I have the talent."



CIRCA

IN 4AM

'Scandal'

TABLOID

"SOURCES ARE REPORTING OPENING TIMES EXTENDED EVERY WEEKEND UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR..."

KRIS DI ANGELIS REFUSES TO DO THE LATE SET

Adam Turner *hooked on jäger bombs*

TASTY TIM WON'T PLAY POP ANYMORE

MUNROE booked into selfie rehab

DMS CHARGED WITH SEXUAL HARASSMENT

"accused" of being a boy

Jonathan Bestley

ATTACK ATTACKS!

Sleeping Booty!

Christmas is nearly upon us and a long standing British tradition is being unleashed yet again. I am talking about pantomime!

Photo: Steve Ullathorne



THIS YEAR (thank the Lord) I am performing in an adult panto at the Leicester Square Theatre called 'Sleeping Booty!... all it takes is a prick!' Little need of any explanation as to the majority of its content needed here. I will let the title speak for itself. This will be my third adult panto and I absolutely adore it. Not just the shows, but the whole process of putting a slick, fast, hilarious and filthy piece of theatre on to the stage. What looks like an hour and a half of mayhem and fun actually takes months of work by a highly trained group of pros, me not included of course. The team at the theatre pride themselves in making it look easy and, believe me, it is not!

When I first performed in their cabaret lounge, I had no idea of the amount of blood, sweat and tears it actually takes to put on a show like ours. I had been used to performing on stage in nightclubs where often all it would take to get a laugh was a swear word, a rant, a new hairstyle, or an unrehearsed and self-indulgent bit of mime. It was a shock to my system to be in rehearsal rooms at 9 in the morning until 6 at night for three weeks of solid line runs, song rehearsals and running the show over and over.

I was not used to taking "notes" (criticism) and being made to do things over and over until our director was happy with it. Nor was I used to a 77 show, six week run with two shows on Friday, three on Saturday and another two on Sunday. I was reassured that "Les Dawson used to do four a day" but somehow it did not sit well with my "princess" mentality. What I found, however, was that I actually grew to love it and everything that went with it.

When the show began and I saw the smiles and heard the laughter it all somehow became "worth it". I would leave at night feeling like I had actually accomplished

something productive and that had made me feel good about myself. I was proud of the show and my contribution to it. So was Martin Witts, the theatre owner, and Stuart Saint, the artistic director, who offered me a 5-year in-house contract as the theatre's drag muse.

"Adult panto allows me to release my inner filth."

Since my initial show, I have appeared in over 200 more, in three productions and each time I feel I have improved and gained confidence and skills I never thought I had in me. I have always loved doing drag but panto and theatre generally has allowed me to step away from what, for me, is becoming an increasingly sanitized industry where it has become more important to have six shades of contouring on your nose and to know each contestant on the Ru Paul Drag Race's inside leg measurement than to actually have any talent. Adult panto allows me to release my inner filth and create a

character that has little resemblance to the "Dusty O" most people have come to expect. It is a yearly liberation.

It is also gloriously British. A tradition that has not become watered down by an ever increasing tide of American imports. Something we can claim as our own and need to hold on to in the same vein as the Carry On films or some of those glorious 70s sitcoms like 'Are You Being Served' and 'On The Buses'. Riddled with lewd and non-PC innuendo and hilariously fun.

Getting to know a new cast each year and working intensely with them for three months on a daily basis has all the trials and tribulations of a family reunion but with new faces. There are dramas and arguments but in my experience the need to get the show up and running overrides the petty differences and pulls you together. You feel bonded and part of a family of performers whose only interest is to make the show good. It has been a massive learning curve for me.

If you want something filthy yet innocent, fast and slick with reworked songs and dance routines from a cast who know how to work an audience and serve up absolute talent by the sack load then I urge you to come and catch one of our shows. I promise you won't be disappointed!

'Sleeping Booty!... all it takes is a prick!' is at the Leicester Square Theatre, (6 Leicester Place, WC2H 7BX) to Saturday 17th January. Tickets £15-22. Box office: 08448 733433 or www.leicestersquaretheatre.com

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Saturday 29th November

Saturday Market slash Swap Shop with

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Sunday 30th November

CK SUNDAY WORLD AIDS DAY

from 4pm followed by **AN EVENING WITH MRS MOORE**

with **DJ DAVID ROBSON**



Tuesday 2nd December

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with **DJ ME**



Wednesday 3rd December

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with **DJ JUSTIN SWIFT** from 9pm.



Familyyy Beautyyy

This December, **The Black Cap** will be putting on a scandalous, show-stopping production of **Sleeping Beautyyy**. Dom Top spoke to head honcho **Jamie Henderson** and one of the mothers of the Familyyy Fierce, **Meth**, to find out what kind of spectacle is in store!



© FD Photo

Tell us all about this year's panto...

Meth: Sleeping Beautyyy is a camp, queer and fierce take on the traditional fairy tale. Written by me, directed by the wonderful Holestarr and starring all of the Familyyy Fierce. It's most definitely not suitable for children, the elderly and infirm or anyone with a moral compass.

Jamie: It is the first Panto since I took over the helm and I'm really excited about it. The Familyyy Fierce are as much a part of The Cap now as anyone – so it's very exciting to have them showcase their talents on our famous stage.

M: It's the first panto and in fact the first full scale production from the Familyyy. We've been dreaming of something on this scale for a while so thought panto season would be the best chance to give it a go.

What can we expect? Hopefully lots of the usual Familyyy Fierceness!

M: Gagging gags galore! Big, beautiful burlesque! Original, outrageous opulence!

Who's playing whom? Will we be seeing Methleficent?

J: I am probably allowed to say that we will see Meth at her very best - evil smirk and gin in hand!

M: Due to an unfortunate legal battle with Disney and an ugly twitter fight with Angelina, I've had to rename the character Methnificent and oh yes, there will be gin! Rubyyy Jones and Lolo Brow are playing the Princess and Prince, respectively. Maxi More, Bourgeoisie and Ruby Wednesday are the three good fairies. Lilly Snatchdragon will be tackling the role of both King and Queen in one. And Scarlett O'Hore will be playing every other part the script calls for including at least one tree.

Any highlights to keep an eye out for?

J: The pantomime starts after our weekend with Jinx Monsoon, so it's going to be a great week full of fun!

M: The Familyyy know how to turn a number so

expect some major tricks and turns and more than one occasion of gratuitous nudity.

In the original Sleeping Beauty, it all goes wrong because of a little prick. Has that ever happened to you?

J: Not at all...but I have had a run in with an evil queens a few times. That's the joy of Camden!

M: There's only one place for little pricks. And it's certainly not behind you!

THE BLACKCAP
CAMDEN TOWN
Just Be Fabulous

**Sleeping Beautyyy is at
The Black Cap (171 Camden High
Street, NW1 7JY) from Monday 15th
December-Thursday 18th December.
Doors open at 7:30pm.**

By arrangement with Samuel French Ltd
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A woman in a golden, sparkling gown stands amidst a lush garden of flowers and stars. The scene is illuminated with warm, golden light, and the background is filled with numerous small, twinkling stars. The woman's hair is adorned with flowers and stars, and her dress is intricately detailed with gold and white patterns. The overall atmosphere is magical and enchanting.

