MAGAZINE IRELAND

PRIDE ISSUE

Take a look inside & Discover the true meaning of LGBT Pride

LOVE IS LOVE

We caught up with Kevin and Eoin after their engagement photoshoot with Honey & the Moon Photography- on exhibit now at The Rainbow Project, Belfast.

Lots more inside... June's hottest LGBT Monthly Guide

JULY 2013

Pride Special Features Section

ISSUE 10

JULY EDITION - ISSUE

HI FROM US

Welcome to the 10th issue of MyGayZine Magazine and our first ever pride issue timed to coincide with the pride celebrations in our home city -Belfast.

As we head towards our first birthday we're pleased to announce even more big changes; with new management, a newly styled website and even more additions and improvements to the magazine in the months ahead.

This month we place all our focus on pride, with a bumper features section full of fun pride related stories, information and articles.

Special thank you to Honey and the Moon Photography and Kevin and Eoin for their help on this month's front cover. You can find the full engagement photoshoot of this lovely couple on exhibit in The Rainbow Project in Belfast.

We felt that this month's front cover image summed up the true meaning of Belfast Pride, a gay couple relaxing in City Hall on a busy Summer day shows just how far forward Belfast has come in the last few decades. You can read the full interview with Kevin and Eoin on pages 44-47.

Also inside this month's issue is a special pride message and health alert from The Rainbow Project and Misty's got her

MYGAYZINE MAGAZINE IRELAND

fellow drag artists involved in her pride edition of What's the T?

All of our regular contributors have returned with even more great content - Psychic Sean provides an insight into his job as a psychic, Lucy Lashes is back solving more of your problems, Peter Francis Fahy delves into the story of Sodom and Gomorrah, Maurice explores the top 5 lesbian travel destinations, Kosmic Karen brings us our monthly helping of Horoscopes, Chris McMurray updates us on current affairs and has written a new poem in our poetry corner dedicated to Anne and to top it all off Ryan Dior is ranting and raving about the true meaning of pride and responding to some of his fan correspondance.

We love to hear from our readers. You can make the magazine your own by submitting articles, rants, poetry, stories or questions.

Get involved and have some fun. You can get in touch by dropping us an email to info@ mygayzine.co.uk or text us on 07564877618.

We won't waste any more of your time. Get stuck in.

Jump into July with your complete LGBT Pride Guide to the month ahead.

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS MONTH'S ISSUE?

NEWS

NI Poll on Equal Marriage p4 Irish Referendum on Equal Mariage p5 News Snippets p6&7 Lesbian Couple to Marry Opposite "God Hates Fags" Church p8 Same Sex Marriages to be Performed at The Royal Chapel p9

Entertainment

Showbiz News p10-13

Movies, Music & More p | 4& | 5

What's On Guide

Edilor's Choice p16&17 What's on & What's Hol? p18&19

Nightlife

Belfast Pride Guide p<mark>2 I</mark> Venue Guide South of the Border p<mark>22</mark>



Lifestyle Cooking p24&25 Holidays p26-3 l

Readers Section

Readers Rant p32

Shout Out Zone p33

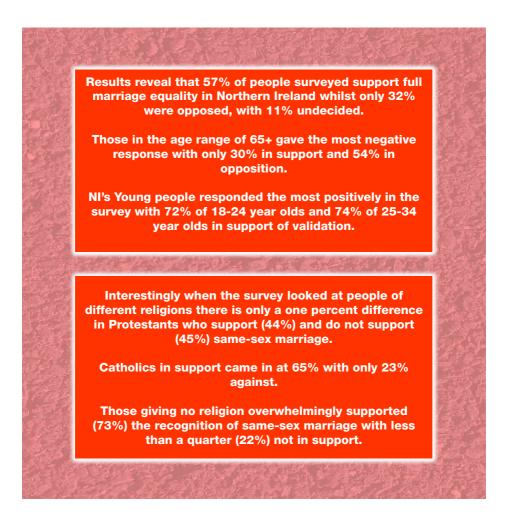
Features

Origins of Pride Facts p34&35 Misły's Whal's the T? Special p36&37 Message from The Rainbow Project & Health Alert p38&39 Peter Francis Fahy p40-43 Kevin & Eoin - Love is Love shoot with Homo Photography p44-47 Lucy Lashes p48&49 Kosmic Karen p50&51 Psychic Sean p52&53 UNISON Message p54 Poetry Corner p55 Ryan Dior p56&57



Northern Ireland Poll on Equal Marriage Support

A new poll last month by the Northern Ireland Life & Times has found that a majority of Northern Irish people now support the right of gay and lesbian couples to get married.



The National Lesbian and Gay Federation - "...the issue of marriage equality should not require a public vote as marriage is a fundamental human and civil right that should be open to all citizens of this country."

Ireland to vote YES/NO on Equal Marriage in 2014

The Irish Deputy Prime Minister Eamon Gilmore, has announced that the country will hold a referendum on equal marriage in 2014.

This comes several weeks after a report by the Constitutional Convention back in April, which voted overwhelmingly in favour of holding a referendum on legalising same-sex marriage.

The National Lesbian and Gay Federation, welcomed the announcement in a statement saying "The NLGF has always asserted that the issue of marriage equality should not require a public vote as marriage is a fundamental human and civil right that should be open to all citizens of this country.

However, as the government has



affirmed the need for a referendum on this issue, we will firmly give our support to the campaign to secure a Yes vote on the day of the poll."

While some in Fine Gael would prefer to push the referendum back further, the Tanaiste (Deputy prime minister of Ireland, Eamon Gilmore) told an event organised by the Gay and Lesbian Equality Network (GLEN) it will "realistically" happen in 2014.

"I suppose realistically we're probably looking at next year sometime," Mr Gilmore told the event in Google's European headquarters on Dublin's Barrow Street.

The Tanaiste was asked about a referendum during a question-andanswer session at the GLEN event.

Mr Gilmore replied: "Well the commitment we have given is that once the Constitutional Convention presents its report in respect of the part of the Constitutional Convention dealing with same-sex marriage, that report is going to be tabled I think this month, formally tabled.

MYGAYZINE NEWS

Northern Ireland Gets First Openly Gay Mayor

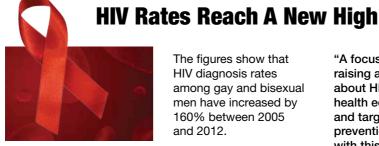


Alliance Party councillor Andrew Muir has become Northern Ireland's first openly gay elected mayor. The North Down Borough **Council member is** from the borough and has been on the council since 2010.

Following his election. Councillor Muir said he is taking the office under the theme 'Working as one. He said: "As Mavor of North Down I am determined to realise the momentous opportunities ahead and celebrate the diverse range of work taking place across the Borough towards one shared vision of an integrated, peaceful, prosperous, active clean and green society."

Mr Muir told UTV News "My sexuality hasn't been an issue for me nor for my electorate nor my constituents since I became a councillor in 2010 and it won't be a defining issue for me as mayor because the challenge as mayor is to reach out and represent everyone across our society - people of different faiths and backgrounds.

JULY 2013



Newly released figures from the **Health Protection** Surveillance Centre show that last year 166 cases of newly diagnosed HIV among gay and bisexual men in 2012. This is the highest ever recorded to date.

The figures show that HIV diagnosis rates among gay and bisexual men have increased by 160% between 2005 and 2012.

The figures also suggest that the age group most at risk of HIV is getting younger as the average age for diagnosis among men who have sex with men is now only 32.

Director of Gay HIV Strategies Tiernan Brady said:

"A focus on raising awareness about HIV, sexual health education and targeted HIV prevention measures with this group of men is critical.

This focus, coupled with efforts to promote testing for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections among gay and bisexual men can lead to a reduction in HIV infection rates."

Farmer Murders Gay Student and Claims He Was the 'Devil'



Ireland's Central Criminal Court was told on this month that a farmer who killed a gay student two years ago was motivated by "abhorrence" regarding the fact his victim was homosexual. Eoin Ryan aged 21, was severely beaten to death on 7 June 2011, in Cappagh Beg, County Clare. His body was found in a barrel on a farm after Joe Heffernan aged 33, called police to confess to the murder. Some recordings of his calls were played at the trial. In his first call he told Garda Niall Cosgrave: "I'm after killing a man. He came on to me and I killed him. I'm not gay or nothing, you know. He thought I was. He stripped down," Heffernan continued. "I'm not going to prison." He later said: "I killed the devil. The devil came for me but I took him."

The defence in the case are arguing for a manslaughter verdict on the grounds of mental disorder.

Man Jailed After Belfast Gay Club Assault



A 27-year-old man who attacked a gay man in the toilets of Mynt Nightclub a gay venue in Belfast, calling him a "gay bastard", has been sent to prison for 1 year and ordered by Judge Gordon Kerr QC to spend a further 3 years on a supervised licence to 'protect the public'. The victim, Mark Saunders, had been in a toilet cubicle when he overheard McIntyre and another individual talking about gay men in a negative way.

Upon challenging them about it, McIntyre's friend confronted Mr Saunders, calling him a "gay bastard."

Mr Saunders cannot remember what happened next, but his lawyer told the court as a result of either a blow or a push, two teeth were knocked out and he fell to the ground cutting the back of his head, with the gash needing seven staples.

In jailing McIntyre, Judge Kerr revealed he had only been released from prison for a previous violent offence just five days before the incident, commenting that he had "an appalling record."

MYGAYZINE NEWS

Couple marry in Equality House - right opposite 'God Hates Fags' church!



Congratulations to Katie and Kimberly, who were the first couple to get married in 'Equality House' right across the street from the 'God Hates Fags' Westboro Baptist Church!

The church, based in Topeka, Kansas, is renowned for its hateful campaigns against gay people, and picketing of military funerals. Equality House, which has been painted in rainbow-colours, sent out messages earlier this month saying they were looking for same-sex couples who wanted to marry. Katie Short and Kimberly Kidwell replied, and were chosen for the first wedding to take place at the home purchased by Planting Peace founder Aaron Jackson to "combat messages of hate."

The couple, who have been together for five years, announced their engagement on Facebook last week. They have since received messages of support and love via Facebook and Twitter. A representative from LGBT rights group 'Have A Gay Day' posted on Facebook that luckily there was no hateful reaction from the anti-gay church across the road.

