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q comment:

New dating app helps gay guys avoid creeps, timewasters and fake profiles

For a long time gay apps have been the epitome of anonymity, instant access and faceless profiles. A major new app, Hanky, wants to change gay dating in 2016 with an invitationonly, tightknit community, in order to avoid catfishing (use of fake profiles), creeps and time wasters.

Hanky has been developed in response to growing concerns about the trolling of ordinary users of dating apps. Legitimate users of traditional apps are being subjected to internet ridicule by trolls (often using fake identities), who send abusive messages or who post screenshots of private conversations on Twitter.

Hanky wants to eliminate the trolls: in order to join Hanky you need an invite code from a friend and validate your phone number, or sign up with your Facebook account. If you do not have an invite code at least three current members will have to vote you in. The most active countries on the app are currently the UK, USA and the Philippines. 81% of users are between the age of 1834.

In order to access the new gay app Hanky you need an invite code from a friend, or sign up and get voted in by at least 3 current members. 8 out of 10 prospects do not get in. Hanky is currently available for iPhone. Android version coming in 2016. For more information and download visit www.Hanky.com



Publisher & Editor
Brett Hayhoe
+61 (0) 422 632 690
brett.hayhoe@qmagazine.com.au

Editorial / Sales & Marketing
editor@qmagazine.com.au
sales@qmagazine.com.au

Design
Uncle Brett Designs & Graphics

Contributing Writers
Alan Mayberry, Barrie Mahoney, Brett Hayhoe,
Alessandro Russo, Tasman Anderson

Cover picture
www.spainsevendegrees.com

Photographic Contributions
Alan Mayberry (q scene gh, q drag),
Daniel Shelton Photography (q scene flamingos), Brett Willis (q launch)

scenepics@qmagazine.com.au

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QMAGAZINE
PO Box 7479, St. Kilda Road,
Melbourne Victoria 3004
www.qmagazine.com.au

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



q feature: SPAIN THROUGH LOCAL EYES

Spain Seven Degrees is an exclusive Australian agency specialising in Spain. Private, tailored, unique trips to 16 different gay cities in Spain and more than 3500 experiences to choose from. Foodie, Cultural, Fun, Music, Relax, Adventure and Mindfulness experiences. The founders, Fernando Pérez and Luis Canuto has been jetting between Australia and Spain last 6 years. Both of them have an extensive tourism background and the same goal in life. **MAKE PEOPLE HAPPY**

Spain 7 Degrees has been created by PEOPLE who share the same passions in life. Passions such as TRAVELLING to hidden places, CONNECTING with locals or SHARING unique experiences, these passions are the keystones to the time we live in. All of these factors have pushed us to develop the capacity to enjoy bringing together your dream journey. A tailor-made trip, where you can find the most hidden treasures in one of the most spectacular countries on the planet: Spain.



Because we know Spain better than anyone and we have the **BEST INFRASTRUCTURE** so that our clients can live a truly local experience, away from large groups of tourists or the typical routes that you can find on the internet.

THE 7 DEGREES CONCEPT

Have you ever heard of that theory about the six degrees of separation? This theory says that everyone or everything is connected via six or fewer steps. That being said, did you know that there was a seventh?

How often have you dreamed of travelling a new place and finding a local who can show you the real essence of the city? If you have, read on!

Spain 7Degrees is so proud to offer OUR CUSTOMERS an unbeatable experience in one of the most touristic countries in the world. All this is thanks to our team of Local Friends, spread across every corner of Spain. They will ensure that your trip is unforgettable, so that, from the very first moment, you feel completely at home! Because our Local Friends are the seventh degree!

But, what is a LOCAL FRIEND?

- Your local friend is someone waiting for you at your destination who is outgoing, dynamic, proactive and empathetic.

- It's someone who knows the gayfriendly city you're in like the back of their hand.

- Someone whose years of local experience will ensure that your stay is unforgettable.

- Someone who is a good communicator, polite and thoughtful.



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You will have a local friend in each city you decide to visit in Spain, whose services will include the following:

- Airport or train station pick up.

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- Through your local friend you will be completely immersed in the local culture.

- Get ready to see cities like you've never seen them before. Your local friend will lead you to the most hidden places, the Spanish essence.

- If you have trouble communicating in Spanish, don't worry! Your local friend's language skills will solve any problems that may arise.

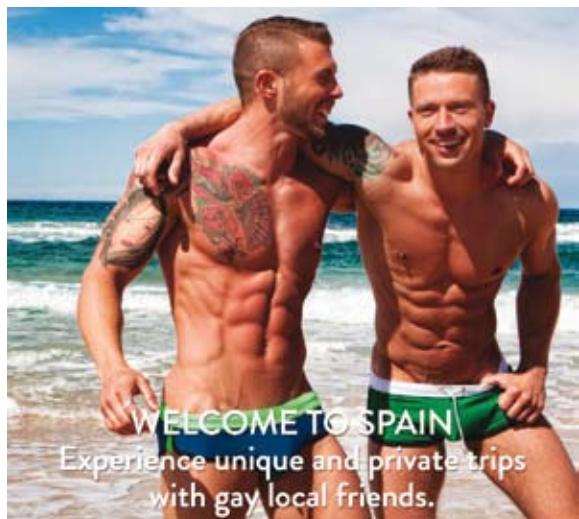
- Not to mention the possibility of meeting other locals to broaden your professional and social networks!