THE
FAMILYYY
FIERCE

IN
A LAVISH
NEW PRODUCTION OF
Sleeping
BeautyYY

DIRECTED BY
HOLESTAR

15TH 16TH 17TH 18TH
DECEMBER

7.30PM

£7 ADVANCE £10 ON THE DOOR

£15 SEATED

STARRING

RUBYYY JONES METH LOLO BROW
LILLY SNATCHDRAGON RUBY WEDNESDAY
MAXI MORE BOURGEOISIE SCARLETT O'HORA

THE BLACKCAP
CAMDEN TOWN

But is it ART sweetie?
BY PATRICK CASH



Photo by Gergoe Nagy

Ian Garside, Gabriel Castillo, Taylor Benjamin



Hannes Langolf

Photo by Hugo Glendinning

'THE SHAME'

DANCE/THEATRE
JOHN

The Lyttelton Theatre, National, South Bank, SE1 9PX
Performance returns again on Friday 5th December - Saturday 20th December. 8pm. £15-35.
3pm matinees on Saturday & Sunday.
www.nationaltheatre.org.uk

'AND THEN THERE'S the poo' begins one scene in *John*, where gay sauna owners talk about cleaning up at the end of the night. They talk about poo in the showers; about poo dropping out of guys' arses as they walk up the stairs; about walking around the venue by mistake with poo on their shoulder.

John is a verbatim piece and I have no doubt that the descriptions of faeces illustrated above come straight from the sauna-owners' mouths. But any interviewer will tell you that as much as the words may come straight from the mouth, the finished piece is produced by the mind that sculpts those words.

I imagine Lloyd Newson, the man behind the show, would ostensibly argue to include these particular descriptions so as to be realistic and not to shy away from the anus' primary, non-sexual function. I am

all for realism, shit literally does happen, and we're all human and we have digestive systems.

Yet in a good decade now of personally engaging in lots of gay male anal sex, there's been very little shit. Certainly, no one's ever walked out of my room with shit dropping out of their arse.

It could be argued that because their setting was a gay sauna, with its slings and passing reference to fisting, it was their angle to show the distortion that men visiting the sauna place upon their physicality. If so, this was so subtle as to fail.

To my mind, the scene instead gave the impression to the seemingly straight, white, middle-class audience that all gay sex involves a lot of relentless shit; a viewpoint you might as well have transcribed from a 'burn the gays' pastor in Uganda. If you want to be truly realistic, at least include a scene about douching before



Photo by Gergoe Nagy

Taylor Benjamin and Garth Johnson

visiting the sauna.

But perhaps it wasn't so much about realism as shocking *Daily Mail* critics and creating easy ticket sales; when Sarah Kane's *Blasted* was branded a 'disgrace' it sent the production's reputation through the roof. DV8 must have been spinning on their dance mats when Quentin Letts said the same thing in his review.

Certainly the inclusion of a male teacher who goes straight from the sauna to his school, and logs on to Grindr when he's in the classroom, felt like provocative sensationalism. There was even a sense of internalised homophobia, inviting their audience to judge this amoral deviant put in charge of children. Where did the company, or Newson as a gay man himself, attempt to ask why?

Aside from the shit and shock, this was the real hollow at *John's* core. It's a three-act play, following the eponymous John's 'straight' life in and out of prison for the first third, his middle-aged foray into gay saunas, and his yearning for substance at its end. The company repeatedly threw around the word 'intimacy' like shit in sauna showers. The real disgrace of this production was that nowhere did they ask why gay men might have intimacy issues.

Perhaps, at a push, the production as a whole was meant to leave a pseudo-Brechtian strain on the spectator. When walking

The scene instead gave the impression to the seemingly straight, white, middle-class audience that all gay sex involves a lot of relentless shit."

out of the theatre with John's desperate search for a connection as your last image, you were meant to analyse the first third where it gave his 'straight performance' growing up. But this doesn't work; we live in a too fast-paced age.

Daily Mail and *Telegraph* readers are not going to dissect this production with that detail, what's left in their minds is the shit and Grindr in classrooms. If all you're going to reach with your preaching is the converted *Guardian* liberals, then why be allowed to make theatre on the national stage?

Technically, *John* was excellent. Stylistically, it looked great. The movement was beautiful. But shame on the National, shame on DV8, and shame on Lloyd Newson, for doing nothing to negate the shame of gay men.



Hannes Langolf

Photo by Laurent Philippe

John will be screened to cinemas around the UK on 9th December.

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SCREEN TEST
BY JACK LEGER

IN THE WORKS

Tom Hardy is up for the role of Red Flag, leader of DC Comics' Suicide Squad, a team of anti-heroes • And Homeland's **Rupert Friend** will write, direct and star in a con-man road movie called Barton & Charlie & Checco & Bill, costarring **Emily Blunt**.



FILM OF THE WEEK



STATIONS OF THE CROSS (15)
A true original, this German drama consists of 14 long takes, each scene depicting the next stage in a

fundamentalist Catholic teen girl's increasing desperation to become a saint. Her priest and mother eerily seem impressed, while everyone else worries about her mental and physical health. While this fiercely inventive film uses religious brainwashing as a theme, it's equally about capitalism. Which should make us all pause for thought.



VIDEO OF THE WEEK



SNAILS IN THE RAIN (15)
A loose, open-handed approach and a ludicrously sexy leading man make this Israeli gay drama worth a look. Model-actor Yoav Reuveni plays Boaz, a university student who flirts with both men and women but has a loyal girlfriend at home. When he receives a series of anonymous love letters, he starts questioning his own sexuality. The story is introspective and involving, but doesn't have much to say. (TLA)



COMEDY & ADVENTURE

Ben Wishaw is great as the voice to **PADDINGTON** in an action-comedy that's much better than expected, thanks to warped humour and visual flair. • Jennifer Aniston, Jason Bateman and the gang are back for **HORRIBLE BOSSES 2**. Like the original, the absurd antics are funny even if nothing is particularly inspired.

BEHIND THE SCENES

The documentary **I AM ALI** offers a new angle on boxing legend Muhammad Ali, with unseen footage and remarkably intimate interviews. Very cool, but it feels like a glowing obituary for someone who hasn't died yet.



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REVOLTAGE

PRINCESS JULIA



It's been quite a month and it's not over yet as we're well and truly rolling into the festive season. Oooh, we haven't been up to Vogue Fabrics (66 Stoke Newington Road, Hoxton, N16 7XB) for a while and this week the return of **Dark Fabrics Cabaret** on Friday 28th showcases the array of talent we have lurking on the club scene. From 7pm **Baby Lane, Krishna Isha, Cyth Icorn, MJ Woodbridge, Joe Sutherland** and **Bourgeoisie** bring their unique and diverse take on drag, comedy and music.



Bourgeoisie

Staying in East? **Dirty Diana XI** at Dalston Superstore (117 Kingsland High Street, Hackney, E8 2PB) on Friday 28th is where all the gorgeous people are going! From 9pm till 4.30am the gang **Mikki Most, Grego**



Lady Lloyd

After All, Samantha Togni, Conner West, Scally Faggot, Hugo Bo Channel and **Frank Fontaine** run riot over 2 floors.

Don't say I never leave Shoreditch, **The Popstarz Fairwell Funfair** at The Coronet (28 New Kent

Road, Elephant and Castle, SE1 6TJ) celebrates two decades of a club that changed the way we party from its onset. It's a big one as they wave goodbye with three rooms... Highlights include performance from **The Pink Singers**, actual fun fair side shows, resident DJs and guests including **TheMenWhoFell2Earth, Laurence Del Rey, Lady Lloyd, David Oh** and **Holestar**. 10pm till 4am on 28th November.

OMG! Amazing... **Deep Trash Italia 'Not For Sale'** on Saturday 29th looks maje, it's at the Bethnal Green Working Men's Club (42 Pollard Row, Hoxton, E2 6NB)...

back East again! From 8pm onwards. It'll be home to a world of Italo camp classics from **Benedicta** and **DJ Fantoni & LoGotto**. Plus video installation and performance from (my faves) **Oozing Gloop** and **Angel Rose!**



Oozing Gloop

On Sunday 30th November, coinciding with World Aids Day, **A Night In Paradise** will recapture the spirit of the legendary NYC Paradise Garage at the Ministry of Sound (Gaut Street, Elephant and Castle, SE1 6DP). A huge line-up includes club **Handsome** and the **Horse Meat Disco** boys! 4pm till midnight... and raising funds for **Gay Mens Health Crisis** and the **Terrence Higgins Trust**.

