MYGAYZINE

NORTHERN IRELAND

MS GAY IRELAND

Caitriona McCaughley interview P42-45

POPE FOOTBALL V HOMOPHOBIA DOWN

We analyse the recent efforts to eliminate homophobia in football

Full story
& comment
from Father
Joseph Ryan
P8&9

MARCH EDITION - ISSUE 6

HI FROM US

The year is zooming by already. That's us into March and Summer is only a short time away. The post winter lull is quickly fading and a few upcoming special occasions will give the year that kick up the arse some of us have been waiting for.

Mother's Day is upon us on the 10th, St Patrick's day is round the corner on March 17th and Easter hits us right at the end of the month on March 31st.

Issue 6 is one of our biggest most jam-packed editions ever ...!

Flick straight to the features section for our exclusive interview with the current Ms Gay Ireland, Caitriona McCaughley from Tralee, County Kerry. Media Guru, Dave Thomas returns to get your involvement in his new "Never Give Up" Documentary video project and Father Joseph Ryan from the LGBT Friendly Evangelical Catholic Church is back with his views on the recent resignation of the Pope and an Easter Message. All of this plus all of our regular contributors are back: Maurice Dickson gives us the lowdown on gay cruises, Chris McMurray shares her views on news and current affairs as well as a new poem in our poetry corner. Peter Fahy writes about homoerotic mythologies in his latest contribution in the Features section, Misty Falls is back with an interesting coming out story in What's the T?, Ryan Dior tells us more about directing his new play "TALK" starring Bruce Jones and Kosmic Karen has been talking to her balls again with her monthly horoscopes at the back.

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone involved for making this month's issue so bloody brilliant.

Tweet us, facebook us or go onto the website to get in touch. We love to get feedback and stories from our readers and encourage everyone to get in touch, even just to say hi.

March into Spring with your complete LGBT Guide to the month ahead.



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS MONTH'S ISSUE?

Nightlife

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MYGAYZINE NEWS

Cardinal Keith Causes a Crisis in the Catholic Church



Cardinal Keith O'Brien



A few hours before our latest issue going live we have seen a god almighty **U-turn from** the Ballycastle born Cardinal who was the most senior Roman Catholic in Britain. He has sensationally admitted to being guilty of conduct that had "fallen beneath the standards expected of me" regarding complaints

from other
Priests about
sexual advances
from the
Cardinal.

As a Priest, Archbishop and Cardinal from 1965 O Brien has served the Roman Catholic church in most parts of the world from one time or another apologised "to those I have offended" and asked for their forgiveness and also said sorry to "the catholic church and the people of Scotland".

One of the men who at the time says he left the priesthood after he was sexually propositioned by O'Brien in the 1980s. Other incidents involving the cardinal, who became archbishop in 1985 and then cardinal in 2003, included a series of "drunken fumblings" and unwanted advances.

Colin MacFarlane, director of Stonewall Scotland, challenged the cleric and the Scottish church to explain why he had not apologised directly to the gay community.

"We note with sadness that the cardinal didn't find it in him to apologies to gay people, their families and friends for the harm his vicious and cruel language caused," he said.

-Colin Mc Farlane Stonewall Scotland

All this from the man who has openly attacked the LGBT community at any given opportunity in the past.

In November 2012 he called off talks with the Scottish government over same-sex marriage.

Earlier last year
he compared the
proposed marriage
reforms in Scotland
to the re-introduction
of slavery and
believed it would
lead to a "grotesque
subversion of a
universally accepted
human right."

In 2012, he stated that same-sex relationships were "harmful to the physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing" and compared equal marriage to slavery and child abuse.

Ben Summerskill, chief executive of the charity Stonewall who awarded O'Brien with the 'bigot of the year award' at last year's Stonewall Awards called for a full investigation into the claims against him.

"We hope that his successor will show a little more Christian charity towards openly gay people than the Cardinal did himself."

-Ben Summerskill Chief executive of Stonewall

Unfortunately that's not looking likely as the man tipped for the job - Archbishop Philip Tartaglia has already hit the headlines last year over "upsetting and painful" anti gay remarks about the tragic death of the gay Scottish Labour MP David Cairns aged 44.

I am sure we will be hearing more from Archbishop Tartaglia.

We will have to wait to see how the Catholic Church deals with the situation now it is in the open.

He has admitted his guilt but the routinely hypocritical and horrible remarks from O'Brien deserve an open apology. His homophobic outbursts caused widespread hurt within the LGBT community. He has alot still to answer for.

Anti-Gay Propaganda from the Vatican is temporarily silenced as Pope Benedict's resignation takes effect.

February 28th saw Pope
Benedict XVI has abdicated his position as the leader of 1.2 Billion Catholics in the world, the first Pope to have done so for more than 600 years.

As the conclave of cardinals assembles itself once again in Rome to elect a successor, we take look back at some of Pope Benedict's most outrageous statements.



Pope Benedict XVI

In 2008 he claimed that the existence of gay people is as great a threat to humanity as the destruction of the rainforest. "The tropical forests do deserve our protection. But man, as a creature, does not deserve any less."

Benedict also saw it fit in December to bless Uganda's Speaker of Parliament, Rebecca Kadaga; one of the key backers of the Ugandan Kill the Gays Bill. In reference to trangender people he claimed that a "blurring" of genders would lead to the extinction of the human race.

On another occasion in 2008 he is quoted as saying "the homosexual lifestyle is inherently dangerous and destructive. It's not just that most gave and lesbians are casually promiscuous, and that ritualized sodomy is profoundly unhealthy. But homosexuality is incapable of natural reproduction; its lifestyle is one that is barren and childless and without children. there can be no future and ultimately, no hope"

Bye Bye Pope! Hello Hope? Cheerio to the man who earned a reputation as one the most viciously homophobic world leaders on a par with Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran and Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe.

In 2010 the 83-yearold, German Pope said homosexuality was "one of the most insidious and dangerous challenges to society" during an address to thousands of pilgrims at the shrine of Fatima in Portugal. It has become a new year's ritual for the pope to attack homosexuality and marriage equality but last Christmas he took his homophobia to new levels, denouncing what he described as people eschewing their God-given gender identities to suit their sexual choices – and destroying the very "essence of the human creature" in the process. "When freedom to be creative becomes the freedom to create oneself, then necessarily the Maker himself is denied and ultimately man too is stripped of his dignity as a creature of God,"

WHAT IF there was an LGBT Friendly PONTIFF?

Don't get your hopes up just yet as the next pope is to be elected by the very doctrinaire of cardinals put in place by either Benedict or his equally anti-gay predecessor John Paul II.

Benedict's election by the Vatican to its highest office in 2005 saw a renewed conservativism sweep the Catholic Church, with the Pope championing the institution's anti-gay, anti-abortion, anti-birth control and anti-women positions.

The name at or near the top of nearly everyone's list is that of Cardinal Peter Turkson of Ghana. He was appointed by Benedict in 2009 to serve as president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, and (surprise!) he's incredibly anti-gay too. If that doesn't frighten you I don't know what will. Unfortunately, the other top-tier papal contenders aren't much better either.

Whether the cardinals will use this as an opportunity to usher the Roman Catholic Church into the modern world with radical reforms to the current system of tiresome, out of touch teachings remains to be seen. Watch this space.



A child of eight with two mothers has written a letter to the Welsh Secretary David Jones to criticise his recent statement that same-sex couples are unsuitable for bringing up children.

The girl wrote to tell him that she has been brought up "perfectly well" by her two lesbian mothers.

Last month Jones told ITV:

"I regard marriage as an institution that has developed over many centuries, essentially for the provision of a warm and safe environment for the upbringing of children, which is clearly something that two same-sex partners can't do."

The girl's letter was posted on Twitter by one of the child's mothers.

It reads:-

"Me and some of my other friends agree that you can be brought up by anyone who will love you and care for you and makes sure your happy."

Dear Mr Jones,

I am writing to inform you that I don't agree that children shouldn't be brought up by lesbian or gay people. My name is Elizabeth and I am a child with lesbian parents. I have got a little sister called Pippa for short and I have got two mums, one is called kate and the other is called Alison. I have been brought up perfectly well so I don't see any point in you saying that. Me and some of my other friends agree that you can be brought up by anyone who will love you and care for you and make sure your [sic] happy.

Please write back!

Elizabeth



A spokesperson for David Cameron yesterday distanced the Prime Minister from Jones' comments:

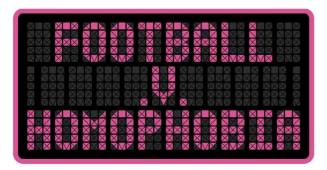
"The prime minister believes gay families can provide warm and safe environment for raising children."

