



DECEMBER 2019

Q MAGAZINE

LGBTI  
World  
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Community



featuring  
CHICAGO THE MUSICAL  
sizzling in australia

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## q comment:

### JETPETS LEADS THE WAY IN ACHIEVING CEIV CERTIFICATION FOR THE SAFE TRANSPORTATION OF LIVE ANIMALS



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Brett Hayhoe t/a Q Magazine  
ABN 21 631 209 230

It is no doubt that pets are well and truly a part of the family in Australian households. And when it comes to relocating homes interstate or overseas, pets make the move with their families too.

Pet travel company Jetpets has transported over 50,000 pets to date in 2019 – 69% made up of dogs, 15% cats, and 14% made up of other animals such as birds, rabbits and reptiles.

One of the top concerns for fur-parents when transporting their pets is their safety when travelling by air, however Jetpets is able to minimise all concerns as their Melbourne headquarters has become the first pet transport company in the Asia Pacific Region to be awarded The Centre of Excellence for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV) Certification.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) awarded Jetpets with the certification following the successful completion of the training and validation of its processes at its Headquarters in Melbourne in November.

The CEIV Live Animals Certification aims to improve the handling and transport of live animals by air with the industry stakeholders. To date, twelve companies globally have either achieved or are in the process of completing their certification.

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# q feature: CHICAGO SIZZLING

The multi-award winning, record breaking musical CHICAGO dazzles in Australia this year. Produced in Australia by John Frost and Suzanne Jones, this Australian production will be at the State Theatre, Arts Centre Melbourne from December 14.

The sassy musical stars some of Australia's most talented performers. Starring as the irreverent and determined Roxie Hart, is one of our most versatile entertainers, Natalie Bassingthwaite and joining her as the empowered and glamorous Velma Kelly is musical theatre star Alinta Chidzey. Much adored Casey Donovan plays the tough and sassy prison warden Matron 'Mama' Morton. Playing the role of the cunning and charismatic lawyer Billy Flynn, in Sydney and Brisbane is iconic Australian actor and entertainer Tom Burlinson and in Melbourne, will be Australian superstar Jason Donovan.

The Kander & Ebb musical has been seen by over 31 million people worldwide in 36 countries and is the winner of six Tony Awards, two Olivier Awards and a Grammy Award. CHICAGO continues to play on Broadway and around the world in multiple languages and is the longest running American musical in Broadway and West End history.

CHICAGO, which is based on the 1926 play by Maurine Dallas Watkins, has a legendary book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse, music by John Kander and lyrics by Fred Ebb. The 1996 Broadway revival of CHICAGO is choreographed by Tony Award winning Ann Reinking in the style of Bob Fosse and is directed by Tony Award winner Walter Bobbie. CHICAGO features set design by John Lee Beatty, costume design by William Ivey Long, lighting design by Tony Award winner Ken Billington, and sound design by Scott Lehrer.

Whether you're looking for your first Broadway musical, whether you've seen the Academy Award®- winning film and want to experience the show live on stage, whether you've seen it before and want to recapture the magic or whether you are after a perfect night of pure entertainment, CHICAGO always delivers.

CHICAGOTHEMUSICAL.COM.AU  
@ChicagolnAU #ChicagolnAU

## MELBOURNE SEASON DETAILS

Venue: State Theatre, Arts Centre Melbourne Season: From 14 December 2019

Performance Times: Midweek Matinees, Weekend matinees and Tuesday – Sunday Evenings

Price: From \$59.90\*

Bookings: [www.chicagothemusical.com.au](http://www.chicagothemusical.com.au)

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# q cuisine: with HOBBY CHEF CHAPMAN

## Ceviche with fennel – «cook» with acid

Fresh and light, we welcome the coming year. Ceviche is considered one of Peru's national dishes and is the preparation of raw fish with lime. The acid of the lime denatures the protein of the fish and thus “cooks” it. There are many recipes, following my variation.

Preparation | Cut away the bottoms and stems from the fennel tubers. Pluck the fennel green and set it aside. Use a kitchen slicer to slice the fennel finely. Then sprinkle a little salt over the slices, toss well, and set aside for 30 minutes.

Cut the fish fillets into 5 mm slices with a sharp knife and place them in a flat porcelain or glass dish – do not use a metal one! Then pour the juice of the four limes over the fish, cover, and put the dish in the fridge to marinate. After 10 minutes, turn the fish slices and place them in the cold for another 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, cut away the peel of the Pink Grapefruits with a knife and cut out the segments without the membranes.

Mix the carrot juice with the tarragon mustard (can be bought in gourmet shops) and the oil to a sauce, season with a little salt and pepper. The sauce is slightly sweet and will balance the citrusy fish.

Take the fish out of the fridge. The pieces of fish are «cooked» now by the acid of the limes and should be snow-white.

Serving | Spoon the sauce on flat plates, place the fennel on top. Continue to drain the fish slices and place them together with the pink grapefruit slices on top. Finally, decorate with the fennel green.