OUR SERVICES

We understand that every traveller is unique, different, which is why our services are guaranteed to be 100% customised!

Your trip to Spain planned by us will reach beyond your wildest dreams.

Choose from 3,500 distinct, 100% personalised, exclusive experiences in 16 of our gay-friendly cities. With the help of our local friends, you will live an authentic, local lifestyle, discovering hidden places never featured in any travel guide or even on specialised internet portals.



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Our priority: **YOUR HAPPINESS**.



SPAIN THROUGH LOCAL EYES
www.spainsevendegrees.com

q travel: with BARRIE MAHONEY

'Twitters from the Atlantic'

Barrie Mahoney was a head teacher and school inspector in the UK, as well as a reporter in Spain, before moving to the Canary Islands to launch and edit a new English language newspaper. He enjoys life in the sun as a columnist and author, and continues to write a series of popular novels and books for expats.



The Big Time Mix Up

Expats living in Spain often have to remind themselves that Spain currently has two time zones, as well as observing daylight saving time. In Peninsular Spain, the Balearic Islands, Melilla and Ceuta, Central European Time is observed, whilst the Canary Islands observe Greenwich Mean Time (also known as Western European Time), which is the same as the UK.

Since Central European Time is one hour ahead of that in the UK, it can sometimes be a little awkward when calling friends and relatives or indeed phoning the bank or businesses in the UK. In the Canary Islands, which use Greenwich Mean Time, we can easily call businesses, relatives and friends in the UK since we are in the same time zone, but it can cause problems when trying to call anyone in Madrid close to siesta time.

There is currently a movement in Spain, supported by many prominent businesses, suggesting that Spain moves its time zone from Central European Time to Western European Time, which is its natural time zone. Many people do not realise that Spain has been in the wrong time zone for decades. During World War Two, it was the Spanish dictator, General Franco, who decided that Spain should be in the same time zone as Nazi Germany during a meeting in Hitler's railway carriage on the Spanish border on 23 October 1940.

The Nazis had already occupied France, Holland, Belgium and Norway, and Italy had joined forces with Hitler. Hitler wanted Spain's support, and since the country was in turmoil after its own Civil War, Franco wanted to be seen as staying neutral, but as a gesture of support to the Nazis switched Spanish time to be one hour ahead and in line with Nazi Germany, where it has remained ever since.

A number of prominent economists debate that remaining in the current time zone has a negative effect upon productivity, as well as the country's birth rate. Although Spain is geographically in line with Morocco, Portugal and the UK, its clocks remain in the same time line with countries in Eastern Europe, such as Hungary and Poland. This means that the sun rises and sets later when compared to other countries in the region. As a result, Spaniards sleep for around 53 minutes less than other Europeans; they work longer hours, but at lower levels of productivity.

This time zone shift plays a role in the country's relatively unusual daily schedule with late meals and sleep times. The Spanish are well known for late nights, since the sun rises and sets much later than in the rest of its time zone. Since there is a break at midday for a big lunch and siesta for two or three hours, workers rarely finish work before 8.00pm or 9.00pm, which leaves little time for personal and family life. Indeed, this is seen as one of the reasons why Spain currently has such a low birth rate – there just isn't enough time!

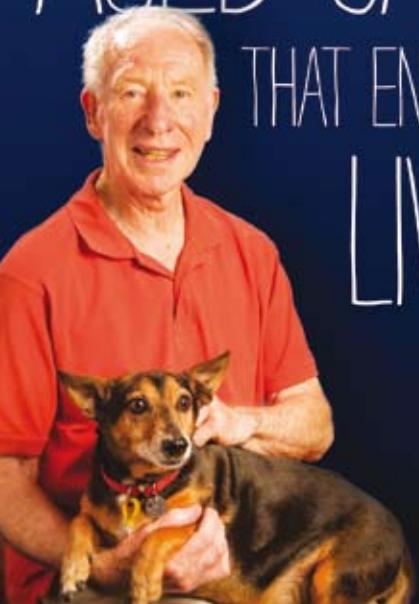
Spain has already aligned some of its working practices, such as shortening long holiday weekends, with the rest of Europe, but many doubt that Spanish culture will adapt quite so quickly to a change in the time zone. The getting up late and going to bed late culture will take considerable time to adjust.

The siesta, for instance, is one example of a cultural practice that has nothing to do with Franco's change in the time zone. Before air conditioning became commonplace, the siesta was a way of getting through long, hot afternoons. Many Spanish people continue to have two jobs; one before and one after the siesta period. It is a way of life that could prove resistant to political change, however well intentioned.

Many regard the continuance of Franco's time zone as the late dictator's final insult, which needs to be changed even though it has become a way of life.

