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qx

No 1061 09 July 2015

Who you are



18

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of 18 years and over



The Stigma of Sex Work



Fuelled by ignorance, cliché and intolerance, male sex work is still drenched in stigma. Chris Godfrey talks to escorts about the trite stereotypes they face and the impact stigma has on their mental and physical health.

Even in liberal, freethinking London, the male sex worker is still heavily stigmatised. Ignorance, prejudice and hackneyed media narratives have left escorts battling against heavily exaggerated caricatures: the disease-ridden, mentally unstable victim, in the middle of a meph-induced comedown, the impoverished sex-addict on his way to a BDSM gangbang.

Certain aspects of these parodies may be true for some male sex workers (drug usage, for example, is becoming more of an issue as chemsex grows in popularity), but for others the reality is far more 'vanilla'. Regardless, all have to live under the lingering stigma that's perpetuated by such aggressive stereotyping, one that has huge consequences for physical health, mental well-being and future opportunities.

"I think that media over the years has really painted a picture of sex work and how nasty a lot of it can be," says Paul Doyle, the addiction liaison at the Terrance Higgins Trust's SWISH Project, which supports those working in the sex industry. After leaving sex work, Doyle qualified as a drug and

alcohol therapist and now works with those in the industry looking for help overcoming their addictions.

"I think we've heard so much about trafficking and the abuse of sex workers over the years, but actually we don't really see anything like that within the LGBT community," he continues. "And the stigma from the gay male population towards sex work is still extremely negative. A lot of that is more down to people not understanding the type of work that it really is."

Despite the name, sex work isn't necessarily sexual: many escorts are contacted for platonic companionship, for attending events, dinner dates, sometimes even just to chat. General ignorance though means many view



escorting almost exclusively through a sexual lens, and often as something unclean and taboo.

"It's either vile disgusting sex worker or the victim. But I had a lot of positive experiences as a sex worker," says Oliver*, now retired from escorting. Though he's made a successful career working as a film director, the stigma associated with having once been an escort is so strong he insists on using a fake name. And while he's aware of the damage stigma has on those still in the industry, even he can't rid himself entirely of judgement.

"I went in by choice; it wasn't in anyway to feed an addiction or anything like that," says Oliver. "I wanted to save up a deposit to buy a place, which I achieved, and that's why I wanted to do sex work. No one should be afraid to admit they're a sex worker, but on the other hand I always think

I'm being hypocritical: if I had a child I would not want to know that they're engaged in a life as a sex worker."

You need only look at the impact stigma still has on HIV positive people to see how damaging it can be: prejudice, reinforced social inequality and discrimination are just few of the issues many still face. But while it's now widely recognised that we need to banish the stigma around HIV, any meaningful work to erase the stereotypes that pervade male sex work has yet to start. As it stands, even the client is a victim of stigma, usually mocked or branded as a dirty old man.





"People tend to concentrate on sex workers and think it's all about sex," says Oliver. "No. The clients I saw they either got married in a time where it was illegal to be gay, or they're discovering their sexuality, or they'd either had an operation, been ill, living with the HIV virus and too scared to go out there because of the stigma that surrounds HIV. So they felt safe."

The rise of chemsex has meant the number of people willing to have sex for drugs has increased. Many of those engaging in this don't realise it's also classified as sex work - a mark of how easy it is to unconsciously enter the industry. But though chemsex is becoming a more common request of escorts, the stigma surrounding drugs also contributes to people's egregious assumptions.

"We all have our morals or whatever and they see that as a moral," says Steve*, who, like Oliver, has now moved on from escorting. "There are a lot of people that would go: 'ok sure we've all done things, we've all got skeletons in the cupboard,' and move on. But there are a lot of people that would think, 'sex workers: they're gonna stab me, they're into drugs.' It's all in the subconscious. Oh, he's had a lot of sex with men, he's probably got AIDS or something wrong with him."

Portraying the male sex worker as the victim is one of the more common narratives pedalled by the media. But while there are those who enter the industry as a last resort or through coercion, maybe even to fuel an addiction, for many others it's a conscious decision and not something they regret.

"I don't see myself as a victim, I've ended up doing it because of circumstance, but I'm not doing it for necessity, I'm choosing to do it," says Gabriel*, 29, who's been escorting for much of his twenties. "I do really quite well from it: I travel quite well with it, I travel to a lot of clients, I primarily stay in London but I have a really nice cache of clients and at the moment I'm doing it out of choice and not necessity."

As well as a detrimental impact to an escort's mental health, stigma can also have a physical impact. The nature of the work means regular sexual health screening is imperative, but a shortage of non-judgemental services, those which are trained to understand the nature of sex work, means many shirk getting tested to avoid the probing questions and sanctimonious attitudes they come with.

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"If you go to a normal clinic it's kind of a thing of they start asking about sexual partners and how many have you had in the last few months, and it's like 'I have no idea', it doesn't tend to be something I try and think about to be perfectly honest," says Gabriel.

The stigma of sex work also presents a significant hurdle to those looking to move out of the industry. There are those who use sex work to supplement their income, but for others it's a fulltime occupation. When the time comes to explore new opportunities, listing sex work on a CV will likely negate any chances of a callback. As Oliver jokingly puts it: "they wouldn't be keen to know one was fisting for money." The alternative - omission - leaves interviewees struggling to explain lengthy 'career gaps' to prospective employers.

"When I talk to my clients a lot of them will be saying to me their job is almost like being a social worker or a counsellor," says SWISH's Paul Doyle. "That's why when we look at sex workers leaving the industry...a lot of them will look at going into the care industry, animal care or counselling, possibly drug work."

As rare oasis of understanding for escorts, the SWISH project has helped many escorts move on from the industry, whether it's fitness related roles, like personal fitness instructors and masseurs, or care-orientated professions. But for many of the more established escorts the idea of leaving altogether is non-starter, regardless of the persistency of stigma.

"It is much more difficult than people would necessarily expect to move on from once you've been doing it for a while," says Gabriel. "It's something that I've toyed with and tried to do every now and again but I've found it very difficult to transition out of escorting. Money, lifestyle, it's difficult to go back to working for someone else which is quite a big thing. It's not something I'm ready to commit to yet."



Survival of the Bravest



MALE RAPE.
VICTIMS SUFFER.
SURVIVORS SPEAK.

SURVIVORSUK
male rape and sexual abuse

Survivors UK is the only male-centric service offering help, counselling and therapeutic services to survivors of male rape and sexual abuse. Its funding has recently come under threat. Patrick Cash speaks to those who use the service to find out how vital the charity's work is in helping all men deal with abuse.

Michael

My father sexually abused me at around nine years old.

When I moved down to London I found some information about Survivors UK and their services. The fact that it's an organisation focused only on male survivors is helpful to men looking for help; there's still more social recognition of women and girls as victims of sexual abuse, and so men can sometimes think that they need to cope with abuse on their own.

I got some help with a Survivors UK counsellor - just the chance to talk to someone who you know is going to understand and appreciate that boys and men can be victims of sexual abuse, and the impact this can have, is very helpful, often after years of trying to cope on your own.

In one sense recovery never stops, but even a few months of counselling and support can make a massive difference to your life. You no longer feel like you're the only man it's happened to, and the way that abuse has impacted on you is quite common and shared by other survivors.

There's still a view that men (or boys) can't really be victims - why didn't they fight it? - and it's still difficult for many men to admit 'weakness', that they might be struggling to cope with earlier experiences, or that they might need help. Hopefully that's changing though.

I would say to anybody else in my situation: you can get help and you can feel better.

Ben

I was 36 when I was raped. I didn't know my attacker, and I don't know if they were straight, gay, or bi.

I was attacked just before Christmas 2007. That Christmas didn't really happen for me, I was dealing with the immediate consequences of the rape, and I was on PEP, which made me quite ill. The following Christmases became really painful. Most of the time I'd just drink my way through to the New Year. In Christmas 2011, four years after the attack, it wasn't getting any better.

One day I just walked out of work and carried on walking. I ended up half way across London, sat in Bishops Square watching everyone getting ready for Christmas, going drinking, with people they loved, laughing and enjoying life, and I sat there, crying. I'd never felt so alone in my life.

I wanted it all to end. I didn't want to have to face another Christmas re-living what had happened, facing up to the guilt, shame, and solitude. I couldn't face work, I couldn't face people, and I couldn't even face drinking it away because I knew it was just destructive and that made me hate myself even more. I didn't go back to work that year, I plastered on the fake smile I carried everywhere with me, and made some excuse up as to why I needed time away.

I'd found SurvivorsUK's website, and finally called them.

Immediately I felt that someone was listening to me, but more importantly that they understood what was going on for me. I knew that they provided both personal and group therapy. I originally wanted group therapy as I wanted to hear someone else tell a similar story, I wanted to know that I wasn't the only person this had happened to.

I was asked to come in for an assessment, and because of my particular circumstances they thought I was more suited to personal therapy. I was in luck, as a therapist had an opening a couple of weeks later, and that's where the eighteen months of therapy started. The weekly counselling I received helped me rationalise what had happened, the guilt I felt, the anger that had been boiling inside me, and work through it to a point where I felt self sufficient and was able to say I didn't need to see my counsellor anymore.

Michael May, senior manager at Survivors UK

Survivors UK was set up in 1986 by two men who worked on the Lesbian and Gay Switchboard and received a number of calls from men who had experienced rape or sexual abuse and had nowhere to turn. The service started as a telephone helpline run from the spare bedrooms of their flats. In 1999 they got some funding to start delivering group support and from that, the direct services of Survivors UK were born.

Since then the service has grown to include face-to-face counselling for up to 2 years (with up to 55 clients being seen at any time) and weekly group therapy. We recently transformed our telephone helpline to a digital one using web and text chat to ensure that the service could be free to anyone with an internet connection and to try to reach a younger service user group.

The new helpline services are being funded by the Ministry of Justice and are available for 72 hours per week, more than any other sexual violence support nationally. We get around 180 referrals for counselling and group work per year and take between

70 to 100 men into the service. We are the only male specialists counselling services for male victims of sexual abuse in London.

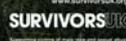
We are reluctant to talk about sexual abuse and men as a society because men hold a certain place in our thinking - we rely on them to do hard jobs and to anchor our thoughts about the masculine. Rape and sexual abuse are by definition acts in which a person is robbed of their power so to see men as powerless is a threat to our own security and safety.

We are the only male specialists counselling services for male victims of sexual abuse in London

REAL MEN GET RAPED



AND TALKING ABOUT IT TAKES REAL STRENGTH



You can reach Survivors UK via their website or by calling 0203 598 3898

And if you would like to help Survivors UK and their valuable work in any way, then visit: www.survivors.org.uk/get-involved/

The Home Office Crime Reports estimates there are 2 million adult male survivors of sexual violation in the UK. Survivors UK currently assesses more than 150 people per year for counselling services for counselling services and receives more than 2500 calls to their helplines.

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Juju and me

The sweetest treat of all the Drag Race alum is **Jujubee**, and she's landing in London to cast judgment on the eye candy on display at G-A-Y Porn Idol next week. **Dylan Jones** caught up with her for a taste of what's in store...

Hello Jujubee. It's lovely to talk to you!

Aaw thankyou so much that's so sweet! I'm so excited to come back to London.

You came before didn't you and performed with Meth?

Oh my god I LOVE Meth! Wait, that could totally be taken out of context. You could totally use that as a quote. "Oh my god I, like, LOVE meth."

I've got you on tape saying it too!

[SCREAMS] NO!

So did you have fun when you were here then?

Oh my gosh, I had a great time. The queens there are so nice. And so talented. It's a different side to drag.

Yeah, how does it compare to the US?

Well, this is what I've noticed. Even within the US there are differences. There's culture in drag...like there are different subcultures within the culture of drag itself. But the girls in London just do what they want to do! And a lot of them perform live! And I think that's so awesome! Because performing live is one of the hardest things to do. It's so vulnerable.

Yes I think maybe there's more singing and less lip-syncing.

Totally! And it's also more diverse as far as looks go. I hate to admit this but drag is very superficial, from head to toe. We have to dig very deep to find the person behind the character, because everybody's a character.

So congratulations are in order... equal marriage in America!

Amazing!

Yes! Finally, right?! It's so amazing. When it happened I was in Seattle for Pride, and it was just magical. People were happy and everyone was smiling. I also got to spend a little time in San Francisco with Raven and everything there was just so bright. It was basically like there was a huge rainbow that nobody else could see but the gays!

Oh my god so speaking of Raven... you guys' lip-sync battle in All Stars was so heartbreaking.

[Laughs] It was such a rollercoaster ride, that whole thing.

Was it surreal going back for All Stars after season two?

I can't speak for everybody else, but I know first-hand, and as far as Raven goes, we talked about it all the time. We were like "Whoa man!" (we call each other "man" and "dude" by the way, just because it's funny). But yeah we were like, "whoa man, we've had all this time to experience life after Drag Race and now we're back!" Because coming from season

two, we had more time to expand our knowledge with the business and the art of drag. For me, drag is something you can never perfect. You can always keep setting the bar. And to get on Drag Race All Stars that quickly...I was like WHOA, we're here, we're competing AGAIN. Now in teams! Which was crazy and drove me insane!

I wasn't very happy when they announced that that was how it was going down...

Yeah. Because you KNEW, if there were teams, there were less episodes! I was like "GIRL, I've bought all this shit, and I can't wear it all?!"

I love that clip of you stealing Raven's ring in Drag U! "It's mine now bitch!"

I think I still have that ring somewhere [cackles]

Whose actually was it?

It was hers. BUT IT'S MINE NOW BITCH!

Do you guys still hang out a lot?

Yeah we're seeing each other this weekend! We're gonna spend July 5th together because I'm working on the 4th. We're gonna do the good old American thing and eat hamburgers and hotdogs!

I'm actually going to a 4th July party!

Oh you're having a little American party?!

Yes! And a drag queen is singing!

Oh my god, if she sings the American National Anthem, tell her it HAS to be the Whitney Houston version, live from the Superbowl in the eighties. It HAS to be that one.

You're judging Porn Idol at G-A-Y! Have you been before?