### Ingredients

400 g of fish e.g., Cod  
4 limes  
2 medium-size Fennel with fennel green  
2 pink grapefruit  
200 ml carrot juice  
4 Tbsp neutral cooking oil  
3 tsp tarragon mustard (or sweet mustard)  
Salt and pepper for seasoning.

Preparation time: 40 minutes  
Serves 4



# q review: CITADINES CONNECT

I would never have thought of staying in an airport hotel unless I was invited to do so, as was the case early December this year. Citadines Connect Sydney Airport is an airport hotel, but unlike one you have ever experienced before. From the moment you enter the hotel, you are transported to the glamorous bygone era of air travel – bright pops of pastel colours alongside smooth woods and polished metal finishes showcase the perfect blend of modern chic and retro cool.

The rooms (all 150 of them) are named First Class, Premium Economy and Business Class - all beautifully decorated and more than amply appointed. All of the rooms feature; deluxe bedding, a 55-inch TV equipped with Netflix, complimentary Wi-Fi, rainfall shower with modern bathroom amenities and blackout curtains.

Your experience however starts on the penthouse floor - in itself incredibly novel and amazingly decorated - not to mention the spectacular view. Check-in is quick and effortless, the staff are exceptionally friendly, attentive and professional, and the amenities available on the same floor are very comfortable - with, again, a spectacular view. The floor features a 24- hour 'Grab & Go' food shop (offering a range of hot and cold, locally-sourced meals), a heated deck, conference facilities and a beautiful bar where you can enjoy a classic cocktail or craft beer and relax. This is also where a buffet breakfast is served daily. One of the very handy features however are the USB/electrical charging stations positioned at convenient intervals throughout the area.

The property is only a 15-minute walk or 2-minute drive to the domestic terminal, or a 10-minute drive to the international terminal. Alternatively, you can enjoy the added convenience of onsite parking. Citadines Connect is well connected to Sydney's CBD and the surrounding suburbs of Darlinghurst, Surry Hills and Chippendale making it the perfect accommodation option to book over Mardi Gras. Depending on where you wish to go in the city, an Uber can range from \$10 to \$20 to \$50. You may opt to catch the train at a fraction of that cost though. You'll be ideally positioned to experience many of Mardi Gras' 2020 events across the city and enjoy a comfortable place to retire to. The immediate area however is developing very quickly with a range of superb restaurants

already available to you, along with shopping, recreational activities and sight-seeing. The business parks of Alexandria, Botany, Mascot and Waterloo, The Lakes and The Australian golf clubs are all nearby.

All together an incredible pleasant weekend was had and I will definitely do it again.

I highly recommend you give it

a try - I know you will be pleasantly surprised. Check out our MIDSUMMA issue for your chance to win a night's accommodation at Citadines Connect Sydney Airport over Mardi Gras 2020.



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# q life: with GABRIEL TABASCO

## Christmas Stuffing

A few years ago I was in London for Christmas. As with all European cities during (northern hemisphere) winter, it was decorated with tinsel and fake snow. I wanted to winter warming so I agreed to meet up with one man at his apartment in west London. After texting back and forth we agreed to meet up that weekend.

On Saturday afternoon, at our arranged time, I climbed the stairs of his apartment building and rang the doorbell. The door opened and there stood a well-built man wearing jeans and a red t-shirt under his jeans jacket. His hair was a mess and he hadn't shaved. In contrast to me, he looked a mess. I wondered how he managed to look so rough.

'Haven't we met before?' he added, his fairy-like campness flashing bright like the fairy lights on his Christmas tree. He walked into his apartment, not inviting me in and stood by the coffee table. His legs were meticulously pinned together and his hands, one over the other, covered his crotch.

'Have we?' I asked a little surprised.

'Yes, a few months ago.'

'Oh yes. I remember you now.' It turned out we had met before. I was in London earlier that year during (northern hemisphere) summer. After flirting back and forth, we agreed to meet but nothing happened.

'Yes. We met in the summer,' I said. 'It was 2am, we both wanted to get laid and you rejected me. So how are you?' I said taking his hand and shaking it.

'Fine, fine,' he said a little taken aback.

'You look very different from your photos online,' I said.

'Better or worse in real life?' asked his narcissist self.

'Just different. Listen, you did not like me last time, so if you do not want to have sex with me, I can go,' I said. I should have just left but I was too horny and had already spent an hour on the London underground get there.

'Honestly, I'm not one of these guys who will take offence at rejection.' I said.

'And you think I am?' he said making it all about him.

'Did I reject you or you reject me?' I said confidently. 'There



are plenty more places I can find sex,' I said.

'It's okay,' he said. 'I don't mind fucking you. Stay,' he said as if doing me a favour.

'So do you want to screw on the couch or the kitchen table, in the shower maybe on the...'

'No. In the bed is best. I can't imagine having sex elsewhere.'

'Wow, some have had it good,' I said remembering my teenage years where the only option was not having sex was having sex in the car of a married man or on the bonnet and trying not to dent it. Basically anywhere but in a bed.

'Would you like a drink?' he asked.