If you enjoyed this article, take a look at Barrie's websites: www.bariemahoney.com and www.thecanaryislander.com or read his book, 'Island in the Sun' (ISBN: 9780992767181). Available in paperback, as well as Kindle.

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q film: SKIN DEEP

POWERFUL AUSTRALIAN DRAMA 'SKIN DEEP' HITS CINEMAS

"This isn't a love story, though I suppose you can interpret it as one. We have two leads—one a lesbian, and the other very likely straight. Oh, and no sex. And yet I'm telling you, you're going to want to see this one through." Daniela Costa, After Ellen.

One of Australia's most original and poignant dramas, the award winning, festival favourite Skin Deep, will screen in a selection of Aussie cinemas with a special event Q&A series from Sunday 24th January 2016, Australian distributor ScreenLaunch announced today.

In the gritty setting of King Street, Newtown in Sydney's colourful Inner West, troubled gay University student Caitlin Davis (Monica Zanetti) meets Leah (Zara Zoe), a straight and straight-laced young woman from the other side of town. Although the unlikely pair are reluctantly thrown together by circumstance they discover a surprising natural bond. When Leah reveals she's actually dying of cancer, Caitlin sets them out on a "Bucket list" style journey through Newtown, determined to help Leah come to terms with her illness and possibly find some meaning for herself.

Skin Deep the directorial feature debut of award winning VCA graduate, Jonnie Leahy, was recently recognized as Best Indie Film by After Ellen and was singled out for honorable mention in the Narrative Competition at The Austin Film Festival 2014. It received a nomination for Best Original Feature Film at the AWGIE Awards in 2015, and this year screened at the MiFo Film Festival in Florida, the Seattle Lesbian and Gay Film Festival and many others.

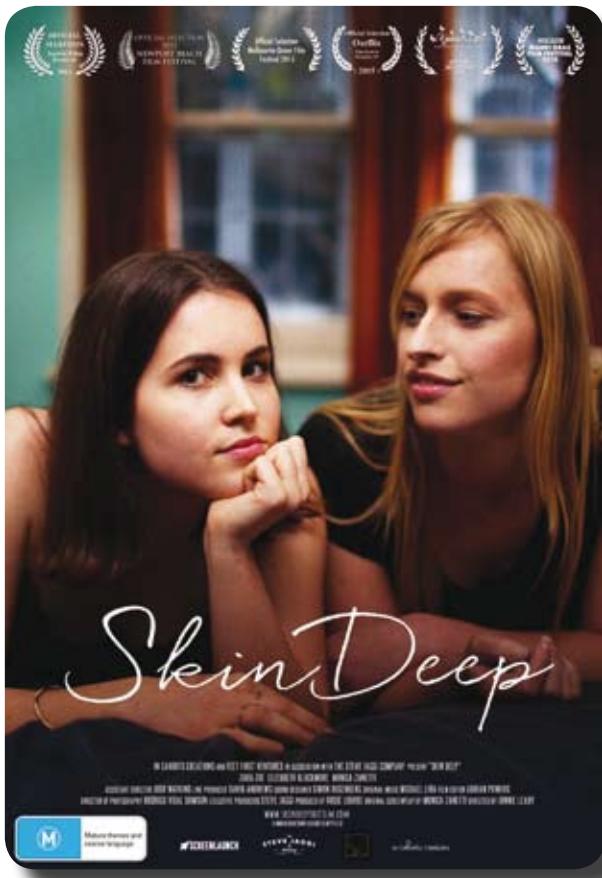
Skin Deep producer, Rosie Lourde, said: "Skin Deep is a darkly comical, but ultimately inspiring, urban adventure story that many Australians will relate to. It follows the raw and tender journey of a young woman discovering the courage to embrace life as she comes to terms with her diagnosis of terminal melanoma. As Leah's adversary and confidant in this journey, Caitlin confronts similar issues around acknowledgement and self-acceptance – revealing how similar we all are beneath the surface, no matter how we appear on the outside. We are humbled by how touched the test audiences have been by this film and we are excited to bring this beautiful story to Australian cinemas."

Skin Deep represents a strong push for women in film, with female acting leads, and a female writer and producer. The film's writer and actor, Monica Zanetti, has garnered great praise for her efforts in bringing to light her personal experiences with Melanoma and raising awareness of the deadly cancer.

Ms Lourde continued: "Skin Deep is the adventure of two people coming together in a heart-warming and beautiful way – demonstrating that sometimes finding yourself begins with getting lost with a stranger."

Skin Deep will be showing at selected Cinema's along the East Coast of Australia. See www.skindeepthefilm.com for details.

To view the SKIN DEEP theatrical trailer head go to <https://vimeo.com/77474005ht>



q youth: with TASMAN ANDERSON

For the past year, my columns have focused on the adventures I have had in an attempt to complete my bucket list. While I had fully planned to continue this, something happened this month that brought an extremely important issue to my attention – domestic abuse.

