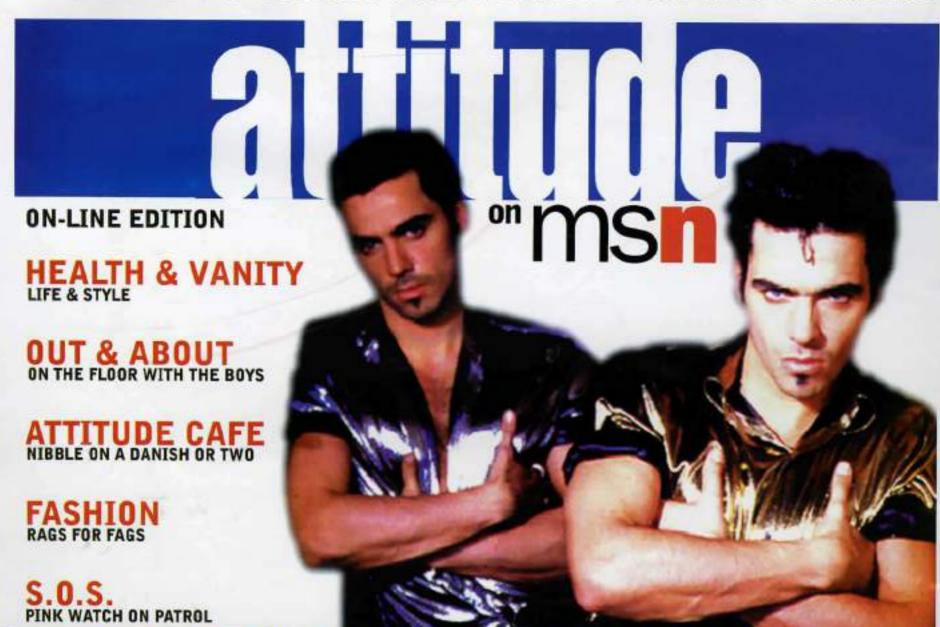


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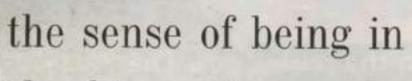
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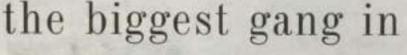


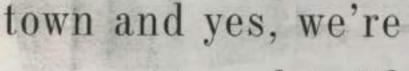
Everyone who comes to Pride has a story - you included. What makes you turn up on the march, or at Clapham Common, drawn like



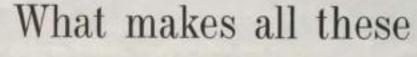
a moth to the flame? Is it the bands, the stalls, the talent or The first gay march through London was held 25 years ago this summer. Organised by the Gay Liberation Front's Youth Group, from the start it







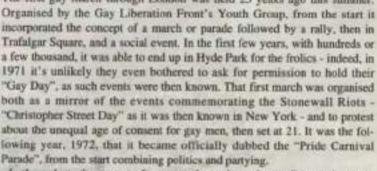
queer, get used to it?



people tick the rest of

the year, and what do

they get out of Pride?



In those days, there were often more closeted people standing on the pavements watching the parade than those who were out and proud and walking in it. Just to stand near a banner, or to put on one of the GLF badges - "Gay And Proud", "Come Out", "Lesbian Liberation" - was an act of social bravery. Many people found it a transformatory event and veterans of the event talk about their first Pride, whenever it was - the year of the riot, the year the lead lorry was struck by lightning, the year Ken Livingstone spoke at Jubilee Gardens, the year Divine floated down the Thames, the year the miners came across from Wales - as some kind of rite of passage.

And over the years, it changed. Tom Robinson's verses to Glad To Be Gay went from defending Gay News to admonishing gay clubs for their lack of HIV awareness. The march and the festival grew in size and cost. There was a bar, then lots of bars, then lots of bar arguments. Floats were finally allowed and merchandise stalls got their own area. Straight stars realised it was the place to be seen and pre-teen girls dragged their horrified parents along so that they could collect autographs. Drag was in, then out, then in again. Pride went bust, then businesslike

But at its heart, it's still the same basic ingredient that fuels Pride: people. People who are drawn together by their sexuality and, at some level, their resistance to social straitjackets. People who come year after year and people who are just discovering their true selves. From babies to bathchairs, we're all here. And here are just some of the people you might meet wandering around it for the first or the twenty-first time. Happy Pride.

TEXT BT LISA POWER PHOTOGRAPHS BY SUZANNE RODEN





Strutting his Stuff

At 16, Chat is already a veteran of previous Prides. He came out at 12 and attended his first Pride at 14. He still attends school and lives with his family in Ealing, but he talks with all the confidence and sureness of someone who's been out a good while. He's currently doing his A levels and hopes to do a degree in theatre studies eventually.

"I used to hang out in Soho a few years ago. I looked a bit older than I was. But as I got older, I realised that I'd been exploited, some of the men were a bit sleazy and so I changed. But it's made me much stronger as a person, having been through that." The experience wasn't all negative: "I still can't walk through Soho without people saying hi to me." He is obviously pretty gregarious and, not surprisingly, he's got involved in helping with this year's youth focus at Pride.

Chat got to know other young gay people by going along to the London Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Group which meets weekly in Holloway. "I'm helping out with

the Youth Tent. And I'm going to be on the youth float at the start of the march. I'll be out there strutting my stuff, it'll be fun." He hasn't made up his mind yet about his exact costume, though he has firm ideas. "It will combine frock and fashion without femininity as such. I've always been a label queen, but I only buy things if I like them and not just for the label My mum was in the fashion business, so I learnt a lot at a young age."

Coming out so young wasn't always easy for Chat's family, who are still protective of him. His parents still worry that his friends may just be wanting to know him for sexual reasons, but he is very clear: "I'm old enough to know the difference now." And on July 6th, he'll be surrounded by a float full of them, a whole new generation of activism bursting with pride. It's an appropriate echo of the Gay Liberation Front Youth Group, all those 25 years ago, who organised the first rally in Trafalgar Square to show that gay was good - and that young people were in the vanguard of change.



Don't Moan - Organise

Do you ever wonder how people get to organise Pride? Most of them started out as members of the crowd. You too could end up deputy festival director. like Kier Oak, 33, who came to her first Pride in 1984. "I knew I was a lesbian when I was eight; I'd never really been anything but out. But Pride was overwhelming. Everybody seemed seemed more confident than me. It was incredible." A Londoner by birth, Kier works with young people. After several years in the crowd, she volunteered to steward in 1988, "and one thing led to another, you just sort of get dragged in." But at the same time, her health began to deteriorate until eventually she was disabled and Pride became a struggle. "I realised it wasn't practical to help. Pride just wasn't accessible at all in those days. She changed to organising lesbian and gay rights in her union, Unison, which was more supportive. But then Unison started to sponsor Pride and push for better access and, at the end of 1993, Kier rejoined Pride, this time on the access committee. "By its very nature, Pride will never be 100 percent

accessible - but I'm proud we're now one of the most accessible open-air festivals in Europe." She takes a firm view of how this was achieved. "You can't just moan. You have to stick around and do the work to change something, not just hand people a list of demands and come back a year later and wonder why someone else hasn't done it. "For 90 percent of the year, about 20 people do most of the work for Pride. Then hun dreds more pile in for the last couple of months. Every year it's better." Kier's favourite memory? Escorting Boy George from the stage at Kennington to his car. "All these young people were literally throwing themselves at him, and he just serenely walked through as we cleared the way. It was really strange." But she's proudest of the growing accessibility for disabled people. 'It's proof that you can change things for the better. All you have to do is get stuck in like we did," So if you see a harrassed woman with a walkie-talkie checking out the crowd, give her a smile - all she's trying to do is make things better.

"I knew I was a lesbian when I was eight; I'd anything but out. But Pride was overwhelming more confident than me. It was inc

From Gay Power to Groupie

Mary McImosh has a double celebration this year at Pride - the movement she helped to found is 25 and she is 60. Mary was one of the lesbians from the Gay Liberation Front who was at Trafalgar Square in 1971 and on the first official Pride march in 1972. She's a Senior Lecturer at Essex University, the author of several books on sexuality and society, and is due to retire this year "though I'll probably end up doing more than ever."

"We wanted to make a public demonstration that was fun, not just demands. We wanted to show visible pride in ourselves and who we were, that if you were gay you could have a good time and be delightful people. It was very political as well, of course, but not in any solemn way. It was the politics of fun and dressing op." She remembers that first year, with the men and women in long hair and flowing velvet hippie robes. "It was a very approachable sort of style, cheerful and friendly and we talked to the people watching. GLF was all about personal contact - we'd hand them a leaflet and smile.

Mary will go on the march this year, but she's not sare if she'll be at the park - last year, she thought there were "too many anxious looking heteros" who've just come for a free show. She's also going as a groupie to support her lover Angie, who sings with the Queer Choir. Last year, Angie was in a samba band and Mary will aslo be looking out for drammers along the route. "For a lot of years, I've missed the sense that was there at the start, that this was part of an ongoing political movement, but I've really enjoyed the last few years again. The important thing is vill being amongst all those different people from different places who are all part of the whole. For that day at least, there's tolerance between different factions.



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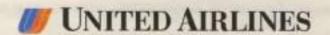
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Pride's a Drag

For Julian V Hows, the change of name to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender won't change a thing - he's been wearing frocks to Pride for most of his adult life. Julian attended the very first Pride in London as a 17-year-old. He'd been expelled from his A sevets after distributing Gay Liberation Front leaflets in his school playground, but he soon became a graduate of genderfuck. "You learn more from wearing a frock for a day than a suit for a lifetime," he says.

When he's not frocked up - and sometimes even when he is - Julian works as a health educator in London and across the world. The World Health Organisation recently hirsd him to work with gay men in Slovenia, organising HIV prevention programmes. His dress sense has been as much of a subject of controversy within some of the more butch-style gay mens' health projects as it was for a previous employer, London Transport. When he left his job as a tube guard, after a long dispute about whether he could wear a skirt, he called newspapers to a press conference and appeared in national duilies the following morning posing on Earls Court Station in a borrowed woman's uniform.

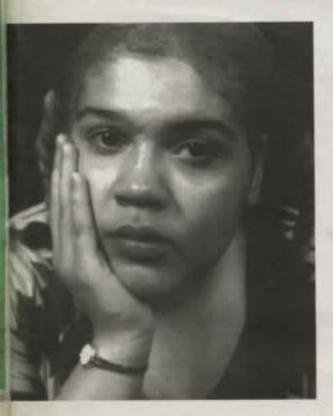
Julian also works to encourage more involvement of HIV-positive people, like himself, in services run for them. "Coming out as gay was never an issue - it was automatic. I had to think much harder with HIV. Seronegative people, even in the gay community, tend to treat us either as saints or dying swans, victims. I may be a loudmouthed queen in a frock, but I'm also quite smart - you don't survive long looking like this if you're not - and I have a stake in this issue."

Julian is hoping that the peaceful nature of recent Pride marches continues. In 1980, he was arrested on the march after police seized a friend, alleging that a hat was a weapon. Julian was charged with assaulting an officer – also with his hat – and dragged off to the cells in Bow Street. A large chank of the march, inflamed by police attempts to cordon them off, marched over to Bow Street and beseiged it until the bedraggled queens were released into a cheering crowd. As Julian said then to a bemused reporter: "They asked me if I wanted a lawyer and I said no.

but I could do with a hairdresser."

He's one of the men who stayed in drag through the years of butch leather queens and denim-clone uniformity; he once nearly drowned after jumping into the ULU swimming pool still wearing his march frock of 40 yards of material in a cha-cha frock - "I forgot about waterlogging" - and turned the water pink with dye. He's already visited a Royal Opera House costume sale, searching for inspiration for his 1996 costume, "but I might just say, sod it, and wear the curtains."

"You learn more from wearing a frock for a day than a suit for a lifetime,"



Pride Baby

For Jennifer, 20, this will be her first Pride. She's been in London just over a year, having moved from a central England town where she didn't know any other lesbians or any gay men. "I thought I was a weirdo."

Jennifer's coming out began when she rang Childline, for lack of knowing anywhere else. They sent her along to North London Line, the only state-funded full-time lesbian and gay youth project still going, where she met other young lesbians and got support to establish herself in London. Now she has a girlfriend, who she met at the group. They'll be going to Pride together, along with her 2-year-old son.

"I'd never heard of Pride until I got to London. Here it's like a different world. I'm so relaxed at the group and I go out to clubs and really have a life. It gives me confidence to face "real life" outside." Jennifer faces a lot of prejudices and discrimination, not for her sexuality but because she is of mixed race. "People pick on me in the street, they call out: 'Black bitch, go back to your own country. But this is my country. I was born here. I have as much right as anyone to be here."

She's looking forward to the big day at Pride. "I hope it's a really good day, just all of us being together. I feel confident about it. It will be a buzz." For Jennifer, it's all part of finding her feet in London and as a person. "I haven't been to college or worked since I had my son, but I don't want to just be a single parent stuck at home. That's why I started going to the group and they've helped me a lot. I'm on a short course right now to improve my office skills and learn how to write my CV. Then in September, I've got a place at college. Things are changing." You can hear it in her voice-for Jennifer, Pride is something she's finding more of each day and July 6th is just one part of that.

"I'd never heard of Pride until I got to London. Here it's like a different world. I'm so relaxed at the group and I go out to clubs and really have a life".

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Moving On Up

Kath Arrowsmith, 23, will be colobrating her second Pride this year, coming down specially for the event from her home in Newcastle on Tysic. "Last year I really enjoyed it - it was brilliant. I went on the march first and I just grinned all day." But this year is special for Kath because she won't just be a spectator. She's been signed up to perform her act as a singer/songwriter in the first-time Bisexual Tent after a year in which she's become increasingly involved in bisexual activism. "I didn't expect to get so involved on only my second time at Pride, but the chance is too good to miss. I have done gigs at home in Newcastle and at Bicon, the national conference, and I used to be part of the Newcastle acapella group, the Fishwives." She invites everyone to pop into the tent and listen - "you don't need to be bi, just friendly" - and points out that she's available for bookings.

This year, Kath has been developing her act at the same time as working on a national peer education project, supporting bisexual groups throughout the country to learn to run safer sex events tailored to local need, working out of Body Positive North East. "T've always known I was bisexual, but I didn't know the label for it until I was 14. I came. out at 15, fell in love with a woman at 16

and I've been getting further and further out ever since." Her favourite memory from last year is "walking arm in arm to Victoria Park with a whole bunch of other bi women, with "Search For The Hero" blasting out. I felt - well - really proud.j There's no other word for it."

Love at First Pride

For Andy Ross, 27 and fresh off the plane from Zimbabwe, his first Pride three years ago was a trule life-changing experience. He was only in London on a stopover, on his way from home to Chicago where he hoped to study as an opera singer. But on that one day, he found a new lover and a new life and he's never left. For Andy, who now divides his life between singing, making clothes and being an ace administrator, Pride is a triple celebration - it's near his birthday and also his anniversary with his lover Andrew, who's also an expatriate, in his case from New Zealand. "I'd arranged to meet a friend at the Embankment, but of course I missed him. So I just started walking with this bunch of leather queens. I was cruising someone else, when Andrew came over and started walking next to me and we got talking. We found we had a lot in common. I remember laughing at the Virgin Mary drag queen at Piccadilly together. We stopped for a drink in a pub and then we kissed. And we never made it back to the rest of the murch, never left is other's side for the rest of the week end. We moved in together in the formal

sense three months later.

Andy says that he now knows more gays in Zimbabwe than he did when he lived there - the persecution, led by President Robert Mugabe, has brought a lot of people out of the closet and changed it. "It used to be very white and male, and my best friends were women and black, so I didn't fit in. But now it's much more diverse." Both there and here, he's been very involved in AIDS work and his lover Andrew is a trustee of the Terrence Higgins Trust

"Pride this year is the day before my birthday, so we'll probably take it easy. My friends are bringing presents to the march for me and we'll probably leave the celebrations quite early for a special dinner. The beauty of it being our anniversary as well is that each year, it really feels like everyone is celebrating that with us too." Andy says that anyone who wants to give him a birthday kiss is very welcome, just go over and say hi. But if you're single, maybe this is your year to take a chance. Say hello to that person sitting or walking nest to you - you never know, it might just change your life.



"It used to be very white and male, and my best friends were women and black, so I didn't fit in. But now it's much more diverse."





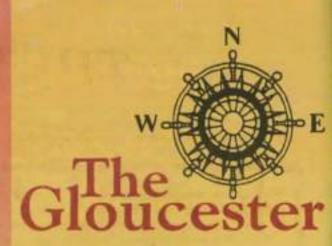


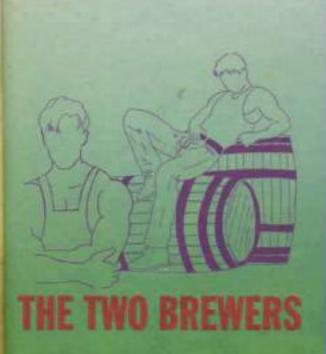
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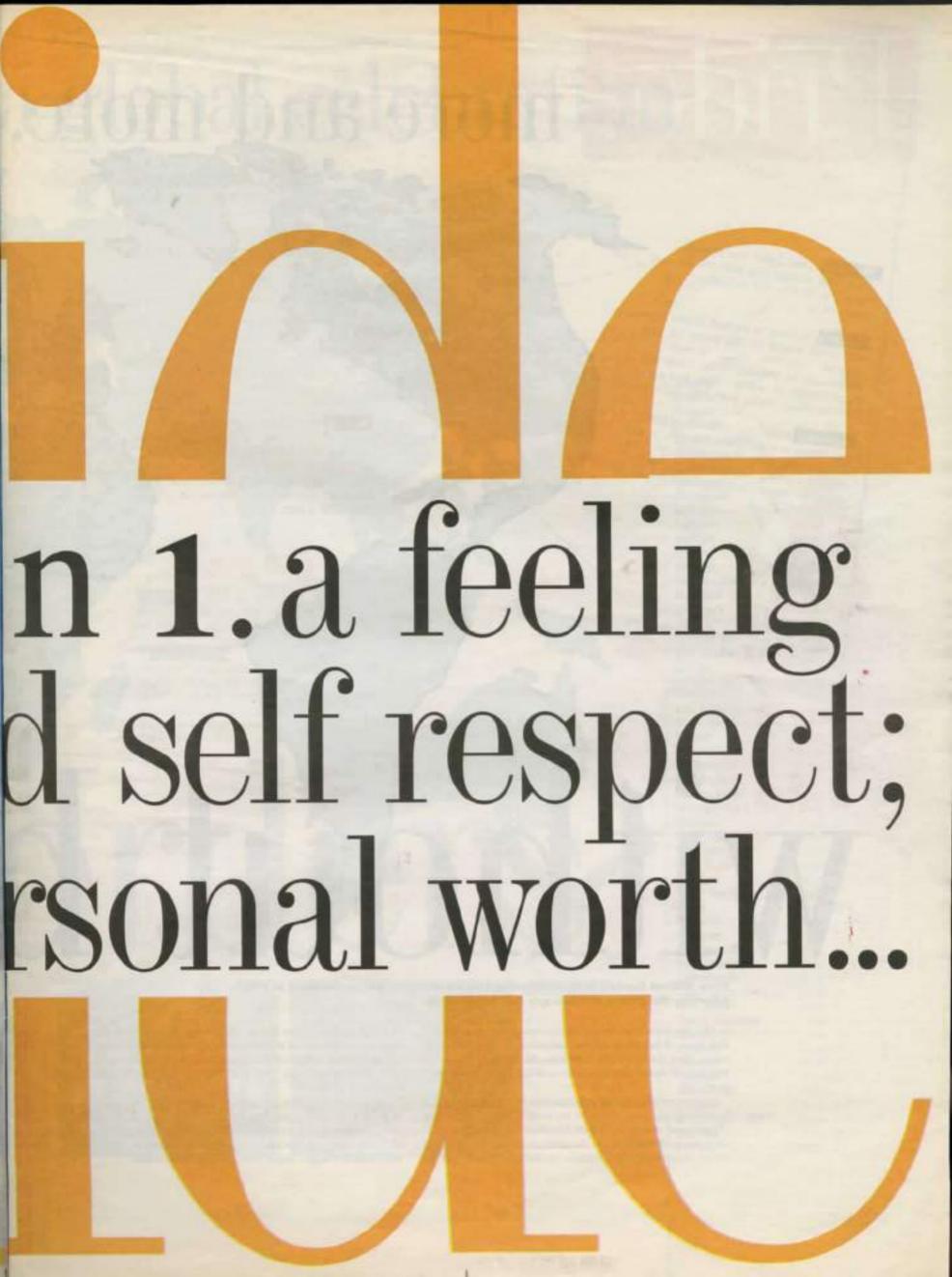
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Pride Without Borders is the international theme of prides around the world in 1996, reflecting the growth of visible gay and lesbian Pride.

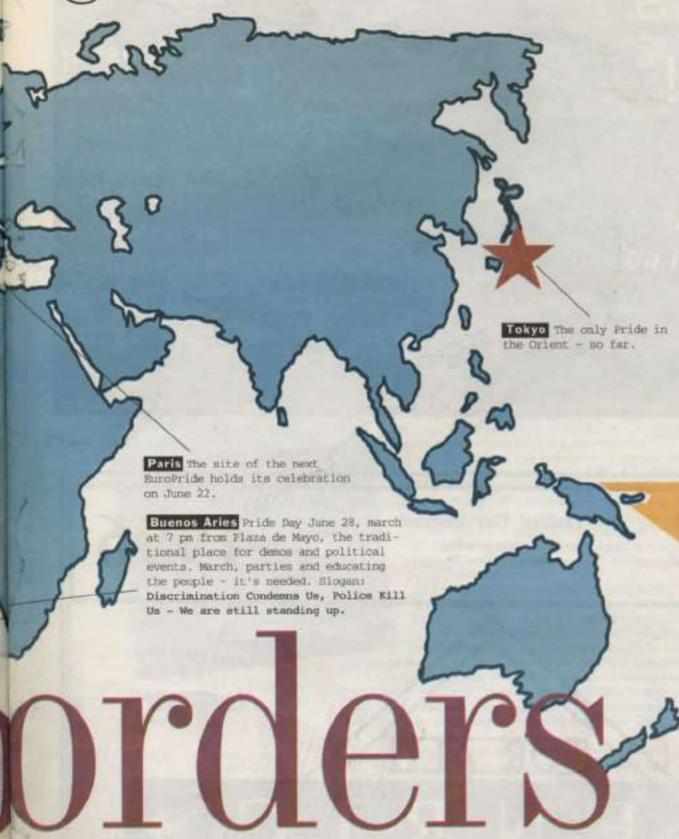
In 1991 the Pride Trust received a letter enquiring as to whether they knew of any Pride celebrations either in the UK or elsewhere. They discovered 62. This year, the list of events on the International Association of Lesbian and Gay Pride Organisers is nearly 250.

Prides come in all shapes and sizes from the massive (Montreal had 600,000 last year, making it the world's largest) to the cosy (Tijuana had around 100). Both Montreal and Tijuana demonstrate the point that it is not the scale of the numbers which is always important, but the numbers themselves. Tijuana held the

first ever pride march in Mexico and as such those 100 trod the same pioneering trail as our own Gay Liberation Front 25 years ago in London, and as our kin across the globe have done ever since the Stonewall riots. This year, Mexico City joins Tijuana with a Pride of its own.

The explosion of Pride celebrations worldwide has gone hand in hand with the numbers attending. This year an expected 5,000,000 will, during the months of May, June and July, scream and party their way into the history books as part of the largest worldwide civil rights display ever...no small achievement.

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(left) to Lisbon, San Francisco (right) to Stockholm, gay men and lesbians celebrate their identities in dozens of countries around the world. Atlanta Fresno Boston Brussels **Buenos Aires** Cannes Cape Cod Chicago Cleveland Cologne Denver Detroit Dublin Fresno Fort Lauderdale Helsinki Honolulu Houston Kansas City Las Vegas Lisbon London (Ontario) Long Beach Los Angeles Madison Mainz Marseilles Melbourne **Mexico City** Minneapolis Montpellier Naples Nashville **New Jersey New York** Orlando Palm Springs Paris Phoenix Queens Quebec City Salt Lake City San Diego San Francisco

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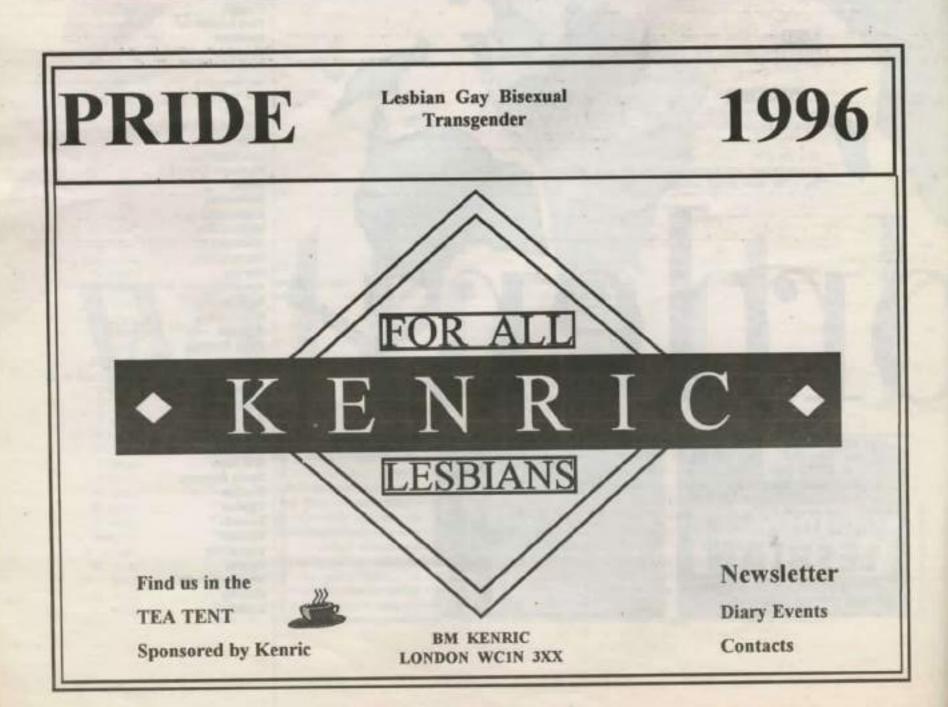
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Pride:

Europride is becoming

Copenhagen hosts this year's tio own purportide, June 21-30.