'That would be great.'

Look in the fridge,' he said 'I have, water, orange juice, coke... um...'

'Vodka would be fine,' I said hastily.

'Vodka and coke or vodka soda?'

'Vodka shot.'

He took out the vodka and a shot glass from the glass cabinet. He poured the shot. Like an alcoholic I took it from his hand and downed it.

I felt his crotch and his growing erection. 'Let's go and get us laid. Which way to your bedroom?'

A minute later we were in his bedroom, which was dominated by his huge bed.

'How many leopards did it take to make your bed spread?' I said. He didn't laugh or smile. He didn't get the joke.

We took off our clothes in a silent business-like manner of two people who have a chore to do but don't particularly want to. He neatly placed his clothes on his chair, made from the skin of another jungle animal: a zebra. To wind him up I took my clothes off and threw them on the floor. He tut-tutted and picked them up off the floor, reprimanding me.

We stripped down to our underwear. He was wearing a more serious pair or leopard-print briefs that displayed his member in all its growing glory.

I sat down on the bed, brought him close to me and as if I were carefully unwrapping a Christmas present three days early and lowered his y-fronts first to his knees, then to his ankles, until they came right off. I threw them across the room as a mini-protest of untidiness and in order to irritate him a little more.

He stood in front of me naked with his tools ready for use. He was well built and smooth, his hair more like a mane, flowing freely. With him standing by his bed naked I saw a big difference from the camp man in the sitting room, who stood as prim and proper as a female flight attendant.

'I like your smooth chest,' I said standing up and putting my lips to his. 'Who's your beautician, give me her number?' I said while he smelt my neck.

'I have laser-treatment,' he said licking my ear. 'It's expensive,' he whispered in my ear. 'I doubt you can afford it.'

'And your chest, have you always been so buff?' I asked throwing him down on the bed and climbing on top of him.

'Yes. I go to Athens Crush,' he said kissing my neck.

'Oh it's not pectoral implants?' I said kissing him.

It was a tough job kissing him. His mouth was huge and when he kissed me wide open I could feel his mouth literally all over my face as if he were trying to swallow my head. He moved on top of me and kissing me he made his way down my body, which he covered with slobber. He was a nipple man. He liked to suckle on them and have the same done to him, not in a gentle way but by lightly biting into them.

After a few minutes of oral sex where instead of enjoying it he gave the impression that he wanted to munch away on it and so I changed tactics.

'Why don't we get down to it?' I asked. 'How about I do you first and then you do me?' he said.

'Didn't I mention? I'm always top.'

'Have you always been a top?' I asked. 'You don't seem like you are,' I said, still bitchy, even in bed.

'Always. I don't enjoy bottoming. I never tried it.'

'How would you know you don't enjoy it if you never tried it?'

'Look, I'm not gay, I just like gays sexually,' he said. He was one of those guys. 'Since you're such a man show your worth and give it to me,' I said, the power bottom emerging from me. 'Fine, get the condoms,' he ordered and still sounding like he was doing me a favour.

He was not very helpful at all. He was selfish and oafish in bed. I was becoming stressed. 'Relax boy,' he said as he tried to penetrate me.

'I'm trying,' I argued wishing I had a few more shots of vodka to relax. Finally, after a few more minutes of trying he inserted his penis into me. He started pumping away gently at first but then his rhythm became more rapid as his pleasure grew and his penis started to bring up semen.

If I was 'Punk'd' earlier on then now I was 'Stuff'd'.

Ten minutes later we came together. For people so out of sync our perfect timing was completely in sync. That was a sexual fete not always easy to achieve. Usually gay men say 'your turn' instead of moaning loudly saying 'this is good, this is fucking good' as we ejaculated, him in me and me in my hand.

Breathing heavily we wiped ourselves clean and put on our clothes, without saying anything to each other. The whole event was cold and business like. We dressed together in the bathroom where I washed my hands. He joined me, his back facing me. I noticed it was spotty and marked. It was the use of steroids. I knew he was too lazy to work hard in the gym. I wondered what other features my eyes missed out on observing, thanks to the dim lights.

'Do you really think I look different from the photos of my online-dating profile?' he asked once again.

'Yes,' I replied wiping my hands on his pink hand-towel.

'Better or worse?' he asked again.

'Just different,' I said. 'See you around.' I left his apartment leaving him standing there in his leopard-print briefs.

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# q health: SHAMPOO WITH A PURPOSE

When it comes to the convenience of plastic, this widely used and diverse material isn't so fantastic. In Australia alone, 5.3 million consumers – that is, 27.1% of the population – purchase single use plastic bottles on a weekly basis. Including FMCG goods such as bottled water and food products, shampoo and conditioner bottles, body wash, and other non-descript plastic containers and lids, statistics shows that a mere 36% of plastic bottles are recycled annually; resulting in approximately 373 million bottles going to waste and damaging the environment irreversibly.

As plastic can take 20-1,000 years to degrade without human intervention, its harmful polymers and toxic chemicals pose a major concern to earth's ecosystem; contributing to oceanic acidification, environmental 'dead zones' where living organisms cease to strive, and greenhouse gas emissions that exceed 60,000 tonnes per year.