According to ReachOut Australia, domestic abuse (also referred to as intimate-partner violence) is when a partner attempts to exert control over their significant other in several forms, including physical, emotional, economic, or social. Anyone can be affected by domestic abuse, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, or age.

We've all seen the advertisements and heard the warnings. We've all seen the episodes of Degrassi and Home and Away that focused on these types of relationships.

We all know what domestic abuse is and how we are supposed to respond to it but very few of us are able to fully comprehend this behaviour until we face it ourselves.



Earlier this month, I found out that a friend of mine was leaving her emotionally abusive partner. There was always something about him that I didn't like but I had no clue how bad things really were. Whenever we went out, he was on his best behaviour and their Facebook statuses never suggested otherwise.

Shortly after their break up, her partner went nuclear and continued to abuse her by trashing her online and making sure that everyone knew his version of what happened. Unfortunately, his version included a lot of vulgar comments, incorrect statements and threatening messages.

During this time, I didn't know exactly what to do. There is no rule book or manual that teaches you how to help when your friend is being abused. I didn't know how to make her feel better nor did I know how to stop the online abuse. I was useless and if I could feel that way then I could only imagine how bad my friend felt.

Domestic abuse to me only ever meant physical. I never really paid attention to the other aspects of it nor did I think it was as serious as physical abuse.

Of course, after having a front row seat to someone I love being treated so badly, I learned just how wrong I was. Emotional abuse stays with you much longer than the physical abuse does and even now, my friend has to deal with the feelings left behind by her partner.

While I cannot speak for victims of domestic abuse, I can speak for those who are close to these incredibly strong people. There are going to be times where you wish you could shake your loved one and make them see the toxic situation they're in and even after they leave the relationship, you're going to have a small part of you thinking that this could have all been avoided if only they left sooner.

Trust me, it's easier to fall into this type of thinking and sometimes it even helps lessen the guilt you feel for not speaking up. But, domestic abuse is like a toxic gas. You can't always see the signs until you are so deep in that you feel you cannot escape.

Regardless of what you've been told, no one deserves to be treated like their bodies, minds, or opinions don't matter. Emotional abuse is just as bad as physical abuse and no matter what your partner says; they are not sorry and it will definitely happen again.

Love was never meant to be physically and emotionally painful. A person who makes you feel like you're insignificant isn't doing so because they love you.

They are treating you this way because they want to feel in control and don't care enough to take your feelings into consideration. Don't let them take away what makes you special.

QUICK NOTE: an email address has been set up for you guys to comment on the content covered in Q: Youth, ask me questions or just to let me know what you're thinking. If you want to get in touch, shoot an email to qmagyouth@gmail.com

q spectacular: VELVET

MELBOURNE, WELCOME TO WONDERLAND...
BOOGIE WONDERLAND!



The award-winning hit show VELVET will have its Melbourne premiere at The Coopers Malthouse from 23rd March 2016, for a strictly limited season. After winning the bankSA Pick Of The Fringe and The Advertiser Best Of The Fringe Awards in Adelaide in 2015, VELVET then played sell-out seasons at the Edinburgh Fringe, Brisbane Festival and at the Sydney Opera House.

Director Craig Iltot has created a hedonistic world, pitting dazzling acrobatics against disco divas as this sexy, spectacular, sparkling and slightly sadomasochistic show channels the original Studio 54 nightclub.

Singer/songwriter Brendan Maclean again heads the cast in this party like no other, alongside an international ensemble of circus, cabaret and music talent: dreamy muscle man Stephen Williams, hula boy extraordinaire Craig Reid, acrobatic wunderkind Mirko Köckenberger, sizzling aerialist Emma Goh, sassy sirens Chaska Halliday and Rechelle Mansour, musical director and mix master Joe Accaria and the legendary diva Marcia Hines.

When a young ingénue (Brendan Maclean) slips behind the red velvet rope at the glamorous nightclub that is VELVET, he encounters dazzling acrobatics, disco divas, seductive chanteuses and a hot, pulsating atmosphere. It changes him and empowers him! The performance follows his seduction and his transformation.

VELVET shocks, surprises and scintillates at every turn. It's a party, it's dangerous, it's electrifying, and its exhilarating disco soundtrack never lets up from the opening moment. Each performance invites the audience into an intoxicating glitterball world where the performers and the audience walk the fine line between the romantic and the audacious. VELVET is a fantastic sensory overload – funky, fresh, fun and sexy.



VELVET | Presented by Organised Pandemonium

The Coopers Malthouse

113 Sturt Street, Southbank

From Wednesday 23 March

Bookings: Ticketmaster or www.velvettheshow.com

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q drag: TABITHA WINDS DOWN

As GH's *Friday Night Project* approached its 6th birthday Tabitha Burlington announced that she was hanging up her tits as of Friday 15 January. Alan Mayberry spoke to her about her long and fun-filled career, and encouragement of new performers.

I'm getting out while I'm still ripe. My GH farewell was the end of a Friday era. It almost rivaled the last night of 3 Faces in 1999, which was an absolute high for me when everyone was together as one family with a capacity crowd. It was amazing I've never seen, or will see, anything like that again.