Shortly after, Jones released a follow up statement saying:

"I made the point of stressing that I was fully supportive of committed same-sex relationships. I also strongly approve of civil partnerships... I did not say in the interview that same-sex partners should not adopt children and that is not my view."

by Chris McMurray

MYGAYZINE NEWS



Finally after years of allowing homophobia to fester within the sporting environment we are now starting to see changes being made in the wider sporting community to actively promote sports and sporting events to more LGBT fans.

Last Month football and homophobia were in the spotlight for all the right reasons.

The Football v
Homophobia
campaign was
backed publicly
and given some
great promotion
by the England
Manager Roy
Hodgson and the
West Ham Utd
team.

Mr Hodgson said 'I'd never want to see someone excluded from playing or watching because they are fearful of what might be said to them and that's why it's important that we are all supportive of the Football v Homophobia campaign.

Last month another West Ham Utd senior player Matt Jarvis said that gay footballers should come out, they would be supported and it could possibly lead to them playing better on the pitch. The Premier League outfit all donned new Football v Homophobia t-shirts when taking part in a pre-match warm up before facing Reading.

Rugby Legend Ben Cohen told MP's that sport has a massive part to play in eradicating homophobic bullying and warned against complacency.

The English
Football
Association has
created and
sent a toolkit to
clubs containing
advice on how
to reach out to
LGBT fans and
how to combat
homophobia.

The campaign has found that 24% of gay men stayed away from football matches because of perceived homophobia and a massive 75% of people who are Trans felt the sport was transphobic.

Brian Ellner of Athletes Ally, which stands against homophobia in sports across the US said that the former Leeds Utd and American international, Robbie Rogers, who quit playing and 'came out' in February 'Demonstrated enormous courage' by coming out and that it was 'Great to see the overwhelming positive response from other players around the sport' adding that 'it's clear that the culture of sports is transforming rapidly, we're at a tipping point'.

Back in the UK however Rugby Legend Ben Cohen told MP's that sport has a massive part to play in eradicating homophobic bullying and warned against complacency.

TheFA



Cohen went on to talk about the 'Charter for action to kick homophobia out of sport' launched in 2011 by all major governing bodies in sport including the FA, Rugby Union and Rugby League.

Minister for sport Hugh Robinson MP said that he was 'appalled' at the fact sports people still feel like they cannot 'come out' whilst still actively competing.

Former 'God Hates Fags' church member poses for LGBT rights campaign



A former member of the 'God Hates Fags' church has posed for the US gay rights campaign 'No H8'.

Lauren Drain, who spent several years with the Westboro Baptist Church (which is known for blaming America's problems on homosexuals and picketing soldiers' funerals), said she regretted the church and her actions.

The No H8 campaign aims to promote same-sex marriage

NO H8

and equal rights for all across the US. She wrote:

"The main reason I posed for the NO H8 Campaign was in direct response to the judgments of the WBC.

I wanted to show people that despite having grown up within the cult and having spent a good portion of my life on the picket line, holding signs condemning our deceased soldiers, revelling in any and all forms of tragedy and simply striving to be hurtful in the name of God; that the WBC is wrong and what I did at the time was wrong!

"I now try and lead by example, with love, compassion and an open mind. Having done a complete 180, I still struggle with little things from time to time – but I know in my heart that I am now on the right path."

Drain's participation in the campaign last month follows shortly after Megan and Grace Phelps-Roper (daughters of the church's leader Fred Phelps) left the church and apologised for their past.

NEWS SNIPPETS

INFORMATION APPEAL



The family of a Londonderry man who died 6th Feb last year at his home in the city are still appealing for

information about their son's final movements.
Terry McCartney was a 42 year old well known gay rights campaigner. The attack was thought to be homophobically motivated. On the morning of his death Mr McCartney had been in some kind of incident with a group of men at the cities Shipquay Gate and was punched to the ground.

Police ruled that his death was not suspicious after a post mortem but his family have launched a fresh appeal to find a good Samaritan who helped Mr McCartney after he'd been hit. If you can help the McCartney family with any information regarding this please help by contacting the Police in Derry City's Stand Road Police. It doesn't matter how small you think the information is please don't hesitate to call.

55% lesbian , gay and bisexual secondary school pupils in Britain have experienced

SCHOOLS NEED TO DO MORE TO TACKLE BULLYING

homophobic bullies while a staggering 99% have heard the word 'gay' being used in a derogatory way. Stonewalls boss Ben Summerskill has said that he had looked forward to changes in peoples attitudes to LGBT people in the wake of the Civil Partnership coming into effect but that casual and malicious homophobia is still endemic in British



society. Clearly as long there is a difference between mixed and same sex right to 'Marry' the systemic homophobia that plagues the everyday life of thousands of LGBT people throughout the UK will continue..

STRAIGHT BUT CERTAINLY NOT NARROW.



The London sex survey 2013 has found that almost a quarter of men said they'd had, or would have a same-sex sexual encounter, and

more than half of women said the same. Wonder how the results would compare if we repeated the survey in Belfast? Higher? Lower?

MYGAYZINE NEWS

PRIDE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM LIMERICK



The annual Limerick LGBTQ Pride festival runs from August 30th to September 8th 2013.

The colourful festival has become a cultural signifier for a tolerant and open Limerick city as it moves ahead towards city of Culture status for 2014 and beyond to the current bid for the city to host the Gay Games in 2018.

The Chairperson of the 2013 festival Mr. David Cuddihy, is "Thrilled with the fantastic support shown by local business. and friends of the Limerick LGBTQ community. This year is going to be really special for Limerick Pride as the festival continues to thrive and attract visitors to the city. The energy and enthusiasm of Limerick people is second to none and we want the festival to reflect that passion."

Despite being the third largest city in Ireland the LGBTQ scene is not confined to a single bar or area. Locals tend to socialise in an integrated way in bars and clubs across the city. The impact of Pride annually is all the more dramatic as numbers swell each vear and the party gets bigger and the outfits more flamboyant regardless of weather conditions!

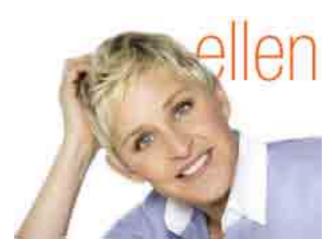
As in previous years highlights have included the Parade and block party and the Climax party at Dolans warehouse. Local Drag star Celine leads an enthusiastic crowd from the Parade to the after party for some light refreshment, and the legendary fixture that is the Tea dance with Myles Breen. Drag performance and music is the order of business for the day and evening as Limericks' first Ladies of Drag Sheila and Madonna lead an array of local and international talent on stage at Dolans warehouse. Guest performers have included former Ireland Eurovision winner Niamh Kavanagh, X-Factor star Johnny Robinson, and Limerick native Leanne Moore.

The festival has held many events outside of the parade day which have included the Mr. And Miss Gay Limerick pageants, an annual non-denominational Prayer service, and topical debates on issues such as Marriage Equality and sexual health. Typical mainstays include a film screening, art exhibition, theatre and guided tours, in addition to community outreach events. A more recent development is the annual céilí or Géilí as it is affectionately known. An evening of Irish traditional dancing, music, storytelling and song hosted by Bean an Tí Sheila Fits-Patrick. Out of drag Sheila has won two all Ireland medals for set dancing and Irish Story telling in Scór which is the artistic wing of the G.A.A. Past performers have included internationally renowned Celtic spiritual singer Nóirín Ní Riain and her son's Eoin and Moley of 'Size 2 Shoes' fame .The Pride wind down event is gaining popularity also. After a hectic week you can book in for some chill out holistic therapy.

If you are visiting Limerick or would like to get involved in some way please email info@limerickpride.ie or visit www.limerickpride.ie to stay up to date with our festival schedule as it develops in the coming weeks.

SHOWBIZ NEWS

ELLEN DEGENERES: BOY SCOUTS CAN'T BE GAY? BUT
THEY'RE SO CAMP! - BY CHRIS MCMURRAY



Ellen DeGeneres has added her voice to the ongoing debate about the Boy Scouts organisation in the US which is considering lifting its ban in openly gay members and leaders.

During her daytime talk show yesterday, DeGeneres joked: "They won't let their members be gay, well, openly gay anyway, but they're letting them wear neckerchiefs and green short shorts." She added: "When you're camping in the woods, do you really need to be worried about someone's sexual orientation?

You should be worried about bears and poison ivy and poison

oak and black widows and tics and Lyme Disease." On a more serious note, she said: "I realise this is a big decision for the Boy Scouts because, if the Boy Scouts start treating gays equally they're going to become the first group to do it - after the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marines, the Coast Guard [and]..all of the United Kingdom."

She added
"Obviously I think
that the Boy Scouts
should allow gay
members. The fact
that they don't is
insane... I hope
when (they) finally
decide to take
action, they make
the right decision."

ALICE ARNOLD: I WILL MARRY CLARE BALDING (WITH-OUT THE INVERTED COMMAS!) BY CHRIS MCMURRAY



Clare Balding's civil partner Alice Arnold has revealed their plans to marry, in the aftermath of the vote on equal marriage last month.