"We took a photo today with Planting Peace and the Equality House. Some people might hate for even taking a photo with the members of the Westboro Baptist Church. I like to think of what Ellen Degeneres might have said: 'Haters are my motivators'. I don't believe in what the WBC stands for but I stand for love. She didn't curse us out or call us names and we didn't call them names or say anything negative at all. "We are greater than their hate and that is what we will be remembered for. If I believe in loving my haters I will proudly stand next to them."

Earlier this year, when Planting Peace announced plans to paint the house in rainbow colours, Westboro Baptist Church released a statement saying: "We thank God for the Sodomite Rainbow House. It is right across the street from the ONLY church that loves people enough to tell them the Bible truth about the filthy, soul-damning, nation-destroying sin of sodomy... The Sodomite Rainbow house helps shine a bright spotlight on this!'

Royal chapel in Westminster could become venue for same-sex marriages



If you're C of E, and you want to marry your lady in Church... there's one place in England you might just be able to tie the knot.... a royal chapel in Westminster!

According to 'The Telegraph', MPs have written to the Queen asking if she will allow same-sex couples to marry in St Stephen's Chapel, the main place of Christian worship in the Palace of Westminster. Out Labour MP and former Anglican vicar Chris Bryant also suggested allowing leaders of other denominations to conduct same-sex marriages in the chapel. St Stephen's Chapel is a 'royal peculiar' - in other

words it's under direct authority of the Queen. Bryant has reportedly asked Equalities Minister Helen Grant to write to Buckingham Palace with the request.

He also wrote to the Speaker, John Bercow, asking him to use his "good offices" to help list the restrictions on the chapel so same-sex weddings could be held there.

Bercow said he was "seeking advice and will respond in due course," adding: "In principle, as you can imagine, I am very sympathetic to your position."

Bryant has allegedly campaigned internally within parliament, by contacting Dean of Westminster John Hall, Commons chaplain Rose Hudson-Wilkin and clerk of the Commons Sir Robert Rogers.

If the Queen rubberstamps the request, and the royal chapel does indeed become a venue where same-sex weddings can take place, it will be seen as a major snub to leaders of the Church of England who have campaigned vigorously against gay marriages taking place in their venues.

Due to the C of E's long-standing opposition to gay marriage, the samesex marriage bill bans clergy from performing same-sex weddings.

By Chris McMurray

You can read more of Chris McMurray's work in a new short story anthology for girls who like girls.

Counting Down The Seconds is available now on Amazon.com

Share your thoughts Online at www.MyGayZine.co.uk

ENTERTAINMENT

SHOWBIZ NEWS



KIDS CARTOON 'SHEZOW'



Loving this idea cartoon boy turns into a superheroine and saves the world. Yes, you heard right. He turns himself into a GIRL to become the all powerful superbeing he wants to be!

SheZow, which will be coming to the UK later this year, tells the story of a 12-year-old schoolboy who inherits a magic ring from his dead aunt which magically turns him into his feminine alter ego.

The ring is meant to be worn by a woman, but this doesn't deter the boy (who's called Guy). Once the transformation has taken place, SheZow devotes her time to fighting crime, using laser lipstick and vanishing cream among her many weapons and gadgets.

When Guy is changing identity, he shouts: "You go girl!" emphasising the change of gender.

SheZow's costume is a purple skirt and white gogo boots. As you'd expect, there have been a few dissenting voices trying to spoil the fun, warning against confusing children with ideas about gender change.

Ben Shapiro of right wing news outlet Breitbart Report said: "Nothing says 'child-appropriate material' quite like gender-bending underage superheroes."

However, a spokesperson for GLAAD told the New York Daily News: "This Breitbart News article is just a laughable attempt at attention seeking, comparable to Jerry Falwell attacking the Teletubbies, and demonstrates a profound ignorance of transgender people since this show doesn't include any".

Margaret Loesch, chief executive of US cable network The Hub (which starts broadcasting the cartoon on June 1) told the Los Angeles Times: "When I first heard about the show, my reaction was: 'Are you out of your minds?'

"Then I looked at it and I thought: 'This is just funny'."

SheZow has been running on Australia's Network Ten since December 2012. It will start airing on BSkyB in the UK later this year. 

Glee actress Jane Lynch has announced that she and her wife of three years are getting divorced. Lynch and Dr. Lara Embry were married in May 2010. She said in a statement: "I ara and I have decided to end our marriage. This has been a difficult decision for us as we care very deeply about one another. We ask for privacy as we deal with this family matter." The couple's wedding in Massachusetts was featured in The New York Times. In the article. Lynch described how their personality differences meant they had to adjust to each other. "Lara's very patient," she

said. "I move fast. I'm very impulsive, and we kind of process things at a different pace, so we've both had to step up in that area. I've had to slow down, and she had to get a move on."

The couple met in 2009 at a San Francisco fundraiser at which Lynch was a presenter and Dr. Embry was among those being honoured. Lynch is currently starring in the musical Annie on Broadway.

By Chris McMurray

SUITS YOU SIR ELTON

Sir Elton John is due to perform in Russia in July, and yet our minds think straight back to the turn of events that seen Madonna herself being sued for 'homosexual propaganda' because of the way she dressed onstage!

It has been suggested that the flamboyant entertainer's outfits constitute just that according to the leader of the local communist group. Mikhail Abramyan, said that Sir Elton's outfits are "homosexual propaganda", and that he should wear the traditional Russian dress of "kneelength kaftan, a fur hat and leather boots," instead.

That would be a geg trying to get Sir Elton to agree to that unfortunately his management has rejected the idea.



ENTERTAINMENT

SHOWBIZ NEWS



BBC APOLOGISES FOR BROADCASTING DISCUSSION ON 'CURING' CLARE BALDING OF BEING LESBIAN



Allowing this kind of material to be broadcast on 'Auntie' in this day and age beggars belief. What were the producers of this show thinking?!

The BBC went ahead with the broadcast of a radio discussion on how to "cure" Clare Balding of her gayness at the weekend, which unsurprisingly has attracted many complaints from listeners.

The discussion also included whether Balding should present horse racing shows topless. As part of a round on the BBC Radio 5 Live show 'Fighting Talk', Colin Murray, the show's presenter, asked a contestant to argue the proposition: "Give me 20 minutes with her and I'm pretty sure I could turn around Clare Balding".

Balding is a sports presenter on Channel 4 and the BBC and has been in a civil partnership with Alice Arnold, the former Radio 4 newsreader, for seven years.

The controversial broadcast came during the final segment of the show in which guests are asked to "defend the indefensible" and argue a difficult-to-support case.

Comedian Bob Mills rose to the challenge by saying that Balding was a "horse woman", who "appreciates power between her thighs", before adding: "And we all know, there is no woman that can't be cured."

A version of the programme broadcast later in the evening asked the guests to debate whether or not the presenter, considered a national treasure by many, should host racing shows topless.

A spokesman for the BBC said today: "The comments were made during a round called 'Defend the Indefensible', which asks panelists to comment on topics which, by their very nature, are blatantly indefensible. "However, we would like to apologise unreservedly to anyone who was offended by the live broadcast."

By Chris McMurray

BIG BROTHER CONTESTANT IS A "HARD CORE LESBIAN

THIS MENTHE ENTENTAINMENT RUN DOWN



Are you watching Big Brother this summer? In case you are, one of the contestants to watch out for is Wolfy Millington, a "hard core lesbian fisherwoman" (her words!) from Falmouth.

FISHERWOMAN"

Wolfy is a practising Shaman who said she can connect with the earth through "love and harmony". Originally from Bolton, she moved to Falmouth for "the beach, babes and the fish".

She can spend up to six hours a day standing on the end of a pier with a fishing rod and has a tattoo of the first mackerel she ever caught on her leg. The 20-year-old was one of the first nine contestants to enter the house last month. As she arrived barefoot, she told host Emma Willis that it had been her dream since she was 12 to take part and is "in it to win it".

Other contestants this year include a former male escort, twin supermarket workers, a glamour model, a Harry Styles lookalike and a woman who runs a Gold-Digger dating website.

By Chris McMurray

BAD BOY GOES GOOD?

Bad boy singer Chris Brown has announced he is starting a new equality campaign for gay people and other minority groups.

This has surprised some as in the past the star has been criticised for being a part of anti-gay rants.

The former boyfriend of Rihanna made the announcement via a tweet, saying that his new single 'They Don't Know' is part of the campaign, called "UNITY".

He also tweeted to say the campaign aimed to "encourage all races, genders, sexes, gay or straight to love each other!".

Is this an attempt to repair his wreckage of a reputation or a genuine shift in attitude? That much has yet to be seen.



ENTERTAINMENT

Movies & Music Update

AVAILABLE JULY 2013

We've sifted through those boring, tedious lists and charts to present you with a selection of the best releases and entertainment purchases available this month. Check back each month and keep up to date with the latest and greatest entertainment releases. July brings with it a bumper month of Blockbusters, DVD's and Downloads as the Summer release Bonanza continues. Check out this month's cinema releases below and find out when this month's hottest DVD's, Singles and Albums will be available to purchase on the next page.

The Internship

@ THE CINEMA

The Internship - 3rd July Vince Vaughan & Owen Wilson Now You See Me - 3rd July Isla Fisher, Dave Franco, Michael Caine The Worlds End - 19th July Simon Pegg & Nick Frost Monsters University 3D - 19th July Helen Mirren & Billy Crystal The Smurfs 2 - 31st July Neil Patrick Harris & Brenden Gleeson THIS MENTHE ENTERTAINMENT RUNDOWN



- 8th July Safe Haven - 8th July Identity Thief - 15th July I Want Your Love - 22nd July





This Months Singles

Katy B - 7th July 'What Love Is Made Of' Lawson ft. B.O.B - 7th July 'Brokenhearted' Lucy Spraggan - 7th July 'Lighthouse' P!nk ft. Lily Allen - 21st July 'True Love' Eliza Doolittle - 28th July 'Big When I Was Little'

Ciara - 8th July 'Ciara' Skylar Grey - 9th July 'Don't Look Down' Jay Z - 8th July Magna Carta Holy Grail Pet Shop Boys - 15th July Electric Various Artists - 22nd July NOW 85



EDITOR'S CHOICE

Belfast Pride Festival

23RD ANNUAL BELFAST PRIDE PARADE THEME: BRIGHT COLOURS AND BOLD STATEMENTS FOR EQUALITY BELFAST CITY CENTRE, VARIOUS LOCATIONS SATURDAY 6TH JULY 2013

It's the big day... the Annual Belfast Pride parade! Last year you came out in your thousands dressed in all sorts of sailing and nautical themed costumes. This year it's simple. It's BRIGHT AND BOLD for equality.

