

18 #QXGayLondon

Suitable only for persons of 18 years and over.

QX

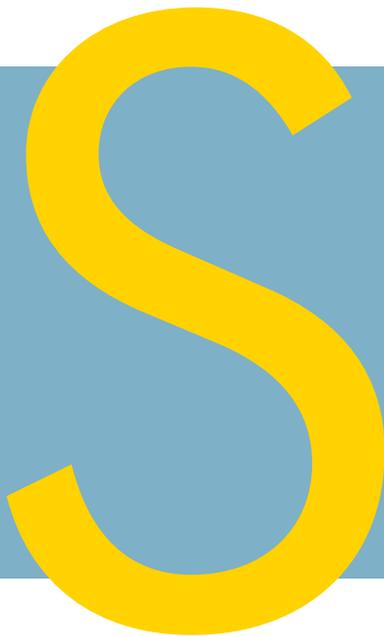
GAY LONDON



Ready for the Hunt



Last month several hundred LGBT+ people gathered in the oh-so posh Dorchester Hotel to raise funds for Stonewall. The event raised a whopping £450,000 for the organisation, which prides itself as being the UK's most foremost gay rights group. We all know its name. We've seen its events pop up in the gay press every now and then. But what does it actually do? And why is it so deserving of our charitable pounds? Cliff Joannou meets new Chief Executive Officer, **Ruth Hunt...**



Stonewall occupies the lofty heights of a huge office block towering over Waterloo station. The panoramic views from across the office provide a snapshot of London in 2015. Endless construction cranes stick in and out of the city skyline like long needles slowly knitting together the tapestry that is the 'world's greatest city'. Just across the river are the towers of Westminster's political heart. It's an inspiring view, and utterly relevant given that Stonewall is tasked with monitoring the rights of the nation's lesbian, bisexual, gay and now trans (more on that later) population. *But what do they actually do for us?*

Stonewall was set up 25 years ago in response to Section 28, the then Conservative government's much maligned legislation that saw any mention of LGBT lives banished from the school system. It was a heinous piece of legislation that affected generations of non-heterosexual young people. Its effects are felt to this day in gay bullying, rising HIV rates and even the sinister drug dependency issues we see plaguing our community that frequently finds root cause in the forced invisibility of young LGBT people. Stonewall cheered on the repeal of the law in 2003, but its consequences still ripple through our community today.

Gay rights in the UK have taken huge strides since then. But while we may have gay marriage there's still an immense amount of inequality out there in regards to the wider acceptance of LGBT people in society. Laws may change, but society's mindset moves at a slower pace. As progress moves forward in the law, often the anti-gay lobbyists dig their heels in further and make life harder for those less able to defend themselves, like young LGBT people and the disabled.

"We host meetings with the community," Stonewall's new CEO Ruth Hunt tells me. "We

create spaces where disabled, BME [Black Ethnic and Minority], and trans people can meet us so we can hear about their experiences. It's a big part of what we do, otherwise it becomes about one type of gay person."

Hunt officially took on the post last August, six months after Ben Summerskill stepped down. She joined Stonewall as Senior Policy Officer in 2005, previously working at the Equality Challenge Unit. Hunt grew up in Wales and Birmingham and at 34 she is noticeably young to take the Chief Executive role of a major organisation.

Change was needed. The organisation had become staid and introspective. It had dropped the ball on equal marriage, with Summerskill slow to voice support for the cause. Added to that, the ongoing shadow cast across the charity over its exclusion of Trans campaigning loomed darker as that community's needs became increasingly high profile in the media. A long consultation with "hundreds of trans people" under Hunt's stewardship resulted in Stonewall officially adding the 'T' to 'LGB'.

Why did it take so long? "My job is amazing. It's the best job in the world. But we don't always get it right, I know that. But when we do, it makes a real difference. I've been really impressed with the sheer willingness of people to engage with that conversation [on trans issues], how many different experiences exist, but also how much we all have in common."

Hunt draws on her appearance as an example of how she's also affected by prejudice. "If I'm out in the street in my jacket and tie with another woman in a jacket and tie, the level of abuse we get is off the scale. If I'm with a girl who's quite feminine, then that's a bit more acceptable. That's nowhere near transphobia by any stretch of the imagination, but to pretend we don't have shared experiences is not helpful."

So, why did it take so long to get trans issues on the Stonewall agenda? "When we started out, [transgender law group] Press For Change was our sibling organisation. As we got bigger and influencing in different ways we were dealing with organizations that could barely spell lesbian. We would go in and ask if they had any gay staff, and they would say 'no'. And then they would come back to us after they spoke to their staff and say, 'Oh yeah, we have got gay staff and they're really happy.' To then say 'what about trans?' would have blown their mind. So, it was easier to say, 'OK, now speak to Press for Change'.

"When we spoke to the Department of Health about lesbians needing smear tests, Press For Change said some trans needed smear tests. They were very different issues to take on board in those days, but as people

got better at understanding those differences Stonewall should have said 'Shall we think about those issues?' But it needed a fresh start to have those conversations," she says referencing the change of captain at the top.

She cites Stonewall's main concerns now as "the massive level of hate crime, bullying in schools, keeping young LGBTs safe when they come out, gay visibility in sport and international LGBT rights."

Stonewall receives no money from the government. It employs 85 staff that work with 700 employers, schools, nurseries, colleges, researchers and political policy makers to push the discussions of LGBT rights forward. Its events team is tasked with raising the money to do that, including hosting those fancy dinners in five star hotels.

Do the posh dinners work against Stonewall's image as being grounded in the community? "The posh dinners are big fundraisers. If I said to all those people can you give me £1000, they will say 'no'. If I said, do you want to come to a dinner and pay for it, they'll say 'yes'. We have 650 people coming for dinner, and that is our biggest fundraiser of the year."

In these times of austerity in which big business is being seen as walking all over the average person, do these events present Stonewall as too elitist? "When Stonewall was set up it was accused of being elitist and not in touch with the community because it was designed to influence MPs, peers, parliamentarians. We're about influencing. Stonewall is a strategic influencing organisation. There's some really weird legislation that goes on that we stop. The work we do is of benefit, but you may never see that.

Hunt elaborates further, "Stonewall has deliberately set itself up to be not necessarily of immediate interest to the scene, but doing everything we can to make sure nobody is discriminated against in that scene. The priority has been to get the police to stop arresting gay men. So gay men might think that Stonewall has been elitist and not got anything to do with them, but that's been the objective."

Ruth does acknowledge that as times have changed, so must Stonewall. "I think increasingly we want to make those connections more, we want to go back into seeing the beautiful diversity of our communities reflected in our work, and making that important and valid."

Working so centrally in the Westminster bubble brings its own challenges, such as the snail's pace with which political change moves. "The thing that Stonewall's learned is [change] takes a lot of time. A lot of it is just bureaucracy."



"We're not in the closet any more but we still haven't found a way to share our stories."

“The challenge is how do gay people lead the way in creating a more diverse understanding of what it is to have relationships? To dress how you want? To act how you want? Be who you want? That’s our responsibility now.”

The main issue facing legislation change is the political tennis that happens between parties, each wanting to take the credit for the popular changes in law. “We have to get to the point where people think that they’re getting the credit. There’s all that game playing that goes on that feels a bit like a farce. Ben [Summerskill] was a genius at it, whereas I’m a bit like ‘But you’re all talking rubbish, why don’t you just do it’. It’s a pantomime, it’s a game. But the reality is that every institution is like that. Everything we do at Stonewall is about the negotiating, that nudging. Who gets the credit is really important. I don’t do that enough, I need to do more of it.”

Ruth gives the complex nature of civil partner conversions as an example of the long journey that a campaign or idea takes to legislation. “Part of the role of Stonewall is to enable and amplify those voices and strip out ego.”

As disheartening (unsurprising?) as it sounds, often our politicians are the kind of people that act on good causes only when nudged in the right direction, or will act on it fastest when the glory for doing so shines on them. As such Hunt recognises the fact that real, noticeable equality will only really happen when we all take responsibility for it.

“My absolute dream in this job for the next five years is to get to the stage where whatever you want, you can do, and we’ll help you do it. But you don’t need to belong to us to do it.”

I agree that to create a better world it can’t just be left to the politicians for it to manifest. “We want everybody to have a role to play making their community better,” Hunt states. “We all live somewhere, we all have schools next door. The gay movement for the last ten years has been quite selfish, it’s been about rights for ‘you’, and ‘your’ right to get married.”

She has a point: how many times have we breezed passed a Facebook status

condemning Isis for its actions in throwing a gay man blindfold off a building, to which we all-too weirdly click ‘like’. It’s all well and good voicing our disgust online, but what do any of us actually do to make the world better?

Hunt believes it’s as easy as starting with the young gay guy next door. “How do we persuade your mates on the scene to give a damn about the kid who has dropped out of school at fifteen, is not too smart and is trying to find his way in the world of work in his local Tesco and is scared to tell his dad he’s gay. How do we help him, because we have a responsibility to him?”

It’s a bold vision of a better LGBT community that I agree we should all play a part in. “I want those gay guys who go for a drink and say ‘What’s Stonewall got to do with me’ to go back to their schools and say what it means to be growing up and be gay. I want the drag queens to be able to go and talk to people who are not understanding what it is to feel like they want to dress up, and how that’s different to gender identity. I want people to tell their stories. Because we’re not in the closet any more but we still haven’t found a way to share our stories.”

Hunt and I discuss the resurgence of interest in global LGBT rights in recent years, and how social media has played a part in raising awareness of other experiences. People feel they can make a difference now, however small. But is it enough to just re-Tweet outrage at injustice and sign a petition from the comfort of your sofa and the safety of your home?

“Social media has made a difference,” Hunt speaks of this renewed interest in LGBT rights. “Part of Stonewall’s challenge is how do we capture that enthusiasm and give people something to do? It took Britain 25 years to get rid of Section 28. Russia has just introduced it.”

Hunt is realistic about how much

international change we can accomplish from the UK as a finger-wagging Western nation. “The big challenge is that people like Putin aren’t going to be shamed. So, what we do is support the activism in those countries. We worked with a group of Russian human rights defenders and trained them on how to set up a campaigning organisation and trained them how to do business planning, budgets. We train them here and in Russia.”

Can I write about this, I ask? She says that I can now, but at the time it was work that was conducted quietly. “We do this discretely. We can’t shout ‘Hey, look what we’re doing, we’ve got twelve people from Russia in our office’. We do this with lots of different countries.”

Stonewall recruits four people who specialise in international rights. “[Other countries] were coming to us and asking ‘how did you get rid of Section 28, how did you get into schools, how did you campaign to get hate crime legislation?’ And we couldn’t answer that under charity law, so we changed our objectives to enable us to answer those questions. We felt we had a moral responsibility to share that learning.”

Hunt makes a distinction between this kind of work and actively supporting other embattled LGBT communities. “That’s different from taking on those campaigns. We mustn’t have an office in Russia, that would be completely wrong. But if we’ve got expertise to share, we should be sharing it. So, when we talk to people in Russia, we tell them what we did 25 years ago with education. We tell them how we talked to other children’s charities, trade unions and women’s groups. We taught them to build coalitions. That’s the right thing to do.”

What have been the biggest challenges since taking over the role? Hunt pauses and reflects. “It took me a while to get used to the level of personal abuse that comes with this job.



London Pride 2014

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PRESENTS**



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WEDNESDAYS 9PM - 3AM MEMBERS FREE/GUESTS £3

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XXL-LONDON.COM

As the figurehead of this organisation people direct their anger and frustration at me personally, which came as a surprise to me and is hard. Being called an evil dyke who's trying to corrupt children. They're angry with what Stonewall's doing with schools but it manifests in personal abuse with me. But I had to develop a thick skin very quickly. What surprised me is not how things go wrong, but how people respond to that."

It's not just outside forces that Hunt has had to contend with. I wonder what negativity she has faced from within the LGBT community? As much as we like to present ourselves as a united people, we can also be the first to tear each other down. "It's a massive community and Stonewall doesn't have universal love. Some people want us to work in a different way, to be more radical, calling on boycotts. But we're not that kind of organization.

"What's beautiful about the gay world is you have lots of different types of campaigning. You've got your Peter Tatchells, you've got your Stonewalls, you've got your local groups doing amazing work. We're really privileged to have that range. You don't have to choose one or the other. But sometimes people think you can only have one. You need all of us to get results."

Is it harder doing this job as a woman and as a lesbian? "Not so much any more. I think people don't expect me to be as good as I am. People's expectations are lower of women. Being young is more of a barrier," she says with a wry smile. "People think I'm too young to know what I'm talking about. But I know what I'm talking about."

Indeed, one of her detractors would be from within Stonewall's own ranks. When her predecessor, Summerskill, left the job Pink News reported how a barrage of negative Tweets (that highlighted his noted absence) flooded in from him during her first fundraising dinner.

"This is a really intense job that takes up all your time and life. You're not off at any point. Everybody expects you to live the job. It's hard to go 'I'm not going to be gay today'. Ben did that job for eleven years, and breaking up is hard to do. He resigned, and I think he missed it. That dinner had been his and that's something I was doing. You know, people do all sorts of things."

Hunt is determined she won't match his length of service. "I'm not going to do eleven years. But it's also hard to leave because Stonewall is like a family. You hear other charities talk about 'them', as in 'we're working to help them'. But we talk about 'we the LGBT community'."

I mention how many young people I speak to now are complacent with gay rights in the UK. They think that with gay marriage now law we've achieved what all we need to.

Hunt believes there's plenty more work to be done, and to think otherwise is dangerous. "We're not secure enough. We're not solid enough. I think it's pretty OK to be gay now if you are employed, rich, handsome, home-



"Suddenly we can get married, that doesn't mean we all should get married."

owning, proposing to have your two kids, had your marriage, had your civil partnership. We talk about good gays – 'it's good to be gay if you're a good gay.' Most of us are not good gays, we like clubbing, or we like taking drugs or we like doing this or that and we are who we are and that's not an acceptable face of gay yet."

She continues, "It's fine to be gay in Central London, in Soho, but you can't do that in Lewisham if you're two women. Our ability to know that in our guts is so damaging that we have to risk assess every situation we go in. It comes so second nature, how can you say we're equal? Until you get to the stage where you don't have to risk assess every single situation on a night bus, we're not there yet."

What about the rising issue of chemsex affecting so many gay men today? As a new plague of mind and body, in many ways it's arguably as damaging to our community's mental health as other crises we've faced, from 150 years of criminalisation to AIDS.

"Sadly, this is a growing problem," Hunt says of the subject. "Our own research into the health of gay and bisexual men found that half of gay and bi men have taken illegal drugs in the last year alone.

"In terms of what Stonewall are doing, we're pushing for statutory PHSE and SRE in schools to ensure that young people learn about healthy relationships, safe-sex and understand the impact of risk-taking behaviour. We'll continue to work and support organisations like London Friend and GMFA

who are already undertaking pioneering work in this area to support gay and bi men."

Issues like this highlight unwanted consequences of our quest for equality in that we are now expected to assimilate our lifestyles seamlessly into a conventional template of society that isn't designed for all of us. LGBT people have existed for so long on the fringes, only accepted into the mainstream's folds if we conform. So, how do we suddenly compromise this innate difference in ourselves to the wider hetero-normative world?

"I don't think there's one fight any more. There's people that want different things. The key in the equality fight has always been about choice. There's a danger that because something is permitted, it feels compulsory. That I worry about. Suddenly we can get married, that doesn't mean we all should get married. For a lot of us who grew up thinking we would never be married, suddenly feel we ought to. And we need to watch that."