I've never actually been! I'm really looking forward to it, I hear it's huge! I just can't believe I'm finally getting paid to judge something. I usually do it for free. I'm very judgemental.

So thanks so much for talking

Juju. Just one final question...what advice would you give a baby queen starting out in this beautiful new age of pride and equality?

Know exactly who you are as a performer and why you're doing drag. Whether it's for fame, or for the art. One will win over the other. If a queen is worried about being well known, then she's probably not doing it for the right reasons. So know what you're doing and know why you love it.

That could apply to a lot of things!

Yeah! It could apply to drag and it could apply to life.



**Jujubee is judging G-A-Y Porn Idol @ Heaven
(Under the Arches, Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 6NG) on Thursday
16th July, 10:30pm-5am. Free entry wristbands available at G-A-Y Bar**

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Hackney's Midnight Curfew Threatens Bars

Hackney Council's proposed 12am license cut-off for new bars and nightclubs has been derided as "anti-youth and anti-fun" by owners of some of the borough's most popular venues. The proposals will prevent new venues from serving alcohol past 11pm Sunday to Thursday and past 12am on Fridays and Saturdays.

Critics of the new licensing proposals say the rules will cause the council's night-time economy to stagnate, as well as stifle young entrepreneurs. While there will be exceptions to any new rules, awarded on a venue's 'merit', this will likely only mean one or two new sites a year have the later licenses.

Steve Ball, CEO of The Columbo Group, which operates (among others) The Cat and Mutton on Broadway Market and The Nest in Dalston, told the Hackney Citizen that the policy did not fit with a 24-hour city. "No new bars being allowed will remove from young entrepreneurs the opportunity to do things better than the old guard," he said. "It is important that the next generation has access to the same opportunities."



Between The Sheets: An Intimate Cabaret

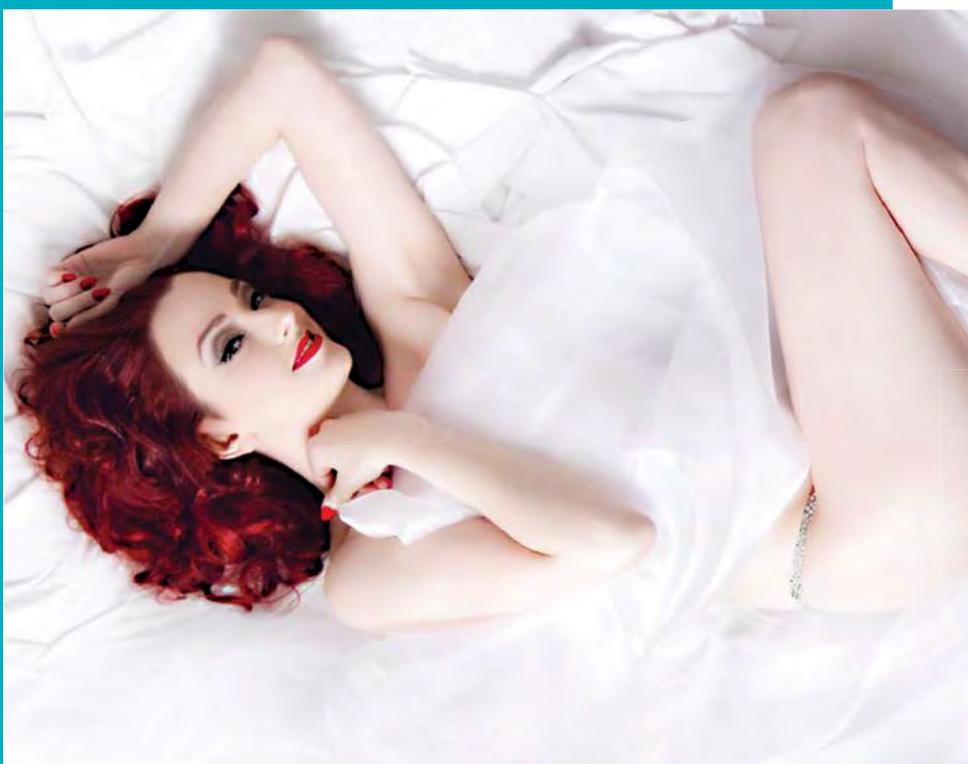
July 16th & 30th, September 9th & 17th,
9.30pm, £18.50 - £23.50

London Wonderground, Southbank Centre,
London, SE1 8XX

www.londonwonderground.co.uk/whats-on/between-the-sheets-an-intimate-cabaret1

Burlesque superstar Miss Polly Rae returns to London Wonderground with her critically acclaimed raunchy rendezvous, 'Between The Sheets'. Billed as a hilarious and visually stunning Intimate Cabaret, it will offer a dynamic mix of song, dance, comedy, circus and glorious innuendo, not to mention an up close and personal evening inside Miss Rae's private chamber. Miss Rae will be

accompanied by an all-star line-up including London Cabaret Award 'Best Burlesque' Winner Kitty Bang Bang, 'La Soiree' sensation Stephen Williams, Madame De Voila and Phil Ingud. With brand new material created especially for London Wonderground, 'Between the Sheets' will not only deliver traditional burlesque, classic cabaret, music and comedy but also explore the darker, more erotic, sensual side of striptease



London Tanning & Beauty

Get tanned for those Brighton Babes and Sitges Bitches with London Tanning and Beauty! No more feeling like the Nicola Roberts of the group when you're with your beautiful olive-skinned mates strewn on the grass at the Hampstead Heath Men's Ponds. You can be tanned for GODS. In fact better than the gods. Like, Hercules WISHES.

The slick, modern guys at London Tanning & Beauty have a host of offers available including UV Tanning and Spray Tanning. Also we haven't been in yet, but we're imaging everyone who works there is beautiful and bronzed and muscular. Like Jennifer Lopez backing dancers. Or, well, like Jennifer Lopez.

The Tanning Shop, 136 Wigmore St, W1U 3SF
www.londontanningandbeauty.co.uk



Liverpool Pride

Due to the charity's financial constraints, Liverpool Pride has announced details of a revised format of the event for 2015, taking it back to its first principles around inclusivity and equality with free events for the LGBT community.

Changes to the event mean that there will be no event at the Pier Head as first announced, or road closures at the Stanley Street Quarter. There will no outdoor alcohol drinking zones.

However, event highlight the Pride March will go ahead making its way from St George's Hall through the city centre, and the Michael Causer Vigil will remain key parts of the event. A programme of activities will also take place across the city, including market, education and community zone, workshops, guest speakers, acoustic music, a mobile cinema, and a family zone.

Established in 2010, Liverpool Pride is a charity run entirely by volunteers. This year the organising charity has faced difficulties in attracting additional sponsors to help fund the format that attendees have come to expect

in recent years, due to the current economic climate and escalating event costs.

Despite the changes, the Pride team is keen to stress that an event will go ahead for the sixth consecutive year but in a new scaled down format for 2015 while they go through a transitional year.

Liverpool Pride is one of the city's most popular, visual and flamboyant events in the calendar. It attracts thousands of colourful characters in creative costumes, as well as families, who take to the streets to support the Pride cause.

This year's theme, as voted for by the public, is Love Is No Crime – and attendees are encouraged to take part in the programme dressed in their most wild and wonderful interpretations of the theme.

Saturday 1st August, 12pm, Free
St. Georges Hall, St Georges Plateau, Liverpool, L1 1JJ
www.liverpoolpride.co.uk



Metro

Metro has launched a new HIV prevention scheme working with London's gay Latino communities. UK Latino men who have sex with men (MSM) are around twice as likely to be HIV positive than the general MSM population, but there is very little understanding of the HIV prevention needs of this community.

A recent report by Guy's and St Thomas' describes the Latino MSM community as invisible and with specific vulnerabilities and needs. More work must be done to understand the cultural factors influencing the sexual health of these communities in London.

"There are so many intricate facets - faith, race, discrimination, immigration and social networks - that we are really interested in exploring with London's Latino MSM communities," says Dr Greg Ussher, CEO at Metro. "The project will take a novel peer-led approach, empowering Latino MSM to have a voice in shaping effective HIV prevention interventions for the future."

www.metrocentreonline.org



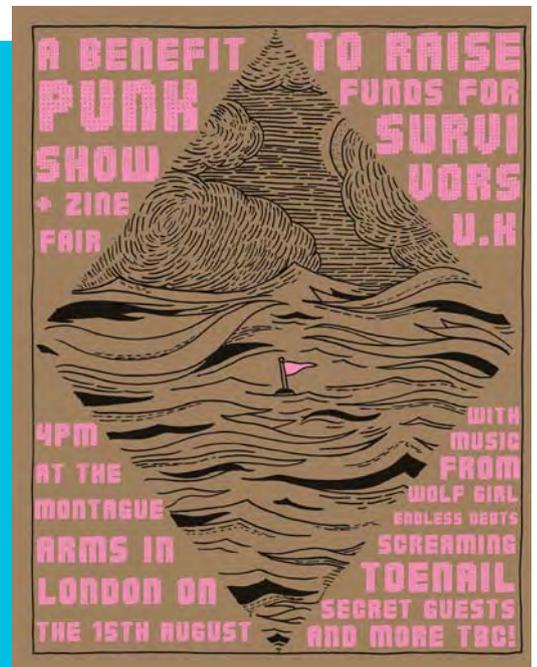
Survivors UK Benefit Punk Show

Peckham's Montague Arms will be hosting a benefit punk show to help raise funds for Survivors UK, one of the UK's only support and counselling service for men who have been raped or sexually abused. The charity's government funding has recently come under threat, leaving it in a precarious position and possibly facing closure. The Punk Show may not be able to raise the £70,000 necessary to keep it going, but organisers hope the event will help raise awareness to the dire situation.

"I'm invested in the continuation of Survivors UK because I am a male rape survivor," says Jack William, one of the events organisers. "I'm currently receiving counselling weekly from them, and if they close in September due to lack of funding, my mental health is going to take a serious hit. I'm genuinely scared they'll close because I won't know what to do. Organising the benefit show is something I need to do - I need to feel like I'm trying to save this vital part of my support network."

Featuring Screaming Toenail, Wolf Girl, Endless Debts and more, the music will start at 6pm, with the show running from 4pm until 1am.

Saturday 15th August 2015, 4pm-1am
The Montague Arms, 289 Queen's Rd, London SE14 2PA
www.facebook.com/events/499879050164098/



Into The Woods

What's so bad about cruising? What's so GOOD about cruising? **Dylan Jones** has his first foray into the foliage on Hampstead Heath to see what all the fuss is about.



godforsaken island, sex outside is impractical. Chapped bum. Sand in your jockstrap. A seagull stealing your lube.

In terms of the law, it's a grey area. Outdoor sex is not explicitly illegal. But there could be charges depending on context. For instance a quick fumble in the bushes after dark is a bit different to bumming someone doggystyle in broad daylight in the middle of Vauxhall Bus Station (which has probably actually happened before).

Still, many see it as risky. You're putting yourself at the mercy of someone you don't know, making yourself very vulnerable and exposed to someone you literally met two seconds ago. But then, that's not THAT different to a one-night-stand is it? I bet some people who look down snootily at the laissez-faire attitude of cruising have a few one-night-stand horror stories.

It's also a generational thing. My peers in their twenties mostly dismiss it as sleazy and unnecessary, and if they do want casual sex, turn to Grindr and even saunas. But 30 or 40 years ago, cruising may have been the only way for some gay men to meet each other.

So I decided to go along and check it out, and see if it deserved all the bad press it got. I had a fresh perspective as someone who'd never been before, and plus, it was a nice day! So why not!

One of my friends, a rare breed of twentysomething homosexual who DOES enjoy cruising, gave me a bit of a briefing. "Usually people are respectful if you rebut them," he said. "So you don't need to worry about that. If you say 'no' to someone or give the impression you're not into them, they'll usually back down nicely. And even if they didn't, there are always enough people around that you'd probably be safe if you screamed."

This rather matter-of-fact summing up of cruising etiquette probably contradicts the no-holds-barred writhing wood orgies people imagine (sorry guys, that's not how it goes down).

It was a sunny evening on Hampstead Heath and, fuelled by half a bottle of wine with a friend at King William IV, I put on my sunglasses and sauntered towards the Heath, feeling very NAUGHTY, but in a gleeful, cheeky way, like a child who'd stolen a sweet.

I felt like I couldn't wax lyrical on the whole cruising experience until I'd had THE. WHOLE. CRUISING. EXPERIENCE.

Cruising gets a bad rep. It had all that not-so-classy press when George Michael was caught with his pants down and since then it's been booted down there with graffitiing, skateboarding and cottaging as ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR. Personally, I think graffiti is art, skateboarders are hot, and cottaging is retro.

In case you don't know (though the fact that you're reading this magazine means you probably do) cruising involves two or more gay men partaking in a sexual act in a public place. You meet at renowned cruising hotspots, make eye contact with a handsome stranger and then cruise on over to them (hence, 'cruising').

There are also cruising bars, but it most commonly takes place outside. It's surprising how popular it is in the UK really. Apart from anything else, on our little windswept,

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The cruising area is an acre or so of bushes near the historic Pergola and Hill Gardens. I'd brought a book with me for armour, I was wearing tight-fitting shorts, and I was feeling good. I could already spot a couple of guys amongst the foliage in the near-distance. Not lurking exactly, but certainly hovering. A North London yummy mummy ushered her daughter hurriedly along the path, snatching furtive looks at me. "I'm not a murderer! I'm just going for a shag in the woods!" is what I SHOULD have said instead of looking down at my shoes.

I sat on a log for a while, feeling faintly ridiculous. I smoked a cigarette. A couple of guys materialised and ambled by, stealing very obvious and very leading glances. Neither were my type so I concentrated very hard on my cigarette and didn't return so much as

a smile. Which seems mean, but I felt even decent everyday manners could have confused things and accidentally invited an advance where one wasn't desired.