WHAT'S ON 7??

GUID

So what does that mean for your costume? It's easy – wear something which is BRIGHT and noticeable (in a colourful way, not nudity!). Flourescent t-shirts, tye dye'd tops, everything. Belfast Pride want to create one big sea of colour to make ourselves seen!

The community, family & retail area at the Lagan Lookout will be open from 11am with the parade starting off at 12 noon SHARP! The parade will snake around City Hall and down Castle Place before ending up back at Custom House Square 90 mins later for the biggest LGBT party Belfast has ever seen!

Whether you are a member of the LGBT community or one of our friends or family, you are welcome to walk with us if you wish to promote a positive and respectful image of LGBT people.

Help make the Parade even more bright. colourful and fun by making an effort and entering into the theme. Organised groups and floats are welcome too, but we ask them to pop on to our website and register in advance by visiting belfastpride. com/parade. Party in the Square 2013 will feature the best of local live talent including:

JULY 2013 EDITION

ABBA TRIBUTE GROUP, THE BJORN IDENTITY, GRANT CARTWRIGHT, STOP STOP START AGAIN,

SHAKE, and our favourite dance troupe AJENDANCE.

There will also be the much anticipated return of **RYAN JAGGER**, whose response on twitter last year was phenomenal.

Also returning are **RACHEL G** and **UNSUNG LILLY,** who also graced the pride party stage last year.

We're also pleased to welcome **KAMEELION** and **FERYL** to the stage – both acts you should definitely check out.

Another act taking to our stage will be **KAMALIYA,** who was the winner of Mrs World in 2008 – but that's not why we have her! In December 2011 she released her debut single Crazy In My Heart, which reached number 13 in the charts, but most recently you may have seen her perform as a support act on the Steps reunion tour in Belfast.

If all that wasn't enough, we're thrilled that we have **RUTH LORENZO** on our stage. Brit Award Nominee Ruth, who took part in the X-Factor in 2008, is a Spanish singer who is

well known to Belfast, having performed in Kremlin and in June will release her single 'The NIght'.

Plus! There's more! We're also pleased to welcome on stage Opportunity Frocks 2012 winner PAULETTA STILETTA

who will be performing her winning routine on stage along with performances from TINA LEGGS TANTRUM, GLITZY GLAMOUR, ROXY TUMBLEDRYER and RUSTY HINGES.

To round off the day, we're excited to have another newcomer

to our stage, **DJ** GARETH WOODS.

At only 19, he's DJ'd at gigs across Belfast and is fast becoming an artist to watch in the future and we're proud that we'll be his biggest gig to date.

This year make sure you get across the road to our new Pride Village! Pride Village is just across the road from the Party in the Square beside Lagan Weir and the Big Fish, it's packed with things to do and see and is the ideal place for a break from the Party in the Square or a great option to get more out of your Pride.

• It's a market with whole range of stalls selling everything from t-shirts to face masks

It's about community

 find out about
 activities, groups and
 services you might not
 know about

• It's an Alcohol Free Family Zone with entertainment for kids and adults with a Bouncy Castle, face painting and more...

WHO? WHERE? WHEN? WHAT?

WHAT'S ON ???? The MyGayZine quide to What's On and What's Hot.

Priscilla

WHO?	
WHERE?	
WHEN?	
WHAT?	

Belfast	Vario	ue Li	ncəti	nn
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World Police & Fire Games



Belfast will host the prestigious World Police and Fire Games (WPFG). the third largest international multi-sport event in the world, from I - IO August 2013. Around 10.000 competitors from over 70 countries are expected to attend the games, along with their friends and familu. **Competitors will compete** in around 56 sports at 42 venues across Northern Ireland.

WHO?
WHERE?
WHEN?
WHAT?
FABULOUS.
Y



Priscilla Queen of the Deserl
30 Jul - 3rd Aug
\mathbf{O}

Grod Onera House, Belfast

The Musical is coming to the Grand Opera House Belfast for I week only! Winner of 4 WhatsOnStage.com awards, including Best New Musical.

Priscilla is the heartwarming, uolifting adventure of three friends who hop aboard a battered old bus searching for love and friendship and end up finding more than they had ever dreamed of.

WHO?	Northern Ireland Milk Cup		
WHERE?	Various Localions		
WHEN?	28 July - 2nd Aug		
WHAT?	Watch some of the world's		
KETREN ST	budding young footballers as they congregate in Ballymoney, Ballymena, Coleraine and Limavadu		



Watch some of the world's
budding young footballers
as they congregate in
Ballymoney, Ballymena,
Coleraine and Limavady
for this annual tournament
of top teams from five
continents. Another
internationally renowned
competition for anyone
who can't wait for the new
season. Some of the most
amous players today have
played in this competition
including Giggs, Rooney, Dos
Santos and Sernio Busouets.

WHU?	Shaolin Warriors
WHERE?	Belfast & Dublin
WHEN?	4 - 8th July
WHAT?	Grand Opera House Belfast - 8th July, Olympia Theatre
Shaoin Warriors Lecunary Mastris of KUNG-PU	Dublin - 4th July - 7th July . The internationally-acclaimed Shaolin Warriors are back with a brand new show - Return of the Master. This breathtaking theatrical Kung Fu Show continues the story of the warrior, and vividly depicts the rarely-seen Kung Fu masters' feats of agility strength and skill, using Buddhist Meditation and their rigorous martial arts training.

Got an event that you'd like to feature? Get in touch - info@mygayzine.co.uk



WHO? WHERE? WHEN? WHAT?

The MyGayZine guide to What's On and What's Hot.

WHO?	Shout	WHO?	Cork City Pride Parade
WHERE?	Tivoli Theatre, Dublin	WHERE?	Cork City
WHEN?	4 - 3 l st July	WHEN?	4th August
WHAT?	Looking for a fun, fabulous and groovy night out? Then come see the Irish premiere of Shout! This hilarious musical chronicles the lives of 5 young women, coming of age during London's Swinging 60's, at the dawn of women's liberation and all the issues that women of that era faced. Each of their stories unfold against the musical soundtrack of Dusty Springfield, Lulu, Petula Clark, Sandie Shaw & more.	WHAT?	This year's Cork Pride Festival promises to be the largest and most successful yet! Last year, nearly 10,000 people joined us to celebrate. Some of the events you can look forward to are theatre, film, club nights, dining out, barbeques, treasure hunts, sports days & a dog show, all uniting in a celebration of diversity, along with the main event, The Cork Pride Festival Parade.
WHO?	Galway Arts Festival	WHO?	Arklow Seabreeze Festival
WHERE?	<mark>Various Localions, Galway</mark>	WHERE?	Arklow Cellic Foolball Club
WHEN?	15 - 28th July	WHEN?	6th July
WHAT? GALWAY ARTS FESTIVAL 15-28 JULY 2013 DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW	Ireland's largest annual arts festival, taking place each July in the city of Galway. The Festival collaborates with artists and companies throughout the world to produce and present an international programme of theatre, spectacle, dance, visual arts, music, literature & comedy involving hundreds of artists and performers. Over its 35-year history, the Festival has become a vital showcase for Irish arts internationally.	WHAT? ARKLOW SEABREEZE Festival 2013	With a carnival atmosphere the Arklow Seabreeze Festival will see Ireland's top performing Marching Bands, Showbands, and Drum Corps compete in the first competition of the 2013 season. This will also mark the 25th Anniversary of the Irish Marching Bands Association and will be hosted by Inbhear Mor Marchers in association with IMBA, DCE (Drum Corps Europe) and Arklow

Check back each month for a nosey at what's going on around Ireland

NIGHTLIFE GUIDE

This year sees Belfast hosting more pride parties & events than ever before!



STAY BRIGHT ALL NIGHT & BE BOLD UNTIL DAWN

- BELFAST PRIDE NIGHTLIFE GUIDE Check back each month for more info on Ireland & Northern Ireland's hottest LGBT and LGBT friendly venues.

BELFAST PRIDE 2013 GUIDE

Taboo Presents The official Belfast Pride After Party Mandela Hall, Students Union

Access all FOUR venues within QUBSU this year's after party will be the biggest gay club event in Belfast ever... and we want you to be part of it. FEATURING: Taboo DJ's Milky, Marty Morrison & Stuart Millar.

Men of The North Black Box, Hill Street

Doors open at 9pm. Sponsored by the Undie Factory. The search for Mr Bear NI 2013 begins. If you want to enter just come along & get involved. Music from DJ Ryan.

UltraSuede Empire Music Hall

BUBU & HOTEL MOTEL present a very special Belfast Pride party at Belfast's most decadent music venue with hot GOGO dancers and aerial performers this promises to be Synth Disco heaven.

Foxes Den 110 Donegal Street

DJ's Mo and Terry keep the decks spinning and the tunes pumping for Fox's Den Pride night Party. With entertainment from the Foxes Den Girls Twanda, Goldie and Dame Holly Would.

Kremlin Pride Ball 96 Donegal St

3 Rooms, 3 DJ's and more people than you could shake a disco stick at. All back to back until 3am in Belfast's busiest nightclub.

'Swagger' Pride Kiki Ball- 401 Club Little Donegal Street

Join Pat and Titi for their Forbidden Fruit Pride spectacular hosted in a brand new venue with 3 DJ's from 7pm right through until 3am.

Union Street Bar Gay Village Street Party

With performances by Lucy Spraggan, Barbara Bryceland and The Diva Dolls and Hosted by Grannie D and Sonya Mac, Gates open from 5pm.

NIGHTLIFE GUIDE

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

Front Lounge Dublin

Established since the 1990's and nestled in the heart of Dublin, the Front Lounge is a classic modern pub. Regularly hosts a variety of events.

Loafers Bar, Cork

One of the oldest gay bars in the whole of Ireland. Hosts a lesbian night on Thursday's. A trendy neighbourhood style bar.

SHINE, Letterkenny

SHINE Returns In July With A Huge Party. Keep Posted on facebook.com/ shine.letterkenny For Details! LGBT Clubbing At Its Best!

Panti Bar, Dublin

2 level bar regularly hosting lots of fun events. They're especially fun when hosted by Panti herself: one of Irelands best known Drag Artists.