It's on this note that Hunt reveals one of her most revolutionary thoughts that provides me with the final acknowledgement that perhaps Stonewall is in safer hands, now more than it was before. "I think this is a problem affecting heterosexual people, too. So, I think the challenge is how do gay people lead the way in creating a more diverse understanding of what it is to have relationships? To dress how you want? To act how you want? Be who you want? That's our responsibility now."



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JAKE COOK

TapAss

RAY NOIR
SAMANTHA
TOGNI



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MANHUNT



The Victorian Stonewall Story

The Hulme Fancy Dress Ball was the scandal of 1880s Britain. Here's the story of the Victorian Stonewall, and our history.

By Patrick Cash

Jerome Caminada was known as Manchester's Sherlock Holmes. He was on a crusade to rid his city of moral vice. In the early hours of 25th September 1880, as the industrial smog crept through the streets and his breath crystallised in the cold air, he was perched on a rooftop. Music drifted faintly into his ears - energetic, musical, flamboyant - and his eyes were focussed grimly on a sliver of light emitting from the black crepe-papered windows of Temperance Hall.

Inside, a drag ball raged. Liquor flowed, lights glowed, and laughter cackled to the rafters as the beautiful and damned danced. Every person in the hall was a man. Half of them were dressed as fabulous, fantastic, fairy-tale creatures, and the other half, in frilly skirts and corsets, were dressed as women.

Caminada swore to himself and smoked tobacco quicker, as he recognised a deviant tune and before his startled eyes high kicking began amongst the revellers, as the women-men showed off their ladies' undergarments. He would later attest in court he had witnessed 'a sort of dance to a very quick time, which my experience has taught me is called the "can-can".'

Suddenly, he'd seen enough. Throwing away his cigarette, he summoned his force of police officers, and they marched in, the drumming of boots echoing down the staircase and out over to the Hall. Having spied upon these balls of debauchery before, Caminada knew all about the secret entrance and its knock.

He knocked on a hidden-away side door.

It creaked open by a slanted crack, and the sound of the devil's ball became more alive. Behind the door was a man dressed in the holy habit of a convent.

'Password?' growled the big, muscular nun.

Caminada shuddered inside as he forced himself to affect a high, feminine voice.

'Sister!' he piped in an operatic falsetto.

The door swung open fully, and in a prophetic echo of New York's 1969 Stonewall raid, in poured the full force of the Manchester City Police to the cross-dressing ball.

'It was the largest raid ever on an LGBT venue by any police force in the UK,' says Richard Brady, one of the writers behind *A Very Victorian Scandal*, a recent play based on the events. 'The pictures in the *Illustrated Police News* of 9th October 1880 show dancers fighting back against the police.'



“It shows the same dilemmas that we’re still grappling with today”

‘There was massive public interest in the story. Newspapers picked the story up; with some papers issuing special illustrated supplements and the reporting even reached America. It was a national scandal and a line can reasonably be drawn from these men’s trials to the Oscar Wilde trial in 1895.’

The play was performed in three separate pieces as part of LGBT History Month, to great acclaim. Brady believes it was important to present this story in this context.

‘By denying a person their history, you are denying them their identity. The Hulme Fancy Dress Ball shows that there was a vibrant community in the North of England, made up of ordinary people. The majority of the Victorian LGBT history known by the public is about people from the upper classes.

‘Very little is known of ordinary gay people and we felt the LGBT communities in Manchester

deserved to learn more about their history. The story of how the police, the press and the public interacted with each other is also a remarkably modern story. It shows the same dilemmas that we’re still grappling with today with the phone hacking scandal.’

Each piece of *A Very Victorian Scandal* was full to capacity, and so the writers are now looking to turn it into a full-length show. Due to the ambition of the project, with its large cast and period costumes and props, they’re still in the planning stages and can’t yet announce dates but we’ll be sure to keep you updated. Because our history is a part of our identities, and it reminds us that homosexuality did exist before 1969.

And did those forty-seven men get charged with ‘soliciting indecency’, as Jerome Caminada wanted? Well, we’ll leave that story to be told by the show...



Photos © 2015 Nicolas Chinardet

www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk

"If you aren't a strong, built muscled lad at school, then you're seen as one of the weaklings."

Liberal Democrat candidate for Vauxhall **ADRIAN TRETT** made headlines last week when he came out as being HIV positive. He speaks to QX this week about why hiding his sexuality was such a painful experience...

Growing up as a super enthusiastic sports fan was my greatest shame linked to my sexuality because I fell out of love with sport.

The sports arena became my greatest fear, whether lining up to be picked on one side or another at school, waiting for somebody to say "Oh, you can have the fairy", to the negative comments on the field of play. Or worst of all in the shower rooms, hiding any bodily evidence of attraction and trying to ensure I never got caught looking, even though I wanted to, just in case I looked at someone in the wrong way and ended up getting beaten up. I knew in my heart I was gay and acted in a way to try not to indicate I was. Once again there were no visible role models to look up to. Teenagers of today are so fortunate to have stars like Tom Daley break down those barriers, but there are still too few, especially in the most macho sports.

Being gay at school had the most horrendous impact on me and my future life. One cannot put into words the shame and embarrassment I felt which all contributed to the number of attempts on my life both during school and then later on in my early years in London.

However, one has to ask why does sport deal with this issue so badly? If you aren't a strong, built muscled lad at school, then you're seen as one of the weaklings and one is an open target that can easily be bullied and beaten. It's no surprise that whilst at school homophobic, biphobic and

transphobic bullying happens and today it is still a major problem as highlighted by survey after survey from organisations like Stonewall and Schools Out.

Sport remains the bastion of the cruellest name calling and mental and emotional bullying there is, even by supporters on the terrace shouting at their own team play, the use of words seen as banter by fans can only alienate a proportion of the community from feeling comfortable in those surroundings! There's still no openly gay footballer in the top division of the premiership—over 500 players and not one is openly gay.

When Gareth Thomas came out about being gay the rugby world embraced him, but his story of having to fit into an expected macho culture with all the associated behaviours meant that he had to be someone who he wasn't and that led him down the same path to suicide attempts as me. After having read his autobiography, so many parts are tinged with so many similar elements in my own life, albeit in very different ways.

Now, I don't pretend to be a great sportsman, I play golf to an acceptable standard, but how many openly professional gay golfers are there? I've tried my hand at most sports over the years, just because I love sport whether that be football, tennis, badminton, gymnastics, table tennis, swimming – you name I tried it. However, my sporting passion rekindled from around 2004 onwards when I joined the Irons Golf

society. That was part of my rehabilitation process, finding a group of people who could accept me for who I was. It put me on a slow journey with the help of some very close friends to improve my mental health and exercise. I started going back to football matches, having the safety of going with a close friend enabled my sporting passions to return.

Yet, I look back with great regret that if only I hadn't been bullied at school, maybe I could have been so much at better sport? My family have sporting precedents and at such a crucial age during puberty, growing up it was the most difficult issue to face and the one lesson at school I dreaded, even though I pretended to not care about the insults and ridicule and carry on as if nothing had happened.

That shame still haunts me today as do my actions growing up in that environment. Ultimately, only now can I reconcile that it was my voice shouting out for help to deal with my homosexuality at an age that I couldn't comprehend and understand. This is why fully inclusive sex and relationship education, including an explanation of different family structures and same-sex relationships, needs to be explained at the youngest age possible, preferably seven and upwards which is when I first knew there was something different about me. If I had had that recognition at that age, I could have accepted who I was and been given support and help rather than experience the shame that engulfed me over the years that followed.



FRI 17TH, SAT 18TH APRIL 2015 FROM 9PM-4AM
SUN 19TH APRIL FROM 2PM-12AM

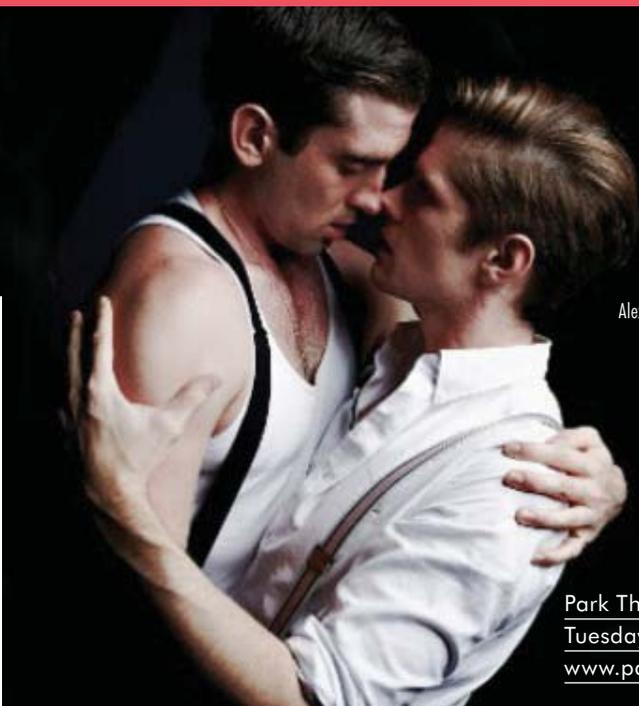
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The Glass Protège

Hollywood, 1949. A time when the movies are king and the movie stars merely pawns for the studio bosses. A time when passion was lauded but sex was never discussed. So when naïve young British actor Patrick Glass embarks on a scandalous homosexual love affair with his famous co- star, he starts to feel the full force of the studio's career-destroying muscle. Forty years later, as the truths of the past are uncovered, the true consequences of this "unacceptable" romance come to light.



Alexander Hulme as Jackson and David R Butler as Patrick

Park Theatre, Clifton Terrace, Finsbury Park, N4 3JP
Tuesday 14th April - Saturday 9th May. £12.50/£18.
www.parktheatre.co.uk



Jonny Woo

Dressed As A Girl

Self-proclaimed 'Frodocumentary of the Year', *Dressed As A Girl* is having a one-off special preview screening at the Rio Cinema in Dalston. Set against East London's alternative drag scene and filmed over six years, it follows six queens including **Jonny Woo**, **Holestar**, **Scottee** and **John Sizzle** revealing the personal struggles of each heroine. Following the preview screening there will be a special Q&A with the director of the film **Colin Rothbart**.

Rio Cinema, 107 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB
Saturday 18th April, 2pm.
www.dragmovie.com

Stand Up Comedy Gala



Get ready to wrap your laughing gear around gorgeous hunk of man and all-round good egg **Ben Cohen!** The gentlest bear around is hosting the first comedy gala for his charity, StandUp. A host of West End talent, which includes X-Factor's **Marcus Collins**, the dragulous **Supreme Fabulettes** and comedians from London's comedy circuit, are Standing Up against bullying with laughter.

Greenwood Theatre, London Bridge, SE1 3RA
Wednesday 15th April, 7:30pm. £45
www.standupfoundation.org



Marcus Collins



SH:24

New sexual health service offering free self-testing and rapid results by text is now live

A unique new online sexual health has been launched that allows people to test themselves for STIs in the privacy of their own home and get results by text message within seven days. SH:24 aims to modernise sexual health care by offering test kits, information and advice to residents of Southwark and Lambeth 24/7. Testing for chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis and HIV – the four most common STIs – will be provided free of charge to people living in the two South London boroughs. Funded by Guy's And St Thomas' Charity.

www.sh24.org.uk

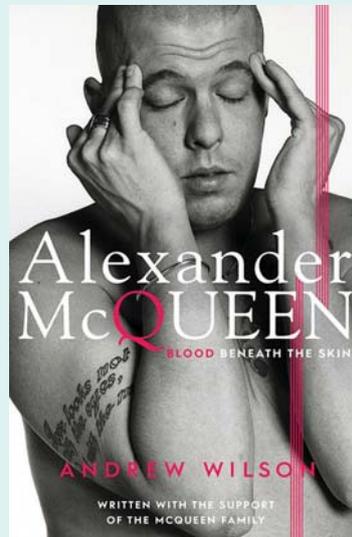
METRO Charity with PACE win funds to support LGBTQ young people's mental health

METRO Charity, in partnership with mental health charity PACE, has been awarded project funding from the government to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) young people's mental health. METRO has been awarded nearly a quarter of a million pounds to work with PACE to provide an integrated specialist service to support practitioners and to improve their ability to support LGBTQ young people and their families across Greater London, Kent and Medway. The project will also provide direct counselling, training and national resources.

www.metrocentreonline.org



Alexander McQueen: Blood Beneath the Skin with Andrew Wilson



When **Alexander McQueen** committed suicide in February 2010, aged just 40, a shocked world mourned the loss of its most visionary fashion designer. But behind the confident facade and bad-boy image, lay a sensitive soul who struggled to survive in the ruthless world of fashion. Join Gay's The Word bookshop and biographer **Andrew Wilson** for an event that tries to glimpse the real man behind the label and the headlines.

Gay's the Word. 66, Marchmont Street. WC1N 1AB
Thursday 16th April, 7pm. £3

RSVP by email sales@gaystheword.co.uk putting the word 'McQueen' in the subject-header.

The hallowed house of pop music G-A-Y is filming a reality show, with you as the stars! In the Departure Lounge they be looking for London's answer to Elsa with a Frozen sing-off. Over on the main stage it's a G-A-Y BGT audition. And Jeremy's going all Cilla Black on us with a chance to go on a blind date by emailing info@g-a-y.co.uk. The show will be edited and shown online, so make sure your looking your best, boys.



11/04/15:

The Only Way Is G-A-Y



Heaven, under the Arches, Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 6NG.
 10.30pm-5am. £2 entry wristbands available from G-A-Y Bar.



11/04/15:

XXL 'Bear'



It's back to basics as the south London fur fiesta goes all Goldilocks with XXL 'Bear'. Whether you're a grizzly, a teddy, a Paddington or a Pooh, you'll find something to get your claws into! You can even find yourself a nice, sticky honey pot to play with in the cruise area, after moving your body to some beastly tunes



Pulse, No 1 Invicta Plaza, SE1 9UF, 10pm-7am.
 £15 guests, £8 members.

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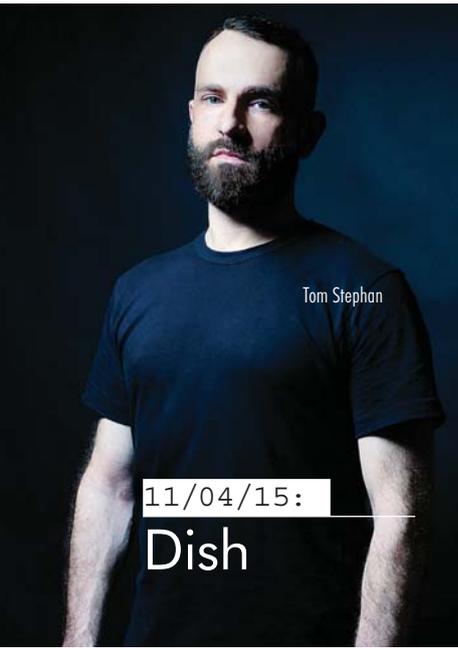
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Tom Stephan

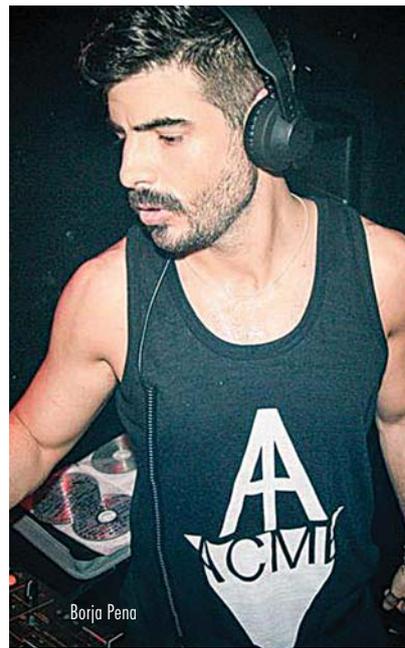
11/04/15:

Dish

It's time to say adios for now, as East Bloc's most filling fiesta is on the move! For their final instalment at City Road's den of sin, DISH will be serving up one hell of a musical feast, with a menu full of treats like **Tom Stephan, Borja Peña, Grego After All, Ray Noir** and **Samantha Togni** served by delicious hosts **La Pequeña, Alexander Han** and **Jake Cook**. Bring your appetite, it's gonna be BIG.