Arnold wrote in The Telegraph: "Neither of us has made any secret of the fact that we would get married if the law allowed, every newspaper has reported it.

"We will do it because we don't want our relationship to exist in inverted commas. That one word
MARRIED is crucial
because it defines
our relationship. The
way we see ourselves
and the way we wish
others to see us."
She argued that
equal marriage would
benefit LGB people
throughout society,
even if they don't
choose to get married
themselves.

"A generation grew up without support in their schools or clubs. For those that felt they may be gay there was a culture of pervading shame." "Children are not born with prejudice, it is society that nurtures it. Young people now can grow up to learn that a loving relationship between a same sex couple can be recognised in exactly the same way, it is not something 'other'."

Responding to religious arguments that had been made in the House of Commons, which had included 'God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve', saying "The church does not own the institution of marriage. It is a civil right."

Arnold, a former presenter on BBC Radio 4, left the BBC in December to pursue new career ideas.

ENTERTAINMENT

RITA ORA SAYS BISEXUAL MODEL AND HARRY STYLES'

EX CARA DELEVINGNE IS HER "WIFEY!"



Pop star Rita Ora – who was a guest judge on last year's X Factor – has of course recently split from her boyfriend Rob Kardashian, and despite rumours that she may be dating X Factor winner James Arthur, Rita reckons she's quite happy being single for now...

However, in an interview with The Sun, Rita claimed that she's enjoying having bisexual model – and Harry Styles' ex – Cara Delevingne as her "wifey" at the moment.

Of Cara, Rita said, "She's officially mine. She's, like, untouchable. I've taken her off the market. We call each other 'wifey'.

DAVID FURNISH: "LET'S RENEW THOSE VOWS EVERYWHERE THEY BECOME LEGAL!"



It appears Elton John and David Furnish may be planning multiple lavish weddings for when equal marriage is legal in the UK, and in Los Angeles, when it becomes legal there.

"When we go back to Britain, we will definitely renew our vows under the gay marriage act but to do it here in Los Angeles,

which is a second home to us, we'd love to do it here too!" "It is one of the pivotal defining issues of our time and this moment has arrived and even though we have our relationship legally recognized, people are fighting hard for this issue everyday and deservedly so," he tells us, "If we can give it profile and support, we'll continue to do that."

PEREZ HILTON ANNOUNCES THE BIRTH OF HIS FIRST CHILD ON HIS WEBSITE



Celebrity Blogger
Perez Hilton has
announced the
birth of his first son
earlier in February
and says he "can't
stop crying"

The gossip king wrote that he wanted his readers to read the announcement directly on his site, and went on to thank readers for being loyal to his site.

He posted a photograph of himself and his son, whose name was not given, alongside the post.

PEREZHILTON

"Dear Friends,

I want you to hear this directly from me, right here.

I am ready to announce that earlier this month I was blessed with the birth of my first child, a beautiful and healthy baby boy -- with lots of hair on his tiny head!

My family is overjoyed at this newest and most cherished addition. Thank YOU for welcoming PerezHilton.com into your homes, offices, classrooms, cell phones and wherever else you may read my five websites. And thank you for welcoming ME into your lives!

I am so humbled to welcome this little man into my life. And I am honoured and ready for the challenge of guiding him through his.

With love, Perez"

Celeb Tweets:

Paris Hilton: Congratulations @PerezHilton on your new sor Such exciting news, so happy for you! - Love Paris Emma Bunton: @PerezHilton Amazing news, it's the best feeling in the world! Congratulations Daddy! The Backstreet Boys: Congrats to our man @PerezHilton! Thanks for sharing the great news about your son with all of us - let us know if you need any baby tips!

MOVIES & MUSIC UPDATE

AVAILABLE MARCH 2013

A SHARE WAS A SHAR

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. March brings with it a mammoth amount of cool movies and music. 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 download on the next page.





DUT ON DVD

Argo **End of Watch** 18 March

Twilight Saga: Complete The Master 11 March

Anna 25 March

THIS MONTHS SINGLES

'Girl Talk' Kate Nash - 4 March

'Graffiti on the Train' 'Sing to the Moon' Laura Mvula - 4 March

'The Next Day'

David Bowie - 12 M 'The 20/20 Experience'

Justin Timberlake - 12 March

TAYLOR SWIFT



...AND ALBUMS

'Army of two' Olly Murs - 11 March 'Boomerang' cole Scherzinger - 11 March 'Just Give Me A Reason' Pink ft. Nate Ruess - 17 Ma 'What About Us' Saturdays ft. Sean Paul 17 March

1221

Taylor Swift - 31 Mar



EDITOR'S CHOICE

The Seafarer

Lyric Theatre Belfast
Now until 23rd March
By Conor McPherson
Directed by Rachel O'Riordan

By the light of a flickering candle, five men play cards. Each has his own reason to take part in this Christmas Eve poker game, but for one, the stakes couldn't be higher...

The Seafarer tells the tale of James 'Sharky' Harkin; erstwhile fisherman/van driver/chauffeur and recovering alcoholic who has returned to his family home in Dublin. He is here to escape and to look after his blind older brother Richard, who rules the chaotic, booze-fuelled roost. Soon old buddies Ivan and Nicky are round for a festive tipple or ten and bring with them a mysterious stranger. The cards come out, but as the game goes on it becomes clear to Sharky that drink will not be the only demon he has to face tonight.

Magnificently atmospheric, this darkly funny Faustian tale of hope and despair was nominated for Evening Standard; Tony and Olivier Awards for Best Play.

It receives its Scottish and Northern Irish premiere in this joint Lyric Theatre and Perth Theatre production.



"... a midnightblack comedy... No matter what you're expecting at the halfway mark, you won't feel cheated when the curtain falls."

Wall Street Journal

"a powerful Scottish premiere, well worth savouring ... a great 21st century hymn"

The Scotsman

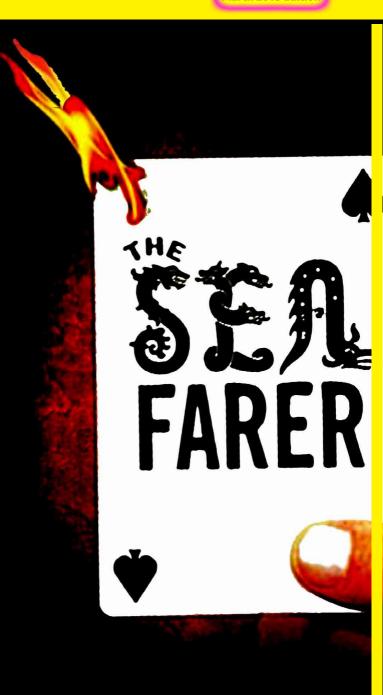
"astonishing writing and terrific performances"

The Herald

"a gorgeously measured production... beautifully performed" The Telegraph

"lively entertainment that also leaves you pondering its deeper implications... excellent" ****
The Times

"The writing is poetic, brutal, athletic, hilarious" Sunday Times





WHO? WHERE? WHEN? WHAT?

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

WHO? WHERE? The Script

Odyssey Arena, Belfast

WHEN?

4 - 6 March

WHAT?



Danny O'Donoghue returns with his friends from the Script who have now conquered Britain, USA and everywhere from Asia to South Africa. With album sales totalling 4 million and 9 million single sales under their belt they've come along way from first single "We Cru".

WHO?

One Direction

7 - I I March

WHERE?

Odyssey Arena, Belfast

WHEN?

WHAT?



Belfast welcomes Niall Horan, Zayn Malik, Liam Payne, Harry Styles, and Louis Tomlinson back to the Odyssey Arena only weeks after winning their second BRIT award for 'Brit's Global Success'. Prepare yourself we have some X-Factor superstars on their way to Belfast.

WHO?

Girls Aloud

WHERE?

Odyssey Arena, Belfast

WHEN?

I 3 March

WHAT?



Following a remarkable single for last year's Children in Need - "Something New" and a new album of their hit singles from the last 10 years - "Ten" out now, the concert promises to be a real treat for GA fans promising a trip back in time as well as some fresh melodies to get you jumping.

WHO?

WHERE?

WHEN?

WHAT?

Stereophonics

Waterfront Hall, Belfast

7 March

Stereophonics take their outstanding new album 'Graffiti on the Train' on the road for a class act tour. The amazing distinctive voice of Kelly Jones is not to be missed live. Stereophonics are Kelly Jones, Richard Jones, Adam Zindani and Jamie Morrison on the drums.



WHO? WHERE? WHEN? WHAT?

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

WHO?

Christy Moore

WHO? WHERE? **Primal Scream**

WHERE?

Waterfront Hall, Belfast

HERE? Millennium Forum Derry

WHEN? 20 - 21 March

WHEN? WHAT? 19 March

WHAT?