Eventually though, I found someone I liked. It all happened surprisingly quickly, and was surprisingly direct, though I shouldn't have been surprised because that's part of the point of cruising. He was a South African guy who we'll call Brett. He had lovely tanned muscular legs, sandy brown hair, a reasonably fit physique...a little older than me, mid thirties at most to my 23. He was also a little shorter than me, but you can't have it all can you? It wasn't like we were at The Ivy. You don't accidentally put out your cigarette on a woodlouse in The Ivy.

His first words to me were, and I shit you not, "do you come here often?" But luckily there was an ironic glint in his eye, and I can't resist ANYTHING said in a gruff South African accent, no matter how brainless. We talked for approximately five

minutes, long enough to exchange names and that "which area do you live in and oh isn't the tube awful" conversation that is exclusive to London. Then he led me into the woods.

Without going into massive detail, I just went for it. I felt like I couldn't wax lyrical on the whole cruising experience until I'd had THE. WHOLE. CRUISING. EXPERIENCE. Twice. South Africans know their way around a tree trunk, let's just put it that way. And I learned that kneeling on dry leaves gets a bit uncomfortable after the first five minutes.

We said our goodbyes and parted ways and that was that. Some people might find that a bit cold, but I thought it was refreshing in a way. No pissing about with drinks or whether Rihanna's better than Nicki Minaj. Just straightforward physical contact, in nature, under the sky, as god intended it.

So there were are. Cruising is not as shady and sleazy and bestial as everyone thinks. At least not in my experience. I would go as far as to say my evening on the Heath was rather civilised. So don't necessarily dismiss it, and certainly don't shame people who do it. Give it a whirl, you never, know, you might have fun! That said, I shan't be doing it again. It's just not particularly my thing. Not for any moral or social reason, it's just all a bit uncomfortable. I like a nice soft bed and a Keith Haring print or two.

HOXTON WHORES



Hi boys! Sum yourselves up for us then. What are the Hoxton Whores all about?

After several years of experience in the game now we can safely say the Hoxton Whores are definitely about the music. It has to be right and what we love, if we leave the studio buzzing we know we're potentially on a winner, similar to when you're spinning in a club and the crowds response is electric...is there any better feeling? Secondly it's about creating an immense atmosphere in the club and making sure you're connecting with the crowd, we don't wanna see those feet heading to the bar! Finally, we have to be enjoying ourselves as we all know work becomes a whole lot easier when you love doing it!

Is there a story behind your name? We've all met a few Hoxton whores...

Nothing amazing other than that our record company used to be based in Hoxton, with many a street corner accompanied by the ladies of the night, so it was just a play on that scenario!

You're based in London right? Does it influence your sound?

I wouldn't say majorly, although London has always been at the forefront of house music, but as music is so global these days the influences can come from further afield and from many different styles.

What's your song of the summer so far?

There are plenty of amazing tunes out there these days and it becomes a hard question, as different clubs we play at require slightly different sounds but one that currently always seems to go down big is "Shane K - Jack'd" which on first hearing we immediately signed to our Whore House label!

What's the best DJ gig you've ever done?

We've done some cracking gigs over the years to some amazing crowds but the one that most sticks in my mind was our very first gig in Brazil. To set the scene...we arrived in Rio after a three hour drive, stopped at a port and were collected by the last Sunseeker. As we travelled out to sea it was pitch black and after a few minutes you could see tiny flashing lights, as we got closer you could hear the kick drum. We arrived on this private island, where the owner had built a 3000 capacity club amongst the rocks and beach and we played from 3am until 6am with the sun rising at 5:30am...simply bliss!!

You've DJ'd on the gay scene a lot, do you think it's changed in the last few years?

For us the gay scene has always been about great crowds and great atmospheres, the crowd generally are always up for the music and letting their hair down, it's never pretentious and we've always got fantastic reactions. So from our point of view it's still a very enjoyable experience with no dramatic changes other than the crowd gets younger (or is that us getting older?) and different venues becoming en vogue.

What are you proud of?

How well the Hoxton Whores has done from something that started as fun, to now be something so big in our lives and, of course, I have two gorgeous children so that is by far my proudest moment!

Your next gig is at XXL on the 11th, which is a preferred night for the hairier, bearier gentlemen...do you guys have a type? Unfortunately our type is young, blonde Swedish women so I'm not sure they fall into this category!



The Hoxton Whores are at XXL (Pulse, No1 Invicta Plaza, South Bank SE1) on Saturday 11th July, 10pm-7am. £8 members, £15 guests.

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MONDAY 13TH JULY 11PM - 5.30AM



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KEYTH DAVID TREX NICK SHEPHERDSON BURNS B2B DONINGTON

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HEAVEN

DISCOSODOMA

It's Discosodoma! We already love them. Disco and sodomy are our two favourite things. Also our scene editor James says they're well fit.

They sent us their location and some pics, and we met up with promoter **Ilias** to talk music, scene stuff and a totes cool, totes edgy warehouse party they're having. Get into it.



represented our version of Judgement Day while the current one is what happens after the Crisis, the rebirth of the world through music and dance. Besides, Greeks, even in their darkest hours, have always resorted to the arts for solutions.

Are visuals an important part of Discosodoma?

Of course! You can't rely just only on music. Visuals complement the experience and define your identity equally to the sets you will listen and dance to at the party.

What's more your type, Greek gods or dirty Dalston boys?

Dirty Dalston boys looking like Greek gods always does the trick.

You're at Dalston Superstore a lot, what drew you to it?

Apart from being the friendliest queer venue in Dalston, the Superstore feels like an extended family. We share a lot of common values and they have supported us unquestionably since the very beginning. What's not to love about it?

How would you describe your musical style?

In a few words, leffield dance music, from disco to techno.

Tell us about this warehouse party then. Are we invited?

You are always welcomed in our house! It's our first big outing since our one-year anniversary and we decided to ante up the production and invite some of our favourite DJs and producers out there who have appeared in the best venues abroad, from Berghain in Berlin to The Block in Tel Aviv. On top of that we are having a special live performance by a well-known dance troupe, screenings of short videos by queer artists,

live VJing and a post apocalyptic Californian outdoor space.

What's in store for Discosodoma? (Apart from disco and sodomy obvs).

You will have to stay tuned for that. The only things we can disclose at the moment are some Turkish delights for September and a merchandise line later this year.

Hi guys! It's already been a mad summer hasn't it? What's the most exciting thing you've done so far?

And it feels like it has only started! Co-hosting our first Pride rave in east London and Stathis representing us at NYC Downlow at Glastonbury definitely top our list!

Discosodoma. How did this frankly DELIGHTFUL name come about?

By delightful you mean mouthful, right? The origin story is quite simple actually. We were having a chat over nibbles of Greek spinach pie trying to find a name that underlines our music policy with the experiences we have gathered over the years in queer clubbing. Something with a touch of decadence and sleaziness but not cheap; hence Discosodoma!

You've got some pretty interesting artwork for this event. Looks a bit like a rave in ancient Greece. Is there a story to it?

During our first year, our intention was to focus on the male body, compartmentalize it and put a glossy spin on it. It was a form of a commentary to modern gay dating. How many times users have been asked "any pics mate?" from headless torsos? Probably too many to count. With the completion of our first year though we decided to steer away from this concept and focus on things and situations with a certain mysticism. Our previous visuals

"You can't rely just only on music. Visuals complement the experience and define your identity."



Discosodoma are at Bloc (Unit 3, Autumn Yard, E3 2TT) on Saturday 11/07/15. 10pm-6am. For tickets to this summer bacchanalia, visit: bit.ly/discosodoma

BEARS BLOKES CUBS HUNKS

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Bearlesque

10/07/15



Tim Jones



Chris Brogan

It's BEARLESQUE! *Spins chair around, sits on it backwards with legs spread, pulls chain, tosses hair whilst bucket of water falls *

This is the sort of event Cher would love. In fact if she gets wind of it she'll probably do one of her hectic tweets in all caps that make her seem like a mad blind worm. WE LOVE YOU CHER.

In case you were wondering it's exactly what you'd guess from the name. Bears. Burlesque. Bearlesque!

Put on by the blokey, boozey boys at **Tonker**, Bearlesque is taking over the rustic vaults of the Royal Vauxhall Tavern for a night of furry fun frolicking! There are performances, there are DJs, there will DEFINITELY be dancing (bears love a dance) in what promises to be a right stonker stomper tonker truck of a night!

Among the performers are **Paul M, Danny Polaris** and **Dave The Bear**, who we think is totes gorge. He's CHEDDER gorge! We'd love to snuggle up to him on a rainy evening and watch, oh,

Bridget Jones or something, whilst munching on pasties and then having doggystyle sex. Perhaps still whilst munching on pasties.

Anyway, digressing. There's set to be a formidable lineup of Tonker's best selection of DJs at the night too, including **Chris Brogan, Steven Artis** and **Tim Jones**.

We have also been told there are going to be "bar surprises". God knows what that means. It could be anything from an innocent drinks deal to doing a not-so-innocent tequila shot out of Dave The Bear's bellybutton (here's hoping).



Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. 9pm-4am. Free before 10pm, £5 before midnight, £7 after.

TWANG @ Legion

TWANG's Legion Top 10



1. "Version" - Claudio PRC

Almost a trance track, very beautiful, it makes you fly.

2. The Wipe (Steve Bicknell Version)" - Teste

This remix of a classic track will attack your nerve system - just a killer on the dance floor.

3. "Hermetism (Vondkreistan)" - Hermetism

Dark Electro/ Techno is my thing, and this track represents what is this all about!

4." Flaneur " - Monoloc

One of the latest tracks from Monoloc, I love play this track at the beginning of my sets, always sets such a good mood.

5."hi-l process" - Boris Divider

This track is a beautiful marriage between electro and ambient, yet very dark and groovy.

6. "Obsession" - Craig Bratley

Just a solid good rhythm electro track, I am obsessed!

7. "Departing Comfort (Planetary Assault Systems Remix)" - Drumcell

Big beats, heavy bass and dense, amazing remix!

8. "Blissfully Unaware" - Edit Select

One of the most beautiful track I know, pure light, totally transcend your soul on the dance floor.

9. "Cherry Red (Tale of Us & Recondite Mix)" - Barn

Brilliant remix, extremely emotional and beautiful, and this is TECHNO!

10. "Waterfall" - Rose

Not a new track but its one of my all time favourite, a bit old school style but just so good! Deep and sexy.

Tell us who you are in one juicy sentence.

Menswear designer, Illustrator, animator and DJ.

What kind of music do you play?

Techno, Electro.

And what can people expect from your next set?

Emotions and Irresistible body movements.



TWANG is at Legion on Saturday 11th July at The Islington Metal Works (7 Torrens Street, EC1V 1NQ), 11pm-6am. £5 before 1am, £10 after.

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Tim Jones

10/07/15

Tonker presents
RVT Bearlesque

Those beefy boys at Tonker are taking over quaint little RVT and filling with lots of camp, lovely, hairy silliness! Performances from **Paul M, Danny Polaris** and **Dave The Bear**, with DJ sets from **Paul Coles, Chris Brogan** and **Tim Jones**.



Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY.
9pm-4am. Free before 10pm, £5 before midnight, £7 after.



Chris Brogan

A:M is like Madonna. No, we don't mean sexually aggressive to men her junior. A:M has been around a WHILE. 14 years to be precise, and like Madge, it's always been able to constantly reinvent itself, pushing boundaries to maintain an enviable reputation for always being fresh and current.



Protocol, 6 South Lambeth Place, SW8 1SP,
11pm-11am. £4 before 1am with QX ad.
£8 after.



10/07/15

A:M



10/07/15

Men, Inc: BRUT
BBQ & Beer Blast

It's the BRUT Barbecue! The perfect way to spend another scorching Saturday night. We love a good spitroast. As well as sizzling sausage, DJs **Severino** & **Sugarbear** will be taking your for a spin around the dancefloor. Plus there's t-shirt giveaways and an ALL-AMERICAN go-go show, featuring **Rica Shay** and **Alexx Xander**. That many X's in a name can only mean one thing: FILTH.



The Eagle, 349 Kennington Lane, SE11 5QY. 9pm-4am. Free before 10pm, £5 after. Members free before 12am.



Guy Williams

You've hit the MOTHERLOAD at East Bloc! Slip and slide across those tiles, lean and laugh in that smoking area, swig and sway on that dancefloor. It's gonna be a big one! Seven hours of deep, jackin' and classic house! With DJs **D Ramirez**, **Guy Williams**, and NYC Downlow's **Gideon**. Ohhh that's gonna feel good.



East Bloc, City Road, EC1V 1JN.
11:30pm-6am. £5 before midnight,
£8 midnight to 1am, £10 after. .



D Ramirez

11/07/15

Motherload



11/07/15

Battered Sausage

Sausage! Chorizo! Wurst! Saucisse! That is sausage in English, Spanish, German and French. We've had all four of those varieties of sausage in Dalston Superstore before. Our favourite is Spanish sausage. Aye guapo! Caliente! Battered Sausage is ALSO a delicious night with DJs **Nic Fisher**, **Francis Inferno** & **Dave Kendrick**. Grease it up and shove it in some buns. Extra mayo.



Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High Street,
E8 2PB. 9pm-4am. Free before 10pm, £5 after.



11/07/15

Her Majesty's Pleasure

Her Majesty's Pleasure, if you please! A right royal ruckus! We're talking Charles and Camilla getting pissed on K-Cider. We're talking Prince Harry on all fours in the basement with a ball-gag. We're talking Pippa Middleton shitting out party invitations. Just another Saturday night at The Glory with **Jonny Woo** and co. Go, go, go!



The Glory, 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS.
8pm-2am. Free entry before 10pm,
£5 after.



Jonny Woo

11/07/15

BRUT



Tom Stephen

Brut wants you INSIDE them. Seriously, check their Facebook event. They're gagging for you to enter their hot, men-only hootenanny. You best oblige them! Scene stalwarts **Tom Stephen**, **Louis Lennon** and **Ben Jamin** will be bringing the beats that will smash your back doors in.



The Steel Yard, 13-16 All Hallows Lane, EC4R 3UL, 10pm-6am. £15 advance, £10 members.



