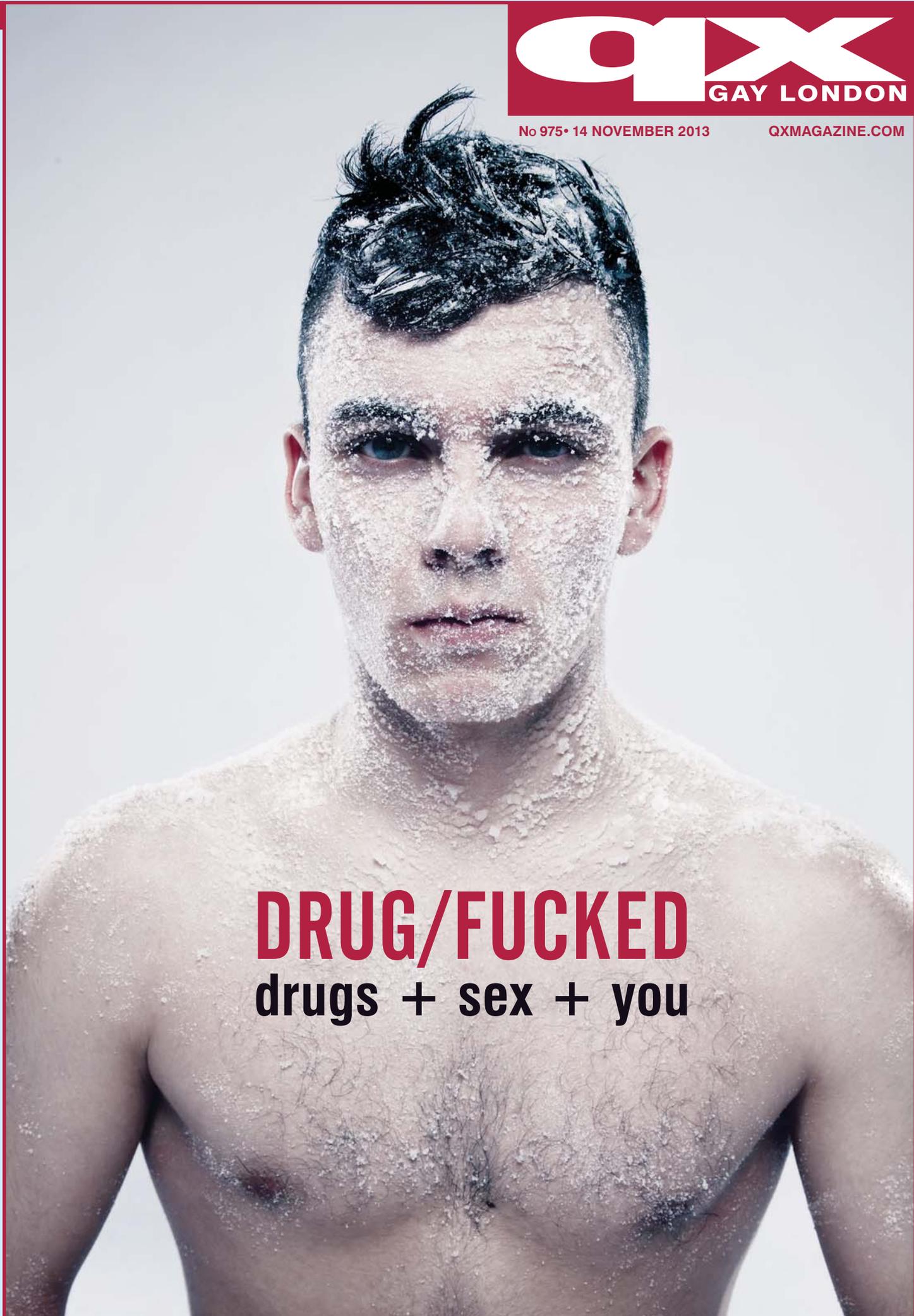


QX
GAY LONDON

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QXMAGAZINE.COM



DRUG/FUCKED
drugs + sex + you

WHAT'S UP,

DOC?

By Patrick Cash



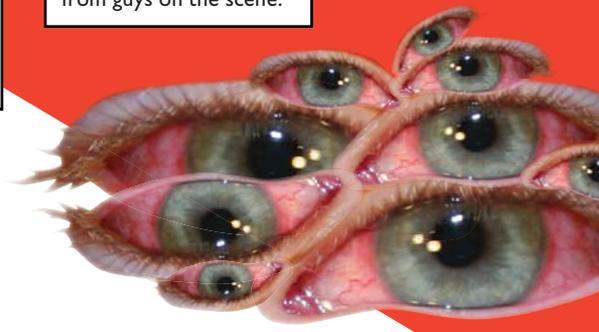
If there's something up, then it isn't simply sex and its relation to drugs. Sex is generally enjoyable. Drugs can be enjoyable, too. A lot of people enjoy both of them and often at the same time. The great hand of moralising Puritanism isn't going to stretch down from the heavens and smite you for admitting to enjoying these pleasures. We're only human, after all. ¶ What's up is problematic drug use linked to unsafe sex, STIs being transmitted rampantly because of this and rising HIV rates across the capital. The spread of disease, without a thought to its perfectly possible prevention (the condom), shows a real lack of concern and self-esteem amongst gay men, which possibly spurs on their drug use...

It's a kind of crazy Catch-22, serpent eating itself, where men who have sex with men are taking drugs to free up their inhibitions and smother their difficulties, which makes them take sexual risks that could potentially send them into a greater tangle of social difficulties and, consequently, heavier drug use. 'People take drugs for the problems they've got,' says David Stuart of club-drugs clinic Antidote.

This is speaking of specifically problematic drug use; we're not aiming to demonise drug users or imply that because someone takes a bump or two at the weekend in a club they have a drugs problem. But the gay community does have a disproportionately large number of drug users compared to wider society in general, and people are wondering if there are more ingrained reasons behind this: psychologically, emotionally and where the gay man stands in his relation to his wider culture.

A gay doctor named Adam Bourne is currently trying to work out more specifically what these reasons might be, by talking one-on-one to interviewees in confidential settings about their drug use and sex lives. We spoke to him to find out more about this study, how the research will be used, and to other figures on the gay scene about how they perceive 'chemsex', from sexual health experts to personal testimonials from guys on the scene.

Why is HIV more common among gay men?
Why is drug and alcohol use higher and why are mental health problems more common?"





Feeling horny and having fantasies is a right, an entitlement, and not something we need to be ashamed of.”

About the Study

Dr Adam Bourne, Sigma Research

How did this particular study come about?

If we're to try and reduce the harms that some guys are experiencing when having chemsex (such as HIV or other STI transmission) then we need to understand

exactly how and why they use them, what they feel the costs and benefits are of using drugs, and what (if any) problems they have experienced. Since April of this year local councils have been in charge of public health, and Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham councils kindly funded this work so they can better understand the needs of their residents.

What kind of participants are you looking for?

We're looking for guys who are into chemsex, or 'party n' play' – essentially guys who use drugs like GHB/GBL, crystal meth, or mephedrone when having sex. Often this might be at sex parties or sex orgies or could be at saunas as well. Because of how the work is funded, the men we interview need to live in either Lambeth, Southwark or Lewisham and they need to be over 18 years of age.

What is its purpose?

The research will directly inform the development of new campaigns or services to help gay men with their drug use. In order for campaigns to work properly they need to take account of what people value - what is important in their everyday lives and what motivates them to behave in certain ways.

How did you get involved with the study?

As a gay man myself, I've always been interested in why it is that gay men share a disproportionate burden of ill-health: why is HIV more common among gay men? Why is drug and alcohol use higher, and why are mental health problems more common?

Paul Steinberg, HIV Prevention & Sexual Health Commissioning Manager

Why is this study specifically centred on Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham (LSL)?

LSL have the estimated

largest population of gay and bisexual men per borough in the country, with a large number of venues located there.

We made a commitment to focus on HIV prevention and related issues. This study is just one example of that commitment. The research will inform how we improve the sexual health of gay men in the future.

Do you think this is a positive sign that more London councils might follow?

Directors of Public Health, in conjunction with London Councils, the body which represents all local authorities in the capital, are currently conducting a needs assessment into HIV prevention, including factors which lead to risk-taking such as substance use. Men who have sex with men are a key group within this needs assessment, and all boroughs have recognised the importance of these issues.

Sexual Health Experts on Chemsex



David Stuart, Antidote

'We live these "respectable" gay lives for our parents, for our straight friends and family; that same act we learned at school when we were trying to avoid being bullied. Even though we're "out" to our friends, family and work colleagues we give them the clean, respectable version of our gay life; acting "straight", not at all promiscuous, and waiting for that one special person. In this world, within this performance, there are responsibilities we honour and consequences we negotiate.

So, where is the space for us to explore our (different) sexuality; to be affirmed as sexual beings, despite the clean cut version we're always portraying? What if, we have these darker sexual urges to explore; what if we like to get pig-fucked while wearing a leather harness on the weekend? After a lifetime of denying these desires, of performing the polar opposite to a hetero-normalised

world, they are bound to scream for satisfaction at some point. Feeling horny and having fantasies is a right, an entitlement, and not something we need to be ashamed of. Not that we need to show our Mum the video, but certainly not something doused in shame.

This is called "splitting". Disappearing into a fantasy "bubble", where we can explore these things with abandon, often facilitated by drugs, where the consequences and responsibilities seem far, far away. Almost like it's not the "real" me.

But it is you. And the consequences do follow you back to the real world. Consequences like HIV, Hepatitis C and PEP; like feeling shitty, missing work, and losing sight of the value of sober sex, and relationships.

The job for a support worker, would be to help someone to integrate these "two selves"; to give them "permission" to feel horny. It *is* ok to be that responsible, respectable gay son, and it *is* ok for that same person to have full blown sexual desires. They needn't be irreconcilable polar opposites. And we oughtn't need drugs to go exploring it."



Dr Alan McOwan, CODE Clinic

'Feeling sexually aroused is a very pleasurable feeling, so it's no great surprise to me that a drug like crystal meth that removes your inhibitions and makes people feel incredibly horny for prolonged periods of time is going to be attractive to many gay men. However,

what I find so insidious is the way that crystal meth seems to blind people when there are obvious warning signs that their drug use is getting out of control. It's shocking to watch how quickly rational intelligent successful people can sleep walk into losing their health, friends, partner, job or home.'

Chemsex and I:

Personal Testimonials



Alex Palumbo, Student

'I've done it quite a few times. I find that in comparison to sober sex, it's obviously a lot easier to have chemsex because your sense of judgement is completely impaired, people who are less attractive look more attractive, there's less need for conversation because the drugs totally get you into a head space. It gets to the stage where you can either have moderate chemsex, where you don't take too much, but there's also the darker side of it where both of you are so fucked, there's no real sex going on, it's just a lot of drug taking, a lot of failed attempts to have sex. People go under. It just becomes a bit scary and a bit gross – I mean at the time it's fine, looking back on it is scary.

At the moment I'm in treatment and recovery, but in hindsight my stomach drops when I think of what I've done, my stomach drops when I think of the quantity of drugs I've taken. There's something about gay society that makes me think it's okay to take that quantity of drugs. Crystal meth is one of the most physically and mentally damaging drugs on the scene, but everyone's taking it so lightly, giving it a really feminine name like 'oh Tina', just to make it this friendly drug, when it's not, it's dangerous.

With my own experience, I just felt a bit lost. I came out to my school friends at the age of thirteen which was fine, the girls were fine and the boys were scared of me, and when I started engaging in inner city life you don't really know who to talk to. So you create a Manhunt account at the age of sixteen; someone picks you up, you go to a nightclub and it's the most incredible thing in the world: you're suddenly in a world where everyone is exactly like you and the only way to really belong is to do what everyone else is doing which is to get buff, take your top off, start dancing and do drugs.

You make friendships that are sort of superficial and chemical-based and then I think it just escalates from there. I think it's a lack of belonging, and a sense that in order to belong you need to partake in activities such as barebacking and drug-taking. In modern society I think there's still a real sense that homosexuality is taboo, it's a bit dirty. And because you grow up with it, knowing intrinsically that there's something not quite mainstream about me, something a bit taboo, then obviously I'm going to gravitate towards the darkness, because that's something that I associate with myself.'

Photo: Chris Jepson



Peter Wilson, DJ

'I feel genuinely sad about the lack of compassion people had for each other whilst taking drugs as people are often at their most vulnerable whilst they are high. Seeing men on the verge of losing consciousness on G was unsettling in

itself but what was more disturbing was seeing countless men trying to fuck them; scrambling around naked and knocking into one and other like wolves fighting over a carcass. It's all or nothing at these parties - you can't pick and choose who you want to sleep with, which I think puts pressure on gay men to take drugs to excess as a way of being intimate with those they most likely wouldn't sleep with sober.

It gets them to the stage where they no longer have to worry about being safe - most likely because their eyes are rolling to the back of their head. If this wasn't the case, and drugs weren't needed as a medium to enable intimacy, then why is it that so many men rarely meet up sober after having sex on drugs and often don't talk to each other again unless they are repeating the same behaviour?'

Seeing men on the verge of losing consciousness on G was unsettling in itself but what was more disturbing was seeing countless men trying to fuck them"



Tom R, Journalist

'For me it all started as part of the need to join the big gay party where it seemed to go hand-in-hand; part of the hedonistic, Bacchanalian live fast, die young image.'



Pedro Sousa Louro, Artist

'I wasn't successful in anyway. Didn't find my love, only lost souls with shadows of emptiness. This experience is not nice or beautiful or anything else, like the way it is advertised in the gay chems sex scene.'

David Stuart, Peter Wilson, Alex Palumbo will all feature on a panel for the 'Chem Sex: Danger in our Bedrooms, Lives, Communities' forum at the RVT, (372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY) on Thursday 21st November at 7pm, £5 (£3 NUS).

To find out more information about

Dr Adam Bourne's Chemsex Study and possibly participate in a confidential interview go to: www.chemsexstudy.com

At the time of going to press, London Councils have just announced the plan for a pan-London HIV prevention programme across all thirty-three boroughs, with services aimed at gay men including condom distribution and some outreach work. The move has been welcomed by charities like THT.

NATIONAL HIV TESTING WEEK 22-29 NOVEMBER 2013

22-29
NOVEMBER
EUROPEAN
HIV TESTING
WEEK
2013
www.hivtestingweek.eu



We're testing



If we all test, we can help stop HIV. 

Join us and find out where to test:

StartsWithMe.org.uk  [startswithme](https://www.facebook.com/startswithme)  [@startswith_me](https://twitter.com/startswith_me)

**IT STARTS
WITH
ME**

Produced by Terrence Higgins Trust for HIV PREVENTION ENGLAND
Terrence Higgins Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales (reg. no. 285521) and in Scotland (SC039986)





How to survive a **PLAGUE**



The most talked about film at this year's London Gay and Lesbian Film Festival was undoubtedly *How to Survive a Plague*, a film about the AIDS epidemic of the 1980s and the Act Up group dedicated to saving the lives of gay men. We spoke with director **David France** to find out more about the film and why he decided to revisit this subject now...

By Patrick Cash

What made you decide that now was the right time to release the film?

Well, you know I started work on it almost four years ago and it takes a while for your own curiosity, having gone through a period like that, to drive you back to that period and for me that took about fifteen years. And when I started going back to tell some of those stories – I'm a print journalist – I was really surprised how little people know.

You thought the message was fading away?

Yes. It had somehow escaped the history books. And you know my generation had kind of stopped talking about it. I grew up knowing that the Holocaust generation didn't talk about what happened to them. And I realised that we had stopped talking about what happened to us. And really you can hold us responsible for this lack of historicisation of this time. And so I thought if people don't know it and they're hungry for it then I should go back and begin to tell those stories. The film is part of a series of projects that I have about that period.

And in terms of your interviewees and subjects did you know them personally? Was it hard to convince them to take part?

I knew them professionally. You know I was a journalist, not a member of Act Up. Although I'm in that footage, you can see me way in the background, in crowds on the sidewalk during the demonstration, interviewing people and just gathering my notes together. I was friendly only with one person from the group and that was Bob Rafsky who died in '92, '93. But I'd interviewed most of those people in the past, so they knew me, they knew my work, and you know I'm still writing about AIDS, so I'm one of the few people who's kind of covered the epidemic from the very beginning. But that didn't make it easy for them to say yes to come talk to me. There was a lot of resistance and you know I think it was resistance to go back and revisit those years. I mean the hardest person for me to get to come and talk was Garance Franke-Riuta; she had a traumatic response to the epidemic and she responded to that traumatic memory by kind of closing it off and never discussing it. And in some ways she tried to eliminate it from her own

I grew up knowing that the Holocaust generation didn't talk about what happened to them. And I realised that we had stopped talking about what happened to us.

personal history, which of course you can't do, but it made her not want to come and sit and when she showed up she was angry.