Dignity Bar, Waterford

Waterford City's No.1 party venue. Dignity? Leave Yours On The Dance Floor!! Check it out on July 12th for a special visit from Shayne Ward.

31 Thomas St, Limerick

Limerick's Premier gay venue for the ultimate night out on the town. Set over three floors with two modern bars and a dedicated club.

Ruby Lounge, Cork

Formerly Chambers in Cork, The RubyLounge in Washington St is one of Cork's most loved Gay Bars & NightClubs.

The George, Dublin

The George is not just any bar or any gay bar. It is the first port of call for young gay people in Ireland, it is the venue where gay and straight people come together and where international visitors stop to check out the gay scene in Ireland.

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22

THE FOX'S DEN

PRIDE PARTY SATURDAY STH JULY

DJ MO & DJ TERRY

HOSTED BY FOX'S DEN GIRLS: TWANDA, GOLDIE D'LISHUS & DAME HOLLYWOULD

ABOVE THE FRONT PAGE BAR, 110 DONEGAL STREET

LIFESTYLE

Have a go at some of our quick and easy to follow recipes. You'll be discovering new culinary delights and expanding your knowledge in the kitchen in no time.

1. Mix the beef with the garlic and mustard.

COOKING

INSIDE OUT CHEESE BURGERS

Ingredients:

Preparation method

 1lb minced beef 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped 1 tbsp American mustard 110g strong cheddar, grated 1 tbsp chopped fresh chives 1 tbsp coarsely ground black pepper 4 slices of crispy cooked streaky bacon 1 baby gem lettuce 2 tomatoes, sliced 1 small red onion, sliced into rings • 4 burger

2. Mix the cheese with the chives and set aside.
 3. Divide the beef into four and form into burger shaped patties.
 Make an indentation into each of the burgers and place a spoonful of cheese into the indentation. Shape the beef around the cheese until it is totally sealed. Sprinkle a little pepper over each burger.
 4. Cook the burgers in a pan or under the grill, for 4 minutes each side for rare, 6 minutes for medium and 8-9 minutes for well done.

5. Toast the burger buns on the cut-side. Load the buns with the burgers, top with the bacon, tomatoes, lettuce and sliced onion and serve with chips.



buns

We all know how busy pride day can be and sometimes it's tough to squeeze in meal times between all of the colourful celebrations. Our quick and easy recipes will keep hunger the hunger away on your 2013 Pride Day. Don't just be looking, why not try some cooking!

Ingredients:

Ingredients

• 200g lamb loin fillet, thinly sliced and then cut into small pieces

- 1 red pepper cut into chunks
- 1/2 courgette sliced thickly and halved
- 1 red onion cut into chunks
- olive oil

For the seasoning

- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp fennel seeds
- 2 Chillies Seeded and chopped
- 1/2 tsp paprika
- pinch sea salt
- 1-2 tsp light soy sauce (to taste)
- 1 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 tsp rice wine or dry sherry

SPICY LAMB SKEWERS

Preparation method

 For the seasoning, combine all the seasoning ingredients together in a bowl. Add the meat and stir to coat in the spices, then thread the meat and vegetables alternately onto the skewers.
 Place them onto the BBQ for 1-2 mins until brown and turn for a further 1-2 mins depending on your

taste.

Hate cooking? Don't just sit and wait, it's never too late to get comething special on your plate. The our recipes and your food will be great.

HOLIDAYS TOP 5 Lesbian Holiday Destinations

We get a lot of enquiries and bookings from the Lesbian community here at Gayaway2 Travel and have decided for our special Belfast Pride edition to look at some ideas for where Lesbians can go on holiday to get away from it all!

Sadly, very few resorts around the world are exclusively for women or where women and their friends are particularly welcome. However, there are a few lesbian only places to stay, lesbian owned places to stay and woman only places that you can choose from.

Here are our top 5 lesbian holiday ideas:

1. Lesbos – of course!

Lesbos is the island from where the word "lesbian" is originally derived, due to it being the birthplace of the poet Sappho who wrote many a powerful poem about the love between women.

HOLIDAYS BY www.GayAway2Travel.com

HOLIDAY IDEAS FOR GIRLS BY MAURICE DICKSON FROM GAYAWAY2TRAVEL.COM

In 2008, some residents of Lesbos tried to get a court order to stop lesbians in Greece from calling themselves lesbians. Do not worry. They did not succeed, and Lesbos continues to be a very popular island for lesbian travellers, particularly the village of Eressos where Sappho was born and particularly in September each year when the women's festival is on.

For lesbians, gay or solo woman travellers, the resort of Skala Eressos offers something that is almost impossible to find elsewhere in Greece, the opportunity to truly relax and to be you. The beach resort of Skala Erresos is a tranquil women's haven. Accommodation is basic and it is not a huge party place but there are some lovely places to eat and you can openly kiss and cuddle without feeling at all self-conscious.

Enjoy the day's catch in any one of the excellent traditional local restaurants, or take your pick of cuisine from one of the alternative cafés and bars on the boardwalk. Get your groove on at a club night or beach party, or catch up on new movie releases under the stars at the beautiful open-air cinema, which also hosts the cutting edge LGBT film festival in September.

If you love your meditation and yoga, there's a centre dedicated to just that. The whole island is a lush, green paradise offering thermal spas, archaeological remains and some of the most varied bird life in Europe. Water sports, boat trips, excursions and mountain biking are all available too.

Women's Festivals

If you have not been to Lesbos you must experience this beautiful island and further down we will tell you why. However, if you come during June or September you will enjoy the dedicated women's festivals, with female artists, musicians, dancers and DJs from all over the world descending on the island.

June 15th - 29th 2013

Alpha Camp returns with beach parties and top international DJ's, fashion shows, speed dating, dance lessons and lots more www.alpha-camp.com

September 7th - 21st 2013

The 12th International Eressos Women's Festival, with live music and performances, alternative fashion show, open air film screenings, Dance, Sport, Art Exhibitions and of course the parties, club nights and DJ sets plus a lot more. www.womensfestival.eu/

Getting there from Ireland does mean a few flights, but frequent direct charter flights operate from London and Manchester during summer season. For more details and prices then contact us.

2. Gran Canaria

An enjoyable, gay-male orientated gay scene is to be found at Yumbo Commercial Centre- but Gran Canaria also offers year round sunshine and beautiful volcanic walks if you feel so inclined.

Something different is a rambling holiday or LGBT-friendly walking holiday where it is perfectly acceptable to bunk off and sunbathe for the day if you do not fancy a ramble.

Jackie's Guest House. If you fancy a more homely stay in Gran Canaria then, Jackie and Carol's guest house if ideal for you. Exclusively adult's only, nothing is too much for these two to help your enjoy your stay.

Quietly located, their guesthouse is in a residential area of Maspalomas yet is close to everything you will need for a super holiday.

Themed Blue and Green rooms with deluxe rooms and roof top terrace to soak up those sunrays!



HOLIDAY THE GAY WAY WITH GAYAWAY2

CONTACT US FOR GREAT TRAVEL DEALS AND PROMOS

3. Andalucia in Spain

Andalucia occupies an enviable position -Sandwiched between the Mediterranean to the east, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west. with the peaks of the Sierra Morena shielding it to the north, this is one of the brightest and warmest places in Europe. The Atlantic coast is all sun and sand. so for beach holidays a visit to Malaga (home of Picasso), Cadiz or Almeria is a great idea.

There are many fine examples of architecture in Andalucia dating back to the Moorish occupancy. The Alhambra in Granada dates back to the 14th century, the Real Alcazar in Seville to the 12th, and the Great Mosque of Cordoba to the 7th! Incredible to think that not only are these buildings still standing today, but in such good condition. City breaks are easy if you hire a car through Diva Destinations.

Old traditions continue to thrive here. Local tapas specialities including seafood and stewed meat come with your drinks in many bars, while flamenco exhibitions, and more controversial bull-fighting, can be found in many cities such as Seville and Ronda. Orange trees line the streets of Seville, their bitter fruit commonly used to make marmalade for export.

Half of the Andalucian territory is forested, much of it protected, so if you're looking for a mountainbiking or hiking holiday there's abundant trails to follow. The area is extraordinarily bio-diverse, with flamingos, birds of prey, wolves and boar roaming the woods. The skiing in the Sierra Nevada mountain range is highly rated, and golf holidays around the Costa del Sol area are also extremely popular.

Where to stay?

Bambú, Andalucia, Spain – If you are looking to get away from it all then Bambu is ideal place! For a fabulous holiday in southern Spain in an exclusively lesbian environment, look no further than Bambú.

Owners Susanne and Catherine have created an informal, relaxing, fun and sociable environment, where a great deal of laughter and conversation is enjoyed and new friendships formed – often with women from all over the world.

Bambú is open throughout the year. Sun worshippers favour the midsummer months of July to September, when there is very definitely a party atmosphere at Bambú.

For those who still like it warm and sunny ... but just not quite so ... April, May, June, October and November are the months better suited to

LIFESTYLE

HOLIDAYS

MAURICE DICKSON WWW.GAYAWAY2TRAVEL.COM

babes and beaches are well within your reaches



sightseeing, hiking and generally exploring this beautiful corner of Spain. There are several themed holidays throughout the year at Bambú. Every month there is a holiday for women travelling alone. And in Spring and Autumn, hiking, sightseeing, scuba diving, fitness and creative writing holidays feature in the Bambú calendar.

For a unique exclusively lesbian holiday experience under the Spanish sun, why not try Bambú?

4. Sitges

Whether you have you been to Sitges before, or coming here for the first time, Sitges really is a great place to visit all year around. We covered Sitges in issue 2 so can see a full guide in this in archive section of the website.

Sophisticated, chic and cool and with more than 300 sunny days per year, Sitges has been described as "The Jewel in The Mediterranean Crown", a "Mediterranean Paradise". It is beautifully nestled between the

sparkling blue of the Mediterranean Sea and the impressive backdrop of The Garraf Mountains. For Lesbian travellers then B My Guest B&B is located in a beautiful 3-storey house located just moments from the sea front and town centre. The B&B is lesbian owned and run. and verv popular amongst lesbian travellers. The guest suite is on the top floor and has its own private sun terrace, which faces the sea, from where you can soak up the sun and listen to the sound of the waves.