There can be no better testament to the growth of Pride events than the establishment of Europeide. Not a celebration of fortress Europe, but something quite the opposite, Europeide is an international celebration of queer culture flavoured by the host city.

In the autumn of 1990, the concept of an international thowcase event was developed by Willie Molton and others on London's Pride committee and gained the support of the International Lesbian & Gay Association. Meanwhile, minds in Berlin had been developing similar ideas. A meeting took place later in 1991 and London produced the first Europride at Brockwell Park in 1992. Next year it was Berlin's turn, to be followed by Amsterdam in 1994. All was not however, well. All three events had been financial failures and it was in order to protect the Europride ideal and title, as well as to support future organisers, that a network of Pride organisations was necessary.

Inspired by Pride conferences in the USA in 1992 and 1994, Hartmut Schonknecht from Berlin and The Pride Trust's Teddy Witherington founded the European Pride Organisers' Association, a kind of mutual support network to allow Pride organisers to share their successes,

swap horror stories and generally draw strength from the realisation that the problems facing Pride events are the same the world over. The other very important function of EPOA is to consider applications from organisations wishing to host Europride and license the title to those who can demonstrate their ability to put on the event.

So it was that at its first conference in Helsinki at the end of 1994 that EPOA licensed the title Europeide '96 to Copenhagen. This summer, Copenhagen will play host to about 30,000 queers from across Europe in the best tradition of Danish haspitality. Running in tandem with Copenhagen's tenure as European City of Culture, the Europeide '96 programme spans June 21-30.

Kicking off on Midsummer Night with a traditional boafire, activities include the establishment of "Pride Town" in the city centre – a temporary gay village with booths, stalls and round-the-clock entertainment, a film festival, an opera evening at the world famous Tivoli Concert Hall, a gay "Miss World" competition, a choral festival, art exhibitions and a gay tadio station broadcasting 24 hours a dayfrom a mobile studio in the H.C. Oersted Park.

Europride '96 culminates with a dazzling torchlit parade on Saturday (29th) followed by a giant closing party in the heart of Copenhagen with stage shows, an international DJ lineup and top performers.

If you haven't been to a Europride before then pack your bigs, stock up on the Beechams Resolve and get yourself over to Denmark. These guys know how to party, so be warned. You'll still have a week to recover before girding your loins for London. Copenhagen

Paris

Stockholm

London

YEARS TO COME

The future of Europride looks bright, with a great event on the blocks this year, next year's host city Paris has got its work cut out. Fast building a reputation for colour, glamour and a closing party for those who know how to seriously party, Paris Pride will build on the success of Copenhagen and add the latin ingredient. 1998 will see the event move to the Baltic once more with Stockholm giving Europride '98 that Nordic naughtiness. And 1999...well.....once more into the breach. London looks set to celebrate the queer millenium early with an eye on Hyde Park for the biggest queer gathering on this planet ever.

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Pride:

Manchester

Date: 23-26 August Location: The Gay Village Expected Numbers: 100,000

Stretching over the August Bank Holiday Weekend, this huge fundraleer for the Village Charity's HIV/AIDS work is becoming the queer spectacle of the North of England. With a colourful Festival and Carnival - book your hotel now to avoid disappointment. Further info: 0161 237 3131.

Bristol

Date 8 June Location: March from Castle Green Festival: The Watershed, Bristol

Expected Numbers: 1000

Now its fourth year, the march will be led by circus performers and the festival covers a range of (indoor) entertainments at the popular Watershed Arts Centre. A post-Pride Party is planned at Lacoata at Stokes Croft in the evening. Purther info: Box 34, 82 Coulston Street, Bristol BSI 588.

London

Date: 6 July 1996 Location: March from Hyde Fark Festival: Clapham Common Expected Numbers: 250,000

Brighton

Date: May 27 Location: Preston Park

Expected Numbers: 10,000

The favourite gay holiday resort on the south bast replarly stages a fun Pride in the sun. It is a replaced and glamorous day with much local support in Brighton and Hove, preceded by a week of estivities.

crueer nation

This year, organisers of Pride festivals and other queer events around the UK have formed a new association to help them put on even better festivals in the years to come

At a meeting in March of this year hosted by the Village Charity in Manchester, a number of Pride organisations from around the country agreed to link together in a coalition of UK Prides and Pride-style events. The new organisation – The Queer Events Diary (QED) – will act as a forum for event organisers to promote and encourage queer events throughout the country and to share skills, ideas and resources. The organisation also agreed to publish an annual official Queer Events Calendar and to publicise themselves jointly to the Tourist and media industry. The hope is to have a queer event in every city of the UK before the year 2000

Glasgow

Date: 22 June

Location: Glasgow

Festival: Glasgow Green

Gay and Bisexual Pride

Expected Attendance: 5,000

Scotland event. The first

was in held in Edinburgh last year. The expected

attendance figure was

exceeded with 5,000

This is the second Lesbian,

festival-goers and marchers.

Further info: 0131 556 8832

and to collaborate on an application for Europeide 1999 in Hyde Park.

The first annual QED conference will be on the 21 and 22 September 1996, again hosted by the Village Charity in Manchester. Anyone who is putting on or wants to put on a Queer Event (Prides, Conferences, charity events, etc.) and wishes to attend should call either Laura Norris of Pride Scotland (Acting Chair) on 0131 556 8822 or Teddy Witherington (Acting Administrator) on 0171 738 7644 for accreditation and a membership application.

The March



This will be the 25th Pride March - the first was on July 1st, 1972, organised by the Gay Liberation Front Youth Group. And this year, our focus is on the old and the young in our community, the past and the future, and our theme is "Generations of Activism". The march will be led by the Gay Liberation Front and other founders of our community (some of whom were at the first Pride), followed by a national gather-ing of lesbian, gay and bisexual youth organisations from across the UK. As it's a Jubilee year, the colour scheme of the day has to be Silver. The March assembles (lines up) along the North Carriage Drive of Hyde Park from 11.00 am onwards. Enter Hyde Park via the gates from Bayswater Road (the stewards will direct you from Marbie Arch tube). If you cross the road at Marble Arch you will get in the way of the Mobility Buses for disabled people and the front of the march itself, so please do as the stewards suggest. The March Director is Rachel Smith and the Chief Steward is Chris Bradshaw. They are in touch by radio with their Senior Stewards (in red T-shirts) throughout the day.

Other stewards wear yellow T-shirts.

PRIDE HOTLINE AND MINICOM - 0171 737 6903

getting to the park

By London Underground use Marble Arch or Lancaster Gate Tube (Central) or Bond Street (Central and Jubilee). On the south of the park are Knightsbridge and Hyde Park Comer (Piccadilly).

By British Rall use either Paddington or Victoria Stations.

By Bus 2, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 16, 16A, 23, 30, 36, 73, 74, 82, 94, 98, 135, 137, 137A, and 274. You should check with London Transport to see if any of these routes are on diversion. Call 0171 222 1234 (24 hours) for information.

By Private Coach or Minibus all coaches must drop off at Kensington Gore (near the Royal Albert Hall). Coaches cannot pick up at the end of the march so if you need to park at the Festival Site, you will need a parking pass for the Coach Park (see Festival "Coach Parking Information"). Passes are coses £30 per coach (over 16 seats) or £15 for a minibus (16 seats or fewer), available from the

Pride Trust office. Call the Hotline and Minicom for a registration pack.

disabled access

Building on the success of last year's event, which featured the largest contingent of disabled people yet, The Pride Trust has designated a section of the march as a disabled person's safe space. Please respect this space as an area for disabled people, their friends and facilitators.

Disabled Access Stewards will accompany this section of the march from assembly to dispersal and are available if you require any assistance.

Disabled people who wish to use this space should come to the head of the march by the Cumberland Gate. Wheelchairs will be available and if you wish to use one you should bring a piece of personal ID with your address on it (such as a gas bill or a letter) which we will take a note of when you take the chair. The chairs are free.

The 1996 London Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride March

Pride 1996 will go down in history as a landmark for the transgender community. Never before has our visibility been so celebrated. We have come a long way since the days of April Ashley in the '70s. Today, we are out and proud in the media and on the streets. The term transgender is, if anything, more inclusive than other identity labels. Acceptance of the term permits the expression of the myriad of gender permutations within us all, extending liberation for all men and women. Members of the transgender family include transvestites, drag kings, drag queens, butches, femmes, she-males, he-shes, hermuphrodytes, androgynes, third gender and transsexuals and many more as yet unnamed identities. The re-naming of this year's Pride march sends out a positive, united message to those in authority: we will not be silenced and we have many friends who will shout with us until we are truly represented.

-Jame Crystelda, Editor, All Points North

Four sign language interpreters will be available all day. One will be based with the Chief Steward and one with the Deputy Chief Steward. If you require a signer, please contact one of the Access Stewards or any Senior Steward with a radio.

On the morning a relay of mobility buses for disabled people will operate from the festival's disabled car park to the assembly, so that you can park your car and ride to the march. The Buses leave Clapham Common at 10am, 10.15am and 10.30am.

Two bases will also run a pick-up service on a prearranged schedule around the main line BR stations. If you wish to make use of this, you must contact The Pride Trust in advance, and don't forget to book the return journey (if you require one) at the same time.

If you are coming with your own mobility bus please be aware that you cannot drop off at the Cumberland Gate later than 11.15 am as the road will be closed to truffic. Any late arrivals will be able to stop on the Bayswater Road next to the Stanhope Gate and enter the park from there.

For those who tire on the route, or for people living with HIV or AIDS. The Terrence Higgins Trust and the St Peter's House Project will run two buses at the rear of the march that can give you a lift.

The St John's Ambulance will be based along the route as well: at the end of Park Lane, at Waterloo Place (bottom of Regents Street) and in Parliament Square, and at the Dispersal. Accessible toilets are available opposite Selfridges in Oxford Street and at Marble Arch. The Disabled Access Stewards have keys for these.

At Waterion Place (which is approximately halfway through the march) there will be water for guide dogs and hearing dogs and another batch of wheelchairs.

the route

The March moves off at 12 noon

The route of the Pride March takes in some of London's most famous monuments – next to New York Pride, it has the highest profile route of any gay celebration. Where else can you march past not only the seat of national government but the home of the Prime Minister?

The marchers will be preceded by the floats - each with the silver colour scheme.

The march is two and one-quarter miles long and takes about two hours to complete, so take it slowly Mysterious substances and large intakes of alcohol at such an early bour are not a good idea during a two-hour walk through the streets of London (trust us, we know). It is also not a good day to wear those six-inch stillettos — you'll regret it at about 4.30. Water, comfy shoes and sunblock (assuming that there will be sun to block) are much more sensible.

If you bring music just be aware that, strangely, not everybody will appreciate your fabulous lipsync-ing to Diana Ross 37 times in one hour. Similarly, although whistles are traditional at this sort of affair, some people value their bearing. And please mhearse all chants and alogans in advance — no mumbling or long silences as we pass Downing Street. Practice "We Want Norma!" now.

The march will have sections dedicated to various groups, as follows:

The GLF and Youth Groups Section (head of the march). For information call 0171 737 6903.

Bisexuals Call the Bi Working Group on 0171 737 6903.

Transgendered Contact BM Gentrust, London WCIN 3XX

The Lesbian Avengers Contact 0421 326917.

Trades Union Movement The TUC is holding a Lesbian and Guy Conference on July 5th called 'Pride At Work'. Contact the TUC on 0171 636 4030 Equal Rights Unit for information.

HIV/AIDS Section Contact Health Promotion Department, Terrence Higgins Trust 0171 831 0330.

the dispersal

All good things must come to an end. This one ends behind Westminster Abbey in Marsham Street and Great Peter Street. All marchers are advised to go to Victoria Station. Overground trains run from Victoria to Clapham Junction approximately once every four minutes.

The Victoria Line runs to Stockwell station, where you should change onto the Southbound Northern Line platform and alight at Clapham South. Both journeys take up to 40 minutes end to end. The march disperses in Travelzone 1 and the Festival is in Zone 2.

Mobility Buses will be waiting at the Dispersal to take disabled people to the Festival. Parking space is limited here, so if you intend to bring your own Mobility Bus, please let us know in advance so that we can accommodate you.

The mobility buses should be able to complete the round trip (from dispersal to festival and back) in under 45 minutes, so please be patient if you cannot all get away in one go.

Finally - don't forget to say thank you to all the stewards who have made your march possible.





Pride:

The Comeon at Clapham common is Just Part of its history

A

notorious sinner, addicted to evil company, tying, uncleanliness and pride drinking and other vices. Today, we might say that we were wicked rather than evil.

we never lie, we're so clean we even douche and Pride is not a sin, but that confession by Clapham-based highwayman Robert Forester seems an appropriate welcome to Pride at Clapham Commun.

Clapham Common today is one of the greatest of London's green lungs. It is a Common, not a Park, a distinction which is less important than it once was, but which still means that its appearance is more natural and less landscaped. In previous years, Commons were extremely natural places, often overgrown and neglected. Clapham Common was used by locals for grazing animals and as a source of water. Indeed it was still being used for sheep grazing as late as 1914.

The Common has been home to more than sheep, and its bustes have hidden more than highwaymen. Today, the wilder area in the West part of the Common is home to a well-known gay cruising area. Locals say that cruising has gone on there since time immensorial. They remember when The News of The World ran an exposit on cruising on the Common, and explained that you could identify homo-explained that you couldn't get a white polo-neck for love nor money.

Tantalising references to other vices can be found. Where today the police do sometimes raid the Common (they drive up at night: everyone sees the lights and just lies that, apparently, or at least as flat as circumstances allow), in the old days the fact that it was a Common meant that it was not properly policed. When Kennington Common hecame a Park in the mid-nineteenth century, there were complaints about the "class of people" who began to flock here. Well, we know how that feels. It was objected that "the keeper, employed (at) 23 shiftings a week could not keep the whole Common under surveillance, nor prevent the gross outrage to females committed in broad daylight." The keeper was employed by a commit-

The keeper was employed by a tee of local worthies, who managed to prevent the development of the Common. They were shockable, though. One They were shockable, though. One Treasurer was upset about the prostinutes who would make their way to the Common after release from Wandsworth Common after release from Wandsworth Gaol. They didn't just "re-dress", whatever he meant by that, but there were scenes which "ought not to be made in a respectable neighbourhood like that respectable neighbourhood like that "respectable neighbourhood like that "among the furze", which was where the "re-dressing" took place.

The paradox of this lovely haven is that it owes its survival as a public space in part to Chapham's early colonisation by wealthy merchants and other early capitalists. This is the first high ground above the



(All the state of the state of the century. The girls in bonnets are early Pride stewards.

flood plain south of the Thames – the name comes from Clappeham or Clopham, menning village or homestead on a hill – and they built their large houses overlooking the Common. Although sometimes they tried to chop bits off for their own use, generally they worked to improve it and preserve it. The barrier to development presented by the parishioners' fiercely defended Common rights was augmented by this wealth.

Pride's appearance is in keeping with some traditions of the area. An early Lord of the Manor had a 'strong wife', and be gave her a large part of the land here in the late 9th century. Clapham's parishioners were for Parliament during the Civil War. By the eighteenth century, the area was renowned for inns. The local gay bars today don't actually overlook the Common, but the Two Brewers and the Clock House are

nearby. The straight Windmill on the Common has been serving ale since the 17th century. If you go there today, though, you can't enter the bar if you are bare-chested or unshod.

The Windmill is featured in a famous painting, "Return from the Derby". The Common was long a place for popular fairs, including Derby Day, Whit and Easter. Since it was bought for the public, under the Metropolitan Board of Works, LCC, GLC and today Lambeth Council the Common, it has hosted popular concerts, including the Anti-Apartheid one in 1986, and a wideranging programme of entertainments. At one time, there was a Speakers' Corner here. There used to be a Festival of Scotland, with tossing the caber, so some people will be reviving another tradition this Pride.

Clapham Common, with its history of popular entertainment and sports, was once described as "a real People's Park", and our assembling here for Pride is part of that tradition. It is also – day in, day out – a place of much beauty and now has an important environmental role. With its ponds, wildlife, trees and other plants, it is a thing to love, admire and cherish.

Just like us.

Common People

Bisexual author Graham Greene (he enjoyed buggery behind the altars of Italian churches) lived here, and the Common featured in his novel "End of the Affair". Lytton Strachey, Bloomsbury Group gay author of "Eminent Victorians", was horn here in 1880. Strachey, a Conscientious Objector during the First World War, said that if a German soldier tried to rape his sister "I would try to interpose myself between them." Samuel Pepys lived his "Paradisical" final years in a house near what is now Trinity Hospice. Benjamin Franklin conducted experiments with oil on troubled waters on Mount Pond. An eccentric grandson of the 2nd Duke of Devonshire turned a house here into a giant laboratory. The Clapham Sect, including William Wilberforce, campaigned for the abolition of slavery in the British Empire. Lord Macauley, who wrote "We know no spectacle more ridiculous than the British public in one of its periodical fits of morality", was born here.

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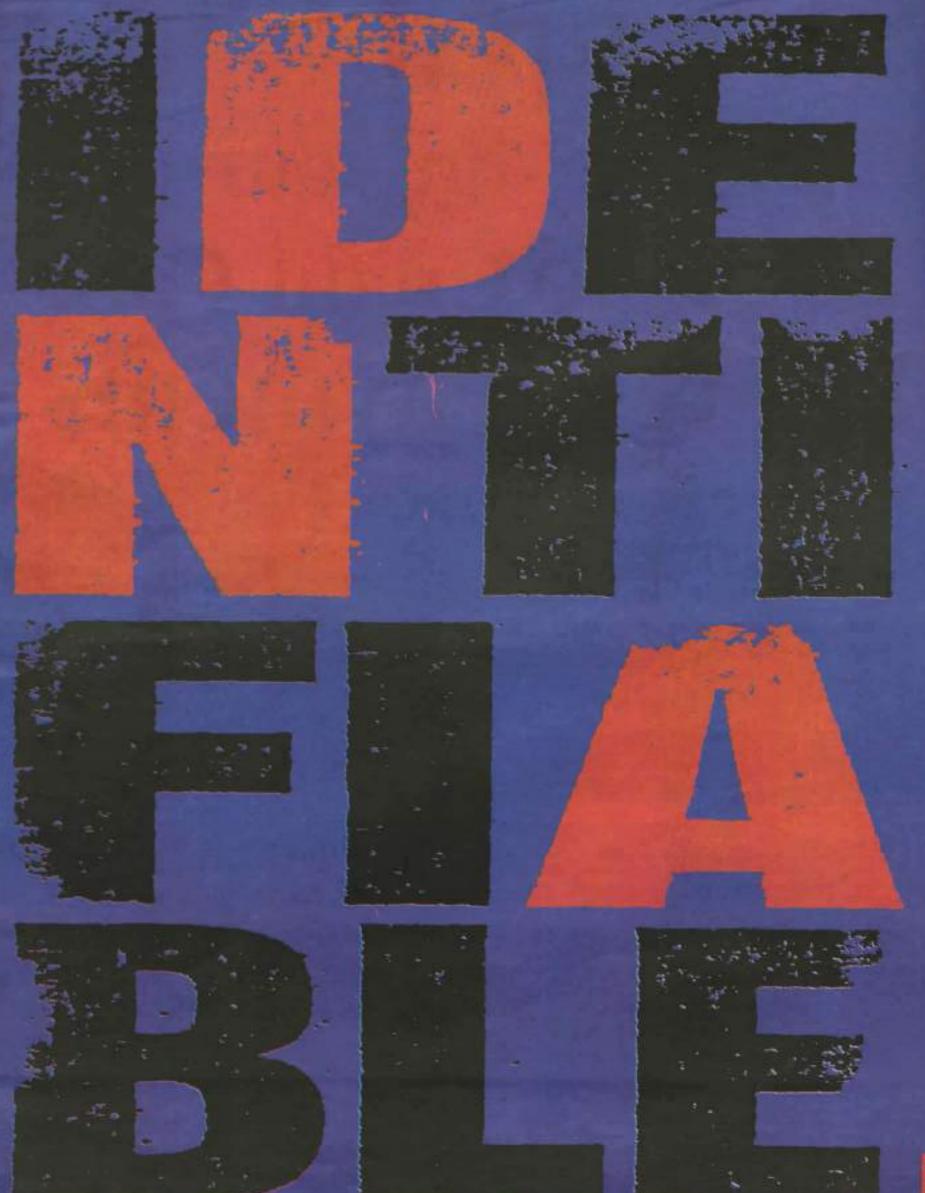
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CICOMMON WHERE TO GO AND WHAT TO DO ONCE YOU'RE AT THE PRIDE FESTIVAL



Well, its back to Lamboth and, for the first time, Clapham Common. What a coup! I was dead chuffed to get Clapham Common as the venue and hope that you like it too. Flat, large and central, Clapham Common offers excellent transport links with the March, Every year the Festival gets bigger (and more expensive) and this year is no exception. In fact, the London Pride Festival is now the largest annual free music festival in the world and will be the higgest outdoor event in the UK this year. In terms of numbers attending we are on a par with VE Day, but unlike "War Pride" we do more and we do it for less than a tenth of the cost. The VE Day celebrations cost the taxpayer (that's you and I) approximately £4,000,000. This year's Pride will cost around £350,000 to stage. Excellent value for money you might think and you'd be

right. The Pride Trust can't dip into the public purse to finance Pride and so you will have to help. Every year The Pride Trust asks everyone who attends the event to make a minimum donation. This year your donation is more crucial than ever. Unless everyone makes a donation then this could be the last year that we have a free festival. So it's up to you, if you want a free festival, be sure to make your £3 minimum contribution at the donation gate. So what will you get for your £37

The answer is loads of new stuff plus all the traditional features. There are six performance stages, six dance tents, over 800 portaloos, 100 food vendors, 350 stalls, 14 drinks tents, 5 kilometres of fencing, 200 security guards, 300 kilograms of explosives, 22 sign language interpreters, 120,000 square feet under canvas, 900 recycling points, 26,000 balloons, 250,000 people, a hot air balloon and a minute's silence.

Some show, and you are the real star of it. Of course we have celebrities and performers to entertain the troops but the main reason why they come, and come back again and again is the great vibe from the crowd – a very special something they don't get anywhere else.

Kick off is at 2.30pm, the minute's silence will be at 7 o'clock and the curtain comes down at 10pm. Oh, and this year bring your sun block.

-Teddy Witherington

general info

Access

The viewing platforms to the side of the Open Stage and the WoW Bar Stage are designed for the use of disabled people, their friends and personal assistants. Pride aims to be accessible to all parts of our community, so please don't use these spaces as thoroughfares or better vantage points, and help us ensure that these facilities are used effectively by those for whom they are designed.

I know how it can get if you want a pee, especially after a few drinks, but if you are not disabled, don't use the wheelchair accessible toilets. There are over 800 portaloos and about 15 disabled accessible units for use by disabled people only. Stewards are under a strict directive to liquidate offenders - You have been warned!

There will be simultaneous sign language interpretation on all performance stages, by qualified interpreters.

Coatcheck

There is a coatcheck next to the Meeting Point. Coats and bags cost 50p an item, banners are £5.

Creche

A fully staffed creche located to the south of the common will operate throughout the day and children of any age may be left with professionally qualified staff.

Missing children will be looked after there, so if your kiddies make a dash for it whilst you're engrossed watching Fem 2 Fem, you know where to look for them.

Gates and Donations

For the first time — and because Clapham Common is just that, a common — we must fence the site. This is to help us all enjoy a safe and successful day. There are four Donation Gates (entrances) onto the site, each with 18 lanes. Donation Gate 1 (see map) will be in beaviest use so try the others and avoid delays. Each lane will be staffed by an official collector who will ask you for a minimum donation of £3. Please give this person at least £3 as without it we will not be able to keep Pride a free event.

The gate system is new and we hope that proper planning will get you through quickly. If there are delays, please listen to our security people and stewards as their information and instructions will enable you to get in quicker. If you do have to wait we ask that you don't allow it to dampen your spirit of generosity - after all, Glastonbury costs £60 or so to attend, the Fleadgh is £28, the average club entry on a Saturday night is £8, and for the world's biggest free festival all we ask is for you to find it in your conscience to fork out a measily three quid.

Of course Pride gets a lot of money from sponsors and

vendors and beer companies, but even with all that commercial support the costs of staging the event are so staggering that your donation will determine the solvency of the event. This year toilets will cost £40,000, security another £40,000, tents will come in at £50,000, and sign language interpreters will cost £4,000. Fencing adds another £20,000 to the bill, and the clean up will set us back another £35,000. These are just some of the costs.

If everyone who attended last year had given £2, London would, now, have a proper Lesbian & Gay Centre. The Pride Trust only needs part of the money to cover the event and wants to invest in our community. Last year The Pride Trust sponsored the Manchester Mardi Gras, and made donations to The Food Chain, Brighton Pride and the Rainbow Support Group. Those donations and sponsorship amounted to approximately £5,000. This year we plan to make a minimum investment in our community of £20,000. That figure could be a lot more if everyone decides to make their donation.