MJ WOODBRIDGE - 'ELECTRIC SHOCK'

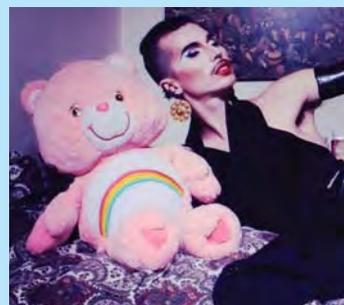
MJ WOODBRIDGE excites our attention because his songs are unique enough to already be their own classics. We were agonising whether to choose 'Electr!c Shock' or epic 80s-like power track 'To Hell & Back' to write about, but eventually we opted for the more recent offering.

An oscillating electronica ballad, Woodbridge's emotion-fused voice clammers over the song like a blowtorch melting a glacier, or molten metal snowing on Venus' sulphur-fused mountains. Perhaps this is over-egging the soufflé of pretentious music reviews, but I needed to somehow illustrate the *difference* of Woodbridge's work.

'Electr!c Shock' is sung to a particular person, either a lover or an ex-lover, and carries a tinge of poignancy, light rain on a roof at night. But the lyrics spell a different sense of empowerment. 'I want to blow your mind, but I know you couldn't handle me if you tried,' croons Woodbridge, 'I'm too much power, too much life, too much spark.'

Then the cascading chorus begins.

'Watch me – electric shock, shock, shocking / I got you buzz, buzz, buzzin / But I'm too electric for your dick tonight,' he sings. In an extraordinary feat of marrying tone, words



and feeling in a sexually Faustian ménage-a-trois, Woodbridge manages to make 'I'm too electric for your dick tonight' sound plaintive and full of soul.

But its core is not just in its lyrics; it's also technically where this track is exceptional. Not only are the jade-laced layers of sound original and beautifully soldered into twined lattice, clever production makes much

of Woodbridge's emotive voice. Different lines and phrases of the song are echoed and spliced into each other's vibration, creating an ethereal feel.

We've come to expect from the term 'experimentation' the likes of Radiohead's Kid A; an opaque, abstract delve into bleeps and darkness, all too often self-indulgently exploratory or academically alienating, rather than musically involving. MJ Woodbridge manages to experiment in a pure sense, where the life and essence of the music is retained in his play.

And again it pulses a universality to its rendering; whether the lyrics are written for truth or for bravado, I feel there are not many of us who haven't felt somewhere, at some point, 'I'm too electric for your dick tonight' about someone.

MJ Woodbridge will be playing live at 'Dark Fabrics Cabaret' at Vogue Fabrics (66 Stoke Newington Road, N16 7XB) on Friday 28th November, from 7pm.

WHAT

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BY PATRICK CASH



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THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

Ow'Zat at The Joiners Arms, 116-118 Hackney Road, E2 7QL. 11.30pm-4am. FREE b4 11.30pm/£5 after. The weekend begins early at the original gay Hackney London club/bar.

Ted's TV/TS Night at Ted's Place, 305a North End Road. 7pm-2am. £5. The night for fellas in frocks and their admirers.

Room Service at Miabella, 12-13 Greek Street, Soho, W1D 4DJ. 10pm-3am. Don't you dare miss this fiercely social, sexy club spot, playing edgy and upfront house. Expect hot gogo eye candy and hosted by fab scene faces. Get snapped by the legendary resident papper!

Thirsty at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 11pm-3.30am. FREE. The off-Soho bar keeps the night going 'til late with Gaydio's Phil Marriott's commercial dance anthem onslaught.

Decoded at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-5am. £5. Non-stop pumping house, plus a mix of nu-disco and uplifting deep vocal house from DJ's Alex Georgiou and Steven Artis at Vauxhall industrial Barcode club spot.

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 11pm-3am. Hot pop sounds get played out across the club, drink specials, cute guys and an almost unrivalled highly electric atmosphere. Open 7 days.

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. £3 entry, free entry for members. Cruise spaces to explore to darker, deeper beats.

Ku Klub - Tasty Tim Takeover at Ku Bar Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 6pm-3am. FREE. The legendary Tasty Tim and guests spin the pop sounds and floor fillers.

BARS & CABARET

Baga Chipz & Linda Bacardi at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 5pm-3.30am. Show 9pm-midnight. Free. Drag queens, vocalists, hot messes and hilarious to boot! Baga Chipz and Linda Bacardi crash land into the Manbar.

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. From 8pm. Weekly

dance session at the popular Soho bar. TONIGHT: Enriched with DJ Rich B.

Dr Woof's Thursday Surgery at Kazbar, 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-3am. Free. Dr Woof presents his weekly cabaret turn at the funky Clapham bar.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder.

Comptons of Soho - Tasty Tim Teaches House at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-midnight. One of Soho's best loved traditional gay pubs, always busy and always friendly and always fun. TONIGHT: DJ Tasty Tim plays the delicious tunes.

David Hoyle - Illustration at The RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 7pm-midnight. Show 8.30pm. Six limitless evenings of hilarity, protest and misrule as cabaret terrorist and avant guardian David Hoyle returns to his spiritual home at the RVT. TONIGHT: Special guest Dusty Limits.

WTF is Ladylife? at The Amersham Arms, 388 New Cross Road, SE14 6TY. 8.30pm. A Vaudeville revue of the fierce, femme and fabulous: featuring DJ Anna Wintoral and Smiley Vyrus.

Quiz Night at The Roebuck, 84 Ashmole Street, SW8 1NE. 8pm onwards. £1 entry. Cash prizes to be won at The Roebuck for their awesome Quiz Night.

Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. Bar open 4pm-2am. FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. Popular South London cabaret/club spot. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Lola Lasagne.

Gossip at West 5, Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. Open from 8pm. FREE. Ealing's hugely popular club, bar and cabaret spot.

Backing The Stars at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. Popular central London karaoke fun with Kevin Walsh. **VS** at Circa, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1. 4pm-4am. Munroe Bergdorf and Adam Turner get you warmed up for Room Service with some unrivalled Thursday night hotness!

FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

Nancy's + Dirty Diana at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-3am. Free b4 11pm/£5

after. Weekly night of regular resident DJs spinnin' up a storm of top deck disco house and hot tracks to shack out to. TONIGHT: Dirty Diana with head honcho Mikki Most joined by DD residents Conner West and Samantha Togni for hot boys, high fashion and all-night pumpers.

Ball featuring Mutya Buena at The Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-4am. FREE b4 10pm/£7 after. South London's legendary club, bar and cabaret spot. TONIGHT: Starring ex-Sugababe Mutya Buena. Raising funds for GMFA. Hosted by CK with DJs David Robson and Demon.



Mutya Buena

Motherload at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10pm-late. £5 b4 midnight, £8 b4 1am/£5 after 4am. New night takes over East London's boutique bunker club with DJs D Ramirez, Guy Williams, James Capbell and Richard Jones/Matt Carter in The Den.

STP at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 10pm-3am. £3 before midnight, £5 after. Sweat dripping from the ceiling and the best hip-hop and R&B this side of Shacklewell Lane. Five hours of everything you wanted.

Butt 1st at The Joiners Arms, 116-118 Hackney Road, E2 7QL. 11.30pm-4am. FREE b4 11.30pm/£5 after. Packing them into the East London dance and drink spot every Friday.