Visit our website for more travel deals and information www.GayAway2Travel.com or call us on: 0845 467 3558

5. Olivia Cruises & Resort Holidays

Celebrating its 40th anniversary Olivia was first set up as a women's record label, quickly expanded into travel for the US, and now caters for women worldwide.

Gayaway2 Travel are pleased to be partners with Olivia allowing women in the UK & Ireland to book locally and let us do all the arranging so all you have to do is look forward to an enjoyable holiday!

Olivia have a whole list of cruises and events that cover worldwide locations, but our only tip is to book early as most of 2013 is sold out.

We have picked just one as an example but contact us for a full list.

Cancún, Mexico Resort MAY 3-10, 2014 at Club Med's ALL-INCLUSIVE Cancún, Yucatán Resort Grab your bathing suits and get ready for a week in Cancún! Join the women of Olivia as we enjoy a week of fun in the sun and our signature Olivia entertainment. As always, we have bought out the entire resort so you can be out and free!

The clear waters of the

Caribbean Sea are perfect for snorkelling, and you will find a protected reef right off the beach at the resort. Nap or read a book in a cabana or take a day long excursion to visit breathtaking Mavan ruins. Stroll along the bright white sand, hang out by the pool sipping an included cocktail or soft drink with your BFF, participate in a special singles' mixer or take part in our beautiful commitment ceremony with that special someone. Try waterskiing or flying trapeze or play a pickup game of beach volleyball.

Almost all your activities, food and most drinks (yes, even umbrella drinks and soft drinks) are included, too! In the evenings, take in some amazing Olivia entertainment, and then head off to Club O to dance the night away. You will be surrounded by 700 women all enjoying a fabulous vacation—so get ready for countless smiles and to meet lots of new friends.

That is our top 5 but -Did you know that West cork has a woman only B&B called the Bellatrix, plus there are loads of other places worldwide you can visit in France, UK, Germany, USA and others. Contact us for more information, help and advice. Contact Gayaway2 Travel for latest prices and when you book with us, we can give you a full detailed guide on where to go, maps and directions to gay beaches and best bars and clubs to visit and apartments or hotels to suit your budget and preference.

Keep up to date with latest Pride news, last minute holiday offers and much more, LIKE our face book page https://www.facebook. com/Gayaway2

Finally we like to welcome to Dublin and Belfast on 18th / 19th July a Women only cruise which sets sail from Dublin to Belfast and visits Portrush before heading over to Scotland - so you see you can be surprised at the wide variety of options available and we are always researching and discovering more, our expert holiday knowledge will ensure you find the best locations with everything that you need at your fingertips.

READER'S SECTION

READER'S RANT

Make an appearance in next month's issue: Email your rant to: info@mygayzine.co.uk

What's the craic with leaving rubbish lying on beaches after your finished?

Seriously like! Not only is at a disgrace to the environment it shows absolutely no respect for those of us living close to our beaches.

I was working the weekend of our gorgeous and out of character heat wave last month and was planning on making my Sunday off a lazy day to vegetate on the beach and catch the last few dwindling rays of sunshine. I jumped up early, packed my beach bag, picked up two beautiful friends and off we went for a day at the beach.

Helen's Bay is one of my favourite beaches since I was a child and my whole family would have used it because it wasn't too far from home and a very beautiful part of the world.

Not now it wasn't! The whole place was disgusting and filthy with litter from what I guess was the previous days sun worshippers.

I am not talking a few empty packets of crisps here I am talking more dirty nappies, cans/ bottles/containers from every multi- national logo imaginable and enough plastic carrier bags to make a giant condom for our Belfast City Hall's Dome. It was impossible to sit and enjoy the seaside.

Thankfully the local council was cleaning the mess up but this didn't look like an easy feat. Took them another hour to bring the beach back to some sort of condition that would be deemed suitable for humans.

I wouldn't consider myself an eco-warrior by any stretch but I really think that everyone can do more here to help the environment, especially the lazy bastards using our beauty spots as dumping grounds.

Why can't people clean up after themselves, there are public bins EVERYWHERE. I hope those involved are ashamed of their revolting waste disposal habits.

This wasn't just a local problem either as I read in the Belfast Telegraph the following day that "It took 16 pick-up truck loads to clear all the rubbish that was abandoned on the North Coast's spectacular Portstewart Strand after visitors discarded beer tins, metal barbecues and dirty nappies — just metres from the bins."

We have such a small country and some of the most stunning coasts in all of Europe. People need to realise the importance of clearing up their mess and stop spoiling things for the rest of us. We have to accept responsibility, not just for those of us here today but also for future generations.

Change starts with you!

Roy Benson, Bangor. Whether your feeling passionate about something, annoyed by someone or just wanting somewhere to express your feelings, we would like to hear from you. TEXT US YOUR COMMENTS 07564877618

SHOUT OUT ZONE

TEXT US YOUR SHOUT OUT TO **07564877618**, YOU CAN EMAIL US AT **INFO@MYGAYZINE**. **CO.UK** OR DROP US A MESSAGE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE: **WWW.MYGAYZINE.CO.UK.**

Congratulations on your Engagement Daniel & Carl from Belfast, the party was amazing, Love Kelly & Susan

Happy 50th Birthday to Patrick Evans from Derry. Many happy returns from all your friends Stevie, Pearce and Selena x

HAPPY PRIDE BELFAST! Hope everyone has the best Pride EVER! Activist and Anarchist.

I think my mum has got the Diva Fever, I'll be sending her to Union St with 3 friends Imao -Mitch

Well done to Grainne Moore for graduating from Queens University, so proud of you. From your big sis Stephanie xx Happy Birthday to Stephen in Bangor who is 23 on the 10th. Love Sam xox

Massive well done to Lee in Whiteabbey for passing your driving test, just in time for the summer. From Jason x

Cannot wait to see the Diva Dolls this year at Pride there fantastic Joanne & Leanne

Heard about the printers story this week you guys, can we have an update in a future issue? Rob, Leitrim

Congratulations to FEE FEE GEISHA on her win at Trudys drag race. Well done sister :-D xx Liam



Got a message for someone that you'd like to see here? Text us today at your standard network message rate. Text us your photos and comments, we will publish a selection of the best and most memorable ones in every months issue.

Get TEXTING...

FEATURES

Origins of Pride The Stonewall Rebellion

The Stonewall Rebellion of 1969 is widely considered the beginning of the modern LGBT rights movement. The six-day riot, which began inside of the Stonewall Inn in the Greenwich Village neighbourhood of New York City, was the breaking point of years of tensions between police and the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

LGBT people were subjected to civil laws that criminalised sodomy and, in New York City bars were allowed to refuse service to LGBT patrons. Arrests, harassment and instances of entrapment by police were frequent. Civil laws reinforced their actions. Establishments often cited Section 106, Subsection 6 of the New York State Penal Code to refuse service to queer patrons. The code barred premises from becoming "disorderly houses." Many, including the courts, considered homosexual patrons to be disorderly and subjected the LGBT community to the full force of the law.

Here are some facts about the significance of Stonewall and the aftermath of the rebellion started by a courageous group of LGBT people.

1. The Stonewall riots started at 1:20am on Saturday, June 28,1969 at The Stonewall Inn on Christopher Street in New York City. Another incident took place later that night.

"We all had a collective feeling like we'd had enough of this kind of shit. It wasn't anything tangible anybody said to anyone else, it was just kind of like everything over the years had come to a head on that one particular night in the one particular place, and it was not an organized demonstration....

- witness, Michael Fader

2. An unknown lesbian or drag queen is reportedly responsible for triggering the first riot after retaliating at the abusive behaviour from the police. Witnesses say the scene became explosive when the LGBT community reacted to the sight of the police abuse. The exact catalyst for the events in Greenwich Village that night vary between historians, journalists and witnesses.

"When did you ever see a fag fight back?... Now, times were a-changin'. Tuesday night was the last night for bullshit.... Predominantly, the theme was, "this shit has got to stop!"

-Anon Stonewall riots participant

3. The Stonewall Inn was owned and operated by the Mafia. There was a peephole in the door and if the bouncer didn't recognize you or didn't think you were gay, you wouldn't get access.

4. Stonewall had no running water behind the bar (cups were washed in a bucket in a sink and reused) and overflowing toilets were common.

5. Women were required to wear three pieces of feminine clothing, and would be arrested if found not wearing them. Employees and management of the bars were also typically arrested.

6. The period immediately before June 28, 1969 was marked by frequent raids of local bars—including a raid at the Stonewall Inn on the Tuesday before the riots—and the closing of the Checkerboard, the Tele-Star, and two other clubs in Greenwich Village. The night of the riot, female police officers took patrons dressed as women into the bathroom to perform intrusive checks and determine their sex. The first gay Pride march didn't take place until June 28, 1970, a year after the Stonewall Rebellion. There were no floats- the event was more of a politically-driven demonstration to commemorate the Stonewall Riots than the non-stop party and commercialised event it is today.



7. Not long after the riots the Gay Rights movement began to take shape. Groups like the Gay Liberation Front and the Gay Activists Alliance were formed and began to bring the gay community together through political action. The marches continued to bring awareness to causes that were specific to the homosexual community.

8. The first gay Pride march didn't take place until June 28, 1970, a year after the Stonewall Rebellion. There were no floats-it was more of a politically-driven demonstration to commemorate the Stonewall Riots than the non-stop party and commercialised event it is today. The event originated outside of the Stonewall Inn. at 53 Christopher Street and continued up Fifth Avenue to end in Central Park. The march started with only a few hundred people at Stonewall and ended with several thousand by the time it concluded in Central Park. The marches brought gay and lesbian individuals together and it showed they were a sizable minority population, something that mainstream society did not believe.

By 1973, the Christopher Street Liberation Day March was already an expected event. In a New York Times article, Homosexuals March Down 7th Avenue; Bars Represented To Each His Own', John Darnton writes, "Singing, chanting, clad in festive and arresting garb. thousands of homosexuals and supporters of homosexuals' rights marched through mid-Manhattan yesterday, past smiling policemen, wide-eyed tourists and blasé New Yorkers who passed it off with a live-and-letlive shrug." This shows the acceptance in a few short years by New Yorkers to the Gay Liberation Movement.

The site of the Stonewall riots, the Stonewall Inn, is still in business in its original location, despite several ups and downs since. The bar and surrounding area (named Stonewall Place) was officially recognized by New York City as a historic landmark in 1999, and as a National Historic Landmark in 2000. Young gay people visiting NYC in search of their roots will find various plaques at the bar, along the street, and in Christopher Park, but otherwise will discover that Stonewall now is just another rather ... read more successful gay bar in an increasingly modern metropolis.