So how does The Pride Trust decide who gets this money? The simple answer is it doesn't - you do. What The Pride Trust does is reward the organisations who help us collect the donations on the gates. If your organisation would like to help us and raise money for its own purposes too or if you think you'll be good at the end of a bucket and would like to nominate a charity then we would like to hear from you now on 0171 737 6903.

This year the day collection is being handled on our

1996 London Pride Festival CLAPHAM COMMON NORTH SIDE R1 12 崇 8 13 # 9 В 15 H T S 10 1 9 1 T P Entry Gate 4 S 10 18 7 T 6 400 FILE Fun Fair T 8 2 * 5 20 5 Entry Gale 3 14 11 👑 11 77 п MP 17 3 Dampleon (Poline 1 R 5 21 H 2 Emiry Gail: 2 Market Area CR Crecise P



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- Metropolitan Comm. Church
- People of Colour
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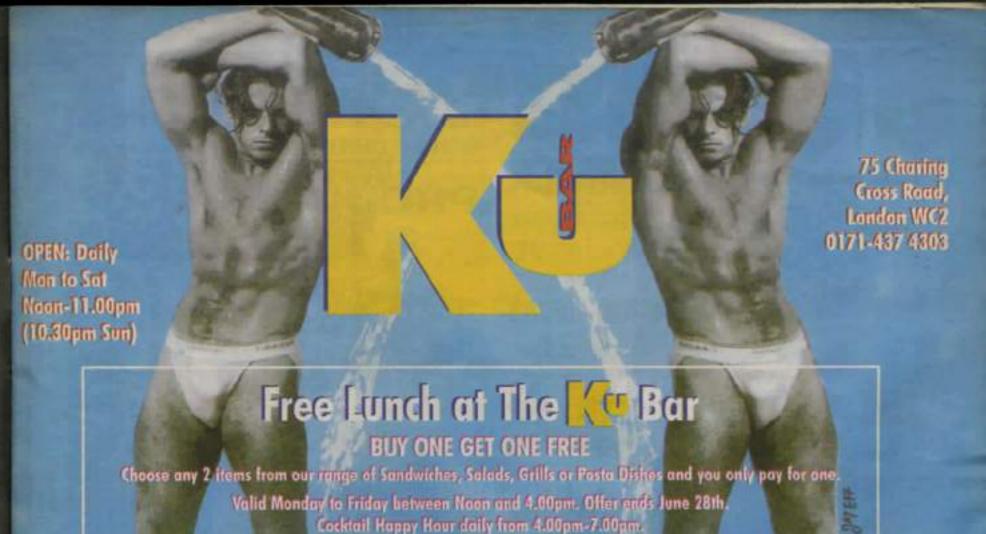








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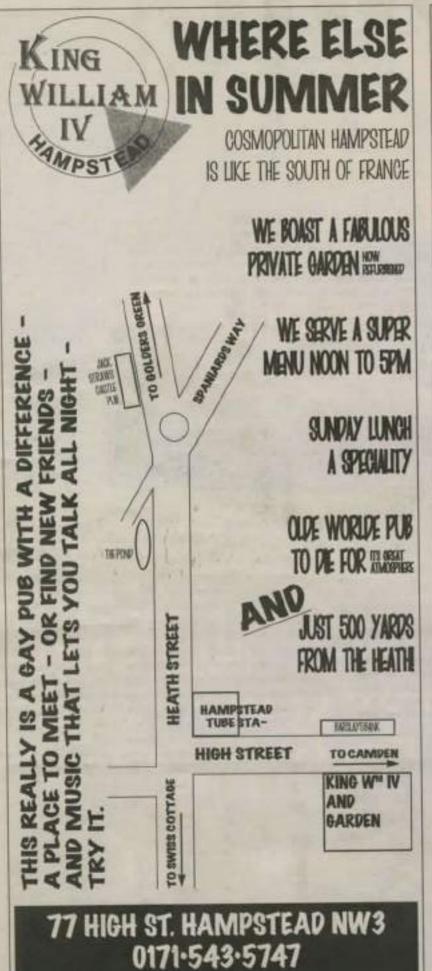


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in town

In all the world, there is no larger or more diverse collection of gay and lesbian pubs, bars and nightclubs than there is in London. With dozens of clubs and nearly 100 bars and pubs, the capital has a selection of places catering to virtually every taste.

exciting than on Pride weekend, when gay London celebrates itself along with tens of thousands of visitors from all over the world. Unless you're in town just for the march and festival, you'll find places to party almost non-stop from Friday evening right through Monday morning (though taking at least one map is advisable). This guide is

And all year long, the nightlife is never busier or more | an overview of where to go and what to expect when you get there, but schedules and performers are subject to change. For the latest information on the weekend, find a copy of Thud magazine in any gay venue on Friday (July 5) or at the festival. That week's issue will also include the official day guide to events - also available separately (and free) at both the march and festival.



getting around

It can be quick and easy or difficult and pricey

Getting Around London's public transport system can get you within a 10-minute walk of most places. The London Underground starts to close at around midnight - exact times vary according to route - but there is a reduced schedule of night busses that runs until morning. Separate maps to the tube and bus systems are available free at Underground ticket windows. Black cabs are safe and reliable, but can be difficult to find late at night. They

are usually more expensive than a minicab, although when there's little traffic to slow you down (and run the meter up) the price difference can be negligible.

Minicabi firms offer varying levels of service and reliability, but most gay pubs can help you get a safe ride home, and many clubs have someone at the exit to direct you to a minicab - this is usually the simplest and best way to find a cab.

"Think Pink" at The Ritry (Brixton), I-8 July, is an artists' forum and an opportunity to raise money for the Pride Trust. It covers all aspects of gay/lesbian/bisexual work with fashion show, poetry recitals, photography, painting and film, and starting with a fashion show by Dexter Wong and designer Harris K. There's also a poetry evening with amongst others, Aiden Shaw ('Brutal') and Della Grace, plus. cross-dressing gets a look in with an exhibition of Manu's photography. There will be screenings all week of films - past and present, Euro and International which deal with the gay and lesbian experience. Info: Desmond McLean, Ritzy Cinema on 0171-733 8989 or the Box Office on 0171-737 2121.

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THE OFFICIAL PRIDE RECOVERY PARTY

@ TRADE 4AM TILL SUPER LATE













Supported by the seven inner London Health Authorities

the festival is over but the party carries or or

With an estimated 250,000 people converging on London for this year's Pride and most wanting to continue the party on into the night, the capital's night life will be pumping with the clubs bursting at the seams.

In the past there have been various attempts to throw an official Pride party, not always successfully (remember 'Fuct' at the Brixton Academy?) but this year The Pure Organisation, who were the main organisers of the recent Famous Five events and assist Heaven in their promotions, in conjunction with The Pride Trust are organising the largest event of the year so far,

Kevin Millins, of The Pure Organisation, explained the thinking behind the party, "Though commercially funded this year with a substantial portion of the budget going towards the impressive sound and lighting systems, it is being set-up to eventually be a major fund-raiser for The Pride Trust. The three year plan for the event is to be a totally profit making night solely for Pride."

Heaven On Earth is being held at a massive new venue - Adrenalin Village, Chelsea Bridge - a ten minute walk from Clapham Common. Planned across two dance arenas with Heaven, Flesh - Manchester programming the arenas, bringing together a collection of DIs from the countries leading gay clubs - Danny Rampling (Radio 1 FM), Pete Wardman (Kiss FM, Sherbet), Rich B(Fruit Machine), Dusty O (Puschca, Heaven), Jamie Peters (Bang @ Henven), Kath McDennot (Paradise Factory), Dave Kenrick (Flesh), Dave Randall (Fist), Karim, Shaun King, EJ Doubell (Fist), Mrs Woods (Heaven) and Trannies With Attitude (Vague) and capacity for 8,000 hot, sweaty people. The organisers are aiming for the party to cover the club and bar scene nationally with, apart from the DJs, the bars within the venue run by various London and national drinking boles. "This will be the first major dance event of this size, with stunning



light and sound rigs, to finish Pride and will be the largest ever staged in Europe," says Kevin. With tickets available at face value from a variety of venues nationally (see press ads for details) First Call have a dedicated 24 hour credit card hoffine set-up for tickets (plus £2.50 booking fee) 0990 661069.

Alternatively, for those of you who prefer a bit more hand-bag in your night out, the ever-popular G.A.Y as

the London Astoria will this year be taking over both the LA1 and 2 from 10pm until fam - more room for the pretty boys that always love G.A.Y. After three years of performing there Kylie Minogue is restling her tonuls and will be hosting the event with Jeremy Joseph linked by video screens between both venues, though not on the same stage. Although it might not be possible to move between the two clubs. Kylie and Jeremy will be linked

LITTERATOR AND DAVID HEADY OF STREET

Rylie won't make a Pride performance Gay fans wonder: has she abandoned us? Jeremy says No – Read on for details...

after dark

Trade is hosting Vegas, the post-Pride party recovery event, right through to Seaday afternoon.

by video screens and will move around between LA1 and 2, continuing their hi-tee hosting. They will be introducing four acts - Margarita Pracatan, Dannii Minogue and two others who will be announced in THUD in a couple of weeks time. Your guess is as good as anyone which act will be in which venue, as they are not being announced until they are introduced on stage.

If that isn't enough **Trade** presents "Vegas" at Tummills, a post-Pride recovery party to end all recovery parties. If you've spent the day dancing your tits off in the Trade tent at Pride here's the perfect chance to carry on through to Sanday. Beginning at 4am, a regular Trade, Kitty Lips or DTPM this is not. Apart from the great mix of pumping music there is the added attraction of extra special PAs and for the first 500 people through the door a limited edition commemorative gift. Alongside the Trade room there will also a Kitty Lips room with Queen Maxine and Vikki Red, two of the country's finest DJs. As we go to press they are also finalising things to being you the Showgirl Cabaret Lounge, to be hosted by one of London's most infamous club promoters. What more can you ask for?

Famous for hot sweating muscular hodies, Love Muscle at The Fridge, Brixton is planning to rock through the night until 12 noon. Opening at 10pm, it's going to be a long hard night - probably in more ways than one! Love Muscle will be making history tonight as they pull out the butt plugs to present the longest Pride purty ever, with 14 hours of non-stop dance music. With DJs Marc Andrews, Gareth and special guest DJ Blu Peter playing all the Love Muscle anthems on the new super 25K turbo sound system and improved lighting rig to give the party more lights than Blackpoot promenade! There will be an exclusive PA from Johnna 'Do What You Feel", especially flown over from New York for the party, also appearing is Sister Bliss/OT Quartet featuring Colette.

And if that wasn't enough, the Fridge Bar/Cafe is having a women's night (with male friends as guests) from 10pm until 6am, with guest DIs, as well as the sounds of the Fridge being piped through.

The heaving metropolis that is London has an amazing diversity of night-life and with so many people coming to town all the clubs will be filled to saturation point. Therefore it is best to make your choice and get your tickets in advance – see ads in THUD for details of outlets where tickets will be available.

Please note that Heaven will be closed on the night of Pride in support of the Official Pride Party.









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SATURDAY at the London Astoria... Britain's biggest lesbian and gay club! 157 Charing Cross Rd, 0171-434-9592 MONDAY & THURSDAY at the L.A.2 (downstairs)

LONDON - Kylie Minogue has four top-name performers. announced that she will co-host the

post-Pride party at G.A.Y with G.A.Y's capacity to nearly 3,000, bill. Jeremy Joseph, ending speculation and the two clubs will be linked by about rumours that she was going to onstage video displays to bring per- are guaranteed to see two live PA's, disappoint her London fans by formances in each venue to the other, spending Pride weekend in Los live as they happen. The co-hosts hookup. Angeles. The 'L.A.' in question is will appear in both areas of the club, the London Astoria, home to but Jeremy won't say which per- to be brisk, and are available at the Britain's biggest weekly lesbian and formers will appear where. In fact, nearby Ku Bar, or at any G.A.Y club gay club, which will combine with he's keeping tight-lipped about the night from Monday, June 10th, its sister venue under the same roof, complete lineup until closer to the through Thursday, July 4th. No onstage on the big night. More the L.A.2, for a Pride party featuring event - although we can report advance tickets will be sold on Pride details are expected soon.

Whichever venue you attend, you plus another two via the video

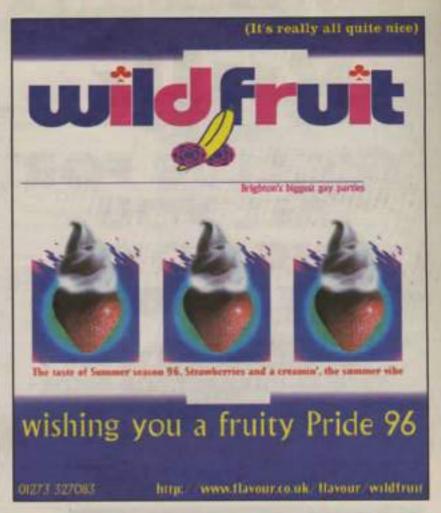
Advance ticket sales are expected

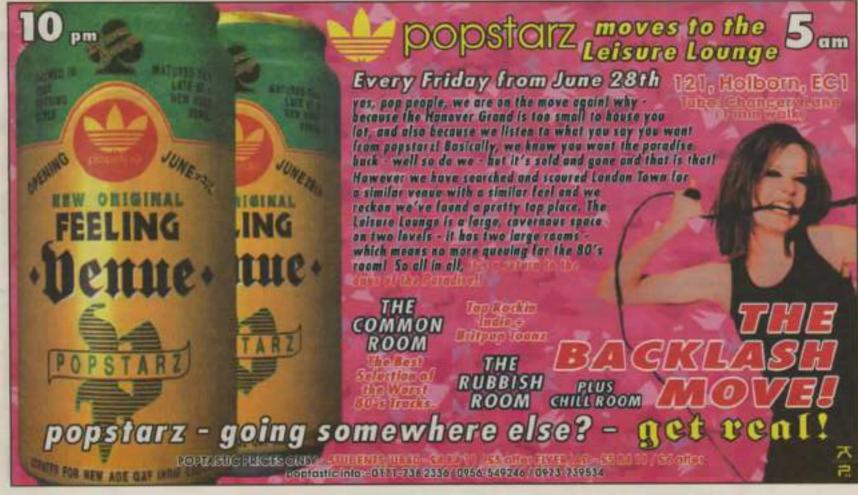
exclusively that Dunni Minogue and Saturday (July 6th) before the club The unusual arrangement brings Margarita Pracatan are both on the opens, but Jeremy is making sure that visitors to London have a chance to get in by holding back half of the tickets for sale on Pride night itself.

> The party starts at 10pm and goes right through until 6 o'clock. It's going to be G.A.Y's biggest Pride party ever, and speculation is running wild about who will join Kylic, Dannii, Margarita and Jeremy

EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA!!! Tune in to G.A.Y Radio on Spectrum 558mw every Monday-Friday night from 1-3am









weekend

clubs

friday

• BACKSTREET Men-only letter right. Check out the formula traff's kept the place buzzer for over a decade. (10pm-3em, Merros Free 84 15.45pm, then

BLASPHENT at The Royal Dak (WE) Disnoc reget with regular PA's: (62 still 11, then 63).
 BROMPTONE Late night dance bar. (10pm-2am.)

on CHUNKKIES at Dakes. For those who like their trade outsizes. (Spm - Zam E3, E2 mems) & CLUB LA at The La. Packad multi-storey men.

only cruise right (Opin-Sem).

• DARTE'S INFERRIO Open to Sain with DJ Streen H
and star stripper. (ES after 10pm).

• BIRTY DISHES at Substation South Up/Afting and

hard house. DJ MC Bri-Wwww & guests. (9.30pm

or FREEDOM: New York House and Garage from
DJ's Trary & Blanna. (63 after 11pm)

or GARAGE at Heaven. Mainfloor Uphrain techno
(Bair Peter & Mrs Wood), Star Bar. Happy
House Bair Chill Out (Stave Young & Blaven
Sharp). (10.30pm-3.50en. £6.50 til 11.30 £5
Willyer, ther C&, NUE £4 at hight).

or ONE MATION at Market Tavern. Durice eight with DJ's Pearl & Menkook and S&M Passion. (10.30pm-ben. 92 to 12 willyer, then E4) or PARALLAX at The Vertex New in-house might

to PERVERSION at The Arest. Crusto right. Drs for decadence. (8.30pm-2am. £3, membs, free till 10.30, then £2) No admission after 12midnight. PHOENIX HARG and re-mixed, regurgitated taxonries. (10.30pm-3am. £4, £2.50 with ad)

o POPSTARZ at The Headver Grand All things table (19pm-Aars Et with Receast to 11pm, then Ct., ES all right with a Third PagTag, otherwise E7) Note due to change senses at the end of Jane and Third for more details

e REFLEX Big fun cance down Futney way. Hegalar cateret, C3 54 11/E5 after, 10pm-4am

@ RENEGADE RANCH at The Central Class (Grant Russel Street). Country & Western dance eight (ELYE2-50 CWCA Membs. Bpm to 12.30am)

e Sit & at The Lewritown Gay, horly & hip with Buf's Chris Mickey. Sugarhear & Carlett spiroling swing, garage & house. (11pm-4am Ell N 12, then ES, 52 without

e SMARHING at 18th Regent St. W1, Camp. lettech & dressed-up drunkeness hosted by Matthew Glassorre and Adrian. (10.30pm-3.30am. £7)

© SPUNK at Sebstation Solo. Cruise or dates with DJ Aefoles & guests. (10pps-Sun. E4) o STRUCTLY HANDBAG at The Underground, Trash: DJ Wooski (Spm-Som, E3 after 10)

or VOCOOD at the Two Brewers. Hard House & Garage: DJ John Castbell. (Spm-2am. £3:50 after

X at Market Severs Denot night with DJs Pearl Monsoon, Nexty Tim and Squessy (10pm-Sam £2 willyer).

@ GIRLZONE at Teanz Nightchub, 240 Amsturat Rd N15. Handbagshico from DJ Viser & Technic from DJ Carola, Info: 0171 354 4609

e GOSSIF at the Focus Nille Clob, 483 Hackney Rd. EZ OJ Laura. Men stilleted as guests(Spin-Zem 92.50 list 11, then 64)

KITTY LIPS NRG & tribal dance. Queen Modine & Vido Redd. Men admitted as quests. (10pm-

e TED'S PLACE Women's dieco spinning Soul & Funk. tric: 0171-385 9059 WIXERS at The Vaushall Tavern. Whiskly w

only bash w/ res OJ MC On Weave (9pm-2am £2)

saturday

o sacast Reet Men-only beavy letted right. Check out the formula that's kept the place bezzle' for over a decade. Strict dress code. Leather & Rubber. (10pm-barn, Membs Free B4 10.45pm, E3

e BULK of Cleb 188. Big boys & their buddles. Happy four Spm-10.30pm - half price drinks with Bulk Card. Weekly shipper. (Memo £3/greats £4.

O CLUS TRAVESTIE EXTRADDINAIRE of Stopney's Night Cleft (373 Commercial Rd, ET). Orom dress to your hearts delight, D.J. Keith Demaggin. Thems: to The Pink. (8.30pm-2xm. (5), info 0181-788 4154. © CRUSE LA at The LA. fluority crass right open

a DANTE'S DIFFERNO DJ Date Murtin and guest

e DUCKIE at The Vauxhall Tavem. Performance and stancin' with Arms Lamé and Co. (Spm Zam. ES). Oress Code. Cross Owes. Night. OJ Readers Wives. es G.A.Y in The LATS Z. Post Pride party housed by Jerumy Joseph and Kylle Minoges, 10pm - Gem. Advance Scients (see press and for prior)on sale. trust Montay 10 June, evaluate from GAV Mon/There and Saturday(except Eat 6 July during day) and the Ku Bar avery night. Tonight: Bennill Minogen and Maryerita Proceton (two more sured - see THIO for details) . HEAVEN - CLOSED

@ HEAVEN ON EARTH - THE OFFICIAL PRIDE TRUST PARTY. Doors open 10pm at Advensits
Vilage, Chelmas Bridge, SW0. Takkets £16 available
from 3 June rationally (see press add for outlets)
plus First Call £5 HR Credit Card Hotline (plus £2.50) booking fee) 0990 661069 (local rates apply) of 0171 420 1069.

■ HOT & HEAVY at the Arvé The place where mean and meety men meet. (E.30pm-2pm. Free) No. monion after 12am

IN KHOCKING SHOP at the Market Toyers. Womsk & Michael Murphy (10pm-4am 53/24) as COVE MUSCLE at The Fridge 10pm - 12 room Sanday, Huge, two floor 14 hour Price regnt dance party, plan Women's chill-not critice step 10pm -Gam, Housed by Pully & Norths De Tramp & Mittery.
DJ's Marc Andrews and Gareth, plus special goral
DJ Bis Peter with PAz from Johnna and Sister
Bisso/ST Caurted Featuring Calette. Advance lickets
E15 from The Pridge, Kodns, Ku Bar, The Box Bar PROSENCE Deriving queens and disco oxidies entry the HELEFG) like at this West End verse. (10.30pm-3em, £4, £2.50 with ad.)

e POISON at The Two Brewers Glaphan pub offering an attenuative to the bigger venues. (Spm 2am.

E3.50 after 10pm). © RAW at Pigeons. DJ Mikke Nike & guests spin vetro, NHG and dance. (Spen-Zann) • REFLEX down in Putney, busine than ever since

going full-time, where you mix with a coathern crowd who dance the night away to full house (10pm-4am, £3 til 11, £5 after)

 TRADE presents VEGAS at Termelits The original and reprise with, for Pride, Trade from and Kitty Lips room Progressively burder music as the rooming approaches. (Aam-tipm, ET2 members & ET5 guests - reembers tickets only available from Trade, see press for outlets for guest tickets).

THE VALIAT of SubStation Salvo. A men only crusse night with Cus Statems, Migrati, Martin Continios & Alan X (10pm-4ars £2 membs/£4

WAYDUT CLUB Cross dressing haven hosted by Vicky Lee, Caroline & Steffan, Wheely calend and DJ Kan P. (Opm-Sam. ES 18 10.30, then \$7)

a ACE OF CLUBS, 52 Piccadilly, W1, Women-celly rish with top choons by DJ Elaine and guests. (Spm-4am £2 19 10:30, then £5)

co BUCKIE at The Vauxhall Tayers, Phytom and darcin' with Ame Larve and Co (Spin-2am EX)

sunday

m ANVE. Dismission (Zpro-7pm. Free), Biker (7.30pm-11pm. Free)

e SACKSTREET Men-city cruise and board dress code clos. (Spin-Tam, Membs Free B4 10pm, then Samenbe/V6 queets)

THE BARRACKS at The Underground Strict iesther, rubber, uniform, skin/boo

SENIY'S 2006 Easy-going commercial dance night. Newly returnished Regular PA's. No extry after 12pm. (Spm-1am. EZ).

COZMOZ or The Elephant & Certile. Weekly loads traces dance right from DJs Arron, Tasita & Gootle

D.T.P.M at The End. Two rooms of technological insurity with a line-up of the best 0.7s & hard hard sounds in town. Mornterstep into: 0556-551304. (Spon-late, 27, Eb memb).

Open-cin. C7, 25 members

or FUCT at Substation Bouth. Kicker session with

DJ MC Ort-Weave & guests. (7 pm-1am. 52)

or GAY TEA DANCE at The Limitight 70s. 60s &

'Dis truck from OJ's Jamie Peters & Tany

Armstrong. No entry after 15pm. (5pm-11pm. £1 til

J with a THUS) FagTag, thus 55 or £2.50 members

o DISTITUTION at The Vaushall Tavern Pumper Mickin', finger lickin' early-evening rave With RIC Driweave. (7pm-16.30pm, 52). • THE LONDON APPRENTICE (Invising and booking

til tate. (9pm-3am. E3 after 11pm) e LONG YANG CLUB at Heaven (Star Bar). Oriental

pay night with DJ Pully. (Ppm-1am. ES, reduced for

@ MARKET TAVERN Packed and very craisey danceterta to up for FF or treaffuction, or down from Trade. (Tpm-6pm & 9pm-2am. £3)

o ORANGE at Marters JoJo's. New dance week with sounds by DJ Wayne G, ENF & RR Rence (2-11pm E3 stambu/C4.50 non-membs/C1 guests)

m MIS-SHAPES at The Cross Bar, All things india & choseny from the Peopstarz. (April-12am. No admissun ufter (0.30)

own differ 10,300 a Child ratro but with a 90's best, (5.30pm-10,30pm) toto 9171-569 002.

© QUEEN NATION in The Bardening Club, 0.7's Jeffrey Histon, Sepaden and Calvie, spot happy house and discounters, (3pm-3am, 45, 54 members,

o SHERSET at Soundshoft D.F's Pela Ward Rich S. Rachel Auburn and Steven React. (1 fart-Spm. ES, ES members, with free membership. ES 84 b: 0171-354 3482

e STAMINA in The Mildmay, Wirest bog of tunes from DJ Simon Taylor. (12n-12m. Free)
e SUNDAY ROTATION at The Vertex. Techno and house from QJ's £J Devbell, Boe Grant, Witzhdoctor and Filthy Luxelf. (12noon-Spm. £3 84 Jaminetti floer, otherwise £5). miwith fiver, otherwise £5).

TEA DANCE at The White Swam. Plot line dancing

e TEA DANCE at the Wisia Swan, Price to de-session from from Jo Purnin. Classess sirabble 5.30pm-6.30pm, (5.30pm-12-midright, 52) is WARRIGHS at Taremille. Teathru delirlain with DJ's including Mrs Wood, She Peter, Sigma 2, Or Me, Tim Sansom, Karlin, Shaert. (Spm-Gam. E5 memba/5 quests). No admission after 4.30am.