Tackling the war on waste in Australia's fastest growing retail category, eco-friendly and family-operated soaping mill, Shampoo with a Purpose, has created 4 naturally formulated, vegan, and sulphate-free solid cleansing bars as an effective and plastic-free alternative to traditional shampoos and conditioners.

Gender neutral and catering to all hair types, colours, moisture levels, and thickness, the range which includes The O.G., Dry or Damaged, Colour Treated, and Volume, equates to approximately 6 retail sized bottles of traditional shampoo and conditioner per unit in order to reduce plastic waste and provide customers with a long-lasting, targeted, and familiar hair cleansing experience.



Creating a familiar lather that is pH balanced for optimal scalp health, the two-in-one miracle bar offers a soap-free cleanse and condition using local and internationally sourced ingredients such as Moroccan Argan Oil, Shea Butter, Coconut Oil, Sweet Almond Oil, Sandalwood, Seaweed Extract, Ginseng, Sage, Lilly Pilly, Jojoba, Avocado and vitamin-rich, Kakadu Plum.

"As the health of our environment continues to alarm Australians of all generations, it is important we make changes – even in the bathroom – to combat the use and waste of plastic bottles," said Geneva Valek, Product Developer for Shampoo with a Purpose.

Multipurpose and travel-friendly, each bar in the range can also substitute as a rinse-out hair treatment when used in excess of 10+ minutes and can additionally be used on the body as an all-over wash.

As the only company in Australia to manufacture solid shampoo bars on triple-milling, commercial soap machinery, Shampoo with a Purpose is revolutionising the traditional and natural haircare industries by offering customers a consistent formulation and product experience that is free from harsh chemicals, plastics and animal by-products.

Available online and in selected stockists around Australia, each product in the Shampoo with a Purpose range retails for \$15 for a 135g bar. Visit <https://www.shampoowithapurpose.com> for more information and to purchase.

# q cabaret: CHRISTMAS ACTUALLY

DIP IT IN YOGHURT AND COVER IT WITH CHOCOLATE BUTTONS:  
CHRISTMAS ACTUALLY UNWRAPS THE MUSIC OF LOVE ACTUALLY, LIVE

Stop hanging around the mistletoe, waiting to be kissed; Christmas Actually makes your wish come true when it jingles into Sydney Opera House as the ultimate stocking stuffer from 18 December.

The holiday event of the year brings one of the world's most-loved movie soundtracks to the stage and proved an instant hit when it premiered at Brisbane's La Boite Theatre Company in 2018.

From the creators of Rumour Has It and Lady Beattie (currently touring nationally), Christmas Actually gift-wraps all the hits from Richard Curtis's Love Actually with the requisite cinnamon stick and sprig of holly.

Led by Queensland's first lady of song, Green Room Award-winner Naomi Price (The Voice Australia, Ladies in Black, Beautiful: The Carole King Musical), a talented cast of singers and musicians relives the film's iconic songs including hits by Mariah Carey, The Beach Boys, Norah Jones and The Beatles.

*"No-one can ever forget Emma Thompson crying to Joni Mitchell's Both Sides Now before her kids' nativity play. That, to me, is a really beautiful moment,"* Price said of her favourite musical moment from the 2003 film.



She will be joined on stage by superstar vocalists including Price's partner Luke Kennedy (Swing on This), Tom Oliver (Velvet) and former Beautiful castmate, Stefanie Caccamo.

*"Everyone has their feature moment to showcase their own amazing vocal and musical abilities,"* Price said. *"In the film, there are 10 different love stories. So of course, in our concert version, we had to highlight a beautiful combination of multiple different voices and instrumentalists."*

Christmas Actually is The Little Red Company's fifth original production, following Rumour Has It, Wrecking Ball, Lady Beattie, and From Johnny to Jack.

Price said Little Red loyalists could expect the team's hallmark sparkling original arrangements, world-class musicianship and biting observational irreverence.

*"It's equal parts frivolous and nostalgic; we make the kind of shows that we want to see, and this is definitely one I'm putting at the top of my Christmas wish-list,"* Price said.

CHRISTMAS ACTUALLY

When: Friday 18 December - Saturday 21 December, 2019

Where: Sydney Opera House

More information: [www.sydneypoperahouse.com](http://www.sydneypoperahouse.com)

# q love: Aunt Lydia & her Niece – Creating Extra-ordinary Families

After *The Handmaid's Tale*, it might be difficult to welcome into your family a US surrogate called Aunt Lydia, but that's just what Rees Rear and Brett Ramsay did back in 2007.

The guys are New Zealanders by birth. Rees is from a small country town, is half Maori with three siblings and a wide family network. When Rees was a teenager his mother reminded him – I want grandchildren. Rees had no idea how to make that happen. Brett was adopted. Even when they fell in love in 1991 – 28 years ago – they discussed the importance of children.