In 2009, forty years after the Stonewall Riots, New York City rebranded itself as a Gay Destination. The city initiated a marketing campaign in relation to the fortieth anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. George A. Fertitta, a chief executive of NYC & company, the city's tourism marketing agency "estimated that 10 percent of the city's 47 million visitors last year were lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender and noted that out-of-town visitors spent \$30 billion in the city last year".

FEATURES

Misty Falls Whats the T? Pride Special



Hey Everyone, welcome to another month of "What's The T?" First let me apologies for not having an article last month, I was extremely busy between work and competition prep, and the hard work must've paid off because I came First. All bizz with myself so I was. On to this month and our PRIDE SPECIAL here at @MyGayZine, and due to this I drafting in the heavy guns, another 8 Drag Queen special guest contributions with the article, familiar faces from about the Belfast Gay Scene and my bestest squirrel friend as well.

So I thought to myself before starting this month, 'Misty, you've already done 2 articles previously about Pride, the N.I. Pride recap last October and Pride Fashions in April, what more can you do about Pride?' Thinking of more things to do with Pride was easy but I wanted something that I've never though of before and then it hit me, I always share my views with you but what would happen if I got my fellow Queens to give their views as well. So I hit up the girls via Facebook and asked them: "What does Belfast Pride mean to you?" As well all differ in age and background it was great to read what all the other Queens have experienced and also how they see the day.

So to start things of, What Pride means to Misty: Pride to me has and will always be a celebration of who we are and what we have achieved, it is the one time a year that we can come together as a community and celebrate fully what it is to be a member of the LGBT+ community in Northern Ireland. Plus we have some of the best Queens, best bars and best Craic, so it can't be that bad now. It's also a day to get decked up in all our finery and strut the streets like the proud DIVAS that we are, A day in which nobody, nowhere can bring us down and where anyone that you see has that extra spring in their step. Not only this but in my 5 years of being out, being a Queen and parading the involvement of not only the LGBT+ community but the community at large (bar those wee cretins at City Hall) have embraced the Pride celebrations with all its colour and fabulousness. I, for one, cannot wait for Saturday July 6th to parade with my brothers and sisters through the streets of Belfast and show the world that we are here and they best be accepting it. My motto for the day will be coming for the ever fab Latrice **Royale: "Get up, Look Sickening and Make** them EAT IT!" Come say high to me on parade day if you are out and about. I promise I don't bit, until then keep it fierce.

- Misty Xx

Misty's Squirrel-friends:

Well Belfast Pride is an experience for everyone from the crowds of thousands that come to witness the parade to the families that take part in the games etc going on the week leading up to the parade. As for myself it's a different day all together it's a day of coming out and showing who I am, and to stand for what I believe in 'with a lot of hair and make-up on the side' (life's a drag) . It's a day where everyone one comes together and has fun and most issues are forgotten for the day. I always like to say every one knows a gay person somehow (think about it) !!

Sassie Longshaft

What I really love is the excitement of the night before "it's like Christmas', but instead of waiting for Santa I'm waiting for a day of "gayness" to explode.. Then the day comes round and its brilliant from the people watching to other people taking part in the parade. The reception you get from the public is fabulous cheering and clapping it makes you feel that we have came a long way since the dark days without the rainbow' and that we are getting somewhere as far as equality goes!! That's what I love about Pride!! Now let's be Loud Proud and Queer!!

Rusty Hinges

I love Belfast Pride as it's the only day where you don't see "red, white and blue" or "green, white and orange", you see all the colours of the community come together!! It's always so nice to see so many smiling faces, and to see so many people supporting our gay community! I think you should always be proud of who and what you are!!

Trudy Scrumptious

I always love Pride and all of its celebrations! I think it's important to remember all year round that it's easy to feel ashamed or isolated when you are gay but that's why it's called PRIDE!! Every gay person should be proud of who they are and equality of life they are entitled to!! Have great Pride everyday!!

Wee Hannah Crush

I wish every day was negro day!!.... Oh wait, wrong one. I wish every day was gay day! Lol

Alexia Falls

All gay people go through that transition of isolation until they feel comfortable with the people and/or community they're in. Then everyday is definitely a Pride day because you've cut the ties with self searching for identity and you've established the best you can be, whether you're still growing as a person or fully found your identity. No one should have to hide who and what they are! -

Tina Leggs Tantrum

For me it's entirely different, I've always been proud, very proud, many brought up to be even prouder, PRIDE to me is about our community opening our arms and our hearts to the world, and telling them "Look at us now, we are stronger than yesterday, walk with us and together we will be stronger, tomorrow and forever." Celebrating my love with my chosen family is PRIDE to me, my girls, my dancers, my bosses, my enemies, my audiences, the look in each others eyes and saying "Happy Pride" and it's a beautiful saying, so all in all my love for PRIDE is growth strength and community.

Lady Peaches Monroe

Pride's a chance for people who may be ignorant to the challenges our community faces everyday to come into our fabulous world and celebrate every colour of the rainbow with us. For a day we can all forget about prejudice and just bask in the fabulousness. Strength and courage people before have shown in order for us to have the freedom and liberation we have today and in a way it gives us a chance to broaden peoples horizons and opinions for the next generation. It's a fierce day with a fabulous meaning and for a great cause and I love being a part of it.

Fefe Geisha

I feel Pride is about celebrating who we are no matter gay, bi, trans or straight. It's a day to come together as a whole family, to be proud of what we have all achieved together. Yes the road for our community has been tough and we are all still fighting out for our equalities to this day. Pride is a time to celebrate, let our hair down and just come together as one.

<u>The Rainbow Project</u> Pride Message & Health Alert



pride message

Well, it's that time of year again. Gay Christmas is upon us and it is once again time to reflect on the strides our community has taken over the last year.

We have shown time and time again that, although we are a small community, we will not be ignored. In the last year we have won in courts, ensuring that samesex couples cannot be denied the opportunity to be considered for adoption and for the first time, the Northern Ireland Assembly debated marriage equality. Clearly, there is much more work that needs to be done to ensure that all our elected representatives know that they cannot continue to deny LGB&T citizens full and equitable participation in this society.

Pride is a great opportunity to celebrate our culture, meet up with old friends and to just have fun. We at The Rainbow Project want to wish everyone a great and safe Pride season. Early indications are that HIV and Syphilis among men who have sex with me are on the increase in Northern Ireland once again. Remember to protect yourself and others this Pride – always use condoms and water based lube.

The Rainbow Project team will be visiting the Party in the Square as well as the bars and clubs during Pride to distribute safer sex packs, you can also collect them from our office or order them through our website at any time.

While the best way to protect yourself against HIV and Syphilis is to always use condoms and water based lube, it is also important to get tested regularly. The Rainbow Project provides free and confidential rapid HIV and Syphilis testing. The test takes around an hour and you will your results the same day – remember it is important to know your HIV status so that you can make informed decisions about your sexual health.

Give us a call 9.30am – 5.00pm Monday – Friday on 028 9031 9030 to book your appointment.

Finally, from all of us here at The Rainbow Project we wish all of you a happy and safe pride. And don't forget if you need to talk, we are here to listen. With a range of support programmes around sexual health, mental health, hate crime and employment we are always here to help.

ы софилисе, сифилисе, сиф

Syphilis is On the Rise Again! Read the leaflet available here or go to www.ghn.ie for information in 9 languages.

Important (wažny) Information

Syphilis is Easy to Test and Easy to Treat.

GET A FREE SYPHILIS BLOOD TEST:

The Rainbow Project, 9-13 Waring Street Belfast Call 028 9031 9030 today to book your appointment

Also at other STI / GUM clinics. See www.ghn.ie for details.

A SYPH-TEST initiative by Gay Health Network, GMHS, HSE





Peter Francis Fahy Secrets of the Sodomites



The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah by John Martin (1852)

So I says to the editor I won't be submitting anything this month. The days fly by so fast and these submissions interfere with my plans for world domination.

But there's no rest for the wicked, certainly not for someone as wicked as me, and certainly not after I remembered that arse-kicker of an article that appeared in the papers a few years ago.

Does anyone remember when the Newsletter printed a massive one-page advert denouncing the sin of sodomy? This all took place during the summer of 2008. The writer, a Free Presbyterian minister (shocker), declared that homosexuality is an abomination, that we disgust God, and that our sexuality is unforgivable.

Eight individuals complained to the authorities and tried to sue the preacher for publishing these inflammatory homophobic remarks, but a High Court judge ripped the case to shreds and decreed that the Presbyterian has the right to his ignominious opinion, especially if it's endorsed by the Bible.

"Sodomy is a sin. Sodomites make me sick. But what's a sodomite?"

And guess what? I might not like the preacher, but I agree with him. Sodomy is a sin. Sodomites make me sick

But what's a sodomite?

You're probably thinking that a sodomite is a homosexual. Nope. That's a misconception that's wormed its way into the English language. **Obviously, sodomy has a direct** etymological link to Sodom. but Sodom, the doomed city in the Old Testament, was never recognized as a homosexual hotspot. That fallacy is a product of prejudice and bigotry, rather than historical fact and religious revelation.

Let's go back to Sunday school to hear the story of Sodom.

Once upon a time, around 2000 BC, Abraham's nephew Lot was in the unholy city of Sodom. "The men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly" (Gen 13:13) so 3 angels descended from Heaven to entreat noble Lot to take his family and flee this abysmal place. Lot welcomed the angels into his home, but the evil men of Sodom had spied the three strangers from afar. They congregated around the good man's door and demanded to speak to



Secrets of the Sodomites

the men he ushered inside. They wanted to 'know' them. Lot refused to placate them. Instead, he offered his virgin daughters to the mob, to be 'known'

The sodomites, furious for not getting what they want, booted the door down and charged inside, but they are blinded by the light of God. In the interim. Lot, his family, and the angels escape. Thunder shakes the sky and a scathing rain of fire destroys the city, annihilating every man, woman, and child. The end.

So now you're probably wondering why Sodom is associated with homosexuality. The tenuous link revolves around the word 'know.' This word, ironically enough, is called a heteronym, ie, a word with multiple meanings.