DISH

East Bloc, 217 City Road, EC1V 1JN.
10.30pm-6am. £7 before 12am/£10 after.



Borja Pena



Ray Noir



Steven Artis



11/04/15:

Dirty Disko

Vauxhall's hot house party returns this Saturday for more madness and amazing music with special guest DJs **Severino** and **Juceppe** taking over the main room. To kick-start the party, for this week Barcode's front room will be turned into a very special disco dance floor, with **Steven Artis** and **Alex Georgiou** spinning new fresh disco tracks. Not old classics, but new remixes of disco they're hoping you'll love. Uplifting vocal disco house and good times, what more could a boy want?



Barcode, Arch 69, Albert Embankment, SE1 7TP. 10pm-late. Free before 11pm/£6 before 12am with QX advert.



11/04/15:

Homoelectric

Crazy P first lady **Danielle Moore** bursts into the Dalston Superstore this Saturday, joining the Mancunian maestros of music, Homoelectric! Residents and master of the craft **Luke Unabomber** and **Jamie Bull** will shock your senses and blow your, er, circuits with their command of the decks.



Dalston Superstore 117 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB. 9pm - 3am.
Free before 10pm /£5 after.

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DIRTY DISKO



SPECIAL GUEST DJS
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STEVEN ARTIS
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FOLLOWED BY
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SATURDAY
11TH APRIL 2015
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69 ALBERT EMBANKMENT VANXHALL LONDON SE1

11/04/15:

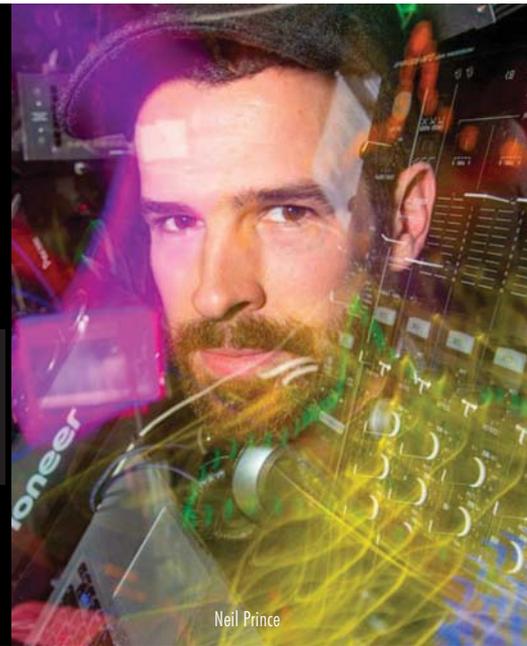
Love Is The Message



Disco divas stand to attention! **Neil Prince, Alejandro Asencio, Victor Robinson** have started a new bi-monthly disco celebration at Vogue Fabrics. After a packed out Valentines night launch, they're back to bring a little glitter and glamour to your April. Expect Patti, Chaka, Diana and Donna!

VOGUE FABRICS

Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, N16 7XB. 10pm-3am. £5



Neil Prince



16/04/15:

G-A-Y Porn Idol with Detox

Hot on the heels of **Courtney Act** on Thursday 9th April, the delectable **Detox** and her Black'n'Decker pecker wreckers will be surveying the salami onstage on Thursday 16th. She's joined by salacious judges **Mary Mac** and **Baga Chipz**. Think you can win and waltz off with £100? Text 07789 553 868 or email info@g-a-y.co.uk



Heaven, under the Arches, Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 6NG. 10.30pm-5am. Discount entry wristbands available from G-A-Y Bar.

17, 18 & 19/04/15:

Mykonos Comes to London

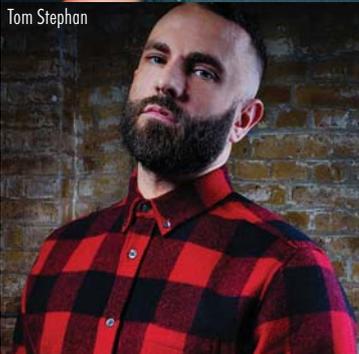
It's a gathering of Grecian proportions as the dancers, DJs and performers from the Elysium Hotel are coming to host an ultimate party weekend. Red carpets, canapés and champagne, plus drag shows and DJs performing sets from summer 2015 to give you a taste of the island on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th. On Sunday the 19th there's also a VIP package where guests will be taken to private boat for a big gay cruise up the river. Glam!



Altitude, Millbank Tower, 21 - 24 Millbank, SW1P 4QP.
Tickets from £50 via londonskybar.com.



The Cucarachas @ Dish



Word is The Cucarachas have got a few new things coming up? Tell us more...

We have both been busy playing all over the world; Borja just came back from the Miami winter conference and Tom, well everywhere! But we have still found time to get together in the studio and have some exciting new releases on underground record labels and a very big one that we will announce soon. We have collaborated with people like Shaun Wright and Alinka, who played at the last Dish party and blew the roof off!

What's going down at the next Dish?

Tears, sweat and lots of dancing! It will be emotional as we have our last dance at East Bloc, but Dish has a few tricks up its sleeve and we are excited about our new beginning.

So, it's the last event at East Bloc. What happens after this one?

Yes, but we have exciting collaborations lined-up - our first event is Sunday 3rd May at XOYO for Gloria! Dish will be spicing up room two with our usual crazy beats and in room one there's icon Kim Ann Foxman!

DISH

Dish is at East Bloc
(217 City Road, EC1V 1JN) on
Saturday 11th April, 10.30pm-6am.

BORJA

1) 'No More'
- Tank Edwards
Killer old school track.
RAVE TIME!

2) 'Abhu Dhabi Joint'
- Chuckie - Desolat
A bit of techno always does the trick.

3) 'Korgasmatron'
- Rex The Dog
I have always been a fan of Rex The Dog... analogue love!

4) 'Circular Thing'
- Krankbrother
This guy runs the best parties in London for the straight kids and has an amazing sound. Big fan of them.

5) 'Sweet Love' - Eli Escobar (Carry Nation Mix)
Our NY friends the Carry Nation do an amazing job remixing this already epic track from legend Eli Escobar.

TOM

1) 'Chicago Disco' - Chocolate Puma
"House Chicago - Future Disco" chants the voice over some MASSIVE beats. Sums it up pretty well!

2) 'The Cure'
- Harvey McKay
If Diana Ross and techno seems like an odd combo, you need to hear this. If there's a cure for this, I don't want it!

3. 'NY Heat' (Superchumbo Mix) - That Kid Chris
Yep, it's my remix, but it's one that I'm particularly fond of. Been lighting up the dance floor at Dish for many months now!

4) 'Gang Bang'
- Maria Dark
This is another one that's always in my set. Some tough beats by NYC's tribal queen Maria Dark. A little Loleatta Holloway thrown in for good measure. What's not to love?

5) 'Pop Yo Pussy'
- Lazaro Casanova
Makes you want to do just that!

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An exuberant comedy about five newly-positive friends.

by Paul Emelion Daly



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G-A-Y

G-A-Y Porn Idol
with Courtney Act
02/04/15
Heaven, under the Arches,
Villiers Street, Charing Cross,
WC2N 6NG

Words and photos
Chris Jepson

Kicking off our weekend of debauchery, on Thursday we rocked up at G-A-Y Porn Idol to catch RuPaul's Drag Race star and American Apparel model Courtney Act judging an eclectic bunch of contestants as they stripped in a bid to win the £100 heat prize. Ranging in age from 18 to 42, and representing nations as diverse as Italy, Slovakia, the Netherlands and, um, Birmingham, the 10 wannabes paraded, pole danced and presented their preened genitalia for the delectation of Courtney, Baga Chipz and Mary Mac. After some helpful critique the two finalists had one more chance to get the audience on-side as they provided backing antics for Courtney's Taylor Swift medley that included her infamous video pillow fight with the added interest of 2 naked guys! Another packed house and fun night of cock-crazy perverts. And that's just the judges.



"Another packed house and fun night of cock-crazy perverts. And that's just the judges."



VAUXHALL ARCHES

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BACON, MAPLE SYRUP 7.5
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SEEDS, SPRING ONIONS, CHILI KETCHUP 7
EGGS BENEDICT, SPINACH/BACON/SALMON 8
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MUSHROOM, BEEF TOMATO, FRIED EGG 9

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BUTTER, CORNBREAD, TOMATOES 22.5
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TARRAGON 14
CAESAR SALAD, LEMON CHICKEN, WHITEBAIT,
PARMESAN 12
COUNTER BURGER, SWISS CHEESE,
BACON JAM, FRIES 12.5
GRILLED TUNA, CRISPY RICE CAKES,
MISO PEPPERS, SPROUTS 18

FROM OUR EXTENSIVE COCKTAIL MENU

VAUXHALL VESPER 10
PINK ROSE 11
COSMOPOLITAN 9
TWINKLE 11
FRENCH MARTINI 9
APEROL SPRITZ 7
BLOODY MARY 9
GREEN FAIRY 10
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XXL Presents Moto Blanco
04/04/15
Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza,
Southwark, SE1 9UF

Words by Yaf Brown
Photos by Chris Jepson



XXL was back in session this bank holiday Saturday and, as ever, the seemingly unending venue was host to a steady stream of the southeast's (and far beyond) finest and most fearless revelers. Guest DJs Moto Blanco's thunderous, synthesized and shuddering bass set dynamically rivaled that of residents Christian M and Joe Egg - keeping the crowd of (exclusively) men committed

to the dance floor...well, until they found a man with what it took to lead them off into more adventurous activities in the red room. Convenient, as the XXL experience is ultimately designed for red blooded men; pounding, irrepressible bass lines that get them moving to the same beat - and an atmosphere that brings out the bad boy in you. Sometimes that's just what one looks for on a long weekend...



"An atmosphere
that brings out the
bad boy in you."



THE VERB, TO LOVE

A New Musical

Book, Music & Lyrics by Andy Collyer

Simon is lost, abandoned by James, his partner of twenty-three years. He is alone for the first time, but then he finds Ben, the Great Love of his life, a young man seventeen years his junior, and finds himself rejuvenated and fulfilled in a way he never knew possible. They share the complications of falling in love, undergoing upheavals, and experiencing change, until it all falls apart; but does it?

The Verb, 'To Love' explores, in an intimate sung-through musical, the complications of changing relationships, and the power of different kinds of love;

'The verb 'to love'' has so many meanings...'

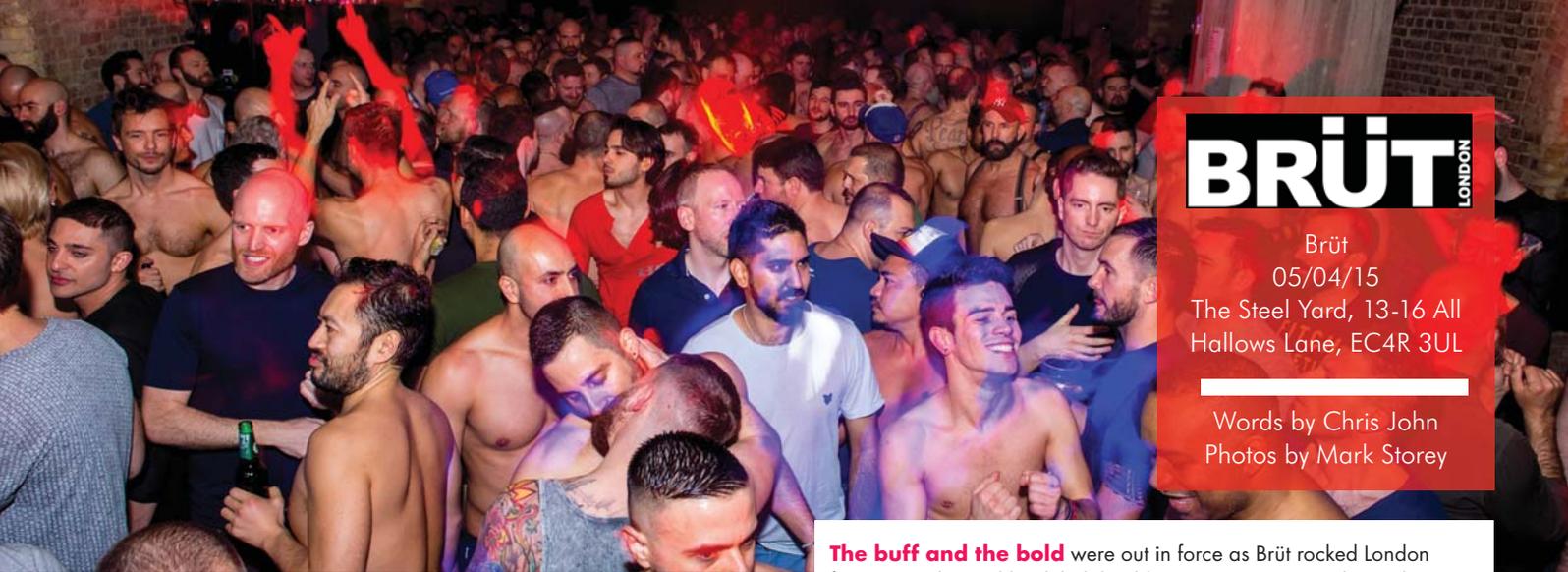
A brand new original one-act musical based on a true story.

Full of comedy, heartfelt emotion and drama, this contemporary chamber musical features a cast of just two performers and live accompaniment. A show bound to make you laugh and cry, 'The Verb, To Love' will take you on a unique theatrical journey that fans of great writing such as Stephen Sondheim, Jonathan Larson and Jason Robert Brown are sure to love.

29th April - 23rd May 2015

Box Office:- 0844 412 4307
www.oldredliontheatre.co.uk

THE
**OLD
RED
LION**
THEATRE



BRÜT LONDON

Brüt
05/04/15

The Steel Yard, 13-16 All
Hallows Lane, EC4R 3UL

Words by Chris John
Photos by Mark Storey



The buff and the bold were out in force as Brüt rocked London for a supercharged bank holiday blowout on Easter Sunday. Taking in an amazing array of rampant attractions, three cavernous arches of beefed-up proceedings saw a mass of hairy hunks, dirty dudes and cuddly cubs going pec-to-pec on the packed dancefloors for one of the wildest parties of the Easter break. Top rankin' action at the decks saw the likes of Alan X, Tom Stephan and Louis Lennon slammin' down enough booming anthems in the main room to get the whole place swirling like a sea as the QX contingent threw our hands to the heavens under raking red lights. Next door, the mashed-up retro pop, dance and R&B bangers kept on coming with burly blokes taking on headstrong homos for booty shakin' antics into the dawn. Elsewhere, the expansive bar played host to a man-sized Sunday social as the throng took a break from the dancefloor crush. Meanwhile, the upstairs chill lounge provided a wide-screen view of all the sensational shenanigans below as London's hottest new mega-party made its mighty mark on the scene through 'til super-late!