Rees & Brett are not your stereotypical gay couple. Despite living in Sydney for nearly three decades, they've never been to the Mardi Gras party.

It wasn't until both were in their late thirties that they took the leap – choosing to engage in US surrogacy. By then they had made good money from their real estate business and a well-timed property sale meant they could afford the security of a US process. It was 2007 and there were few couples even discussing surrogacy back then. Rees remembers finding a reputable Californian IVF clinic online.

Yet the most important issue for these guys was their choice of donor. After examining profiles of hundreds of US donors online, Rees remained uncomfortable. Many wanted anonymity or had no interest in maintaining any contact post birth. But for Rees and Brett, their ideal was far from the dystopic *Handmaid's Tale*. They wanted their children to have an extended family– not just their surrogate



but the woman they shared a biological connection with. When it came to the donor profiles they were offered online, "You don't know the soul of the person" Rees explains.

So when, in a conversation with their US surrogate, she said "My niece Noralynn will do this for you", Rees felt it was perfect. Their son was born in 2008. Rather than an awkward hyphenated surname, they combined elements and Ramrear went on the ID documents for baby Chandler. A year later, Aunt Lydia called them to say she had been asked to carry again for a couple in Spain. "But if you want to go again, I'd love to be the one".

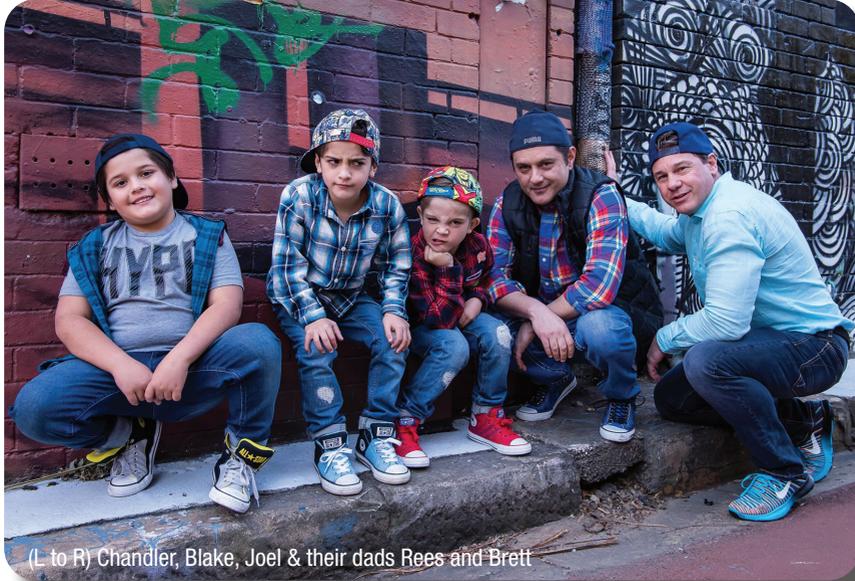
Rees and Brett were thrilled. The offer led to a double embryo transfer and twins Blake and Joel born in 2010. The problem was they were eight weeks early, a common scenario with twin pregnancies which remain high risk. "It was really stressful" Rees admits, with the boys in Intensive Care for a long time and large medical bills.

All three boys have always known Noralynn as 'mum'. They have US and Australian citizenship, though when Rees applied for New Zealand citizenship, it was denied. Rees was outraged and it led to an appearance on New Zealand's TV3.

This family has always taken risks – they shared the chaos of two dads, three young boys and three dogs on Grand Designs Australia back in 2012, when their journey to create their dream Annandale home was featured. Just last year they rented their home out and took the three boys, now aged nine and eleven on an extra-ordinary two month Eurail adventure through 17 countries and 35 cities. "Our children fit into our lives, we don't fit into theirs' Rees laughs.

Gay singles and couples will share their extraordinary journeys to parenthood via egg donation or surrogacy at Growing Families February conferences in Sydney, Melbourne and Auckland. These events put parents, surrogates and donors front and centre, along with talks from local and international experts. Full details at <https://www.growingfamilies.org/february-2020-syd-mel/>

Sam Everingham is a gay dad via surrogacy and a global expert in family building options.



(L to R) Chandler, Blake, Joel & their dads Rees and Brett

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# q music: GENESIS

The Australian electronic pop band, Parralox, fronted by out singer John von Ahlen, continues its mission to champion the synthesized wave pop sound of Depeche Mode, The Human League, Erasure, New Order, Pet Shop Boys and the spirit of Madonna in her 80s day-glo era with its ninth studio album, *Genesis*, out now. "Everything we do is informed from a blend of 80's music and current dance beats, specifically progressive house," explains von Ahlen. The album's forthcoming single release is "Tears of Faith," a down-tempo electronic dance arrangement featuring vocals by Jane Badler. The song is about broken relationships, the hope for reconciliation and the need for humanity to be kinder to one other, as well as to ourselves. Produced by John von Ahlen, Parralox's new album, *Genesis* and its first single, "Tears of Faith feat. Jane Badler", are available on Apple Music, Amazon, Spotify, and all digital platforms now.