LOT AND HIS DAUGHTERS LUCAS VAN LEYDEN (1520)

111

When the Sodomites hammered on the door and demanded to 'know' the angels, the word means 'identify' or 'interrogate.' But, immediately after this usage, the definition changes (for reasons why, read Harold Blooms 'The Book of J'). Lot tried to persuade the Sodomites to 'know' his daughters instead. The word 'know' now carries a sexual connotation. Some readers of the story believe that the word 'know' consistently refers to sexual desire, and so, from the offset, the men of Sodom wanted to gang rape the angels.

But I can't emphasize this enough: male homosexuality in any context is not implied in the original story.

Who are the readers who misconstrue the message? It's not the Old Testament crowd. None of the Hebrew prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Amos, and Zephaniah) associate Sodom with homosexuality. They describe it as a city of sin, only because the residents were inhospitable, uncharitable, and aggressive.

So the story of Sodom never aspired to be an advert for homophobia. The J writer who wrote the book of Genesis in 850 BCE never expected that interpretation, nor did the prophets who influenced the Jewish religion.

Who made the mistake? His name was Philo of Alexandria, an orthodox Jew living during the advent of Christianity. Philo was one of history's biggest homophobes. He despised gay men, and even wrote that effeminate men shouldn't be allowed to live for a day or an hour. They should be killed on sight. Philo read the Sodom story in Genesis and postulated that 'know' unequivocally referred to sexual desire. He then argued that the city was destroyed for the sin of homosexual lust. The early church fathers accepted his interpretation, and the word 'sodomy' was born.

But the church fathers didn't pay much attention to one of Philo's contemporaries. You might have heard of him, a man called Jesus? Jesus condemned Sodom, but He referred to it as an inhospitable city, never a homosexual one.

So, now that the history lesson is complete, let's wrap this bitch up.

A sodomite is someone who is inhospitable, ungenerous, intolerant, and hostile. To the fork-tongued preacher who wrote that article in the Newsletter, between me and you mister minister, one of us is a sodomite. And it sure as hell isn't me.

Kevin & Eoin Love is Love



Belfast Pride is right around the corner and this year we have more to celebrate than ever following recent changes in adoption laws, equal marriage debates in the Northern Ireland Assembly and the formation of a new political party NI21 that could bring an end to the reign of outdated, homophobic political parties in Northern Ireland and make way for marriage equality in our corner of the world.

But what does gay pride mean to people now? Is it about a day of drinking and partying in Custom House Square? Is it about remembering the struggles of those before us who have paved the way for modern generations to enjoy equality in its most basic forms? Or is it viewed as a day to celebrate everything wonderful in our colourful community and show people what it's really about to be lesbian, bisexual, gay or trans gender? We caught up with local couple Kevin and Eoin after their recent engagement photo-shoot with Honey and the Moon Photography in Belfast to see what pride means to them. We felt that the picture of them embracing at City Hall in the middle of the day really sums up the true meaning of pride and how far our community has come in the last few decades that we can now comfortably relax as couples in public and be proud of who we are and proud to show that Love is Love. The photographs are being exhibited at the Rainbow Project for the duration of pride week so take a nosey down to check them out.

How did they meet?

Kevin: Well we met at a house party in the first instance and barely spoke to one another but added each other on Facebook shortly after. We chatted a bit on there but it wasn't until the second time we met at another party that we really hit it off. Our mutual friend Stacey is a bit of a Cilla Black or a Paddy McGuinness you could Photography by Honey & The Moon Photography www.honeyandthemoonphotography.co.uk

Kevin & Eoin Love is Love



say and helped with a bit of matchmaking.

Eoin: A friendship formed before anything else which was nice because it laid the foundations for a strong bond to form between us and now we are like two peas in a pod and have recently moved into our first home together.

Who decided it was the right time to get engaged?

Eoin: I proposed to Kevin over a romantic meal. I had never felt this way about anyone and our relationship was heading this way.

Kevin: It just felt like the right thing for us to do, we knew that our feelings were so strong we wanted to spend our lives together. We've been through a lot and Eoin really guided me and supported me through the tragic death of my father last year, we've spent many nights sitting up chatting into the early hours and although we haven't been together as long as some couples we became the best of friends and feel we know each other better than anyone else.

How do you feel about not being able to get married?

Eoin: We are quite happy that we are able to enter into a civil partnership but annoyed at the same time that our love isn't valued as equal as others who can get married. We haven't set a date just yet or started making plans but hope that one day there will be an opportunity to get married in the same way as straight couples do.

What does Pride mean to you?

Kevin: It's all about being proud of how we are as individuals and as a community, there is so much negativity thrust upon us



Photography by Honey & The Moon Photography

in the media and from certain politicians. Suicide rates are on the rise and gay people have a really tough time because of all the negativity thrown at them, Pride is a day to forget about all that, to set aside our differences and be proud of who we are.

Eoin: It's good to see our community and our supporters united for a day of celebrations and fun. We can shake off the prejudices, forget about the discrimination and be proud of who we really are. We don't have to be ashamed or hide our love, I love it.

How was the photo-shoot with Honey and the Moon?

Kevin: We had a great day and received some of the most beautiful pictures ever at the end of it all. All of our friends have been commenting and telling us how amazing the photographs look, we had a wonderful day in Belfast City Centre. We did get a few strange looks from passersby who appeared a little phased by the fact two men were holding hands and kissing in some of Belfast's top tourist spots but that's only to be expected sometimes and we didn't let it bother us. We had a brilliant day all round and have photos capturing a moment that we will always cherish.

Eoin: Many thanks to Honey and the Moon for making us feel so comfortable and relaxed on the day. We were a bit daunted to be venturing through Belfast in the middle of the day but we couldn't have been made feel more special and natural in the surroundings. The settings were outstanding and I'll definitely be back to Honey and the Moon again in the future, they offer something different to anything I've seen before and know exactly when and where to point that big camera.

Favourite moment together?

Kevin: I think we would both agree it was



the day we came into each others lives.

Bad couple habits?

Eoin: This is probably going to sound a bit weird but Kevin is forever carrying and leaving tea bags around the place. He takes them with him when he leaves the house and I've found them in his pyjamas, in his shoes and in the bed. I wouldn't necessarily call this a bad habit because it's part of Kevin's charm but he is so forgetful, somehow he always seems to forget the item I've been reminding him most not to forget about.

Kevin: Eoin is an X-Box addict, Call of Duty is his weakness. Oh and he sleeps alot.

We ask everyone the desert island question so what 3 items would each of you take with you if you had a choice and were left stranded on a remote island?

Eoin: I'd take Kevin for company, stuff to do my hair and a camera with lots of memory to document our island adventure.

Kevin: I would take Eoin along for the fun of the adventure if I'm imagining this island to be the way I think. I'd take deodorant because I'm obsessed with anti- perspirant and Ray Mears for obvious reasons.

Well, it's that time of the month for me again! There is no question too big or too small - I'll take on anything! Oh I've had the pleasure of reading all of your questions this month! I'm not laughing at your expense, I'm privileged to be trusted with your issues and I'll help you the best I can!



Dear Lucy

Dear Lucy,

I realised that I'm gay about two years ago. I'm quite fine about it and I'm out to a few close friends and my sister. I haven't come out to my parents yet and this terrifies me, especially my mum. Ever since I can remember, my parents hate gay people and anyone that's in any way different. I talked to my sister about coming out to them, and she told me that if I came out it could kill my mother. I feel that I can't be happy until I can tell them. What 20 I 20? Anonymous

Dear Reader,

Thanks for getting in touch! Coming out is a big issue and it's something that every LGBT person has to face at some point. It's great that you have come out to friends and your sister, even though I don't really appreciate what she has said to you as I think it's a bit one sided. People often don't realise how hard it is coming out and how equally hard it is to stay in the closet! You shouldn't have to, unless you're into that sort of kinky "lock me up and throw away the key" scenario. Do you feel you need to come out? Do you feel that you are ready? Then do it, but only do it when you're ready and not when you're put under pressure. A lot of people sit down and talk to their parents about it, but beware that you're parents are likely to experience loss, i.e, the idea of marriage, grandchildren, etc. As a result, they might say a few things that they could regret, but their unconditional love for you will see them through! A good idea might be to write out a letter and give it to them! This will give you the opportunity to plan out exactly what you're going to say. It also gives your parents the chance to absorb what is being said to them and they might react better! It's not like you see on T.V - the less drama the better! Have a friend at hand to talk to afterwards, even though you might be pleasantly surprised by their response!

Lucy Lashes presents... Dear Lucy DRAGony Aunt

Dear Lucy,

So glad you're doing agony aunt! I was reading through the last issue and I thought you could really help me with this problem. I'm new to this whole gay thing and no-one knows about me! I have no intention on coming out at the moment as I am nowhere near ready yet. I thought I would experiment and meet someone online who was in the same situation as myself, so I did! He was really nice and we got on really well. We slept together that night and it was my first time with another guy. I'm really worried though as we didn't use condoms. It was my first time and he was just out of a relationship and got himself checked. When he got up to leave after, I saw a big red rash on his burn! I didn't say anything to him and I'm terrified that he might have given me something! I haven't spoken to him since! Nobody knows I'm gay and I can't go to my doctor about this! What do I do? Mark, Derry

I'm glad you wrote to me! However in this situation, I do wish you went to your doctor first! During the day when I'm not clubbing, performing, acting the ballocks and writing for the magazine – I work in healthcare (but don't tell anyone! Shhhhhhhhh!) Your doctor, no matter who they are or how you know them – they will keep things confidential. In addition, your doctor will not judge you and has no reason to do so! You are who you are and you made a common mistake. When you meet someone casually and you decide to be intimate with them you should always use protection no matter what they tell you. First of all, don't panic and don't jump to conclusions. The rash on his bum is not necessarily an STI – just ask him. He might not even know the rash is there...When was the last time you se<u>en</u> your bum

in all its glory? You should still have a routine check due to the fact you had unprotected sex. If you don't feel comfortable going to your GP, you can make an appointment or drop in to your local GUM (Genito Urinary Medicine) clinic and they will provide a confidential service too. They're a lovely bunch in there and they give you lots of free condoms! Also, if you're interested you should Google your local Rainbow Project! They have lots of information about "the whole gay thing" and you can drop in too...You might meet someone nice! You should really stop beating yourself up about it! It's great being gay, but come out whenever you feel you're ready! Lucy xx

> Have you got a question that's burning inside of you like Syphilis? E-mail your questions to info@mygayzine.co.uk and don't forget to check out Lucy's column in next month's pride edition.

osmic Kosmic Karen returns for issue 10 of MyGayZine Magazine to help guide your spirit through the month of July. "I'm here to strengthen the spiritual wellbeing of MyGayZine's readers, my predictions and advice will help direct people down a positive path of light. I have consulted my guides and looked to the stars for advice so I can offer an insight into your future and transport you through your present. Check out the applicable star sign below or on the right to begin. Contact me at info@mygayzine.co.uk if you would like to know more. Don't be afraid, I only bite on the full moon & at the weekends.

c

aren

ARIES March 21 - April 19



You need to learn to take July easy as the summers breeze and pace yourself and stop wearing yourself out on things that are no longer your responsibility, you have to draw the line. Try new things as you will surprise yourself at how adaptable you can be, and realise that change isn't always a bad thing. Make sure you fully understand the full details before running head first into that argument with all of your many guns blazing.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20



Think, think twice and think again. Don't be afraid to reconsider your options this is your life and your choices and there is nothing wrong with choosing your best path, even if t is against the grain! The doubts creeping in cannot hinder the progression of your life, they are in all intense and purposes normal, respect them, just don't let them define you.