Irish hit singer Christy
Moore returns to
Belfast's Waterfront Hall
with his best known
songs and a few new
ones. Including the BBC
Folk award nomination
for 'best original song'
'Morcambe Bay' based
upon the story of the
Chinese cockle pickers
caught unaware by the
rising tide.

Primal Scream are celebrating 30 years rocking and rolling, shimmying, shaking, funkin' and souling - 30 years has cemented them as live music legends. If you can get yourself to L'/Derry it's well worth checking out, it'll be funkin' brilliant.

WHO?

Give my Head Peace

WHERE?

Island Arts Centre, Lisburn

WHEN?

9 March

WHO?

WHERE?

Jack Dee

Millennium Forum Derry

WHEN?

27 - 28 March

WHAT?

Ma,Da, Cal and all the gang will be there along with Ulster's most menacing clergyman Pastor Begbie - the fabulous Paddy Jenkin's. It will be a brand new show with up to the minute satire, your favourite characters and superb stand-up from Tim McGarry.



His six year absence from Stand-Up has ended and after his media successes on shows like 'Ql', 'Never Mind The Buzzcocks', 'Have I Got News For You', Radio 4's 'I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue' and co-writing/starring in 4 series of BBC 2's hit sitcom 'Lead Balloon' hes finally touring again.

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



WHO? WHERE? WHEN? WHAT?

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

WHO?

WHERE?

WHEN?

WHAT?



Femme Fatale Show

Sandino's Ballroom Derry

7 March

4th Annual International Women's Day event and an amazing night of music and poetry from some very talented ladies. This really is a night not to be missed. The fabulous Tina McLaughlin has been overheard saying it's going to be super spectacular!!! Oh yes and it's only five pounds at the door. Up The Bra!!!!!!!

WHO?

WHERE?

WHEN?

WHAT?







LGBT ADOPTION & FOSTERING WEEK

4TH-10TH MARCH 2013 LGBT Adoption and Fostering Information Eve

BAAF NI, Bolanic Avenue, Belfast

21 March

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people are being urged to consider adoption and fostering, ahead of the second annual LGBT Adoption and Fostering Week, which runs from 4th to 10th March 2013.

This free information event is hosted by PACT adoption agency and New Family Social, held at the BAAF NI office between 6 and 8pm. Come along to hear about the current legal situation for unmarried couples, and learn about LGBT adoption or fostering in Northern Ireland.

Please note, registration is required for this event.

For information and to find an event nearby, visit lgbtadoptfosterweek.org.uk



FRIDAYS @

TWANDA, DJ MOGOLDIE D'LICIOUS & SPECIAL GUESTS

LADY TWANDA FAUX-KNIGHTLY'S

DEN OF INIQUITY

KARAOKE

DRAG ACTS

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AND MORE...

9PM - 1 AM

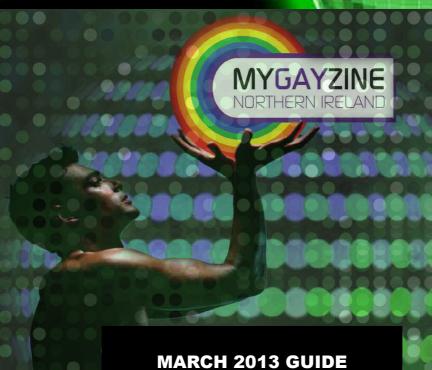
(FIND US ABOVE THE FRONT

PAGE BAR, 110 DONEGAL

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TEL: 02890 324924)

Nightlife guide



Drop us an email today at info@mygayzine.co.uk

Check back each month and see read our reviews of some of Northern Ireland's BEST LGBT and LGBT Friendly Venues.

Your Monthly Nightlife Guide

Pubs . Clubs . Restaurants . Saunas

Kremlin

......

Kremlin nightclub, Belfast presents popular club nights every night of the week except Mondays, Open until 3am. Check in for a St. Patricks extravaganza.

El Divino

Join Pat and Titti
as they continue
their search for Mr
Swagger this March
in the beautiful
surroundings at El
Divino. Davina Devine
may be appearing
again shortly too.

b 4

Fox's Den

Fridays - Twanda &
Mo - Karaoke night
Saturdays - Club
Night with DJ terry
Sun 17th MarchTwanda & Mo St.
Paddys night
Mon18th - Bank
Holiday - Club Night

Envy

L'/Derry's hottest big gay night out just got hotter with the opening of last month's 3rd floor lounge bar extension.

Spice

17th March Pride Street Party
Fundraiser - Building
on the success of Last
month's Parliament
reunion in Mynt we
present Spice: The
Crow's Nest Years this
St Patricks Night.

Central Bar

Northern Ireland's only bar outside of a city is becoming a beacon of LGBT entertainment and craic in the West of Ireland. There's always something on. well worth checking out if your near Strabane

Passion

The next Passion, Newry's Only LGBT night will be on Saturday 6th April at Bellini's Bar and

Restaurant.

Silk

COMING SOON

Mynt

The Parliament years was such a success last month, they'll be bringing it back again this month towards the end of April. Keep your eyes pealed on the facebook page.

LIFESTYLE

COOKING

Submit your recipes to info@mygayzine.co.uk & we'll publish some of the best each month.

St. Patrick's Day Specials that'll make anyone not eating them go green with envy.

ingredients

1 tbn of Butter, 1 lb of Parsnips, thinly sliced, 1 lb of Apples, peeled/cored/sliced, 1 chopped onion, 2 tsp of curry powder, 1 tsp of ground cumin, 1 tsp of ground coriander, 1/2 tsp of cardamom seeds, 1 large crushed garlic clove, 1 1/4 litre stock of beef or chicken, 150 ml of Cream, Salt and pepper, Chopped chives.

method

Heat the butter, and when foaming, add the parsnips, apples, and onions. Soften them but do not let colour.

Add the curry powder, spices and garlic and cook for about 2 minutes, stirring well. Pour in the stock slowly, stirring until well mixed.

Cover and simmer gently for half an hour, or until the parsnips are

quite soft. Taste for seasoning.
Strain or liquidize, and if too thick, dilute with a little stock or
water. Add the cream and reheat, but do not let boil.
Serve garnished with chopped chives.

Irish parsnip & apple soup

method

Place the potatoes into a large saucepan and cover with salted water. Bring to the boil, then reduce heat to medium-low, cover and simmer until tender, about 20 minutes. Drain and allow to steam dry for a minute or two. While potatoes are boiling, place cabbage into a saucepan with about 2.5cm of water, bring to the boil, cover and simmer the cabbage until tender, 10 to 15 minutes. Drain the cabbage and set aside.

In a large bowl, mash the potatoes and mayonnaise together, adding chicken stock by the tablespoon until you reach your desired consistency. Season the mashed potatoes with salt and pepper. Stir the cabbage into the mashed potatoes.

Place the cooked ham into a frying pan over medium-low heat and cook and stir until the ham is hot, about 3 minutes. Stir the cooked ham into the colcannon and serve with some grated Irish cheddar and enjoy.

Cheesy colcannon with ham

ingredients

5 lb potatoes, peeled and cubed, 900g cabbage (chopped), 3 tbs mayonnaise or more if needed, 420 ml chicken stock or as needed, Salt and black pepper to taste, 900g fully cooked ham, cubed.

LIFESTYLE



Gay cruises are one of the most fun types of gay holiday. To be only with gay men on a big ship gives people a lot of fantasies ... but there is much more to a gay cruise than just that!

For those who have never been on one we will give some clues about what to expect.

We also explain the differences between the cruise companies, ships and destinations.

Atlantis gay cruises

Atlantis is the biggest brand in gay cruises. They organise about 8 large gay cruises every year around the world.

Atlantis mostly operate with the A class ships from Royal Caribbean, Celebrity Cruises and Holland America Line.

Number of passengers is from 1500 up to 6000. All Atlantis cruises have their famous large parties on deck, with party themes, and guys often make an effort on their outfits.

The Caribbean cruises depart from Fort Lauderdale or Miami (next to each other) and sail usually in spring. These are the real party cruises, with 1 or 2 big parties on deck every night.

For Americans from Florida it can

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"Step on board an all gay cruise for an experience you will never forget"

be cheap to go, so the crowd is relatively young. Not all Caribbean islands are very interesting, but staying on board some of the land days can be fun and relaxing too.

The yearly Mexico cruise in October/
November usually departs from Los
Angeles and sails to
Puerta Vallarta. This is same kind of cruise as the Caribbean one, but then of course more a
West Coast crowd.

In summer there are usually 2 Mediterranean cruises in Europe. and the crowd on these cruise is mostly

European.These cruises are usually a bit longer (and so more expensive) as well.

Cruises set sail for a multitude of destinations around the world, you can contact us to discuss the locations you would most like to visit and we can help you find the ship with an itinerary closest to your needs.

The sightseeing is also important so don't get too carried away partying. So guys sometimes it's a good idea go early to bed to do a tour in the morning!

In general the ships have a mixed crowd of thousands on board, both in ages as in type of men.