How did you persuade her?

Well she had said yes, and she lives in Washington and I live in New York so I brought my whole crew to Washington, which is expensive, for an independent thing like this. We set up a studio and then it was time for her to come

and she didn't. She said she wasn't going to come and she said she had nothing to say and I said 'you know, we actually took hotel rooms for eleven people'. I said 'you have to come, you just have to'. So she came from a sense of obligation, but she was angry at having to think about this, and angry at having to talk about this. She kept saying 'I don't remember anything, I don't remember anything' – but you could see it in the film how much she knew.

The full interview with David France is carried on at: www.qxmagazine.com/blog-event/how-to-survive-a-plague/

How to Survive a Plague is out now in cinemas across London.



Images © Donna Binder



G-A-Y The Album

3 CD/DOWNLOAD

THURS 14th NOV



G-A-Y
Katy Perry
PORN IDOL

Show Your **PEACOCK**
or
CALIFORNIA GURL
Show Your
FIREWORK

If Its Your **TEENAGE DREAM**
To Be A Contestant text **07789 553 868**

FREE ENTRY
WRIST BANDS from G-A-Y BAR

FRIDAYS

HEAVEN
11pm - 4am

G-A-Y
CAMP
ATTACK

FREE ENTRY
WITH FLYERS
FROM G-A-Y Bar

WWW.G-A-Y.CO.UK

SAT 16th NOV

G-A-Y

HEAVEN 10.30pm - 5am

BBC Children In Need Single
'HOW LONG WILL I LOVE YOU'

ELLIE GOULDING

Plus

ABI ALTON

5th Act To Be
Voted Off



£6 ENTRY WRIST BANDS from G-A-Y Bar



SAT 23rd NOV

Gabrielle

+6th Act To Be Voted Off The X Factor



SAT 30th NOV

LEONA LEWIS

CHRISTMAS WITH
LOVE AT G-A-Y

+7th Act To Be Voted Off The X Factor

THURSDAY
G-A-Y PORN IDOL
FREE ENTRY
WITH THIS VOUCHER

FRIDAY
G-A-Y CAMP ATTACK
FREE ENTRY
WITH THIS VOUCHER

SAT 16th NOV
ELLIE GOULDING
£9 ENTRY
WITH THIS VOUCHER

“I DIDN'T

WANT TO

MAKE A GAY ISSUE

MOVIE”

In the 1990s, **DAVID W ROSS** was a member of the boy-band Bad Boys Inc, then memorably made the transition to actor with a key role in *Quinceañera* (aka *Echo Park L.A.*). Born in England and now based in Los Angeles, the openly gay and rather ridiculously fit David has written and starred in *'I Do'*, a comedy-drama that explores marriage equality from an unusual angle. **Jack Leger** had a few questions...



Where did you get the idea for *'I Do'*?

I was working on a gay Green Card comedy script, based on some friends who had been in a Green Card marriage but also because a guy I fell in love with couldn't stay in the States. It was looking at how American law meant, basically, that if you get married as a gay person you can't stay in the country. If you're straight, even if you get married in Vegas having just met each other, you can get full rights, benefits and protections. It was pretty fucked! But I realised this wasn't at all funny, so the comedy became a drama.

Is your character Jack autobiographical? How are you different?

I've always wanted a sense of family, a sense of belonging, not feeling like I was on the outside of my life. I think a lot of gay guys want to stop the cycle of one-night stands and meet "the guy" who you can settle down with, but

we're not shown that's possible. Maybe now we are a little more, but growing up I never thought being in a long-term relationship, let alone marriage and kids, were possible. What's different about about Jack? He's got a great arse!

Yes, and you're naked a lot in the film. Were any scenes embarrassing to shoot?

I was the most naked of everyone! I do remember the kissing scene by the fridge with Maurice Compte, who plays my boyfriend. He has a wife and kids and was a good sport the whole time. A great actor, too. But it got a little awkward as I think the crew were fucking with us, making us do a lot of takes. He's a really good kisser, that's all I'll say.

The film makes some strong comments on promiscuity.

It's only an issue if it's an issue. I think straight people are just as slutty. I'm a little tired of people pointing the finger at the gay

community for being so sexual when we're all doing it. I've got some straight married friends who do crazy shit. I think for my character, and for lots of guys out there, fuck-buddies serve a purpose and there's nothing wrong with it. Some hot, safe sport-fucking is healthy I think! Just don't get it twisted, you know? Love should always win if that's your thing. It takes a brave soul to open up to someone.

The film deals with gay marriage but never feels like an issue movie.

I didn't want to make a gay issue movie. I'd rather stick pins in my eye than watch that sort of thing. I love family dramas and wanted the gay issue to be on the sidelines. I think the trap for "gay filmmakers" is to make films that are too narrow in their scope. We still need our stories to be told, but I think the audience has moved on a little. And I think we as filmmakers need to tell bigger stories. We are all human, after all, and being gay is only part of that story.

'I Do' is out on DVD and VOD from Peccadillo. <http://www.peccapics.com/>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

★ DUCKIE



Friday 22nd November 9pm-3am Electric Brixton

Live action from

Marc Almond
English Chamber Choir
Marisa Carnesky
Anna Frisch
Amy Lamé
Jay Cloth
Mouse
Readers Wives

Tickets £18 in advance from duckie.co.uk
or in person from The Retro Bar
or on the night on the door (if any are left)



INFORMER

THE WHO, WHAT, WHY, WHERE, WHEN OF GAY LONDON...



DRESSED AS A GIRL

KICKSTARTER LAUNCH

Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE

Friday 15th November, 8pm.

www.manbarsoho.com

British director **Colin Rothbart** has filmed over two hundred hours of footage focusing on East London's brightest alternative drag stars, including **Jonny Woo, Holestar, John Sizzle, Amber de Hanika and Scottee**. At this moment *Dressed as a Girl* is nearing the end of principal filming and now the film-makers are ready to finish this baby off – and they are seeking funding for the final touches. Get yourselves to Manbar on Thursday night to find out more about this cult classic in the making, meet the *Dressed as a Girl* stars and watch them perform, with a screening of rough cut clips from the movie and the trailer.

KNOW YOUR STATUS @ G-A-Y

WORLD AIDS DAY HIV TESTING

G-A-Y Bar, 30 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UR

Sunday 1st December, 2-9pm



To mark World AIDS Day **G-A-Y Bar** is hosting free HIV testing, in association with Soho sexual health clinic **56 Dean Street** and the charity that G-A-Y tirelessly campaigns for: the **Elton John AIDS Foundation**. 56 Dean Street will have their professional staff and facilities present, ready to answer all your questions. Help create an AIDS free future this World AIDS Day and everyone who gets tested (from 2-9pm) goes into a draw to win £1,000 that will be announced at 10pm. For every person tested G-A-Y will also donate £1 to the Elton John AIDS Foundation.



BRINGING GAY BUSINESSES TOGETHER

DOWNLOAD APP: OUTSAVVY

www.outsavvy.com

Outsavvy is a digital lifestyle directory of gay friendly businesses supplying offers for the gay friendly community. They only work with LGBT friendly businesses, whether they themselves are gay establishments or whether they simply wish to demonstrate their support for the LGBT community. Through the app and website they can provide discounts and exclusive offers to users – so, the makers say, live for less in your city whilst supporting those businesses actively making a difference!





POPCORN
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MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
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ADAM TURNER, NEROLI, PAULO MORENO, JAMIE HAMMOND, LITTLE ROB, DMS
4 ROOMS OF EDM: PROGRESSIVE HOUSE, RNB, POP AND DEEP HOUSE
FEATURING A LIVE P.A. FROM

marcella woods

MAIN STAGE SHOW AT 2AM WITH ACCOMPANYING GOGO DANCERS & PRODUCTION THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT

ALL FREE ENTRY CONCESSIONS ARE VALID BEFORE 1AM ONLY FREE ENTRY WRISTBANDS AVAILABLE FROM G-A-Y BAR, SOHO
STUDENTS -FREE ENTRY WITH YOUR STUDENT CARD B4 1AM

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CLUB NEWS

14/11/13: G-A-Y PORN IDOL - 'KATY PERRY NIGHT'

'Roar' if you want to get naked on stage and maybe win a cash prize. For a chance to win £100 (or £1,000 in the final) then all you have to do is get on stage and prance like a 'Peacock' before showing everyone your 'Firework'. (See what we did there!) Judges **Baga Chipz**, G-A-Y's **Michael** and **Tanya Hyde** will be judging the wannabe strippers, with an acid tongue. To be a contestant text **07789 553 868**.

Heaven, Viliers Street,
Charing Cross, WC2N
6NG. 11pm-5am.
Free entry wrist bands
from G-A-Y Bar



14/11/13: FLAUNT

Lonnie Gordon hosts Manbar's new weekly Thursday night, 'Flaunt'. Expect live songs, pumping disco and some hot go-go boys gyrating. Even better it's only £3 for certain potent beverages before 11pm. So if you want to find us on Thursday we'll be propping up the Manbar bar, drooling over the dancers. Manbar.

Manbar, 79
Charing Cross
Road, Soho,
WC2H
0NE.
Open until
3.30am.
Free.



16/11/13: XXL 'RUBBER'

It's that time of the month where the bears shed their fur and don latex instead. Clean the lube off those tight rubber shorts and chaps and wear them out for the night. Men of all shapes, sizes, persuasions and nations are invited to come to XXL and get a bit kinky!

Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza,
Southwark, SE1 9UF.
10pm-7am. Members £8,
guests £15.



Christian M



16/11/13: ELLIE GOULDING @ G-A-Y

Ellie Goulding will be taking to the stage where she'll 'Burn' like a bright star, as she performs her new Children in Need single 'How Long Will I Love You?' The blonde beauty will also be joined by the latest act to be voted of the X Factor **Abi Alton**. And, as ever, the many floors will be giving us something for everyone with a selection of the best pop, house and R'n'B.

Heaven, Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 6NG. 10pm-5am. £6 wristbands available from G-A-Y Bar.



Abi Alton



16/11/13: ENERGY BEARS

Energy Bears returns to Barcode London with guest international DJ **Severino Panzetta** alongside **Micky Galliano** and **Robb White** playing house in the Main room, whilst the Front Room sees Classics from DJ **Rob C London** and **Nico De Ceglia**. Hosted by **Paul Marcus** and **Justin King** with sexy live performances by pornstars **Aaron Steel** and **Justin King**.

Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1. 10pm-7am. £6 before midnight/£8 after.

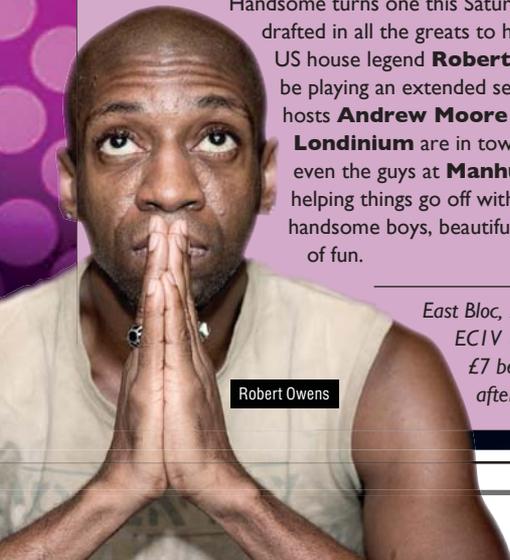


Severino

16/11/13: HANDSOME

Handsome turns one this Saturday and they've drafted in all the greats to help celebrate. US house legend **Robert Owens** will be playing an extended set, beautiful hosts **Andrew Moore** and **Johanna Londinium** are in town to party and even the guys at **Manhunt.net** are helping things go off with a bang. Expect handsome boys, beautiful music and a lot of fun.

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



Robert Owens





16/11/13: GUTTERSLOT'S 'GUTTERBALL'

The filthy sluts from the Gutter are going back to their roots and have gone and booked themselves into a strip club for this year's GutterBall! We can't wait to join **Jonny Woo** and the team on stage, slide down some of



Per QX

the poles ourselves and perform some of our sexiest dance moves. Music comes from DJs **Per QX, Nic Fisher, Ralf O** and **Ms Crystal MC**.

Metropolis Strip Club, 234 Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9NN. 10pm-5am. £8 advance tickets, £12 on the door.



16/11/13: LITTLE GAY BROTHER PRESENTS 'THE BACK HOUSE'

This night is inspired by Dolly Parton's 'The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas' and the Dalston Superstore's love for late night working girls everywhere. Upstairs, you can expect amazing bar top dancers and Burt Reynolds look-alikes who'll be high kicking to '9 till 5'. There'll be



special Dolly cocktails and prizes for the best fancy dress. Downstairs DJ **Chris Camplin** will be providing the tunes in the basement brothel.

Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB. 9pm-3am.

POPCORN - GEISHA & PANDORA

Popcorn is one the biggest club nights in London, renowned for its amazing production values, gorgeous gogo dancers and generally fantastic atmospheres. Every Monday it has a different theme and on the 18th November don't miss DJs **Adam Turner, Neroli, Paulo Moreno** and **Jamie Hammond** giving it

their all for Popcorn 'Geisha'. Head back on 25th

November when you can find **'Pandora'** being let loose in

the Departure Lounge with guest DJs **Jodie Harsh, Tasty Tim** as **Adam Turner, Jamie Hammond** and **Alan K** pump it out on the main floor.

Heaven, Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 6NG. 11pm-5.30am. £4 before 1am, £8 afterwards. Free entry wristbands available from G-A-Y Bar.



Jodie Harsh



Tasty Tim



Adam Turner



MANHUNT

HANDSOME ROBERT OWENS

extended set!

1st BIRTHDAY 16.11.13 22.30-06.00

DAVE KENDRICK/JOHNNY KALIFORNIA

MISTAMAKER/AFWA/JOHANNA LONDINIUM

HOSTED BY ANDREW MOORE

EAST BLOC, 217 CITY RD., EC1V 1JN £7 B4 00.00 THEN £10



EVERY THURSDAY: VIBE, POPVIBE & SEXVIBE

The Vibe room gives you the best in all things R'n'B, bashment, hip-hop and Afrobeatz with **Kingsley** and **El Moreno** bringing the urban beats. Then there's the PopVibe room, hosted by **Jason Prince** and **Matt Unique**. Playing commercial R'n'B and all things popstastic, they certainly know how to get that special pop vibe on. Upstairs is **SexVibe**, an infamous upstairs men-only relaxation zone that offers a welcome respite from the mayhem on the dancefloors. 3 clubs in 1 for just £5!

Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1. 11pm-4am. £5.



SESE @ GUTTERBALL



SESE'S GUTTERBALL TOP 10

1. **'Nightflow' (Kenny Larkin Drama Mix)**
- **La Fleur**
Can't get it out my brain.
2. **'A Jimi' (San Marco & Don Ramons Spaghetti House mix)**
- **Ordinary Subject**
My buddies from Zürich.
3. **'Your Love' ft. Jem Cooke (Original Mix)**
- **Kate Simko, Jem Cooke**
Lovely piano and voice.

Tell us in one juicy sentence who Sese is!

I consider myself a nightlife activist. Berlin gives us so many opportunities to work creatively and make use of the free spaces that the city has.

Describe your musical taste to us...

I like it groovy and deep - the beat has to roll.

What's the best thing about Berlin's club scene?

The absolute freedom in choosing when, where and how you wanna go out - and who you go home with!

How did you hook up with the GutterSlut crew to play at GutterBall?

We stage GutterSlut parties at our home club Chalet in Berlin. We all became friends while the first event happened as we couldn't stop dancing in the garden to Akirahawks. Maybe you remember the sailor in the middle of the dancefloor... Was that me?

GutterSlut

GutterSlut's 'GutterBall' is at **Metropolis Strip Club (234 Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9NN)** on **Saturday 16th November, 10pm-5am.**

4. **'Mescaline Circus' (Original Mix)**
- **Dan Berkson & James What**
Keep it minimal.

5. **'Outside Amore' (Original Mix)**
- **Man Tear**
For the good mood.

6. **'Lost In Prague' (Tom Gillieron Remix)**
- **DJ Schwa & Lucas Hulan**
Massive drums - swinging bassline.

7. **'It's Braining Schnaps And Frogs' (Katraven Remix)**
- **Joney**
Relax to this.

8. **'Disco on the Dancefloor'**
- **Kellerkind**
Nice discotrack.

9. **'Stay Down'**
- **Findling & Lihab**
A funny one - for outdoor use.

10. **'I'm Free' ft. Paul Randolph (Carl Craig Remix)**
- **Catz n' Dogz**
Nice last one

CLUB NEWS

21/11/13: FAGZ

A new night of punk/rock/electro launches in Dalston at groovy Vogue Fabrics, hosted by maverick DJ extraordinaire **Dr Kemp**, with accomplice **Matthew William Stradling** joining him on the decks, spinning the sounds you don't hear elsewhere on the scene. Plus, there'll be live music from **Alexis Joshua** (Orphans & Vandals) and **Spanking Machine** to get you in the mood for a night of extraordinary dancing!



Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 8pm-midnight. £4.



24/11/13: THEMENWHOFELL2EARTH 3rd Birthday

It's really been three years of bloc-rockin', dirty disco, basement antics have really passed and TheMenWhoFell2Earth are planning on celebrating with some big interstellar party action on the dance floor, welcoming back a man they call Mr Horse Meat Disco, **Jim Stanton**. Over in Room 2 there's somethi9ng special from the long-term homeboy **James Phillips** who along with **GG Wild** is one half of DJ duo **Daisy Confused**, bringing bithday beats. Hosted by the inimitable **Ollywood** and **Bother** boys.



Jim Stanton

East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 11pm-6am. £10, £6 concs.

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GUESTS: JODIE HARSH
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TOM STEPHAN
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ALEXIS KNOX
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HOT BOYS
HOTTER DJs
HOUSE ROOM
POP ROOM



G-A-Y

Little Mix @ G-A-Y
09/11/13
Heaven,
Villiers Street,
Charing Cross,
WC2N 6NG

WORDS BY
ANTHONY GILÉT
PHOTOS BY
CHRIS JEPSON

THE TEMPTATION to stay in over recent weeks has got the better of us lately, but when we heard that our favourite girl ensemble was taking to the stage at Heaven we decided that it was time to throw on the layers and brave the cold. When we arrived at the venue the queue was busier than Lucy Mecklenburgh's knickers. Thank God we don't queue, darling. The most recent act voted off the X Factor, Kingsland Road, opened the night and they were clearly lapping up all the male attention. The Little Mix girls then strutted out in co-ordinating sultry black ensembles before performing a succession of their hits. They reminded us just why we fell in love with them in the first place with 'Wings', 'Change Your Life' and our favourite 'DNA'



that saw the crowd seriously skanking. (Although one bitch with her elbow in my head nearly saw a rendition of 'Murder on the Dance Floor'.) The real treat of the night was Lil' Mix's performance of latest single 'Move' that will no doubt be a big success. And was that Tulisa we spied swaying around on the balcony? It most certainly was. Another star-studded night under the arches of Villiers Street!



THE MEN WHO FELL 2 EARTH



3RD BIRTHDAY

JIM STANTON (HORSE MEAT DISCO)

THE MEN WHO FELL 2 EARTH DJ'S

DAISY CONFUSED (SINK THE PINK) IN ROOM 2

HOSTED BY OLLYWOOD & BOTHER

SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 2013

11PM > 6AM

@ EAST BLOC, 217 CITY ROAD, LONDON, EC1V

WWW.THEMENWHOFELL2EARTH.CO.UK / @MENWHOFELL

DISH

Mr Dish 2013
09/11/13
East Bloc
217 City Road,
Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN

WORDS BY
DARREN PALFREY
PHOTOS BY
JOEL-RYDER.COM

SO, WE GOT A CALL from Dish telling us that it was the final of their Mr Dish 2013 competition and we just couldn't say no. Shirtless men, amazing music and a drag queen with a moustache - would anyone say no? The contest kicked off at 1am with a line of judges as beautiful as the contestants. Among them was the gorgeous Johanna Londinium, the one and only La Pequena and, to our surprise, our QX colleague Anthony Gilet - not satisfied with a magazine and sex blog, he's now moonlighting as a pageant judge. On stage, Jonny Woo appeared looking like he was fresh off the set of the Backstreet Boys' 'I Want it That Way' music video, in his white suit - someone who clearly uses Daz. Not only did he introduce the contestants one by one, he also took events into his own hands and pulled some deserving last minute entrants from the crowd.

Then the judges picked their final three, who's fate was left to the East Bloc crowd. The winner of Mr Dish was a tanned Adonis with a firm six pack (we suspect a full dish is something this guy never has for dinner). He received a trophy, not out of place at a Sunday football match, £250 cash and a year's premium membership to Dish and Manhunt. What a lucky, lucky girl! All we need to know now is how to get Mr Dish 2013 served up in one - but alas he has a boyfriend. There was plenty more hot stuff serving themselves on plates around the rest of the club - and we mustn't forget the beautiful Manhunt promo boys, Dan and Toni, giving out sweets, lip balms and sexy smiles. There was also some banging music to grind, slut drop and even twerk to, with QBoy pumping out R'n'B in the side room. We love Dish, we loved Mr Dish and we'll see you next month for another greedy serving!



16TH NOVEMBER 2013

little gay brother
PRESENTS

THE BACK HOUSE



117 KINGSLAND HIGH ST, E8 2PB

BAR...

MEAT BOYS

NEIL PRINCE

TIM FANUCCI

BASEMENT...

CHRIS CAMPLIN

MAZE & MASTERS

WES DB



QUEER NATION

QUEER NATION
09/11/13
Barcode
69 Albert Embankment,
Vauxhall, SE1 7TP

WORDS BY
TOM REDKID
PHOTOS BY
JOEL-RYDER.COM

QUEER NATION

at Barcode marked 23 years of marching to a different beat. Promoter extraordinaire and host DJ Patrick Lilley greeted us at the front bar with friendly disco anthems. The kind of soulful vocal funk that sweeps us in and warms us up inside to prep us for the big splash awaiting us in Barcode's inner sanctum.

Patrick handed over the reins to Mark Ashley Dupe and Niyi Maximus Crown who mixed it up with urban house, R'n'B, afro-beats and 90's Old Skool. The main room had us swirlin' with resident DJs Mista Pierre and Supadon. The beats got harder, the men got hotter and the shirts got...

lost! The house was packed to overflowing with dancers taking over both rooms, and even the upstairs chill out lounge. What's changed after 23 years? Patrick looks around and smiles, "The mixture of the crowd has definitely grown." Indeed. Where else can you find such a happy mix of urban street cool and gay effete all in one cosy club? This is one nation under queer we can all live in.





Saturday 16th November

Live Performance by Justin King & Aaron Steel

Main Room - House

DJ Severino Panzetta

DJ Micky Galliano

DJ Robb White

Front Room - Classics

DJ Rob C

DJ Nico De Ceglia

Host - Justin King & Paul Marcus

£6 B4 Midnight £8 After / 10 - 7am

barcode 69, Albert Embankment. London SE1

●●★ GAYDAR



STUD
01/11/13
Nomad
58 Old Street,
EC1V 9AJ

WORDS BY
TOM REDKID
PHOTOS BY
MARK STOREY

I LOVE this place! There's a new Stud in town staking his claim in the gay frontier of the East End. Nomad is the cozy club we all crave: quiet, unassuming corner pub/club, stone silent outside, then a short hop upstairs, open the heavy door and--

BLAMMO! Hit by a wall of funky disco filled with the laughter of your mates and you know you're home! Hosted by seniorita La Pequena, the upstairs disco/bar had a mixed crowd of gays, straights and in-betweens swaying til 5am to dreamy grooves by DJs Christopher Camplin and Francko Harris who welcomed the "change from the normal madness of the high-octane big clubs." La Pequena says: "This is my area! These are my neighbours. I want a place where I can have a good time." One local straight neighbour, Hugo Bass, popped in to check it out and agreed. "It's got great potential. Really cool vibes. I hope it keeps going."

With its comfy downstairs lounge and summer roof terrace, **STUD** is destined to be the East End's go-to late night upstairs disco. C'mon soldiers! Saddle up and spread the gay love, plant a rainbow flag firmly on another fab outpost... Welcome to the neighbourhood, **STUD!**



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OWEN, IT!

If you're not acquainted with Mr **Robert Owens** yet, he's a legendary American R&B and house-music vocalist who's performed in clubs from Studio 54 to Paradise Garage. Patrick Cash spoke to him about his legacy and what we can expect from his upcoming set at gay club night Handsome's first birthday...

Tell us a little bit about Robert Owens for the uninitiated.

In short, Robert Owens is really blessed to still be on this system! But if you want to go a little deeper into it, I just grew up forming groups and putting groups together and I was always the glue trying to hold them together, but it never panned out. I've always been a kind of nomadic character, so if something wasn't working in that area I'd venture into another area. So, eventually I ended up DJing all over Chicago in different places, clubs and universities, and I eventually met Larry Heard and then Fingers Inc. was born and it just evolved.

Did you always dream of being in music or was there one record that just set everything off for you?

From about five or six they were putting me on the table and saying 'watch him dance!' I was the entertainment, because you know in the suburbs they only get together on the weekends to play card games, have dinner parties, and the children often were entertainment. I was usually selected to pick the records, put on some tracks...

So you were DJing from the beginning?

Yeah, that's funny, looking back, I was a selector from the age of 7!

From the kitchen table to the clubs.

Literally!

Where was the first club you played? What was it like?

I used to do basement house parties with a proper one turntable, a red light in the middle and we'd clean out this basement and charge people five dollars to get in and we'd just pass out flyers all over the neighbouring blocks and stuff and people would come and that's how we'd get to know a lot of the neighbours and stuff, like that. And then that progressed to a pub, in Chicago, California and LA starting

off in pubs, I just went in and asked them if they needed a DJ and got hired!

What can a clubber expect from your set nowadays?

I performed in Studio 54, Paradise Garage, I used to play over here with Danny Rampling, I've seen it all, so the thing is my objective is often to go from past to present to future. The future has a lot of possibilities because you know we can speculate on what you think is possible, and the main thing is to see some happy faces and make people happy. That's the main objective, to spread some harmony amongst all of us.

What's good about playing the London gay scene?

There's no place in the world like London. It's multi-faceted, it's such a melting pot of different cultures. Here, gay and straight, and this is going back to those famous clubs, it was unified energy between the gay and straight and that's my objective, it's always been to bring the two together, because we're all one family from my perspective. Harmony and unification through music.

What's the quintessential Robert Owens track that just gets the dance floor pumping and why?

I never set or plan a set, I react to what I see, so I walk in a room and I look at the people, and I draw energy from looking at their faces, and I really try to make myself a part of what's going on with the people. But if you make yourself a part of the crowd, you react to that crowd, gay or straight. I try and absorb the emotions and feelings and I try to react from that angle. But it's everything on my back, it's always escalating, it's a reaction from looking at people.

Do you have a personal favourite track that gets you dancing when out?

Maybe just for the philosophy: 'Music is My Life' by Patti LaBelle. That's the philosophy and law that you've gotta live by.

And finally, do you have any surprises up your sleeve for Handsome this weekend?

Probably! But we'll all discover them together!

HANDSOME

Handsome is at East Bloc, (217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN) on Saturday 16th November, 10.30pm to 6am.

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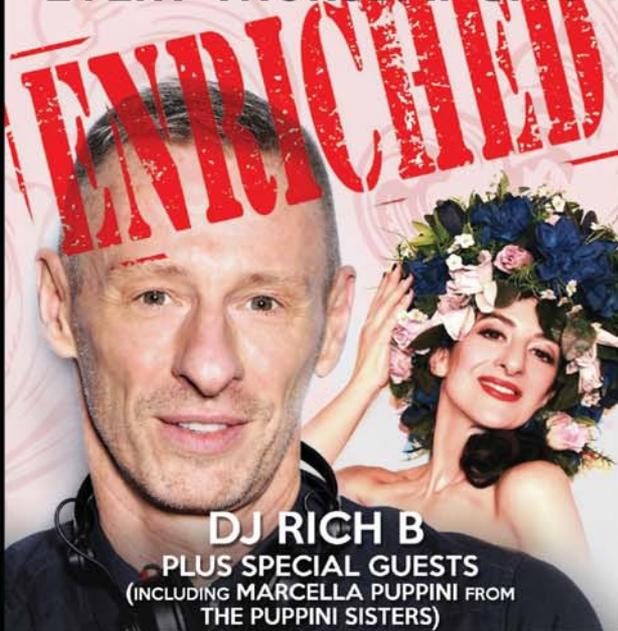
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CIRCA-LATE!

By Pat Cash

Soho bar/club/hotspot **CIRCA** is now open 'til 4am every Friday and Saturday until Christmas! Circa has become one of the top bars to be seen at when you're out on the scene, and pulls in the beauties, hipsters, glamsters, drag queens, hot bodied boys and sexy suited city types from Soho and beyond. Music is always guaranteed to be amazing, pumped out from its stunning silver signature DJ booth, and the drinks are always flowing. Given that you can now enjoy its special ambience late into the night on the weekend, we got three of the venue's top DJs (from a stellar Circa DJ family!) to share their hot and sexy late night tunes that will keep you a-dancing, a-sipping and a-flirting all the night through...



1: MUNROE BERGDORF

1. 'Do What U Want' – Lady GaGa

It's mid tempo, but the beat hits just right alongside a chorus that's catchy as hell...

2. 'Tom Ford' (Chew FU reFix) – Jay Z

Even if you don't know it, you'll be throwing shapes...

3. 'Ba*Bing' – Havana Brown

Filthy bassline, pounding Eastern inspired beat layered under a cuntypop princess rap... This always gets the crowd going.

2: JONATHAN BESTLEY

1. 'Let's Dance' (The Penelopes Remix) – David Bowie

The original and seminal build-up and drop! Ahh, ahhh, AHHHHHH... LET'S DANCE!

2. 'What I Might Do' (Kolombo Remix) – Ben Pearce

The Circa clientele love it deep and sexy. Take from that what you will...

3. 'Borderline' (Butch Le Butch 5am Garage Rework) – Madonna

Couple Alan's Madonna obsession with us all drinking to 4am when you close the bar with this, and madness ensues.

3: JODIE HARSH

1. 'Eat, Sleep, Rave, Repeat' (Calvin Harris remix)

– Fatboy Slim and Riva Starr

2. 'Swine' – Lady Gaga

3. 'Mariah Please' – Kris Di Angelis

CIRCA

Circa is at 62 Firth Street, Soho, W1D 3JN, open until 1am Sun-Thurs and 4am on Friday and Saturday nights, with a rotating selection of its resident DJs on these nights including, alongside Munroe, Jonathan & Jodie: Kris di Angelis, Sam DMS, Adam Turner, Kingsley and Dusty O.

18-30s

CLUB WITH A TWIST!

The Club Hoist sees the launch of a new private 18-30 club night 'Twisted Twink', for young guys that want to get into fetish, where the keys of the castle are given up to the kids! We decided to find out more by speaking to maestro behind The Hoist, **UNKUT KURT**...

Tell us about Twisted Twink! It's an 18-30s club for dirty blokes, right?

Twisted Twink is all that and more! It is quite twisted in the sense that it's fetish. It's twisted because it is at The Hoist and everything we do has got a sexy twist. And it's twink because it is young! 18 to 30 year old guys into fetish or wanting to get into fetish. In short: a very exciting new party for fetish London!

And it's at The Hoist of course.

How would you describe the club to a first timer visitor to get them to come and pop their fetish cherry?

The Hoist is the world's biggest and best men only gay fetish club! Period! We have two very sexy railway arches right underneath Vauxhall station. And we have what just has been voted by one of the biggest gay hook up sites in the world: 'London's sexiest and cruisiest club space!' Having said that: The Hoist is friendly and there is no attitude except in the dungeon.

So, if you're over 30, you're not invited? Or is it just that the night is targeted at a younger crowd but not exclusively so?

The title 'Twisted Twink Club 18-30' says it all. This is a party exclusively for young guys. A lot of younger fetish lads have been asking us to put something like this on for a long time. So here it is! And because it starts at 9 and is only three quid on the door it won't break the bank either.

What are your top tips for fetish newbies?

Listen to your cock! Your cock will tell you what you're into. Apart from that: Have fun with whatever your thing is, be it chav, sports kit, rubber, skinhead, leather, whatever it is. Oh, and go easy on the aftershave!



Your cock will tell you what you're into.

TWISTED TWINK

Twisted Twink launches on Thursday 14th November at The Hoist, London Railway Arches 47b and 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH, 9pm-1am, £3 entry.

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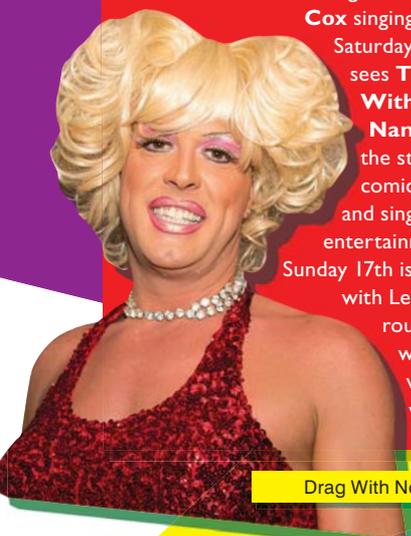
Raising the Bar

WINDSOR CASTLE

152 Bath Road, Hounslow, TW3 3ET

The Windsor Castle is well worth the extra couple of stops on the tube out to Hounslow to discover a glowing, warm pub of exceptional disco fun, drag queen craziness and some proper sexy young squaddie lads thrown in to boot (and hopefully wearing them!) On Friday 15th

don't miss The Gorgeous **Kieran Cox** singing live, Saturday 16th sees **The Drag With No Name** owning the stage with comic wonders and singing entertainment, and Sunday 17th is **Karaoke** with Lee to round off the weekend with some warbling.