11/07/15

XXL presents
Hoxton Whores

Those dirty boys **The Hoxton Whores** are DJing their butts off at XXL! Veer through those vicious vaults at Pulse Nightclub to their arsefuckingly awesome beats, and enjoy XXL's usual serving platter (or if you're lucky, SHARING platter) of hot horny huskiness!

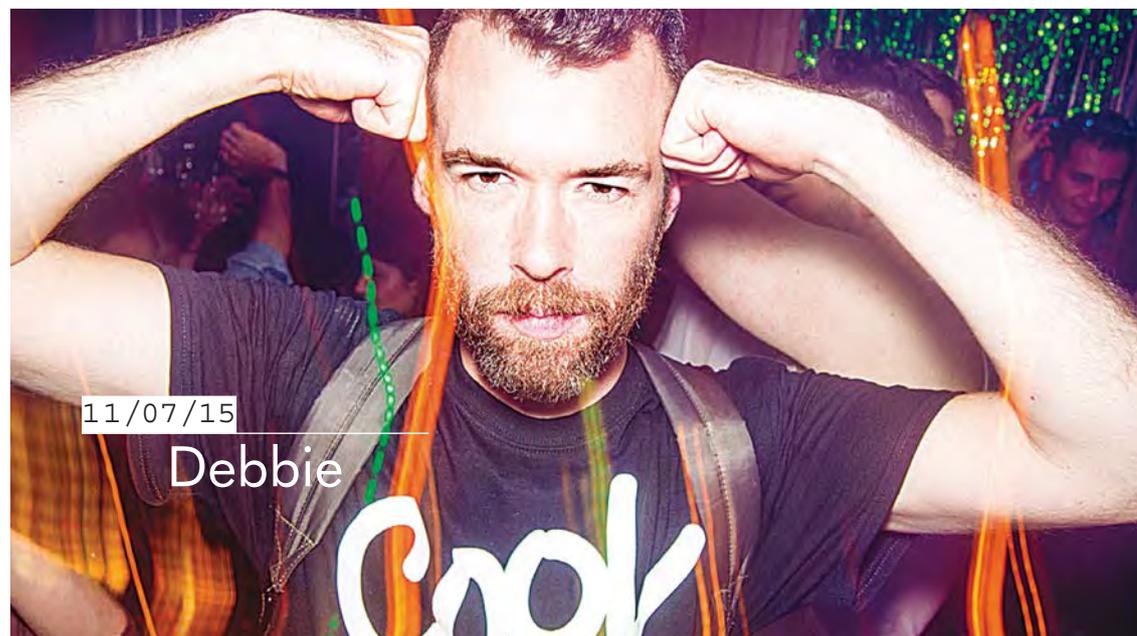


Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, SE1 9UF. 10pm-7am. £15 entry, £8 for members.

This time round at Debbie it's DISCO ROCKS brought to you by **Sina Sparrow** and **Alexander Bitchcakes** ("Bitchcakes", LOVE). For those of you who don't know, the whole concept of Debbie is that it's FEMALE VOCALS ONLY. So basically just like your iTunes. Justin Bieber can suck it. He's good at that. ALLEGEDLY.



Resistance Gallery, 265 Poyser Street, E2 9RF. 10pm-late. £3 before 11pm, £5 after.



11/07/15

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Steve Pitron

Settled in to their new permanent home, Beyond is bringing back the irreplaceable **Steve Pitron** to the Box, along with **Fat Tony** and **Zach Burns**. So basically a Who's Who? of the best after-hours DJs. Expect a progression throughout the morning from deep and tech through to uplifting vocal house, plus a unique live performance. Not to be outdone, **Paul Heron** and **Yvette Lindquist** take over 103 with a bouncy blend of tech, deep house and techno.

BEYOND

Ministry of Sound, 103 Gaunt Street, SE1 6DP. 5:30am-3pm. £11 advance tickets available at orangenation.co.uk



12/07/15

Beyond @ Ministry of Sound



Shangela

16/07/15

G-A-Y Porn Idol

Hot on the heels of halleloo ho **Shangela**, Drag Race sweet treat **Jujubee** wants a look at your candy next week. Give her something good to eat at G-A-Y Porn Idol. To enter, text 07789553868, or email info@g-a-y.co.uk.



Heaven, Under the Arches, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 10:30pm-5am. Free entry wristbands available from G-A-Y Bar.

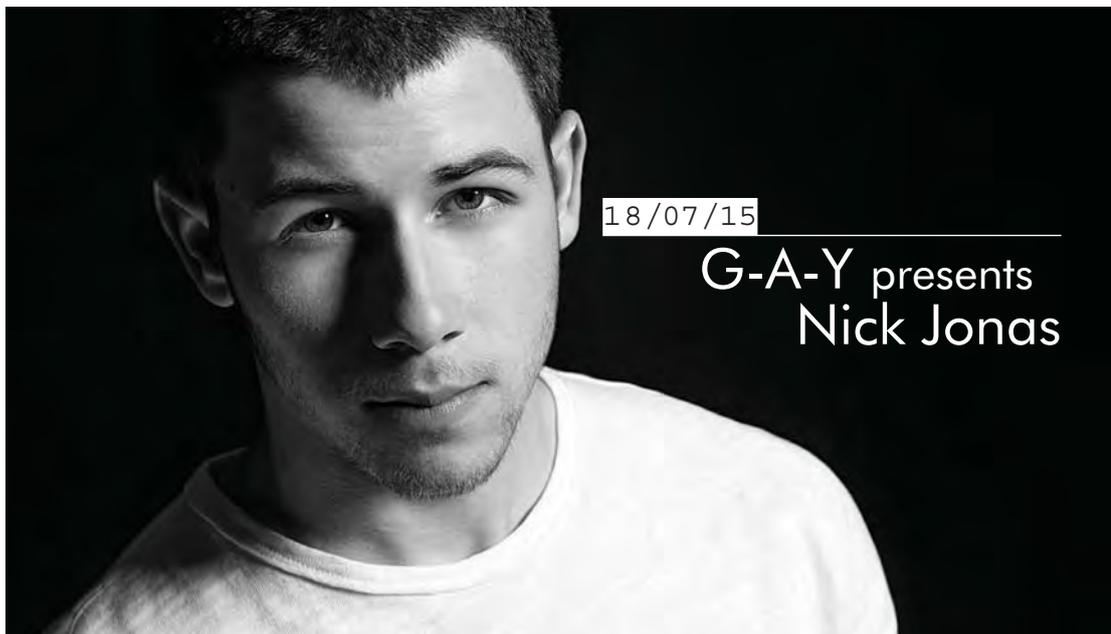


Jujubee

Don't get jealous, but Nick Jonas can't make it to your birthday party on the 18th. Because he's got a hot date with G-A-Y! Everyone's favourite gay-friendly Disney twink will be jumping onstage to (hopefully) pull his pants down and show us his beautiful bum. He might also sing some songs but let's be honest, that's not really as much of a concern, is it? TAKE IT OFF, NICK!



Heaven, Under the Arches, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 10:30pm-5am. Free entry wristbands available from G-A-Y Bar.



18/07/15

G-A-Y presents Nick Jonas

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G-A-Y

G-A-Y Porn Idol with
Violet Chachki
02/07/15
Heaven, Under The
Arches, Villiers Street,
WC2N 6NG

Words and Photos
by Chris Jepson

In their ongoing search for London's cute-hung-fit-boy-who-can-dance, last week G-A-Y Porn Idol welcomed RPDR NQOTB (RuPaul's Drag Race New Queen On The Block), winner of season seven Violet Chachki to the wipe clean sofa of shame, and regular haunt of Baga Chipz and Mary Mac. Wearing her highest Louboutin CFM pumps, renowned shoe fetishist Violet was on the look out for fabulous footwear as well as meaty uncut flaccid cock, but contestant number one presented "great tits and the prettiest pussy I have ever seen", according to Mary Mac (and she knows a c*t when she sees one) before scoring three perfect tens. We then had a parade of mediocre wannabes, a cutie with a bindi, a hot boy with an ass of death and an Italian midwife who, according to Baga, looked "like Harry Potter after being locked in the chamber of secrets with no food for twenty years". The final dance off while Violet performed to Kylie was between audience member Morgan from Atlanta and Canadian Kayla with the perfect pussy with the latter's twerking butt cheeks stealing the prize. This week Shangela parks her pert buttocks in the hot seat with a big old "halleloo".



"Renowned shoe fetishist Violet was on the look out for fabulous footwear as well as meaty uncut flaccid cock."



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RVT presents T'Pau
 03/07/15
 Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372
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Words by Jason Reid
 Photos by Joel Ryder



As well as the RVT's already jam-packed schedule of events, the powers that be are casually sprinkling in some exclusive one-night-only live music gigs featuring familiar musical artists, and so far, these nights are proving to be very popular. There was a fair deal of buzz surrounding T'Pau's acoustic show from the very first day it was announced, and it certainly lived up to all expectations. The Tavern was choc-a-bloc with excited fans and there was a palpable air of giddy excitement pre-show. Support act Michael Armstrong got the night off to a cracking start, providing a vocally perfect set which culminated in an awesome rendition of Paul McCartney's 'Maybe I'm Amazed'. After a short interlude, the light's went up and the main course emerged, T'Pau headed by the eternally youthful Carol Decker. The audience raised the roof with riotous applause and cheering, even before a single note had been sung. Carol opened with 'Secret Garden' - a song she originally wrote for her gay and transgender fans - dedicating it to Caitlyn Jenner. Carol's distinctive vocals filled the room like a beautiful warm blanket of joy, accompanied beautifully by the rest of the band. In between songs her wicked and cheeky sense of humour came out, at one point joking 'I'm sweating like the underpants bomber up here'. As the show continued many of the fans' favourites such as 'I Will be With You' and 'Heart and Soul' were performed on the legendary Vauxhall stage. They also threw in one cover, 'Hotel California' - a truly spine tingling and insanely crowd-pleasing rendition. It wasn't just the classics on the set list though, two tracks from the new album *Pleasure and Pain* were also performed. The night ended with the song that took T'Pau to the top of the charts around the world in the late 80's, 'China in Your Hand'. It was perfect. The audience turned into a meticulously rehearsed choir. And the acoustic performance gave it an ethereal feel. The crowning glory was Carol's flawless vocals which had an angel like quality to them. The standing ovation from ALL was sign enough that the audience and fans were more than happy with T'Pau at the RVT.



"The standing ovation from ALL was sign enough that the audience and fans were more than happy."



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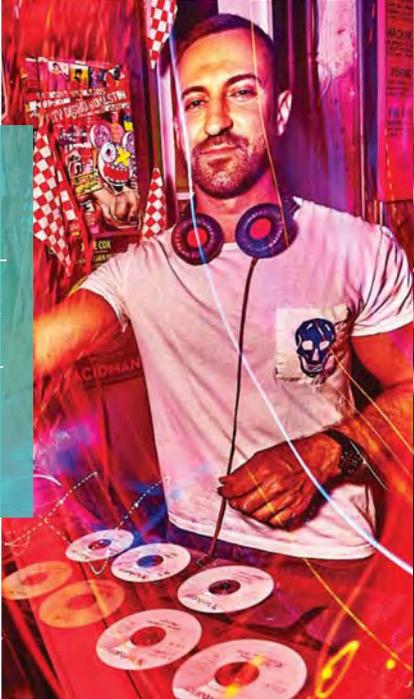
DIRTY DISKO

Dirty Disko
04/07/15
Dalston Superstore
117 Kingsland High Street,
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Words by Thom Hadfield
Photos by LUXXXER



It was a full house at Dalston Superstore for their first time hosting Dirty Disko. Not a star spangled banner in sight this 4th of July, but there were fireworks as DJs Mattias Dabo, Johnny Kalifornia, Steven Artis and Alex Georgiou spun some serious house to keep the crowd dancing 'til 3am. It was refreshing to see some new faces and some old ones at the store; it was clear that the success of Dirty Disko at its old home of Barcode had brought some faithful followers north of the river for the evening. The Queen of the Spanish Mafia, LaPequeña and man-eater, Deborah Ombres were serving pescado upstairs with killer heels and clutches as they worked the floor. House heads and club kids filled the laser-lit, smoke-filled basement for some classic deep vocal house. With heavy beats and hard drops it was impossible to stop moving, creating a room full of HOT and sweaty guys and girls. The upstairs bar became the perfect area for a breather and some space to wipe your brow before descending to the deep once again. Even as people continued to join in late into the night we had space to maneuver and mingle, with lighter funky summer house vibes in the air. A splash of disco here, some pop there, even Beyoncé was in the house.



“With heavy beats and hard drops it was impossible to stop moving.”



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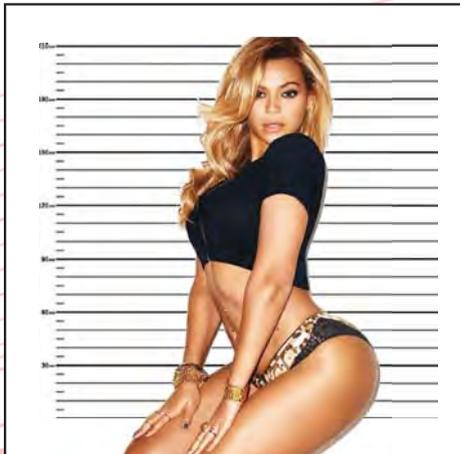
G-A-Y is the New Black

The Federal Department of Corrections at G-A-Y Penitentiary Heaven opens its doors to visitors on Saturday July 11th. Warden Jacob invites you to take a look around and meet some of the inmates detained at Her Majesty Jeremy Joseph's pleasure, as well as a sexy new employee arriving soon...



Big C

The Head Bitch in Charge of G-A-Y State Pen, Big C lives up to her nickname: just like cancer, sooner or later, she's gonna get you. Known for whispering "I got you babe" into her victim's ear before blowing them away, she's been around forever and a day, yet still doesn't understand Twitter.