"Pop music can be quite vacuous and so it's always a challenge to write songs that have meaning and substance," continues von Ahlen from his Australian home. "It isn't about changing the world, although sometimes it can be. Pop's about spreading something positive, inspiring people, taking them on a journey and elevating them somehow."

*Genesis* follows the band's previous album, *Subculture*. According to von Ahlen, the album represents growth for the band. "*Genesis* is more mature than anything we've ever produced, especially in terms of its songwriting," he contends. "When the band first started, we borrowed a lot from the 80s. We still do today, but to a much lesser extent. We're finding more of our own style and exhibiting our own unique perspective."

The band has experienced several shake-ups through its history - several singers have come and gone - but the lineup has been pretty stable for the last six years. It currently features female vocalists Johanna Gervin and Louise Love and Bass Guitarist Ian Burden (formerly of The Human League). John von Ahlen is the band's lead vocalist; something that still surprises him.

"I never wanted to be a pop singer," he admits. "I still don't! I totally fell into it ass-backwards."



For years, John von Ahlen was simply a music producer, specializing in production and engineering for other artists. He was making excellent money, but it got to a point where he felt trapped in a soulless job. Anxious to make music for himself, he launched The Tenth Stage, a very dark, gothic and theatrical band with an electronic element. It wasn't enough. He had pop music inside of him, and it needed to be heard.

In 2007, he collaborated with vocalist Rowena "Roxy" Martin on a new track he had written, "I Fell in Love with a Drum Machine". The song was a hit and led to the duo recording their first album together, *Electricity*. It included the single, "Sharper Than a Knife", heralded by Hollywood gossip columnist Perez Hilton.

What started as a joke on a dare, was transformed into something very serious. "I work seven days a week on Parralox," von Ahlen reveals. "When we're not in the studio, I'm working on the website - a massive job - and social media, which can be so tedious but it has to be done."

Like anything important in life, there are no shortcuts. Maintaining a band like Parralox is grueling work and requires maximum faith in yourself and the people you work with. "Don't get me wrong, the band has made its share of mistakes, but we keep pushing on," von Ahlen says. "All the time, I hear from musicians, 'you gotta be committed, you can never give up' and so many other cliché phrases like it. I almost want to rip my eyeballs out, but you know what? It really is true."

*Parralox's new album, Genesis, and its forthcoming first single, "Tears of Faith feat. Jane Badler", are available on Apple Music, Amazon, Spotify, and all digital platforms now.*

For more information, visit <https://parralox.com>

# q regional: **LGBTIQI+ IN SMALLER COMMUNITIES**

**My name is Dakota Rae,  
I am an Australian adult film actor and model for Cheeky Boys Australia.  
My life wasn't always as great as it is now, this is the story of my hometown.**

Growing up in a small rural town in outback NSW called Lightning Ridge I noticed that LGBTIQI+ was something that wasn't accepted in the town by many people.

I'd always hear the words gay, faggot, poof and queer used in general conversation and that's not just in the youth it was also amongst the adults.

It was homophobic, even at some of the kid's birthday parties I'd go to the games would be homophobic such as "The last one to reach the other side of the park would be gay, and parents would fully support these types of games.

There was one openly gay guy in Lightning Ridge who always liked to colour his hair rainbow and his eyebrows rainbow, he'd paint his nails and wear big leather boots. I really admired his bravery to step out in public with pride and not ever caring about what names the town called him.

The one thing about him that made it hard for me to come out is gay was that he set an image in the eyes of the community that all LGBTIQI+ people were like that.

In 2016 when I moved to the Gold Coast QLD, I came out as gay and was fully supported by my friends and family, I did go back to my hometown in Lightning Ridge where people would often approach me and say "You don't look or act gay?"

At this stage I felt confidence and I didn't care what anyone thought of me and I explained and showed them that LGBTIQI+ isn't a personality or a dress code but it is the preference of love and feelings.

Some people like cats, others like dogs. Some people like red and others like pink. You wouldn't hate your friends or family for liking a different colour, animal or TV show than you do, would you? It's the same with being LGBTIQI+ you might not like it but you don't bully, fight or kill us for what our preferences are.

Lightning Ridge in 2019 has an expanding LGBTIQI+ community and is now more accepting than ever before, it feels amazing to be able to walk around and be seen as a normal person in my hometown as it should always have been

I believe that communities in small/rural towns in Australia are less educated on LGBTIQI+ they have the odd handful of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people in those towns but sometimes it can be a very discrete life because of Homophobia and Transphobia from lack of LGBT+ education and resources.

There is less support in regional communities for the LGBTIQI+ and I think we all need to make a change with educating in schools, just like how most schools both public and private schools teach scripture and have religious classes, I strongly believe that schools and community organizations should give the positive message that "it's okay to be LGBTIQI+.

Smaller towns should celebrate pride and pride month to help make a small community gather and to set the image that being LGBT+ is supported.



# q serial: THE HAREM BOYS - EP 11

The Final Episode  
By Gabriel Tabasco

Continued from the previous month...