Popstaz Farewell Funfair at The Coronet, 28 New Kent Road, Elephant

& Castle, SE1 6TJ. 10pm-4am. £15. The Popstaz Farewell Funfair is going to be mad! With DJs Tommy Turntables, Laurence Del Rey, TheMenWhoFell2Earth, El Conchitas, and very special guests on the main floor.

Men Inc. at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-3am. £5. Free for Eagle/Paris Gym members. New night at Eagle aimed at blokes, butch guys, bears and their pals after a social time and seriously good tunes.

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 7.30pm-3am. Hot pop sounds, drink specials, cute guys and a pop perfect atmosphere.

Push the Button at the RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 9pm-3am. £6. DJs Hits&Mrs play all the hits for this pop-loving night, with requests taken via Twitter: @PTButton

Filladz at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-9am. £8 members, £10 guests. The club session for horny lads with hot grooves from the DJs and an extended cruise space. Followed by Bodyshakers (afterhours).

G-A-Y Camp Attack at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 11pm-4am. FREE with wristband from G-A-Y Bar. Main Floor plays 70s, 80s, 90s, 00 & 01, Star Bar is 02 to present day, videos in the Pop Room. Musical theme sing-along in the Departure Lounge.

Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 5pm-4.30am. Free b4 11pm/£3 after. Unleash the beast within with a night of spooky antics and thrillers as Manbar go all out for Halloween. Psychjo clown, ghoulish face painting, and treats aplenty. DJs Amos and Ale Amaral.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street at 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE b4 11pm, £5 after. Pop perfection and hot floor fillers as Ku's hot 3 spin the tunes in its downstairs basement club spot.

Wut? Club at The Shelter, 267 Kingsland Road, Dalston, E2 8AS. 10pm-5am. From the team of people that brought you SEPM, DJs Larry Tee and Attack Attack Attack make the main floor heave, joined by special guests.

A:M (afterhours) at Protocol, South Lambeth Road, SW8 1RT. 1am (Saturday morning)-11am. £12. The original Saturday morning afterhours

beast that continues to light up the weekend ahead of the rest churns out the turbocharged house sounds.

BARS & CABARET

Dark Fabrics Cabaret at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, N16 7XB. Doors 7pm, £5. The theatrical showcase of the best new performance acts around London returns with comedian Joe Sutherland, drag artiste Baby Lame, singer MJ Woodbridge, performer Krishna Isthia, burlesque star Cynth Icorn and the magnificent Bourgeoisie!

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. Midday-3am. Last entry 2am. FREE b4 10.30pm. Four floors of fun! DJs spin a blend of commercial, house, pop and chart remixes. Guilty pleasures upstairs. TONIGHT: The birthday of beloved hostess Felicia Van Cartier from 8pm on the second floor. DJs Keyth David and KrizZ play the sounds.



Felicia Van Cartier

Circa at 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. 4pm-4am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot watches Munroe Bergdorf and friends werq the floor! TONIGHT: Kicking off its Christmas late license season – open 'til 4am. DJs Munroe Bergdorf and Will Bond.

Ku Bar Soho, 25 Frith Street, WC1D 5LB. Open 'til 3am. Ku Bar's little brother stretches across two floors for that perfect Soho warm-up drinking session and a little dance with downstairs DJs.

The Yard at 57 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 7PL. Open till 1am. FREE. Renowned as one of Soho's most unique and popular destination venues, with terrific outdoor space.

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-2am. The grand dame of Soho. TONIGHT: DJ Lee Harris from 9pm.

The Roebuck at 84 Ashmole Street, SW8 1NE. 6-11pm. Happy hour all

night at this enticing gay friendly venue in the Oval area where you can meet local lads and sexy drinkers. TONIGHT: A pre-party for Men Inc. the sexy Friday nights at Eagle London.

Molly Moggs at 2 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4TA. FREE. Soho's most intimate cabaret bar. Cabaret time! It's Diva's Unlimited with Diamond Pearl (8.30pm).

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 12noon-3am. FREE b4 10.30pm. Four floors of fun! Ground floor DJs spin top 40 and radio edit chart dance and commercial and chart R'n'B on the 2nd floor.

The Green Carnation: Let's Go Wilde at 5 Greek Street, Soho, W1D 4DD. 5pm-2.30am. The Soho bar/club rocks Friday in with host Chrissy Darling and DJs Brent Nicholls, Little Rob, Tasty Tim, Matt Bogard and Rich B on rotation from 9pm.

Kazbar presents We Love The 90s at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-3am. Free. Funky Clapham bar with stylish swish. DJ Mark Norton spins the retro sounds. Hosted by Nervenzellen. TONIGHT: DJ Mark Norton.

West 5 at South Ealing, Pope's Lane, W5 4NB. The popular West London club, bar and cabaret spot, with added Piano Lounge fun.

Central Station at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open 'til 4am. FREE b4 10pm/£3 after, £5 after 10.30pm. The super-friendly Kings Cross bar. DJs 'til late. TONIGHT: DJ Karl on the decks.

Friday Night Live at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. 9pm-3am. The central London cabaret hot spot. TONIGHT: Cabaret from special guest Connie Lingus.

New Bloomsbury Set at 76 Marchmont Street, Bloomsbury, WC1N 1AG. 4pm-11.30pm. Open seven days a week for the more social gays around the Kings Cross/Bloomsbury area and those after a refreshing new experience. London's only 21+ bar!

Sauna Bar at 29 Endell Street, Covent Garden, WC2H 9BA. 11.30am-2am. £16. £5 off entry with QX advert. The only licensed gay sauna in the West End, open 'til super late every weekend.

Camp As Hits at The City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. 10pm-3am. Venerable institution of the gay scene rocks out some pop classics for an evening of fun.

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. Open 'til 1am. Soho's sexy bar is ready to shine again with weekly DJ sets to get you in the weekend mood! TONIGHT: DJ Phil Mariott.

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

G-A-Y presents Tulisa at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 10pm-5am. Discount wristbands from G-A-Y Bar. The palace of pop and quite possibly the world's most famous gay club packs out this cavernous venue. TONIGHT: The most talked about UK star of 2014 Tulisa makes her hugely anticipated return. Supported by X Factor's Stevie Ritchie and Only the Young.

MEMBERS at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-6am. £7 before 12am, £9 after. Berlin club MEMBERS takes over with Berlin boy Marc Miroir and Borja Pena in the main room. Plus Handmade in Room 2 and Chris Camplin & Pep Sanchez in Room 3.



Marc Miroir

TikTok at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-very late. £5 before midnight with QX ADVERT/£8 after. Vauxhall's full-throttle late night club keeps the house music booming with DJs Chris Barker, Nico de Ceglia, Steven Artis, Alex Georgiou and guest DJs, also collecting money for GMFA.



Alex Georgiou

Homeelectric at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-4am. Free b4 10pm/£5 after. Jamie Bull is back with his Manchester/London disco institution, including special guest Sasa of In Flagranti alongside Homo resident Will Tramp whilst Jamie treats the top floor.

Vogue Fabrics '92 at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 10pm-3am. £3 b4 11pm/£5 after. Neil Prince and David Oh take a trip back to the dance sounds of 1992, playing the tracks



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**Saturday
29th November**



MARCUS COLLINS



that are inspiring a whole new batch of current electronic artists. Anyone born after 1992 gets in for free! ID required.

Exilio LGBT Latin Dance Club at 1 Archway Close, N19 3TD. 10pm-4am. £12, text £10, online £8. Exilio is hosting a drag king competition this weekend! With shows by she king Karin Lorenan Gonzalez y La Aleja Paisa.

Eagle London Members' Reward Party at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-4am. Guests £5, members free. An uplifting party celebrating life and supporting the fight against HIV & AIDS and raising money for Wandsworth Oasis and GMI Partnership with DJs Lee Thomas and Adam Turner. Hosted by A Man to Pet.