"Three cavernous arches of beefed-up proceedings."

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WE Metropolis
02/04/15
The Coronet, 28 New Kent
Road, Elephant & Castle,
SE1 6TJ

Words by Anthony Gilet
Photos by Mark Storey



Well, everybody knows that before Good Friday comes Bad Thursday, and where's badder (better) than WE Party? This time we were taking a trip to their Metropolis where 'futuristic slut' was all the rage. Unfortunately, we'd just come dressed like a current-day slut, but hey, when your knickers are gonna be hanging from the chandelier, does it really matter? Thankfully, Fat Tony got the crowd warmed up, because the only thing better than an old theatre full of fit men, is an old theatre full of fit, shirtless, sweaty men. The WE dancers took to the stage for an explosive performance of Madonna's *Living For Love*, and between the towering flames and tight-bodied flammers it was certainly getting hot in here. Queen of vocal house (and gay Bank Holidays), Rebeka Brown emerged, snatching weaves left, right and centre as she laid down everything from *Real Things* to *Millennium*. Then the confetti bombs went off - Lord, the only thing that could've made this situation any gayer is if Miss Brown was riding a unicorn. And forget the Easter bunny, by the time Steve Pitron stormed the stage, we were charged like the Duracell bunny. Amazing vibes as always - until the next WE! And we can see why Jesus died the following day, we could barely get out of bed!



"By the time Steve Pitron stormed the stage, we were charged like the Duracell bunny"





PAPA

PAPA Wild West
05/04/15
The Qube, 191 Victoria
Street, SW1E 5NE

Words and Photos
by Mark Storey

After a very long Easter weekend this bunny was ready to hit the hutch, but Papa was calling, so it would be rude not to, wouldn't it? The theme for this Papa extravaganza was the Wild West and yeeeeehaaaaa, were there some sexy cowboys in the house rounding up the cattle. Figuratively speaking of course! The crowd was pumped and worked up into a frenzy as D'Johnny and Isaac Escalante played back-to-back, showing no mercy and leaving no space to move on the main floor as the night got going. On hosting duties, the

cowgirl of all cowgirlz Johanna Londinium, looking stunning as always, and Mr JJ Clark, both having an amazing time with the crowd. Promoter Eliad Cohan was having the most fun of all, mingling with the crowd, handing out Papa merchandise and enjoying seeing the boys having a great time. They were having it very large, supersize even, with DJ delights in the other rooms like Massimo Paramour and GSP. And there it was! Papa was over and it was on to the next party. We had so much fun guys, bring on next year!



"The crowd was pumped and worked up into a frenzy."



SONGS OF PRAISE

Songs of Praise
04/04/15
East Bloc, 217 City Road,
EC1V 1JN

Words by Chris John
Photos by LUXXXER



QX cried 'hallelujah' on City Road as London's edgiest bijou homosexual pop party let rip for a bumper Easter edition last Saturday. Featuring two rollicking rooms of cool chart smashes and buzzin' underground licks, the Songs of Praise posse pulled in a crowd of hunks 'n' hot-steppers for a bank holiday knees-up that had the rowdy rabble stomping the boards clean into Sunday morning. Outrageous antics included dazzling DJ duo, The Sugalow Boys, entertaining the fluffy disco chickens for pumpin' pop blasts on the main floor as the QX crew rocked our best robot moves in the midst of the melee. Next door, world class DJ outfit, Elektra Complex, seized the decks for a vibin' pop-up version of their Discosodoma in room 2, with a barrage of electro-fuelled grooves causing a day-glo pile up on the dancefloor. Meanwhile, there were plenty more sonic sensations to come from the likes of Neil Prince and David Oh as the supercharged sugar rush continued through 'til fabulously late!



"Two rollicking rooms of cool chart smashes and buzzin' underground licks."

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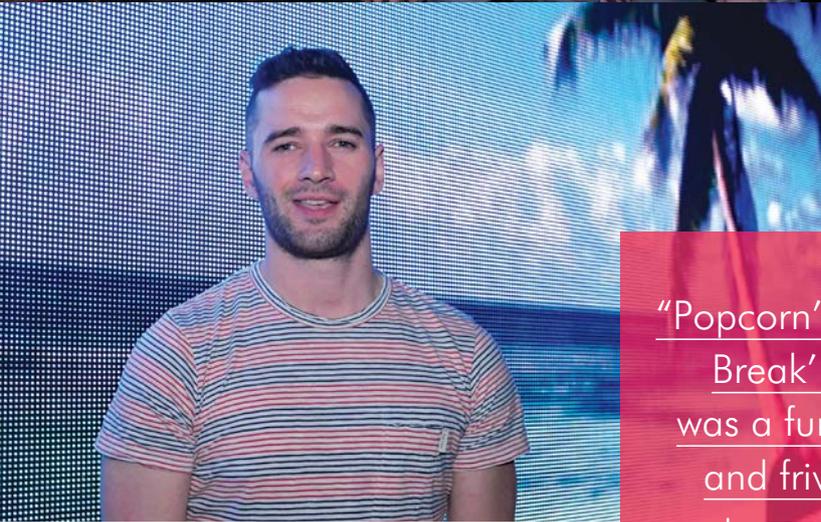
POPCORN
HOUSE | DANCE | R&B

Popcorn Spring Break
06/04/15
Heaven, Villiers Street,
WC2N 6NG

Words and Photos
by Chris Jepson



In true 'Guys Gone Wild' style, Popcorn's 'Spring Break' party was a fun, funky and frivolous extravaganza for an exuberant youth. School masters and mistresses on the decks Adam Turner, Paul Moreno, Neroli, Jonathan Bestley, Sam DMS and Zach Burns provided no less than four different music areas from house, to pop, to R'n'B and more for a crowd up for Monday madness. Headmaster Selby fired up the barbie on stage, pressed his hot meat between fresh buns and fed the five thousand while Chrissy Darling and friends kept the queues at the door (and there are ALWAYS queues at the door) entertained as Popcorn's popularity continued on an ascendant path.



"Popcorn's 'Spring Break' party was a fun, funky and frivolous extravaganza."

London Gay Village Guide

East

BARS

1. George & Dragon

2-4 Hackney Road,
Shoreditch, E2 7NS

A fabulous, polysexual pub where any night of the week you can run into the reigning royalty of the East End scene, tapping their toes to some wicked tunes. Cutting-edge fashion collides with a down and dirty crowd and quirky décor, to create both a party vibe and a den of chilled-out drinking.

2. The Victoria

188 Hoe Street,
Walthamstow, E17 4QH

At the weekends this unassuming Walthamstow institution becomes as gay as you like, with fabulous drag queens and sexy East End geezers wading through the queers and glitter.

3. Old Ship

17 Barnes Street,
Limehouse, E14 7NW

A traditional-style pub with an excellent range of beers, real ales and wines, with a bigscreen TV, pool room and beer garden. Under new management, look out for exciting developments to come and the occasional dash of good old-fashioned drag cabaret...

LATE BARS

5. BJ's White Swan

556 Commercial Road,
Limehouse, E14 7JD

A legend in its own lifetime and steeped in history, this huge bar-slash-club attracts an always-up-for-it crowd of eclectic, friendly

gayers and lovely Limehouse lads. Home to fab cabaret, a huge garden/smoking terrace and gorgeous art deco-style décor.

6. The Glory

281 Kingsland Road,
Haggerston E2 8AS

The latest addition to 'Faggerston', The Glory is a pub and performance venue run by the queen of East London drag, Jonny Woo. With queer fun all week upstairs and parties downstairs in The Hole on Fridays and Saturdays, it's the alternative super-pub you always dreamed of.

7. Star of Bethnal Green

359 Bethnal Green Rd,
Bethnal Green, E2 6LG

A great venue offering food, drinks, events, gigs and exhibitions for a creative crowd. Their diverse line-up includes a genre-bending roster of music, a karaoke room, quiz nights and plenty more metrosexual delights. Look out for special queer evenings like Douche Bag!

CLUBS

8. Bethnal Green Working

Men's Club
42 Pollard Row, Bethnal
Green, E2 6NB

Local Bethnal Green venue that plays host to gay and gay-friendly events. This former Working Men's Club is fast becoming a hub of diverse discos and polysexual parties, with the magnificent Sink the Pink crew holding a monthly residency.

9. East Bloc

217 City Road, Shoreditch,
EC1V 1JN

NYC's East Village meets East London in this ever-pumping, trendy basement venue. A plethora of alternative gay and polysexual club nights such as Blocheads, Songs of Praise, TheMenWhoFell2Earth, and Handsome, all alternate on Saturdays. Midweek mayhem goes down at Grunge on Thursdays while Friday night is Le Coq! Party-lovin' Hoxtonists make this late night venue snap, crackle and pop!

10. Dalston Superstore

117 Kingsland Road,
Dalston, E8 2PB

Shoreditch chic collides with trashy glam in one of the hottest venues of the moment. The polysexual fashionable/artzy crowd are a party lovin' yet laid back bunch, and the venue plays host to a raft of eclectic nights over two floors. With diverse décor, long bar and seating upstairs, plus a club space downstairs that plays host to a raft of big name DJs and cutting edge sounds. Home to Dirty Diana, Shake Yer Dix, Little Gay Brother and Nancy's - there's more variety here than a box of Quality Street with schizophrenia... on acid!

11. Vogue Fabrics

68 Stoke Newington
Road, Dalston, N16 7XB

Underground East London clubbing in the truest sense of the term! Home to naughty pop night Straight Nasty, queer fashion night Cockheart Club and gay techno

party legion. Plus, also offering an exciting arts programme with nights like 'Spoken Word London'.

12. Topsy

20 Stoke Newington
Road, Dalston, N16 7XN

New home of hip-hop homo night R&She (with full air-con, hurrah!) as well as generally being quite a gorgeous looking venue. Check out the big top-inspired artwork all over the cavernous spaces!

13. Shelter

267 Kingsland Road,
Haggerston, E2 8AS

Another gleaming sequin in East London's tiara, home to club legend Larry Tee's WUT?! Club every Friday, as well as the fabulously-named Faggerston Men's Club on Saturdays. Cute boys, club kids and all manner of musical delights abound.

14. Resistance Gallery

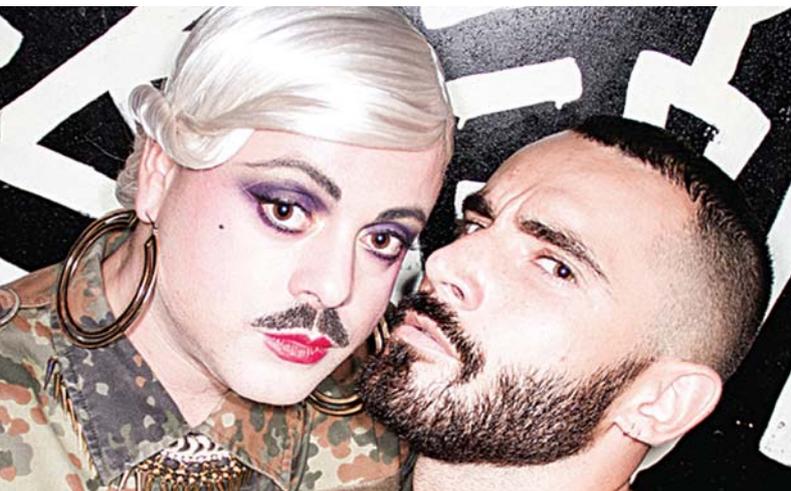
265 Poyser Street,
Bethnal Green, E2 9RF

Queer art and installation space Res Gal is all about diversity! The underground, the sub-cultures, the left field, the weird, the geek, the odd, the unique! It's home to London's only Lucha Libre Wrestling school, as well as club nights like female power pop peddlers Debbie and camp cabaret like Mariah & Friendz

15. The Steel Yard

13-16 All Hallows Lane, E
C4R 3UL

Home to the mega-manly bloke night Brüt, the Steel Yard is a beautiful industrial space located



15

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10



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9

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6

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17

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3

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21

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2

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12

MISSY ELLIOTT - LIL' KIM
MARY J BLIGE - BRANDY
NICKI MINAJ - BEYONCE
FOXY BROWN - RIHANNA
SWV - TWEET - CASSIE
MIS-THEO - ESTELLE
PUSSYCAT DOLLS
SALT-N-PEPP
MC LYTE

TLC - AALIYAH - EN VOGUE
MONICA - AMERIE - JANET
CIARA - CHRISTINA MILLAN
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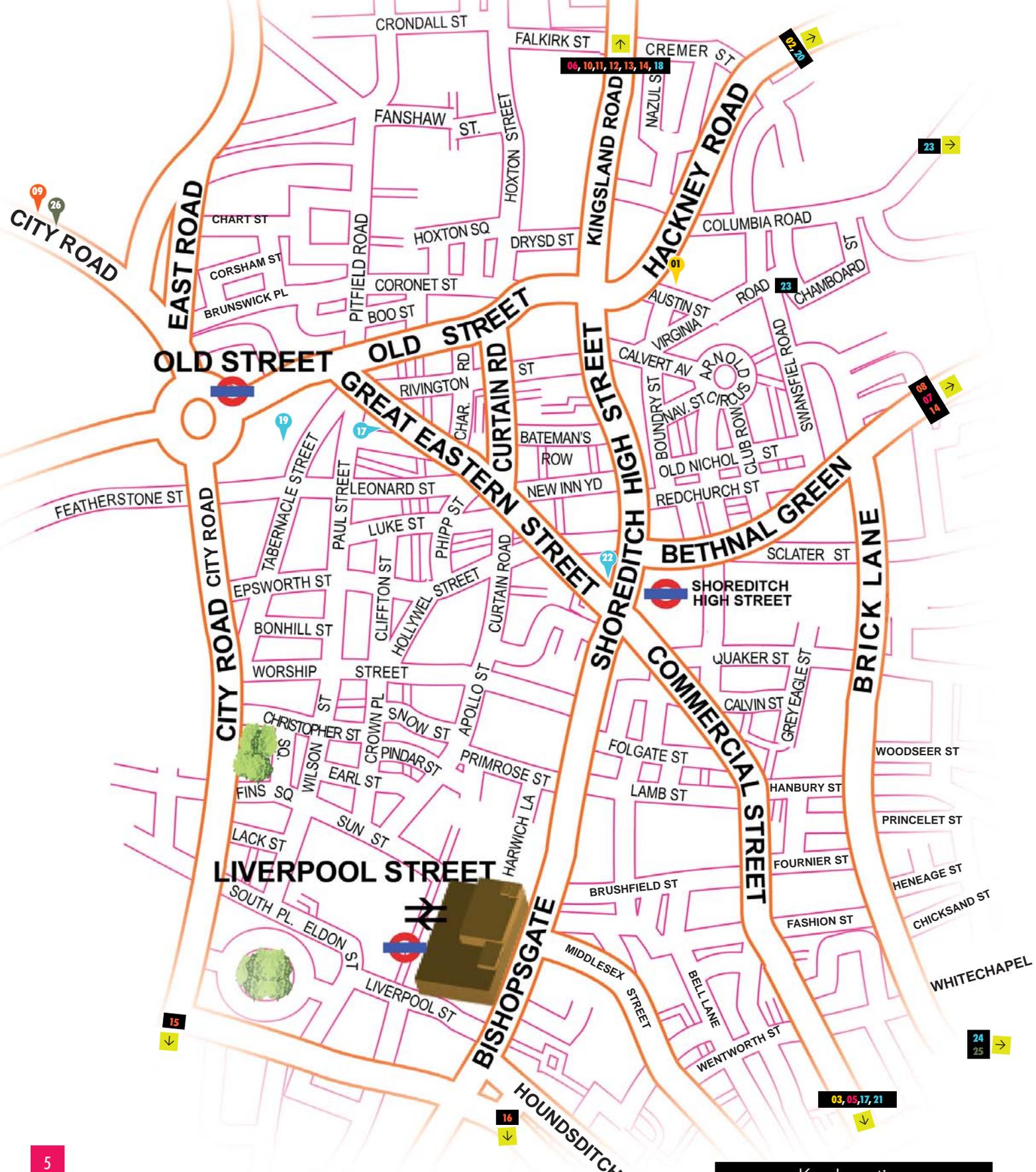
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5

white swan

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WEDNESDAY 9pm - 3am
THURSDAY 9pm - 2am
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East

Key Location	
	Bars
	Late Bars
	Clubs
	Gay Friendly Food
	Men Only
	Shops, Services, Gyms & More
↓	Off Map

London Gay Village Guide

East

under the Cannon Street rail arches. The venue boasts beautiful exposed brick walls, fully restored original features and a proper sprung dance floor that can more than cope with the weight of hundreds of boys and bears bouncing and busting their best moves atop it.