Drag With No Name

TWO BREWERS

114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ

The Two Brewers is always full of amazingly fun weekend shenanigans and this weekend upcoming is, of course, no exception! On Thursday 14th November you can catch Miss **Martha D'Arthur** doing her winning stuff onstage with entry free before 10pm and £3 after. And on Friday 15th the wonderful **Kelly Wilde** performs with entry free before 10pm and £5 after. And Saturday 16th has **Crystal D'Canter** and **Kelly Mild** entertaining their salivating and carousing crowds – entry free before 10pm, £7 after.



Martha D'Arthur

BAR OF THE WEEK

BAR TITANIA

75 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 7PY

Bar Titania is one of the new highlights of the gay Soho map, bringing together an eclectic, charming host of men from the scene to enjoy a glitzy, welcoming venue with great drinks and fabulous service. You can also now enjoy 'Aperitivo' on Thursdays and Fridays from 6-8pm, where you can sample a choice of a drink and a selection of delectable Italian nibbles to round off the working day to perfect satisfaction. Plus mid-week on Wednesdays don't miss the fun-filled camp extravaganza that is **Jivin' Julie's Karaoke** from 8pm, where you can display your own vocal tones to the masses too! This weekend on Saturday 16th there'll also be some sultry jazz, soul and cabaret numbers from in-house Titania vocalist Miss **Andrea Gorse** and comic cabaret entertainment from the wonderful **Topsie Redfern** on Sunday 17th at 7.30pm.

Bar Titania



Topsie Redfern

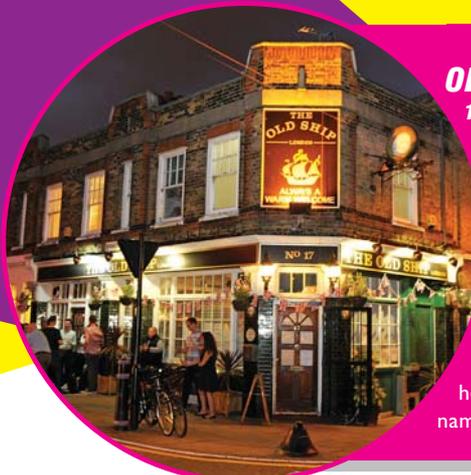
Jivin' Julie

Andrea Gorse

OLD SHIP

17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW

One of Limehouse's most welcoming and traditionally engaging gay venues, you would do far wrong if you didn't pop in to the Old Ship on a visit to the East End of our great city. Plus on the weekends they always have some form of cabaret to keep you chuckling during those lazy Sunday afternoon pints! Sunday 17th sees the rather fabulous **Saucy Sophie** holding the assembled in the palm of her nail-varnished hand, and remember, she's named 'saucy' for a reason!



RUPERT STREET

50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR

Well, recently refurbished Rupert Street have a stellar line-up of dance floor fillers and DJ deck-spinners to get you in the proper mood for a big night out on London town over the weekend! Thursday 14th is **Enriched** with **Rich B** on at 9pm, Friday 15th is gonna be massive with **Gonzalo** hitting the soundsystem from 9pm and who should be playing on Saturday 15th but only the Queen of Gay London, Miss **Jodie Harsh** herself! 9pm also, be there.



Jodie Harsh

HALFWAY TO HEAVEN

7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF

Don't miss **Fantastic Fridays** on Friday 15th at Halfway to Heaven with **Myra Dubois** (starting 9pm), featuring special guest **Sandra** from 9pm. And on Saturday it's **Rose Garden's**



Trindy

Saturday Market Slash Swop Shop from 4pm in the downstairs bar, followed by **Bears Downstairs** with **Mrs Moore** and **Trindy** at 9pm. And finish off the weekend with **CK Sunday** at 3.30pm, followed by **Mrs Moore** and DJ **David Robson**.

CIRCA

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LATE

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until

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every

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KU BAR 2,000,000TH CUSTOMER

08/11/13

KU BAR, 30 LISLE STREET, CHINATOWN, WC2H 7BA

WORDS BY PAT CASH

PHOTOS BY CHRIS JEPSON



KU BAR HAS been one of the most popular, well-run and best loved bars in London for almost eighteen years now and therefore it was little surprise to hear from owner Gary Henshaw that they were approaching their 2,000,000th customer. Team Ku had whittled, analysed and wiled away at their figures to pinpoint

that the estimated exact date that the big number would happen was last Friday, 8th November.

Therefore what did the generous Mr Henshaw do, but throw a completely free – yes, FREE – bar for one whole hour to thank his clientele for their years of loyalty! Celebrations kicked off at 6pm and the bar was bustling from then on, with regulars and newcomers alike lining the bar up and down, the very Miss Vicki Vivacious working the crowds, and a bevy of the usual handsome hunks spotted in the bar, not to mention the gorgeous Ku Bar boys themselves serving the drinks. With trays of shots and glasses of bubbly being given out by half-naked rippling toned Adonises, it was a kind of gay Nirvana created at Ku Bar last Friday night. And, after the free bar had been drunk dry, the 2,000,000th customer was finally found in the form of long-serving Ku regular Scott Westron, who had been strategically buying throughout the night to hit that number. He has generously donated his prize of a weekend trip to Barcelona to the Ku World AIDS Day Auction, so don't miss that party on December 1st! Well done to Ku and all who sail in her, this confirmed that it's one of London's best gay bar brands and deservedly so!



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THE VICTORIA, 188 HOE STREET, WALTHAMSTOW, E17 4QH

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY CHRIS JEPSON



WITH THE SUDDEN

downturn in the weather, on Saturday we wrapped up warm as we were heading out east to The Victoria in Walthamstow, but then sat on the tube sweating like a 'XXXX' in a XXXX* (*insert most recent celeb/politician caught in flagrante

story here) hoping

that the Shockwaves Steel gel was up to the job. Arriving at 11pm we fell in to the dressing room to find it already packed with a trio of top talent all there to bid a fond farewell to guv'nor Paul, and hopefully secure an all expenses paid booking to his new venue in Key West! DJ Micky was spinning commercial tunes to warm up the Walthamstow massive before Candy Slag in Drag came on and turned their stomachs with graphic horror stories of her love life. Next up the rather fabulous and magical TheBear DidLady proved you don't have to be Liz McDonald to have fun in a tartan miniskirt and a basque. The sophisticated throat of La Voix rounded off the evening with divas aplenty and a special Liza just for Paul. Mr Murphy, we at QX Towers wish you well in your new venture, and of course we are always happy to pop over to the US of A to do you a bar review!



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Having a ball

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291 MARE STREET, E8 1EJ
WORDS AND PHOTOS BY CHRIS JEPSON



I WOULD LIKE to say that on Saturday afternoon the QX Cabaret Posse headed to the Hackney Empire for the Halloween Ball, but as most of them were still hung over from Friday's *Cancer is a Drag* charity night at the Windsor Castle, I was flying solo! Luckily, I bumped in to Va Va Voom boy Neil on the way there so had a glamorous travel

companion to distract me from my Mills & Boon. All too soon we found ourselves in E8. It was my first time at the Empire, a gorgeous theatre by master architect Frank Matcham with no less than three balconies, and a brilliant venue for the Halloween Ball with the London Gay Men's Chorus, the London Gay Big Band, La Voix and the aforementioned Va Va Voom Boys. For the whole two hour show the stage was packed with musicians and singers with La Voix acting as hostess, narrator and mother/nanny to a 9 year old girl! A medley of her divas paraded across the stage from Liza to Cher via Tina and more. The LGMC were bow-tied for act one but then spookified in Halloween costumes for act two with a set list ranging from *Mack The Knife* to *Bat Out Of Hell* and a *Rocky Horror Medley* while all the music and accompaniment came live from the LGBB high up on rostra at the back of the stage. There was even a couple of brilliant numbers from multi-Olivier Award winner Maria Friedman. There was superb singing, dancing boys, comedy, costumes, blood and gore, but sadly it was only on for two nights and was definitely deserving of a wider audience.



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SATURDAY 16TH NOV



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BEFORE 10PM

SATURDAY 23RD NOV

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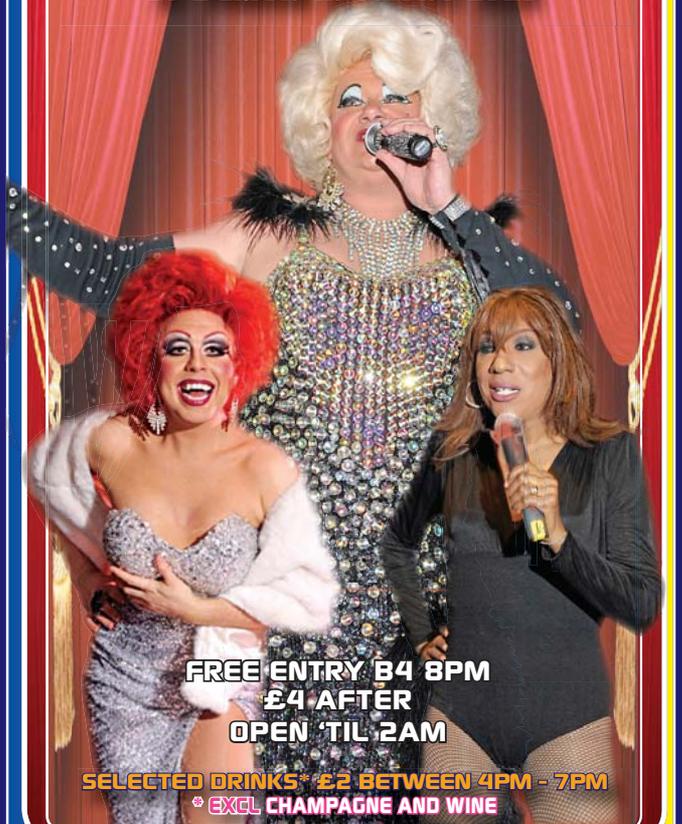
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BY PATRICK CASH

ARTS BITCHING

GARÇONNE is a performance-based club night hailing from the climes of fair, fun-filled Brighton. Taking over a floor of the Bussey Building in new trendy London

area *du jour*, Peckham, it had all the trappings of an intriguing new addition to the capital's bustling gay scene, and didn't

disappoint. What made *Garçonne* a little different to other club nights around was its predominately indie electro music mix, a blend of gay men and lesbians enjoying the same ambience, and the strong performances woven into the clubbing experience. First on stage was a young singer-songwriter named Isaac Sakima, a clear and exceptional talent. His music combined elegant electronica with a soulful, timbre-laden voice, and beautifully constructed, immediately likable songs. With

resonances of Joy Division, Patrick Wolf and current electro darlings Chvrches, his style was still completely unique and accessible: look out for Sakima's progress in upcoming months, and try and catch him live at a gig soon!

Sakima was followed by piano-playing songstress Sabrina Chap, energetically entertaining the crowd with her brand of cabaret-esque show tunes. Combining vaudeville and burlesque traditions she got the assembled clubbers, beauties and gay Peckham hipsters dancing to her peppy, fun act. It helped, no doubt, that she bore more than a passing resemblance to Liza Minelli (star of the film *Cabaret*), and spoke like her to boot, with an iconic Brooklyn drawl.

Garçonne proved that there is scope for an artistic and performance element to club nights – it's still early days for its London incarnation, and perhaps the Bussey Building wasn't packed out, but it's highly advisable to check out their next event when it comes back to the capital!

www.soundcloud.com/isaac-sakima
www.sabrinachap.com



Isaac Sakima



Sabrina Chap

GARÇONNE ! GARÇONNE !

PERFORMANCE

GARÇONNE

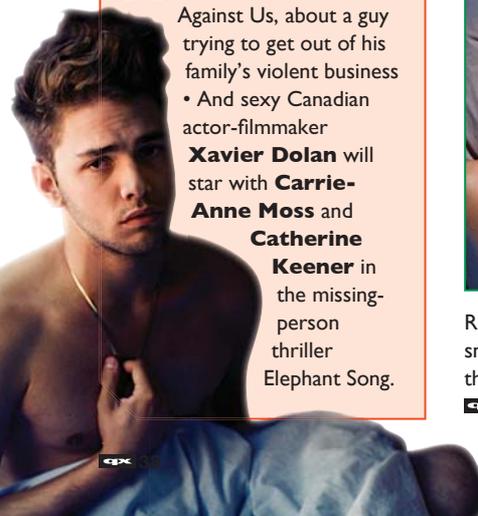


The Bussey Building, 133 Rye Lane, Peckham, SE15 4ST
Thursday 7th Novemb
www.garconne.co.uk

SCREEN TEST
BY JACK LEGER

IN THE WORKS

Michael Fassbender is lined up for the British gangster movie *Trespass Against Us*, about a guy trying to get out of his family's violent business • And sexy Canadian actor-filmmaker **Xavier Dolan** will star with **Carrie-Anne Moss** and **Catherine Keener** in the missing-person thriller *Elephant Song*.



FILM OF THE WEEK



DON JON (18)

Joseph Gordon-Levitt turns his hand to writing and directing one of the funniest, sauciest romantic comedies in years. He also stars as the macho, porn-obsessed Jon, who happily beds a different woman every night until he meets the sassy Scarlett Johansson, who's more than his match. Feisty and rude, and hilariously frank about sex, the plot doesn't go where we expect. And the terrific supporting cast includes Julianne Moore.



DVD OF THE WEEK



LET MY PEOPLE GO! (15)

Bouncy and colourful, this gay comedy follows young Ruben (Nicolas Maury) as a misunderstanding sends him running home to Paris from his sexy Finnish husband Teemu (Jarkko Niemi). But

Ruben's Jewish family is a bundle of issues that make his head spin. The film's snappy tone keeps us laughing, and there's a surprisingly sweet romance at the centre. But it's too wacky to be a true classic. (TLA)



GUMP REDUX



Lee Daniels (*The Paperboy*) assembles an all-star cast for the oddly sappy **THE BUTLER**, including Forest Whitaker, Oprah Winfrey and A-listers playing US presidents from the 1950s to the 1980s. Based on a true story, it's *Forrest Gump* for the Civil Rights era.

SCARY STUFF

Stripped down to its essentials, **IN FEAR** offers some solid jolts as Downton's Allen Leech, *SHIELD*'s Ian De Caestecker and Alice Englert meet on a country road. • And one of the creepiest movies of all time, 1955's **THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER**, has just been remastered for BluRay: essential!



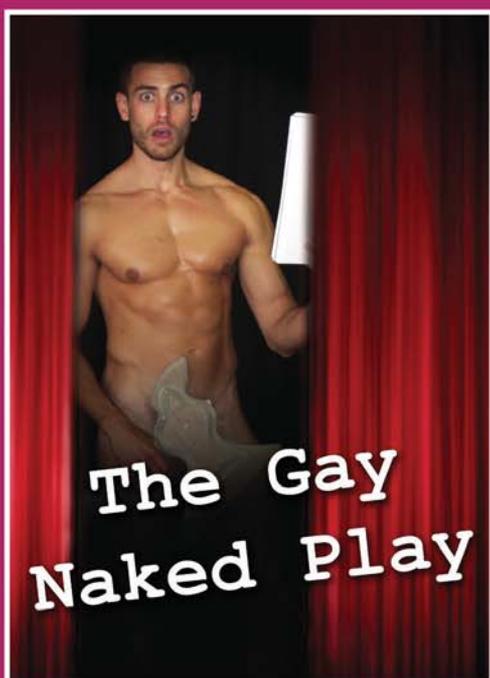
London's famous gay theatre is back
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 director of sell-out hit
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Gay Times on Get Aladdin (2012)

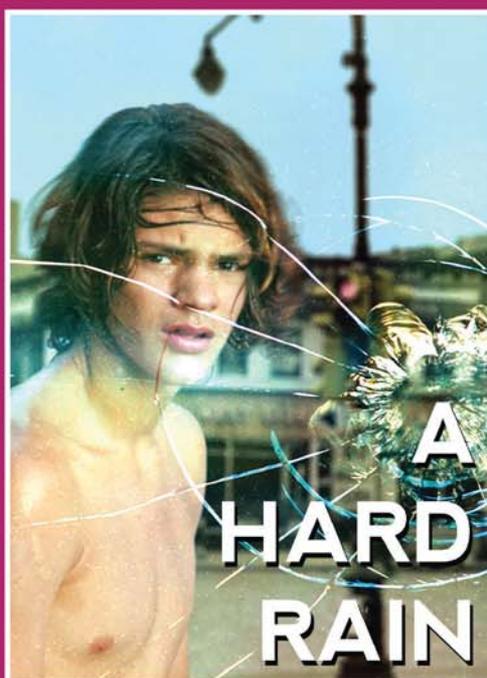
FROM 29 NOV! BOOK EARLY - SOME PERFORMANCES ALREADY SOLD OUT



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REVOLTAGE

PRINCESS JULIA



Jonbenet Blonde



We like to mix things up over our way, so on Thursday 14th November I'll be installing myself for a moment in the sky; DJing in a pod on the London Eye (*Westminster Road, SE1 7PB*) for the **Red Bull Revolutions in Sound** bash. Getting all reminiscent with The Blitz club of yore I'll be taking a nostalgic trip back in time remembering the sounds of classic electronica for all you new romantic fans!