They range from average guys to muscle Mary's, twenty somethings and older guys.

Yeah, there are even really old people on board, but you will usually only see them during the day. And be nice to them!:)

Women are less common passengers, but all cruises always have a (small) group on board.

RSVP gay cruises

RSVP gay cruises is the sister company of Atlantis. They organise about 2-3 gay cruises each year, and do also some small river cruises in Europe.

We hear the guys on these cruises make an even a bigger deal about their outfit for the theme parties. And there is usually one black tie dinner party you can attend. Each of the 2 brands has its own fans.

La Demence cruise

La Demence is since many years one of the most popular monthly European gay circuit parties in Brussels. Since 2010 they have been organising a yearly gay cruise as well, in the Mediterranean Sea. This cruise is very party oriented, and there is even a dark room on deck. They also have costume parties.

These cruises are organised on a cheaper category of ships, so the price is quite below the Atlantis Med cruises.

Other gay cruise companies

There are several other gay cruise companies, usually organising one gay cruise a year, but normally as a group on board an ordinary cruise scheduled for anyone.

For lesbians there is the Olivia women only cruise.

For gay bears the Bearcelona cruise (usually they rent part of a ship).

In Brazil local gay cruises are organised, but speaking Portuguese might be essential.

And there are quite some gay sailing cruises on much smaller boats.

We try to list as much gay cruises in our agenda, if we miss one don't hesitate to contact us.

Entertainment on board:

In day time you either go on shore to visit one of the cities the ship is docking, or you stay on board. Most of the guys hit the Sun Deck on top of the ship to relax at the pool, watching other guys and sipping their cocktails. It's like a sailing beach!

As food and drinks are available almost 24/7, it's hard to keep that just acquired six pack you've trained for. Still you should not skip dinner, which is served in the massive restaurants. It's the moment to get to know new people.



LIFESTYLE

Unlike traditional cruises, the Atlantis cruises do not have a dress code for dinner and no fixed table settings. It's all very informal. So you don't have to be afraid to be stuck with fixed company you do not like, wearing your uncomfortable tux. After dinner, there are many opportunities to entertain yourself. The Casino, movies at the cinema, Atlantis gay performers at the many bars, Broadway style productions at the theatre....



Contact Gayaway2 Travel for latest prices, offers and cabins available. Check out our cruise page on our website www.gayaway2travel.com and watch videos of what it is like on board and entertainment available to get you in the mood! Contact us today 0845 467 3558 or visit

www.gayaway2travel.com

LIFESTYLE

HOLIDAYS MAURICE DICKSON WWW.GAYAWAY2TRAVEL.COM

The Parties

Atlantis Event cruises are the biggest floating gay parties in the world. Every cruise, international top DJ's are flown in to hit the decks during one of the many parties on board. These parties are all themed, and although (again) there's no dress code, you will be surprised how many spectacular costumes are packed and brought on to the ship. So dress up and be part of the fun!There are so many different parties in one week; you will be exhausted once you get off board.

Think about what you're looking for on any given vacation, and investigate accordingly.

If shipboard amenities and exotic ports of call hold the greatest interest to you, gay group cruise vacations serve them up in abundance. If the gay-specific entertainment and social opportunities are most intriguing, consider an all-gay cruise or at least make sure you're in a big group.

Gay group cruise vacation can offer all the luxuries of a cruise, with these a few added extra events and gatherings to get to know your fellow passengers such as an exclusive welcome aboard cocktail party, pre-arranged group dining, special functions and more.

Gay groups offer a much broader range of cruise experiences than the all-gay cruises. While all-gay cruises offer just a limited number of departures and a narrow range of ship types and experiences, gay groups cover a broad cross-section of cruise opportunities. You'll find more interesting ships and more unusual itineraries than those on all-gay cruises.

Frequently asked questions

Q. How many guys on one ship did you say?

The number of passengers varies per ship, but an average sized ship can carry up to 2500 passengers. One of the biggest of them all, the Freedom and the Liberty of the Seas, does an incredible 3700. Staff not included.

Q. Do I have to be a muscle Mary to join?

No. although many guys come from the so called party circuit, the mix of guys on board is varied, both in age and in type.

Q. Is it expensive?

Yes and No. Of course it's not cheap to be on such a luxury cruise ship. But .. the prices are in US dollars which is currently very weak compared to the Euro.

Q. What is included?

Your cabin, your food (it's like all you can eat), coffee, tea, water, the entertainment, the parties, the trip and all the boys. Drinks are not included, neither are the excursions on shore.

Q. Is it one big orgy?

If you want to you can cruise your butt off. Let's say all the guys are in "holiday mood".... In the end it's all up to you.

Q. I'm not a party animal

No problem. Although there many parties on board, if you just want to relax quietly, nobody will push you into things you don't want to. The ships are so big; you can easily enjoy your holiday the way you want.

Q. Any lesbians on board?

Men are dominantly represented in these all gay cruises, although there's always a group of ladies enjoying the fun. The cruises are open for everyone who likes an open atmosphere: gay, lesbian and yeah... even straight people.

Q. Can I come alone?

Sure. You will make many new friends from all over the world: at the pool, at the dinner table, at the gym, during a show or on the dance floor. You will often find people advertising willing to share accommodation so way to save on costs and meet new people.

LIFESTYLE

FASHION



USCPolice Prodigy Trail
Men's Jeans **£65**



TopmanWashed Burgundy Leopard Print
Sweatshirt **F32**



House of Fraser Fred Perry Madras Collar Polo Shirt £60



www.oakley.com
Men's "Antics"
Sunglasses
£95

Schuh Ugg Men's Harmic Boots £89.99



River Island
White Chambray
Trim Short Sleeve Shirt
£25



www.thewatchhut.co.uk Men's Casio G-Shock Black&Blue Resin Strap Watch £115



Office Onitasuka Tiger Runspark Navy & Tango Red Trainer £89.99



FOR WOMEN





DebenhamsGuess Dark Red Snake
Sunglasses
£72

H&MDenim Jacket
£29.99



www.thewatchhut.co.uk

D&G Ladies Lisbon Watch

ZARAStudded Strapped Sandel with Ethnic Wedge £49.99

£85



Topshop Mix Red Check Shirt £29





River Island Etta High Waist Super skinny jeans £45



New Look Black Tatty Teddy Sweater £16.99





Matalan Falmer Mid Wash Denim Shorts £14



READERS SECTION

READERS RANT

WELCOME to Readers Rant, a place to let your mouth go wild about the things that matter to you. Wether your feeling passionate about something, annoyed by someone or just wanting somewhere to express your feelings, we would like to hear from you. Get in touch with your rant and it could be published in the next issue of MYGAYZINE.

Email your rant to - info@mygayzine.co.uk...We look forward to hearing from you - heres our March rant...

Gay Football?

I am a 18 year old gay guy living in Belfast and go to QUB, I play football for a Belfast football team and really enjoy playing the game but I would really love to get involved with a gay football team. I think that the common bond that gay people naturally have would make for a really good social group and effectively team with the correct guidance of course.

I have only been 'out' for a short time and already through the few gay friends that I have and the small amount of time spent on the scene I already know that football can be a swear word in gay circles, but I cannot be the only gay in Northern Ireland who enjoys watching, playing and talking about football surely...? I do know of a Ladies team that have a large group of lesbians playing for them and they do very well in their respective competitions.

If we as gay men are serious about being accepted into sports at all levels then we need to get involved and come together and show that LGBT people are every bit as good when it comes to sport as any other. The support that this would generate from the rest of the community would have a positive effect on everyone and do much to unite it further. It has worked very well for the Ulster Titans Northern Ireland's gay Rugby team since they took to the field as a team.



107564877618

SHOUT OUT ZONE Got a message for someone

The Paris holiday in last month's issue was a bargain keep the special coming in. Can't wait to start looking at summer holidays.

Nicki&Friends

Strawberry delight pancakes were delicious,, made a flippin mess lol Aaron Henning, Newry

Fair play to Rylan getting his kit off for charity, can't wait to see him in the K. J Brook, C'Fergus

Happy anniversary to my best mates Brian and Liam. Suzanne McCormick, P'Down

Christmas issue was brilliant, Michael, Belfast

Happy Birthday to my wee mate Seamy Hall. Didn't get out but I'll make it up to you. S, Belfast.

Great to see the Rainbow Project on the front. Brian, Belfast

Happy Birthday Ryan Mitchell, Fiona

for someone that you'd like to see here? **Text us today at** your standard network message rate. **Text us vour** photos and comments, we will publish a selection of the best and most memorable ones in every months issue. We will also feature your shout outs, congratulatory messages and birthday messages. Get TEXTING...

FEATURES

caitriona mc caughley ms gay ireland 2012/13

who is ms gay ireland?

I'm 28 and living in Tralee
Co. Kerry. I lived in Kerry
until I was 17 and then after
finishing school I went on to
Join the Irish Defence Forces
where I was based in Cork for
ten years.