Drag has been wonderful and I've had a great time, but I'm starting to wind down because I am getting older and am now lucky to have a partner and need time to do things with him. It is a chapter finished for me and now I'm prioritising. I always said I'd stop doing drag when I'm 40 and I'm 44 this year. Time to prioritise is here!

Maintaining friendships over the years is very important to me. We are all work mates, and even though we don't see each other often it is great that we can sit down as friends for 20 years and have a good time reminiscing. All the shit has gone under the bridge and been swept away. We can laugh at the old times.

Life has taken me to this spot. Our era, the golden age has passed. My best friends like Caresse have stopped doing drag. Sadly with the passing of 3 close friends – Vivien St James, Pussy and Kerrie Le Gore – there is a big void now. I'm happy to let the young ones have their chance. I've had my turn. I'm a hairy man I want to let the hair grow. I'm enjoying having a beard.

The fun always happened in the dressing room. We loved the shenanigans we got up to there and then going out after the shows. The shows were such fun. I started out with Lou Lou. One night when watching the show from upstairs at 3 Faces, I looked down to see my friend from high school Patrick in drag Lou Lou La Lay. We started up our friendship again and I was soon in a dress too! Lou Lou and I went out all the time in drag and I mean all the time. Dancing around being silly and having the best fun! I did *Doreen's Damaged Disc* and thought I was so beautiful, but looking back at Leigh Klooger's photos I looked HIDEOUS! Eventually I got my first show and the rest I think you know.

Highlights for me have always been working with friends over the years, be it at venues, charity events, or Bent TV which I did for 4 years. I loved that until it got political with the LGBTI thing. The same with JOY Melbourne, there are too many factions there now. It's not for everyone one like 3AW, it's shows just for lesbians, just for poofers – it all became too much for me. Every time I opened my mouth I'd offend someone. I was doing it for free, taking time off work to do it, so I decided go stuff yourselves if you don't like it.

You ask about highlights! I guess the real one is people turning up every week and laughing at your jokes and meeting so many camp people. I love fun talk spots where everyone gets on for the ride. Pulling straight guys and women on stage and having them laugh at me and me at them. I love making the audience part of the show, all of us having a good time. My career highlights would be *Drag Squad* opening night, performing for Kylie Minogue at 3 Faces then later being in her book, flying to India to perform with Caresse and Sondra, being joined on stage with Miss Universe, the rooftop spectaculars at the Xchange, 3 Faces' final night, and the list goes on.



Someone warned me when I first saw Pussy perform at Diva Bar, that one is trouble. Oh I like trouble. Pussy used to come and watch me at The Xchange, after he performed with Paris at Diva. We became friends and we'd go for a drive after the show. She would force feed me at drive throughs. She made it all sooo much fun! Whether it was a 2 am drive to Krispy Kremes, a lunch at Wendys or a lazy cheese burger on our way home, she was hard to say no to, especially when she was hungry! I actually think Pussy is the reason I'm getting so fat.

I decided about 10 years ago to take a rest from performing. After working consistently for 15 years my face and legs needed a rest! Although I truly LUV performing there are other things I wanted to do in my life, and doing drag takes up a lot your time. So I went travelling, sleeping normal hours, catching up with family and friends and NOT shaving! I should really be a bear! But then along came the GH and for 6 years I loved being back on stage and having fun again with the audience – wanting them to come along for the ride and enjoy watching the show as much as I do performing it!

You'll still hear me say, 'Make her welooooooooome', an introduction I borrowed/stole from Kerrie Le Gore when introducing guests. It turned into a screech as the girls are never ready when you introduce them – they are too busy looking at themselves in the mirror or talking. So it was a way to stretch time for them to make it to the stage.

I love doing drag! But I don't have to do it! I don't like venues or managers taking advantage of girls wanting to perform and exploiting them to get everything, then paying them peanuts! I can have just as much fun singing into a mirror at home! I only want to work with people I can have fun with and have a few laughs. The scene has changed, along with the way the crowd interacts with the show. I've worked with some great groups and luckily I've bonded with nearly 100% of them, but recently there have been exceptions and this makes it easier to leave. I do love seeing the new ones like Pashion come up and blossom into great performers. And also watching some of the hideous ones getting more hideous – people that wouldn't look out of place in The Addams Family Album – but there's no need for me to name these, you know them! I can tell they're nut cases when they dress in a costume from Sexiland or Club X and try to be sexy, when in reality they're anything but! Also I've loved being able to encourage new performers, like young Jezebel who has difficulty living with autism/Aspergers, and helping her grow and flourish, proving there's enough room on the drag stage for everybody.

After 6 years at the GH I was just so happy to have the chance to sign off on the great stage there. I always said to aspiring drag queens, 'Be yourself, don't expect too much too quickly, and have fun – and if it stops being fun, get off at the next stop!'... and that's what I'm doing.



q cabaret: CHAPEL OFF CHAPEL

SUMMER TREATS AT CHAPEL OFF CHAPEL



THANDO - CHAPEL SUMMER SESSIONS

R&B songstress Thando Sikwila will bring her seven-piece band along for a headline slot with a whole lot of sass.