Back in the real world and bang up to date **UnderConstruction** at The RVT (*349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY*) returns on the 14th November (for one night only) showcasing 10 performance artists presenting their latest short works. Expect the seeds of experimentation to flourish with **Lisa Lee, Tim Redfern, Holestar, Be Baby Lame and Luxurioux Snacks** to name just a few. Performances start at 8pm so get yourselves down there for a most enlightening time.

Gutterslut presents **Gutterball** on Saturday 16th at the Metropolis Strip Club, (*234 Cambridge Heath Road, Bethnal Green, E2 9NN*). Yes this is a big one! Gutterslut pull out all the stops for this extravaganza of glamorous debauchery... Resident and guest DJs including **SESE** from Berlin's Bar 25, **DJ NIBC** also from Berlin, join **A Man To Pet, John Sizzle and Alejandro Asencio**. Host **Jonny Woo**, and door whore the one and



Holestar

only **Chrissy Darling** star alongside pole dancers **Jonbenet Blonde** and **Jacqui Potato**, now that I've got to see! On 'til 4am...

Meanwhile **Handsome** returns to East Bloc (*217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN*) for its 1st birthday on **Saturday 16th**... all round lege **Robert Owens** pays a visit to unleash his definitive style to eager ears plus **Dave Kendrick, Johnny Kalifornia, Mistamaker** and of course **Essex Suicides**. Hosted by the stunning **Johanna Londinium** and **Andrew Moore**.

Something different for you now, fans of Iggy Pop arise on Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd of November **Iggyfest: Blah Blah Blah** takes over at London's premier art spot the ICA Gallery (*The Mall, Charing Cross, SW1Y 5AH*). All about Iggy, films, talks, performances, karaoke and DJ sets pay homage to the one and only Iggy. <http://www.ica.org.uk/38308/Seasons/Iggyfest-Blah-Blah-Blah.html>.



Johanna Londinium



Iggy Pop

HI-DE-HI POP PICKERS!

POP

BY DUSTY O



There are not many times when words fail me. However, when I listened to the new **Geri Halliwell** single 'Half of Me' and watched the twenty-five pence budget video, I admit to just staring blankly at my PC screen in a haze of befuddled emotions. This has to be the most rubbish release of the year

and believe me I have heard some utter garbage. The thing that immediately gets your attention (for all the **WRONG** reasons) are the lyrics with beauties such as: "I gave you the finger, and you took me to dinner" and "I thought love was bulls***, only for the foolish"?

Things get really filthy however when old ginger minge starts singing "I wanna have your babies, gotta have you like crazy" accompanied by scenes of "milf" (not) Geri dry humping on the video. What would her kid say? As I already mentioned the video itself is also a massive disaster. This is as cheap as most circuit queens' wigs and it features poor old Geri dancing and singing with a host of "colourful" characters – all of whom look like they were found on the streets of Sydney and then asked to mime badly, slightly out of time and dressed in their most horrible clothes.

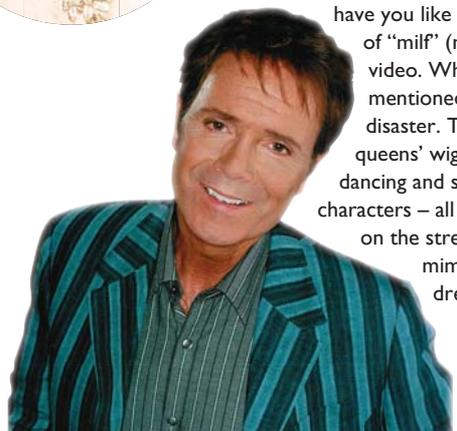
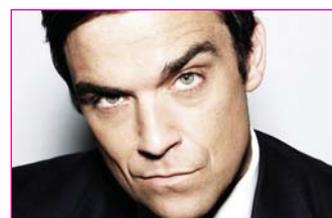
At the moment this is only

available in Australia thank god but I have a nasty feeling this may be heading our way soon. Geri had a great career with The Spice Girls and knocked up some great solo singles in her day too. **WHY** she has put her name to this I really do not understand. Have a listen and be prepared to gag.

As if hearing Geri was not bad enough I also had to listen to the new **Cliff Richard** single 'Rip It Up' this week. He is sounding rather like a very camp old pensioner (which he is) singing an old classic here, when perhaps he should have stayed home and read a book and not made us suffer any more. Cliff, like Geri, has had some corker songs and a great career. I personally loved his voice fifteen years ago. These days it is reedy and thin and he has become something quite frightening to look at with that dyed hair and mutton-dressed-as-lamb fashion sense of hers. Stick to Jingle Bells, Cliff gurl.

Last but not least is **Robbie Williams**, who I have always had filthy thoughts about, and his single 'Go Gently'. This is a quite pleasant, understated and very safe middle-of-the-road ditty. Catchy enough, with the whistling bits and the jerky little chorus but "Angels" it is NOT. Decent but not earth moving.

Till next week
Dustina
xxxx



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Berlin*



(* how London would love to be, but isn't brave enough to)

by Cliff Joannou

"Are you going to Pride this year?" your friend asks. "No, I'm going to Berlin that weekend," you reply. Cue clutched pearls, gasps of admiration and kudos to your quality of choice for a weekend break.

Ah, Berlin! The mere utterance of its name suggests you are cool, worldly and among the cultured elite of society. If you've traveled to the city, done your research and got the most out of Germany's capital, then you'll know how truly inspiring the place is. In that case, you probably don't need to read this, because you've experienced the delights of the boutique shops and cafes along Kastanienallee in Prenzlauer Berg, or rolling out of the Berghain at any given

point after an eighteen-hour clubbing session (yes, that's my record time in there).

Berlin is everything London wishes it could be: affordable, unencumbered by legislation, accepting of diversity, and encouraging of individuality. Where London installs CCTV cameras, Berlin creates artwork installations.

If you are visiting for your first time, be sure to prioritise getting a sense of the city, by just exploring its numerous districts, each with its own personality, from the modern west to the more characteristic zones in East Berlin. See the sights by day, absorb the culture, and by night indulge the world's damn finest nightlife experiences you'll never forget.



CULTURE

Brandenberg Gate

Pariser Platz, 10117

Berlin's most famous landmark, the arch is worth a visit, if only to get a selfie snap for Facebook.

Holocaust Memorial & 'Gay Memorial'

Cora-Berliner-Straße 1, 10117

The imposing blocks that comprise the Holocaust Memorial start off low, then gradually you find yourself lost in a maze as they tower over you. It's a powerful statement of the terrifying way in which a country can lose itself. The museum beneath tells a sobering account of the war, and the 'gay' memorial – or **Memorial to Homosexuals persecuted under Nazism** to use its official title – is also nearby.

Berlin Wall

Sections of the wall still remain, covered in messages telling of a city once divided and now in the colourful throes of rediscovering its identity.

Schwules Museum

Lützowstraße 73, 10785

The "Gay Museum" of Berlin is one of the finest in the world, and I cannot tell you enough how much I enjoyed it. Do yourself a favour and give yourself at least a couple hours to explore it. Embarrassingly London doesn't have one yet (shame on us).



CLUBS

GMF

Weekend, Alexanderstraße 7, 10178.

Every Sunday, 11pm-5.30am

Go gay! Taking over the upper levels of this city block in Alexanderplatz, with great views over the city. Fully out fun pop on one level and more commercial house on another.

GutterSlut Berlin

Chalet Club, Schlesischen Tor 3, 1099729. 29th

November 2013 (2nd Berlin birthday). 28th

February 2014, 25th April, 27th June, 22nd

August, 24th October 2014

The original east London underground gay club night is now fully established in Berlin, too, with parties every two months at one of the city's newest, coolest venues. It's bad-ass bonkers clubbing, in Berlin, London-style!



Homopatik

about:blank, Markgrafendamm 24c, 10245.

Every third Friday of the month.

Next event: 15th November

Monthly gay club that kicks off on Friday and runs right through to Monday. It's all about the quality tunes here, with more vocal, funky-up house played out. When the weather's good, the party shifts outdoors to the vast woodland space. W-O-W!

Horse Meat Disco Berlin

Prince Charles, Aufbauhaus, Prinzenstrasse

85F (Moritzplatz U8), 10969. Second

Saturday of the month every other month

(with an extra date for December).

14th December 2013. 11th January, 8th

March, 10th May, 12th July, 13th September,

8th November 2014.

London's very own, world famous hedonistic disco hosts a popular residency, and its formula translates seamlessly to Berlin's über cool clientele. Pop along and furnish the locals with tales of how you swing by HMD at Eagle Vauxhall all the time!

Möbel-Olfe

Reichenberger Straße 177, 10999.

Tuesday-Sunday, 6pm-2am

Be sure to swing by this oh-so very Berlin bar for a tipple before swinging yer handbag around one of the big clubs. If it reminds you of home, it's because its look inspired our very own beloved Dalston Superstore.

Rosi's

Revaler Str. 29, 10245 Friedrichshain.

Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

11pm-super late

The perfect pre-club bar with a bonkers clientele. Anything goes fun.

SNAX

Lab.oratory/Berghain, Wriezener Bahnhof,

Friedrichshain 10243. www.lab-oratory.de

The monster fetish party takes over the entire Berghain and Lab.oratory complex for a huge sportswear special on Saturday 30th November. Snax main event is Easter Weekend 2014 – check the website for updates. Hugely popular with fetish lovers from all over the world flying in.

CABARET

Chamäleon Theatre

chamaeleonberlin.com

Circus-style cabaret theatre space in a gorgeous ballroom featuring a wonderful programme of entertainment. Worth a visit, even if it's just to admire the architecture of Hackesche Höfe's inner courtyards.

Chantal's House of Shame

Bassy Club, Schönhauser Allee 176A, 10119

Every Thursday, 11pm-8am

Outrageous drag, live music, cabaret and clubbing combined at the absolutely always-entertaining cult spot.

ACCOMMODATION

www.visitBerlin.de and

www.pinkpillow-berlin.com

If you want a guaranteed LGBT friendly place to stay, we recommend using the 'Pink Pillow Collection', a group of recommended hotels compiled with VisitBerlin.

For example, the **Novotel** in Tiergarten is modern, clean, affordable, and located right near the train station with convenient connections to all areas of the city.

Adina Apartment Hotel in Hackescher Markt is central and perfect if you prefer the privacy that comes with serviced apartments and facilities like your own kitchen.

Or go deluxe and stay at the **Grand Hotel Esplanade** on Lützowufer 15 where its glam interior gives way to equally lush bedrooms.



WIN A TRIP TO BERLIN!

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CUM IN FROM THE COLD



EVER SINCE the Greeks discovered that you could cop a feel in the hot tub and meet Mr Right Now without much fuss, a visit to a sauna has remained part of gay culture for thousands of years. So, why do some of us still have hang-ups about going to them today? Let's face it, they

provide a safe environment to meet other guys in, there are free condoms and lube provided, you get to meet the men you fancy without losing hours online and judge the chemistry straight away - no fake Grindr pics here, nor turning up on a doorstep to be greeted by a moose. Oh yes, saunas really have so many benefits for all sorts of reasons. And so, to help you negotiate the many options available to us in London - the world's 'Greatest Gay City' (coz QX said so, innit) - here's our sauna guide. Enjoy!

5 THINGS TO BRING

- 1. Change**
For the vending machine - all that pumping away is thirsty work.
- 2. Phone Charger**
There's a possibility that in all the darkness you'll lose track of time - or even days. The journey home without iMusic will be hell.
- 3. Spare underwear**
Better to be safe than sorry - #JustSaying
- 4. Chewing Gum**
There's nothing worse than pulling a bloke with rimming breath.
- 5. Sunglasses**
Identity protection - as stated on page 46.

10 TIPS TO PERFECT SAUNA ETIQUETTE

- 1. Getting creative with your towel, will not get you laid...**
We've seen sauna towels turned into everything from high-waisted pencils to crop skirts more revealing than a Paris Hilton g-string. And flashing your Angelina leg through the slit on your 'skirt' just makes everyone else want to sew their slits up.
- 2. The same goes for towel weave...**
As fierce as you may feel when you step out of the shower with a towel twisted into an Amy Winehouse beehive, that shit is NOT gonna fly in Pleasuredrome - it really doesn't - we've tried!
- 3. Flip-flops are the crocs of the sauna world**
Not only do they give the impression that a bitch is way too prepared for that shit, they're also unsightly. No.
- 4. What happens in the sauna, stays in the sauna...**
...Unless, of course, it's something totally hilarious or scandalous, in which case get names and update your Facebook status/sex blog ASAP. Just be prepared to be a social pariah for a short while after.
- 5. Avoid husband-searching...**
Saunas are places where guys come to jerk off, not marry off. These men want cock, not cuddles. It's a haven of quick lays and even quicker orgasms - so don't be surprised if the only proposal you get is 'sit on my face?' - but it's still a ring right? Similarly, chasing down that number like a mad Britney fan after an autograph will kill his erection quicker than your towel weave.
- 6. Take naps in a cabin, not in the lounge area**
The last thing we want to see when we're trying to catch up on the latest episode of Loose Women is a pair of testicles stuck to the pleather sofa.
- 7. ...Actually why are you napping in a sauna at all?**
If you need to sleep don't be a cheap bitch and go get a hotel - your snoring arse is getting in the way of people fucking! There's a Travelodge for your zzzzzing needs.
- 8. Grooming is essential**
Not only is it a total embarrassment if your pubes are longer than your penis, but sporting a beard that blends into back hair, as you relax in the steam room, will make you look like an extra from 'Gorillas in the Mist'.
- 9. Conduct oneself appropriately**
The only thing less glamorous than ending up in the medic room of an after-hours nightclub is being carried out of a sauna cubicle while hanging off the cock of a tubby troll with used condoms stuck to your back. Have fun, play safe and respect yourself.
- 10. Pack your shades**
It may not be the same as Britney stumbling out of a downtown LA nightclub with her beef curtains on show - but alas - after hours of steamy fun, you may be looking more than a little dishevelled on leaving. And while it may be 3am when you arrive, it's always gonna be daylight when you leave. Protect yourself from the morning glare (and passing commuter's stares).