During that time I had some of the most amazing experiences, I was 19 when I came out to my family and friends and my work colleagues whom were all very supportive from the start.

While in the Irish Army I did many united Nation peace keeping tours and met so many wonderful people and learned so much about myself.

Some of my hobbies are Kick boxing and Judo, Love random road trips and meeting as many new people as possible.

When I finished up in the defence forces I moved back to Kerry and was approached by a few teenagers and asked would I open a LGBT support group for them and their Allies.

So far its been very successful we have had some great response and help from the local community.

In between all of this I have just started a new job here in the IT College in Tralee.

Caitriona is doing some great work in her hometown of Tralee and is clearly a very worthy winner of the Ms Gay Ireland crown.

Hair by Sarah O Leary in Hairworks Tralee, Make up by Beauty Matters and clothes by Rockalilly and Sole Addiction for the Shoes. Photography by Ruairi Fry.



mygayzine meets caitriona mc caughley

ms gay ireland **2012/13**

What made you enter your local heat?

I entered as a representative from the support group Kerry Youth Pride group which we run here in Tralee. It was a great way to meet new people from the LGBT community here in Kerry.

Have you always dreamed that one day you would become a Ms Gay winner?

Lol when I realised I was never going to be the Rose of Tralee I said the next best thing would be Ms Gay Ireland;)

How have your friends and family reacted to the amazing news?

I must say they are a massive support and love tagging along when I'm going or hosting any charity events for the Lgbt Community. They were all thrilled when I won and believed in me from the start.

Do you have any highlights from the competition? Did you find any of it challenging?

The whole night was a highlight

really from the very start, when all the contestants met for the first time earlier that evening but Ms Gay Carlow Ciara gave the best Kerry jokes back stage, which really helped to calm the nerves. It wasn't too challenging as we all got on really well back stage and went with the flow and the Hosts Charmin Electra and Philty Gorgeous were amazing at making sure everyone was comfortable.

What plans are in the pipeworks for the future now you have your crown? Have you been involved in any other charity work so far?

Its been really crazy since I won, I'm on the go the whole time its fantastic. I have been doing a few fundraisers here in kerry for the Support Group and for Kerrys first Gay Pride which we are all looking forward to. I have also been doing talks for the past year in schools to build awareness of Homophobic Bullying and Suicide Awareness which I will continue to do throughout the year around the Country. Next week I will be in Cork in The Ruby Lounge where they are launching an anti homophobic bullying

single so all in all I'm kept very busy and looking forward to a lot more upcoming events. Also really looking forward to the growth of our fantastic support group Kerry Youth Pride and the opportunities it will bring to so many young people.

Is our new Ms Gay Ireland single?

No, I'm not single, I am very lucky to be in a relationship with my best friend, she has always been fantastic support and puts up with all my dramatics lol.

If you were a Chocolate bar what would you be and why?

I'd have to be a Cadburys because I'm a fruit and nut case...lol

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three items would you take with you?

A Bottle of Jack Daniels, a bottle of coke and a plastic cup! because if I'm stuck on a deserted island I wont last as long as Tom Hanks, So I'm there for a good time not a long time lol.

Just incase some of our readers would like to buy you a drink, what is our poison of choice?

Because jack is too expensive I will have a bottle of budwieser, that will go down smoothly..

What do you hope to achieve as Ms Gay Ireland 2012/13?

I hope to build a lot of awareness around Homophobic bullying which I believe all starts with the youths of today, if we can get through to the next generation now there will be a lot more acceptance and support for our LGBT Community. I also Hope to see alot more support groups for younger LGBT community where they might be struggling with their sexuality and coming out. I'm really looking forward to Kerrys First Gay Pride this year which is happening in May 20-26th.

We'll bring you more information on Kerry's 1st Gay Pride in next month's issue.

We wish Caitriona the best of luck with her future plans and we look forward to checking back with her again later in the year.

FEATURES

Peter Fahy

homoerotic mythologies

Have you ever noticed the curvaceousness of the arse on Michaelangelo's David? I'm not saying that to be lascivious or pervy, but the behind on that sculpture is shaped to anatomic perfection.

I was drawing that muscular man the other night, wondering if Michaelangelo deliberately made him so beautiful to venerate and lionize the Old Testament hero David.

It's fairly common to make mythic men stunning and strapping when you're portraying them in art.
Hercules, Perseus, Finn McCool, Cuchulain, Lancelot and men of their calibre are eternally beautiful and forever fit. That's why they have so many female love interests.

But while drawing David, the lines led me to wonder, what's the score with homoerotic

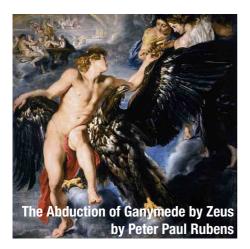
mythology? Are there many ancient tales or origin stories that feature homosexual encounters. And if there are, for what purpose? What do those myths imply?

I suppose I should classify what a myth is. They're not fictions, fantasies or fairy tales; instead they're what mythologist Joseph Campbell calls 'the truth in symbolic clothing.'

Myths and legends usually have a seed of truth hidden somewhere beneath the dazzle of the descriptions. You can read the stories at face value, or search for the deeper meanings hidden behind the narratives.

Regarding homoerotic myths, one of the most prominent is from Greek legend: the abduction of Ganymede by Zeus.

Zeus, apparently so taken by Ganymede's youthful boyish beauty, transformed into a



massive eagle, glided down through the clouds curling around Mount Olympus, snatched Ganymede up from the ground and carried him high into the heavens, were the boy became the eternal cupbearer to the gods (now twinkling forever in the constellation Aquarius).

At face value, it sounds like the sexually-active Zeus is up to his old tricks, swooping down to earth in one form or another and seizing a mortal for his own satisfaction. But there's a stronger significance to this encounter. The abduction of young Ganymede by the older Zeus is essentially a justification for pederasty, a common cultural and social practice for the ancient Greeks.

Erotic pedagogy was prominent in military and academic circles - younger males would be paired with experienced men, (similar to the samurai of Pre-Meiji Japan), and it wasn't unusual for a sexual relationship to develop. I've talked about the power of this partnership in last month's article, but just like Japan, Greece and Rome encouraged and endorsed same-sex relationships, recognizing the unions as beneficial to civilisation, and the best way to ensure its survival as a social practice was to incorporate it into the cosmology - make it a myth.

Greek mythology abounds with homoerotic encounters, such as the initiatory myths of Apollo, or the curiously close relationship between Achilles and Patroclus.

But homoerotic mythology isn't just confined to Greece. In various cultures, LGBT characters appear in the folklore and religious narratives, such as 'The Tale of the Rabbit God' from Chinese Folk stories, the Japanese

homoerotic mythologies

sun goddess Amaterasu's bisexual tendencies, or the androgynous, hermaphroditic beings from Hindu mythology. Even the gods of the Aztecs and indigenous tribes in the Americas have homosexual characters in their cosmologies, reflecting the diversity of the people in their population.

I have to admit I got a laugh out of this next one: one theorist argued that Cuchulain, the champion from the Ulster cycle of Irish mythology, was a bit bent, and his titanic battle with his friend Ferdiad, which culminated in Cuchulain driving his spear through his friend, was a metaphor for anal penetration. It sounds a bit far-fetched if you ask me. Sometimes a spear is just a spear.

I'd love to relay the homoerotic myths from various cultures across the world, but I'm on a word count limit. I did like the homosexual horror story of the Zoroastrian god Ahriman, the 'Spirit of Aridity and Death' who

destroys the world by engaging in self-sodomy. His anal penetration creates demonic monstrosities who cause carnage and chaos. How lovely.

But while reviewing these homoerotic legends, the common denominator seems to be that they're found in cultures with polytheistic mythologies. Within monotheistic theologies, like the now dominant Christianity, Judaism and Islam, the sexual diversity dies.

Funny enough, the exception to this rule is with the Old Testament hero David. He supposedly had a close bond with King Saul's son Jonathan, and unashamedly declared 'your love was more dear to me than the love of women.'

Some theologians say it's a platonic friendship, other critics see a hint of homoeroticism. Jonathan seemed to reciprocate David's love. Could you blame him? David did have a cute little rear end after all.

THE SURFACE OF THE DEEP

An Exploration of Homosexuality and Civilisation



Click anywhere on the front cover to visit the amazon page for more information.

P. Francis Fahy

media guru dave thomas is back and he needs your help making his never give up documentary

"If stories come to you, care for them. And learn to give them away where they are needed. Sometimes a person needs a story more than food to stay alive." — Barry Lopez, in Crow and Weasel.

Please give your story away, as I am looking for it!

Being a young gay man growing up in Dublin when it was illegal to be gay, has given me an eclectic bunch of stories. Everyone has a story, and more so if you are gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgender or transsexual. When I asked my husband Patrick for his 'story', he paused for a moment and said 'I don't have one.' I insisted everyone has at least one story to tell of his or her experiences of growing up gay. However,

Patrick reiterated that he didn't have a story.