Pantastic at The Joiners Arms, 116-118 Hackney Road, E2 7QL. 10pm-4am. £6. One of the East End's most legendary gay pub-clubs, packed every weekend with hip, hot and happening queers shaking out to the edgiest sounds.

Sweatbox Foam Party at 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. 24hr pass £17, 48hr pass £19. Unwind and release some tension after a stressy week with the all the fun of the foam at Sweatbox's original weekly party.

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 11pm-3am. Hot pop sounds, drink specials, cute guys and a pop perfect atmosphere.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street at 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE b4 11pm, £5 after. £3 with wristband/membership. The

party continues in Ku's basement club with hot pop and floor fillers from the DJs.

Duckie at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 9pm-2am. £6. Alternative London club/entertainment night. Hosted by Amy Lamé, with music by Readers Wives.

Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 10pm-4.30am. Free b4 11pm/£3 after. DJ Marilio and Gretta Gargolla spin the sounds for an uperit, friendly and lively weekend crowd.

The Green Carnation and No. 5 at 5 Greek Street, Soho, W1D 4DD. 5pm-2.30am. DJs on rotation mix it up and play the Saturday night sounds at this seminal Soho bar/club. Hosted by Chrissy Darling.

Riverside Tavern at Riverside Tavern, 8 Canal Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 4DR. Kent's most popular gay bar/club.

XXL at Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, South Bank, SE1 9UF. 8pm-8am. £8 members, £15 guests. £5 after 4am. Two rooms of choons, cruise and chill space. Plus, big tunes from the resident DJs.

Beyond (afterhours) at Fire, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RT. 4.30am (Sunday morning)-late. £10 advance tickets available. The crazy club beast takes it up a notch with a move to Fire for the late night/early morning house music session.

Unchill (afterhours) at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 6am (Sunday morning)-super late. FREE. Sunday morning afterhours with DJs spinning fresh uplifting house music into Sunday morning.

BARS & CABARET

Circa at 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. 4pm-4am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town. TONIGHT: The late license season starts this weekend - open 'til 4am. DJs Adam Turner and Jonathan Bestley.



Jonathan Bestley

The Yard at 57 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 7PL. Open till 1am. FREE.

Renowned as one of Soho's most unique and popular destination venues, with terrific outdoor space.

Klub Klimax at West 5 presents Marcus Collins at South Ealing, Pope's Lane, W5 4NB. 7pm-3am.

The popular West London club, bar and cabaret spot, with added Piano Lounge fun. TONIGHT: X Factor cutie Marcus Collins.

The Old Ship at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 8pm-12am.

Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse. TONIGHT: Charity event in aid of St Joseph's Hospice in Hackney hosted by Mandy Gap with Candy Slag In Drag, Saucy Sophie, Chamonix Aspen, Linda Bacardi and Tony Cavell. Plus: prizes, raffle and auction.

Ku Bar at Ku Bar Lisle Street, Chinatown, WC2H 7BA. 6pm-3am.

One of London's hottest gay bars and clubs, with the hottest boys both behind the bar and in front of it, stretching over three floors.

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. Open 'til 1am. Kick Saturday night off with sounds from the hottest DJs at this lively Soho bar. TONIGHT: DJ Lee Harris.

Saturday Market Slash Swap Shop & Camp Disco at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon St, WC2N 4JF. Open 'til 3am. Rose Garden provides Saturday shopping light relief. Followed by Bambi Boo at 8pm. DJ

Justin Swift's Camp Disco 'til 3am.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. Midday-3am. Last entry 2am. FREE b4 10.30pm. Four floors of fun! DJs spin a blend of commercial, house, pop and chart remixes. Guilty pleasures upstairs. TONIGHT: DJ Aamyko on the ground floor, with DJ Keyth David on the second floor.

New Bloomsbury Set at 76 Marchmont Street, Bloomsbury, WC1N 1AG. 4pm-11.30pm. Open seven days a week for the more social gays around the Kings Cross/Bloomsbury area and those after a refreshing new experience. London's only 21+ bar!

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 2pm-late. The grand dame of Soho pulling in a more blokey crowd. TONIGHT: DJ Hifi Sean from 9pm.

The Green Carnation: Dorian Gray at 5 Greek Street, Soho, W1D 4DD. 5pm-2.30am. DJs including Brent Nicholls, Rich B, Little Rob, Tasty Tim, Matt Bogard and Zach Burns play the tunes at this seminal Soho bar/club on rotation. Hosted by Chrissy Darling.

Kazbar presents Push Push at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-1am. Free entry. Funky Clapham bar with stylish swish. TONIGHT: DJ Paul Morrell and guests play nu disco, house and deep sounds on the decks. Hosted by Glendora.

Pick N Mix at The City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. Top tunes and late night fun at the legendary gay boozier near Marble Arch.

Central Station at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open 'til 4am. FREE b4 10pm. Cabaret then DJs 'til late. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Lola Lasagne.

Ku Bar Soho at 25 Frith Street, WC1D 5LB. 12 midday-late. Ku Bar's little brother stretches across three floors for that perfect Soho warm-up drinking session and a cheeky dance with downstairs DJs.

The Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-4am. FREE b4 10pm, £7 after. Cabaret and clubbing 'til late at the famous venue.

The Roebuck at 84 Ashmole Street, SW8 1NE. Gay venue in the Oval area. Worship the weekend with Bar-Buck-Q's in the secluded garden.

G-A-Y Bar at 30 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UR. Midday-Midnight. FREE. Soho's palace of pop with the hottest videos screened out across the venue, great drinks deals and discount entry wristbands for G-A-Y @ Heaven.

Molly Moggs at 2 Old Compton

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Street, Soho, W1D 4TA. FREE. Soho's most intimate cabaret bar. Divas Unlimited cabaret with Diamond Pearl (8.30pm).

Saunabar at 29 Endell Street, Covent Garden, WC2H 9BA. 11.30am-2am. £16. £5 off entry with QX advert.

Unwind after a night of clubbing at the only licensed gay sauna in the West End.

SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

Beyond (afterhours) at Fire. 4am-late. See Saturday.

Unchill (afterhours) at Barcode 6am-late. See Saturday.

Rapid HIV Testing at The Joiners Arms, 116 Hackney Road, Shoreditch, E2 7QL. 2-5pm. Free. Positive East present free, rapid HIV testing at much-adored East London venue The Joiners.

A Night in Paradise at Ministry of Sound, 103 Gaunt Street, SE1 6DP. 4pm-12am. £20/25. Official Paradise Garage HIV Fundraiser with Danny Krivitz, Joey Llanos, David DePino, Victor Rosado and Jocelyn Brown on the PA, plus many other including Horse Meat Disco & Jeffrey Hinton.

Ku Klub Retro Sundays at Ku Bar Lisle Street at 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE. The party continues in Ku's basement club with classic 80s, 90s and 00s tracks from DJ Pablo and Lady Lloyd.

SPQR at The Joiners Arms, 116-118 Hackney Road, E2 7QL. 11pm-2am. FREE. DJ Romano plays the sounds out for the Sunday crowd at the bustling Joiners. TONIGHT: DJ Pomano.

Horse Meat Disco at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 8pm-3am. £6. The HMD gymkhana continues to shake Vauxhall down every week. Residents spin super-disco sounds with weekly guests.

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 11pm-3am. Hot pop sounds get played out across the club, drink specials, cute guys and an almost unrivalled highly electric atmosphere.

RVT Sundays at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. 2pm-2am. £6. The afternoon/evening clubbing session slot playing huge dance anthems and commercial house. Plus, multi-media entertainment from Charlie Hides TV at 5.30pm.

Later at Fire, 39 Parry Street, SW8 1RT. Midday-late. £10. Continue Beyond vibes into Sunday afternoon

as Later funks it up.