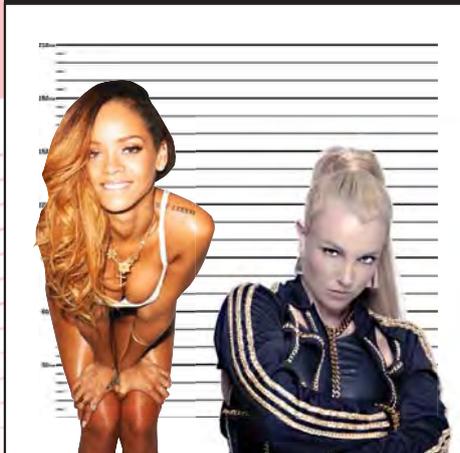
Honey Bee

Ruthless gangland queen Honey Bee ran her criminal network with an iron fist. Known as The Hive, it was one of the most dangerous and vicious enterprises in history. People dared not to cross them. Regularly recruited dozens of single ladies to do her bidding, in an attempt to run the world.



Caga Tia

Theatre school drop out Caga Tia is serving a life sentence for repeated copyright infringements and plagiarism. Can usually be seen at the edges of the exercise yard or cafeteria, furiously scribbling notes as she watches other inmates closely. Has been known to belt out a fairly impressive Sound of Music medley though.



The Lilt Ladies

Comprised of Barbadian Robyn and Southern belle BJ, the Lilt Ladies were formidable debt collectors and assassins, known by their signature cry of "Bitch better have my money" before beating their victim's brains out with a highly choreographed series of arm movements and weave whips. Currently run a prison business selling homemade versions of soft drinks to inmates made out of club soda and shower gel. It is horrible.



Mad Madge

Mob boss Madge once ruled the streets of New York and beyond. A genius in her day, repeated falls off of horses, buildings and stages have rendered her mind a jumbled mess, leading her to believe she's still 25 years old. Was finally convicted after an episode of lewd behaviour in a hotel lobby.



Elevator Eyes

Unbalanced, aggressive and utterly unpredictable, Elevator Eyes was an acolyte of Honey Bee, some say they were as close as sisters. Incarcerated after a vicious Street Fighter-style assault on an unknown male in an elevator. When threatened, has been known to scream "GOING DOWN!" before unleashing a whirlwind of violence.



Officer Jonas

Fresh-faced and pert-bummed officer Jonas is a new arrival at G-A-Y State Pen. Arriving on July 18th, keep an eye out for him. Those devilishly sexy cheekbones and that beautiful, velvety voice could cause anybody to let their guard (or pants) down. Watch his temper too, we've heard he gets jealous...



The Federal Department of Corrections at G-A-Y Penitentiary Heaven opens at G-A-Y @ Heaven (Under the Arches, Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 6NG) on Saturday 11th July, 11pm-5am. £2 entry wristbands available at G-A-Y Bar.



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London Hippodrome

Cranbourn Street, Leicester Square, WC2H 7JH. 8pm.
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Fresh off their PRIVATE JET (well, maybe not quite but Virgin Atlantic business class at the very least), off of Broadway, it's **Ann and Liz Callaway** (pictured)! Sisters and singers! Their show is called Sibling Revelry. Camp eh? An original act full of cabaret, belting tunes and all sorts of japes this Friday 10th July.



Halfway II Heaven

7 Duncannon St, London WC2N 4JF.

It's Friday Night Live on July 10th, with special guest **Miss Jason** (pictured) from 10pm, She'll be gifting us with that special brand of drag that's all her own. **DJ Little John** will be spinning from 9pm. No word on DJ Robin Hood thus far. Probably still running through the forest. That's a Disney reference BTW.



Central Station

37 Wharfdale Road, N1 9SD.
From 9:30pm. Free entry.

Karaoke with Chris Reardon at lovely Central Station tucked away in Kings Cross on Friday 10th July. You could do Milkshake by Kelis. Go on it'll be great. Invest in a can of squirty cream to spray over your fifties during the chorus!

White Swan

556 Commercial Road, E14 7JD.
5pm – 5am. Free entry before
10:30pm, £5 after.

She's sparkling! She's scintillating! She's sexy! She's **Topsie Redfern** (pictured)! And she's performing at the White Swan on Saturday 11th July Topsie is what you'd get if you crossed a My Little Pony with Cheryl Cole. In a good way. Oh just go, she's great. Accompanied by the totes masc **DJ Stu.D**



Ku Bar

30 Lisle Street, WC2H 7BA.
8:30pm – 3am. Free entry.

That **Lady Lloyd** (pictured) is back from her holidays. God knows where she went. Slutting around the alleys in Dar Es Salaam probably. Makeup brush in one hand, Grindr in the other. Anyway she'll be spinning retro tunes at Ku Bar this Sunday 12th July.

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The Light Lounge
04/07/15
1 Newport Place, WC2H 7JR

Words by Jaime Domingo
Photos by Joel Ryder

A brand new boutique cocktail bar is definitely cause for celebration, especially when it's headed by the inimitable Ku Group, right next to their Lisle Street venue no less! A perfect place to relax with friends the lounge is bathed in natural light, with an indoor/outdoor terrace feel in the early evening. As the night goes on, their beautiful mood lighting takes over to turn the space into something a little special. The Light Lounge is the perfect place to take someone special, or just stop by for a pre/post-theatre drink! We asked the owner Gary Henshaw for his thoughts:

"As the Ku Brand approaches its 20th anniversary, I am delighted to introduce our newest venue, The Light Lounge. A premium, 100 capacity, all new venue above Ku Leicester Sq. Six months of planning and design has gone into this unique space. A stylish lounge with table service hospitality, an electro-funk soundtrack, bespoke cocktails, prestige wines & spirits, it's a venue to celebrate. I'm very proud of it." The Light Lounge is open now.



"The Light Lounge is the perfect place to take someone special, or just stop by for a pre/post-theatre drink!"

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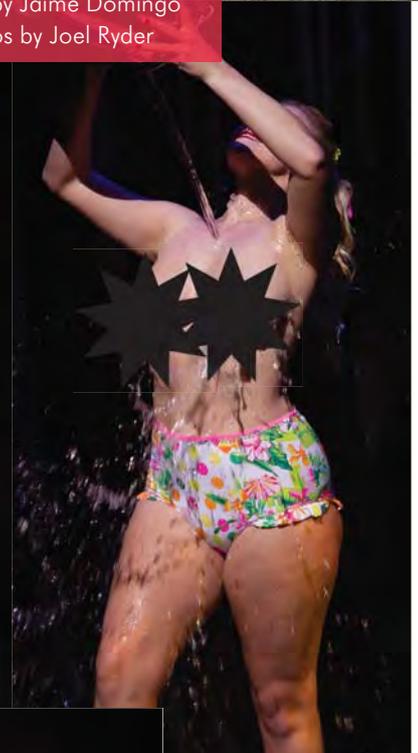




House of Burlesque:
Shipwrecked
02/07/15
London Hippodrome,
Cranbourne Street,
Leicester Square,
WC2H 7JH

Words by Jaime Domingo
Photos by Joel Ryder

We were warned to expect the exotic and erotic from House of Burlesque's "Shipwrecked". They weren't wrong! In the show, the buxom beauties have found themselves shipwrecked on an island of temptation after setting sail on a word tour. What's a girl to do? Well, shimmy their way to shore of course! Starring pin-up pirates, voodoo vixens, drunken sailors, and sun-kissed showgirls, it's a sexy, lighthearted tropical extravaganza, perfect for a balmy summer evening! The show is tightly choreographed and designed display of some of the best circus acts, comedy routines and beautiful burlesque you'll see in the UK. There's dazzling costumes, there's hula hooping, there's audience participation, there's tasteful clothing removal, there's evening giant dancing bananas. What more could you possibly want? Nothing. Except maybe a Pina Colada. Don't know what Tom Hanks was moaning about, being shipwrecked clearly ain't so bad!



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TWO BREWERS

Drag Idol 2015: The Final
03/07/15

Two Brewers, 114 Clapham
High Street, SW4 7UJ

Words by Jason Reid
Photos by Mark Storey

This time last year, after a decade of producing a whole gaggle of talented new cabaret artists, the organisers of Drag Idol UK had initially planned to drop the curtain on the competition and call it a day, despite its continued and unflinching success. However, like an unavoidable Phoenix, it rose from the ashes, albeit on a slightly smaller scale, with new organisers and a bit of a rebrand. And after three months of tantrums and tiaras, deliberations and dramas, growth and drag schooling, the final four sharpened their nails and perfected their side-eye for the Grand Final at the Two Brewers, hosted by previous winner La Voix. The Vixens (Representing Halfway to Heaven), Tittania Bon Bon (Queens Court, Leeds), Sum-Ting Wong (Admiral Duncan) and Danny Beard (Two Brewers) all worked the stage of the club bar (in that order) to a VERY enthusiastic audience, and eclectic panel of judges, which included the eternal mother of Drag Idol, Titti La Camp; reigning king of the competition and last year's winner, LoUis CYfer; 80's pop star and wearer of banana leaves, Sinitta; cabaret luminary Spike Rhodes and magazine chief David Bridle. During the three hour show, the acts treated us to powerful vocals, a host of 90's tunes, clever comedy, camp choreography and even ventriloquism. The eventual winner was Danny Beard, who owned the stage and had the audience with him through every second of his set. Both Titti and LoUis were in agreement when giving comments, saying, 'You are the best act this competition has ever seen.' A very exciting new act indeed with the most striking aesthetic we've seen in a while, that's for sure. Congrats Danny!



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Oh Danny Boy!

The newly crowned winner of this year's Drag Idol and the most talked about act to hit the scene in some time, **Danny Beard**, is a fascinating character. The competition itself has seen somewhat of a queer revolution of late with both LoUis Cyfer and now Danny taking the title. Giving his first full interview post Drag Idol, the man behind Danny spoke to **Jason Reid** this week...

Firstly congratulations, your performance at the final was electric. So tell me, how and when did Danny Beard come to be?

Thank you very much, Jason. I started about 18 months ago, DJing out of drag in Manchester whilst in university. And slowly the drag took over, then I was DJing all my gigs in drag. Who is Danny? Danny is me, essentially, an extension of who I am, and I'm most comfortable when on stage, so Danny is my excuse to get on stage.

How would you describe your performance style in a snappy sentence? Imagine you're a trashy journalist...

Cheeky, loveable, fresh, modern, slightly rough around the edges, but classy.

Your style is also very technically sound. Do you come from a performance background?

I do; I studied Performance, Contemporary Theatre Practice, and I got a first class honours. A large part of my degree was about the difference between an "actor" and a "performer".

And which would you say you are?

There's a fine line between the two, but I can say with confidence that I'm a performer.

Let's talk about your look as it intrigues me so much. HOW did you come up with it?

In university I studied live art and became a little obsessed with Leigh Bowery so that's definitely where the white face came from. I actually experimented with a whole glittered face but eventually it was the beard that stuck. The body developed over time too; I love a woman's silhouette so that's really what I am trying to create with the hips, boobs and really high shoes.

Ah yes, I can see the Leigh Bowery influences there now. Who else influences you artistically?

Aside from the aesthetic, my performance influences are people like Lily Savage who was quick, funny, and a character that you

could just warm to. Also current queens on the scene like La Voix with her amazing voice, Myra with her gags, and Sandra just because I really like her.

Everyone loves Sandra, and she does her very best to love them all back. Personally. In the dark... Anyway back to you. Would you say Danny is genderless? The look is very fluid, with some male aesthetics - most notably a beard - which many would say is the archetypal mark of masculinity, but then there's the striking female side.

I would say Danny Beard is genderless yes. I'm just really whatever you think I am. If you think I'm a man, I'm a man, likewise if you think I'm a woman then I'm a woman.

Which pronoun do you prefer?

Personally I prefer 'she' but I am from Liverpool and queens there call everyone she [laughs].

Is challenging gender stereotypes and gender fuckery something you want to

get across to your audiences?

I think it's a part of who I am so yes. I don't like to get too political but I think my work can be inadvertently political if that makes sense. Just being the way I am and looking the way I do is enough for me. If that particular audience member gets it, understands it and goes with it then great, but if they think it's just a crazy look, that's great too.

Now, you're from Liverpool, but live in Manchester, and you represented one of London's most prominent cabaret bars in the competition. Safe to say you've gone nationwide. How do you feel about it all, and your upcoming tour?

I couldn't be happier, the support from people along the way has been truly overwhelming, in fact I'm sure there is some dodgy pictures from the final of me crying my eyes out. I feel excited and nervous for the tour, and I can't wait to get to perform all over the country.

Finally, who is YOUR Drag Idol? LILY SAVAGE!



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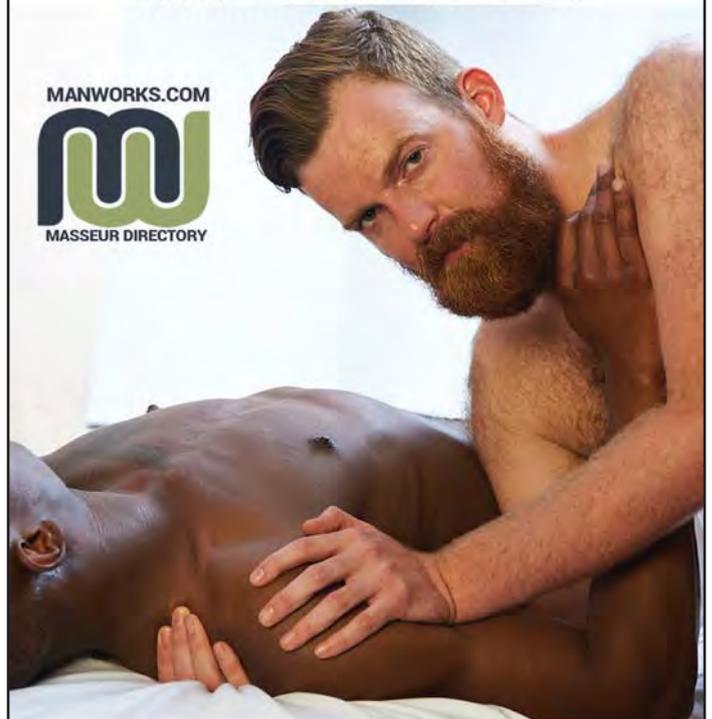
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Peter Fingleton

PICTURE THIS!