I reminded him of the time he was 18 years old and 'came out' to his Mother as they both sat at the kitchen table crying. His Mother, Jess, wrapped her arms around her teenage son and told him she loved him - adding that she was not one bit surprised with her son's big announcement. Patrick then went on to tell his sisters and brothers, and each had a different reaction to his news. Then he prepared himself for the reactions, good or bad, from the people in the small Irish town where he lived.

Patrick thought about that event of 14 years ago, and realised he had a story or two of his own. Now he is married to a wonderful man (I can say that as I am writing this article), owns a house and car, has a cuddly puppy called Bella and



lives in a lovely community where people accept him for who he is. Patrick's story demonstrates that life can be productive, happy, loving and fulfilling.

Sadly, not everyone is so fortunate. Growing up on the island of Ireland with a sexuality that is considered by polite society as 'not the norm', gives us all a unique perspective on life. It presents challenges, issues, differences, events and more that can be somewhat different for us, than for our heterosexual friends. It gives us unique stories to tell,

some which can provide hope, encouragement, inspiration and support for others. And it is my mission to collect these stories.

I want to make a
Documentary Film called
'Never Give Up'. This film
will have a selection of
stories from LGBT people
that tell of their experiences
they had growing up gay.
The film will capture each
story, sharing it with the
world, where it can give
meaning and hope to those
less fortunate.

media guru dave thomas is back asking YOU to share your story with the Never Give Up Campaign

I am asking every person that identifies as LGB &T, to tell me their story. Your story can be written down and e-mailed to me, or preferably recorded using a webcam or mobile phone or video camera. It doesn't have to be a Steven Spielberg production. It's just a good way for me to hear you tell your story. Later this summer, we will meet people to arrange recording the story for the film.

In conjunction with the film, we are also launching a Social Media project based on the film. Everyone is invited to make their own short films telling their story, and these will be uploaded to our YouTube Channel.

Please take a look at my video at www.youtube.com/user/ Nevergiveuplreland.

It is my dream to make this film later this year, and that it provides comfort and inspiration to our LGBT brothers and sisters. The film will show that we all have had challenges and issues to deal with in our life, but ultimately, no matter how difficult life can be, you should never give up.

Details can be found at: www.dtmediaireland.com www.youtube.com/user/Nevergiveupireland www.facebook.com/DtMediaIreland E-mail: nevergiveup@dtmediaireland.com

Never Give Up





Seeking Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual,
Transgender & Transsexual people to tell
their own personal story of growing up in
Ireland.

Your story will feature in a documentary film. For further details, please check out 'Never Give Up' at

www.dtmediaireland.com www.youtube.com/user/Nevergiveuplreland www.facebook.com/DtMediaireland







misty falls what's the t? coming out

Hey Gurl Hey, and Welcome to another month of 'What's the T?' Where we dish the 'T' on different topics each month. This month I have decided that we will be talking about 'Coming Out' This was brought on by a friend of mine recently coming to terms with their sexuality and asking for advice from myself, I am not saying that I am an almighty guru on the topic but sometimes just speaking to someone that has went through it themselves is comforting and helpful. Also because I have the experience of 'Coming Out' not just the once but twice.

This is a subject area that I've always found quite interesting as we all have our own experience of 'coming out' and as members of the LGBT community we have all done it at one stage or another in life. I have had the great opportunity, depending on which way you look at it, of 'coming out' twice, first to my friends and family as gay and then as a Drag Queen.

In my own experience, telling my extended family that I was gay was far easier than telling my parents, my Father's side accepted it straight away, stating that they always knew that the day would come, and again by having such a loving and caring support system from my family I was able to have the confidence to come out to my parents, all 3 times that I told them. Yes you did read that correctly I had to come out to my parents 3 times before they finally got the hint that I liked other men. They went through all the stages of, 'it's 'just a phase' and 'he'll grow out of it' and



a good few years later I've not grown out of it and still like men. I think it finally hit them when I told them that my boyfriend was coming to my 18th birthday and they couldn't really deny it anymore. I know that I was extremely lucky in that I had my family behind me and that they have come to accept my homosexuality and that some people are not as fortunate as that, for this I am very grateful.

My Drag 'Outing' was a little more strange, I had always hid my drag from my parents and family, not that I was ashamed or anything, even though I should have been some states that I left the house in during the early stages of my drag, I just didn't know how they would react to it. I had the whole sha-bang, my own dresses, wigs, heels etc but because I was living away from home I didn't thing that my parents would find out. So I was doing some work one day and I got this call from my mum, didn't think much of it as she would call me quite regularly just to check in, and she goes 'I was on facebook there, who is Alexia Falls?' and I went. "That's Paul" who is my best friend and roommate at the time, and then came, "And who is Misty Falls?" Then my mind went blank and I knew that she knew and couldn't hide it from her anymore but tried to pawn it off by going, "Oh that's Alexia's drag sister." She then said that she knew it was me but lucky for me I wasn't expected to visit for a few months and by that point mum had come to terms with it but said it was my choice as long as I didn't do it at home, which I was fine with as lived away. My parents have to accept Misty and my granny accepted it so well it's as if she has another grand-daughter but yet my parents have never been to see any of my performances but everyone says you can't have you cake and eat it.

So as you can see I have a bit of insight about these matters, some advice I would give to anyone who is having an issue with either their sexuality or 'coming out' is that you are not the first person to ever have this experience so never think that you are alone in what you are going through,

we've all been there, myself included. A lot of people question who or what they are as they grow up, it's a perfectly natural part of life. Ask yourself, do you only like one gender or are you interested in both men and women? It may be that you are attracted to the person rather than the gender. Never be terrified of your feelings, as I said before, it is perfectly natural to have feelings that may sometimes feel slightly scary, despite what other people may think. People will always have opinions and perceptions of you, it's a fact of life, but remember you are your own person, not what other people want you to be but if you are L, G, B or T, that doesn't have to change who you are, there are always stereotypes out there but not everyone falls into them. You may feel alone now, we all do at the start BUT you can always take the first step and speak to someone, it's always the hardest one. I'm not saying that it will be smooth sailing but it may get easier or help in some way to get it off your chest.

There are groups out there that can help anyone reading with 'coming out' or just for a bit of friendly advice, that's why we haves these groups in the community so no-one has to face it alone. If you want, add me on Facebook and drop me a mail, I'll always get back as soon as I can, and as you can see, I've helped people out before and hopefully will still be able to help with many more. Sometimes all it takes is one person to listen, I hope that this has brought some solace to people, if not then just gave you a wee giggle at my 'coming out' experience.

Misty Xx



chris mc murray presents poetry corner

AWAKENING

Slipping from daylight Gliding into the essence of night A soul's awakening Guided by the gentle touch Of a woman of integrity Seeing beyond the fray Reaching out and in Touching that which so few ever do She casts a spell on you Weaving her web She speaks of things ethereal She touches your soul On the way to finding who you really are At the core of existence Where do we find the will To delve into the chasm Created by our own frailty Kept hidden until the mirror can't be avoided Shines so directly in our path Holding close your spirit in her hands

Touching your soul as you rediscover All that you thought was lost within Now seen with lovely new eyes Forgiveness, acceptance and love Fills the arms of the one who walks with you Night returns gently to day Awakening in the arms of comfort Burdens lifted seemingly drifted away Eyes upon you now reflect your own soul Cherished within her loving gaze For somehow she led you back To find your way to a better day Sharing within healing the light Your soul shining once more so bright

father joseph ryan

from the lgbt friendly evangelical catholic church is back with his comment on the pope's resignation and an easter message.

'It is my firm belief that Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI has been as divisive and almost as schismatic as those he (falsely) accused of being so during his tenure in the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith!"

As I write this piece on this the last day of the pontificate of Pope Benedict XVI, these words have come back to mind.

Reflecting upon the last almost 8 years of his being in charge, I feel it has been a very trying, challenging and indeed unchristian pontificate for so many throughout the world and indeed very close to home as well.

We need only bring to mind the recent publishing of the threat of excommunication against a priest for daring to suggest the possibility of women clergy; the blame being heaped upon the gay community by Cardinal

Turkson in relation to the child abuse perpetrated by clergy and this then followed up with the claim that the Pope Emeritus was 'forced out of office by a gay cabal' and then the cancelling of the Soho Masses in London.

It has been a pontificate of great and many challenges for him as he himself has stated, but it was also one of great trial and patience for many of us as well as highlighted above. As a community we deserve better and indeed the words of one Mrs Agnes Brown (yes she of Mrs Brown's Boys) come to mind when challenging the young curate to impart a blessing on her gay sons upcoming nuptials: "Where in the Bible does it say that any kind of love is wrong? Sure love is love is love!!"