FRIDAY JANUARY 29

THRILL ME: THE LEOPOLD & LOEB STORY

Glittering chamber musical based on the exploits of the notorious 1920's Chicago 'thrill killers'. Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb were wealthy young law students and lovers.

20-31 JANUARY



WHAT A DRAG 2016 – SHOW OFF AT CHAPEL SPECIAL

After a huge success in 2015, What a Drag Showcase Night is back with Melbourne's best Drag Performers all performing together for one night only to help raise funds for Australian Marriage Equality.

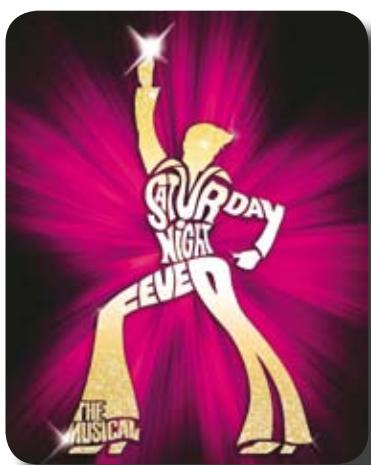
FRIDAY 29 JANUARY 9:30pm



SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER

Packed with legendary hits from The Bee Gees, including 'Stayin' Alive', 'Night Fever' and 'How Deep Is Your Love', this spectacular production with a cast of 20 has taken the West End by storm.

11-28 FEBRUARY



MADONNA – SHOW OFF AT CHAPEL SPECIAL

Let's celebrate Madonna's arrival in OZ with a Show-Off-At-ChapelMadonna special! A night dedicated to a true icon of our generation. Hosted by SuperGirly and Ana Mitsikas on keys. This is your chance to shine Madonna style. For anyone who enjoys a moment in the spotlight, please email your details and two Madonna songs you would like to perform to:

showoffatchapel@gmail.com
Friday 11 March 9:30pm onwards
FREE EVENT



q cuisine: with ALESSANDRO RUSSO

Traditional cuisine Lucera:

These were the typical dishes of the farmers of our country. He was born from the need to not throw away stale bread, and being a simple dish, filled and cheered while the tables of the lower classes. Today it has become a sophisticated dish and is featured on the menus of many restaurants and taverns



(**Bread soup with beets**): Ingredients: beets, bread and tomato sauce. Preparation: dish commoner, for which you are using stale bread, let boil for two minutes in water containing beets already cooked, drain and season with the tomato sauce.



(**Pumpkins with eggs**): Ingredients: green pumpkins long, eggs, garlic, parsley, cheese and pepper. Preparation: Peel deprive pumpkins, cut into pieces and cook them in tomato sauce, half cooked beat the eggs with the parsley, pepper and cheese and mix everything.



(**Chicory with eggs and lamb**): Ingredients: chicory country, eggs, cheese, parsley, lamb. Preparation: Clean, wash and boil the chicory, put it in fresh water for 3 or 4 hours in order to make it less bitter. Subsequently to be put in the pan in which you browned the lamb and let cook for half an hour, the cover with the beaten eggs, parsley, cheese.

(**Thistles with eggs**): Ingredients: thistles, eggs, parsley and cheese. Preparation: Clean and boil the cardoons. Drain well and mix with beaten eggs, parsley and cheese.

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q launch: TOON ALLSTARS

Following 4 years of TOONARAMA exhibitions at ArtBoy gallery, Brett Willis wanted to do something super special in 2016 for his ALLSTAR TOONARAMA expo. The exhibition features 60 new and reworked favorite TOONS which were launched at an Oscars themed red-carpet opening night at the GH on Friday 15 January. Alan Mayberry spoke to Brett about his work.

In the past I drew and colored everything by hand and mostly in pen and ink, so any mistake meant disaster and having to start again. I still draw by hand but I now scan the line work and color digitally, which is fantastic for special effects and not so stressful as mistakes can be fixed. But the downside is that there is no longer a real original finished artwork.



My favorite subjects to draw have to be footy players, in particular the Melbourne STORM Rugby League guys, closely followed by the drag queens. Paris and Best TOON Award winner Billy Slater (Storm) are currently competing for the most TOONS each to be drawn!

Every year the exhibition presents a drag show. This year we pulled out all stops with Paris as host and all the performers from previous exhibitions returning for a sensational James Bond-themed show. The cast included Tabitha, Amena, Aaliyah, Akiko and Suzie Ridge.

I've loved putting together a special Pokeys tribute TOON as it was the start of the golden era of drag in Melbourne. It features Jan Hillier and Doug Lucas along

with its dreamgirls Terri Tinsel, Michelle Tozer, Debra Le Gae, Renée Scott, Jacqui and Graham Pengilly. A new 2016 addition was an on-screen *In Memoriam* segment, just like the Oscars, with Mike Snell (currently starring in *Saturday Night Fever*) singing live.