16. WayOut Club
The Minories, 64-73
Minories, EC3N 1JL or
Mary Janes, 124-127
Minories, EC3N 7NA
(check site for which venue)

One of the capital's longest running nights for TV and TS girls and their admirers. A fabulous night of cabaret, performance, dancing and fun every Saturday.

SHOPS, SERVICES, SAUNAS AND MORE...

17. Expectations
75 Great Eastern Street,
EC2A 3RY

The UK's largest fetish store with 30 years experience of offering the widest range of rubber and leather gear, fetish clothing, accessories, hard DVD's, aromas, sports, military and work wear, lubes, toys and playroom equipment.

18. Voodoo Rays
+ Dance Tunnel
95 Kingsland High Street,
Dalston, E8 2PB

Dalston Superstore's fearsome little sister offers some of the most delicious pizza slices our taste buds are yet to orgasm over, and downstairs you may find a little space named the 'Dance Tunnel' open at the weekends... Who knows who will be DJing?

19. XOYO
32-37 Cowper Street,
Shoreditch, EC2A 4AP

A diverse events space across two floors, profiling a mixture of art, music, culture and media events. Has some of the current coolest gay/mixed nights with an East End twist in London town.

20. 800 Sauna
800 Leabridge Rd, E17 9DN
East London sauna for the local

East End gentlemen. Sauna, Jacuzzi, steam room and more. Thursdays and Saturdays are for TVs and their admirers.

21. Sailors Sauna
574 Commercial Road,
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Billing itself as 'a relaxing place to unwind', Sailors have a sauna (obvs), hydro pool, steam room, video room, terrace and wet area – all situated over three themed floors of carnal delights. Plus special evenings like Latino Tuesday and Big & Cuddly Monday.

22. Chariots Shoreditch
1 Fairchild Street, EC2A 3NS

Featuring a heated pool, huge sauna, two steam rooms, two Jacuzzis, 50 private rooms, Internet, café and plenty of cruise space. From local blokes to suited guys midweek, you'll also find loads of horny Shoreditch stunners slipping out of their skinny jeans for some naughty fun here.

23. E15 SAUNA
6 Leytonstone Road, E15 1SE

Jumbo spa, sauna, steam room, cafe, TV room, and a blacked-out

basement for underground fun with a local crowd of East London-style lads and gay gents.

24. Positive East
159 Mile End Rd,
Stepney Green E1 4AQ

Positive East is London's largest community-based HIV charity. They offer advice, support groups and counselling to gay men and others living with HIV. They also offer HIV testing and prevention information, along with information on what benefits you are entitled to and how to discuss your status with potential employers.

MEN ONLY BARS

25. MA1 The Backstreet
Wentworth Mews, E3 4UA

The UK's longest running, gay leather and rubber fetish club. Host to a number of parties and special events outside of regular opening hours.

26. Bunker Bar
217 City Road, Shoreditch,
EC1V 1JN

Home of Club CP the session for those that love spanking and punishment.





DO SOMETHING SERIOUSLY SEXY NOW RECRUITING...

- Black Men's Outreach Worker (Working with men who have sex with men)
- Asian Men's Outreach Worker (Working with men who have sex with men)
- Outreach Worker (Working with men who have sex with men and BME heterosexual communities)

Rate of pay for all posts is £16.63 per hour (sessional work)

We may think about sex every three minutes, but sexual health is less likely to register on our radar. That's why WLGM is raising awareness of the key issues for HIV prevention; at pubs, clubs, saunas, gyms, public sex environments and other venues across West London and beyond. If you have the confidence to approach strangers and introduce a subject that's probably the last thing on their minds, you can help people make healthier choices about sex. You would also be given training as a community tester for our innovative, peer-led rapid HIV testing service.

The roles will be based at WLGM CIC in Ladbroke Grove, but working across London for our WLGM, ACE and Brighter Partnership services. The posts are for sessional work; mostly evenings and weekends, with some daytime shifts.

To be involved with our innovative work and apply online, go to the Vacancies section of our website: www.westlondongmp.org.uk.

Closing date for applications: Friday 17th April 2015

Interview dates: Week beginning 20th April 2015



Brighter Partnership comprises WLGM, Living Well and KwaAfrica



NOW RECRUITING...

Prevention Coordinator (Gay Men) GMI Partnership
Salary: £27,252 (full-time)

WLGM as part of the GMI Partnership aims to improve the health of gay, bisexual and men who have sex with men (MSM) and other target groups in West London and Pan London. As Prevention Coordinator (Gay Men) you will motivate a skilled team of outreach workers and volunteers and coordinate and provide information-based sexual health outreach services, HIV testing, trainings and brief HIV prevention interventions in commercial venues and at events across London, targeting gay, bisexual and other MSM. You will have a good understanding of the sexual health and broader health and well-being needs and behaviours of MSM and other target groups and engage with them in a non-judgemental way. You will have a history of producing detailed reports and a working knowledge of Access, and good understanding of other Office programmes including Excel and Word.

The role will be based at WLGM CIC in Ladbroke Grove, but working across London for the GMI Partnership.

To apply for this exciting position, go to the Vacancies section of our website: www.westlondongmp.org.uk.

Closing date for applications: Friday 17th April 2015

Interview dates: Week beginning 20th April 2015



GMI Partnership comprises WLGM, Metro Centre and Positive East

Fitladz vs Higher
 05/04/15
 Barcode, Arch 69, Albert
 Embankment, SE1 7TP
 Words by Dan Moore
 Photos by Joel Ryder



After a long weekend of indulging ourselves with chocolate and Easter eggs, we took a stroll on the south side to the most uber-tastic party ever. Tonight brought us two amazeballs parties in one, as Friday's 'Fitladz' and Saturday's 'Higher' united together in one massive orgy as Barcode's biggest DJs went head-to-head to battle it out for the bank holiday crown. The biggest question is how do you choose a side when you have equally hot DJs playing sick tunes all the way to the early hours? Beautiful boys DJ Steven Artis and Alex Georgiou represented 'Higher' spinning the decks to some fab disco house beats, getting the Vauxhall crowd into the party spirit. Good thing we remembered to bring our disco pumps! Representing 'Fitladz', our beloved DJs P JAY and Riano took to the main room to get the sportswear stud muffins gyrating on the dance floor. It was all about the bass with this duo as they blared out their progressive tech house tracks, which had the room at full capacity! It's fair to say that everyone was a winner with excellent music, gorgeous ladz and a sexy ambience, which really topped off the bank holiday weekend!



"It's fair to say that everyone was a winner."





Brighton & Hove Pride 2015

25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF PRIDE IN THE CITY

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PRIDE FESTIVAL WEEKEND

1st & 2nd August 2015

PRIDE DOG SHOW

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PRIDE DIVERSITY GAMES

18th -19th July 2015

PRIDE ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL

17th July - 2nd August 2015

#BrightonPride25

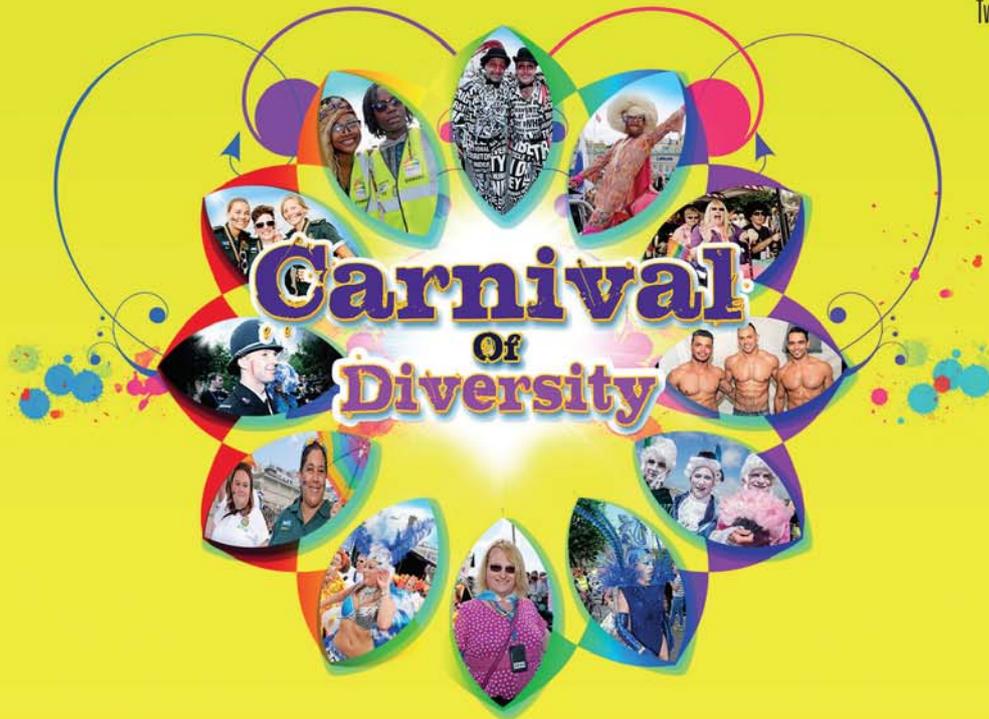
Recognising how far we have come and continuing to campaign for LGBTI equality and diversity for communities globally who don't have their #FreedomToLive

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Already confirmed for the Pride Festival:

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- ★ FREEMASONS ★ SEAMUS HAJI ★ PROK AND FITCH ★

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Scan here to purchase tickets on your mobile device





Charlie Hides Sunday Social
 @ The RVT
 05/04/15
 372 Kennington Lane,
 Vauxhall, SE11 5HY

Words and Photos
 by Joel Ryder



WHOOOO goes to the 99p shop, buys some garden refuse bags and turns in to a couture dress? Charlie freakin' Hides, that's whoooo! As you can see, she looked totally fierce in them as well. Commanding the Royal Vauxhall Tavern stage every Sunday afternoon with an A-list star-studded cast including (but not exclusive to) Cher, Madonna, Gaga, Kandi Kane Baxter and the biggest diva of them all; Laquisha Jonz. Complete with sexy, hunky Easter bunnies to fill your hole - I mean mouth - with chocolate! It's like therapy (for Charlie as well), after a hard week you walk through those double doors and forget all your troubles and literally laugh your ass off. This sold-out crowd was lapping it up and it was a great atmosphere. The Sunday Social is every Sunday afternoon and if you haven't been, then get your sexy asses down there!



"Commanding the Royal Vauxhall Tavern stage every Sunday afternoon with an A-list star-studded."



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SEXCIRCUS

SexCircus vs Revolver Berlin
03/04/15
Crucifix Lane, 79 Crucifix
Lane London SE1 3JW

Words and Photos
by Chris Jepson



Continuing our weekend of debauchery, on Good Friday we popped along to the appropriately named Crucifix Lane for BLACKOUT, one of the hottest men-only parties of the year and a co-promotion by Orange Nation's SexCircus and Oliver M's Revolver Berlin. Returning to the clubbing capital, SexCircus' resident superstar performers, Damien Cross and Jonathan Agassi, were joined by Bruno Bernal and Spain's hottest exports: Allen King, Andrea Suárez and Angel Cruz. These boys were locked in a virtually non-stop wank, suck and fuck-fest that left the stage covered in every bodily fluid imaginable! On the decks Brent Nicholls kept the Hard On room pumping while Lee Harris and Noor Q were joined by Oliver M on the vaulted main floor, for a roller coaster of uplifting and tech house that kept the fetish-clad crowd pulsating 'til the lights came on. One of the most intimate, sexy and dirty parties in ages. Fingers crossed for a repeat soon!



"These boys were locked in a virtually non-stop wank, suck and fuck-fest."



VAULT

Vault
05/04/2015
139b-143 Whitfield Street,
W1T 5EN

Words by Chris John
Photos by Mark Storey



QX hit London's fashionable Fitzrovia for saucy studs and steamy shenanigans as the Vault packed in a crowd of hotties for top class booze 'n' cruise action (and a whole lot more) on Easter Sunday. Promising a veritable Aladdin's Cave of sleek and sexy antics, we arrived just as the afternoon underwear session reached its sweaty climax with a bevy of buff boys in briefs checking out the many attractions within the ravishingly red-lit cruise maze. And as afternoon turned into evening, there was more feverish fun to be had with the ever popular 'Cruise' fixture pulling in dishy dudes, dazzling dads and tasty twinks getting to grips in the private cabins (complete with glory holes!) and finding some fabulous uses for the cool industrial décor. Elsewhere, there was chilling galore on luxurious leather sofas amidst the hi-tech ambience of the bar as the fit and friendly bar guys gyrated to some of the sexiest low-down DJ sounds in town. Meanwhile, there was an earth-moving experience to cum (oo-er) for one of the QX party on a PVC banquette, behind a set of suitably swinging saloon doors, as our world-beating scene proved Jesus wasn't the only one to get nailed over an Easter weekend. Check out the thrills at the Vault – open seven days a week!



"Promising a veritable Aladdin's Cave of sleek and sexy antics."



VAULT



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* INCLUDES FREE COAT CHECK AND RE-ENTRY

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CRUISE 1pm-7pm £7.00
CRUISE 7pm-1am £8.00

WEDNESDAY

CRUISE 1pm-7pm £7.00
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THURSDAY

CRUISE 1pm-7pm £7.00
STRIPPED 7pm-1am £8.00

FRIDAY

CRUISE 1pm-7pm £7.00
CRUISE 7pm-1am £8.00

SATURDAY

CRUISE 1pm-7pm £7.00
CRUISE 7pm-1am £8.00

SUNDAY

UNDERWEAR 1pm-7pm £7.00
CRUISE 7pm-1am £8.00

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www.VAULT-LONDON.com

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FRIDAY 11.30 - 23.30
SATURDAY 11.30 - 23.30
SUNDAY 12.00 - 22.30

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Lipsync1000 Final
 02/04/15
 The Glory, 281 Kingsland
 Road, E2 8AS

Words by Cliff Joannou
 Photos by Holly Revell



After ten heats that showcased some of the most insane, anarchic, imaginative and utterly bonkers lipsync performances this queen had ever seen, the grand final rolled around with a mammoth eighteen performances. Yes EIGHTEEN finalists, comprised of ten heat winners and eight wild cards each tasked with delivering the slickest four minute lipsync to impress the judges: columnist Grace Dent, Ireland's drag ambassador Panti Bliss, Le Gateau Chocolat, lipsync maestro Dickie Beau and moi, Cliff Joannou of QX.