(John13:34-35) What the church needs now, from the top down, is a clergy that is guided and led by the Holy Spirit and indeed by the time you get to read this piece that a new Pope will have assumed the throne of Peter and may well be preparing for the Easter vigil and 'Urbi et Orbi' (to the city and the world) homily from the balcony of St Peters. My sincerest wish is that whosoever has been elected is not someone who will continue the great homophobic bashing and discrimination in the

At this season of Easter, I sincerely hope that a new light, spirit and love will have made itself known in Conclave through the Holy Spirit and a Christian cardinal elected to guide and lead. Amen

name of Jesus as has

Church.

been the case heretofore

with the Roman Catholic

As for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, I wish him well in his retirement.

father joseph ryan 2013 easter message

"They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

(John 20:2)

Under the cover of darkness of the early morning, Mary Magdalene and the other women who were with her went to the tomb in which Jesus had been laid to rest only to find the stone had been rolled back. In panic and fear she went to find Peter and the remaining apostle and told them of what she had found and they too ran to the tomb to see for themselves. They found that Jesus was gone and all that was left was the linens in which He had been wrapped.

The anxiety, the fear, the sincere concern that must have been going through them at this time must have been unimaginable – to think that their Lord who had been flogged, mocked and hung on a cross like a common criminal only to be buried in the tomb was now missing and no

reasonable explanation for it all. They, like us no doubt in such a situation, stood there trying to take all this in and make sense of it all....and it does take a lot of figuring out.....or does it?

Our journey to this point began on Ash Wednesday when we first had placed upon our foreheads the ashes which serve to remind us of our being of the earth and to the earth we shall return – we are human and are children of God who loves and cares for each and all of us the same and equally so.

Throughout Lent, we journeyed, as did those disciples on the road to Emmaus, in our search for Jesus in our lives – a journey of great challenge, maybe a few falls, and then throughout Holy Week, the slow, prayerful and reflective journey with Christ as He took up the cross for us. They removed Jesus from the cross and placed Him in the tomb, from which He arose so as to give life to us all....a life of hope and renewed faith and belief.

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'He saw and believed.'

(John 20: 8)

And now this morning, the tomb is empty with Christ nowhere to be found....and not unlike the disciples we now find ourselves wondering where Christ is – as well we should!!

He is gone from the tomb, gone home to Our Heavenly Father in whom Jesus had faith despite the pain and suffering He endured here on earth for all of us.

Let us now on this Easter morning take the time to look into the tomb of our own mortal bodies and see if it is empty after this our Lenten journey....our soul being the tomb that now needs to allow itself to be filled with the love, the mercy and compassion, the hope and joy, that the Risen Christ died for.

Let us be the disciple that went furthest into the tomb and upon seeing the linens, reflected and believed.

May we be that disciple who can this morning begin afresh and anew our journey with Jesus in our souls and be more than ready to say 'I believe.'

On this Easter morning may I wish you and yours every blessing of hope, peace, love and joy.

'Christ is Risen, Alleluia'

Joseph

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Janen 2013

"When I tell people I get messages from my balls I often get a few strange looks" was how Karen introduced herself to us way back in our first issue in October last year. This month shes back sharing some guidance from her angel card reading sessions to give you some direction in the month of March.

ARIES March 21 - April 19

Not a brilliant month in the communication department this month for you, however this is why you have such good associates, they can help you. If your bogged down by the past or family an old friend will bring the answers needed to let go. Remember to keep your temper in check Aries, and try not to fall out with anyone for the whole month. Make this month about building and maintaining relationships.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20

Take a step back and look at matters from another perspective, you might notice that for a while your heart has been ruling your head. You are full of wonderful thoughts, share them and don't keep them all to yourself or the pressure will build and overflow in all the wrong ways. Look for signs or messages from people around you and maybe you could find answers from someone unexpectedly.

TAURUS April 20 - May 20

You can be a great listener when you want to be. This month you must be a willing listener as knowing exactly what people want gives you the edge. Your self confidence to succeed is unflappable but there is some help on the way, certainly do not push it away. You need to begin to look further to expand your knowledge and help you achieve your long term goals.

CANCER June 21 - July 22

If trouble in relationships have been weighing you down, fear not as your unique ability to solve problems in the home will see you are triumphant again this month. You must find time for you in your overworked lifestyle, otherwise what's it all about? Stop saying no to people who want to engage with you and allow yourself some fun. Let your hair down a little and call that friend you've been putting off.

LE0 July 23 - August 22

On the surface you're the same old you, but where has the self doubt come from? Money may become tight but you will cope as always, you're a winner and you cannot lose sight of that fundamental part of you. Surround yourself with people who have your best interests at heart and beware of a reckless irresponsible individual.

LIBRA Sept 23 - Oct 22

Make sure you don't allow someone to talk you down with your ideas, express them and you can take calculated risks because getting what you want is ultimately your responsibility. Good news is on its way from a previously troubled family member and it will be exactly what's needed to make everyone much happier.

SAGITTARIUS Nov22 - Dec21

What is the grumpiness all about lately? Remember that compromises brings happiness and you need to take a more objective approach to your matters and look from the other side of the the story to avoid these arguments and debates. You are busting to get away this summer so do it.

AQUARIUS Jan 20 - Feb 18

Patience is a virtue that few have mastered, but it will bring you success if you can just let it. Stop being so hard on yourself and to others around you, it only makes you look cruel. The best stance for you this coming month is to keep your eyes and ears open and your mouth shut, not always an easy feat.

VIRGO August 23 - Sept 22

You have the power to make things happen just by looking after the meticulous details, although the ritual should not mean more to you than the result. Your personal growth will only come from modesty and compassion so keep your focus and avoid complacency and the rest will fall into place nicely for you this month.

SCORPIO Oct 23 - Nov 21

Your imagination is second to none, so ensure your expressing yourself as your talents are in demand this month. Don't be harsh on people that are closest to you it does not serve any purpose in the long run. Once the current goal is achieved a new one will emerge, to achieve this you will have to be remain confident and strong.

CAPRICORN Dec22 - Jan 19

Is it possible the notorious 'worker' of the Zodiac has fallen a little into a lazv routine? This is no time to be lazy, your hard work and determination will be required more than ever in the future. Never lose your nature loving roots because this is where your most at home and comfortable.

PSCES Feb 19 - March 20

Spend time with someone you love and who needs you. You also must take care of the unfinished business that you have been putting off for so long now. Try not to shy away from your responsibilities but don't be completely overcome by them and allow them to be the weight of your worries.







ryan is back directing a brand new play "talk" which will tackle the taboos of depression and star bruce jones.

Hi to you all my loyal Readers.

What a great column I have this month, all my colleagues are working so hard on this great new issue with fantastic articles and so much info I can hardly put it down myself!

The horse meat scandal is still very much in the press, surely we in this country should have all the latest test procedures in place before any of our food hits the shelves. Horse meat? We must always read our labels we are told. Why? If we cannot trust a word it says on any of it.

My advice is to make a return to your local butcher at least there you can trust the content and quality and a good community one won't cost you the earth. Let's hope the recent publicity is a lesson for the suppliers.

Have you noticed that Spring is on its way in? No?.....Take a look

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outside, life is great. When I look out into my garden and this time of year I can't help but think how nature always seems to right itself no matter what the weather. New life surrounds us everywhere with gorgeous bulbs popping up to greet my eye, new growth on the branches and best of all the night are getting lighter that always makes us feel good. If only we all stopped for a second and thought about how nature needs no help and yet is happy to put a show off colour on year after year to the delight of the viewer.

As you know I am very busy Directing one of this year's best written Plays "TALK" a very informative play that deals with depression and the Taboo that comes with it.

It has been very well researched and I can tell you as a past sufferer from it myself. Anyone who gets to go to see it will be able to take something positive away with them for as depression that affects us all at some stage either directly or indirectly.

TALK! seeks to address the issues of stigma surrounding depression and encourage more openness. TALK!! aims to get people who may be suffering in silence to talk, to find help and to start to overcome their depression. It also seeks to help people recognise depression in others and to offer an open ear

"Anyone who gets to go to see [TALK!] will be able to take something positive away with them for as depression that affects us all at some stage either directly or indirectly."

and helping hand. Not telling you anything else for now you can check us out online or call 07885255099 and ask for the nearest venue, say Ryan Dior directed you to them and they will endeavour to get you the best seats in town. Also look and the web site and the rehearsal process, do share the pictures with all on your facebook pals and share them with your contacts as you need to get in early as demand for tickets are going through the roof. Let me take this opportunity to thank you all for the wonderful emails you sent me wishing me well for "TALK" and all the emails in general.

Make sure you tell all your friends about MyGayZine. I'm off now to give my wonderful and loyal dogs a cuddle now I have some free time.

Keep your emails coming diorryan@ yahoo.co.uk I will try and answer as many as I can.

Take care and see you all soon. MAY YOUR GOD GO WITH YOU Ryan Dior XXXX