TAURUS April 20 - May 20



Happy days we are well and truly into the summer season and all that it brings, much to your delight as being outside with good company, great food and hopefully gorgeous weather your are in your glory! Although your happiest when you're the host, allow your friends and family to spoil you a little in return. There is a dark cloud around a new acquaintance that you should not ignore.

CANCER June 21 - July 22



It's the planet Jupiter that is important for you this month as it moves into you sign and its staying for a full year! You attract good luck when you're charitable, sympathetic and comforting. When you use their energy to save and accumulate, you get more. You are intuitive, and you let these feelings guide you they will attract much good fortune.

LEO July 23 - August 22



It's time to stand up and be counted, yes there are obstacles and trying times that frustrate you but that what happens when you are so blasé in dealing your difficulties, be thorough and start dealing then they will disappear as you wish! Make an extra added effort to get along with others around you whether it is professionally or personally.

LIBRA Sept 23 - Oct 22



This could be the season for you if you reach out and grab all of the opportunities that are coming your way to participate in all that life has to offer, but only if you manage to pitch in fully you will thoroughly enjoy yourself making some friends along the way. Avoid negative thoughts of what could have been as this could have detrimental effect on you.

SAGITTARIUS Nov22 - Dec21



As your ruling plant Jupiter has moved signs this is time of fortune for you in a financial sense, so the period ahead could bring greater prosperity to you as long as you don't allow it to burn a hole in your pocket and spend more than you have. Travel is on the horizon for you this month also.

AQUARIUS Jan 20 - Feb 18



You feel you're ready to let go of something that has been a

shadow on your life for quite a long time now, take it one step further and consider giving your life the complete overhaul in areas such as mind, body, spirit and health. You need to be honest with yourself and address your shortcomings.

VIRGO August 23 - Sept 22

Others people's expectations are too high, step aside and stop them from adding to your burden, explain and this will not cause problems with those who think highest of you. Stop wasting time on things that you don't enjoy anymore life is too short and you

enjoy anymore life is too short and you have so much to offer. Begin from today and put yourself first.

SCORPIO Oct 23 - Nov 21



Putting your foot in it comes naturally to you so it seems, you need to consider your words very

carefully as once you have spoken, the script is written and there is no going back. You like to try and be spontaneous but now is not the best time. You will have a real opportunity to show the more caring and loving side this month, take it.

CAPRICORN Dec22 - Jan 19



Just because a loved one's feeling the pressure it does not

mean that you have to be the one to jump to the rescue, there are others who can do more. You have so much on your mind at the minute you need to take safeguards against being weighted down and sinking into the ground, keep your energies up.

PISCES Feb 19 - March 20



Summer is the perfect time for your creativity, with all the colourful civic festivals and cultural activities you find yourself drawn to the more unusual of them. Don't stop it embrace it, it will have your creative juices flowing. This makes you a very interesting person to be around in July.



Sean McGeough

Our "Psychic Zone" has had an amazing response from all of our readers and we've had lots of questions sent in from a few inquisitive minds wanting to know more about our team of psychics. This month Psychic Sean gives us an insight into some of his work and explains the ins and outs of this often mysterious profession whilst also debunking some of the common myths and beliefs people sometimes associate with psychics

Happy Pride everyone!!

I've been given a chance to talk about my work and the "role of a psychic medium".

Firstly I work from a lovely wee centre in the Belfast City Centre called the house of healing, this is where I do my readings, treatments and classes.

52

Feel free to call in and have a chat with myself, Angela or any member of staff about the services we provide.

I read the Faulkner Tarot and a lot of people misunderstand what this is, day in day out I get asked if I'm a fortune teller, I smile and politely say no, there's no such thing.

A tarot reading is an intuitive reading based on what's going on in your life at the moment, what brought you to this point and can show a possible outcome over the coming months. When I am working doing a reading I invite the spirit world to come and let me know if they have anything to share.

How a medium works is individual to each medium and usually they are the "middle man" between you and the ones in spirit. Spirits don't just come and say "hi I'm john

Visit www.SeanMcGeough.co.uk for more info and other Psychic services

and that's my son" If they did our job would be so much easier, we need to put a puzzle together to the information and pass it on to the client.

As hard as it can be at times nothing beats bringing evidence to someone that their loved one is always around them.

Some tips for going for a reading: Keep an open mind, try to be relaxed as possible as we work with your energy too.

I don't just read cards there is a very big, almost unknown, healing scene and many fantastic people within this field of work.

I do and teach Reiki which is an energy based healing system that aids relaxation to promote the body's own healing abilities. I also do Metatronia therapy which is healing with Archangel Metatron for more info on this check out my website or Google them.

Working in the field I work isn't really a "normal" job, but then again there's some jobs out there I don't see as "normal".

One thing I've noticed is people think psychic's or mediums are superhuman.

Truth is.....we are far from it, we are people too. I know people who find out what I work as and are shocked to see me drink, smoke and even swear on occasion (never while I'm working though!), this I'm sharing so people can be a little more relaxed and understanding when they come to readings.

I've picked a card from the Saints and Angels deck for our very own Editor Danny Toner:

The card I picked is "Reward" and looking at this card I can tell straight away that your work is very stressful and you need to learn to hand over work to others and ask for some help when its needed.

All those late nights in front of the computer are really starting to pay off and you're seeing this now, maybe not in the bank account just yet but this will happen soon!

The card shows of a love and commitment to your job and it's not really about the money with you it's about getting your work out there and be proud of what you do (fitting for pride week!).

Just remember when things look hard and stressful keep on going as you're only going to go up from here. I'd get those headaches checked out too!

Happy pride folks and please do write in to get your reading done.

- Sean

UNISON is the trade union to support you if you work in health and social care education or the community/voluntary sector

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10 Good reasons to join UNISON if you are Lesbian Gay, Bisexual and/or Transgender.

- 1. Advice support and help at work.
- 2 Demonstrated commitment to the wider LGB&T community.
- 3. Very active on initiatives to make a difference for LGB&T members.
- 4. Provides regular ebulletins about LGB&T events and activities.
- 5. LGB&T festival programmes sent to you.
- 6. Free legal advice for you at work and your family at home.
- 7. Excellent range of free courses to suit you.
- 8. Access to National UNISON LGB&T publication/conference.
- 9. A range of discounts with national and local providers.
- 10. Indemnity insurance if you work in health or social care.

To join, get information or to sign up for our ebulletin Email: lgbtni@unison.co.uk Tel: 02890270190 www.unison.org.uk/out

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write me something Beautiful (for Anne)

write me something beautiful without a single sheet of paper or the use of a tedious pen

I want the ink to spill from your tongue, as your lips against mine become the words, and the fluidity your hands creates the punctuation.

our breath will craft the direction, as our kisses slowly turn into paragraphs, allowing the movement of our bodies to create the chapters of this perfectly written ti dream novel.

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a minute or four with ryan clor

Hi Guy's, Pride! Pride! Pride! now, we must not forget the what's it all about in the excitement of the day, remember Stonewall, and ensure your thoughts are with great organisations like The Terrance Higgins Trust and AIDS Awareness, after all that's what it's all about looking out for each other, and not just the gay community but all mankind.

We have had some great weather, now don't forget and stay hydrated, drink plenty of water and space your boozie drinks out. As I have touched on in past issues, if you feel you are being charged a king's ransom for a round of drinks then I suggest you all get together and let the establishment know exactly how you feel, now by that I don't mean start a full scale riot, just let them know that you are the customer and without that they would have no one to sell to, most of all be sensible this Pride.

I am currently in the Republic of Ireland touring the play so look it up and come down see us, say hello I don't bite. After my recent visit to L.A I was asked to speak about how we do pride in the UK, 'well there isn't much difference really' I said 'except the red hot climate they enjoy', and there really isn't I also tried to enlighten them of the dangers of the complete commercialisation of the events of the worldwide, and how important it is to get back to concentrating on the true meaning of the Pride.

We need to stop thinking of more ways of pulling cash from our pockets for pure business profit, and divert the funds to where they should be, with that in mind enjoy your day wherever you are.

(Dear Ryan) "Hi Ryan I enjoyed reading your last Dear Ryan, and that made me pluck up the courage to mail you with what you might think daft but here goes. I am a 40yr old female and have met this younger woman, 18yo be honest, she says she is so in love with me and makes me feel so good about myself. I love her deeply too, it's just so easy with her, we have all the same

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interests and she has a mind beyond her years. I am worried that I am missing something and things will inevitably go wrong because of the age gap".

RYAN SAY'S "I was told in conversation that some drivers have to change the break pad's every few hundred miles, why? I don't have to do that it seems a bit excessive. What on earth has a car got to do with anything I hear you all say? Well, if one anticipates a red light then one can apply the breaks gradually and you will get four or five times longer out of them. Never mind about the bodywork look after the engine and you will be fine. Be tolerant with each other and always give and take, be open and honest and you cannot go wrong.

I sincerely hope that each and every one of you planning on attending Pride events enjoy yourselves and that among all the drink, laughter and partying you find a little of what Pride really means, remember smile and the whole world smiles with you.

MAY YOUR GOD GO WITH YOU, RYAN DIOR XXX



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