The standard was set higher than a crusty at Glastonbury from the minute Glory matriarch Jonny Woo opened the show. How do you follow one of the UK's cabaret finest? Answer: throw everything and the kitchen sink at the ensuing chaos. Sashay Okray gave Carmen Miranda realness complete with full on Madonna-style recovery after falling flat on her ass! Jacqui Potato delivered half a dozen babies on stage in homage to Angelina Jolie's penchant for propagating the species. M(Ollywood) showed that even club host

studs can pull off stilettos. Bayo and Jody channeled Queen Latifah and Monie Love for a roof-raising 'Ladies First' tribute that saw them lose a few earrings. (You know you've put on a good show when you lose an earring on stage. These bitches lost three of 'em!) We can't even begin to express the majorness of this event because how do you get EIGHTEEN acts into one 300 word review and do it justice? We simply bow down and give props to what was one of the finest showcases of talent on the queer cabaret scene that I've ever seen.

Three hours later, with sweat dripping down the windows and wig hair in our mouth the scores were counted, the winner was decided. Praise goes to runner-up Crystal Lubrikant who delivered a tour de force of master-class lipsync. But huge congratulations go to winner Ellis D, who nabbed the crown by a whisker combining extreme lipsync skill with astute artistic delivery.

The Lipsync 1000 Final was everything. That's all.

"Some of the most insane, anarchic, imaginative and utterly bonkers lipsync performances"





Duncan Day

BACKCounter @ Counter

Arch 50, 7-11 South Lambeth Place, London SW8 1SP

BACKCounter is the little gay brother (at the rear) of Vauxhall's newest brasserie. They'll be kicking off their new Brunch Off-Broadway on Sunday 12th April between 1 and 4pm, which is set to be a monthly fixture on your Vauxhall calendar! West End starlet, **Topsie Redfern** (she was in Chicago, dontchaknow) will be belting out big Broadway numbers to accompany the culinary delights being served up from the Counter kitchen. She'll be joined by the lovely Duncan Day on the piano too, so why not treat yourself to some show tunes with a side of superb food on Sundays?



Topsie Redfern

Gumaze/Willaco



Lady Imelda

Old Ship

17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW

It may not be Easter anymore but Sundays are still pretty special down at the Old Ship! This Sunday 12th April, the marvellous **Maisie Trollette** will be wowing the crowds with the fruits of over 50 years worth of experience. Come and see a legend onstage in the East London cabaret institution, while you sip a nice cold glass of something from their fantastic selection of beers and spirits. If you're feeling peckish they even serve freshly made rolls 'til 8pm!



Maisie Trollette



Imperial Arms

8 Lillie Road, London SW6 1TU

Sunday night at the Imperial is their very own Fulham's Got Talent singing competition. Impress the punters with your best Celine Dion, or just sit at the bar and support your friends as they sing their hearts out! There are free shots every hour, drinks for heat winners and a chance to bag the £250 Grand Final prize. Better start warming up, boys!

White Swan

556 Commercial Road, Limehouse, E14 7JD

It's a cabaret double whammy at White Swan this weekend! On Friday 10th April, it's the return of everybody's favourite fabulous Filipino, **Lady Imelda** with her tornado of cabaret talent. Then on Saturday 11th that busy wench **Titti La Camp** will be taking the White Swan by storm and showing you all why breast really is best.



Pussy Faggot - The Second Coming

The Glory, 281 Kingsland Road, Haggerston, E2 8AS

Friday 3rd April.

www.facebook.com/TheGloryLondon

David Hoyle was serenading the crowd with 'Maybe This Time' to the sound of a MRI scanner. Dressed in chic white jacket, sudden ebony shock of a wig, scarlet lipstick and kohl panda eyes - 'you want to be understated with your makeup otherwise you may end up looking like a clown' he'd quipped in his show the night before - he was a scare-Tory Snow White for the queer anarchists. After his rapturous applause, he had words to Northern drawl about the arts: 'That was an unoriginal song to an original backing track,' he stated. 'Arts subsidies are dying. Creativity and self-expression are now more important than ever. I would tell you what I really think of the people in authority of the arts, but I don't want you to smash Jonny's place up.'

Jonny is the masterful performance artist Jonny Woo, and his place is The Glory. In a capital city where the cries are consistently of LGBT venues closing down, and dead-behind-the-mascara drag queens singing David Guetta covers to the profit-minded conservatives of Soho, The Glory is like a fork of glittered lightning slicing onto an algae-covered pond. Here lies the new vortex for all those set adrift when The Joiners closed, and more: for Jonny's two-tiered venue promises to safeguard queer creativity and self-expression within its sweaty walls.

Dressed as Lou Reed - 'I am aware my Lou Reed is a bit biker dyke' - Jonny was a pivotal part of last Friday's soldout 'Pussy Faggot - The Second Coming'. Curated by legendary New York cabaret manager Earl Dax, the show brought the crème de la spunk of the Big Apple, including former Warholian superstar Penny Arcade, to mingle with the high-heeled loads of homegrown Big Smoke talent.



We began the evening down in the boudoir-like basement club, where Bourgeois & Maurice were dazzling their sequinned catsuits in the crimson-tinged dark. Bourgeois' gigantic eyelashes and Maurice's beehive are an electric draw on the cabaret circuit for their satirical songs squeezed through the urethra of acerbic humour. Modern-day idiocy and snobbery is often their bull's eye target: 'I went to the supermarket the other day, and they'd run out of quinoa, Bourgeois' / 'oh no, what did you do Maurice?' / 'I took a shit in aisle 10.' Check out 'We Want Love' on YouTube for a particular highlight of their work.

Upstairs on the more grungy, rockstar main gigging floor Penny Arcade treated us to her hosting duties, with her auburn flame of hair and vast mammary glands hooking all into an engaging look. Her message was stark: gentrification killed New York and London was next, she was followed by New York's wonderful Rachel Mason, who suavely strode the bar in her trilby and velvet vocals, Viva Deconcini, the ever-energetic A Man to Pet, glorious Needles Jones and an intriguing Morris(he) impresario.

Alas, if there was any affirmation needed about the fractured state of 'LGBT' in London today then it was the lesbian guitarist who got up to sing a song about having sex in the basement. The assembled gay men instantly lost interest and began acting as if the interval had already been called, chatting, going to the bar and heading for cigarettes. I don't have enough space here to try exploring the psychology behind this attitude, but our hearts bled like the Green Party for the poor girl, who wasn't a bad act at all in our humble opinion.

Yet overall this was a spectacle to get the cockles and embers of creativity smouldering back into smoke: an earthy, bodily celebration of being queer, being human and just being brilliant. The Glory is a name chosen aptly, we think; perhaps it's time our ailing gay scene deserved a bit of glory. David, it's right to worry about those in authority of the arts, but for the time being, Jonny's got our backs.

David Hoyle's 'Abracadabra' is running fortnightly on Thursdays (next show the 16th April) at the Bethnal Green Working Men's Club, 42 Pollard Row, E2 6NB.

www.bourgeoisandmaurice.co.uk





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Arthole Launch - 'Man' by BJ Broekhuizen
 Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland Road, E8 2PB.
 Runs to 5th May
www.artholelondon.com / www.bjbroekhuizen.com



King, 51 x 76cm, oil on canvas

BJ Broekhuizen

How far does your identity as a 'man' affect your body shape? That's a pivotal cog whirring within muscular gay male artist BJ Broekhuizen's new exhibition 'Man', unveiled last week as part of suave curator Morris Monroe's ongoing Arthole project. Arthole seeks to showcase and promote the most exciting new queer art from around London, with monthly exhibitions splayed in vibrant iconography across the walls of East End bar/club/community vortex, the Dalston Superstore.

Broekhuizen, who has 'tattoos in unexpected places' according to his promo work, documents the battle created between the media myths of masculinity and awareness of the personal self. 'I think having a battle with oneself on a daily basis is part of growing and developing,' he states. 'It's to me a constant fight of ideas and perceptions. I often call my brush my knife, my weapon.'

Undoubtedly, Broekhuizen's years as a fixture on the gay scene also sharpens and focuses the fight he carves with his paint. The exhibition flows through five stages. Beginning with the vague, nebulous faces that reflect formulating or uncertain identities, the work finds flesh-filled form through the strings of inner muscle, like bodies shape in gyms - 'about stripping back the layers

of flesh', says Broekhuizen - before the dark and spiky images of self-destruction, reflecting a loss of self. Works like 'King' in this part of the collection could be interpreted as a shade of the sleepless chill out/chems scene in the capital.

But the most beautiful and illuminating section of this exhibition is the most hope-filled; the final stage of spiritual awakening. Here vivid, graffiti-like colours shimmer upon the canvas, and the works incorporate words and poetry into their painted art, as the prism spins from self-destruction to self-expression and redemption through identity. Finding a connection within oneself, and in the powers of the human mind, is how one can best express lasting strength and masculinity in the modern age; masculinity a concept that can exist in either men or women, or in genders in-between the spectrum.

Following the lineage of Broekhuizen's 'Man' work from beginning to end, we begin to find the falsity of what being a 'man' means as told to us by cultural norms and wider society. It can't be found in the perfect male body, in the gym, in drugs, in steroids. But self-acceptance, and all the rainbow-like colours blossoming with it, can be discovered inside.

S C R E E N T E S T

by Jack Leger



Video of the week

THE BREAKFAST CLUB (15)

This week launches a remastered 30th Anniversary Edition of the iconic teen movie, which changed the genre by playing with stereotypes as five students who would never be seen together at school spend a day in detention. The film is rebellious, funny and ultimately moving, and it made stars of its cast: Emilio Estevez, Molly Ringwald, Ally Sheedy, Anthony Michael Hall and Judd Nelson. Worth revisiting. (Universal)



Film of the week

THE DUFF (15)

A razor-sharp script and up-for-it cast make this teen comedy better than most. The title refers to Bianca (Mae Whitman), who learns she's the "Designated Ugly Fat Friend" in her group, despite being neither ugly nor fat. Wading between sassy bitch Madison (Bella Thorne) and super-hot jock Wesley (Robbie Amell), she tries to change her fate. A hilarious riff on *The Breakfast Club*, speaking of which...



Bradley Cooper (pictured) is planning to direct and costar with **Beyonce** in a remake of the classic celebrity drama *A Star Is Born*. • And **Luke Evans** will join **Chadwick Boseman** for *Message From The King*, about a South African who travels to L.A. seeking vengeance.



COOL VENGEANCE

Keanu Reeves gets his groove back as **JOHN WICK**, an ex-killer out for revenge against the idiot son (Alfie Allen) of a Russian mafia boss, his former employer. It's an aching cool film, with pungent emotion, sharp wit and exhilarating action.

DARK DRAMA

George MacKay is magnetic in the moody drama **BYPASS**, about a young guy trying to rise to the challenge of grown-up life. Dark, intense and moving. • Acclaimed Swedish drama **FORCE MAJEURE** traces the slow collapse of a family after an avalanche disrupts their skiing holiday. Punchy and strikingly involving.



JULIASAYS . . . by Princess Julia

What's the gossip? You know, I'm generally the last to find out or I get told the most outlandish stories... or are they?! This week's tales in clubland are reaching new heights! But before all that, we're going to delve into the business of show with **Myra Dubois**, live and in concert with her fabulous backing band **The Spiders In Bras** at the **Royal Vauxhall Tavern** (372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY) on Thursday 9th April. Now, Myra knows how to spin a yarn, so catch her in action with special guests **David Mills and the Memes** from 8:30pm onwards.

The singing, ringing tree is all of

a quiver over East London way... Up at **The Glory**, (281 Kingsland Road E2 8AS), the **Lipsync 1000** goddess has been crowned but there are whisperings about a new Wednesday evening contest to be launched... it's all very hush-hush, but I can reveal plans are afoot for a male beauty contest. Who will be crowned **Mr Glory** in the coming months? It could be you!

Prancing about and feeling all experimental on Friday 10th **Hashtag** at **Bethnal Green Working Men's Club** (42 Pollard Row, E2 6NB) could be the right moment to witness the unleashed, with performances from **Fancy Chance**, **The**

Fabulous Russella, **Steve Nice** and **Tallulah Haddon**. Music from **Miss Pink** and **Bristol Pete**, doors 9pm 'til late.

HomoElectric returns to the **Dalston Superstore** (117 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB) this Saturday 11th with special guest DJ **Danielle Moore**. This lot like to mix it up with a varied musical program, so join residents **Jamie Bull** and **Luke Unabomber** plus outrageous behaviour from host for the night **Ted Rogers**... 9pm 'til 3am.

Blimey! Cult club **Debbie** is 3 on Saturday 11th and they're holding the fort at the secreted

away **Resistance Gallery** (265 Poyser Street, E2 9RF). They have three rules for the perfect party... 1. Female lead vocals only, 2. You MUST dance and 3. Love, pop, power to all. 10pm 'til late, they say arrive early to avoid disappointment!

Later this month **Sink The Pink** are ushering in the trans-brides to be with **The Wedding** themed evening on Saturday 18th April at spiritual home Bethnal Green Working Men's Club. Getting all fluffed up in anticipation, it's going to be a right show up so don yer finery for a wedding piss-up like no other! 9pm 'til 2am... That's all the gossip for this week dears!

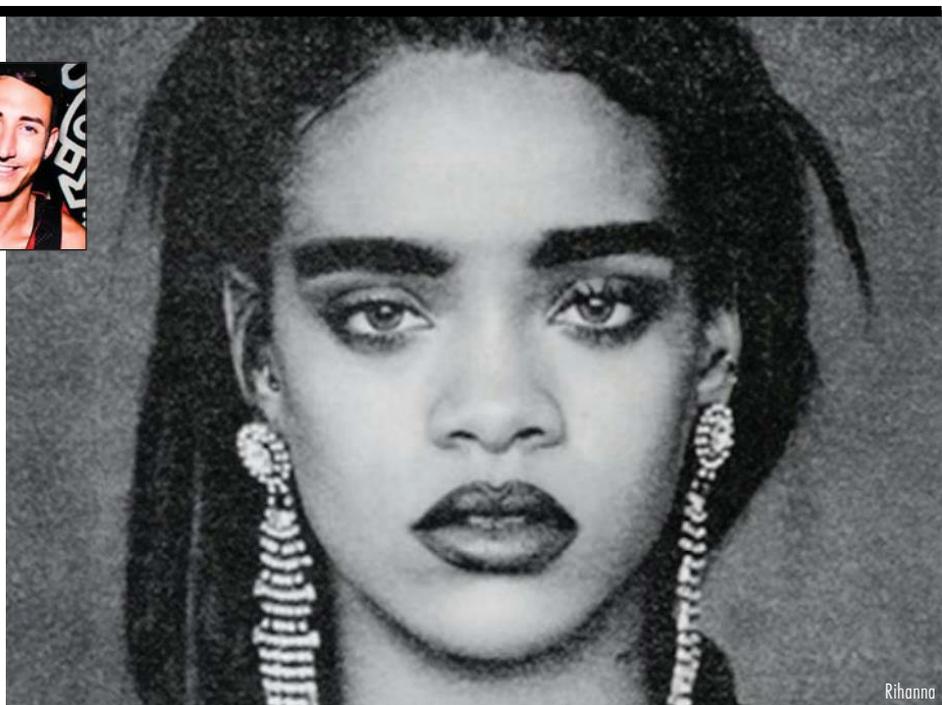
GILÉT'S PLAYS By Anthony Gilét



After a lead single more disappointing than all other **Rihanna** singles, we're glad she's decided to leave folky guitar and sack of skin Paul McCartney at home. This sounds more like the Riri we know, and while 'Bitch Better Have My Money' (#BBHMM as it will trend), is certainly a step in the right direction with its swaggering sound and bold attitude - it doesn't quite hit the nail on the head. We're not sure if it's because any hoe that wears dresses made of Swarovski diamonds, clearly ain't bout that life which makes it feel insincere, but if the artwork is anything to go by, we're sure once the video drops it'll grow on us.