IN RETTY'S at SubStation Sobo. The garls are back in townf (10pm-late admission £3)

© GIRL BAR at The Rox. Women-only EU Funk G.

Happy hour til 9.30pm (7pm-late, E1 til 9.30, men





NOREW CZEZOWSK















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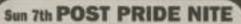
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pub life



Left: Old Compton Ca Butte GAY host

fancy a pint?

David Pollard does. Here, he waxed lyrically about the distinguished and occasionally (delightfully) dishonourable tradition of London's neighbourhood pubs.

The long and gloriously dishonourable tradition of London's gay pubs is alive and well. From the Molly Houses of the eighteenth century to the present day, pubs have purveyed strong liquor to strong lickers. As the gay poet, AE Housman put it: "Malt does more than Milton can to justify God's ways to man."

The long and gloriously dishonourable tradition of London's gay pubs is alive and well. From the Molly Houses of the eighteenth century to the present day, pubs have purveyed strong liquor to strong lickers. As the gay poet AE Housman put it: "Malt does more than Milton can to justify God's ways

In London, Malt - through whisky, whiskey or ale - is available in countless queer venues. There are clubs, discos, restaurants, cafe/bars - and pubs. Distinctions between pubs and other places of entertainment have become blurred - particularly with many pubs having late licences, selling food and maybe even installing a cappuccino machine. A good pub has that indefinable sense of pubiness and a sense of being a local - which some places manage to achieve even in the West End. London is now blessed with gay local pubs all over the capital, serving the areas where we live.

in London. The intense research needed made it impossible to visit every local gay pub - or, sometimes, to remember them if I did. Apologies to those not included.

Where to start? Well, fashionable Islington, home of Tony Blair, and where Tom Paine wrote part of the Rights of Man in the Red Lion, a pub which would later hold gay discos. The Angel has a number of gay pubs, the first of which was the King Edward VI, also one of the earliest pubs to The following is a taster of some gay pubs | get a midnight licence. This was because



pubs

Left: The Edge cald/bar, situated by Soho Square, and open late. Favourite heart of the 'sp-end-corning' and 'been-there-done-that' set. Right: Gay scene gans Gary Hershaw, proprietor of Ku Bar and promoter of Tea Dance at The Limelight on Sunday rights, always offers enthusiastic hospitality

food was served, so at about 11 pm, trays of little sausages and roast spuds would be passed round. Later, it got a dance licence. The tiny square of wood in one corner was the dance floor. Today, the pub has an upstairs restaurant, and a beer garden in which I have lost many summer Sunday afternoons. It is mixed, but is mainly men. As the night wears on, the lights get lower, the music gets louder and it can be rather cruisy. Very friendly.

The nearby Rams Club used to be called The Ram and Teasel. This is a smaller place, again very friendly. Worth a visit, but be warned: people call in for a quick drink and leave after about eleventeen.

Away down the road is the Angel a Cafe/Bar and strictly ineligible. However, it was a pub and the spirit of publiness cannot be exorcised so easily - especially as they serve draught Red Stripe, which perhaps explains why everyone seems so chatty.

Heading North toward Kings Cross, stop off for a quiet drink at the Malt and Hops, where gay men, lesbians and straight people drink real ales and their sexuality probably becomes distinctly unimportant. Pleasant and quiet, this delightful dark-wooded pub is for people who like conversation.

Nearby is the famous, award-winning Central Station. It is a pub, a club and virtually London's Lesbian and Gay Centre. The disco in the cellar is truly sleazy, and the acts who regularly appear in the main bar no less so. This is a well-run, truly welcoming place, with yet another bar on the first floor for when it gets too noisy in the main bar. If Jean T is performing, make sure you catch her.

Our next stop is Camden. If you have time, you can walk along the canal - which itself can be quite cruisy - to one of the legends of London's gay pub world: The Black Cap. Completely refurbished in recent years, and now boasting a beer garden, the Cap is famous for its drag acts, and was home to the legendary Mrs Shufflewick, whose ghost is said to





haunt the pub to this day. Shuff often got very pissed, and one night

they locked her up to keep her off the booze, but to no avail: she drank customer-supplied stuff by way of a straw through the keyhole. Again, the upstairs bar is quieter, and it now has a restaurant. I've always found it a cheerful, friendly place to go.

A little further north, Hampstead has the famous William IV. William IV was known as the Sailor King and, whatever the Ministry of Defence says, it is appropriate for a gay pub to be named after him. Very traditional pub style, more men than women (most pubs are) but still mixed, the Willie is fun and always worth a visit. If they're having a fundraiser, make a special effort to go.

Go to Hammersmith in West London. The Penny Farthing on King Street is very easy to find. A big pub - again with a beer garden, because we're such fresh air freaks - it is apparently due for a minor refurb. I hope that this will be done carefully, because it would be a shame to disturb the very special atmosphere. This is very mixed - younger and older, men and women - and has regular entertainment. I called in for a quick pint and was one of the last to leave at closing time. When I did, I just followed the rest to the Royal Oak, where Jeremy Joseph of G.A.Y. fame used to be DJ. Great fun, and it certainly keeps its regulars one man told me he'd been coming here for 29 years.

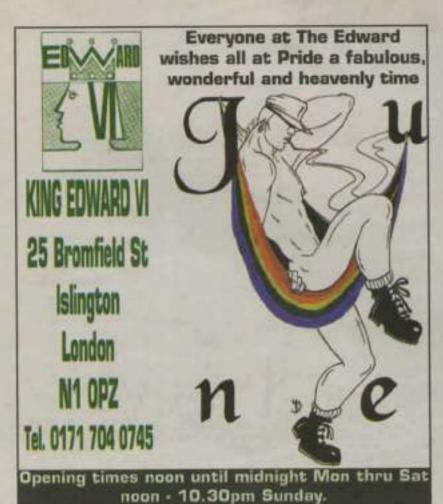
Gay News once had a cartoon of two tourists

seeing two men walking through the street, hand in hand, with the caption: "We must be in Earls Court", which really is a gay area. The Coleherne is one of London's very oldest gay pubs, and is a popular leather venue. It has also always attracted people of less specialised tastes. It is changing a little now, upstairs for leather and downstairs becoming more general, or perhaps chiffron. Probably fair to say: mainly men. I have lost entire Sundays here. Other bars in the area include Club 180, Earls and Bromptons, which has a record shop and stays open late enough for me to fall asleep on the night bus home.

Over at Notting Hill is The Champion, and it is a champion pub. It's large and has lots of bar stools, which I like. You can happily kill an afternoon here, and its quite easy to get chatting to complete strangers. Not too far away is Chelsea's Queen's Head, where it seems to be compulsory to get chatting to strangers. The QH gained national fame when a Times journalist told a libel jury that he had seen Tory MP David Ashby there, dressed in an anorak. Very traditional in style and very friendly, it is not close to Chelsea barracks and I've never seen an anorak there. Military connections are more likely to be in the shape of officers, retired or serving. The men go elsewhere. (Only joking.)

The older men go to the City of Quebec, also known as "the elephant's graveyard." It competes with the Coleherne for the title of London's oldest gay bar, and local wags will







EXCLUSIVE: Britain's biggest gay club is Saturdays at the London Astoria 157 Charing Cross Rd 0171-434-9592

lurns Kylie

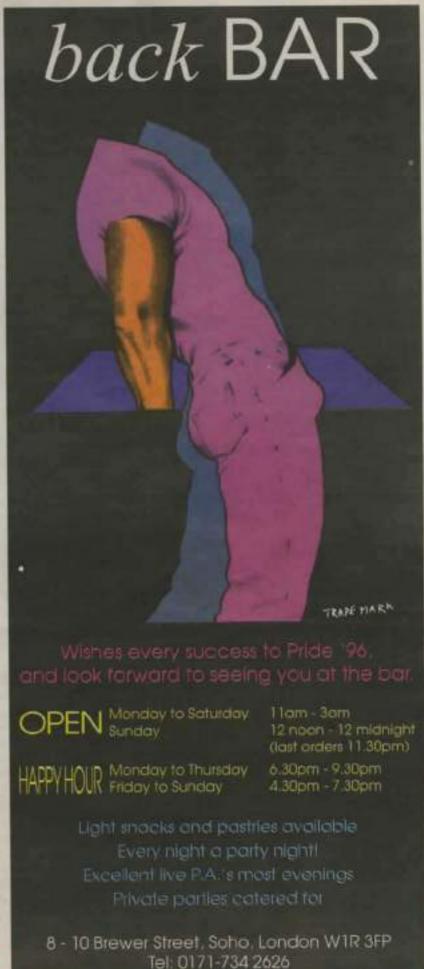
LONDON - Last year, Dannii but the club is not announcing what introduced Kylie at G.A.Y - but this time, it's Kylie hosting and Dannii scheduled to perform. Co-hosting with Jeremy Joseph, Kylie and Margarita Pracatan, but two more Jeremy will appear on the stages of the London Astoria 1 (upstairs) and saying who they are. the L.A.2 (downstairs), linked by a performers scheduled to appear.

Kylie will appear in both clubs, year at G.A.Y"

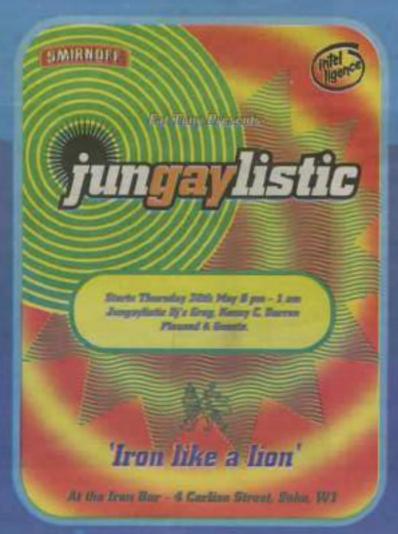
performers will be on which stage. So far, the club has announced confirmed appearances by Dannii and acts are lined up and Jeremy isn't

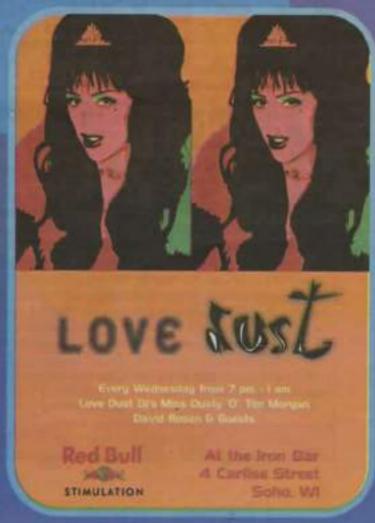
"You'll have to watch the press video system that lets the crowds in for the announcements," he says. both venues see all four of the top "But one thing's for certain: It's going to be the biggest night of the

ets on sale at the Ku Bar, and at G.A.Y Moeday & Thursday (at half the tickets will be beld for sale on Saturday night, July





















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tell you some regulars have been there since it | table, some people can even tell you the differopened. William of Orange, a noted gerostophile and hero of homophobe Rev Ian Paisley, would have enjoyed it here, but in truth the Quebec attracts a diverse range of gay men as well. Friendly and easy to find.

In the West End, you'll be spoiled for choice or, if you're really lucky, just spoiled. They are mainly bars here rather than pubs - Bar Code (quite new, and it has already doubled in size, probably because it does sell pints and not just bottles), the Village and the Yard (an especially comfortable venue, for one with bare brick wails), Freedom Cafe, Ku Bar (new but very friendly), CXR79 and Kudos - and three pubs. Comptons, is a proper gay pub and really started the new trend some years ago, recently the centre of controversy, and Halfway to Heaven, now managed by Colin, the legendary licensee who started Comptons and breathed new life into the Willie. Nearby Brief Encounter is fun, friendly and cruisy. It is also known as the Quick Fuck, or used to be - the current publican claims never to have heard the term.

Some people get a bit sniffy about the West End, and more fool them. Sometimes you get people with so much attitude that they must be sad and lonely, some of the bars have those stupid flowers in used minreal water bottles on each ence between different mineral waters and aren't even ashamed of doing so in public. But. Although I go there rarely - believe me, you can't afford to drink as much as I do and go there too often - it is fun. A lot of the people are fun, and a lot of them are extremely attractive. There is a feeling that things are happening, which is itself attractive. And these days, the people who drink

there don't criticise you for starting a sentence

with the word 'And'

But you can't see London without trying the West End, and it is one of the reasons why many people stay. A lot of the bars have arrangements with the clubs, so when you go there be ready for a long night out. It is the most solidly gay area of London, and even if like me you're terminally untrendy you can't help but enjoy it. If you're a bit of a trendy, you'll be in Paradise.

The famous Vauxhall Tavern is to South London what the Cap is to the North. Famous for drag, Lily Savage, Adrella and many more have stilettoed across its boards. Also down here are the Market Tavern and the Two Brewers, both worth a visit. I checked them out a while ago, but had such a good time that the details are a little hazy. The Clock House is a nice pob, dedicated to live music but with a quieter front bar.

To the East, the London Apprentice is now

more a club than a pub, but it's still fabby. This was where the Terrence Higgins Trust was founded. Once strictly men only, it opens its doors to women most nights now, and it goes on

Back to my own patch. The Duke of Clarence is a pub I've only been to on Sunday afternoon, because apart from that it's women only. It is friendly, pleasantly chaotic and the people actually seem to like each other. Not far away is the Artful Dodger, with one mixed bar and one women only. Again friendly, and with something usually going on. Over near Newington Green is the Royal Oak, mixed but mainly run by women. This massive bar looks like it's now going places. The Mildmay is dark and loud and has themed nights. They can be extraordinarily friendly. Last but far from least is The Duke of Wellington. Like the Mildmay, it is on the Balls Pond Road, made famous by Kenneth Williams in his Jules and Sandy pieces. The Edwardian feel is original, they do food, quizzes and have regular acts, it is friendly and mixed, with a fabby atmosphere. If Jacquie Plunkett or Susan Black is on, make a special trip. And remember something else Housman wrote: "Ale, man, ale's the stuff to drink/For fellows whom it hurts to think '







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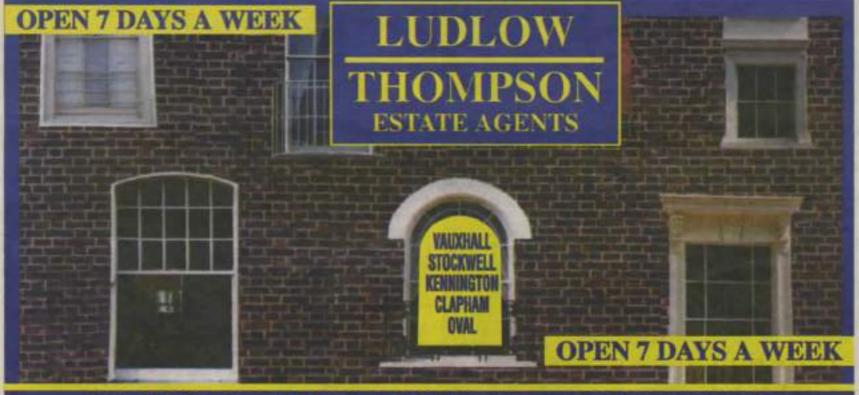
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behalf by the Food Chain with help from, amongst others, The Village Charity,

So make your donation and if for any reason you don't come across a bucket at the Donation Gate, go to the Donation Tent, just by the Virgin Balloon.

Information & Stewards

All stewards will carry a site plan and day programme and can deal with general enquiries. Please remember that our stewards may not always he able to deal with your enquiry if they are en route to a situation. The central information point will be next door to the stewards tent where volunteers from London Lesbian & Gay Switchboard will be able to deal with more complicated matters. A Sign Language Interpreter will be at the stewards tent at all times.

Next to the Information Tent will be the Canadian Club Meeting Point. The Canadian Club Meeting Point is where you can leave messages for friends you have missed or lost.

Litter

A quarter-million people generate a lot of litter. Clean up of the festival site was the largest single expenditure item which The Pride Trust had last year – £53,000. Just think what Pride could have done with that money and then think about how you can help as keep costs to a minimum this year. This year there is far greater emphasis upon recycling. Over 900 recycling points will be on site. One of the things which pisses off the locals more then anything is the state in which the park is left – especially glass, which gets crushed by heavy vehicles in the pest-festival evacuation, creating a possible public safety hazard.

The extent of the problem — the cost of clearing glass last year was £20,000 — has left The Pride Trust with no alternative but to impose a glass ban this year. A full range of beverages are available on site, including wine and champagne, so there is no reason for you to be lugging crates of bottled designer lager under your arm. Glass will be confiscated at the Donation Gates, so please don't bring any and help us to keep Clapham Common a safe amenity for all its users.

Safety

Pride is a large-scale public event, so please make sure that your valuables and effects are secured. Use the coatcheck if you have items which you might need to put down.

If a steward asks you to move away from an area or gives instructions, please comply with minimum fusi. It's your safety we're concerned about. Even it isn't obvious there are very good reasons why, when a steward asks you to get out the way, you should.

performance

Open Stage & Fireworks

A 60-foot orbit roof stage will be the scene for this year's performances in the Main Arena. Starting with coel summer sounds to get you in the mood, the programme will build through the day with surprise head-line slots at 5 and 7.30 pm, and climax with the fire-works spectacular.

The giant video screen was so successful last year that it's back again, so you can go to the March and not have to rash to the Park to book your seat in front of the Stage.

Hosting the acts are a team of scene and household names including Laurence Malice, Mama Yvette, Queenie, Jeremy Joseph, Vanessa and Julian Clary.

At 6.45 pm a very special 15-minute section starta.

Bringing HIV/AIDS issues to the foreground it will culminate with the minute's silence at 7pm followed by the Balloon Release in an emotionally charged spectacular.

Who'll be singing? Some people we're keeping

secret, some old friends and a lot of new stuff too.
We've got Pride favourites Sybil, Jocelyn Brown, Boy
George, McAlmont, Deuce, Adeola, Kelly, Toyah,
Jimmy Somerville and JX, Pride newcomers The Egg.
Lorna Brooks, Jayne County, The Candy Girls, North
South, and a welcome return for Gabrielle.

The thing which always amazes me about the Open Stage is that everyone does give their time for free. The odd flight here and there excepted it is astounding that we get who we do. The other thing which amazes me is the dedication and professionalism of the volunteer stage management crew. Led by Stage Manager Richard Brett, the team which includes Rich B, Fraser, Martin and Mark do a brilliant job and deserve some recognition for that, So thanks guys!

Homo Promos Cabaret Tent

The Cabaret tent emphasises performers who use their own original, up-front gay and lesbian material – boys singing about "boys" and girls singing about "girls" not "you" – queer lyrics for an audience who likes to know the score. Far from sedate, the tent rocks, particularly when Newcastle's Camp Vamps take the stage around 6 pm. Most acts are Visibly Lesbian, beacuse the majority of performers ploughing this furrow are women. The line-up is not confined to music though. There'll be stand up comedy, poetry, dance – the usual panoply of gob-smacking talent. All the favourites will be there including poet/singer/songwriter Labbi Siffre: Add Frank Chicekna and Lotraine Bowen and the comperes Viv Acious and Eric Presland and you have the beginnings of Pride's most exotic performance pot pourri.

The Stonewall Variety Tent

Part sponsored for the second year by Stonewall, The Variety Tent brings you the best pub scene entertainment spiced up with additional special ingredients. Directed by Equality Show impressario Mig Kimpton the programme is packed with quality and fun from start to finish. Woman's Hour with Sandi Toksvig and guests at 2.30 is followed by afternoon tea hosted by Lee Paris, Gossip Hour with Lola Lasagne, cocktails with Katrina and the Boy, Evening Madhouse with HIH Regina Fong and ending up with '70s trush disco.

Wow Bar Stage

New last year, the WoW Bar Stage was so successful it's now a fully fledged orbit roof stage. In association with The Wow Bar we present a galaxy of female entertainment, with performances by Adeola, Lorna Brooks, Rozalla, sexy Fem 2 Fem and many others. Backed up by promoters Sue Wade and Sue G, who have been serving the lesbian community since 1982, this promises to be a fabulous aspect to the Festival, promoting the best female talent hosted by a veritable besy of beauties from Channel 4's Girlie Show.

dance

Trade/DTPM/Kitty Lips

People still rave about last year's Trade/DTPM/Kiity Lips Tent. If you didn't get to it you missed a real event. An earthquake of sound under canvas, the Main Disco Tent is again programmed by the mighty rhythm trident that is Trade, DTPM and Kitty Lips bringing you a cocktail of the most amazing sounds.

Organised by internationally acclaimed club gurus Laurence Malice (Trade), Lee Freeman (DTPM) and Queen Maxine (Kitty Lips), the philosophy is to provide the best dance tent in the world ever at the best Pride in the world ever. Sorted! Packed to capacity last year, the DJ line up is the fiercest yet with Alan Thompson, Steve Thomas, Vicky Red, Queen Maxine. Malcolm Duffy and Tony de Vit at the controls, which is why the tent in 50 percent larger than it was last year.

There will be an open side to the tent this year, a bar

alongside and a video wall. So saddle up and don't forget the Grolsch and Evian! The tent is unmistakable, it's the biggest in the park and is purple and yellow.

Popstarz

Simon Hobart has given the club scene alternatives for a long time, and is currently riding high with his hugely successful Indy night Popstarz. This is a tent for all you fashionable brit pop kids. Sponsored by Popstarz and Levi Strauss this looks like a feature that's here to stay.

SubStation

With a reputation for the happiest house sounds, two successful late-night watering holes in SubStation Soho and SubStation South and a provenance including Industria and Sex, Wayne Shires has established himself as the Pope of Sleaze. When that commercial house sound kicks in, you don't care what's happening elsewhere in the Common. You couldn't be blamed, especially when Martin Confusion and Co get on the decks. A great alternative sound to rock you through the afternoon, with a special guest slot by the legendary Mrs. Woods and a lineap on the decks bolstered by the involvement of Journeys by DJ.

health & HIV

HIV & AIDS Information & Resources

All the organisations you traditionally see at Pride doing their own thang, have been working out a co-ordinated strategy to deliver their services to you in the best way. Taking as its role model the Pan London Consortium which is enjoying a heightened profile and professional renaissance under the guidance of Lisa Power, the Pride Forum was convened and supported by the Terrence Higgins Trust.

The forum includes THT, Rubberstuffers, Blackliners, Big Up, LADS, GMFA, The UK Coalition for People Living with HIV & AIDS, Metrothrust, London Lighthouse, BHAN, Health First, CRUSAID, London Lesbun & Gay Switchboard, The Naz Project, Landmark, Body Positive and The National Aids Trust.

Apart from a network of condom and lube dispenser stations across the site (a huge project in itself) this should mean a better-co-ordinated one-minute's silence, more easily accessible information in more places, and better staffing of facilities throughout the day.

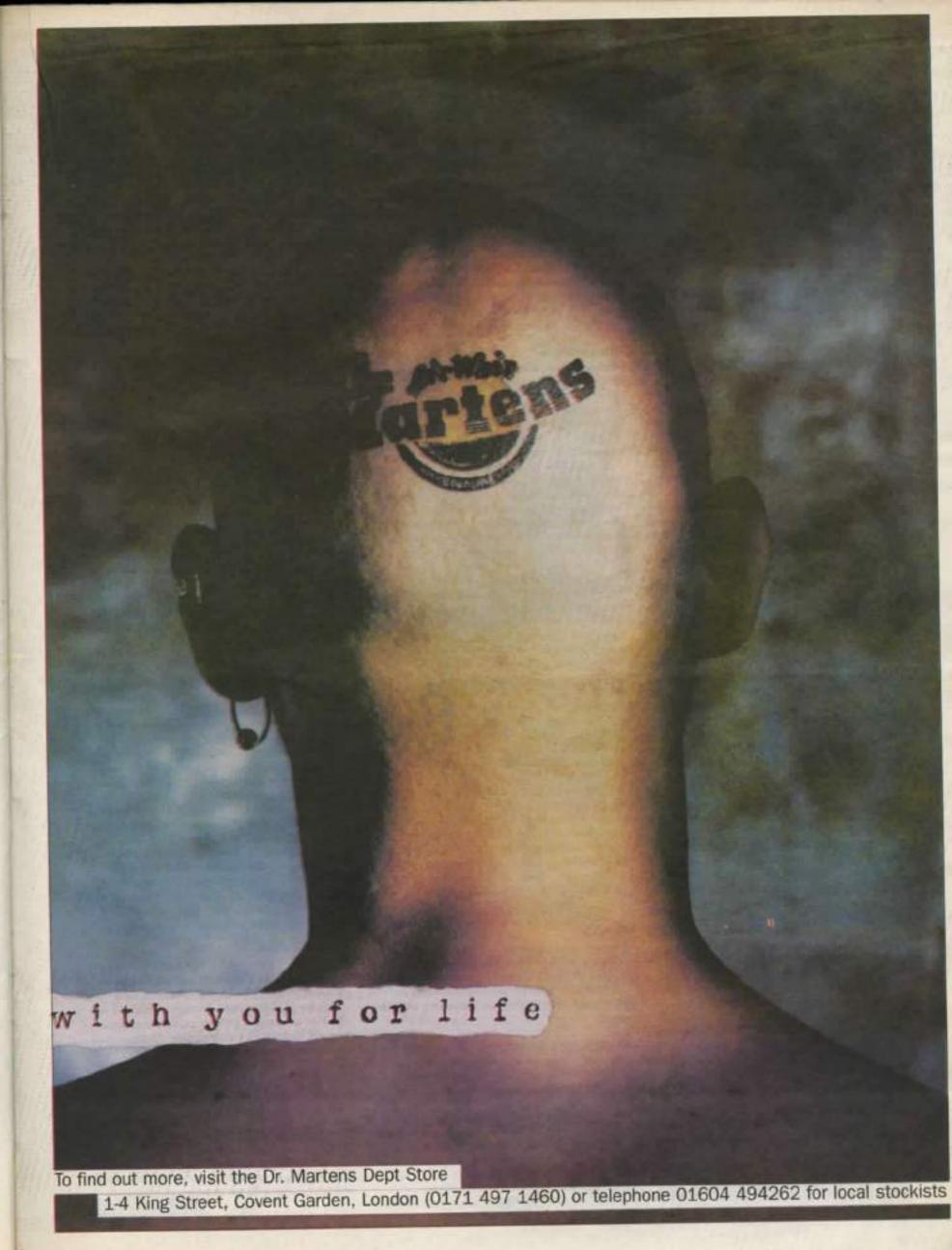
Health Tent

One of the biggest and most popular events at the Festival, in its sixth year, the Health Tent is sponsored again by CRUSAID and the HEA and for the second year is a joint initiative in association with south London health agency, Health First.