Interview with Gio and Ray, this year's Harem Boys and with Big Jake, the owner of the Harem Hotel. Representing Q Magazine, Gabriel Tabasco interviews them.

I'm sitting here on a wonderful roof-top balcony at the Harem, which is the exclusive living area of the strippers of the Harem Hotel located in Florida. Sitting next to me, (stark naked, well-groomed, with body oil on them and sporting semi-erections that are only getting harder) are two of this year's Harem Boys, Gio and Ray. They are the only two gay members of this year's Harem Boys with the others either being bi-curious, straight or gay-for-pay. I'm also joined by the muscular and hairy Big Jake, an ex-US army man who has replaced military boots for beach sandals. Big Jake is the Harem Hotel's proprietor and creator of this fantastic all-male dance venue, the Harem Boys.

Q Magazine: Tell me, do you always welcome reporters with erections?

Gio: We're horny boys. We like being naked. So we often get erections.

Ray: It's because we are happy to see you

Q Magazine: That's very flattering.

Big Jake: Maybe boys, you can show Gabriel a little more (Both turn over and show me their smooth asses. As if on cue, and it certainly looks practiced, they place their hands on their asses and spread their check revealing their asshole. Gio is pink with a little darkening around the hole. Ray who has honey-coloured skin is he same all throughout the ass.)

Q Magazine: Gio, your hole is pink but the skin around it is a darker pink while your skin is lighter. Ray's colour on his bottom is consistent. Have you noticed? Why is that?

Gio: We noticed. The skin basically colours with age and turned a darker pink.

Q Magazine: With age or with use?

(Gio laughs but does not answer).

Q Magazine: You said you wanted to have the most famous hole in the world. How is that working out for you?

Gio: I hope I'm getting there.

Big Jake: As a Harem boy he certainly gets to show it off a lot, to the audience at the shows or in the media, to reporters for magazines such as Q Magazine. So I'd say his hole is fairly recognisable.

(Everyone laughs.)

Q Magazine: But Gio, aren't you ever embarrassed showing off your hole? Knowing that the whole world can see it and recognise it. Apparently some people have also seen you having a butt wax. Doesn't that bother you?

Gio: Not at all. I say if you have it, flaunt it.

Q Magazine: But do you think prospective boyfriends would want to have their boyfriend's hole displayed for all to see?

Gio: When you date someone it's the person you're with not their actions.

Q Magazine: What about a future job? Who will hire someone who is known for being a stripper and an escort?

Gio: I thought of that and in future I'd like to open up my own business. That's the idea but I say let's wait and see.

Q Magazine: But to come back to my question - what kind of job? In my research you have a degree in Economics, but you're a male dancer. Surely the only job would be in porn? No?



(Gio and Big Jake shift uncomfortably in their seats.)

Gio: It's important to be creative and do different things in life. The Harem Boys was a great experience. Perhaps we stay on for another year or do something different. Let's see.

Q Magazine: How much have you made?

Big Jake: A lot!

Q Magazine: Enough to buy a house?

Big Jake: You need to remember that for the four months the show is running the boys lived here at the Harem Hotel for free. They received 75% of any escorting they did, setting their own prices. They received a generous package to perform on stage. Being a Harem Boy opens up a lot of doors as strippers, models, escorts, gogo boys, dancers and so on.

Q Magazine: But these jobs are not sustainable. Can they really make money that way even as they get older?

Big Jake: As Gio said a moment ago, it's about being creative.

Q Magazine: Big Jake – what's it like swapping the military for a hotel of hot gay men and nude strippers?

Big Jake: Not that different actually. We have to be as disciplined here as in the army. In the army like here the men shower naked, they work out a lot and keep in shape and they are just as horny.

Q Magazine: Ray, you come from a conservative home. What do your friends and family make of you being a stripper who gets naked and even fucked on stage?

Ray: Not all my family are aware but those who are, are fully supportive and like it. Some of my friends have even come to watch the show!

Q Magazine: What was their reaction?

Ray: They liked it. They said they were surprised I could dance like that. They were especially surprised to see me get pounded on stage.

Q Magazine: Have they made comments about your manhood, specifically its size. Compared to the other boys you don't have the biggest tool in the shed.

(Ray shuffles uncomfortably in his seat. His penis flexes a little as we talk about it and I can see a drop of precum.)

Ray: I'd say what matters most is that my dick, any dick, looks good and is proportional to the body. In which case in relation to my height it's on par. It's about how you use it and being proud. I have a lot of confidence and make it work!

(Big Jake later asked me if we can scrap this question from the interview saying it was aggressive. I politely declined and pointed out it was something other journalists or bloggers have written about. If they show off their cocks they should expect to have comments about it.)

Q Magazine: Big Jake - there was a rumour on the blog-o-sphere that you would pay the boys US\$100 for every centimetre of their dck as a monthly salary. Is that true?

Big Jake: No comment about that.

Q Magazine: So it is true? It was claimed by one of the boys that measures 18cm that you paid him US\$1800 a month untaxed.

Big Jake: Which one said that?