Clean Bandit are back with *another* feel good anthem - not that we expected anything less from them. 'Stronger' - like their other releases - just makes you wanna smile/dance/shit rainbows. Prepare to feel empowered. With a hook so catchy, you'll be singing along on first listen, it's no surprise we're excited every time they drop a new track. *Presses repeat*

Meghan Trainor is really catering for her teenie bopper fans with 'Dear Future

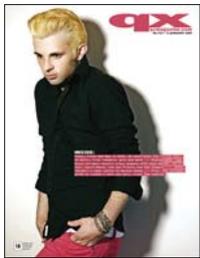


Husband'. It's so cheesy it makes us nauseous; but that's probably because we're dancing along to it. And while we really wanted to hate it, she's kind of a guilty pleasure now *cringe* - obviously she's got some way to go before she takes that tacky tiara from Taylor Swift, but damn the girl trying.

Nicki Minaj performed at the O2, and obviously killed it on all fronts. Her new single, 'The Night Is Still Young' is way more PG than we prefer Nicki, but if she wants

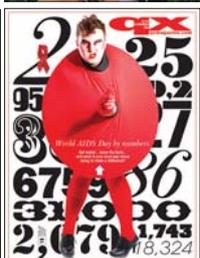
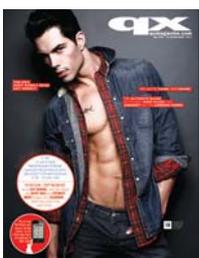
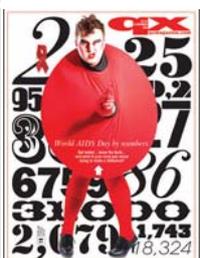
to make them big bucks everyone knows she's gotta sell-out occasionally. And though it's reasonably fluffy with a teenage beat so commercial Micky Mouse be giving her side-eye, it's still kinda catchy; which we guess is the whole point. Besides, I think let it slide after her performance and dirty-based 'Only'.

Britney and Iggy Australia announced May 5th as the release date for their (hopefully not) over-hyped 'Pretty Girls'. We've got everything crossed that they nail it.

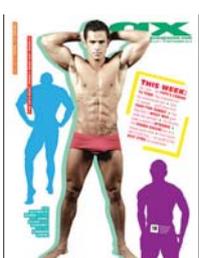


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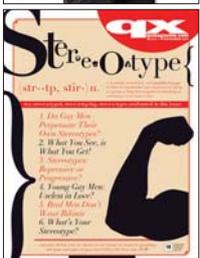
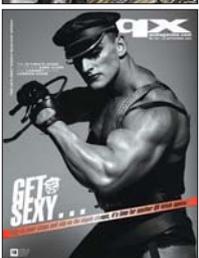
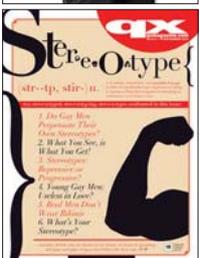
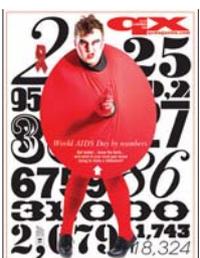
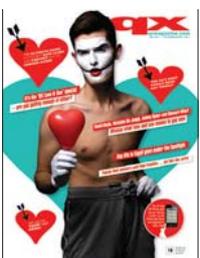
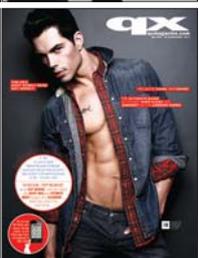
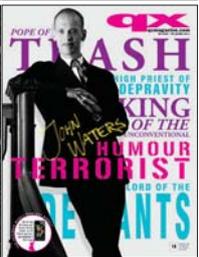
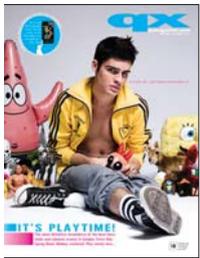
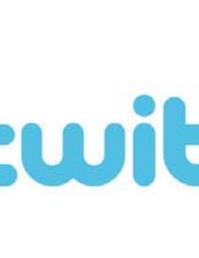
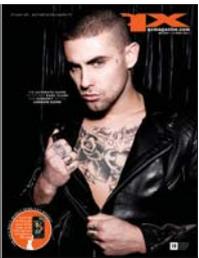
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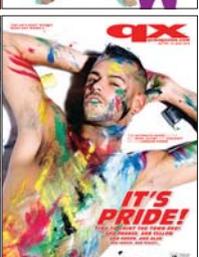


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9 April-
16 April

M U S T S & M A Y B E S

Ku Klub

Friday

THURSDAY 9TH APRIL
CLUBS & EVENTS**Let's Talk About Gay Sex & Drugs**

- Truth at Ku Bar Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 9:30pm. FREE. Ku Klub plays host to the gay men's discussion forum hosted by Pat Cash. This month speakers include prospective Lib Dem MP Adrian Trett.

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.

G-A-Y Porn Idol with guest judge Willam at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 10pm-5am.

Discount wristbands from G-A-Y Bar. London's biggest amateur strip night. Get yer kit off and win £100 tonight, or £1000 in the final. To enter email info@g-a-y.co.uk or text 07789 553 868. TONIGHT: Drag Race's Willam judges the junk on display!

Grunge at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-late. 90s theme pop and anthems night with alt. cabaret, messy drag queens and club kidz.

Create at the Shadow Lounge, 5 Brewer Street, Soho, W1F 0RF. 10pm-3am. £8, £10 with Gravity (afterhours) ticket.

Orange Group steps back into Soho with a new weekly venture bringing a selection of house DJs into this slick new space for a decidedly hot weekend warm-up.

Myra Dubois and the Spiders in Bras at the RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. Doors 7:30pm, show 8:30pm. Limited £11, £15 OTD. Myra DuBois and her four piece band are back with a concert of songs. Song that mean

something to her withered heart, songs about the human condition and songs she knows the words to.

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.

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 at Ku Bar Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 6pm-3am. FREE. Pop sounds and floor fillers.

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 paper!

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.

BARS & CABARET

VS at Circa, 62 Friith Street, Soho, W1. 4pm-4am. Munroe Bergdorf and Adam Turner get you warmed up for Room Service with some unrivalled Thursday night hotness!

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

Severino @
Dirty Disko

Saturday



weekly cabaret turn at the funky Clapham bar.

Hippodrome at Leicester Square, WC2H 7JH. 8pm. From £15. The legendary central London casino and cabaret venue. TONIGHT: Famestage presents... The Divas

Comptons of Soho 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.

The Black Cap at 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. 10pm-2am. Camden's party-popping and beat-bumping venue rocks the gay scene! TONIGHT: Audacity with DJ Silverhook

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.

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.

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

FRIDAY 10TH APRIL
CLUBS & EVENTS

Record Playerz + Papa Loko at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-3am. Free b4 11pm/£5 after.

The mysterious Othon brings transcendental techno and deep house to the laser basement, while upstairs HiFi Sean and DJ Hush resurrect Record Playerz to bring you digital stimulation.

G-A-Y Camp Attack at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 11pm-4am. FREE with wristband from G-A-Y Bar. Room 1 plays 70s, 80s, 90s, 00-05. Rm 2 is '05 to present day. Musical theme sing-along in Rm 3 and Life Before R&B (i.e. Rihanna & Beyonce) with classic R&B in Room 4.

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.

A:M at Protocol, 6a South Lambeth Place, SW8 1SP. 11pm-11am. £3 before 1am, £7 b4 6am with QX ADVERT/NUS/Conc, £12 others. The original Saturday morning afterhours beast that continues to light up the weekend early spinning out boomin' house beats across two rooms.

PDA at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 10pm-3am. £5. The extreme 4 way orgy comes to Stokey's basement of sin: Expect sweat and sexy surprises!

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.

George & Dragon at 2 Blackheath Hill, SE10. 8pm-4am. The friendly Greenwich local. DJ Tony Tim on the decks playing 80s and 90s camp until 4am.

The Black Cap, 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. 10pm-3am. £5 b4 midnight/£7 after. Camden's party-popping and beat-bumping

venue rocks the gay scene.
TONIGHT: Myra Dubois.

Eurofest at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 11pm-3am. £8. The ultimate Eurovision party returns, with schlager, Europop, past entries and of course, all the winners! Plus a preview vote.

Le Coq Discoteque at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-6am. £5 before midnight, £8 after. A mash-up of pop edits, disco, Italo, house classics, 90s anthems. TONIGHT: DJs Martyn Fitzgerald, Guy Williams, Jon Booth and Barry Linnen.

Fitladz 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).

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

The Hole at The Glory, 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. 5pm-2.30am. £3 after 10pm. With a pub vibe upstairs from 5pm, there's a queer basement disco downstairs from 10pm.

BARS & CABARET

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.

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: Ruggercub 1st Birthday party!

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

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.

BackCOUNTER at Counter, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1SR. 11am-late. Newcomer to the Vauxhall scene, BackCOUNTER serves cocktails and food in a relaxed, plush environment, with brunch from 11am-5pm and Lady Diamond in residence from 1-4pm.

The Velma Celli Show at Hippodrome at Leicester Square, WC2H 7JH. 8pm. From £10. The legendary central London casino and cabaret venue. TONIGHT: Velma Celli fires with both breast pads. Followed by Wam Bam Late.

Friday Night Live at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. 9pm-3am. The central London cabaret hot spot. TONIGHT: Special guest Martha D'Arthur

Kazbar at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-1am. Free. Funky Clapham bar with

stylish swish. TONIGHT: Kazbar Retro with all the best from the 70s/80s/90s.

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.

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

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.

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!

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

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.

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!

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.

SATURDAY 11TH APRIL

CLUBS & EVENTS

XXL 'Bear' at Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, Southwark, SE1 9UF. 10pm-7am. £15 guests, £8 members. Big, bear night that's open to anyone in vast super club Pulse. With resident DJs Christian M, Joe Egg and co. Plus, chill space and cruise zone. TONIGHT: Go back to basics with the bread and butter of this furry fiesta: BEARS!

Dish at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-6am. £7 b4 12am /£10 after. It's time to bid adios to Dish as the East London institution says farewell to East Bloc. DJs Borja Pena, Tom Stephan, Greggo After All, Taffkanik, Ray Noir and Samantha Togni serve up hot beats, while host La Pequena serves straight up sass.

G-A-Y presents The Only Way is G-A-Y 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: Be part of the new reality show being filmed for G-A-Y; try a blind date, audition for BGT and more!

Dirty Disko at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP.

VOGUE FABRICS THIS WEEKEND

Wednesday 8th April

Spoken Word: Open Mic night.
Free entry. 7.30pm

Friday 10th April

PDA: The extreme 4 way orgy
10pm-3am. £5

Saturday 11th April

Love is the Message: A Disco Celebration

Favourite floorfillers from labels such as Salsoul, West End, Prelude, Casablanca, Philadelphia, T.K, Rams Horn & Solar...
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FRI 10TH APRIL
10PM 'TIL 3AM
Camp As Hits

DJ CHRIS REARDON
IN THE CLUB BAR

SAT 11TH APRIL
DJ STEVE JAMES
IN THE CLUB BAR

SUN 12TH APRIL
9PM
TOPSIE REDFERN

MON 13TH APRIL
9PM
Karaoke
HOSTED BY
Chris Reardon

TUES 14TH APRIL
MISS JASON

THURS 7TH MAY
MONTHLY QUIZ
NIGHT WITH
SONNY
First Thursday of every month

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MON-THURS 12PM-2AM
FRI-SAT 12PM-3AM
SUN 12PM-1AM

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9pm-very late. FREE b4 10pm, £6 b4 midnight with QX ADVERT/£10 after. Vauxhall's full-throttle late night, industrial chic nightclub. TONIGHT: The naughtiest house party around packs it out, with DJs Severino and Juiceppe as your dance commanders for the night

Homoelectric at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-late. FREE before 10pm/£5 after. Crazy P frontwoman Danielle Moore joins the Manchester/London institution alongside residents Luke Unabomber and Jamie Bull. **Love is the Message: A Disco Celebration** at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 10pm-3am. £5. Neil Prince and friends bring you a selection of disco classics as well as few you might not know! Expect Chaka, Diana, Donna and more!

Savage at Metropolis Strip Club, 235 Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9NN. 11pm-5am. £5. A new weekly Saturday club night from the Sink The Pink crew. DJs on rotation Raf Daddy, Jonjo Jury, Josh You Are, Gaff-E, Severino and more at this bonkers venue.

London Bearfest 2015 Launch Party at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-4am. £8, £5 advance. DJ Silverhook from Hot Fuzz kicks off the festival of fur, alongside the Meat Boys, Doctor Woof and Kurt Bearfest himself.

Spring Urban World Ball at Scala 275 Pentonville Road, Kings cross, N1 9NL. 10pm-6am. £17. Some of the biggest names in world music are coming together a big spring blowout including Exilio, Bootylicious, Queer Nation and more!

The Shadow Lounge at Brewer Street, Soho, W1G 0RF. 9pm-3am. £10 entry, half-price with guestlist. Soho's sexy and slick club spot, digitally remastered and looking hot.

The Black Cap, 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. 9pm-3am. £5 b4 midnight/£7 after. Camden's party-popping and beat-bumping venue rocks the gay scene. TONIGHT: Holestars' POP!

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. **The Glory**, 281 Kingsland Road, Haggerston, E2 8AS. Doors 5pm, show 9pm, club 10pm. The new Faggerston super-pub from Jonny Woo and John Sizzle hosts cabaret on the ground floor and goes

clubby in the basement. **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. Bar: 8pm-3am. Club: 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.

George & Dragon at 2 Blackheath Hill, SE10. 8pm-4am. The friendly Greenwich local. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Sandra **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.

Beyond (afterhours) at Fire, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RT. 4.30am (Sunday morning)-late. £12 before 7am with ad/flyer/concession/NUS card. 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. £5. Sunday morning afterhours with DJs spinning fresh uplifting house music into Sunday morning.

Queer Vegan Disco at Kabaret, 4 Coburg Road, Wood Green N22 6UJ. 8pm-2am. £5. Enjoy pop, disco, alternative and indie dance courtesy of DJs Swagatha Fistie and friends, along with a 100% vegan bar!

BARS & CABARET

Shakatak at Hippodrome at Leicester Square, WC2H 7JH. 8pm. From £25. The legendary central London casino and cabaret venue. TONIGHT: Jazz funk band Shakatak

Saturday Market Slash Swap Shop & Xanadu at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon St, WC2N 4JF. Open 'til 3am. Rose Garden provides Saturday shopping light relief followed by DJ Justin Swift's camp disco Xanadu, 8pm-3am.

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

The Imperial Arms at 8 Lillie Road, SW6 1TU. From 7pm. Making West London queerer! Nye & Jimmy welcome all to their new venue in Fulham..