Europe's largest outdoor health expo, this horseshoe of three enomious tents will focus upon HIV/AIDS issues and a broader range of Health issues such as coronary heart disease, cancers and women's general health including screening, contraception, STDs and HRT. Over 100 different organisations will be exhibiting and there will be therapy and counselling areas. The primary purpose of the tent is information, and entertainment will be scheduled so as not to interfere with that goal. The Health Tent entertainment will be audience participatory with a strong country & western flavour provided by line dancing clubs, A Truly Western Experience, Rawhide & Ranch as well as quizzes, aerobics and other fun. The HEA is again providing the funds.

Rest Tents

No section of Society has been more affected by, responsive to and responsible about the challenge of HIV & AIDS. This is why The Pride Trust makes provision for those affected by the virus, part of which is the



network of rest tents at this year's Festival. We have devised a system of five smaller, cosier and better resourced centres where those living with HIV & AIDS and the disabled can recharge their energy, take medication or just sit down and chat. Rest tents will have accessible toilet facilities, flooring, heating, space to take medication and chill out.

radio

Radio 1

Yes! The biggest national pop radio station at Pride for the first time. Their outdoor stage will provide continuous music interspersed with guest PAs, interviews and live band sets. No names yet but with Radio 1 you can be assured of exciting stuff. It 's a major advance to have the support and backing of Aunty this year and great that the Beeb know that it is important show a face and recognise their audience.

Heart 106.2

Making their first appearance at the Festival are the Heart 106.2 Ground Patros. Sited in the Green between the Cabaret Tens, Variety Tent and Popstarz, Tent the crew from Heart 106.2 will hand out all sorts of poolies – sweets, t-shirts, stackers and free samples of Snapple from six Ford Maverieles. Say hello and local up with freebres. Heart 106.2 will support Pade on air with message's building up to the day. Heart 106.2 broadcasts in the London area, playing these records we all have in mu collections. Ideal to chill out with on Sanday.

other tents

Bars & Food

Nine bars run by some of London's most established, friendly bars will serve alcoholic and soft drinks all day. 50p out of every £1 taken over the expected minimum will be paid to Pride so the more you drink the more you donate. Beers, ciders and softs and spirits (Absolut Vodka, Beefeuter Gin, Canadian Clob Whiskey. Courvoinier Cognac and Kahlau) are available at the bar tents, wine and Perrier Jouet Champagne in the cocktail garden. At the San Miguel Tent, if you have made a generous contribation at the Donation Gate, you can exchange one of the vouchers for a free can of San Miguel. Watch out for the special Evian tent where you can get your supplies of cool clear water and the various sampling & promotion points with free tasters of new drinks and foods.

A wide selection of food is also on offer at the park with over 100 outlets covering not just burgers & chips but vegetarian, vegan, Chinese, Japanese, Mexican, and Caribbean, all clustered in food courts with marquees just for you to sit and eat in! Many of the vendors on site are offering a special service for their customers. Look out for Queen Cuisine's towering stand and, making their first appearance, the Kitsch Inn providing saucy Jo's pasta. The aim at the Kitsch Inn is to create a carnival atmosphere around quality food and service. The servers are very saucy, the sauce is superhly saucy and the pasta might make you blush!

All our food vendors must display their prices and have agreed to a standard pricing policy for most items at affordable rates. Please support the vendors and bars who have paid for the privilege to serve you and avoid those who are not contributing to the success of our day.

Metropolitan Community church

For the third year running, Metropolitan Community Church have their Chapet for Rite of Blessing, conducted by an authorised minister of The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is certificated. Couples can chose to have a private ceremony or they can join with other couples in a full worship service to take place at 5pm. "Hankies or tissues are the order of the day as the tears of joy flow freely"

The certificate is recognised by some local authorities, banks, building societies, employers and other organisations as proof of a stable relationship for partnership * rights.

The small fee for the Rite of Blessing covers (just!) the cost of the tent and couples must pre-register. Write, enclosing SAE, to Rev'd David Miller, 11 Isfield Road, Brighton, BN1 7FE or telephone on 01273 561266.

Planet Patrol Cybercocktail Lounge

Gorgeous surroundings within which to try out Planet Patrol Internet services, chat to the crew from Zone FM and try out the Pride Cocktail free of charge with the voucher you got when you made your donation.

Samaritans

Research shows that one in five young queer folk are at risk of suicide or serious self harm. This alarming statistic shows that for many, feelings of despair and isolation are all too familia. The Samaritans Feetival Branch there again to offer you time and space to talk through your feelings with a trained volunteer whalmer your saturation or outlook in absolute confidentiality.

At times memories of friends, partners and past events can bring up private andness. Loneliness and hopeless.

can bring up private andness. "Loneliness and hopelesscan bring up private andness." Loneliness and hopelessness can be with you whether you are home alone or out with the crowds on a sunny day" explains volunteer tare, "many cultures see saleide and different sexualities as areas of tabout our nim is to listen to whatever people wish to share with as without attempting to influence choices or impose advice".

Influence choices or impose advice".

The Festival branch of the Samaritans has been at the Pride Pestival since 1993. There are over 200 Samaritan branches nationwide supporting those in crisis 24 hours a day, seven days a week. On Pride day go and see the Samaritans at their tent - just look out for the orange banner just inside Donation Gute 1 - or call them when you need them on 0345 909-090.

Stalls

The Market Area is always popular. Around half the stalls are taken by voluntary organisations who use their space to fundraise, inform and recruit. There are businesses, selling everything from novelty items to books, to records, cards, hammocks, paintings, sportswear, jewellery. Many businesses who exhibit, like Clone Zone, help the voluntary sector. Others like Bobs Rubber and Lenther wear have supported the event through thick and thin since the start. Here, you can buy your official Pride merchandise (beware of imitations!) and you will find UNISON - Britain's largest union and Pride's most consistent sponsor, here for their seventh year. We expect 400 stalls this year, having dropped prices considerably – pay a visit and do some early Xmas shopping.

Funfair

Since we added the Funfair in 1992, it has rapidly become one of the most popular features at the Festival. It's back this year with even bigger, crazier rides courtesy of Heaven, London's most established big night out gay venue, now in its 17th year. Get in, strap down and enjoy!

People of Colour

This space is open to everyone regardless of race, colour or croed. The only persons who should exclude themselves are racists and biguts. The tent is all about celebrating our diversity and respecting one another.

The manive dance tent sponsored and programmed by black gay men's HIV persention agency Big Up is set for it's biggest shakedown since becoming a part of the Festival in 1991. Entired by glamorous volunteers and backed up by a DJ posse second to none, it takes dance and HIV prevention into a new forum.

Next to the dance tent is a community chill out space,

where a variety of organisations will make resources available. Just outside the dance tent you will find a mini information market with stalls staffed by organisations active in promoting HIV information to black and asian communities.

Pride Video

GAMMA award winners Pride Video give you the opportunity to be on the other side of the camera lens. Meet the stars of recent videos and, for a small donation to The Pride Trust, take part in a screen test! Fancy yourself as the next Jeff Stryker - then get in line.

Release For Life

Last year saw the release of approximately 22,000 balloons – one for each person in the UK diagnosed HIVpositive. This year, Crusaid are releasing ballooes again, and again each one will be for a person diagnosed HIV-positive. Visually rectacular the release will importantly follow the runnete's some eat 7 pm and act as the signal for the release of emotion after our minute of respect.

Each balloon may be sponsored for a minimum of £1 and personal messages in fuded. The balloon station is marked on the site plan and sucks of the balloons will be filled with helium throughout the day and then carried into the main arena for the release. You can contact CRUSAID about sponsoring on 0171 976 8100.

Kenric Tea Tent

The Kenric Tea Tent is another new feature. One of the things many people say is that they would appreciate somewhere to sit down in relative quiet and relax with a cuppa. So here it is, complete with fairy cakes! For a mere £1 you can have a nice cup of tea or coffee and a fairy cake, plus only ambient background music to interrupt your reverie. The Tent is an alcohol-free area so please, no drinks or dranks.

Women's Tent

The Women's Tent sees a radical departure from previous formats with three top women's clubs combining forces to bring you a blend of dance and performance. Betty's, Vixens and Manchester's award-winning club Clamax bring you the very best women DJs from across the nation and cabaret to make your eyes pop.

The Women's Test is for women only. The type of music on offer is very similar to the type of music in the Main Disco Tent, and if we opened the Women's Tent to men it would become almost exclusively male. Some women are uscomfortable in the presence of men, many have suffered abuse, verbul - even physical - and have to tolerate sexism daily. The exclusive entry policy allows women to relax totally freed from the normal impositions. If you're a dyke and this is your first time, check it out! If you're a guy, respect this space and don't make a jerk of yourself by trying to get in - it is just so boring for our poor volunteers to have to listen to all that crap.

Bisexual Tent

Welcome to Pride's first-ever Bi tent! The Bi Tent will provide everything you ever wanted to know about bisexuality (even if you weren't afraid to ask), with presentations, discussions, information stalls, music, and generally all things Bi. Events run four till nine – call by the tent for full listing. Assume nothing...

Youth Tent

For "Generations of Activism" the Festival reflects the work being done, particularly with youth organisations — which is why we have a youth community tent at the event this year. Plans are still in their infancy but localed between the Pride Merchandise Pagoda tent and a condom distribution station young things will have in easy reach two of the most essential items. Deutal datus will be available in the tent by prior arrangement

Official Sponsors

we only want to turn you on

Our philosophy is simple. Gay men deserve the best in video entertainment and we're here to give it to you. We've broken new ground in the high quality stakes with titles like Desertion, Chain Reaction, Pleasure Zone and Mad About The Boy. Gay erotica of this excellence has never been seen before.

If you're into those lovely Bel Ami boys, we have a fabulous batch coming up in "Sunshine after the Rain". This is a real Pride

> Video spectacular: It's the story of eight young guys spending their last summer together, truly beautiful.

> We have been chosen by Millivres (the publishers of Gay Times, Diva, Zipper and Vulcan) to co-produce a series of Vulcan and Zipper videos. No other "magazine" videos will be able to match their sheer eroticism and production values.

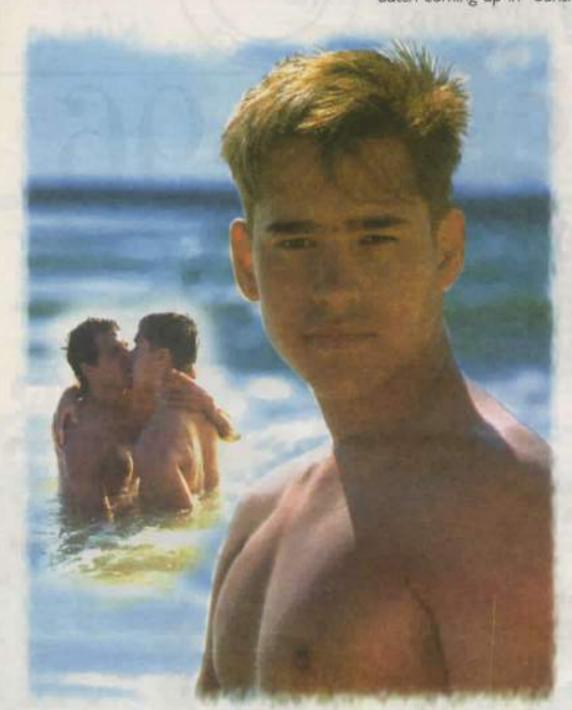
And if that's not enough, October will see the video release of our most ambitious project to date; "Summer, The First Time". A highly erotic gay feature film, packed with drama, real acting and beautiful boys. Television actor Sean Benedict takes the lead role and is joined by the ever popular Johan Paulik (Chain Reaction), Matthew Anders (Mad About The Boy) and a host of horny new Bel Ami boys.

We were well chuffed and very proud to be awarded three Gamma Awards at the Freedom Fair last April (Best Gay Video Company, Best Produced Video - Desertion and Greatest contribution to Gay Art, Entertainment and Media). It shows that our policy of producing the best gay erotica is really working.

We aren't strangers to receiving awards, since our inception we have won three major British video industry awards (1993, 1994, 1995) and the Best Educational Video award, for Pleasure Zone, at the Erotic Gay Video Awards last December in Los Angeles. The three Gamma awards are a prestigious addition to this list.

We'd like send a big thank-you to everyone who have supported us. Pride and Priapic Video are major sponsors of the 1996 Gay Pride Festival. Come and meet us there.





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Send someone who can't be there a postcard from Clapham Common this year. You'll get one free with the official Day Guide, which will be distributed free in Thud magazine on the week of Pride and available separately at the Festival. Then, come along to Thud's stand and we'll post it for you with a one-off commemorative postmark, anywhere in the world for £1, with part of the proceeds going to charity. We'll also have plenty available at our stand, so bring along your address book and send some souvenirs.



Muc

headliners

SOME OF THE PERFORMERS WHO WILL BRING THE MAINSTAGE TO LIFE

The artists profiled here are just a few of the emery entertainers whose expectance was confirmed at press time. A more complete list and mainstage schedule will be in the yentival Day Quide, published on the week and available at the restival.

Since declaring back in the heady days of Culture Club that he would "prefer a cup of ten to sex". Boy George has remained the pop industry's favourite androgynous musical ingenue.

A national figurehead respected by both straight and gays alike for his songwriting talent and uncompromising integrity, the boy of whom Joan Rivers once said: "Just what England needs, another Queen with no dress sense" and whom Princess Margaret called a "made-up tart" and alented the attention of Barbara Cartland, still retains the edge of raw bosesty and ability to surprise.

His current role of Diva DJ at London's hippest watering holes and clubs is yet another indication of the artiste's unrelenting Midas touch. Innovation has never left Boy George throughout a varying career of musical highs and lows, Wogan shows and even national tabloid berating for drug-taking and gender-bending.

Like the lyrics of his '83 mega-hit Karma Chameleon, Boy George's ability to change and re-invent himself over the past 14 years has secured his long-term popularity and position at the top of the industry.

Her first album, Let Yourself Go, introduced Sybil to the world as a dance diva, spawning the British hits of the same name and My Love Is Guaranteed. These tracks made it clear to the music industry that a vital voice in R&B music was ready to be heard. Her third album, Sybilization, displayed her continuing growth as singer/songwriter. Since the release of this album, Sybil has been writing tracks for other artists – putting her five years of classical violin training to good use.

The Candy Girls are DJ Rachel Auburn and Paul 'Wand' Masterson. Coupled by their love of pure unadulterated rhythms, the duo found theselves working together after becoming fully paid up members of a mutual admiration society. Apart from DJing and club promoting, Auburn has worked on

club hits such as Oh Yes I Like It and Boyfriend by Love & Sex, as well as compliling the tracks for the cult techno-meets-disco compilations Fresha 1 and 2

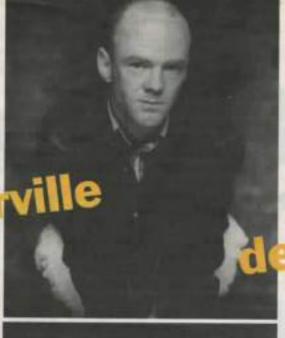
If the next single only halfway matches their wild and rude debut Fee Fi Fo Fum which features guest vocals from Sweet Pussy Pauline (AKA Candy J) it will whip up a storm in clubs and on radio.

The 33-year-old Glasweigen first shot to fame back in 1984 with groudbreaking band Bronski Beat. The mega hit single Smalltown Boy introduced the world to Jimmy's 'falsetto squeal' as he once described it, but confronted the public with a lyric addressing the isolation and rejection felt by a provincial gay youth forced into leaving town. The rest is pop music history.

After a string of lively dance hits in the early 80s including a cover version of former gay icon Donna Summer's I Feel Love, Jimmy left Bronski Beat in 1986 to form The Communards with old friend and keyboardist Richard Coles.

Since he disappeared from the charts in 1991, Jimmy has deliberately taken time out of his celebrity existence to, as he puts it, live his life to the full as a gay man in the '90s. His new solo material draws, if anything, even more than before on his personal experiences and the periods of both elation and anger he has passed through in the last four years.

The 1995 album Dare To Love was a typical rollercoaster mix of upbeat pop dance numbers including an upfront title track about a mun who loves a younger boy





of 16 and is threatened with prison and persecution. The follow up single By Your Side was released in October 1995 and was supported by a UK tour. Since then Jimmy has been doing PAs around the world including such places as San Francisco and Estonia. He has recently been involved in the anti-racist project 'Respect', organised by the TUC in London, and he is currently writing new material for a European tour.

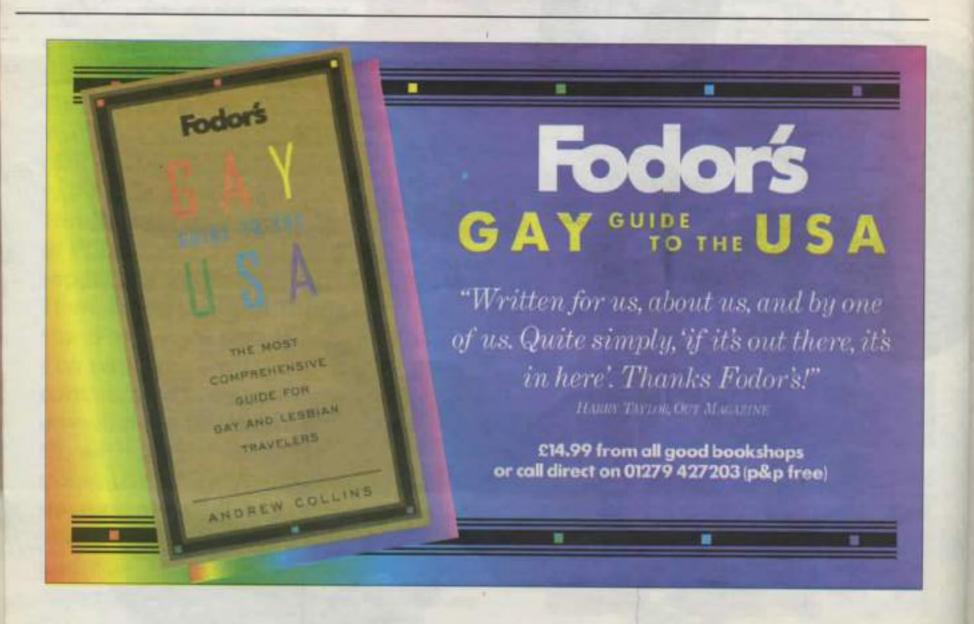
Welcome to the world of Deuce, where glamour is great, kitsch is cool and fun is fact. The "70s had Abba, the '80s Bucks Fizz and the early '90s were in orgent need of a colourful, camp, boy-girl pop group - until Deuce cam onto the scene.

Selected as finalists in the televised 1995 Song for Europe competition with their single I Need You, they narrowly missed out on becoming the UK's Eurovision entry, but the single did brilliantly - reaching number 10 in the charts.

Dreums made chart history by going straight in at number two - the highest ever chart entry for a debut artist - before going to the top slot the following week.

Gabrielle's debut album Find Your Way (released October 1993) sold almost 1 million copies worldwide. Hers was a voice that definitely struck a chord.

She has grown from a jobbing hopeful on the nightclub circuit to international star in less than three years,



winning a Brit Award for Best Newcomer along the way.

Her son Jordan has inspired new songs such as 'Miracle' and 'So Glad' and the intense experiences of the last three years have also given rise to a new look. What is apparent from the relaxed, dressed down Gabrielle of the 'Give Me A Little More Time' video is a mature artist who now wants to focus attention on her songs and voice. The new single Forget About The World is released on 10th June.

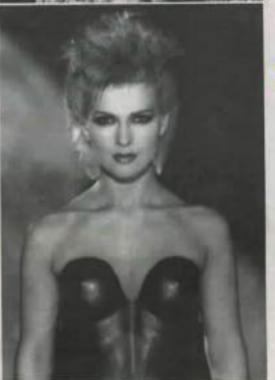
kelly

Kelly was one of the eight finalists in the British Entry for 'A Song for Europe' seen on BBC1 and has performed as such places as the Hippodrome in London and all major clubs throughout the U.K. This sassy, raucous Australian has recently been on top of the High Energy charts in the UK and has topped the charts in America with her hit When You Tell Me Thus You Love Me.

toyah

With a career spanning more than 18 years, Toyah's multifarious talents have encompassed all the arts, through film, TV, stage and of course the music industry. With roles in the seminal Jarman film shocker Jubilee followed up by The Tempest, Toyah has also notched under her belt 13 top-40 singles, made 15 solo albums and had a number one single in the first ever Indie chart in 1979 with Victims of the Riddle.





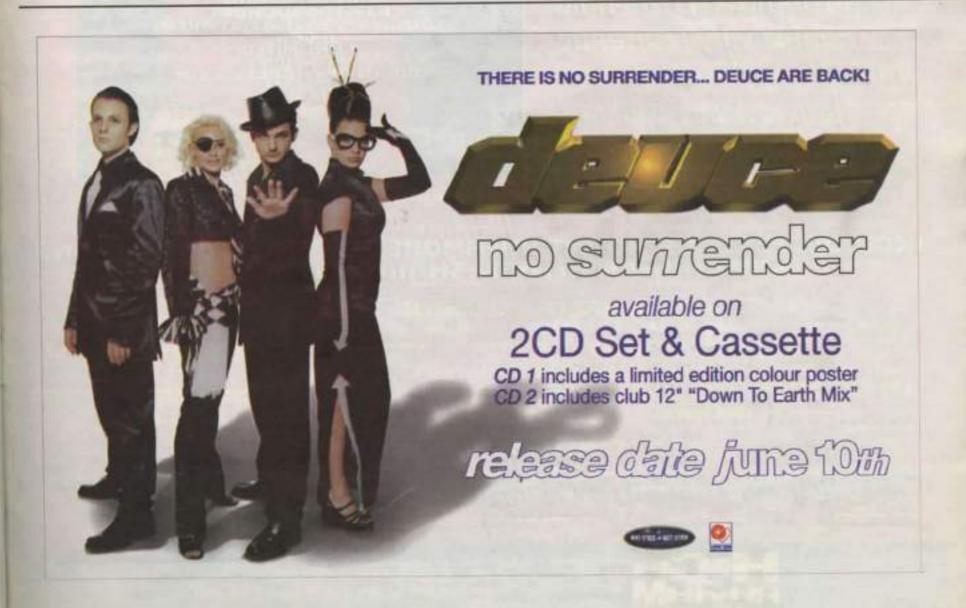
Toyah discovered new skills as a wrestler when she played the leading role in the stage play 'Trafford Tanzi' and went on to play Sally Bowlen in the West End production of Cabaret. A versatile act, Toyah has progressed from punk to musicals, playing Peter Pan in 1994, and can be seen regularly on TV presenting shows such as Discovering five and Carlton's The Good Sex Guide Late. A new dance album is to follow up the successful Dreamchild.

adeola

Adeola is naked talent. Whether performing solo stripped down to the bare musical essentials of voice and guitar - or with her bucking band, audiences are always moved, touched, inspired, uplifted, set free by her singing.

Best known for her live work, Adeola has performed with the likes of Des'ree, Labi Siffe, Hank Wangford and Linton Kwesi Johnson.

Crystal Visions, her first album, featured joint work with guitarist and songwriter Jimmy Hatnes, known for his collaborations with Steel Pulse, Caron Wheeler and Des'ree. Aside from her musical talents, Adeola can list some impressive acting credits with her lead role of The Jazz Singer in the film B.D. Women, broadcast as part of the Out and Dyke TV seasons. Recently she has been performing in The Ripple Effect at the ICA, which combined a team effort of work between Adoela and performance poets Dorothea Smartt and Patience Aghibi. The show explored issues around race and sexual identity significant for black British women.



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Pride:

The Pride Trust

In 1992, everyone was taken aback by the remarkable success of Europeide in London. For the first time attendance at the Pride Festival topped 100,000 participants. For the then-organisers— The Lesbian and Gay Pride Organising Committee Limited this sudden growth came as a shock to the system too, and a few months after Pride, they had to enter voluntary liquidation. In 1992, Kim Lucas, the deputy festival director, invited me to

be the financial director of the new Pride Trust which was to carry on the "tradition" Madness overcame me and I accepted. The new organisation was founded in October 1992 as a

"company limited by guarantee of its membership", Membership is open to anyone over 18 (that's company law, nothing to do with the age of consent) who agrees with our Mission Statement and is willing to pledge one pound in the unfortunate event heaven forbid - of our liquidation. The company is run by a board of four voluntary directors, supported by a committee of coordinators, drawn from various Working Groups. Although the board is small, they remain accountable to the coordinators and the members. It is the members who vote on the key issues, like this year's name change and theme, Generations of Activism, and who keep the organisation "in touch" with the community that comes to the event. The company also employs a festival producer and an office manager, the only salaried members of

We set ourselves several aims. In 1993 we decided to work towards an attendance of a quarter of a million people by 1996. We are well on target; 120,000 attended in 1993, 150,000 in staff. 1994 and 200,000 last year in Victoria Park. We try to stage an event which appeals to the largest number of people and is multicultural in texture. We hope there is something for everyone, and if it isn't there, just tell us and we will try and fit it in.