The final of Mister Glory is just around the corner on July 15th and we're moist with anticipation to see who is crowned winner from the cadre of creative and outrageous hombres that strutted their stuff across the stage in each absurd category. Or maybe that's just sweat from the heatwave. Either way, something's got us wet like a used maxi pad. Might it be the gorgeous portraiture that has been accompanying each round? Fab-you-lush photographer Peter Fingleton dished the dirt on shooting Mister Glory, who he thinks will win and who needs to sit on his face.



John Sizzle & Jonny Woo

Hey Peter! We love your Mister Glory photos. There's a lot of bare unvarnished wood in them isn't there. Do you always plan your backdrops with such care?

Well, I didn't just use whatever crap was lying around the Glory if that's what you're getting at...

What do you like photographing apart from backstage male beauty pageants?

For the past three years or so the tranny-tastic nightlife of east London has provided plenty of fodder for my 'Sharp Shock' club photography Facebook page. But my main interest is portrait and fashion photography.

Have you always done photography?

Are there other strings to your thong?

Photography and retouching do take up most of my days, yes, though if you're lucky you'll sometimes catch me performing or DJing in drag (or at least heels, a lash and a lip)

Didn't you go to Glastonbury with Jonny Woo? Was that amazeballs?

It was indescribable! By which I mean I can't remember a thing so I can't describe it. But from what I've heard yes, being a part of the tranny dance troupe at the NYC Downlow is one of the best things ever!

As a "scenester" what do you think of the London scene at the moment?

With the recent spate of gay venues closing the Glory is a godsend. It's the perfect mix of old-school gay pub and alternative club mixed in with performance and an endless supply of Jonny Woo. Aside from that my favourite thing is how drag and club kid outrageousness has become such a big part of the scene again (thanks to the popularity of RuPaul's Drag Race and club nights like Sink the Pink). Anything that challenges the creeping spread of the 'straight acting'-Grindr-chemsex culture is good in my book!

Who was your favourite Mister Glory?

Who would you have picked to win?

Well I'll just be diplomatic... and pick the guy I'd most like to have sit on my face so: Matthew Gent.

Who do you think WILL win?

John Sizzle.

Do you have a type? What would it take to win Mister Peter Fingleton?

Ideally, I'm looking for someone with dark hair, a red jumper and quite a large face.

What advice would you give to budding backstage male beauty pageant photographers?

Don't be afraid to get hands-on when directing your subjects.

Category: Evening wear



Ollywood

Possibly the strongest look of the competition!



Dan

This could have been quite a safe look but girl knows how to strike a pose!



Matyas

Purple is definitely his colour. And ours. Kyooooooot!

Category: Party Piece



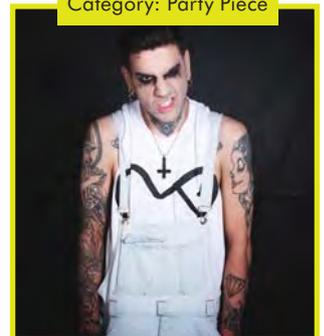
Zia

This is what the Invisible Man wear for dinner at The Ritz.



Sal

We'd call this Dumpster Chic. Perfect for if you've recently been binned.



Ray Noir the Prince of

Darkness took a risk departing from his usual all-black but it paid off and he won this heat!

Category: Swimwear



Giorgio

No smart comments on this one. JUST TAKE IT OFF. NOW.



Zia

Zia had to get completely naked in front of all us to squeeze into this look. Just sayin'.



Matthew

You can't see it here but Matthew's ass could have won this heat by itself.



The Mister Glory 2015 final is on Wednesday July 15th at The Glory, (281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS) 8pm-12am. Free entry.

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Rentboy: The Musical

Above The Stag Theatre, Arch 17, Miles Street, SW8 1RZ.
Runs until 2nd August. Tickets £19.50.

Programmes rustled and wineglasses clinked as the first few notes rang out to Rentboy: The Musical and the unignorably gorgeous cast skipped out on stage. The audience at Vauxhall's Above The Stag Theatre was an interesting mix of distinguished, older Derek Jacobi types (panama hats, canes, white linen suits) and lithe young men in frayed denim shorts (plus of course the obligatory backwards BOY London caps). But given the subject matter this cultural melange was entirely appropriate, and only added to the socio-political milieu of the evening.

As soon as the excellent silver fox MC (Frank Loman) appeared, it was straight into a generous serving of comical campery, continuing relentlessly for the entire show with a large dollop of gold hotpants, whimsical numbers about being a male escort and more cultural clichés than you can shake a glowstick at. Loman carried it with effortless and energetic aplomb,

giving the whole thing a sort of Seussical air of nonsense with his selection of lamé suits and almost Bruce Forsyth-esque game show host quips.

Another highlight was Samuel Clifford's excellent turn as The Client; a downtrodden,



very human character who played, as the name suggests, a tired businessmen who paid for the escorts' services. He had a formidable pair of pipes on him, and whilst he was on stage, the show came close to being genuinely emotive. Phil McCloskey was also very enjoyable as The Master, if for no other reason than the fact that he looks like a Bel Ami model and spent 90% of the show in a pair

of backless leather chaps. His ass is worthy of a Tony Award.

The overt campery means Rentboy: The Musical should definitely not be taken too seriously, and if panto is your thing than the show really is a lot of fun. I mean, sexy boys dancing around in tiny shorts to flashy over-the-top musical numbers under an arch in Vauxhal - that's what being a gay is all about, right?!

A thunderstorm brewed over

North London's Holloway Road as freaks, goths, queer scenesters and everything in between arrived at Nambucca for The Royal Tease. A celebration of difference, suspense and salaciousness, the monthly night treats its audience to a surreal melding of alternative drag, brash burlesque and a whole other host of genre and gender bending acts.

As lightning flashed and raindrops battered the poster-

plastered windows, Sadie Sinner stalked onto the stage. She's the brains behind the whole operation, and throughout the show acted as a luminously engaging MC, singing, swearing, sizzling and stomping her way through the evening. She unapologetically melded comedy turns with shockingly good renditions of cult hits like The Gossip's 'Standing In The Way Of Control', which left the crowd baying for more. The instant you lay eyes on Sadie, from

The Royal Teasel

Nambucca, 596 Holloway Road, N7 6LB. Every first Friday of the month. £10 on the door, £8 concessions.

braided head to sparkling high-heeled foot, it's clear she's that all-too-rare thing; a truly unique undiscovered superstar. Or as drag queen Gina G puts it: "the campest thing since sliced bread."

Next up was Meth. She's doing so well for herself now that she has FANS. Like, proper fans who arrived in slogan t-shirts and hung around for the chance to meet her after. She did some grade-A lip-syncing to hilarious homemade musical mashups that included quotes from Hermione Granger and Miranda Priestly, and a mix of SOS by Rihanna with Marilyn Manson's Personal Jesus.

Swift on her formidable heels was the fabulous Tete Bang's childhood-ruining rendition of Barbie Girl, which involved not one, not two, but three dildos. After that was the beguiling Snake. Snake sauntered out in a slinky black ballgown, chopped up a cucumber with a large sword and then proceeded to shove the sword down her throat. A glass smashed



as someone dropped it in shock, and several people covered their eyes and squealed.

In the age of the unshockable Game of Thrones generation, where incest and baby-killing is par for the course and rimming is no more controversial than having a cup of tea, it's rare to find something that really inspires such physical, involuntary reactivity. But The Royal Tease serves it up in oozing, roiling, writhing bucketfuls.

Sadie Sinner





Film of the week

LOVE & MERCY (15)

Not your normal biopic, this stunning, inventive film traces the life of Brian Wilson, the musical genius behind the Beach Boys, beautifully played by Paul Dano in the 60s and John Cusack in the late 80s. It cleverly focuses on Wilson's mental illness without becoming an issue movie, and the cast is fiercely transparent, including the awesome Elizabeth Banks in an Oscar-worthy turn as Wilson's feisty second wife.



IN THE WORKS

The beefy **Tyrese Gibson** might play Green Lantern in the next attempt to reboot the superhero franchise. At least he'll look great in tights! • **Rafe Spall** and **Andrew Scott** will star in a new film version of the classic children's adventure *Swallows & Amazons*.



With a subtle gay twist, **DEAR WHITE PEOPLE** is a fiendishly clever comedy about outcasts at an American university. Playing with racial, economic and gender stereotypes, it's cool, smart and hilarious.

SWEET AND SOUR

Dustin Hoffman is a grumpy choirmaster in **THE CHOIR**, about a rebellious kid who joins a champion choir. Relentlessly heartwarming, but it has its moments.

• **THE HUMAN CENTIPEDE III (FINAL SEQUENCE)** takes a broad Sharknado-style comical approach to the grisliness, complete with D-list stars. It's never as funny as it thinks it is, but it is gleefully vile.

Video of the week

BOYS ON FILM 13: TRICK & TREAT (18)

Peccadillo has once again created a terrific collection of sexy, gay-themed mini-epics. There are 10 on this disc, ranging from Aussie comedy to English horror. The best are: **Caged** (from Holland), about two athletes dealing with peer pressure; **Boysgame** (Sweden), about two experimental teens; and Britain's **Mirrors**, starring Shameless' Jody Latham and Skins' Liam Boyle as "straight" guys who have a moment in a Manchester nightclub loo.



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#JULIASAYS... by Princess Julia

When in doubt, go out! This weekend there's no excuse when there are so many enticing things going on. On Friday 10th July it's the return of **Gloria's** (XOYO, 32-37 Cowper Street, EC2A 4AP), the crossover night with **Sink The Pink** and **XOYO**, with legendary club night **Homoelectric** hosting Room 2. Special guests in Room 1 are **Dimitri From Paris**, **Aeroplane** and **Alex Metric**, and the real stars of the show, YOU! Dressed in yer most outrageous rags. It's free to get in, and of course the Homoelectric gang will be playing their finest! 9pm-4am.

What do you get when you cross DJ's with more than a smidgen of 'performance'? **Hashtag**, that's what and it's at **Bethnal Green Working Men's Club**



Gloria's

(42-44 Pollard Row, E2 6NB) on 10th July. Featuring the talents of **Alún Davis**, **Saas**, **MiSa Blue** and resident **Loulou Reloulou**, with DJs **Dee Plume** and **Lou Woodcock**. It's a night where anything goes on the alternative art and performance scene. Starts at 9pm, last entry midnight 'til late.

Followers of **Hard Cock Life** will be super excited this Saturday 11th because they're about to raise the roof and have a **Hard Cock Life Summer Roof Party** on the penthouse floor of the Ace Hotel (100 Shoreditch High Street, E1 6JE). Starting at 3pm, expect hot PA's from **ROXXXAN**, **DOPEBOY** and **RICA SHAY**. DJ's **Josh Cole**, **Mark Ashley Dupe** and **Cummy Bear** are also amongst the lineup, and when the sun goes down the party continues till' 3.30am in the basement club at The Ace. That's over 12 hours of everything!

Up at **Dalston Superstore** (117 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB) on Saturday 11th they're about to get 'battered' with the return of **Battered Sausage**... join **Francis Inferno Orchestra**, **Nic Fischer**, **Dave Kendrick** and **Pavéline** DJing whilst **Francis Rushby** gets it on with some go-go dancing till' 3am.

It's all about Saturday 11th...so while I'm here I must mention this little indie night **Queer at Mascara Bar** (72 Stamford Hill, N16 6XS) which is gaining momentum. With their 1st anniversary looming, special guest DJ **Tommy Turntables (Popstarz)** makes an appearance along with residents **Sam Fenn** and **Paul Michael Bowden**. 9pm-3am.

Another indie night **Debbie** returns with **Disco Rocks** on the 11th. It's at **The Resistance**

Gallery (265 Poyser Street, E2 9RF) with **Sina Sparrow** and **Alexander Bitchcakes** on the DJ decks. 10pm 'til late!

Can you fit a few more in? Up at **The Glory** (281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS) they've got some treats lined up. including the return of **Kimono Krush** on Friday 10th with the gang hostess **Lazy Susan**, DJ's **The Sugallow Boys**, **Al Dente** and **The Duchess of Pork** plus new girl **Excretia Brown**, 8pm-2am. Then Saturday it's **Her Majesty's Pleasure** featuring **Scottie** and **Club Glory '96** with Scottie doing a turn at 9pm and then the disco with **Neil Prince** and **David Oh** celebrating the best of 1996 club and pop classics 'til 2am. And finally let us not forget the ultimate final of **Mister Glory** on Wednesday 15th July! Who will be crowned? You'll have to go to find out!

GILÉT'S PLAYS By Anthony Gilét



Rihanna finally dropped the video for 'Bitch Better Have My Money', and she was dead serious 'bout that loan. Note to self: Never tick off RiRi. Check out the video for titties galore and some Tarantino-esque violence. **Tinie Tempah** and **Jess Glynne** are 'Not Letting Go' of their place in the charts, but that hasn't stopped the flame-haired vocalist bringing out another single! Swear down, Jess Glynne dropping singles like **Lindsay Lohan** drops her sobriety chips. You can tell that she's one hell of a hard-worker and we've got bundles of respect for that. 'Don't Be So Hard On Yourself' is up to the high standard of feel-good music she's been producing from day dot; literally killing the game. We predict a judging spot on X Factor in two years. I mean, if **Rita Ora** can... **Neon Jungle** have split up after just one album, but even we could've predicted that after bumping into them at Heaven and hearing one of them openly bitch about the other. Replace the fasty troublemaker and bring on album two. If you were as surprisingly turned on by **Tinashé's** last single/video, you'll be decidedly underwhelmed



Rihanna

by 'Cold Sweat'. 'Cold' being the operative word. There's nothing hot about this. The song's alright, but is accompanied by the most pointless video we've seen in decades. Honestly, we'd rather go to church. The whole thing is more disappointing than 'Pretty Girls' - and that's saying something. Sack whoever conceived these mind-numbingly dull close-

ups, and show off that hot body and those tantalizing dance moves, please.

Meanwhile, **Little Mix** sent the gays into overdrive when they performed **Ru Paul's** anthem 'Sissy That Walk' at G-A-Y. Picture hundreds of queens screaming like they've just had their G-spot tickled for the first time, and you're a fraction of the way to how wild that club went.