Orange at Fire, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RT. 5am (Monday morning) -late. £12. The weekend ends here with funk-ed-up house sounds from the resident disc jocks.

BARS & CABARET

Circa – World AIDS Day DJ Bar

Takeover at 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. 4pm-4am. The

The resident DJs get involved and pull pints for the annual WAD fundraiser, with 20% of all takings going to The Food Chain. Serving you voddie and a splash on the day are Attack Attack Attack, Kris Di Angelis, Munroe Bergdorf, Adam Turner, Jonathan Bestley and Sam DMS.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder. Ground floor DJs spin top 40 and radio edit chart dance and commercial and chart R'n'B on the 2nd floor.

The Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 4pm-2am. FREE b4 8pm, £3 after. South London's legendary cabaret, club and pub. Triple cabaret punch with The Power of 3!

Molly Moggs at 2 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4TA. From 2pm. FREE. Dame Julie Paid entertains the guests at this intimate Soho boozier. Cabaret from Cookie Monstar.

The Old Ship at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 8pm-midnight. Cabaret: 8.45pm. Free. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Martha D'Arthur.

The City of Quebec at 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. Cabaret at 9pm. Legendary gay boozier near Marble Arch features weekly cabaret. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Miss Penny.

The Green Carnation: VVG

Poppers at the Piano at 5 Greek Street, Soho, W1D 4DD. 5pm-12.30am. Show from 9.30pm.

Vanity Von Glow hosts Soho's popular Sunday cabaret night of live piano and comedy, with regular special guests.

West 5 at Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. 7pm-late. FREE. West London's giant club/bar/cabaret home invites you to chill out here.

Halfway 2 Heaven at 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF.

Open 'til 11pm. Long running popular Central London cabaret pub. CK Sunday from 4pm, followed by An Evening With Mrs Moore.

Kazbar presents Flow at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL.

12pm-12am. Free entry. Funky Clapham bar with stylish swish. Nu

disco, funky and deep house from DJ Eduardo Hererra.

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-12am. The grand dame of Soho pulling in a more blokey crowd. **The Roebuck at 84 Ashmole Street, SW8 1NE.** New gay venue in the Oval area. Serving top Sunday Roast every week.

MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

Let's Talk About Gay Sex & Drugs – World AIDS Day at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0NE.

From 6.30pm. FREE. Open-mic communication forum returns with four featured speakers talking sex and drugs, and an 'Older & Younger Discussion of HIV' featuring Stewart Who?, David Stuart, Sam DMS and Pretty Miss Cairo. Hosted by Pat Cash.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street, 30 Lisle Street, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE. DJs play the weekend out on a wave of hot pop.

Popcorn at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 11pm-5.30am. £4 b4 1am, £5 after, £8 after 2am. FREE with wristbands from G-A-Y Bar b4 1am. Massive mixed mash-up with four rooms of top sounds, from upfront, progressive house to chart hits, via R&B tuneage. Perfect polysexual party to start the week as you mean to go on.

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 11pm-3am. Late night dancing spot for pure-pop enthusiasts doing the funky chickens.

Cruise Control at Eagle, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-3am. Free for members, £3 guests. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

Hard-Up Mondays at Sweatbox, 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. Under 25s FREE all day, £16 others. Finding Mondays hard to handle? Relieve the pressure with this discounted day for under 25s (ID required) at Soho's only gay sauna.

The Big Bingo Show at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. Doors 7pm. Eyes Down 8.30-10.30pm. FREE. £1 per game. Timberlina and Hey Baylen roll their balls out for their weekly bonkers bingo sesh. Banter and barmy bingo, plus dancing.

BARS & CABARET

G-A-Y Bar – World AIDS Day Special at 30 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UR. Midday-Midnight. Free, discreet and professional HIV testing from 56 Dean Street



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clinic. For every person tested, G-A-Y will donate £10 to the Elton John AIDS Foundation. PLUS, The G-A-Y Balloon Release Memorial. A remembrance not just for WAD - buy a biodegradable balloon from the bar, write the name of someone you would like to remember that you've lost and send it off into the sky at 10pm.

Ku World AIDS Day Auction at Ku Bar Lisle Street, 30 Lisle Street, WC2. From 6pm. Ku hosts another massive WAD auction featuring some really special prizes - this year you can bid for a holiday to Italy, tickets to Ascot, a vineyard trip, a box at the National Opera, West End show tickets, lunch at the Ritz and The Shard. Plus, the Ku Bar Boy Auction - win a champagne date with one of the Ku staff.



Matt Bogard

Molly Moggs at 2 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4TA. FREE. Entertaining Soho since 1731! Soho's most intimate bar. Jeff Kristian entertains (8.30pm).

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. The trendy Soho drinking spot celebrates with 2-4-1 classic cocktails all day!

Comptons of Soho World AIDS Day Fundraiser at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-11.30pm. The real queen of Soho. Bar £2.50 on popular drinks from 5pm. TONIGHT: DJ Matt Bogard spins uplifting house and is joined by host Tom Knight as they raise funds for GMFA.



The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder.

TUESDAY 2ND DECEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 11pm-3am. The weekend begins early or finishes late to a melodious mix of classic chart pop and current hits.

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late. £3 entry, free for members. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

Clap Trap at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, N16 7XB. Doors 7pm, £5. A new series of performance and talks begins with La John Joseph, joined by author Rupert Smith.

BARS & CABARET

Industry at Circa, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 1am. Delicious Sam DMS lays on a smorgasbord of R'n'B classics, chart toppers and deep house grooves at

Sohos' snazzy drinkery.

See You Next Tuesday at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. From 8pm. Bette Rinse hosts the Tuesday night revelry at the Central London cabaret hotspot, with DJ ME.

Spotlight at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 9pm-3am. Free b4 11pm.

Showcasing talent, from singers to burlesque, via artists and comedians and fire eaters. Hosted by Topsis Redfern. Produced by Duncan Day.

Bar Wotever at The RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 7pm-midnight. £5 or FREE.

Genderbending cabaret, live music and performance at the monumental RVT.

Cosmic & Keys at The City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. Showtime 10pm. The legendary gay pub in the heart of London presents a new show to dispel your mid-week blues.

Cookie Monstar at Molly Moggs, 2 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4TA. 8.30pm. FREE. Song and sinful fun from Cookie.

Karaoke at Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-2am. £3 b4 10pm, £4 after. Sing-along the mid-week blues with Kevin Walsh.

Mecca Rock and Roll Bingo at The Black Cap, 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. Midday-Midnight. The long-running cabaret, club and pub nestled in the heart of Camden presents bonkers bingo.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder.

WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

Misfits at East Bloc, 217-219 City Road, EC1V 1JN. 10pm-4am. FREE b4 11pm/£5 after. Midweek urban glamour as R'n'B scene star Mark-Ashley Dupé presents his ghetto fabulous in the infamous basement of debauchery.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street, 30 Lisle Street, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE. The party continues 'til late in the Ku basement.

Cruise Control at Eagle, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-3am. Free for members, £3 guests. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

Record Box at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 10pm-3am. Free b4 11pm. Hifi Sean presents an eclectic mix of music from his vast collection, from rare

B-sides to other special gems from disco, nu wave, indie, northern soul and more.

Foam Party at Sweatbox, 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. 24hr pass £17, 48hr pass £19. If you can't make the weekend wet fun, why not head down tonight? Relieve the midweek stress! The foam flies at 7, 8 and 9pm.

BARS & CABARET

BoomBox at Kazbar at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-1am. FREE. DJ DBwoi playing your favourite R&B beats.

Molly Moggs at 2 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4TA. FREE. Entertaining Soho since 1731! Soho's most intimate bar. Dame Julie Paid entertains (8.30pm).