We also resolved to keep the festival free, recognising that no one should have to "pay to be gay". Pride now costs a fortune to Like the event, our sponsors are a



Pride Chair Adam Jeanes

put on, around £350,000 this year in total, so we also had to consolidate our commercial activities to foot the bill. The toilets alone cost nearly £40,000. A key part of our financial strategy is sponsorship from large "straight" companies. The gay community is not cash-rich, despite the growing power of the pink pound, and cannot afford to pay for it out of its own resources.

diverse bunch, ranging from household names like Virgin Megantores, Levi Strauss, Allied Domecq and Evian, to bodies such as the HEA, Unison and London Health Authorities, community groups such as Stonewall and Kenric, and gay businesses such as Thad Magazine, Kaltons, Pride Video (no relation) and

And finally we set up a series of Working Groups, open to anyone who wishes to be part of the organisation. This year there are groups dedicated to strengthening the role of people of colour, disabled people, bisexuals, young people and transgendered people in the planning of the event. This structure has worked well, ensuring that the organisation diversifies with the event, and that new ideas and issues affecting the lesbian, gay and bisexual community are reflected. In short, if an individual or a group wants to offer assistance or make a point, we provide the money and the platform, and they provide the time and expertise.

This military exercise taxes everybody who helps organise it. Every year I am amazed to see the contractors arrive and the festival site constructed. Nothing is quite as satisfying as when after all the strategy reports, meetings, brainstorming, traumas and sleepless nights, the crowds turn up, march to Parliament down a high-profile route and party the day away at the largest free music festival in Europe. This glorious tradition is entirely our own invention, and I am very proud to have been part of it.

I think I shall always cherish the sight of Peter Sissons on the Nine O'clock News wincing at his autocue as he said the words "Lesbian and Gay Pride". The coverage of Pride 1995 was a breakthrough both for its breadth and its

positive images (excepting the Daily Mirror which reported just 3,000 marchers and 10,000 festival goers). For the record, last year attracted a staggering 65,000 on the march and 200,000 at the festival. And this year we will see a quarter of a million particlpants, easy.

Every year, we seek to bring new people into the event, and, in pursuit of this, we have chosen a theme and a new name.

In adding Bisexual and Transgender to the title we wanted to signal a return to the original idea of the event as created by the Gay Liberation Front. The GLF was a coalition - a front - of gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transsexuals, transvestites and even several heterosexuals thrown in for good measure. We hope the name change will remind everyone of the diverse radical origins of our community. Likewise our theme this year, Generations of Activism, emphasises the young gay people who will be the activists of the future and plan the even bigger Prides to come.

And as we near the General Election, Pride 1996 is a golden opportunity. The Pride Trust is raising a National Petition to demand a commitment to our equality in all the manifestos. It doesn't matter which way you vote - unless we prove how large a constituency we are, our votes are worthless.

It has been another remarkable year for our issues. But although gays in the military and gay bishops in the Synod may grab the headlines, the majority of Pride-goers face prejudice on very basic levels - from their neighbours, or their work mates, or their family. Pride is the day when you can leave

THE TRUST

Adam Jeanes Chair

Rachel Smith March Director Tom Brooks Finance Director Bob Graham Human Resources & Safety Director

THE ADAM

Edward Lord Company Secretary Teddy Witherington Festival Producer Gareth Pritchard Office Manager Phil Green & Kier Oak Disabled Access David Millar Chief Steward, Festival Chris Bradshaw Chief Steward, March David Kerry Festival Control A J Smart Safety Officer Jamle Lukanik Events Officer Tony Spurgeon & Cerl Lowe Youth Wil Ian Watters & Lisa Colledge Rissonal Wil Martin Taylor-Brown Entertainments

> Mike McCann Business Advisor James Stewart Bookkeeper Jane Howard PR Publicity

and be yourself among others spectacular we are. So don't forget to smile for the cameran Y 1



UNSON the public service union

Campaigning for civil rights and law reform for lesbians and gay men

COME AND VISIT US AT PRIDE IN THE UNISON PAGODA

For more information about
lesbian and gay rights in
UNISON contact:
Carola Towle or Lucille Thirlby
20 Grand Depot Road,
London SE18 6SF.



National Petition '96

We the undersigned call upon the Government and political parties of the United Kingdom to take action to end the discrimination faced by Lesbians, Gay Men, Bisexuais and Transgendered People in the State, Law, Schools, Workplaces, Institutions and Media of this country.

In pursuit of this, we demand:

- The reform of the Sexual Offenses Acts of 1956 and 1957, and the counterpart legislation relating to Scotland and Northern Ireland, to abolish the criminal offence of indecency between men.
- The repeal of Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1988
- The enactment of a universal age of consent for all regardless of sexual orientation
- Equal treatment in relation to parenting, fostering, adoption and the care of children
- The legal recognition of same-gender partnerships on an equal basis with mixed-gender partnerships
- The free access of young lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgendered people to health and sex education appropriate to their sexualities and needs
- That discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation be made unlawful by an Act of Parliament and/or a Bill of Rights
- And that all political parties make a clear commitment to fulfil the above demands at the time of the next General Election.

Signed	Name	Address
TO THE PARTY OF TH		
No. Comist,		
The second	and the state of t	
	The latest section in	

This Petition is printed and published by The Pride Trust Ltd, organisers of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride 1996 (London 6 July), Please return all copies to The National Petition, The Pride Trust, Suite 28, Eurolink Centre, 49 Effra Road, London SW2 1BZ by 8 July 1996.

the RIPE

The Pride organisers recognise that not everybody who wishes to make these demands will be able to attend, and so is raising a National Petition for Pride 1996 to demand a commitment from the main parties to include antidiscrimination legislation covering sexual orientation in their election manifestos, together with a call for a Bill of Rights for all.

The list of demands is not exhaustive, but it is comprehensive in as much as it demands the recognition of homophobia as a social pathology, akin to racism and sexism, and calls for action to end discrimination in the State, Law, Schools, Colleges, Workplaces, Public Institutions and Media of the United Kingdom.

What You Must Do

- Photocopy it (on white paper). Please cut along the edges of the light grey area so that you produce an A4-sized sheet.;
- Sign it, and get everyone you know to sign it.
- Then take the spare copies and...
- Send it to your local-MP, MEP and Councillor for them to sign.
- Send it to your local paper, magazine, radio station, television station.
- Send it to your local community organisations, residents' associations, student unions, shop stewards, churches,
 schools, colleges, doctors, hospitals,
 health authority, health centres, GUM
 clinics, arts centres, book shops, magistrates, benefit offices, police stations,
 army base, naval base, RAF base,
 social service departments, pubs,
 clubs, social groups, youth hostels,
 solicitors, barristers, your employer,
 your mother, your father, your children,
 the Prime Minister and Her Majesty the
 Queen
- Hold a signing event locally at your local town hall or lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered groups
- Look it up on the Internet (http://www.pride.org.uk) or put it on your own home page or BBS for people to print off and use themselves.
- Fax it to your family, friends and relations at home and abroad.
- Return the petition to The Pride Trust, Suite 28, Eurolink Centre, 49 Effra Road, London SW2 1BZ by Monday, 8 July 1996
- Or bring it with you to the Pride March and Festival in London on 6 July. March on London with your petition.

SUPPORTED BY: The Campaign for Homosexual Equality, OutRage!, Liberty, National Lesbian and Gay Committee of UNI-SON, Community, Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, Association of London Governments, Labour Campaign for Lesbian and Gay Rights, TUC,k Manchester Lesbian and Gay Policing Initiative, NUS, Lesbian Avengers, Campus 87, Gay and Lesbian Humanist Association, TGWU, DELGA, TORCHE, Black Lesbian and Gay Centre, Pride Scotland, UK Coalition of People Living With HIV/AIDS, London Lesbian and Gay Switchboard.



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es Arts festival

A MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION OF QUEER ARTS, FILM, MUSIC & THEATRE



PAFI 96 intended to be a snapshot of all the contributions that lesbian and gay writers, artists, film makers and performers make to our cultural life. Pride Day itself is of course a wonderful celebration, but there are limitations to what you can do in one day in the hurly-burly, and many types of art and performance get passed by. Here you'll find all the Landon events (other parts of the country have their own festivals, and we've been working with very limited resources) which feature lesbian and gay artists, in the broadest sense, doing their own thing. This is a community festival, in the sense that PAFI does not 'own' these events; they are a natural autpouring from venues, companies and individuals. No doubt we could take another snapshot at another time of year and come up with a different but equally exciting picture

We hope that the Arts Festival will serve to broaden the appeal and scope of Pride, and that you'll attend a lot of queer events as part of the run-up to Pride Day itself. There's a lot of choice: ten plays, a dozen cabaret/music gigs, three exhibitions, eight films, six literature/poetry events, and workshops. All this, plus Beautiful Thing on general

release from June 14th, Bliss!

heatre

MARK BUNYAN IN CABARET

Diorama Arts Centre, 34 Oaroburgh St. NW1 Tues-Frl. June 18-21, 9 15pm. EA/E4

An out gay cabaret performer since 1977 (and there aren't that many people who can say that). Mark has performed his songs and monolegues near a pisno from West End theaters to the Edinburgh Fringe, from cabases clubs in New York and San Francisco to the newly formed gay societies of Tallien, Europia and Rgia, Latvia, He will also be at EuroPrale in Copenhagen, Last year, as well as appearing on Ned Sherrin's Loose Ends, he had the bosous of being canonand by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

LEVITATION BY TIMOTHY MASON

sted by Homo Fromos at: Chat's Palace, 42 Brooksby's Wolk, E9. June 1,2,7,8. 8pm. E5.50/E3 cores. Also of Bollerhouse Theatre, Classid Ed. N16. Wed 12h June, Bpm. ES/E3 concs (part of the Stoke Newington Festival

Diorama Arta Centre, Wed - Sun, 19th -23rd June, 26th - 30th June, 7,30pm £6/£4

Joe is a fucked-up, burst-out and scaled-off headline writer retreating from life to his roots in the American midwest. On a summer night under a sky full of monocitus his apple-pie family are not what they seem as mality slips into science fantasy. Playing with ideas of memory and time travel. Joe learns to accept and let go. A warm, lytical consedy that will send you out of the thearer

ERIC'S "LEATHER" APPENDAGE/ZIPI BY ERIC PRESLAND

Presented by Homo Promos of Diorsona Arts Centre, 34 Ouroburgh St, NW1, SahSun June 22-23 and Wed-5un June 26-30. 9.15pm. £6/£4 (cones).

Two related one-must plays, Leuther Appendage is a monologue of contic anxiety for a middleaged actor about to do a passineate sade scene in a play with an extremely attractive boy. Zip! finds a stripper with no such assisties, as he steps out of his strip routins to reveal what really goes through his trend. Two daskly comic meditations on hearty and the body.

FUNERAL GAMES BY JOE ORTON

fed by the Swam Factory at The Drill

Hall, Chenies St, London WC1, Box Office: 0171-631-1353. Through June 22, Tues-Sor, Sem £10/£8 concs.

Orren's late, great and bleak farce given the Phil Willianst treatment and starring pop star-furnedactor Adam Ant. The Steam Factory has been responsible for self-out productions of Sweet Charity and Pajama Game at Betterson Am-Centre, and the Deill Hall Christman hit, South Pacific.

A.L.A.W.P. BY SUSAN FENTON

or The White Lion Pub, Streethern High Rd. SW16. June 17 - July 13, Tues-Sat. Bpm. E6/E4 concs

An unlikely love story about Blondine and Sue. Blonding is exour, cosmopolitan and wellhooled; the works as a table dancer for bicks and gets her sex from contact magn; Sue is unemployed, insecure and lonely. When they start to correspond they each fall for the image the other creates on paper, while their real selves have very different lives to lead

ANY MARKS OR DEVIATIONS BY CHARLIE HUGHES-D'AETH

nted by Mrs. Worthington's Daughters at

The Wimbledon Studio Theatre, 103 The Broadway, SW19 1QG, Box Office: 0181-542-6141. Jone 25 - July 6 Mon-Set. Bpm £7/£4 Mon-Thurn £8/£5 Fri/Sqt.

The cosy life of Kate and Ben is abruptly and terrifyingly shatered when they are connected by a visitor from a time when women's love could only mean the dealings of windscraft. A chilling ghost story in the tradition of Edgar Allen Por. Stephen King and Jennifer Saunders. Sponwerd by Phoenix Grandatura.

MY COUNTRY'S HOSTAGE BY **HICHARD ROQUES**

A reheased reading at The Red Room, The Don and Unicom, 42-44 Goldord St, London NW5. Box office: 0171-813-9653. Monday June 24, 5pm, £3/£2.

The casefire has ended, a bomb has gone off in the East End, and Trevor and Robert have both picked up and they've both stayed for breakfast. Robert didn't have ses with Patrick; they made love. Tievor didn't have sex with Sean, but he sold Robert he did. But if Sean and Patrick aren't gay, what are they doing in Robert's flat? And why is Sean so keen to put on Trevor's stockings and take Borch for a walk? Sex, drag and Semica and all before teatime!



TUPPERWARE PARTY BY HICHARD ROQUES

A reheared reading at **The Red Room,** Tie Lion and Unicom, 42-44 Gasland St, London NWS. Box office: 0171-813-9653, Manday Jone 24, Spm. £3/52.

Paul and John invite John and John to dinner. But John the Stripper (not Paul's friend John to John from the cottages in the multi-storey car park) won't take his clothes off. Mary permades Paul to become a Tupperware hostess, but is she in the right house? And who is the John upstains? A year later Paul and John are exploiting the gay marketing potential of Tupperware, the Calvin Kirins of the kitchen. A areale preview of a major new play to be produced in 1997.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO BABY JUNE - GYPSY, A PERVERSION

presented by Divine Fined or Royal Vaunhall Tavers, 372 Kennington Lone, 5E11. June 27th, 29th (4pm), July 2-4. Bpm E5/E2.50 It's dysfunctional, it's a presented family interfered by the first separate bright, it's forms and finest-ups. It's sequins, singing, standom, somitting and lots of shouting florte Dovie and Joan Constitute guest star in this sale of the ultimate stage mother is a froth-filled families musical about fifty a must celebrated and stiffend figure. Mother, Divine Fined are a make and female drag are

music & cabaret

GREENWICH DANCE AGENCY.

The Borough Half, Royal Hilf, Landon, SELO BET, Box Office: 0181 293 9741 Fr. 31st May, 8.30pm E6.50/E4.50 (corps).

Night of Passion offers a Serious Pinkest of top guy and lesbian cabaret names. Bert Tyler-Moose fresh from Gaytime TV and his acclaimed show 'Bertie Something'; gay frish comedian Gusham Sieram, currently to be seen in Patier Test 60s gians seen Lumaiae Bossume with takes of love and dropping; and Ursula Martinez, Covydon's flamence dyke.

CONWAY HALL, Red Lion Square, WC1, Thurs, 4th July, 2.3Cpm, E&/E4 (concg). The even-busy and versatile Queer Choir collaborates with the Wiener's Music Workshop, Overtices, for an evening of sterg, percussion, reclare and wild experiment.

CHAT'S PALACE, 42 Brookely Walk, E9. Set 2nd and 5or 9th June. 10pm. Free.
Two late-night free cabarets in the bar of the popular Hackney Comunity are come. featuring the least of local testions and gay cabarer performers.

THE VORTEX, 137-141 Sicke Newington Church Steet, N16, Box office: 0171-254-6516. Wed, June 19th, Box. E5/E4 (cored). Blow the Plant, the regular Vortex pass club with the access on women performers presents a special Pride Vocal Night featuring the Queer Chorr, plants Lackadionical, and Ooh Baby Ooh, the stamming a caredla trie.

IACKSON'S LANE, 26% Archivoly Rd, No. Box office: 0181-341-4421. Saterday 29% June. Bpm. E4/E3 advance, E5/E3.50 on the door.

Call the Donna and KBB provide a unique evening of smale, corredy and Greeian charm. Promoted by Absolute Vibes. PIZZA ON THE PARK, 11 Kinghibridge, SW1. Box office: 0171-235-5273. Sun, 23rd June. 9pm, £12/£10 in advance.

Paul Hull from "Cantabile" presents his solo show which reinterprets standards from Cule Porter, Ecosheim, Coward and Kern to present a queer autobiography in song. An unmissable voice, and some great our-liners.

CLUB VASELINE, Upstain or the Gorage, 20-22 Highbury Corner, NS. Box office: 0171-607-1818. Sots 1, 15, 29. Spm.

The wild and wonderful indie club for dykes, fags, queers and their friends.

THE GARAGE, 20-22 Highbury Corner, NS. Box office: 0171-607-1818. Sun, 22nd June, 8.30pm. ES adv/E6 door.

Panny Division: American queencom hand makes in British debut shromating material from their new album. Absolutely in-yer-face lyrics, speciacslar sexy stage show and hard, hard rhythms make this a most for all fathe hornor. Plus poise hand blissingal and Tribe 8.

UPSTAIRS AT THE GARAGE, 20-22 Highbury Comer, NS. Box office: 0171-607-

1815. There, 27th June, 8.30pm; £4. The test of accounts lesban performers tearing senginting patterns Lacy Ray, Adanta, Julia Topton and Larn King, and mixing masse, comedy and spokes word. Plus supplies special guests.

HOXYON HALL

Horton High St, N1. Hockney Pride Arts Featural Grand Cobaret Finals. Thurs, 4th July, figm EA/S4 concs.

The Well Oiled linion healting as universitable sight of queer Blackney Talent.

dance

CHISENHALE DANCE SPACE, 64-84 Chisenhale 8d, 83 5022 Box office: 0161-981-8617 Fri and Sat, 28th and 29th June 7.30pm, £6.50/£4 loones!

The Queer Clair trams up with three leading dancers for a mixed music/datue event as part of the Proc Moves Festival.

art

OUT IN HACKNEY

Cher's Palace, 42 Brooksby Work E9 May 30th June 8th; July 14th- Aug 16th.

An exlectic mix work by local artists in the first-ing queen Hackony Community, ranging from portraints in college and installations.

A BIGGER SPLASH BY MARTIN

Diorema Arts, 34 Osnaburgh St, NW1, June 10th - 24th, 10 - 6pm.

The dreams, thoughts and fantasies of your local pool attendant. Confessions, images, sights and sounds echo mund the gallery, which will be transformed into a swamming pool. Immerse your self in the familiar and the strange. Come on in, the water's lovely!

V&A - GRAPHIC RESPONSES TO AIDS

12th June - 13th October, Henry Cole Wing, Victoria & Albert Museum.

For 15 years arties, graphic designers and photog raphers have been recording the impact of AIDS and HIV on themselves and society. This display explores the different graphic styles and resella employed, through a series of thematic groups, 24 artists, including Art 2 Go, Helen Chadwick, Lola Plash, Keith Haring, David Hockney, Frank Majore and Pierra Punsy.

film

PIER PAOLO PASOLINI

A Tribute and Appreciation. Sat, 1st June, 10-30sm - 4-30pm, NFT, South Bank, SEI, Bux office: 0171 928 3535. C10 50/C7 50

An extended seminar on all supects of the gay film-maker's work, including his poetry and other fiction, featuring leading Passion authorities and close friends from Ruly and around the world.

GASIS CINEMA

Sunday, 9th Jone Bitty, Briston, SW2.

Beautiful Thing and a Question and Ammer sension with creature MacDonald and Harvey.

Phone 0171 733 8089 for details from May 20th.

OUT AT THE PICTURES

"Boshiends" and A Boy's Life shorts Sat 15th, Sun 16th June, 1.45pm. Bio Cirrena, 109 Kingsland Rd. EB. Box office: 0171-254-6677

AMERICAN MATCHMAKER

Wed. 19th June. 6.30pm. NET 1.
Self-made millionaire Not Silver becomes a manchinaker to disquise the fact that he is deeply ambivulent about the opposite sex. Amazing 1940 Yiddish maniful connelly which Eve Signiful in her lecture on queer subtract at the 96 Leibtun and Gay Pilm Pestival. A very rate chance to use the complete film. Part of the Jewish Pilm Pestival.

LIVING ON AIR

A presentation by Sundre Lohine.

Set, 22nd June, 2pm. Whitechapel Art
Golbery, Whitechapel High St, E1. FEEE.
Lahim's work stands as a constant assession of the
bady in the face of emaiost: international violence
such as accreasing contamination by madio-active
waste, displacement and loss of memory which is
laited by the precises of film-making. A selection
of Labier's profile shorts, plus the impirational
Bargain Bed Bonanza by - and in memory of
the great Helen Chadwick.

NOIR ET BLANC

More 24th June 16F12, South Bend, SE1.
Claim Devent French adaptation of Tenseuer
Williams' Desire and the Black Masseur is a compoling look as the immise win relationship
between a couple of unlikely strangers, which
armids sensationalism, casy overalising or racial
steneotyping, but hullds inexorably to a homific
finals.

THE PRIDE EVENT

Sun, 30th June, 2pm, Rio Cinemo, 109
Engstand Raf, EB. Bos office: 0171 254 6677. A mixed studie day featuring shorts ranging from soft port to serious material/Boys' Shorts; poetry from Patience Aghabi; reading and performances from leading stand-up Stella Duffy, discussion with Jeffrey Weekes. A stimulating and emortaining exploration of some of the inner behind Pride, and of sexual identity.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Fri, July 5th, 11.15pm. Ris Cinema, 109

Kingsiand Rd, EB. Box office: 0171-254-6677. An eve-of-Pride celebration of independent film-makers' responses to sexual desire takes into the jubic domain, where fear becomes desire and discretion a tense. Work from Australia, US, UK, boly and Japan, plus Genet's infinitely erose.

Chant d'Amour: Presented by the London Film Makes' Co-ex.

literature & poetry (events)

Fri, June 14th, 7.30pm. Corway Hall,

Find Line Squere, WC1. Decement.

Terry Sanderson made from his new comic cover. The Point Papers, sequel to the Points Correspondence. A busy year in the life of Doness Points, including number, gambling, perverned sea and a great deal of iscovering. Planty of laughts in this sattre on class, religion and "family values".

Tues, June 18th, 7.30pm.

Waterstone's, 11 bitragion Graun, N1. Fram Nothing Bot The Girl: The Blatant Lesbian Image. Photographer Dolla Grace talks about her work and her contributions to the landmark antibelogy of leibian prote photographs - butch yet glamorous, strong and simultaneously valuerable, sucy unit rebellious; action also Success themes of families, contrag out, lesbian sex, sim, feminism and porsography. A Cassells launch event.

Wed, June 19th, 8.30pm. The Vortex, 139-141 Stale Newington Church St. N16. Box Office: 0171 254 6516.

Foces Patience Agbabe, John Anatins, Jade Reidy and others, plus Des de Moor music celeleute the launch of the new Groke Press authology in a lettel wetture of music and pactry with the popular music-theatre/caburet club, Penus Jesusy's.

Fri, June 21st, 7.30pm. The Wheel. Wild Court, WC2. Free

Elaine Creth is a lesbian "unspert" and author of Undressing Lusbian Sea, which contains a down-to-mark review of What Lesbiam Do, how they do it, and how often, there she hows a strapus source with Ky Skiester, owner of the woman's sex-shop Shi; all questions about dildox sound? A Camella hunch event.

Mon, July 1st, 7.30pm. Conway Hall.

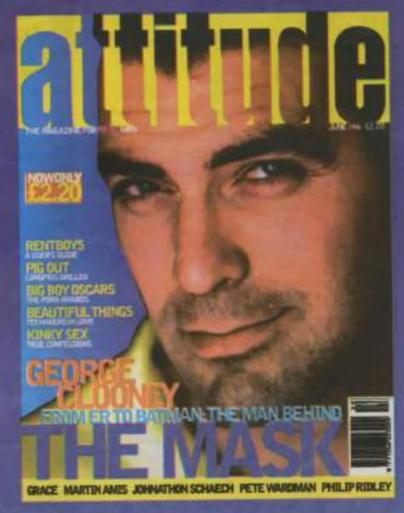
Red Lon Square, WC1. Free (danations to the Abert Kennedy Trust).

Lesbian Avenger and writer Lynn Sutcliffe reads real-life coming out stories from There Most lie 50 Ways To Tell Visus Mother - a book of inspiration, encouragement and experience, both shared and bisarre. "I knew I was gay from the age of seven; my treebouse had a breakfast bur..." A Cassetts launch evers.

Thurs, July 4th, 7.30 pm. Central Station, 37 Whorhestole Ed, N1. FREE Marray Hosly talks about gay skinhead cathere which features in his new book, Gay Skins. Not by socident did shinheads and GLP emerge at the tarne time, as working class culture empired and definitions of masceilinty began to buckle. Marray Healy has talked to gay skinheads all over the country, some of whom have been involved in skin culture for over 25 years. A Cassells launch overs.

GEORGE CLOONEY UNMASKED
THE PORN OSCARS KINKY SEX
TALK RENTBOYS STRUTTHEIR
STUFF TEENAGE LOVE IS A
BEAUTIFUL THING SEX GOD
JOHNATHON SCHAECH TASTY
LONGPIG CRISPIN HUNT
NIGHTLIFE MUSIC FASHION

ALL IN THE JUNE! ATTITUDE AN OUT AND OUT GOOD READ NOW AT THE NEW PRICE OF 52 20





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Oueer Year

WE LOOK AT THE YEAR AND GIVE YOU A ROUNDUP OF WHAT REALLY HAS BEEN GOING ON

TEXT BY DAVID POLLARD



"I don't know, he never sucked my cock", was Tallulah Bankhead's reply when asked if an actor was gay. For those too young to remember, Tallulah Bankhead was a self-described "ambisextrous" actress but even she was reticent about outing others.