A Peccadillo Pictures Release

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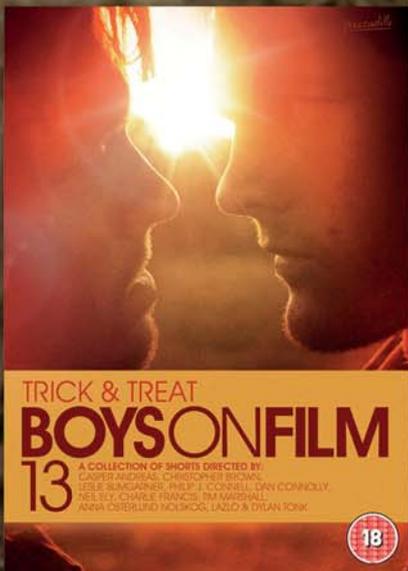
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TRICK & TREAT

Featuring Mirrors starring:

Jody Latham (Shameless, Celluloid)
& Liam Boyle (Skins)



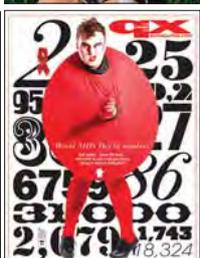
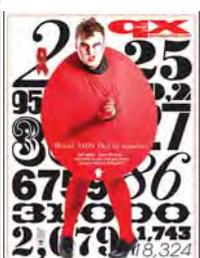
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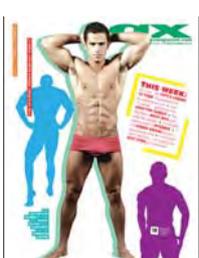


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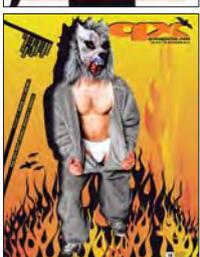
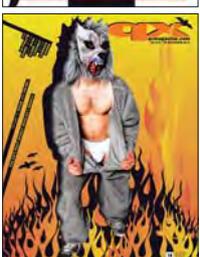
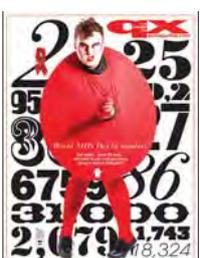
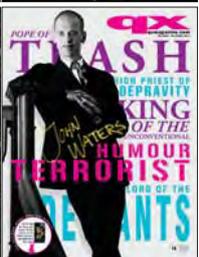
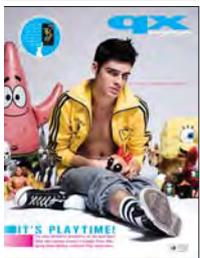
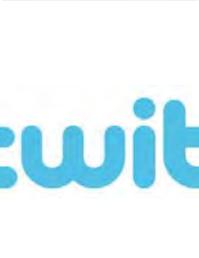
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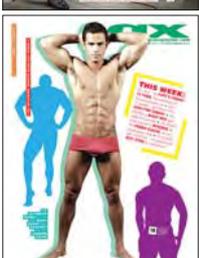
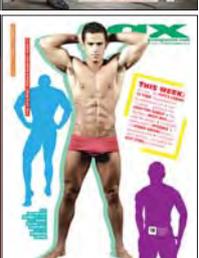


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09 July -
15 July

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

THURSDAY 9TH JULY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Trash Fashion Vogue Fabrics, 66

Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 9pm-1am. FREE b4 11pm/£5 after, NUS £3. The Dalston basement of decadent disco invites all students for a night of pished revelry.

Put It In Your Mouth at Dalston

Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-2:30am. Free. TONIGHT: Qboy and Neil Prince hold court in the top bar with the very best 90s hip hop and R&B

G-A-Y Porn Idol with guest judge

Shangela 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 Shangela

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.

#GetLaid at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. £3 entry, free entry for members. Hot tunes, play area and you might get laid.

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

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.

Room Service at 49 Greek Street, Soho, W1D. 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!

Stripladz at Fitladz East at 117 Charterhouse St, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, EC1M 6AA. 10pm-3am. Amateur strip contest with Jason Prince and Matt Unique

BARS & CABARET

CJ Live on Piano at BJ's White Swan 556 Commercial Road, E14 7JD. 5pm-2am. Open Mic night followed by DJ Demon

Girca, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1. 4pm-4am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town.

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. From 8pm. Weekly dance session at the popular Soho bar.

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

Tasty Tim's Takeover 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. DJ Tasty

Tim plays the delicious tunes.

Sibling Revelry Hippodrome at Leicester Square, WC2H 7JH. 8pm. Tickets from £25. Award winning show with a 5 day residency. Followed by **Baby Grand Live** at 11:30pm. London's biggest night out. Tickets from £15.

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. Showtime at 8pm. **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.

FRIDAY 10TH JULY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Fitladz East at 117 Charterhouse St, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, EC1M 6AA. 10pm-6am. Fitladz club spunktacular.

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.

The Glory, 281 Kingsland Road, E2

8AS. Doors 7:30pm. £5. With a pub vibe upstairs from 5pm, there's a queer basement disco downstairs from 10pm.

The Voguing Contest at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 10pm-3am. £5. TONIGHT: Voguing Contest with DJ's Loverboy, Misha Mafia and Larry B

Wrong! at Union, 66 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-1pm (Saturday). £5 before 1am. London's latest-running party now opens earlier! Uplifting tech house and techno from Jamie de Rooy, Steven Sharp, Eduardo Herrera and more!

Fhloston Paradise at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-3am. Free b4 11pm/£5 after. TONIGHT: Fhloston Paradise **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.

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.

A:M at Protocol, 6a South Lambeth Place, SW8 1SP. 11pm-11am. £4 before 1am, £8 b4 6am with QX ADVERT/NUS/Conc, £13 others. The original Saturday morning afterhours beast that continues to light up the weekend early spinning out boomin' house beats across two rooms.

Men Inc. at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY.

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9pm-3am. Free b4 10pm, £5 after. Free for Eagle/Paris Gym members before midnight. Sexy social night with men of all kinds; lads, rugby players, daddies and more! Free mega-buffet, free shots, big tunes and BEER. Get involved!

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.

BARS & CABARET

Enriched at Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 10pm-4am. FREE b4 10pm, £7 after. South London's legendary club, bar and cabaret spot. TONIGHT: Enriched presented by Gaydio and Enriched Records with Rich B and Phil Marriott.

Tonker Party at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 9pm-4pm. £5 b4 midnight, £7 after. TONIGHT: Tonker presents RVT - Bearlesque

Funky Friday at BJ's White Swan 556 Commercial Road, E14 7JD. 5pm-4am. TONIGHT: The outrageous Rose Garden with DJ Ian James.

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

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

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

Friday Night Fever at Counter, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1SR.

11am-late. serving cocktails and food in a relaxed environment, plus brunch from 11am-5pm. TO-NIGHT: DJ Chillz playing relaxing house from 9pm

Friday Night Live at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. 9pm-3am. The central London cabaret hot spot. TONIGHT: DJ Little John from 9pm with special guest Miss Jason at 10pm

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

Sibling Revelry Hippodrome at Leicester Square, WC2H 7JH. 8pm. Tickets from £25. Award winning show with a 5 day residency. Followed by **Friday Night Cabaret** at 8pm. London's biggest night out. Tickets from £15.

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 9pm-2am. The grand dame of Soho.

Karaoke at Central Station at 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open from 6pm til 3am or later... FREE The super-friendly Kings Cross bar. DJs 'til late. Hosted by DJ Chris Reardon

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!

SATURDAY 11TH JULY CLUBS & EVENTS

XXL 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.

KuKlub at Ku Bar Lisle Street at 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 10pm-3am. The party continues in Ku's basement club with hot pop and floor fillers from the DJs. TO-NIGHT: guest DJ Sexshooters

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.

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.

Battered Sausage at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-late. Free before 10pm/£6 after. TONIGHT: Battered Sausage - can you handle a big one?

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-2am. Free b4 9pm, £5 after. 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 OITNB 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: G-A-Y Penitentiary Heaven

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.

Fitladz East at 117 Charterhouse St, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, EC1M 6AA. 10pm-6am. The search for the face of Fitladz is on.

Absolut Fur at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-3am. Free before 10pm for members, £5 after, £6 OTD, £8 after midnight. TONIGHT: Pop + R&B all-bear party.

Debbie Disco Rocks at Resistance Gallery 265 Poyser st, Bethnal Green, E2 9RF, 10pm-late., £3 B4 11, £5 after. TONIGHT: Female fronted pop, rock, indie, disco queer dance party.

East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-6am. £5 before midnight, £10 after.

BARS & CABARET

Duckie RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 9pm-2am, £6. TONIGHT: Duckie's flag ship rock 'n' roll honky tonk

SaturGay at BJ's White Swan 556 Commercial Road, E14 7JD. 9pm-5am. Free entry b4 10:30pm. TONIGHT: Come down and party with Topsy Redfern

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.

Rose Gardens Saturday Market slash Swap Shop at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon St, WC2N 4JF. Open 'til 3am. Rose Garden and DJ Little

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FRIDAY 10th



DUCKIE

SATURDAY 11th



SUNDAY SOCIAL
AT THE RVT

SUNDAY 12th



THE BIG BINGO SHOW

MONDAY 13th



WOTEVER WORLD

BAR WOTEVER
TUESDAY 14th



CABARET ROULETTE
WEDNESDAY 15th



Wandsworth LGBT forum

QUEER QUESTION TIME
THURSDAY 16th

VAUXHALLTAVERN.COM

John from 4pm. Showtime at 5pm.
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: Old Ship Football Team Fundraiser for St Joseph's with Mandy Gap

Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. Cabaret and clubbing 'til late at the famous venue.

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

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 5pm-2am. The grand dame of Soho pulling in a more blokey crowd.

George & Dragon at 2 Blackheath Hill, SE10. 8pm-4am. The friendly Greenwich local.

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.

Sibling Revelry Hippodrome at Leicester Square, WC2H 7JH. 8pm. Tickets from £25. Award winning show with a 5 day residency. Followed by **Soho Burlesque Club** from 11pm. Tickets from £15. Hosted by Miss Polly Rae.

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.

Counter and **BackCOUNTER** South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1SR. 11am-late. Serving 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.

Ku Bar Soho at 25 Frith Street, WC1D 5LB. 12 midday-late. Perfect for that Soho warm-up drinking session and cheeky dance with downstairs DJs.

BRUT at Steel Yard 13-16 Allhallows

Lane, Londonm EC4R 3UL. £15. TONIGHT: Tom Stephan, Lous Lennon, Ross Jones and Ben Jamin.
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.

Circa at 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. 8pm to 5am,
The Yard at 57 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 7PL. Midday til Late. FREE. Renowned as one of Soho's most unique and popular destination venues, with terrific outdoor space.

SUNDAY 12TH JULY
CLUBS & EVENTS

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.

Sunday Social at the RVT at Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. 3pm-3am. £6. All new afternoon/evening clubbing session slot playing huge dance anthems with cabaret shows. Simon Le Vans and co. play you anthems to spice up your Sunday, while Myra DuBois gives you world class cabaret at 5:30pm.

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

Yesterday's Make Up at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-3am. Free before 10pm/£6 after. TONIGHT: Chicken, Henderson and Divinio Nino present a hot mess of a Saturday nigh party.

Orange at Fire, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RT. 9pm-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.

Rock Queer at Fat Gay Vegan, 43 Tulse Hill, Brixton, SW2 2TJ, 1pm-7am. Free. Alternative rock and indie day club for LGBT Londoners and friends.

Beyond (afterhours) at Ministry. 103 Gaunt Street, SE1 6DP, 5:30am-late. London's finest after hours moves to the world's most famous club.

BARS & CABARET

CK Sunday Halfway 2 Heaven at 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. Open 'til 11pm. TONIGHT: Crystal D'Canter & special guest Lady Diane Horan at 4pm followed by an evening with Mrs Moore and Tanya Hyde.

Leather Social's 2nd Birthday at Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 5pm-2am. The grand dame of Soho pulling in a more blokey crowd.

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.

Power of Three at the Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 4pm-2am. FREE b4 8pm, £3 after. South London's legendary club, bar and cabaret spot. TONIGHT: starring Miss Jason La Voix and Sandra.

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.

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

Boy George Experience at the Old Ship at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 8pm-midnight. Cabaret: 8pm. Free. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse. TONIGHT: Boy George Experience

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.

#LOVEHangover at Circa at 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. 4pm-4am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town. Disco Classics, pop and sexual sounds with Jonathan Bestley.

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W5 4NB. 7pm-late. FREE. West London's giant club/bar/cabaret home invites you to chill out here. **Brunch Off Broadway** at Counter, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1SR. 1pm-4pm. Newcomer to the Vauxhall scene. Brunch on Broadway this weekend features Duncan Day and Kara Van Park **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 JULY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Popcorn - House Arrest at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 11pm-5.30am. £5 b4 1am, £8 after, Last admission 3:30am. 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. **RuPaul's Drag Race hosted by Meth** followed by **Hot 'N' Hairy vs Bear Hole 'Locker Room'** at **Eagle London**, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. Free before 10pm, £5 incl. drink and coat check. New night hosted by Luis and the very hairy Dave The Bear. **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. **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, of 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

Comptons Say's Relax 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. Playing the best of the 70's, 80's and 90's. **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, 5pm-2am, £3 after 10pm. The landmark south London cabaret, bar and club. TONIGHT: Mrs Moore Monday Night Mayhem plus DJ Demon **The Old Ship** at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse. **The Big Bingo Show at The RVT**, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 7pm - 12am Free Entry, £1 per game. Timberlina with Hey Baylen bring you bingo-cabaret-mayhem at the Royal Vauxhall Tavern every Monday **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 JULY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Disco Spritz at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-2:30am. Free. TONIGHT: Disco Stew DJs present their effervescent younger sister Disco Spritz **Masterclass** at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. Free. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to. TONIGHT: learn the ropes...and chains, whips, hoods and gags. **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

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder. **See you Next Tuesday at Halfway 2 Heaven** at 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. From 9pm. See you next Tuesday with Bette Rinse and DJ LittleJohn **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. **COUNTERculture at Counter**, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1SR. 11am-late. Serving cocktails and food in a relaxed, plush environment. TONIGHT: meet the artist with Simon James Bell **Karaoke Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ**. Bar open 4pm-2am. FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. Popular South London cabaret/club spot. Karaoke hosted by Kevin Walsh. **Industry with Sam DMS Circa**, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 1am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town. **The Old Ship - Quiz Night** at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 9.30pm. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse.