The Old Ship at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. Quiz from 9.30pm. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse.

Detained at Circa, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 1am. Circa goes all-out with the dance, pop and R'n'B remixes every Wednesday. DJs Attack Attack Attack, Kingsley, Munroe Bergdorf and Kris Di Angelis on rotation.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder.

Miss Penny Whatever Wednesday at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. From 9pm. Miss Penny hosts the midweek drag fun at the central London cabaret den. With DJ Dave Robson.

Mary Mac's Mastermind at West 5, Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. Open from 8pm. FREE. Mary Mac presents her inimitable quiz.

The Green Carnation: Spotlight/The Soundtrack at 5 Greek Street, Soho, W1D 4DD. 5pm-2.30am. Show 9pm. Spotlight is the live music and burlesque performance night hosted by Topsis Redfern and Duncan Day. Alternates with The Soundtrack, a live music film night hosted by Oggie 'Singer' and Shanay Holmes. (Every other Wednesday.)

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-11.30pm. Super social pub downstairs, more chilled club lounge upstairs with guest pianist tinkling the ivories.

Wednesday Naughties at Central Station, 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross N1 9SD. 10pm. FREE. Dirty cabaret from Sandra to spice up your Wednesday.

Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. South London's famous bar/club.

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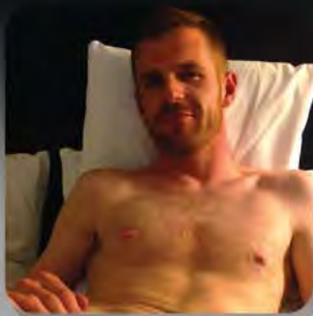


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Advertisement for bearwww.com, the bear community. The image features a large cartoon illustration of a muscular bear with a goatee, wearing a dog tag and a collar. To the left, three smartphones display the bearwww.com mobile application interface. The top phone shows the main menu with options like 'Around me', 'My profile', 'My contact list', 'My guestbook', 'Visitors', 'My searches', 'Events', and 'Facilities'. The middle phone shows a grid of bear profiles under the heading 'Around me'. The bottom phone shows a 'Travel Guide' for Albany, listing various bars and inns. A QR code is located in the top right corner. At the bottom, a logo for bearwww.com is displayed with the tagline 'the bear community' and a paw print icon.

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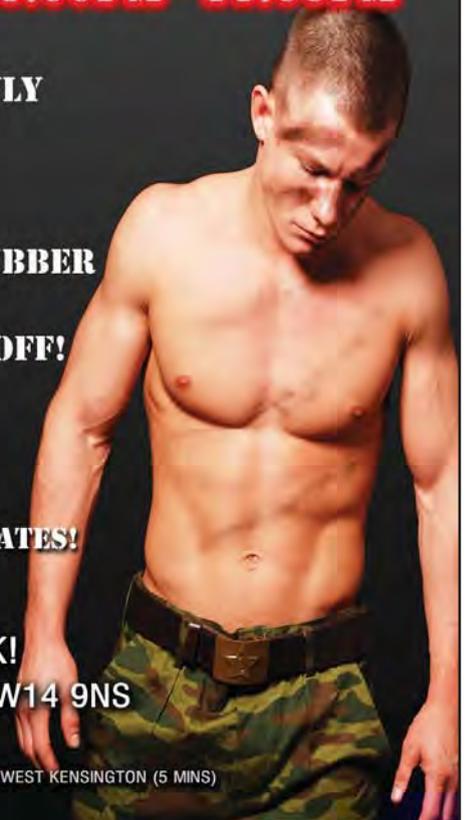
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SKINHEADS AND SQUADDIES



Ted's Place was one of the homes of the G.S.G (Gay Skinhead Group), Squaddies and some of the early MA1 skinhead events. Now MA1: SAS returns home. Meet new mates, old mates or just shag your mates! Dark corners, cheap booze, dirty sounds and visuals to bonk to. New strict dress code night for skinheads, squaddies and boot bois. NO trainers or plain jeans or girly fashion wear – or the promoters will tell you to f*** off!

Ted's Place, 305a Northend Road, Fulham, W14 9NS. 6pm-11pm. £9 includes first drink.

Your Dirrrty Diary

THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late. £3 entry, free for members. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

The Underground Club, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. PANTS (1-6pm) Underwear fun. SPANKZ (6pm-10pm) CP night for rougher, tougher play. Followed by COME TO DADDY (10pm-2am).

Vault: Cruise/Stripped at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. CRUISE (1-7pm. £7). STRIPPED (7pm-1am. £8). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get nude and rude. Strictly naked, except footwear.

FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

Fitladz at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 9pm-9am. £8 members, £10 guests. Get sexy at this cruise/club sesh! Horny lads, hot grooves, plus extended cruise space.

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. 1pm-1am. £7 b4 7pm/£8 after. Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Horny cruise spot minute's from the West End.

Cruise/Darkroom at Ted's Place, 305a North End Road, W14 9NS. 7pm-midnight. £3.

Horny night in the cruisey basement club in West London.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. XXX CLUB (7pm-midnight) £15 incl. DVD. Get horny, get filmed and leave with a DVD of the action. Then PAUNCHY (midnight-4am) The club for big bellied men and those that admire them.

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

Cum Union 1st Year Birthday at SE5 Dungeon, London SE5. 10pm-3am. Vault opens at 11.30pm. After-party: 3am (Sunday morning) – 10am. Celebrating one year of horny, dirty clubbing and cruising in South London. With Paul Stag, Sam Porter and guests.

Sweatbox Foam Party at 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. 24hr pass £17, 48hr pass £19. Foam from 10pm. All the fun of the foam at Sweatbox's original weekly party.

Harder at Bar Berlin, Arch 47c, South Lambeth Road, SW8. 10pm-4am. Macho night of leather, rubber, skin, uniform, industrial, or just boots/jocks.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. PANTS (1-6pm, £4) Best undies for the

boys. FEET ON SATURDAY (7pm-midnight) £6 Saturday special for the foot fetishists.

Buff at MA1 Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 6pm-10pm. £8 members, £9 guests. Shorts, naked or underwear cruise party. Dark rooms, smoking terrace, full bar.

Harder at Bar Berlin, Arch 47c, South Lambeth Road, SW8. 10pm-4am. Macho night of leather, rubber, skin, uniform, industrial, or just boots/jocks.

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. 1pm-1am. £7 b4 7pm/£8 after. Free drink, cloakroom, re-entry. Dark corners, catch a dirty movie, indulge your carnal side.

Pleasuredrome at Arch 124 Cornwall Road, Waterloo SE1 8XE. Open 24/7. £15, £12 under 25 with ID. FREE towel. Cruise all day and night with plenty of rooms to play. Licensed bar. **SBN Afterdark** at The Hoist, 47c South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8. 10pm-late. The world's biggest men-only naked party. Donkey Dick on the loose! XXX-rated shows.

SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. S.B.N. (2pm-1am. £12) Naked cruise club. N.B.N. (7pm-1am) Nearly Bollock Naked from 7pm. S.E.X. (10pm-1am) Wear any kind of fetish you like and finish the weekend with a bang! **S.O.P.** at The Underground Club, Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. 1pm-midnight. £7. Yellow fun for waterworks fans.

Chill Out at Ted's Place, 305a North End Road. 7pm-2am. £3 b4 10pm, £5 after. Mixed/gay crowd of cruisey guys.

Pleasuredrome at Arch 124 Cornwall Road, Waterloo SE1 8XE. Open 24/7. £15, £12 under 25 with ID. FREE towel. Cruise day and night, plenty of rooms to play. Licensed bar.

Buff at MA1 Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 6pm-10pm. £8 members, £9 guests. Horny,

naked cruise party. Dark rooms, smoking terrace, full bar.