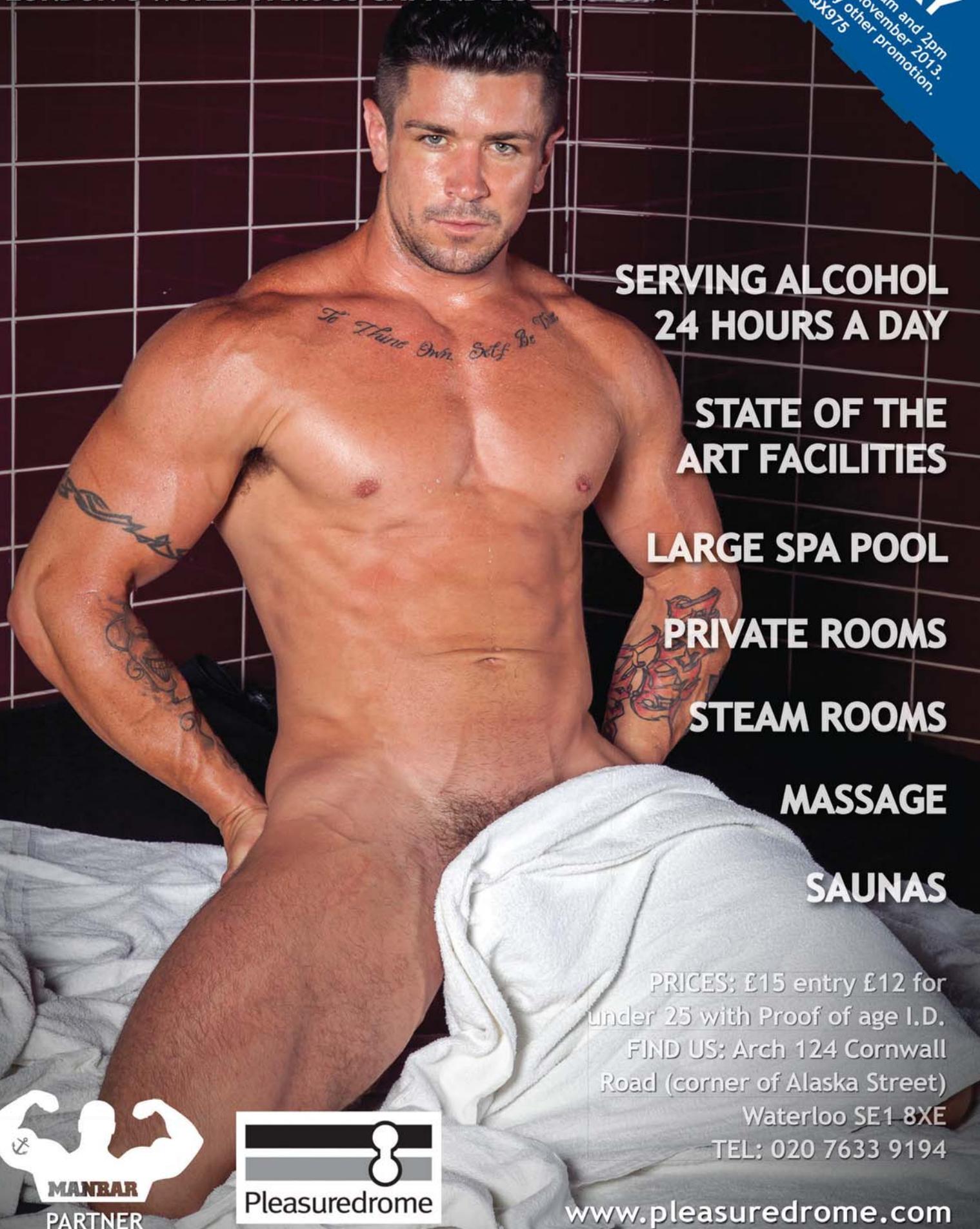
EXPERIENCE

Pleasuredrome

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Entry just £10 between 7am and 2pm every day. Valid to 30th November 2013. Cannot be used with any other promotion. Code: QX975

International porn star Trenton Ducati photographed by Johan Cloete.



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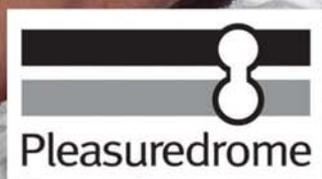
SAUNAS

PRICES: £15 entry £12 for under 25 with Proof of age I.D.

FIND US: Arch 124 Cornwall Road (corner of Alaska Street)

Waterloo SE1 8XE

TEL: 020 7633 9194



www.pleasuredrome.com

CHARIOTS SHOREDITCH

With a range of venues around the city, relieving your unexpected horn is more convenient than a McDonalds Breakfast. Who wants a McMuffin when you can have a McMan Muff anyway? The Shoreditch venue – like a wedding cake – has three tiers, one with a swimming pool.

*1 Fairchild St, EC2A 3NS. Mon-Fri midday-8am.
Sat-Sun midday-9am*

CHARIOTS VAUXHALL

The Vauxhall branch proves popular with everyone from randy ravers to trashy Trishas – but is a lot of fun! Pumping tunes and equally pumping blokes. Two saunas, two steam rooms and a hot tub.

*Rail Arches 63-64, SE1. Mon-Thurs midday-8am.
Fri-Mon 24hrs*

CHARIOTS WATERLOO

In Waterloo you'll find sexy city guys looking to ditch the suits and pick up something else to wrap themselves in, or mature gents who prefer to cut to the chase and stay away from the more party playing of other establishments.

101 Lower March, SE1 7AB. Open 24hrs

CHARIOTS LIMEHOUSE

Over in Limehouse you'll find plenty of horny East London lads. There are three separately-themed floors, so they'll have something for everyone – unless you're into popping balloons rolling around in custard and football socks. Save that for somewhere else you filthy bastard.

*574 Commercial Road, E14 7JD. Mon-Thurs 11am-11pm.
Fri-Sun 24hrs*

CHARIOTS STREATHAM

Finally, south of river sees saucy Streatham boys get freaky in cosy and intimate surroundings, a bit like a horny hotel. Although you wouldn't catch this kind of activity going down at your local Travelodge. Two sauna cabins, Jacuzzi and a steam room add to the fun.

*292 Streatham High Street, SW16 6HG.
Mon-Thurs 11am-midnight. Fri-Sun 24hrs*

SAUNABAR

One of London's original saunas has a discreet entry (unlike your personal entry that you'll be presenting in the showers), along with an exceptionally large hot tub where hopefully you'll be feeling more than just bubbles. A warren of cubicles, licensed bar and plenty more fun to be had, too.

*29 Endell Street, WC2H 9BA.
Sun-Thurs 11.30am-11.30pm. Fri-Sat 11.30am -2am.*

SWEATBOX

Hidden in the heart of Soho, you can ditch your shopping bags for ball bags – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Monday's attract a much younger clientele, so if you like your chicken with a side of (man) juice – it could prove the perfect cure to Monday Blues. Foam parties happen for the very dirty boys on Wednesday and Saturdays – check listings for details.

*Ramillies House, 1-2 Ramillies Street, W1F 7LN.
Open 24hrs*

PLEASUREDROME

Another one of London's saunas open 24/7 – like some of the clientele. It's tres modern, and there's plenty of cubicles for private fun, a stainless steel spa, huge steam and spa rooms, a licensed bar. What more do you want?

Arch 124 Cornwall Road, Waterloo, SE1 8XE. Open 24hrs

STEAMWORKS

Situated near Goldsmith's University in New Cross you'll perhaps bag a sexy student if you're lucky – the question is – what are you gonna teach him?

309 New Cross Road, SE14 6AS

E15

Over in Stratford you'll have the option of lounging around in the relaxation rooms or getting all 'Call of Duty' on your pull's arse in the infra-red Sauna, and shooting in the dark!

6 Leytonstone Road, E15 1SE. Mon-Fri 9am-10pm

LOCKER ROOM

In Kennington you'll find a variety of different nights (and men) going down in this underground lair. If you'd rather see the product before giving it a taste, every last Saturday on the month is butt naked!

*8 Cleaver Street, SE11 4DP. Mon-Thurs 11am-midnight.
Fri-Sun 24hrs*

LEGS 800 CLUB

This club is popular with the t-girls, with its dedicated night for t-girls and their admirers every Thursday and Saturday. Facilities include two changing rooms, showers, dancefloor and a dark room.

800 Lea Bridge Road, E17 9DN

GREENHOUSE SAUNAS

They're our favourite out-of-London sauna chains, with branches in Darlaston (Birmingham), Newport and Luton. The Darlaston branch is the biggest sauna in the midlands with more facilities than you can shake your cock at and it's even open on Christmas Day – who wants to stuff a turkey?

Check gay-sauna.com for details of Darlaston, Newport and Luton saunas.

GHARIOTS

LONDON'S BIGGEST SAUNA GROUP

SHOREDITCH

1 FAIRCHILD ST, EC2A 3NS

LIVERPOOL STREET STATION
SHOREDITCH STATION



VAUXHALL

RAIL ARCHES,
63-64 ALBERT EMBANKMENT SE17TP
VAUXHALL STATION



WATERLOO

101 LOWER MARSH, SE1 7AB
WATERLOO STATION



24 HR

LIMEHOUSE

574 COMMERCIAL RD, E14 7JD

Big 'n' Cuddly every Monday,
all day session for big blokes
and their admirers

LIMEHOUSE STATION



STREATHAM

292 (REAR-OF)
STREATHAM HIGH ST, SW16 6HG

EARLY BIRD

Vauxhall 12-1pm

Limehouse 11-12 midday

Streatham 11-12 midday

Waterloo 8am-12 midday

Monday to Thursday



INFO LINE: 0207 247 5333

www.gaysauna.co.uk



MUSTS & MAYBES

YOUR GUIDE TO THE WEEK'S BEST
**BAR
CLUB
CABARET**
EVENTS IN LONDON

FULL LISTINGS AVAILABLE AT WWW.QXMAGAZINE.COM

THURSDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

Flaunt at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. Open 'til 3.30am. FREE. Singing legend Lonnie Gordon and DJ Nick Shepherdson present a fresh and energised set of disco tunes that will keep our sexy gogo dancers moving until you drool.

'Katy Perry' G-A-Y Porn Idol at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 11pm-4am. FREE entry flyers from G-A-Y Bar. The return of London's biggest amateur strip night as contestants of all shapes, sizes and looks take part to win £100. Final winner wins £1,000. Think you have what it takes to win? Simply text 07789 553 868 to take part! TONIGHT: Contestants strip to Katy Perry songs.

Vibe at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 11pm-4am. Weekly night of urban sounds from DJs Nastee and Robski, with PopVibe in the bar and the upstairs SexVibe cruise room.

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

Boy Trouble at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Old Street, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-4am. FREE. A new Thursday experience for East London gays as East Bloc opens its doors for an early weekend house explosion of double-drop pop, Italo house, and

anything else.

Gigolo at The Shadow Lounge, 5 Brewer Street, W1F 0RF. 10pm-3am. £5 conc, £8 others. Midweek soiree for sluts with attitude at Soho's famous Shadow Lounge. Hot happenings as porn stars provide the eye candy.

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

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.

Red Bull Revolutions in Sound Official After Party with Horse Meat Disco at The Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 10pm-4am. After Horse Meat Disco take over a pod of the London Eye for the Revolutions in Sound party, come to the official after-party at HMD's Sunday night home, The Eagle.

BARS & CABARET

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

The Black Cap at 171 Camden

High Street, NW1 7JY. Open till late. London's legendary north London cabaret and club bar. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Silver Summers.

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

Windsor Castle, 152 Bath Road, Hounslow, TW3 3ET. Open till late. Great gay bar near Heathrow invites you to party and drink till the small hours with the hot boys and nice drinks. TONIGHT: Cookie's Karaoke.

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.

Demon's Karaoke at BJ's White Swan, 556 Commercial Road, E14. 9pm-3am. FREE. Sing-along to your fave hits.

UnderConstruction at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11. Doors £7. Doors 7.30pm. Show 8pm. £5. 10 artists present short new work in development, featuring Blanche Dubois, Baby Lame, Holestar, Mrs Jonjo, Tim Redfern and more!

Backing The Stars at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. Long running popular central London cabaret pub with Kevin Walsh.

Enriched at Rupert Street, 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. From 8pm. New weekly dance session at the funky Soho bar with DJ Rich B.

Aperitivo at Bar Titania, 75 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0NE. 6pm-late. Alex Meli on keyboards with open mic at 8pm.

Around the Candelabra at Comptons, 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-midnight. Lee Reed tinkles his ivories for a Soho sing-along (8-10pm) in one of Old Compton Street's oldest and classiest venues with complementary bar food.

Molly Moggs at 2 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4TA. 8.30pm. FREE. Big laughs and song from Jeff Kristian.

Bette's Boozy Thursdays at The Admiral Duncan, 54 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UD. Midday-11pm. Bette Rinse begins the weekend early at this legendary Soho pub (from 9pm).

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

FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

Anthem - Old Skool Reunion: Remix at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11. 9pm-5am. £6 advance tickets, £8 OTD. A very special S.L.A.G.S/Chill-Out special event is called quite simply, Remix, with all songs played by request, just tell Steve and Andy what you'd like them to play.

Cock'n'Roll at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland Road, Dalston, E8 2PB.

EVERY THURSDAY 10.30-04.00

OI, FIT BIT, GET YOURSELF SOME

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R'n'B-RETRO POP-ITALO-DISCO

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HOUSE SPIRIT & MIXER £2.50 SGL / £5.00 DBL
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hosted by MC Tyron +
DJs Chillz, BiggyC
Jeffrey Hinton
Sugarbear+guests



£6
before
midnight
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with this advert

Bootylicious
@ Club Colosseum
1Nine Elms Lane Vauxhall SW8 5NQ

9pm-3am. Free before 11pm, £5 after. Expect indie tracks covering everything from Bloc Party to Gang of Four, with resident DJs Pete Cockerty, Cummy Bear and Josh Cole on hand to get the hot indie boys whipped up!

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

Tonker at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11. 9pm-3am. FREE b4 10pm, £6 after. Big bear bar boozing, cruise and tunes has disco, house & soul, then sexier vibes to the early hours for hot daddies, bears, cubs and their admirers.

Fitladz at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-8am. £6 members, £8 guests. The club session for horny lads with hot grooves from the DJs and an extended cruise space.

Spunk at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 8pm-3.30am. FREE. Manbar DJs play commercial dance for a crowd of upferit blokes and butch boys 'til late. Resident DJs Rob C, Nick Shepherdson, Little Rob and Amox. Plus, pole dancing beauties.

Therapy at Shadow Lounge, 5 Brewer Street, Soho, W1F 0RF. 11.30pm-3am. The ultimate team of gay scene DJs rotates every Friday for your listening and dancing pleasure with Paul Heron, Miswhite, Adam Turner and Douh Silva.

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.

Super Electric Party Machine at East Bloc, 217-219 City Road, EC1V 1JN. 10pm-6am. £5. The freshest, hottest talent playing the best new music with DJ Larry Tee and guests at this hot-ass East London basement club spot and tonight a DJ debut from Johnny Yih!

Drunk at Vogue at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, N16 7XB. 10pm-3am. £5. Manchester's favourite backstreet disco is coming back to everyone's favourite London party basement for an evening of Mancunian cheek and Manhattan chic. With house/pop/disco/dancefloor surprises from James Sizen Bell, Greg Thorpe, Thom Docking and Gary James Williams.

Kali's Diwali Dance at The Dome, 1 Dartmouth Park Hill, Tufnell Park, NW5 1HL. 10.30pm-3am. £8/£5 concessions with ID, £1 off before 11pm with flyer. Around the World in 80 tunes, with Club Kali, the world's largest and original Asian music LGBT club, with DJ Ritu and DJ Dilz.

BARS & CABARET

The Black Cap, 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. Open till late. Party rocking gay pub up in the North of London, gives you premier cabaret and entertainment all weekend. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Lizzy Drip with DJ Chris Reardon 'til late.

Central Station at 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open 'til 4am. FREE b4 10.30pm, £5 after. Cabaret and DJs 'til late. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Earl Grey.

BJ's White Swan at 556 Commercial Road, Limehouse, E14 7JD. 9pm-4am. FREE entry before 10.30pm/£5 after. Popular East London pub. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Titti La Camp.

Silver Service at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. 9.15pm-3am. Silver Summers serves up her unique brand of cabaret with munchable mash-ups, sizzling show tunes and an eclectic pinch of pop. TONIGHT: 'Dish of the Day' is

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

The Windsor Castle at 152 Bath Road, Hounslow, TW3 3ET. Open till 2am. £3 10-11pm, £5 after. Great gay bar near Heathrow invites you to party and drink till the small hours with the hot boys. TONIGHT: The gorgeous Kieron Cox sings live.

The Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-4am. £5 after 10pm. London's legendary cabaret and club bar. TONIGHT: Entertainment from Kelly Wilde.

Club Delicious at West 5, South Ealing, Pope's Lane, W5 4NB. 9pm-late. Crazy fun times at West 5 with DJs and special acts on stage, come join in the non-stop party! TONIGHT: Cabaret from Divina Da Campo.

Discipline at Circa, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 4am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot watches Munroe Bergdorf and friends werq the floor! TONIGHT: Open till 4am!

The Duke of Wellington at 77 Wardour Street, Soho, W1D 6QA. Open till 12am. Free entry. Get ready for another great weekend by kicking things off at the venerable Duke with DJ Gordon John. TONIGHT: Weekend Warm-Up.

The Yard at 57 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 7PL. Open till 12am. FREE. Renowned as one of Soho's most unique and popular destination venues, with a huge outdoor terrace.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 8pm-3am. FREE b4 10.30pm. Four floors of fun! Open extra late with top tunes from the DJs spinning top 40, pop, funky house and

more. 'Looney Tunes' from 11pm, in the Paparazzi Lounge, playing radio edits, guilty pleasures and club classics. Plus House Knights with DJ Nikos T.

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-midnight. The grand dame of Soho. DJ Dave Young from 9pm.

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

Bar Titania at 75 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0NE. 4pm-late. Aperitivo opens the evening then it's fun 'til late at this sumptuous Soho bar.

Kazbar at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 5pm-1am. Funky Clapham dance bar with a special guest DJ tonight!

The Victoria at 186 Hoe Street, Walthamstow, E17. Open 'til 3am. Lively East End pub features karaoke every Friday!

Ku Bar Frith Street, 25 Frith Street, WC1D 5LB. Open till 12am. Ku Bar's little brother stretches across three floors for that perfect Soho warmup drinking session and a little dance with downstairs DJs. Get discounted entry wristbands here for Ku Klub in Lisle Street.