Although closetry remains, outing is more and more in the news, and the queer year just ending was no exception. On Desert Island Discs, Sue Lawley told Shadow Chancellor Gordon Brown that because he was a single middle aged man, people would wonder if he was gay. Brown, who said that he still hoped he might meet Miss Right, was quite relaxed about the question, and seemed more upset at being described as middle-aged.

A slimier response is "I don't like labels", but:
"Are you gay?" is the wrong question. Better the more direct: "Do you have sex with other men/women?" Vogue asked Keanu Reeves if it was true that he was 'married' to David Geffen, which brought the response: "There is nothing wrong with being gay, so to deny it is to make a judgement. Why make a big deal of it?" This mature response didn't stop some papers announcing that he had been 'ameared', but it was progress.

Cindy Crawford seemed in favour of lesbian sex, and we were told that Jane Austen was a dyke. Researchers reported that older women were turning to lesbianism. No sooner has the old man popped his clogs, it seems, than they're off with women lovers. Folk singer Peggy Seeger announced that she was one such, to her apparent surprise but certain pleasure. A biography claimed that John F. Kennedy had had a fling with a male room-mate. After the death of poet Stephen Spender, a biographer claimed that he carried on gay dabbling until late in life. Cher's daughter Chastity moved in with a female lover, with Mum's blessing; love is love, said Cher.

Rumours continued to circulate about the sexuality

of two cabinet ministers, and in last summer's Tory leadership election, right-winger John Redwood announced that he would have no problem with homosexual Ministers, provided that they were open about it. Presumably, the Cabinet Two voted for John Major, who had already said that gays could serve in Government, but didn't require them to be out.

Michael Barrymore came out on stage at East London's White Swan pub, and joined drag star David Dale on stage. After appearing on stage at Stonewall's Equality Show, he seemed to go back in and at the end of the year found it hard to cope. The yellow press announced that coming out had lost his show ratings, but apparently this was not the case.

That being out isn't always easy, and can be dangerous, was underlined by the Stonewall report, Queer Bashing, the largest survey of homophobia ever undertaken in this country, which found that one in three gay men and one in four leabians have been queerbashed in the last five years, as have half of gay teens, and many people respond by being 'semi-closeted' in public. Stonewall's Anya Palmer said "As long as we're treated as second class citizens, prejudice is legitimised."

Barrymore made the big headlines, as did the militury lesbian/gay ban and a host of other issues, as we will see, but behind these we registered much solid progress, although as usual it was a case of two steps forward and at least half a step back.

Good, as well as the devil, was in the detail. Even the Home Office marginally improved its treatment of foreign partners of leshians and gay men, although earlier at had removed recognition of common law straight partnerships to avoid extending it to us.

progress

Lisa Grant made the big headlines when she began an action against the then British Railways Board, arguing that its refusal to allow her woman partner the same travel concessions enjoyed by unmarried heterosexual partners was in breach of its equal opportunities policy. When the case came before the Industrial Tribunal against South West Trains, BR's privatisation successor, the fact that Lisa was represented by Cherie Booth, aka Mrs Blair, was seized on by sections of the Tory press to show how homofriendly New Labour would be (hollow laughter), but two other BR successors quietly announced that same-sex partners would enjoy the same concession.

Fare's Fare, the lesbian and gay railway employee group, showed here what can be done at the grass-roots, as have activists in Unison, the public sector Trade Union which regularly supports lesbian and gay equality. Unison is joining charity War on Want in a new campaign, 'War On Prejudice', so help lesbian and gay groups in developing countries. The John Lewis Partnership announced that partners of its les/gay staff would enjoy discounts available to straight companions, and Harrods reacted to crificism.

when its door staff refused entry to a woman wearing a lesbian visibility T-shirt by apologising.

justice

The lower cours and tribunals established some useful principles. When leshian mechanic Deborah Constable died, her case of sexual harassment had not been heard. Her lover and executor, Ann Doily, was able to carry on with the case and not only won record compensation, but established that her own daughter who was co-parented by Deborah, had a right to death-in-service benefits. Another court registered the co-responsibility of two leshian Mums for each other's children.

Lesbians and, to a lesser exient, gay men recorded victories in custody and access cases, but some judges - probably older ones - continued to regard homosexuality as the Great Satan. The Lord Chancellor's Department confirmed that sexual orientation would be included in awareness training for judges. That will be too late for the Scottish Judge who refused an adoption order in favour of a gay man who, with his lover, had already fostered the child for eighteen months. Still, John Bowis, who last year wished us all a "Happy Pride" and later described himself as the Minister for Lesbian and Gay Affairs, has been making encouraging noises about the forthcoming Adoption Bill, which may recognise that some children's best interests can be met by loving lesbians and gay men.

Section 28 continued to be an unenforceable nuisance. Caldecott Borough Council had already conceded that it couldn't rely on the Section to ban the Pink Paper from its libraries, and it was hammered financially when the costs of the abandoned case were considered by The High Court. Glasgow City Council tried the same tack, and then reviewed the matter, while Edinburgh City Council announced that its libraries could stock the paper. Manchester's Lord Mayor told revellers at the city's Mardi Grasthat the Section should be scrapped.

police

Murder and queerbashings continued, of course, with uneven official responses. Murderer David Hunt was sentenced to only five years for killing a man because of alleged homosexual advances, but in May homophobic ex-saquaddie George Rees got life for the attempted murder of a gay man. Southampton police were hampered in their inquiries into the marder of a gay man because they had previously shopped a gay serviceman to his unit. Yet Plymouth police appointed a gay man to lause with the community after a murder in the city. In London, amidst claims that police were creating fown on critisers on Hampstead Heath, the Metropolitan police told Royal Park police to lay off cruisers, because queerbashers and murgers knew that their victims were

afraid of reporting offences and crime had increased. In Glasgow, activists threatened to set up as pink vigilances because of the indifference of Strubelyde police to queerfashing in a focul cruising area.

As reports from parts of London suggested insensitive or homophobic police responses, some stations enthusiastically implemented the Met's policy of appointing Lesbian and Gay Liaison officers. These stations, including Stoke Newington and Southwark, are publicly committed to combating homophobic violence.

Some licensing officers in the capital seem to have an unofficial campaign against SM and fetish clubs. They have visited venues hosting such events and warned of possible prosecutions on charges of running a disorderly house and problems with licences. This led to the cancellation of the Sex Maniacs' Ball, an annual charity fundraiser, and has caused SM Gays, Sadie Masie's and Gummi to find new homes. Licensees could have been braver. Disorderly house charges against the Reflex Club were thrown out by a London jury. It isn't known if they disbelieved the police evidence or simply felt that these old laws lacked contemporary relevance. Attitude, a pub, was found guilty of similar charges by Southwark magistrates, but was only fined £180 for each one. Police had clandestinely observed the pub. dressed in leather which they admitted was "quite fetching." More hilarity surrounded charges brought by Southwark Council against the same venue, alleging that it was operating as an unlicensed sex establishment. The charges were thrown out, but not before we had all had a good laugh about the two council officers who had visited the place on an underwear night. They had strip to their boxers to gain admission.

HM Customs & Excise did their bit to try to tarn the clock back, and Gay Men Fighting AIDS were prosecuted for bringing in a compilation safer sex video from the States, which had it been imported from Europe would have been quite legal. Prowler Press returned from filming in Hungary, to be detained by Customs at Heathrow for seven hours while the videos they had just filmed were checked. They were given the all-clear.

Police forces all over the country have been showing themselves willing to employ openly lesbians and gay men as officers, and one of the Stonewall Four, John Becken, found a welcome with South Yorkshire police. Out coppers are active in helping change police attitudes to them and to the community, and joined with police leaders, politicians and Stonewall in a conference in Manchester, 'Polician Diversity', After the conference, two gay officers went for a meal and found homophobic yobs making a nuisance of themselves. They nicked them. That wouldn't have happened not very long ago, although whether or not they were fechingy dressed in leather wasn't recorded.

MOD

John Beckett had been less welcome in the Navy, and the big news item of the year was That Ban, and the battle against it in the courts and in Parliament. Before Pride, Lord Justice Brown had called on the Ministry of Defence to look at the ban again: "the tide of history is against it." When the Court of Appeal felt that it couldn't over-rale the ban, their Lordships hinted that they would not accept its blanket nature in the future and pointed to a sympathetic European Court hearing.

At first, it looked as though the MOD might, indeed, community that the Armed Force Bill we coming up for its five yearly review, as the Courts had realised, and the MOD announced that it was going to study the ban. This news was cautiously welcomed by Stonewall and Rank Outsiders, who had campaigned on the issue. Then it became apparent that this was not an



independent review, and that the Chiefs of Staff were campaigning to keep the ban, it also emerged that Minister of State Nicholas Soames instructed the Homosexuality Assessment Personnel Team to find evidence justifying the ban.

parliament

What followed is all too familiar, and can be briefly described. For those arguing the case for equality, it must have had the feel of one of those dreams where nobody hears what you're saying. All members of the establishment, including the Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition, performed what retrospectively looks like pre-ordained roles. The HUAPT report was duly published, and Michael Portillo, who had been given the 'hot potato' of this issue as Secretary of State for Defence in last summer's reshuffle, immediately accepted the team's findings. Labour prevaricated, and waited for the Select Committee to make its recommendations. These, unsurprisingly, were that the ban should be maintained. At Portillo's insistence, the Cabinet agreed to impose a three line whip on the vote in the Commons, when Edwina Currie proposed a Stonewalldrafted amendment which would have abolished the ban. The LibDems announced that they would support the amendment, but Labour allowed a free vote, helieved to be at Blair's insistence. This ensured the Bill's defeat, even though eight Tory MPs broke ranks and voted for equality.

All this happened despite a general belief that the ban will be declared illegal by either the European Court of Justice (the Common Market one) or the European Court of Human Rights (the Convention one) or both. Rumours suggest that the MOD is already looking at how the ban can be lifted, and even that members of the Labour leadership are involved in the process.

Labour's tactics were a transparent attempt to avoid being seen as responsible for lifting the ban, yet saying to lesbian and gay voters that they were on our side, really. This was in contrast to the LibDems, who announced at their Nottingham conference that they guaranteed to implement their comprehensive lesbian and gay equality proposals if ever they have the votes.

Still in Parliament, the Stonewall-inspired Sexual Orientation Bill did well in the Lords, but hoped-for housing reform by the Commons was, in the end, frustrated. An amendment by Glenda Jackson which would allow inheritance rights to surviving same-sex partners of deceased tenants was passed when outed MP David Ashby voted with the Opposition in Committee. When the Bill came before the whole House, the amendment was withdrawn with the agreement of Tory my rights appearant. The Government protection and does nothing for private tenants. The reason for the climbdown was that the Tories were hoping that as a quid pro quo, the Government would allow a free vote on, you've guessed it, the military bun.

HIV/AIDS

Progress was more apparent than real when the Government conceded that people with AIDS would be covered by the Disability Discrimination Bill, but not asymptomatic HIV+ people. This means that if you are positive, your boss can sack you before you become ill.

The Government announced cuts in funding for HIV/AIDS care and treatment, and as the new financial year approached, it became apparent that this 7.4% across-the-board cut dealt a double whammy to the health sector. Numbers needing treatment increased, as did costs of treatment. In London, FoodChain launched an urgent appeal to make up its lost funding, and the popular meals-on-wheels charity expects to survive with greater help from the public. HIV services for Irish and black people were cut, with the burden falling on mainstream providers, which had sometimes themselves faced cuts.

These same groups found themselves having to deal with thousands of telephone calls over the Easter holidays, when reports emerged that the Abbott HIV IMX HIV 1 & 2 test had produced some false negative results in Britain and other countries. No help was given by the Ministry of Health for the whole of the holiday. In the event, four people retested as positive in this country.

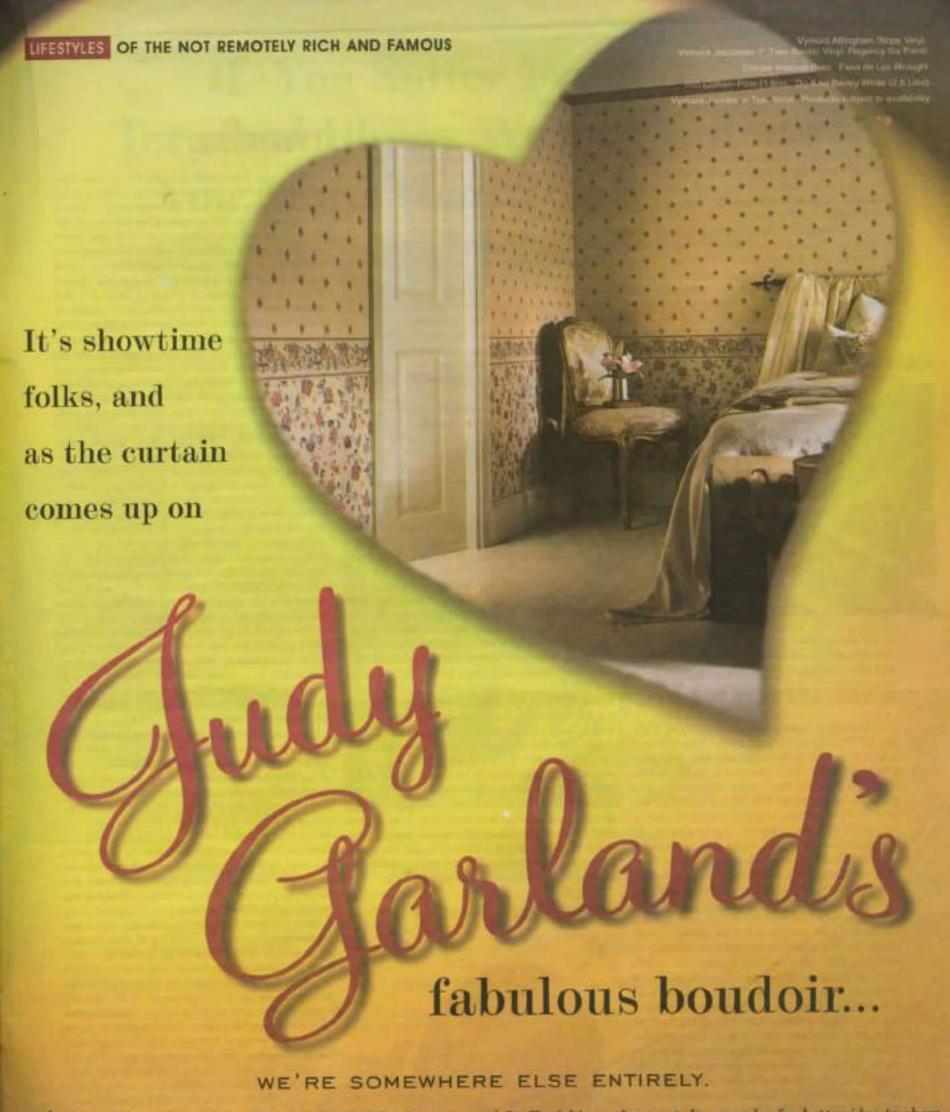
As figures of HIV infection continued to increase, renewed concern centred on the numbers of young gay men testing positive, and health educators began to debate how to improve safer sex messages. Controversially, some advocated recognising that in relationships people often do throw away condoms, and so advice on how to negotiate such a matter is being developed, including advice on HIV testing. Project Sigma questioned whether just portraying hot young men in sexy poses really addressed HIV infection sufficiently. Health promotion funding was largely protected, and Health Minster Gerry Malone announced that AIDS campaigns were to target the highest risk groups, and commended "community-based and self-help groups". This did not prevent the Terrence Higgins Trust enduring two lots of funding cuts. On a brighter note researchers reported promising results with a range of therapies, particularly combination therapy.

religion

Progress in other spheres continued at a sometimes dizzying pace. The Church of England Synod was told that Bishop Harris would lead a team of four ecclesiastics in discussions with the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, after twenty years of the Church refusing such talks. The Synod itself saw a number of members elected who were either out, or open in their support of equal rights, and the LGCM announced that it had obtained sponsorship from the English Teddy Bear Company because, a spokeswoman explained: "Teddy Bears love without discrimination."

Bishop 'grey sexuality' Hope was enthroned at York, his outing having proved no bar to advancement, but the Methodists passed two motions on homosexuality which flatly contradicted each other. In the C of E, a gay man was not allowed to be a godparent. Appeals to the Archbishop of Canterbury left Church teaching unclear, but The Independent's David Aaranovitch wrote that gay men made the best godfathers, and people should harry to get our whale stocks has

Retired Bishop Jenkins of Durham announced to a Glasgow Conference that he supported outing, and condemned Church hypocrisy on the subject. Later, retired Archbishop Runcie announced that he had ordained men he knew to be gay, provided they didn't actually



At Tim Roberts' and Gerry Wilson's delightful cottage in rural Staffordshire to be exact. It seemed a far better idea to show how with a little imagination (and Do It All's selection of own label and brand name paints, wallpaper and decorative accessories) you can still achieve something inspirational yet affordable. Even when the budget is more European Art House' than 'Hollywood Epic'. The ever-helpful Do It All decorating consultant was also on

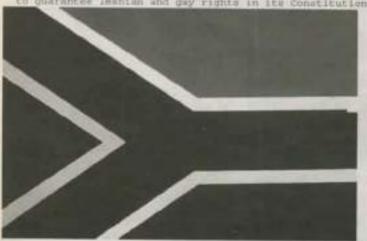
hand to help Tim and Gerry with colour coordination, specialist paint effects and other art directional winardry. So, put on those Ruby slippers, get down to Do It All and there certainly will be no place like home.



tell him that they were having 'genital relations', while his successor Curey tried to sidestep the issue. Church teaching that homosexual relations were OK for the laity, making layperson a double entendre, but not for the clergy was under attack from all sides, amid predictions that the issue would split the Church, but they said that about the Reformation.

Many Roman Catholics believe that the Vatican behaves as if the Reformation and even Vatican II had never happened. Scottish Archbishop Keith O'Brien was in papal hot water for giving his imprimatur to a Catholic HIV education pack produced for schools. As the Reformation began with Luther nailing his theses to the Church door, OutRage! nailed their demands for better Church treatment to the doors of Westminster Abbey. A software company run by Christians refused

South Africa: the first country in the history of the world GLR's Lesbian and Gay Radio on ce leshtan and gay rights in its Constitution



to sell a programme to a gay hotel, but Premier, a Christian radio station in London, was forced to backtruck on apparent homophobia.

commercia

As Europhobia steadily increased in the Tory Party, and the Referendum Party frightened Tory MPs with marginal seats (in political parlance they don't have bottom) European Courts continued to be Justice's last hope. The Spanner Case, when fifteen men were imprisone for consensual SM acts, and which has now led to the Law Commission considering how to decriminalise SM sex, was accepted for a hearing by the European Court of Human Rights. The Commission referred the case of Euan Sutherland, 19 to the Court itself and Chris Morris, 16, also took action against the British Government. Concern remains at proposed Government reforms of these Courts.

Internationally, the most remarkable event was the drafting and then ratification of South Africa's constitution - the first country in the history of the world to guarantee equal rights to lesbians and gay men. Canada voted against allowing full gay marriage, the Dutch Parliament voted for it, as opposed to just legal partnership recognition, and the Hawatian Supreme Court is expected to rule in favour under that state's constitutional anti-discrimination provisions in. As other states in the Union move to refuse to recognise such marriages, this is expected to become an issue for the Federal Supreme Court itself. President Mugabe of Zimbabwe continued his homophobic speeches, and a lesbian and gay stall was prevented from exhibiting at a Book Fair, despite its human rights theme. Researchers in Uganda and Thailand reported that massive health education campaigns seemed to be slowing the spread of HIV infection in those countries.

The Republic of Ireland continued in its remarkable way, and in the queer year which saw Take That go and Robbie Williams pull out of compering Mr Gay U.K., all gay boy band. 4Guys was launched there.

All of the above matters were probably discussed on Any Questions, and appeared in all parts of the nation's media. Some parts of the mainstream media became our own. The independent surveyed "the forty most inflential gay men in Britain", and its commitment to such coverage seemed to be confirmed when new editor Andrew Marr specified gay staffer John Lyttle as evidence the paper was doing something right. Channel 4 continued its commitment to les/gay broadcasting. with Over The Rainbow and Dyke TV among its offerings, and broadcast the first real gay ad in the UK, for telephone lines compuny Gay Exchange. BBC 2 gave us GayTime TV, and Radio 5 Live has the authoritative Out This Week on Sundays, while Londoners have

Thursdays and Spectrum's G.A.Y. rudio every weekday

In London, Freedom FM enjoyed a second twenty-eight day, twenty-four hour Irun. but now faces gay rival Zone FM in its bid for a permanent licence this July. Both companies say the more competition, the more the Radio Authority will be convinced that there is demand for queer radio.

The gay media experienced another year of change and unprecedented interest from the straight press. London's Capital Gay went under, to be quickly replaced by The Gay Gazette from its old rivals, the Chronos Group. The Group also bought All Points North and relocated its offices from Leeds to Manchester, and relaunched The Pink Paper to some acclaim. GaGa, as the

Gazette was known, folded after twenty-six weeks. Its promised replacement, Sorted, was aborted. Thad magazine went national and glossy. Prime magazine began as a free fortaightly gayper, became a paid for monthly and then went straight, and its owners launched Get It. a Boy: looky-likey, but cheaper. Paul Burston, who writes for Time Out and Attitude among others, told the Independent that the Pink had censored out any mention of him, which led to a threat of legal action. This was followed by an article by ex-CapGay editor Simon Edge which seemed to suggest all the free gaypers had followed the Get It route and copied Boyz, but more cheaply. Dire warnings were made that all the gaypers were chasing the same advertising and pushing rates. down. A similar article followed in The Big Issue. Mainstream advertising in the gay press continued to increase, as did its sponsorship of all things gay.

It's Queer Up North: another success for Manchester

media

Time's once fresh observation that the love that dare not speak its name now won't shut up is now a jaded eliché - its name even sells. The ramour that Guinness was to have a gay ad was denied by the brewer, but Levi's were happy to feature a transvestite and mainstream companies tried ever harder to access the Pink Pound and the trendy image thought to be associated with it. Allied Domecq researched this area and opened Jo Jo's in Birmingham, in a blaze of publicity. This became embarrassing when the door policy seemed to exclude non-lipstick lesbians and too-lipsticky drag queens - a policy quickly reversed and a new manager installed. Bass Taverns, who have a significant part of London's gay pubs, expanded its estate nationally. At a licence hearing in Leeds, Bass claimed that there were 29,672 homosexuals in the city and the police counterclaimed that there were more. No-one knows what point PC Plod was trying to make, but was the Bass figure revised after APN's relocation? Virgin stores have les/gay sections and in Scotland, one threw a gay party to launch the video of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert. A restaurant opened in London, with tranny table service, or Priscilla. Queen of the Dessert.

Bond Street jewellers Hennells took adverts in Time Out and Evening Standard which pictured two men. and the legend: "There are currently 48,000 churches in Britain where you can't confirm your love for each other. But one jeweller in Bond Street where you can."

This would have been approved by Andrew Sullivan. conservative out gay editor of The New Republic, now out HIV+ and out of his job, whose book Virtually Normal argued for gay marriage. The Guardian organised a debate at the Cafe Royal, once a haunt of Oscar Wilde. Unfortunately, it showed how straight companies need to do a bit more research when dealing with 'you people", as a sensor Grauniad man described us to Stonewall's Angela Mason, because it clashed with a GLF twenty-fifth anniversary do.

If there were too many queer things to do that night, it was a year when an awful lot went on socially, and we've probably never partied as much, and to such effect. Manchester's annual Village Charity bash saw a record 80,000 people turn up, and then the city went on to another successful It's Queer Up North. Prides happened in Brighton, Glasgow, Bristol, there was MerseyPride, Proud in the Park in Yorkshire and Glasgay in Glasgow. London has the Pink Soho Weekend, Pink Angels weekends, and every bank holiday boasts a corrucopia of club nights, with Trade (five this year), the Fridge, Heaven, Popstarz and G.A.Y and specials such as The Famous Five.

This queer year, remarkable in itself, has been a year of anniversaries, from the founding of GLF, through the first demo on Highbury Fields, re-enacted to celebrate the launch of Lisa Power's oral history of GLF, No Bath But Plenty of Bubble (Cassells), to this anniversary of the first Pride murch. It has seen the continued expansion of lesbian and gay titles, of which Lisa's is one of the best, but there were many good titles - too many to mention, but the publishers Cassells, Serpents Tail (ten years old this year), 4th

Estate, Quartet, Penguin, Pan Books and many more are flooding us with titles, and stores like Waterstones have special sections for us.

Perhaps that is why we now have the wordy Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride. Twenty-five years ago, when videos

hadn't been invented and we had few books, it was just Gay Pride. And now, as then, we do have sex - but that's not news.