My TOON work highlights include merchandise for Hi-5 and Matt Mitcham's *Twists and Turns* stage show and pyjama designs for Peter Alexander. At 21, handing Olivia Newton John her TOON was a huge high for me, as was a phone call from Barry Humphries thanking me for drawing Dame Edna. While Barry loved the Dame Edna TOON, he

did mention that Edna herself wasn't overly impressed – as she thought I hadn't drawn her quite as attractive as I should have.

If you missed the opening at the GH, TOONARAMA will continue at the Market Café, 185 Commercial Road until the end of January. I've always wanted to see my TOONS cover a restaurant wall permanently – who knows a permanent TOON café may be on the cards!



q news: GALTA'S NEW BRAND

NEW BRAND FOR AUSTRALIA'S LEAD LGBT TOURISM BODY

Australia's lead LGBT travel body, Gay and Lesbian Tourism Australia (GALTA), has unveiled a fresh new face for the organisation, along with a revitalised consumer brand and marketing focus, that it says will help restore Australia as a first choice holiday destination for both domestic and international visitors.

Launched to key tourism players at Melbourne's iconic Tolarno Hotel in St Kilda as part of the city's Midsumma Festival, the new direction is led by a renewed consumer brand, Visit Gay Australia, reflecting GALTA's commitment to promote Australia as a must-see destination.

GALTA President Rod Stringer said the rebrand is part of his organisation's push to connect gay and lesbian travellers from around the world with the range of quality tourism experiences offered by its members.

"We've seen other global destinations increase visitation from the LGBT market in recent years and Australia needs to remain active in marketing directly to these consumers to be competitive. This is a key role for GALTA, in partnership with state and national tourism bodies, and a first step for us was to create a much stronger consumer platform."

"The new look and feel of our corporate and consumer brand reflects a professional, friendly and distinctly Australian personality and the launch of Visit Gay Australia, in particular, gives us a central position to more effectively promote our members to LGBT travellers."

Visit Gay Australia will initially be activated via social media and digital activities with handles established across Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and a new website to be launched in February/March.

Mr Stringer said that the decision to lead with Visit Gay Australia was to provide a strong invitation, in line with the approach of other tourism bodies such as Tourism Victoria's Visit Victoria consumer platform.

"We felt it was important to align with this approach and the decision to position this as gay Australia is intended to embrace the diversity of our audience in a unified way that will be given depth across our various marketing activities."

"Our new website, which will be launched in Sydney during Mardi Gras, has travel content tailored to families, lesbian travellers and gay men and will be regularly refreshed with travel blogs and direct feeds from our social media pages to ensure fresh and diverse holiday inspiration."

GALTA's new consumer platform Visit Gay Australia can be found via these links:

VisitGayAustralia.com.au | Instagram.com/VisitGayAustralia
Facebook.com/VisitGayAustralia | Twitter.com/VisitGayAus



q win: SAFE SEX FOR GIRLS

A Years worth of Safe Sex - by Bashful Condoms, pack includes Both Premium and Strawberry Flavoured Condoms, Lubricated and made from the highest quality Latex. Whilst Sheer and Silky, strong enough to protect you.

Bashful Condoms

A condom packaged and marketed to young girls and women between the ages 15-35: Women within Australian society is both sexually active and at the highest risk from sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and unplanned pregnancy.

- 97% of women don't carry condoms (the only protection against the transference of STIs); main reasons given: embarrassment; appearing 'easy' or they believe 'it's the man's responsibility' (Durex research).

- This thinking is outdated; risky and needs to be challenged: Partnering with Bashful Condoms will help empower women to make change and take control of their own Sexual Health

About STIs

- Chlamydia diagnosis increased by more than 340% between 2006-2013; of great concern is that young women between 15-19 years old had the highest infection rate with 2,228 in 100,000 testing positive.

- If left untreated STIs are the main causes of infertility in women.

- Most young people year 10-12 are sexually active to varying degrees; by the time they leave school 50% will have had sex.

- Young women aged between 15 to 24 years account for over 80 per cent of chlamydia cases reported in Australia every year. Between 2008 and 2012 the incidence of gonorrhoea among the same young female demographic increased by over 100 per cent.

- The statistics on the spread of STIs, the high level of demand for the 'morning after pill', the fact that medical abortion is the second most common hospital procedure for Australian women between the ages of 12-24 years, is evidence that something needs to change , young women do not have the confidence and/or a condom available to protect themselves.

For further information and buy online, visit <http://www.bashfulcondoms.com>

You can throw your hat in the ring by emailing getfree@qmagazine.com.au with BAHSFUL in the subject line.

* All prizes are open to everyone, except those which specifically state you must be over 18 to enter. Entries close on the final day of each calendar month with the prize draw taking place at 5pm the following day at Apt. 7, 16 Westbury Grove, St. Kilda East 3183. Names and addresses of people winning prizes valued at or over \$250 ONLY will be published in the following issue of QMagazine. All monthly winners are notified by email.



q win: MITCH DOWD DOES SUMMER

The passionate team at Mitch Dowd designs and manufactures the best quality trunks, boxers, PJ's and socks for all the family. If it's not cool and comfortable, they don't put the Mitch Dowd name on it.