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

Frankie's Fun-Filled Friday at The Admiral Duncan, 54 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UD. Midday-Midnight. The popular Soho bar spins out floor fillers from DJ Frankie Fantastique.

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

G-A-Y presents Ellie Goulding 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: Ellie Goulding, Princess of British Pop, performs her hits and new BBC Children in Need single 'How Long Will I Love You.' Plus, the latest X Factor contestant to be voted off, Abi Alton.

XXL 'Rubber' at Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, South Bank, SE1 9UF. 10pm-7am. £8 members, £15 guests. 4 huge arenas, a mega cruise space and chill space. Plus, big tunes from resident DJs Christian M, Alex Logan, Joe Egg and Mark Ames. TONIGHT: XXL Rubber! **GutterSlut's GutterBall** at Metropolis Strip Club, 234 Cambridge Heath Road,



CITY OF QUEBEC
EST-1946
12 Old Quebec Street
Marble Arch, London W1H 7AF
TEL: 020 7629 6159

FRIDAY 15TH NOV
10pm
Camp As Hits
80's UPWARDS

SAT 16TH NOV
10pm
PICK N' MIX

SUN 17TH NOV
9pm
Cabaret
LOLA LA SAGNE

EVERY MONDAY
9pm
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HOSTED BY STEVE TEE 9.30pm
The Q Factor
STARTING MON 28TH OCT

TUESDAY
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Double Bill Show

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THE GORGEOUS KIERON COX SINGING LIVE

SAT 16TH NOV

DRAG WITH NO NAME



SUN 17TH NOV

KARAOKE WITH LEE

MON 18TH NOV

QUIZ

OPENING HOURS
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THURSDAY: 12pm-1am
FRIDAY: 12pm-2am,
SATURDAY: 2pm-2am
£3 between 10pm -
11pm, £5 after
SUNDAY: 3pm-1am

FOR LISTINGS ON THE GO, DOWNLOAD THE FREE QX GAY LONDON APP AT THE ITUNES STORE

£2 9NN. 10pm-5am. £8 advance, £12 OTD. The GutterSlut crew present their fourth Gutterball with host Jonny Woo, Per QX, Nic Fisher, Ralf O and Ms Crystal MC welcoming spectacular acts like Sese, DJ Nibic, A Man to Pet, John Sizzle, Alejandro Asencio, Chrissy Darling as the door whore and pole dancers Jacqui Potato and sister Jonbenet Blonde.

Handsome 1st Birthday at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-6am. £7 before 12am, £10 after. Handsome celebrates its first birthday with US house legend Robert Owens playing an extended set, alongside Dave Kendrick, Mistamaker, Lawrence Arbus, Johnny Kalifornia and Essex Suicides, hosted by Andrew Moore and Joahna Londinium.

Bootylicious at Club Colosseum, 1 Nine Elms Lane, Vauxhall, SW8 5NQ. 11pm-6am. £6 before midnight, £8 before 1am. Reduced price 'member' entry with QX ad. Bootylicious have a very special PA by Miss Baby Sol this month, plus special guest DJ Randall Watson, MC Tyron as the host, and DeeJay Chillz, Biggy C, Jeffrey Hinton and Patrick Nicholson 'Sugabear'.

Energy Bears at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-7am. £6 b4 midnight/£8 after. Energy Bears returns with guest international DJ Severino Panzetta alongside Micky Galliano, Robb White and Rob C London with Nico De Ceglia. Hosted by Paul Marcus and Justin King, with live pornstar performances!

Little Gay Brother at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-3am. Free b4 10pm, £5 after. Get yourself to Dalston's 'Deep South Whore House' where up in the Saloon Bar you have music by Meat Boys, Neil Prince and Tim Fanucci, whereas meanwhile in the basement brothel get sweaty with Chris Camplin, Maze and Masters & Wes.

Pop! Ciao at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 10pm-3am. £5. After two poptabulous years at Vogue Fabrics, East London's queerest basement is bidden adieu to with a greatest hits blow out special, hosted by Holestar with Neil Prince and the Duchess of Pork on the decks.

Wig Out at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, SE11 5QY. 9pm-4am. FREE b4 10pm/£6-8 after. Wig Out are back at The Eagle for a night of unashamed pop moshing, where you can expect to hear pop from Blondie to Britney with a Pop-tastic happy hour from 9-11pm and bar snacks all night served up by the gorgeous Eagle Boys.

Inferno at The Shadow Lounge, 5 Brewer Street, Soho, W1F 0RF. 10pm-3am. Everything goes on Saturday nights when Andrew Elmore spins the greatest hits

of the week and the hosts are at their cheekiest. Dancers, shot boys and hot boys all around, a 5 hour non-stop party!
Hombre at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 8pm-3.30am. FREE. Manbar DJs play commercial dance for a crowd of upferit blokes and butch boys 'til late. With guest DJs plus pole dancing beauties. Official Beyond pre-party.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street at 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE b4 11pm, £5 after. £3 with wristband/membership. The party continues in Ku's basement club with hot pop and floor fillers from the DJs.

Sweatbox Foam Party at 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. £16. Unwind and release some tension after a stressful week with the all the fun of the foam at Sweatbox's original weekly party.

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

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.

Energise at The Black Cap, 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. 9pm-4am. Legendary north London late night club, bar and cabaret spot. TONIGHT: DJs Allan Jay and DJ Gary play the big dance anthems 'til late.

Beyond (after-hours) at Area, Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 3am (Sunday morning)-midday. Mammoth mash-up explodes across Area with big main floor upfront house and edgier sounds in the Chapel Bar.

BARS & CABARET

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

Central Station at 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open 'til 4am. FREE before 10.30pm. Cabaret then DJs 'til late. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Mrs Moore.

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. Kick Saturday night off with sounds from the hottest DJs at this lively Soho bar. TONIGHT: DJ Jodie Harsh.

BJ's White Swan at 556 Commercial Road, Limehouse, E14 7JD. 9pm-4am. £5 b4 12am/£7 after. FREE in Halloween costume. 100% funky house and club classics in the mix.

Windsor Castle, 152 Bath Road, Hounslow, TW3 3ET. Open till 2am. £3 from 10-11pm, £5 after. Great gay bar

near Heathrow invites you to party and drink till the small hours with the hot boys and music from DJ Rob. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Drag With No Name.

Klub Klimax at West 5, South Ealing, Pope's Lane, W5 4NB. The popular West London club, bar and cabaret spot, with added Piano Lounge fun. TONIGHT: The Drag ball. Plus, cabaret from Wilma Fingadoo.

Circa at 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 4am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town! TONIGHT: Now open 'til 4am!

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-midnight. The grand dame of Soho pulling in a more blokey crowd. DJ Jo Publik from 9pm.

The Yard at 57 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 7PL. Open till 12am. FREE. Renowned as one of Soho's most unique and popular destination venues, this Halloween the venue will be specially decorated and staff suited and booted to match!

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 2pm-3am. FREE b4 10.30pm. Open super-late with DJs spinning upfront vocal house, with hot gogo dancers gyrating away as Felicia Van Cartier exudes fabulousness.

'Looney Tunes' from 11pm, in the Papparazzi Lounge, playing radio edits, guilty pleasures and club classics. Plus House Knights with DJ Brent Nicholls.

The Old Ship at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 9pm-late. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse.

The Victoria at 186 Hoe Street, Walthamstow, E17. Open 'til 3am. Free before 9.30pm, £5 after. Lively East End pub that turns extra flamboyant on the weekends!

Ku Bar at Ku Bar, 30 Lisle Street, Chinatown, WC2H 7BA. 6pm-3am. One of London's hottest gay bars and clubs, with the hottest boys both behind the bar and in front of it, stretching over three floors.

The Big Saturday Night Out at Duke of Wellington, 77 Wardour Street, Soho, W1D 6QA. Open till 12am. Free. DJs on rotation each Saturday keep this happening pub fresh and party-central!

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 wrist bands for G-A-Y @ Heaven.

The George and Dragon at 2 Blackheath Hill, Greenwich, SE10 8DE. 6pm-4am. Free entry. Friendly Greenwich-based boozier with welcoming atmosphere and top cabaret at the weekends. **Guilty Pleasures** at The Admiral Duncan, 54 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UD. All the big pop hits from the Pop Tarts on a Saturday

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night at this legendary Soho pub spot.

Saturday Market + Bears

Downstairs at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon St, WC2N 4JF. Open 'til 3am. Rose Garden's Saturday Market from 4pm. Bears go down with the gruff guys and Justin Swift from 9pm.

Bar Titania at 75 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0NE. 4pm-12am. Commercial tunes, house, pop and even a dash of disco, with singer Andrea Gorse from 8pm.

Saunabar at 29 Endell Street, Covent Garden, WC2H 9BA. 11.30am-2am. £16. £5 off entry with QX advert. Unwind after a night of clubbing at the only licensed gay sauna in the West End.

The Yard at 57 Rupert Street, Soho, W1. 2pm-12am. Soho's largest outdoor space, with balcony overlooking central courtyard. A smoker's paradise! Great house music. Sister bar to the Edge.

Ku Bar Frith Street, 25 Frith Street, WC1D 5LB. Open 'til 3am. Ku Bar's little brother stretches across three floors for that perfect Soho warmup drinking session and a cheeky dance with downstairs DJs. TONIGHT: X Factor screened live.

Kazbar at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-3am. Free entry. Funky Clapham bar with stylish swish. TONIGHT: DJ Mark Norton on the decks and host Glendora on the floor.

The Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. Legendary gay boozier near Marble Arch, with Pick N Mix on the stage at 10pm.

SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

Horse Meat Disco at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall,

SE11 5QY. 8pm-4am. £6. The HMD gymkhana continues to shake Vauxhall down every week. Residents spin super-disco sounds with weekly guests.

Hot 2 Trot at East Bloc, 217-219 City Road, EC1V. 10pm-late. FREE b4 midnight/£5 after. A new home for the Sunday night weekly session as Pagano and co. pack their bags and head off to a new home at sexy East Bloc basement. Now featuring Punk'd in Room 2 and HOT Kitsch POP in Room 3.

Pure Disco Foundation at Kazbar, 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 5pm-late. Clapham gets dancing every Sunday with this new weekly session hosted by UK soul house diva Angie Brown. Featuring DJ Edu Gantous.

S.L.A.G.S./Chill Out with Charlie Hides TV at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. 2pm-midnight. £8, £5 after 7.30pm. Long-running and hugely popular afternoon/evening clubbing session slot playing anthemic tunes, big remixes and house. Plus, Charlie Hides TV delivers a multi-media cabaret collision from 5.30pm.

Fitladz Sunday at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-6am. £7, £5 members. Horny boys get ready for a sporty Sunday scrum. Uplifting tunes, uperit guys and that notorious extended cruise space.

BARS & CABARET

Baga's Bit on the Side at Black Cap, 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. Open till late. Baga Chipz, star of the cabaret scene, treats the crowds of Camden to some funny antics and big voiced belters. TONIGHT: Chris Reardon launches his new karaoke, weekly from 8pm.

The Quebec at 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. Legendary gay

boozier near Marble Arch features weekly cabaret. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Lola Lasagne.

The Power of 3 at the Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High Street, Clapham, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-2am. Show 6.30pm. £5 after 8pm, £6 after 9pm. Sunday fun at this legendary south London cabaret spot with not one, not two, but three cabaret stars.

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

80s Music Night at Duke of Wellington, 77 Wardour Street, Soho, W1D 6QA. Open till 11.30pm. Free. Retro fun to round off the weekend with all your best-loved 80s classics.

Sunday School at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE.

3pm-11pm. Free. Enjoy an end to your wonderful weekend with sounds spun by DJ Nick Shepherdson and hilarious onstage entertainment from mistress of the acerbic quip, Miss Myra Dubois!

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street, 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2H 7BA. 10pm-11am. FREE. Lady Lloyd's hit factory hits Ku Bar Lisle Street, with hot boys on the dancefloor, hot tunes in your ears and hot boys behind the bar!

Windsor Castle, 152 Bath Road, Hounslow, TW3 3ET. Open till 2am. Great gay bar near Heathrow invites you to party and drink till the small hours with the hot boys. TONIGHT: Karaoke with Lee.

Topsie Redfern at Bar Titania, 75 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0NE. Bar opens 12pm. Show 5pm-10.30pm. Showcase of cabaret and fun at Soho's swanky new bar. TONIGHT: Topsie Redfern and her one-woman show!

The George and Dragon at 2 Blackheath Hill, Greenwich, SE10 8DE. 6pm-2am. FREE. Friendly Greenwich based boozier with welcoming atmosphere and top cabaret at the weekends.

Studio at Circa, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 1am. Dusty O brings you the campest Sunday night on the block, a little sparkle to the heart of Soho!

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 2pm-3am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder, which every gay man of London needs to visit at least once!

Halfway 2 Heaven at 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. Long running popular Central London cabaret pub. DJ David Robson from 3.30pm with CK Sunday, followed by Mrs Moore.

Strictly Sunday at BJ's White Swan, 556 Commercial Road, Limehouse, E14. 6.30pm-3am. Retrotastic tea dance offering everything from ballroom to disco via Latin, Salsa, Jive... and line dancing. Dance lessons 6.30pm-8pm.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street, 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2H 7BA. 10pm-11am. FREE. Lady Lloyd's hit factory hits Ku Bar Lisle Street, with hot boys on the dancefloor, hot tunes in your ears and hot boys behind the bar!

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. Chic, newly refurbished Soho bar with ambient beats and brilliant drinks.

Chipz for Tea at The Admiral Duncan, 54 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UD. 5pm-10.30pm. Baga Chipz takes over the Old Compton Street spot for a salacious Sunday sesh (5-10.30pm).

West 5 at Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. Open from 8pm. FREE. Disco

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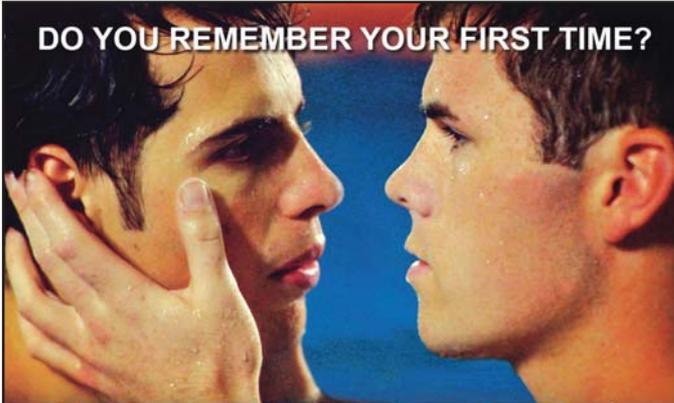
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with Aaron from 10.30pm. Happy hour all night. TONIGHT: Cookie's Karaoke!

MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

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

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 specially discounted day for under 25s (ID required) at Soho's only gay sauna.

Bear Trap at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 8pm-2am. FREE. Weekly beary Monday. Great drink specials with top tunes from DJ Julio Bravo and hosted by Nandi Oh.

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.

BARS & CABARET

Backing The Stars at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon St. WC2. 7.30pm. Kevin Walsh gets the pub going with this karaoke weekly.

Give It Some Welly at Duke of Wellington, 77 Wardour Street, Soho, W1D 6QA. Open till 12am. Free. Drinks deals extravaganzas at the Duke with £2

selected drinks all day and DJ Hothouse Club.

Windsor Castle, 152 Bath Road, Hounslow, TW3 3ET. Open till 2am. Great gay bar near Heathrow invites you to party and drink till the small hours with the hot boys. TONIGHT: The 'Castle's weekly quiz!

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

Karaoke at City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. From 9pm. FREE. Grab the mic and show the boys what ya can do with your gob! Hosted by Stevie Tee.

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. TONIGHT: DJs on rotation.

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. The trendy Soho drinking spot celebrates Monday with Bar £2.50!

Star For A Night Karaoke at The Admiral Duncan, 54 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UD. FREE. Queer karaoke with Tanya Hyde (8-11pm).

Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. Free before 10pm, £3 after. The renowned Eagle Bar is now open seven days a week, come for an after-work tippie, a cheeky midweek night out with the boys or a night cap and cruise on your way home.

TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

OMFG at Shadow Lounge, 5-7 Brewer Street, Soho, W1F 0RF. 10pm-3am. £5, free for members. Munroe Bergdorf

returns with her signature night, and a posse of London's hottest guys and sexiest T-girls.

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

Spotlight at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. 4pm-2am. Topsy Redfern hosts this weekly singing contest (from 10pm).

Man Meets Men at BJ's White Swan, 556 Commercial Road, Limehouse, E14. 8pm-1am. FREE. Cruisy chill out night for East London lads.

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

Retro Tuesday at Duke of Wellington, 77 Wardour Street, Soho, W1D 6QA. Open till 12am. Free. Nineties music plus old school games will rev up your Tuesday night.