WEDNESDAY 15TH JULY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Mr Glory At The Glory, 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. Doors

7:30pm. Faggerston's super-pub serves you eclectic delights. TONIGHT: The search continues for Mr Glory! The ultimate man among men!

White Leather Viper Club Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-2:30am. Free. TONIGHT: Will Viper and Emma Rudge give you electronica, disco, mutant-pop, dancing and drinking. **XXL** at Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, Southwark, SE1 9UF. 9pm-3am. £15 guests, £8 members. Midweek grizzly fun for bears and their admirers. **Ku Klub** at Ku Bar Lisle Street, 30 Lisle Street, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE. The party continues 'til late in the Ku basement. **Borstal Boys at Eagle London**, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late, members free, guests £5 after 10pm TONIGHT: show your submissive side with this night dedicated to the borstals

BARS & CABARET

Cabaret Roulette at The RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 8pm-11:30. £12. TONIGHT: eight artists who have accepted the challenge of creating a brand new act based on the theme "Bill Murray". **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. **Wednesday Naughties** at Central Station at 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open 'til 4am. FREE b4 10pm. Cabaret then DJs 'til late. **Attack Attack Attack Circa**, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 1am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town **The Edge** at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder. **Whatever Wednesdays** at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. From 9pm. Whatever Wednesday with Martha D'Arthur and Justin Swift. Showtime at 9pm. **A Team Amateur Strip Night at BJ's White Swan** 556 Commercial Road, E14 7JD. 5pm-2am. £100 first prize to the winner and £10 bar tab to all who enter

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LISTINGS INCLUDING FETISH WEEK LONDON

Fetish Week LONDON

WEDNESDAY 8TH JULY

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.
Buff at MA1 Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 7pm-11pm. £8 members/£9 guests (free drink/coat check). Horny, naked cruise party. Heated outdoor 'naked' smokers terrace.
The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1. HARD CRUZ (10pm-1am), hard cruising for hard men.
The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. OFFICE (5pm-1am) new party, relax chill and score after work. NEARLY BOLLOCK NAKED (9pm-1am) 9pm-1am. City. Boots or trainers with jocks, shorts underwear or naked.

THURSDAY 9TH JULY

The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. SM GAYS, monthly BDSM night, no dresscode. 8pm-12am. City. Boots or trainers with jocks, shorts underwear or naked.
Fitladz East at 117 Charterhouse St, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, EC1M 6AA.

10pm-4am. The fittest lads have hit Farringdon in a brand new sexy bar, with all the facilities you need to have fun. Sexy tech house ad grey trackies abound.
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.

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).

FRIDAY 10TH JULY

Fitladz East at 117 Charterhouse St, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, EC1M 6AA. 10pm-6am. The fittest lads have hit Farringdon in a brand new sexy bar, with all the facilities you need to have fun. TONIGHT: Friday Night Spunkacular
The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road,

LONDON SAUNA GUIDE

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Waterloo: 101 Lower Marsh, SE1 7AB.

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11:30am – 11:30pm Monday to Friday, 12:00 midday – 23:30pm Saturday, 12:00 midday – 22:00pm Sunday.

£17 entry, £10 before 1pm or anytime for under 25's.

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8 Cleaver St, SE11 4DP

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Kings Cross, N1.
PANTS (1pm-6pm) then buckle down for FETISH BOUND (7pm-Midnight) £6, No Dress Code, meet guys into feet, socks and footwear. REMIX (12pm-3am) FREE, with DJs an electric atmosphere and cruisy dark areas.

Cruise/Darkroom at Ted's Place, 305a North End Road, W14 9NS. 7pm-midnight. £3. Horny night in the cruisy basement club in West London.

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.

The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. 10pm-3am. Sweat vs Oi M8. Dresscode: Leather, rubber, nasty pig, sports, industrial, uniform or jock boots and socks.

SATURDAY 11TH JULY

Mastery Rawhide: Leather & Levi at MA1 Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 10pm-late. £10 members, £15 guests. Brew Hunter's Mastery returns with the strictest dress code of leather and rubber ONLY. Expect sex, S&M and submission.
Buff at MA1 Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 6pm-10pm. £8 members, £9 guests.

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Fitladz East at 117 Charterhouse St, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, EC1M 6AA.

10pm-6am. The fittest lads have hit Farringdon in a brand new sexy bar, with all the facilities you need to have fun. TONIGHT: Londons sexiest lads battle it out to be the Face of Fitladz!

The Underground

Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1. PANTS (1-6pm, £4) Best undies for the boys. COLLARED (6:30pm-midnight) £5 members, £10 non-members. REMIX (12pm-3am) £5, with DJs an electric atmosphere and cruisy dark areas.

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.

The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. BOYS & SIRS 2pm-7pm, SBN Afterdark (arch 1) 10pm-4am. HARDER (Bar Berlin), 10pm-4am. GUMMI (Bar Berlin) 10pm-4am.

SUNDAY 12TH JULY

SBN at The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. 2pm-1am/ Nearly Bollock Naked, 7pm-1am. S.E.X. from 10pm-1am.

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

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

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

Vault: Underwear/

Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, 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.

MONDAY 13TH JULY

Fetish Week Screening at Ham Yard Theatre 1 Ham Yard, London W1D 7DT, 7pm-10pm, £13. Iconic and provocative fetish film, that'll get you in the mood for all the fun to come

Sportswear/Cruise at Ted's Place, 305a North End Rd, W14. 7pm-midnight. £3. Football shorts freaks, Speedo lovers, basketball tops (and bottoms), rugby buggers and trackie sluts unite!

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

Hot N Hairly 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 JULY

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

Bondage Masterclass Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, SE22 5QY, 9pm-3am, £5, Last year's hugely successful official fetish week event returns with an instructed class to start proceedings
Club CP at Bunker Bar, 217, City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN, 7pm-11pm, £6 non members, £5 members. Full bar, loads of areas to play in, video room, equipment to use.

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. 1pm-1am. £7 b4 7pm/£8 after. Cruising session at this horny hot spot.

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

WEDNESDAY 15TH JULY

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.
Buff at MA1 Backstreet,

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

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1. HARD CRUZ (10pm-1am), hard cruising for hard men. SWEET WEDNESDAY, 1pm-9pm. £10 for TV/TG Girls / £20 for admirers

The FWL Dungeon Workshop at The Hoist, Main Arch, 8 pm-late: SM Gays. No dresscode. at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. OFFICE (5pm-1am) new party, relax chill and score after work. NEARLY BOLLOCK NAKED (9pm-1am) 9pm-1am. City. Boots or trainers with jocks, shorts underwear or naked.

THURSDAY 16TH JULY

The Official Recon Sports Party at The Hoist, 10pm-4am, dress sports and jocks. at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. SM GAYS, monthly BDSM night, no dresscode. 8pm-12am. City. Boots or trainers with jocks, shorts underwear or naked.
Fitladz East at 117

Charterhouse St, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, EC1M 6AA. 10pm-4am. The fittest lads have hit Farringdon in a brand new sexy bar, with all the facilities you need to have fun. Sexy tech house ad grey trackies abound.

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.

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).

Mastery Cigar at MA1 Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 8pm-late. £10 members, £15 guests. Join CigarMaster Brew Hunter and London's hottest cigar daddies, bois, slaves, pubs and ashtrays.

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

Hi Dr Alex,

I have two weeks holiday in Mykonos in July/August. Yipee! I'm pale and look and feel better with some colour. But I also burn easily and worried about skin cancer and skin ageing. I know the most sensible thing is to stay pale but I know once I'm there and see all those bronzed bodies I'll be flat on my back soaking up the rays. Is there any way I can get a healthy tan?

You're right that sunlight tends to improve our general well-being and make us happier. It does this by causing us to produce more of the "happy hormone" called serotonin. Sunlight is also the main source of Vitamin D, which is vital to good health. It is literally made in the skin when you are exposed to sunlight. To get enough it's advised that you need 2-3 sun exposures per week in the summer months (April to September). Each exposure should last 20-30 minutes and be to bare arms and face. Short frequent periods of time in the sun are much more beneficial than long

periods of time. It needs to be exposure to direct sunlight and not through a window.

But too much sunlight is harmful and can damage the skin, causing skin cancer and premature ageing. So there is, unfortunately, no such thing as a 'healthy tan' as this is simply the skin's response to the sun's damaging rays and is therefore an indicator of sun damage rather than good health!

If you are going to tan then the main message is to do it very, very slowly. To reduce your risk of skin damage NEVER allow yourself to burn. Sunburn is the warning sign that you are putting yourself at risk and increasing

your chances of skin cancer and premature skin ageing.

As you are pale skinned you are more prone to burn and the Greek sun in July/August is fierce, so make sure you have the right amount of sun cream. These creams are designed to protect skin from UVA and UVB radiation, which may increase the risk of developing skin cancer. SPF indicates the amount of protection offered against UVB, which is the main cause of sunburn. Protection from harmful UVA rays, the main cause of premature skin ageing, is typically indicated by a separate star rating. Far too many people are not aware that they need to look out for the SPF rating (minimum a 30) for UVB and the star rating for UVA. These creams should not be used to allow you to remain in the sun

for longer - use them only to give yourself greater protection. No sunscreen is 100% effective and so it provides less protection than clothes or shade.

Ideally you would miss the hottest part of the day - that's about 12-3, when the sun's rays are strongest, wear a hat and, dare I say it, cover up a bit! Remember most fabrics allow a lot of sunlight through. You need to wear tightly-woven clothes to protect from the sun's rays. If you can see light through a fabric then damaging UV rays can get through too.

Being tanned does help with that all important muscle definition. But remember: that fake tan is not a sunscreen, and, if you plan to go out in the sun, you will need to apply another product. Have a great holiday.

To reduce your risk of skin damage NEVER allow yourself to burn

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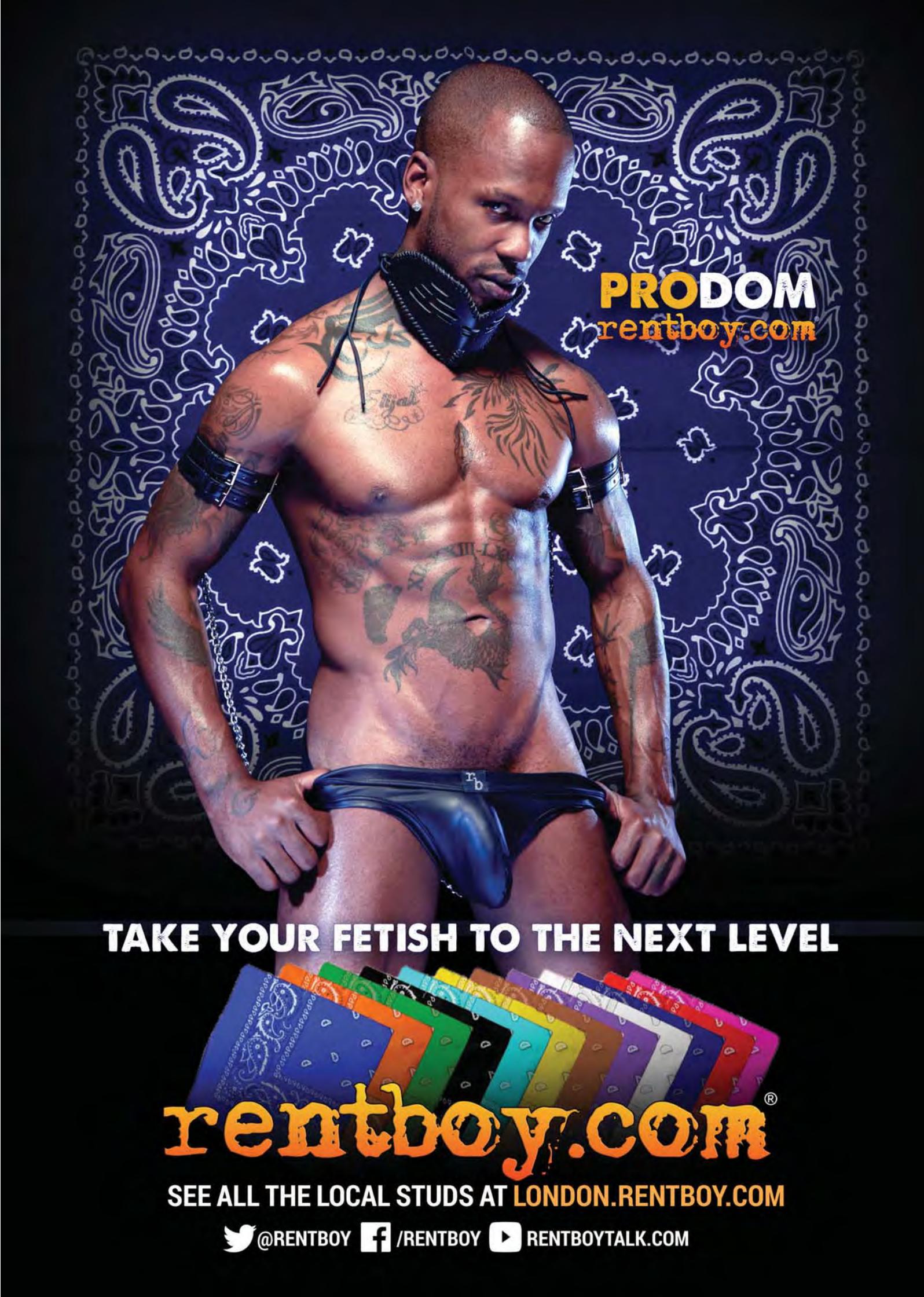
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