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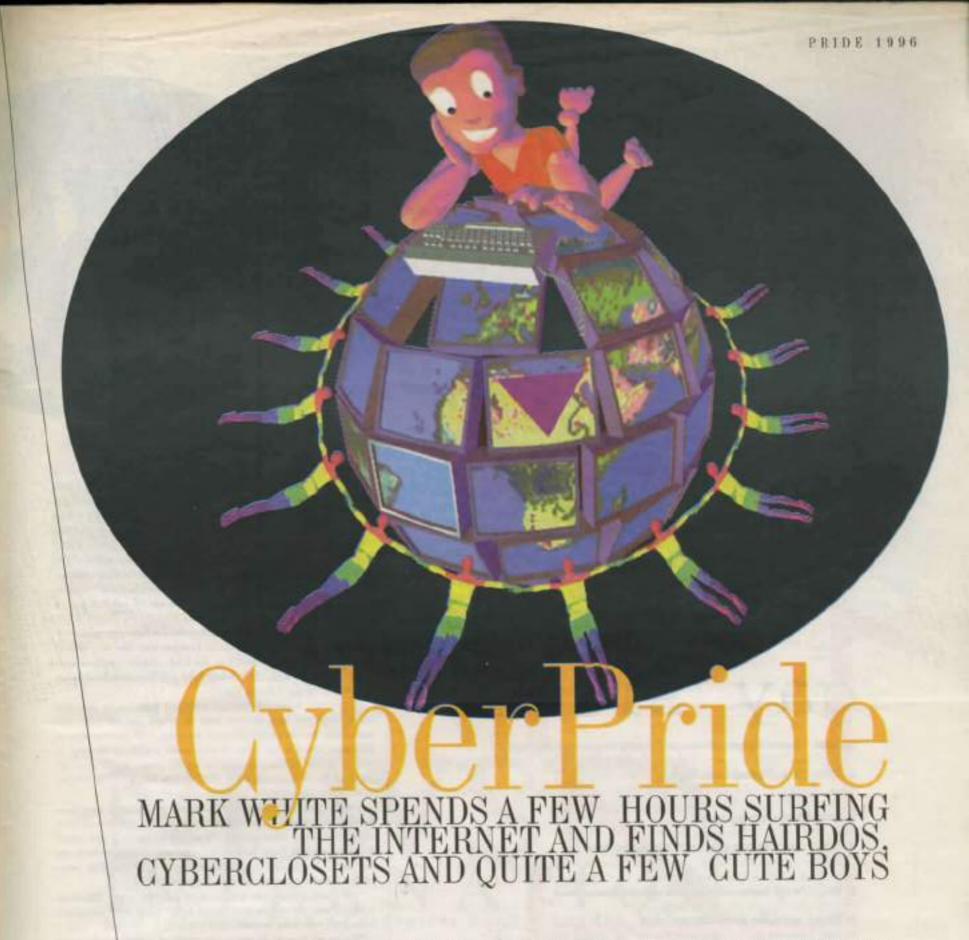
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It started as a foolproof way for the US military to communicate in time of thermonuclear war. Now it generates discussion on what it means to be human, lets you pick someone up without even hearing their voice and shop without leaving your agriculture or even having to speak.

It's the Internet, and it's life, Jim, but not as we know it.

This 'virtual reality' - so-called because it exists in the form of computer data, but physical space - countsts of several different areas. There are World Wide Web sites, virtual magazines than exist only as images on your computer screen. There's e-mail, electronic mail that does away with paper, envelopes, stamps, and for most purposes postal delays. And there are newsgroups on every subject under the sun, where you can swap gossip and facts with like-minded enthusings.

And that's where it becomes of particular interest to the gay community. The Love That Dure Not Speak Its Name becomes The Love That Can't Be Consored on the Internet. Its supranational nature and the low cost of setting a site up allows traditional means of communication to be bypussed and state censorship becomes a technological headache. News or comment can be posted on The Net as it happens for all to see. No-one has to worry about newspapers, magazines or broadcast media 'twisting' any stories for their own ends or agenda. The Net means every particular view is catered for and the only truth is the words before you on the computer screen.

"The Internet is incredibly useful for us," said Emma Peskin, spokesperson for campaigning group Stonewall. "Just one example is our research for the Armed Forces Bill. We found something called The Rand Report which was commissioned in America when President Clinton looked at the US gays in the military han. Without the Internet I don't know if we would have found that. And Mark Watson, chair of our Immigration Group, uses the internet all the time to contact overseas."

Cyber-cafes offer a cheap way of accessing the Internet. One World Wide Web (www) site gives you the chance to view 42 of Hillary Clinton's hairdon, out of the estimated 230 she has had tince becoming First Lady. Who ever thought technology could

Equally there is the site containing a list of just about any TV show ever and their gay characters. Did you know there have be so camp? been seven say characters in US soap Melrose Place since it start-

The software controlling your linemet access will offer a choice of "search engines" if you just fately a browse. Type in "guy" or "gay uk" and 100 different entries will offer themselves. ed? You do now.

Surfing on. Every site has what's known as a hyperiest link. "Click" on the link, and you're taken from one index page to another. Stories follow stories. In seconds, you're taken hundreds

or thousands of miles to another site of knowledge.

The news section of the LesBiGay and Queer Directory often news pages from around the world. There's the assignated Safer Sex manual from Croatia. Back in Blighty, the LBG guide to Great Britism offers general, national and regional information. From guides to telling your parents to techno queens discussing

Not on the Internet per se, but still very much on the gay electhe imminent end of ff club, it's all here. tronic media tip is Planet Patrol - who modestly style themselves as "the world's most comprehensive gay on-line service". Planet offer free access to a variety of services, including a chat and dating area, a compensions area, excerpts from the best of the gay print media and Queer Cyberverse - the best usenet groups forn the Internet sorted out for you with none of the chaff to wade

Since their initial launch in September 1995, and relaunch this August, Planet has seen the number of users rise to about 2,000. It through. may not sound like a lot, but the growth in companer use and electermic essermanications heralds an explosion in use in the future. Planet staffer Lynette Gracias summed up the service's appeal in two short sentences: "It's really user-friendly and is out there for

people to use. It's a focussed service and you know the people you're talking to are gay or gay friendly."

But this rise in computer use raises much wider questions about identity. One newsgroup touched on the kernel of this point. In a piece titled "Cyberspace or cybercloset?", a user asked: "The Internet has become a wonderful tool for communication in the gay, lesbian and bisexual community but for those who are not yet out is it just an electronic closet?"

This raises much more fundamental questions. I know of one gay magistrate in London who has two sets of friends: one who know he's gay, the other a more "professional" set who have no idea. He regularly uses gay newsgroups so is out

People only know you through what you type, not by how you speak; how you look or your body language. On one level this represents the democratisation of dialogue, with no-one able to prejudge you. On the other, it represents a shift in identity. If you're in one of the Compuserve dating areas, and a message pops up on your screen from what sounds like your ideal type, how do you know you're not being conned?

Simply, you don't. John, a 32-year-old gay Internet user from London, described how he sometimes assumed a different identity when contacting other people. "You can go on as a girl sometimes, you might fancy finding out what sort of straight boys are out there. So you assume this identity of a 19-year-old longlegged blond bimbo and see what happens.

The more sluttish you are the more happens - you introduce yourself and the screen goes bing! bing! bing! with messages from guys who want to speak with you.

'It's an art though. If you're too much of a slut straight away they come too quick. If you start slowly and let them try and convince you it's more interesting."

Like letting them chat you up, I suggest.

on-line but closeted in real life.

"Yeah. If you don't give in too easily, you find out what they say they're into, candlelit dinners, walks in the moonlight - even though you know full well what they're after. It's much more of a turn on."

There's no doubt that the Internet will see a redefinition of how we relate to each other. A celebrated divorce case in America hinges on a husband's discovery his wife had been swapping erotic messages with another man. Despite the fact nothing physical had happened between them, he argued that his wife had indeed been unfaithful.

The Net stretches libel laws too. A celebrated piece of gay gossip has centred around the bealth status of one of the Royals. Want to know more? Scallywag magazine has the lot online, under the title "AIDS and the Royals". National governments

1. http://home.cc.umanitoba.cal/-wyatt/tv-characters.html

characters in every TV programme you ever wanted to know about

2. http://www.igc.apc.org/lbg/

tes pages opf the LesRiGay and Queer Directory, with every coununder the sun included

3. http://www.qxmag.co.uk

on's gay clubbing magazine

4. http://phymat.bahm.ac.uk?LGB/index/html

esbiGay guids to Great Britain. Everything you ever wanted to now. Includes a link to BoyDabes in Cyberspace

5. http://www.home.elysian.net/-djlutz/queen.html

Unofficial Priscilla home pag

6. http://www.out.com/out/out.html

line version of American gay mag Out

7. http://www.world.net/-jbp/gaylinks.html

Australian Jason's home page - with links to other sites all over the world

8. http://www.connected.co.uk/get/gaysites/webdir.html

Wideranging index of British gay web site

9. http://www.demon.co.uk/xyz/swag/swg27-20.html

All you ever wanted to know about "AIDS and the Royals"

10. http://www.powerhouse.co.uk/powerhouse/powlines

SM nows sites, including political battles in the UK on behalf of the community

11. http://www.dircon.co.uk/trade

The cyber venue of Trade, London's legendary gay club

12. http://www.flavour.co.uk/flavour/wildfruit

Wild Pruit, the Brighton club promoters

PLUS: For your free disk giving access to Planet Patrol, contact 0171 234 0234

Have a fabulous Pride.



Printers of Thud & The Official 1996 Pride Guide have been left struggling to catch up as What If? scenarios about libel published in other countries are easily accessible in their

The GayToZ directory is available, with details of just about own legal dominions. every gay business in Britain. There's a page for SMers, lesbian and gay Christians, images from celebrated gay artist Trademark, and the most successful online gay magazine QX. UK Out provides a directory of out gay people on the Internet - including the occasional enticing photo - and the provider of the page, Jason, has the ultimate in self-promotion; erotic pictures of himself and his boyfriend David. He also offers a site called Boybabes in Cyberspace, and indeed, quite a few of them are.

Microsoft, the world's dominant PC software company, has entered the online arena with its new Microsoft Network, and has enlisted Annuale magazine to provide a gay area. It isn't available

Then there are the cybernates which you might find frivolous or via the Internet yet, but should be scott. not: the definitive Abba page, the unofficial Take That and Prizcilla, Queen of the Desert homepages. Every time you look

All these pages have their base at so-called service providers. there's something different. One of the UK's biggest, carriest, and "right on" is workers-cooperative Poptel, based in Manchester, Put simply, they provide the computer space for www sites to be stored, and the equipment so people from around the world can access them. Another is Direct Connection, host to the QX site and many others.

They have 3,000 organisations with them, from campaigning groups to trade unions. "We've been on the go since 1986," says management board member Lucy Brotherston, "At that stage there were very few service providers. Now there are 144." Service providers are the people who provide you with a unique address on the Net, and allow you access. All it costs is the price

"There's a definite future in the Internet, simply for what it less of a local telephone call, you do differently. If you ring someone up and the answerphone is there, you can't download a book of information like you can

"What's incredibly useful is that you can find out about other campaigning groups from around the world, and get some ideas on the Internet.

They can offer facilities for you to publish your own noticefrom them applicable to this country. board. With almost zero overheads - no printers or increasingly expensive paper - you can run your own magazine to as specialised an audience as you want. No longer need you sell so many thousands of your publication to be able to stay in business.

There are drawbacks, naturally. The image of the interset as peopled by technonerds will persist for a long time - not least because there is some truth in it. Also the male/female ratio is extremely unbalanced -

cyberspace is still a boys' playground, by and large. But it's growing and there's no end in eight yet.

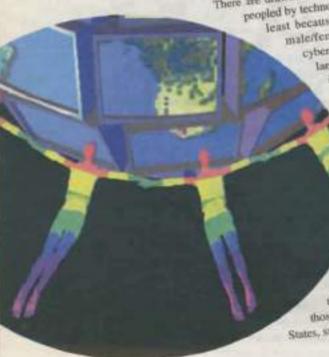
"In the last year it has mushroomed," adds Lucy Brotherston, "When we started there were only about three. It's certainly gone mad."

Limitations will stay in place on the Internet. Cost and case of access will remain one of the most potent. It's no use having all this information out there when you need a computer, modesn and phoneline to access it and you're more worried with meeting the rest and keeping food

But it has arrived. And given the chance to tell the world what's in your head - well, like those madcap queens on Public Access TV in the States, surely that's too good an opportunity to pass up.



First you need a PC or an Apple Macintosh computer - preferably with a fast processor and 8MB of memory. This will set you back at least £600. You need a phoneline and modem to connect the computer to the outside world - and the minimum speed the modern should operate under is 28.8MHZ. Any slower and it might crash, and even if it doesn't the vast amount of data that needs to be transferred means that you'll be left staring at the screen for a vast amount of time. All this is useless without booking Internet access - a small fee and owning software that will filter and control the vast amount of information out there. At the time of writing, there were 144 suppliers of access in Britain, close enough to people so that a local phone call will suffice to enable your modem to make contact with their computer. From there you should be up and running. All you need to do now is keep an eye on your phone bill. Surfing the net can be incredibly addictive. Before you know it you owe a

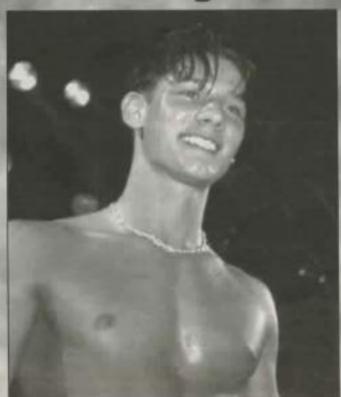


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Or call 0113 238 0999



resources

WHERE TO TURN FOR WHAT YOU NEED

switchboards

Many local Switchboards will be staffed only for limit-ed periods, but will have messagen giving the current services. If your call is urgent, London Lesbian & Gay Switthboard operates a 24 hour service, and they can

Aberstwyth	01970 615 079
Seriohies	01753 856 52
Bradford	01274 722 200
Brighton	01273 690 825
Bristol	0117 942 592
(minicox)	
Colchester	
Drewe	
Devon	
Dorset	
East Lanca	
Edinburyn	
Grampian	
Gwynedd	
Harless	
Hereford & Worcester	
Isle of Wight	
Cirklets	
Lancaster	
Leeds	
Leicester	. 0116 255 0867
Lincolnshire	
London	
Marchester	
Medway	
Newcastle	
North Staffs	
Kurthamptonshire	
Norwich	
Nottingham	0115 941 1454
Oxford	
Pirth	
Portsmouth	
Reading	
Salishury	
Southorpe	
Sheffield	
Shropahire	
Southampton	
St Helens	
Stratholyde	0141 221 8372

Suffolk	01473 232 212
Thumesdown	01793 644 585
Wellingborough	01933 223 591
West Miclands	
West Narfeik	01533 827 567
York	R1904 R12 828

helplines

- Resument Society (TV/TS) 0171-730 7453 Biseaual Helpline Tue-Wed 7.30-9.30pm 0181-569
- 7500, Thurs 7:30-9:30pm 0131-557-3620 Black Lestine & Gay Halpilee Tun/Thu 2-4:30pm 0171-732 3885
- Body Positive Mon-Frs 7-10pm, 0171-072 9134
- @ GALOP.0171 233 6654
- © Gay Bernsvernent Proj. 0181-455 8894 © GLAD Legal advice. 0171-251 6911.
- Jewith AIOS Treat Mon 7.30-10pm (141) 0181 200
- Jewish Lesbien & Day Heipitee Mon/The 7-16pm
- Lesbian & Gay Accommodation Switchboard Mon Saf 11 am-Rom except. Ratsessen: 6171 704 130010. Landlerds: 0171 354 4192
- Leobian & Bay Christian Connecting Helpline 0171-567 1235 Wed 7-10pm, Sun 4-10pm.
- Hational AIDS Heigline 24 hours: 0800-567 123.
 Mileicont Tüare-10pm 0800-521 361.
- Hallenal Sissasal Helpfines 7.30pm 9.30pm.
 Tuo/Wed 6181-569 7500/Tre 0131-557-3620.
- Diewham Leobian & Bay Support Line Mon (Cam-
- tam Richard/Tricis 0181-555 8186.

 Cuttinks Lashian, Gay & Bisecosi Youth Project Counselling line Tues & Thurs 4-Sper 0171-378 8732 Servivors Survivors of male rape. 0171-833 3737.
- Tarresse Higgins Treat Daily recon-10pm, 0171-242

- advice

 *A East Arried Forces Countelling & Legal Advice. 28 Commercial St. Akigate East, E1 8LS. 0171-247 5164
- Lesbian & Gay Employment Rights (LAGER) Unit 1G. Largy House, 436 Essex Rd, N1 3GP. Lesbians 0171-704 8000. Mer: 0171-704 8000. Fax: 0171-704 9007.

- Lesbise & Gay Police Association SM LAGPA, London WC1N 3XX, 0426-943-011.
- Outlinks Leshion, Gay & Braswall Youth Project. Info. Jo or Jennifer 0171-378 8732.
- Rank Outsiders National support group for armer forces lesbians & gay men (ex and serving), Calif. Weitnesdays 7-9pm 0171 799 2200 or write c/o

groups

- Biscotts Network P.O. Box D. Herts, ALS 7DB (SAE required). For young bisexual people's national activi-
- Bisseuni Price Group 0171-700 3882.
- Bezz A friendly under 30's group for non-scerie men.
- left: Cali Graham 0171-745 5147 (after Spin)

 Oligital Diversity For gly/les/bi people into computers or the Internet. Meet Sanday Rentsignity 12-Spin at The Empire (see bars), P.O. Box 1155, London SW2 1EE. of bobby@cir.compulnk.co.uk
- Fare's Fare Group for gay railway workers lighting for privilege travel! for same sex partners, Write to See's Fam.c/o Stonewak 2 Greycast Place, London, SWI

 Glays and Lesbiams in Accountancy (GALIA) mem
- test Thursdays at the Salmen & Compasses (Angel Tube) at 7.30pm. Contact Righard on 0171 226 6345.
- Bay Classic Car Group BM Box 5901, Len. W1 30X
- Gay & Leabius Humantol Association Meets second Frielay monthly, 7.30pm, Conway Half, Red Lion Square, Holborn, 34 Spring Lane, Kentiworth, Warwickshire, CVS 2Hill, Into Peter 0181 671 0861
- GALIA Gays & Lestiless in Accountancy Mects last Thursday of the month, 0181 503 3929
- GAY SKINHEAD GROUP Details "GSG" PO Box 204
- Guettord, Surre yGU4 7TX: SAE

 The House Enferic's HIV Centre offers councilling sto Helpline 0181 363 6660
- Loshion & Gay Christian Movement Oxford House,
- Derbyshire St. E2 8HG. 0171-729 1249 Losbian & Gay Fostering and Adoptive Parests' Network Meet first Sunday monthly 3pm at London Friend, Infix G/o Londor Friend (see below).
- London Leshian & Gay Tomage Group Mont Worl 7-10pm & Sun 3-7pm at 6-9 Manor Gdrs, Holloway Rd.

- N7. 0171-263 5932 (Group times only).
- Lesbise & Day Carera Campaign 50 Southwart Street, London, SE1 11/6, Tel Fex (0171)-226 1824
- Hewham Out Gay/bisecoal group for under-25s, 5 min from Stradord Tube. Mon 7-10pm, links: Bidhard 0181-555 2186
- School's Out For lesshans and gay mer working in education. Meets first Saturday monthly 6-3pm at the DW Hatt. BM School's Dut, Landon WC1N 300L Info John 0181 985 9429
- Visually Impaired Gay Group (VISG) Contact Kath
 May, 23 Balled Court, Bury Food, Gosport,
 Hampanire PG12 3UA, 01706 524 739

 Watterd Pride Youth LGB youth project for under
- 25s5-9om in Croxiey Grahem 01923 773570

- health/AIDS

 Body Positive 518 Philipsoch Gardens, SWS, 0171-835 1045. Self-boly organisation providing informa-
- San and support.

 Cresald Livingstone House, 11 Centerel St. SW1H 900, 0171-976-8100. National fundration for
- The Feed Chain 25 Bestrom Dr. N19 50G, 0171-272 2272, for -2773 Doruttors: The Foodchain, Freepost, Lon 1086, London SEB 46R, Delivers meals to people with HILWIDS
- · GMFA (key Men Fighting Alds, Liter 42, The Europinia Centre, 49 Ethia Rd, SW2 18Z, 0171-738 3712. Britam's only HWAIDS organisation specifically for
- @ Globe Contro 150 Mile Feet Rd. FT 4AO: 0171-791 2866. Fully equipped HTV/AIDS day centre, 10am-6pm
- fax Charleson Centre Royal From Hospital, Point St. London NWS 200, 0171-754 0500, Applementers 0171-830 2962/2051. The Royal Free's HIVAIDS unit.
- The Landmark 107 Tuise Hill, Srixton, SW2 208.
- LEAN (Landon East AIDS Network) Advice, support and adviceacy services in East London, info: 0181 519
- The Link Comden centre offering free & confidential information/support, 0171 267 1300.

 London Lighthouse 131-117 Lancaster Rd, W11 301,
- 0171-792 1200. Residental/support center for PWAs
- Mildeney Mission Hackney Rd, London E2 7NA, 0171-739 2331, Residential and day centre for these affected by HWADS.
- Positive Place 52 Depthord Broadway, Depthord. London SER 4PH, 0181-694 9088 Positive Yealth Moet Friday Spin at Body Positive (see
- Into 0171-373 7547
- Red Admiral Project 51A Philipsuch Gdm. 5W5.
- Serual Coopulaives Anonymass Meet Son 5.30pm, Lecture Hall, St Pancras Hoopital, 4 St Pancras Way, N1.0181-914 7599.
- Streetwise Management Committee P.O. Box 1403, SWS SUI, 0171-570 0406
- Terresce Higgins Treat 52-54 Grays Ins Rd. WCFX

political

- Campaign for Humosessusi Equality P.O. Sox 342. Loodon WC1X 0DU. 0171 633 3012
- ◆ Liberal Demourate for Leabless &Guy Action (DELGA) c/o 4 Country St. SW1P 3886. Sets. Ches. 0181 573 3157 or John 0171 237 2241.
- Labour Company for Leshion & Gay Rights P.O. Box 306, London MS 2JV, 0171 582 8401.
- Lestilas Aveagers Mari Turgdays Terri at London Women's Centre, Wesley House, 4 Wild Ct, WC2.
 Ovtraget London 5 Peter St, WTV 3R, C171-439 2381.
- Most Thurs 7 Minor at Castral Station. Stonewall Group 2 Greycost Place, Westminster,
- SW1F 15H, 0171-222 9007
- TORCHE(Tory Compalign for Hammonson) Equality) BMTORCHE, London WC1N 3XX.

Urban Diversions Ltd

1 Tavistock Chambers, Bloomsbury Way London WC1A 2SE Tel: 0171 831 4666 Fax: 0171 831 4777

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Levis

last but not least yours tired and falling over but spare a moment for those whose

Sponsorship of the Pride Festival has played a key role in keeping the event a free one so far. From 7 percent of Festival income in 1992, sponsorship revenue today of £160,000 now meets 50 percent of the costs of the Festival and is Pride's single largest source of funds.

Nowhere is there to be found a more diverse list of sponsors than those sponsoring Pride. From household names like Virgin Megastores, Levi Strauss and United Airlines to gay busises like Clone Zone, Kaltons, Pride Video, Gay Exchange and Portland Insurance, to national organisations like UNISON, to health funders like the Health Education Authority and the seven inner London health authorities, to community organisations like Stonewall, Blg Up and Kenric, clubs like Trade, DTPM, Kitty Lips, Substation and Popstarz, to drinks companies like Groisch, Evian, Allied Domecq and San Miguel to publishers like Thud, QX, Gay Times, Diva, Attitude and Pink Paper. Quite a range! But what they all have in common is that they have identified you as the person they want to get through to and are demonstrating their goodwill by subsidining the greatest free festival in the world. Without their support there wouldn't be half the number of tents, the stage would have inferior lighting and a smaller sound system, there would be no video screen and you would probably have had to buy a ticket for the past two years to get in.

This year, working with our sponsors we hope to give you some added value. Allied Domecq for example are sponsoring the Meeting Point, a service for you to leave messages for the friends you've missed and those you want to meet later as well as providing free cocktails in the Planet Patrol Cyber Lounge Tent upon production of a special voucher contained in the show bag. The show bag is a familiar concept revamped so that it includes items of real worth. Together with our sponsors we are packing each of the 20,000 bags with at least one voucher which can be exchanged for a freebse on site. Goodies include, upgrade certificates courtesy of United Airlines, vouchers for a free can of San Miguel, vouchers for the Planet Patrol Cocktail, discount vouchers to use on your next visit to the Virgin Magastore and trial memberships for the Gay Exchange.

In many ways it was the support of Bass Taverns which set the scene for Pride's sponsorship expansion. Whilst not sponsorship precisely, the support of Bass was the first serious interest from a large corporation. Virgin Megastores were the first "big" sponsor on the scene and this year they've increased their involvement substantially, much to our delight. It's not often that a high street retailer feels able to openly promote its support of the Gay Market, but Virgin Megastores were there at the beginning and have never been afraid to say so.

Several of our sponsors have been opening up their cheque books to us for years; others are new. Ultimately all of them are contributing to the goal of visibility. By identifying us as a market and a market worth chasing a culture of economic respect and positive advertising images contribute to the gradual erosion of prejudice. When Channel 4 first went on air about 15 years ago, an individual wanted to place an advertisement wishing all his gay friends a merry Christmas. The powers that be deemed this to be inappropriate at the time. Now of course Gay Exchange regularly advertise, Boddingtons cleverly use overtly gay images and a certain vodka company even featured a gay kiss in its advertising. In a world that is dominated by advertising and marketing it would be a fool who underestimated the positive impact which sponsorship and brand support brings to our community.

-Teddy Witherington



What they're saying about the Pink Pound

"Virgin has established a gay video section in each of its Megastores... We have expended because it's a very lucrative market and of increasing importance to Virgin."

Mark Oakley, Virgin Retail

"Allied Dunseq are delighted to be involved with Fride and believe that the event offers the opportunity to establish a dialogue with a wide range of consumers within an environment of sociability, excitement and fun. The event attracts a style-orientated crowd and is the perfect place to promote quality brands."

Alison Jarvis, Allied Domecq