Tiffany Wells Double Bill at The Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. The legendary gay pub in the heart of London. Tiffany Wells presents two shows at 9pm and 10pm.

In Bed with Bette at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. From 8.45pm. Join famous cabaret scene queen Bette Rinse for cabaret and fun at this landmark gay venue.

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

Tuneful Tartan Tuesdays at The Admiral Duncan, 54 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UD. Mary Mac's tarty Tartan weekly at the always fun and friendly boozier in the middle of Old Compton Street.

Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. Free before 10pm, £3 after. The renowned Eagle Bar is now open seven days a week, come for an after-work tippie, a cheeky midweek night out with the boys or a night cap and cruise on your way home.

WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER

CLUBS & EVENTS

XXL at Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, South Bank, SE1 9UF. 9pm-3am. Members free, others £3. Midweek, dance, booze and cruise at the world famous club for hunks, chunks, bears and admirers.

MisFits at The Shadow Lounge, 5 Brewer Street, Soho, W1F 0RF. 10pm-3am. Mark-Ashley Dupé delivers a taste the best fresh 'n' creative music

and fashion to Shadow for a new weekly night of booty shakin' R'n'B.

Foam Party at Sweatbox, 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. £16. If you can't make the weekend fun, head down tonight? Relieve the midweek stress! Foam flies at 7, 8 and 9pm.

BARS & CABARET

Whatever at Manbar, 79 Charing Cross Road, Soho, WC2H 0NE. Open 'til 3.30am. A new school night with knockdown cheap drinks, non-stop pumping music by Lee Harris and sexy fresh-faced gogos.

Jivin' Julie's Karaoke at Bar Titania, 75 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0NE. 6pm-11pm. Jivin' Julie gets you all singing and jivin' throughout the fun-packed night.

Bingo with Mary Mac at West 5, Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. Open from 8pm. FREE. Fabulous bingo fun with Mary Mac at Ealing's biggest gar bar. Happy hour all night long.

Amateur Strip at White Swan, 556 Commercial Road, E14. 9pm-3am. FREE. This infamous night sees spunky East End totty get totally naked to win big dollar. Hosted by Saucy Sophie.

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

That's Entertainment at Halfway II Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. From 8pm. Drop in for a pint as Myra Dubois delivers the laughs at this popular Central London cabaret spot from 8pm.

Wednesday Naughties at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross N1 9SD. 10pm. FREE. Excellent cabaret to fire up your Wednesday evenings. Hosted by Mrs Moore.

The Admiral Duncan at 54 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UD. Midday-11pm. Weekly cabaret at this legendary Soho pub. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Vicki Vivacious.

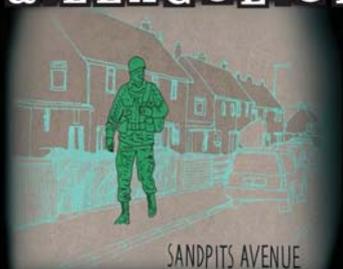
The Old Ship at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. Quiz from 9.30pm. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse.

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

Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. Free before 10pm, £3 after. The renowned Eagle Bar is now open seven days a week, come for an after-work tippie, a cheeky midweek night out with the boys or a night cap and cruise on your way home.

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The Hoist hands over the keys to the younger generation of fetish enthusiasts. It's an 18-30 night for younger guys who are interested in, or curious about, the fetish scene. All the fetish zones will be open and it coincides with the launch of new fetish brand **Twisted Twink**, who make special designs for younger guys. The guys in the office can't wait!

The Hoist, Railway arches 47b and 47c, South Lambeth Road, SW8 IRH. 9pm-1am. £3.

Your Dirrrty Diary

THURSDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

Twisted Twink. See box.
The Underground Club, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. PANTS (1-6pm) Underwear fun. SPANKZ (6pm-10pm) CP night for rougher, tougher play. Followed by COME TO DADDY (10pm-2am).
SexVibe at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-late. £5. Cruise session, dark room and horny house beats while Vibe and PopVibe spin urban and pop tunes downstairs.
Vault: Cruise/Stripped at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. DAY CRUISE (1-7pm. £6). STRIPPED (7pm-1am. £7). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get nude and rude. Strictly naked, except footwear.
Eagle London Cruise at 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. Members FREE, guests FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. Men-only cruise bar for blokes, bears, and their mates.

FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN.

DAY CRUISE (1-7pm. £6). NIGHT CRUISE (7pm-1am. £7). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Horny cruise spot minute's from the West End.

The Backstreet at MAI Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 10pm-3am. FREE in tall boots, members free b4 10.45pm/£4 after, £7 others. Leather/rubber club spot.

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

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. PANTS (1-6pm, £4 entry) Undies only! FEET ON FRIDAY (7pm-midnight) Horny foot play.

Cruise/Dark Room at Ted's Place, 305a North End Rd, W14. 7pm-midnight. £3. Dirty, sexy cruise night.

The Hoist at 47c South Lambeth Road, SW8 IRH. 10pm-3am. HOIST CLASSIC vs SWEAT sportswear cruising.

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

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

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, NI. PANTS (1-6pm, £4) Best undies for the boys. ABC (7pm-midnight) Adult Baby Club: explore your inner infant by dressing up in diapers.

The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 IRH. BOYS & SIRs (2pm-7pm) Spanking/CP/punishment event. SBN AFTERDARK (Arch 1) Dresscode naked and live show.

Buff at MAI Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 6pm-10pm. £8 members/£9 guests (free drink/coat check). Naked, shorts or underwear.

The Backstreet at MAI Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 10pm-3am. Free members b4 10.45pm/£4 after, £7 others. Free all night in rubber.

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

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. DAY CRUISE (1pm-7pm. £6) NIGHT CRUISE (7pm-1am. £7). Free drink, cloakroom, re-entry. Dark corners, catch a dirty movie, indulge your carnal side.

SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

Fitladz Sunday at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-4am. Members FREE, £5 guests. Horny boys after a sporty scrum. Uplifting tunes, upferit guys and cruising.

The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 IRH. S.B.N. (2-7pm) Fully naked cruise club. N.B.N. vs S.E.X. (9pm-1am) Wear what you like, do who ya want.

Buff at MAI Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile

End, E3 4UA. 6pm-10pm. £8 members/£9 guests (free drink/coat check). Horny, naked cruise party. Stay on for after-party 'til late - arrive before 9.30pm! (Closed 1st Sunday of the month for Lycra night HERO'S)

Vault: Underwear/Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. UNDERWEAR (1-7pm. £6). CRUISE (7pm-1am. £7). 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, NI. 1pm-midnight. £7. Yellow fun for waterworks fans.

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

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

MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

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

Vault: Cruise/Stripped at Vault, 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. CRUISE (1-7pm. £6). STRIPPED (7pm-1am. £7). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Horny cruise session first before naked time (except footwear).

Cruise/Dark Room at Ted's Place, 305a North End Rd, W14. 7pm-midnight. £3. For hungry, horny buggers.

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

TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

Suited & Booted at East Bloc, 217 City Road, EC1V 1JN. 7pm-11pm. £6. Do guys

in suits get you hot under the collar? If your kinda business is doing blokes with briefcases then get yo ass down to this night for guys into suits & ties! Dress code is suits or smart casual. No jeans or trainers.

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

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. 1-7pm, £6. 7pm-1am. £7. Cruising session at this horny hot spot.

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

Eagle London Cruise at 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. Members FREE, guests FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. Men-only cruise bar for blokes, bears, and their mates.

WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER

Eagle London Cruise at 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. Members FREE, guests FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. Men-only cruise bar for blokes, bears, and their mates.

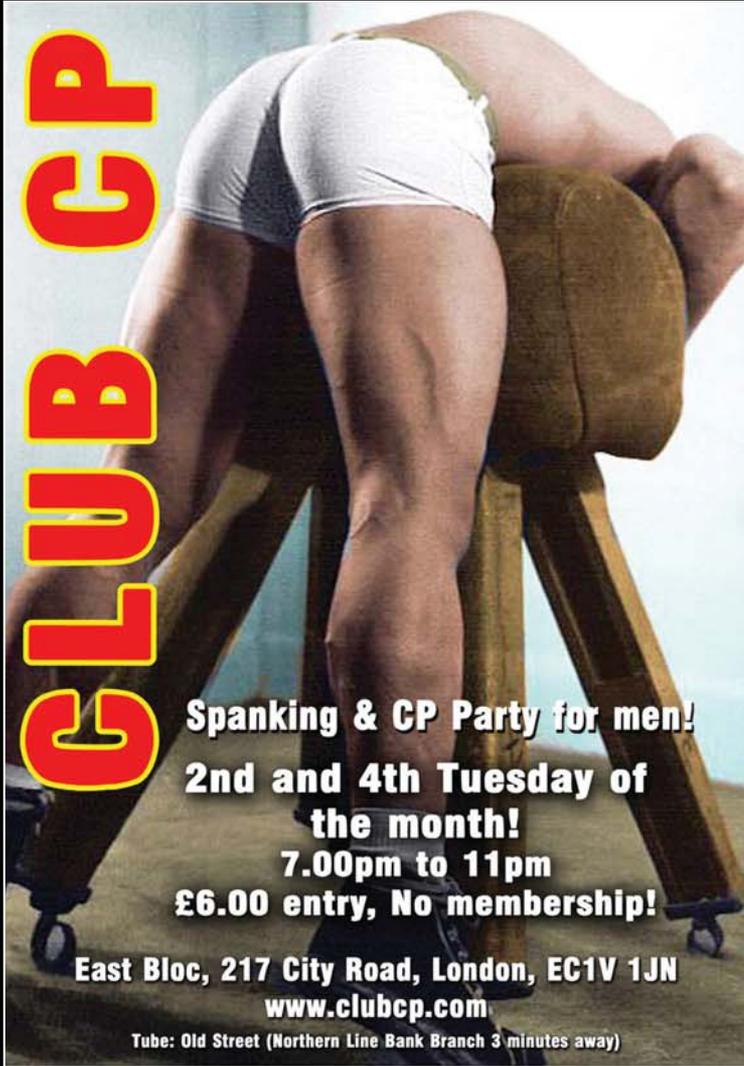
Buff at MAI Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 7pm-11pm. £8 members/£9 guests (free drink/coat check). Horny, naked cruise party. Heated outdoor 'naked' smokers terrace.

N.B.N. at The Hoist, 47b South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8. 9pm-1am. £8.50. If ya like to strip, but prefer to add some boots or a tasteful accessory rather than go full monty.

Vault: Cruise/Underwear at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. DAY CRUISE (1-7pm. £6) Then UNDERWEAR (7pm-1am. £7) Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get down to your underwear.

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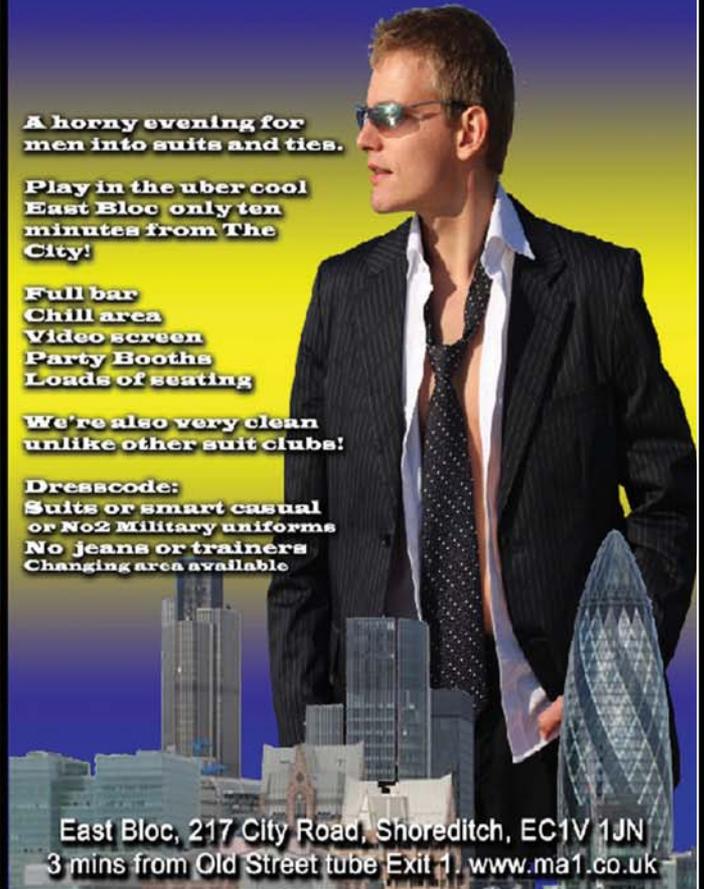
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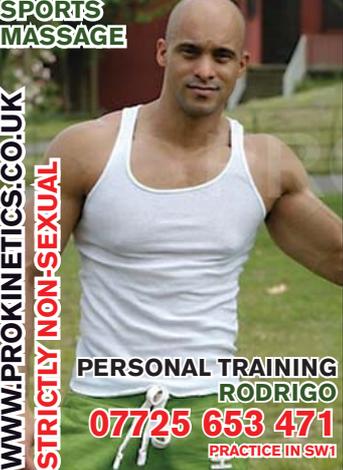
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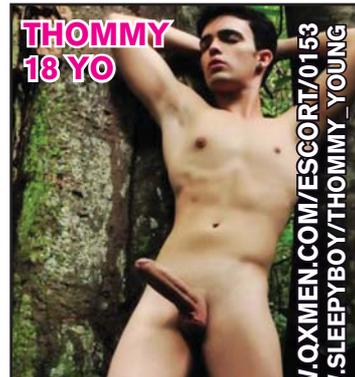


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Health watch

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

DR ALEX, GP

What do I need to know about flu?

FLU SEASON IS SOON TO START. It's a viral illness that is contained in the millions of tiny droplets that come out of the nose and mouth when someone, who is infected, coughs or sneezes. These droplets typically spread about one metre and can hang suspended in the air for a while before landing on surfaces, where the virus can survive for up to 24 hours.

Flu is not the same as a cold but causes a sudden high temperature, cough, headache, general aches and pains, tiredness and sore throat. And it's also worse than most other viral infections as the symptoms can make you feel so exhausted and unwell that you have to stay in bed and rest until you feel better.

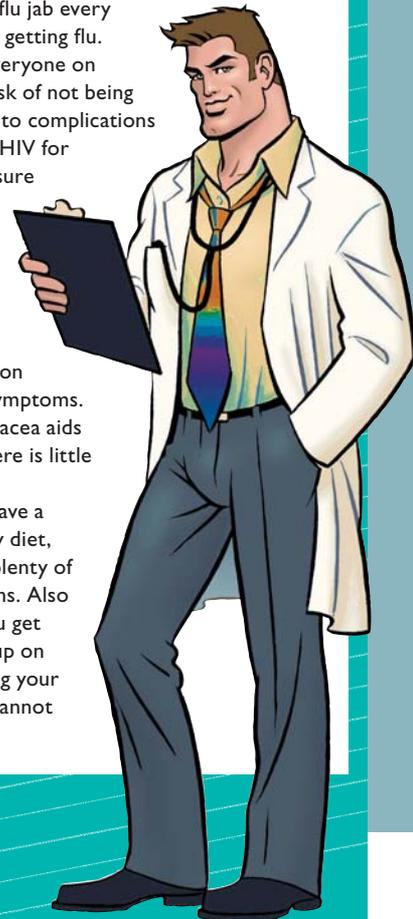
If you are young, fit and healthy then there's usually no need to see a doctor if you have flu-like symptoms. Best thing to do is rest, take paracetamol or ibuprofen to your temperature and relieve aches and keep up your fluid intake to avoid dehydration. It usually takes about a week to start to feel better and longer to really recover from flu.

Preventing the spread of flu to others is very important. So if you start to develop symptoms make sure you wash your hands regularly with soap and water, use tissues to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze and put used tissues in a bin as soon as possible. Staying at home is also a good idea so you don't pass the infection to others. You are usually infectious a day before your symptoms start and for the next five or six days.

Many people choose to have a flu jab every year to protect themselves from getting flu. But a flu jab is not available to everyone on the NHS but only if you are at risk of not being able to fight off the virus leading to complications such as pneumonia. People with HIV for example should definitely make sure they get a flu jab.

There are other ways to reduce your chances of picking up the virus. Taking vitamin C tablets probably does very little but taking it along with zinc may speed up recovery from a common cold and lessen the severity of symptoms. Lots of people believe that Echinacea aids the immune system but again there is little evidence it actually works.

What does work is simply to have a healthy lifestyle - eating a healthy diet, take regular exercise and drink plenty of warm drinks in the winter months. Also wash your hands regularly so you get rid of any viruses you've picked up on them and try to avoiding touching your nose and eyes so that the virus cannot get into your body.



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