Q Magazine: Well, whip out the ruler and find out.

(Big Jake also asked me not to include this either. I declined saying that our agreement was everything on the record from the onset.)

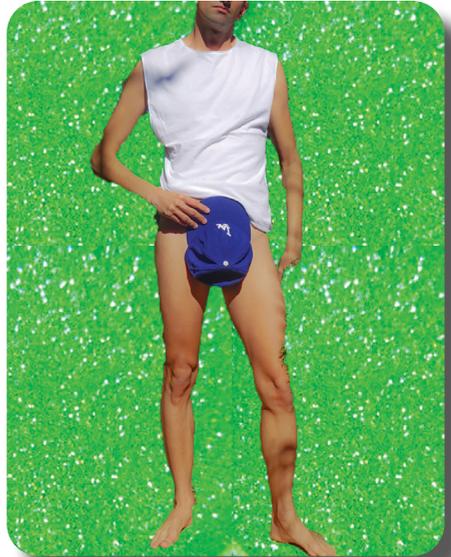
Q Magazine: Finally, what do you enjoy most about stripping?

Ray: I love the cheers from the audience and the dancing. Knowing that the guys watching are having a great time, that's a great motivator.

Gio: I'd say the same but I also love the publicity and the photo shoots. It feels like I'm a celebrity.

Q Magazine: Perhaps a C-List celebrity?

Gio: Maybe a D-list celebrity at most.



And that's it... our 2019 story of the Harem Boys has come to an end.

Read on in 2020 for a new erotic adventure involving Gio's foray into the porn industry.

# g toons: ANOTHER TOONTASTIC SHOW



Every year Brett Willis, Toonist extraordinaire, manages to reinvent his annual show of amazing Toons. This year it was a trendy TOONLAND at Commercial Road's Mama Marija's Cafe.

As usual David Virgona was DJ with his magic Toon tunes, and had the room rocking as the well-heeled crowd socialised. It was a great chance for a catch up, with many of the crowd only seeing each other at this annual event.



Paris was the host of the night and very ably assisted by Amena with Kall Forni-cate. The cast pulled it off brilliantly despite not having the stage and lighting they had grown accustomed to at The GH and Love Machine in the past. The intimacy of the new venue never hampered socialising and showed off the Toons well.

Tommy Little in his shorts was a well-deserved winner of the best Toon award 2019.

As Brett Willis said it certainly was a 'social whirlwind couple of hours'.

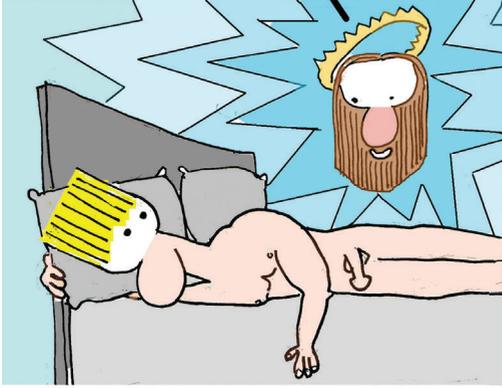


# q scene: OUT & ABOUT AT DTS



# Gaylord Blade

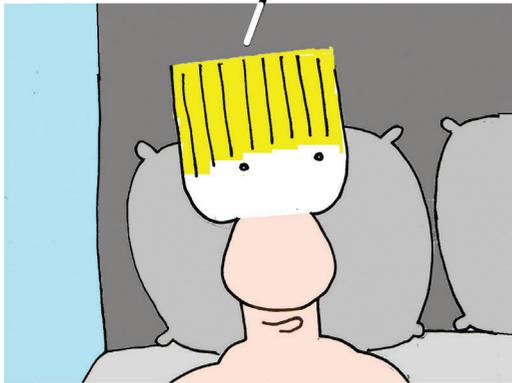
Hey, Gaylord, it's me, God.  
Merry Christmas!



I'm here to Immaculately  
Sodomize your hot ass!



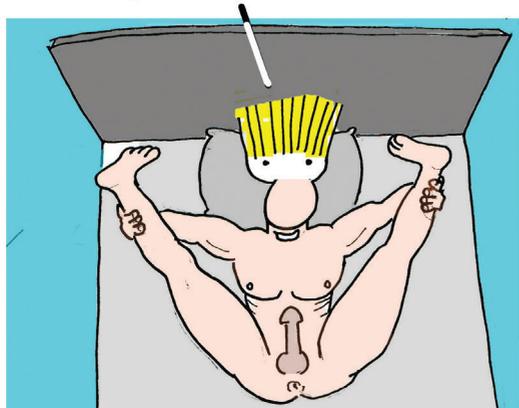
Okay .. beards are sexy .. but I  
was taught you were Straight



Christian bullshit! Omnipotent  
entities are always OMNISEXUAL



Will I give birth to a Messiah?



If I wanted to make that mistake  
again would I be here?





Your connection to  
LGBT-welcoming  
travel businesses  
worldwide.



[IGLTA.org](http://IGLTA.org)

IGLTA Platinum Partners:



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