Vault: Underwear/Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. UNDERWEAR (1-7pm. £7). CRUISE (7pm-1am. £8). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Just pants b4 7pm, then cruise 'til late.

MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER

Pleasuredrome at Arch 124 Cornwall Road, Waterloo SE1 8XE. Open 24/7. £15, £12 under 25 with ID. FREE towel. Cruise day and night with plenty of rooms to play. Licensed bar. **Sportswear/Cruise** at Ted's Place, 305a North End Rd, W14. 7pm-midnight. £3. Football shorts freaks, Speedo lovers, basketball tops (and bottoms), rugby buggers and trackie sluts unite!

Vault: Cruise/Stripped at Vault, 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. CRUISE (1-7pm. £7). STRIPPED (7pm-1am. £8). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Horny cruise session first before naked time (except footwear).

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late. £3 entry, free for members. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. PANTS (1-6pm) BUTT NAKED (6pm-10pm) Strip down and get off with like-minded guys. **HARD CRUZ** (10pm-1am, free entry) Hard cruising for horny guys.

Hard-Up Mondays at Sweatbox, 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. Under 25s FREE all day, £16 others. Finding Mondays hard to handle? Get a load off. Free for under 25s (ID required) at Soho's only gay sauna. Plus, free HIV testing and Hep vaccinations by the 56 Dean Street boys (5-9pm).

TUESDAY 2ND DECEMBER

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. S.O.P. (6pm-1am) Yellow fun for waterworks

fans.

Underwear/Naked at Ted's Place, 305s North End Rd, W14. 7pm-midnight. £4. Strictly underwear only. **Vault: Cruise** at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. 1pm-1am. £7 b4 7pm/£8 after. Cruising session at this horny hot spot.

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late. £3 entry, free for members. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to. **Club CP** at Bunker Bar, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 7pm-11pm. £6. Dominant masters and submissive sluts get down here for a night of horny and hard, rough and tough fun.

WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late. £3 entry, free for members. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

Vault: Cruise/Underwear at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. CRUISE (1-7pm. £7) Then UNDERWEAR (7pm-1am. £8) Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get down to your underwear.

Foam Party at Sweatbox, 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. 24hr pass £17, 48hr pass £19. If you can't make the weekend wet fun, why not head down tonight? Relieve the midweek stress! The foam flies at 7, 8 and 9pm.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. **HARD CRUZ** (10pm-1am).

Buff at MA1 Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 7pm-11pm. £8 members/£9 guests (free drink/coat check). Horny, naked cruise party. Heated outdoor 'naked' smokers terrace.

The Hoist at 47b South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. OFFICE (5pm-late. £7) Post-work stress relief. Wear what you like. Or less. N.B.N. (9pm-1am. £8.50) Nearly Bollock naked midweek night.

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Buff at The Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, London, E3 4UA
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I read that if you don't ejaculate enough it can cause prostate problems. A lot of guys seem to have the mentality that masturbating is good for you and that not doing so is bad for you. But are there any actual articles about this, or some study somewhere to back it up? Also I've become interested in saving energy and have been reading up about semen retention and tantric sex. The articles I have read suggest that by not ejaculating you save vital strength. I have not masturbated or had sex in a few weeks now and despite the odd urge seem to be able to keep my desire under control. But I want to know if doing so is actually bad – or hopefully good – for my health. And if it is better to ejaculate, how often is the ideal number of times each week?

GG, 29

It's a commonly held belief that avoiding sex before a competition or event is a vital contributor towards success. The idea being the release of sexual energy may result in a depletion of strength, fortitude, and concentration because there will be a decrease in the person's testosterone levels before the event, reducing their aggression and therefore performance. On the flip side other argue that an increase in anxiety and aggression from not having sex may potentially hinder the performance of certain athletes who need to concentrate and have more level headed thought processes during the event. It's not surprising that there have never been any actual studies to solve the debate and many doctors say it's just a myth either way you look at it.

"There is little evidence that simply not ejaculating for long periods of time is going to boost your energy levels."

There are a lot of non-Western medical traditions such as Ayurveda, Chinese or Tibetan medicine, that hold the belief that retention of semen is a source of health, strength, vitality, and general well-being. It is a scientific fact that after orgasm the body is tired because of a surge of chemicals from the brain including oxytocin and serotonin, which can have a powerful sleep-inducing effect. But there is little evidence that simply not ejaculating for long periods of time is going to boost your energy levels. Resisting what many see as a natural urge might also cause you to feel anxious and on edge. But of course it is a personal issue and if

it makes you feel better then I can reassure you that there is no scientific evidence that it will cause you any harm.

There is some research, although not thought to be that reliable, that increased frequency of masturbation in your 20s and 30s is in fact linked to an increased risk of prostate cancer, but an increased frequency in your 50s seems protective against prostate cancer. However, all agree that more research is needed to determine the exact role of sex hormones and sexual activity in prostate-cancer risk at the different stages of life.



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DISTRIBUTION
M.R.DISTRIBUTION

PRINTERS
ACORN

PUBLISHED BY
FIRSTSTAR LTD.
2nd FLOOR,
23 DENMARK ST
LONDON WC2H 8NH

COVER
FRANC-OFF GODEVI



'QX Magazine'



@QXMagazine

www.qxmagazine.com

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WITHIN UK ONLY

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QX is published every Wednesday. Deadline for editorial and display advertisement inclusion is Thursday, six days before the relevant issue cover date.

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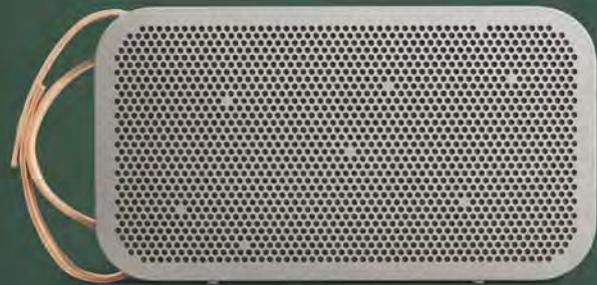
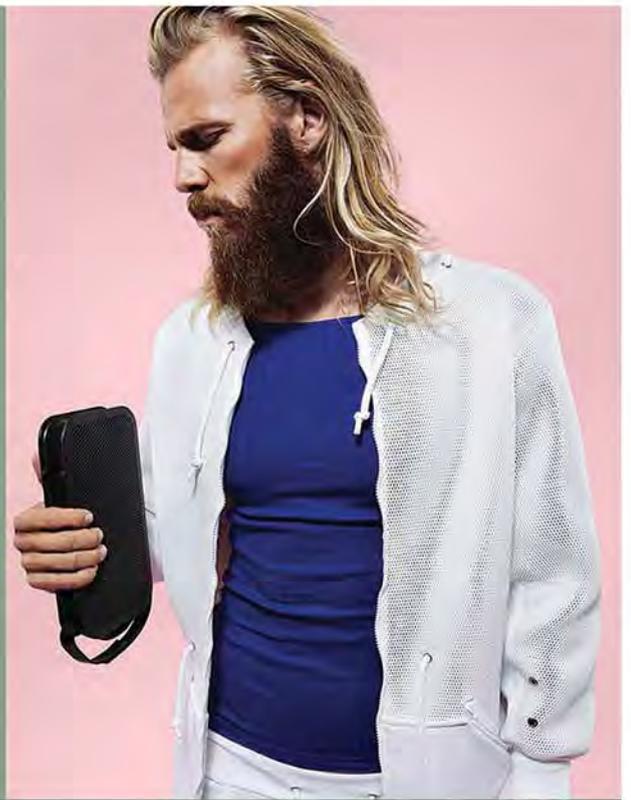
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