Mitch Dowd has everything covered for Summer including Pineapple trunks that actually aren't prickly but designed for comfort and feel cool all day long in the Ice Cream stripe Yarn Dyed Trunk.

Both are available in Myer stores nationally and online at www.mitchdowd.com.au at \$24.95 RRP.

Doing it since 1987 and proudly Australian owned.

We have five pairs of each to give away (small, medium and large). You can throw your hat in the ring by emailing getfree@qmagazine.com.au with MITCH DOWD in the subject line. Please indicate what size you would like if you're one of the lucky winners.

V572
PINEAPPLE
PRINTED HIPSTER TRUNK



V575
ICE CREAM STRIPE
YARN DYED HIPSTER TRUNK



* All prizes are open to everyone, except those which specifically state you must be over 18 to enter. Entries close on the final day of each calendar month with the prize draw taking place at 5pm the following day at Apt. 7, 16 Westbury Grove, St. Kilda East 3183. Names and addresses of people winning prizes valued at or over \$250 ONLY will be published in the following issue of QMagazine. All monthly winners are notified by email.

q scene: OUT & ABOUT



q scene: OUT & ABOUT



New Patients Welcome

Hampstead Dental

Dentists for our community
HampsteadDental.com.au

A close-up photograph of two women. One woman is smiling broadly, showing her teeth, while the other woman is kissing her on the cheek. The background is dark.

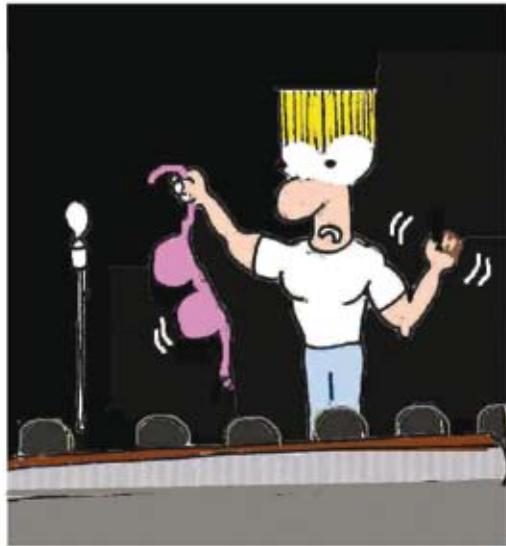
Gaylord Blade

by KICHI

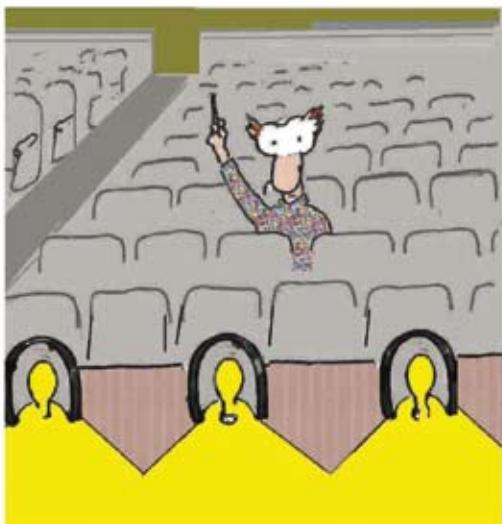
OUT

....

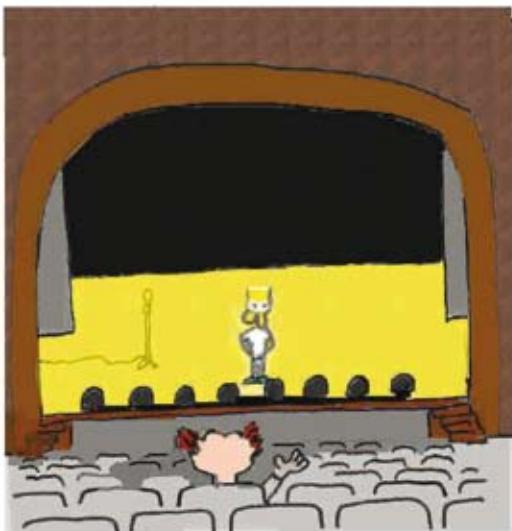
OUT damn spot... OUT I say...



STOP! We'll call if you're picked to be Lady Macbeth in our all Gay-male Shakespearean Festival ... but



... I'm curious, Mr Blade .. why did you use a tit-sling in the audition scene?



I once had sex with a woman. It's the only STAIN on my otherwise impeccable Gay credentials!



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KICHI



Your connection to
LGBT-welcoming
travel businesses
worldwide.



IGLTA.org

IGLTA Platinum Partners



IGLTA
International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association

IGLTA Gold Partners: United | Hyatt



FLAMINGOS DANCE BAR

201 Liverpool Street, Hobart



ULTIMATE NIGHT OF LOVE

SATURDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2016 FROM 10PM