Ku Bar at Ku Bar Lisle Street,

Chinatown, WC2H 7BA. 8pm-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.

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!

Kazbar presents **Push Push** at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-1am. Free entry. Funky Clapham bar with stylish swish. TONIGHT: Glendora and Eduardo Herrera are giving you a push, push into the weekend!

Counter and **BackCOUNTER** South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1SR. 11am-late. Newcomer to the Vauxhall scene, Counter serves brunch 'til 5pm, with Lady Diamond in residence 1-4pm. Open 'til late for cocktails and food.

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.

Pick N Mix at The City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. 12pm-3am. Top tunes and late night fun at the legendary gay boozier near Marble Arch. TONIGHT: DJ Steve James.

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.

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

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.

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.

West 5 at South Ealing, Pope's Lane, W5 4NB. 7pm-3am. The popular West London club, bar and cabaret spot, with added Piano Lounge fun.

Circa at 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D

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SUNDAY
12 APRIL 2015

6PM TO MIDNIGHT AT THE HOIST
 THE HOIST, SOUTH LAMBETH RD, VAUXHALL, LONDON SW8
 CHANGING ROOM & COAT CHECK

www.gummi.org.uk

GUMMI

3JN. 4pm-4am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town. **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. **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 Maisie Trollette

**SUNDAY 12TH APRIL
CLUBS & EVENTS**

Beyond (afterhours) at Fire. 5.30am-late. See Saturday.
Unchill (afterhours) at Barcode 6am-late. See Saturday.
Later at Fire, 39 Parry Street, SW8 1RT. Midday-late. £10. Continue Beyond vibes into Sunday afternoon as Later funks it up.
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.
T-Dance: A Red Bull Music Academy Special at Shoreditch Town Hall 380 Old Street, EC1V 9LT, 2pm - 10pm. £15 advance via redbullmusicacademy.com/uktour Red Bull and rave impresarios Chapter Ten are coming together to throw an all-day T-Dance featuring Jonny Woo, John Sizzle and A Man to Pet, with live performances from Poisonous Relationship and rap artiste Zebra Katz.

T-Dance Afterparty at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland Road, N16 7XB. 9pm-2.30am. Free entry. The Chapter 10 boys continue their daytime tea dance/rave into the early hours with extra special guests
Sundays Social at the RVT at Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. 3pm-midnight. £6. All new afternoon/evening clubbing session slot playing huge dance anthems with cabaret from Charlie Hides TV 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.
Ku Klub Retro Sundays at Ku Bar Lisle Street at 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE. The Paddy's day party continues in Ku's basement club with classic 80s, 90s and 00s tracks from DJ Pablo and Lady Lloyd.
The Ugly House at The Glory, 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. 5-11pm. Free. John Sizzle and guests host a cult night of chilled out cabaret while guests relax after the weekend.
Orange at Fire, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RT. 11pm-8am. £7 before 1am with ad/flyer/concession/NUS card. The weekend ends here with funk-ed-up house sounds from the resident disc jocks.

BARS & CABARET

Halfway 2 Heaven at 7 Duncannon Street, Charing

Cross, WC2N 4JF. Open 'til 11pm. Long running popular Central London cabaret pub. TONIGHT: CK Sunday's Crystal D'Canter and Kelly Milde from 4pm, followed by An Evening with Mrs Moore and Tanya Hyde.

George & Dragon at 2 Blackheath Hill, SE10. 8pm-2am. FREE. The friendly Greenwich local. The Duchess hosts the weekly Piano Bar with Ian Parker on the keys.

Dusty O's Musical Menagerie at the New Bloomsbury Set, 76 Marchmont Street, WC1N 1AG. Doors 4pm, show 6pm. Well-known scene matriarch Dusty O hosts a sing-along around the piano with guest vocalists, singers and pianists at this charming basement bar.

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!

Counter and BackCOUNTER South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1SR. 11am-late. Brunch Off-Broadway from 1 'til 4pm, with Topsy Redfern singing Broadway hits. Open 'til late for cocktails and food.

The Black Cap at 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. 9pm-3am. The party-popping, cabaret campy and beat-bumping venue flies Camden's gay scene flag. TONIGHT: Virgin Extravaganza

The Imperial Arms at 8 Lillie Road, SW6 1TU. From 7pm. Making West London queerer! Nye & Jimmy welcome all to their new venue in Fulham.

The Roebuck at 84 Ashmole Street, SW8 1NE. New gay venue in the Oval area. Serving top Sunday Roast every week.

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

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 City of Quebec at 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. 12pm-1am. Legendary gay boozier near Marble Arch features weekly cabaret. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Topsy Redfern at 9pm.
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.

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 Herrera.

**MONDAY 13TH APRIL
CLUBS & EVENTS**

Poptorn 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.

Hot N Hairy vs Bear Hole at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. £5 incl. drink and coat check. The infamous Eagle London hosts a new night for cruisey bears and fuzzy blokes. Hosted by Dave the Bear and the hirsute Luis Busto. Dark room, play area and all-new Suckatorium.

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.

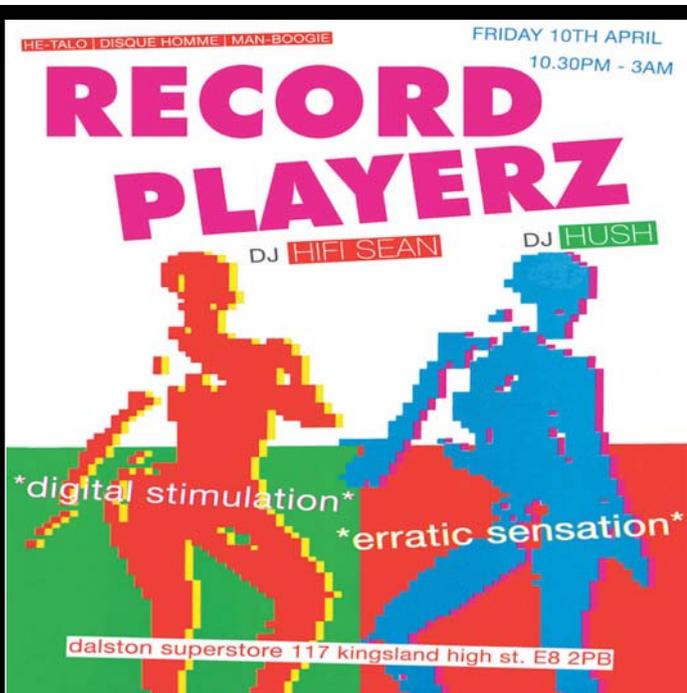
Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street, 30 Lisle Street, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE. DJs play the weekend out on a wave of hot pop.

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.

Desire (Tuesday morning) at Union, 66 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 1am-11am. Monday's guilty pleasure: a 10-hour house music marathon with scene favourites Alan K and Steven Geller.

BARS & CABARET

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



Comptons of Soho 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.

Backing The Stars at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon St. WC2. 7.30pm. Karaoke with singer Kevin Walsh on hosting duties.

Karaoke at The City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. From 9pm. Chris Reardon hosts the singing fun at the famous gay boozier in Marble Arch.

Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. The landmark south London cabaret, bar and club. TONIGHT: Mrs Moore's Monday Night Mayhem.

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

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

TUESDAY 14TH APRIL

CLUBS & EVENTS

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.

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.

BARS & CABARET

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.

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.

Bar Wotever at The RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 7pm-midnight. £5. Genderbending cabaret, live

music and performance at the monumental Vauxhall Tavern. **Miss Jason** 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 with cabaret from Miss Jason.

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.

WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL

CLUBS & EVENTS

XXL at Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, Southwark, SE1 9UF. 9pm-3am. £15 guests, £8 members. Midweek grizzly fun for bears and their admirers at the super-cool Pulse club.

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

Work! at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-late. The midweek RnB night returns to the 'Bloc for more urban anthems.

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.

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

BARS & CABARET

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

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

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 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.

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.

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

THURSDAY 16TH APRIL

CLUBS & EVENTS

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.

G-A-Y Porn Idol with guest judge Detox at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 10pm-5am.

Discount wristbands from G-A-Y Bar. London's biggest amateur strip night. Get yer kit off and win £100 tonight, or £1000 in the final. To enter email info@g-a-y.co.uk or text 07789 553 868. TONIGHT: Guest judge Detox.

Grunge at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-late. 90s theme pop and anthems night with alt. cabaret, messy drag queens and club kidz.

Create at the Shadow Lounge, 5 Brewer Street, Soho, W1F 0RF. 10pm-3am. £8, £10 with Gravity (afterhours) ticket. Orange Group

steps back into Soho with a new weekly venture bringing a selection of house DJs into this slick new space for a decidedly hot weekend warm-up.

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.

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 at Ku Bar Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 6pm-3am. FREE. Pop sounds and floor fillers.

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!

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.

BARS & CABARET

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!

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

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. DJ Tasty Tim plays the delicious tunes.

The Black Cap at 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. 10pm-2am. Camden's party-popping and beat-bumping venue rocks the gay scene!

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.

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.

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

Quiz Night at The City of Quebec at 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. 12pm-3am. The legendary pub holds its monthly quiz night with Sonny.

Get Your Rocks Off

Prepare to receive some carnal knowledge on what's smokin' hot on the scene this week...

THURSDAY 9TH APRIL

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, N1. 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, W1T 5EN. CRUISE (1-7pm. £7). STRIPPED (7pm-1am. £8). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get nude and rude. Strictly naked, except footwear.

FRIDAY 10TH APRIL

The Stable at 29 Endell Street, Covent Garden, WC2H 9BA. 11.30am-2am. £10 b4 1pm, £17 other times. FREE use of facilities when booking a massage. The only licensed gay sauna in the West End, open 'til super late every weekend.

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 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, N1. FETISHBOUND (7pm-midnight) 'Tie you up, tie them down' fetish night. Then, PAUNCHY (midnight-4am) The club for big bellied men and those that admire them.

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.

SATURDAY 11TH APRIL

Buff at MA1 Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 6pm-10pm. £8 members/£9 guests (free drink/coat check). Horny, naked cruise party. Heated outdoor 'naked' smokers terrace.

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.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1. PANTS (1-6pm, £4) Best undies for the boys. COLLARED (7pm-midnight) Friendly BDSM night.

The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. SBN Afterdark (Arch 1, 10pm-4am) where the dresscode is naked and there's a live sexshw courtesy of AlphaMale; HARDER (Bar Berlin, 10pm-4am) for dressy, macho, strict.

The Stable at 29 Endell Street, Covent Garden, WC2H 9BA. 11.30am-2am. £10 b4 1pm, £17 other times. FREE use of facilities when booking a massage.

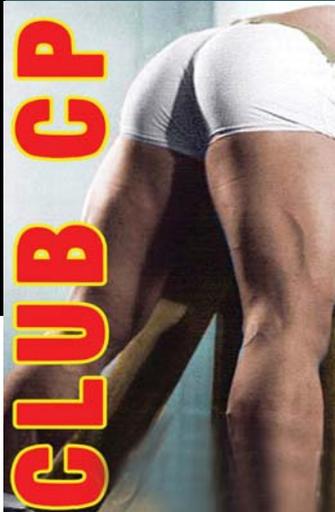
The only licensed gay sauna in the West End, open 'til super late every weekend.

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. 1pm-1am. £7 b4 7pm/£8 after. Free drink, cloakroom, re-entry. Dark corners, catch a dirty movie, indulge your carnal side.

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.

SUNDAY 12TH APRIL

Pleasuredrome at Arch 124 Cornwall Road,



14/04/2015 Club CP

Head to Bunker Bar for a spankingly good time! Play in their dark, naughty areas, watch boys get slap-happy in the video room and even have yourself a drink at the bar. Paddles are provided (among other implements) so just make sure your bum is ready for the bashing it's likely to receive. Take the QX advert along with you for **£4 entry** before 7.30pm!

The Bunker Bar, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 7pm-11pm. £4 before 7:30pm with QX advert, £6 others.

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.

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. Regular S.E.X. (10pm-1am) All fetish club. Finish the weekend with a bang!

Vault: Underwear/Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. UNDERWEAR (1-7pm. £7). CRUISE (7pm-1am. £8). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Just pants b4 7pm, then cruise 'til late.

S.O.P. at The Underground Club, Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1. 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.

MONDAY 13TH APRIL

Vault: Cruise/Stripped at Vault, 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. CRUISE (1-7pm. £7). STRIPPED (7pm-1am. £8). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Horny cruise session first before naked time (except footwear).

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1. 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 guyz.

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).

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!

Hot N Hairy vs Bear Hole at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. £5 incl. drink and coat check. Cruising for bears and fuzzy blokes. Hosted by Dave the Bear and the hirsute Luis Busto. Dark room, play area and all-new Suckatorium.

TUESDAY 14TH APRIL

Underwear/Naked at Ted's Place, 305s North End Rd, W14. 7pm-midnight. £4. Strictly underwear only.

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 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.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1. S.O.P. (6pm-1am) Yellow fun for waterworks fans.

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 15TH APRIL

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.

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, N1. SWEET WEDNESDAY (1-9pm) for trans girls and their admirers; HARD CRUZ (10pm-1am), hard cruising for hard men.

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.

Vault: Cruise/Underwear at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. CRUISE (1-7pm. £7) Then UNDERWEAR (7pm-1am. £8) Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get down to your underwear.

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Do you have an emotional or health worry? Contact Dr Alex via email: editorial@qxmagazine.com

Hi Dr Alex,

I am 40 years old and in the last year, occasionally during a bowel movement and especially if I push hard, I weirdly get some semen coming out with my poo. I don't get any kind of sexual thrill from it. I haven't been as sexually active as I have been in the past and so thought this might be some way for my body to release built up semen. But then last week I had some lumpy semen come out of my dick just after I opened my bowels. That has really freaked me out. I was pretty constipated (protein!) and so I was straining again but I'm nervous I have something seriously wrong with my prostate. JJ

Hi JJ,

As weird as it may seem to you quite a lot of guys have experienced the same thing. Your prostate gland (usually about the size of a walnut) is at the base of your penis and makes some of the fluid part of your semen.

Sometimes with straining or passing large or hard stool, pressure on the prostate can cause release of this fluid either into the bowel or into the urethra

and so out through your dick.

However, you do need to get checked out as it could be that you have an infection in your prostate that has made it swell. With an infection you usually also have a fever, pain in the lower back and between the legs. It also usually makes you want to pee more or cause you to have to rush to the loo.

Another possibility is that your prostate is slightly enlarged.

There is a condition called benign prostatic hyperplasia, or BPH, where the prostate is enlarged, but it is not cancerous. Over time, an enlarged prostate may press against the urethra, making it hard to urinate. It may cause dribbling after you urinate or a need to urinate often, especially at night.

So I suggest you go and see your GP or even your local sexual

and bladder. If you are found to have an enlarged prostate there are lots of treatments that can help such as various medicines that can help to shrink the size of the prostate.

At 40 you would be young to get BPH. It can occur in younger men who have used a lot of steroids. Many steroid users notice an enlarging of their prostate when on a cycle,

"I suggest you go and see your GP or even your local sexual health clinic to get these two possibilities ruled out."

health clinic to get these two possibilities ruled out. You will need to have some simple urine tests and your doctor will do a rectal exam to check out the size of your prostate. You may need to have special x-rays or scans to check your urethra, prostate,

making it slightly more difficult to pee. Things usually settle down once then stop using them. But if you have been cycling for years then the prostate can remain enlarged. This may have nothing to do with you JJ, but I mention it just in case it's relevant.

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