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PET SHOP BOYS TO HEADLINE BRIGHTON PRIDE

The legendary Pet Shop Boys will headline the Pride Summer Of Love Festival in Preston Park on Saturday, August 5, 2017 with their first Pride performance in 20 years.

Few bands have influenced, entertained and achieved iconic status while reaching into the hearts of so many as Pet Shop Boys - a band truly deserving of the prefix ‘legendary’, selling over 50 million records worldwide. Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe are electronic pop masters and, after a sell out arena tour, Pride organisers can’t wait to welcome them to headline Pride 2017 with their breathtaking Super Tour show.

Grammy nominated, Brit Award winners (including a Brit Award for Outstanding Contribution to Music in 2009) and this year awarded the NME award for Godlike Genius, Pet Shop Boys’ impressive history and their amazing contribution to popular culture is undeniable.

They’ve worked with some of the world’s most important performers and artists including David Bowie, Dusty Springfield, Madonna, Kylie Minogue, Elton John, Lady Gaga, Robbie Williams, Tina Turner, The Killers, Girls Aloud, Shirley Bassey, Take That, Yoko Ono, Moby, Scissor Sisters, Liza Minnelli, Boy George and many, many more.

Pet Shop Boys are pop royalty having released 26 albums and secured 10 top 20 singles including four UK No 1s with West End Girls, It’s A Sin, Always On My Mind and Heart, and they’ve circumnavigated the globe many times. Their latest critically acclaimed album, Super, released in 2016, was again a huge success across the globe reaching the top 3 of the UK album chart.

Throughout their career Pet Shop Boys have delivered principle alongside pop, as they continue to campaign and fundraise for the LGBT+ communities.

Paul Kemp, Director of Brighton Pride, said: “We are really proud to welcome Pet Shop Boys to headline our most fantastic Pride Festival ever. Having worked with some of the world’s most important artists, their impressive history and amazing contribution to popular culture is undeniable. Add to that their community conscience and campaigning, and they are the perfect act for the finale of our Summer Of Love Festival.”

YEARS & YEARS ADDED TO BRIGHTON PRIDE MAIN STAGE LINE UP

Years & Years will perform a UK Pride exclusive show at Brighton Pride’s Summer Of Love Festival at Preston Park on Saturday, August 5. The band, declared by NME as “the most important pop band of our time” are winners of the coveted BPI Critics’ Choice Award, BBC’s Sound of 2015, MTV Best UK and Ireland Act and are five-time Brit Award nominees. Olly Alexander’s openness about his sexuality, his willingness to campaign for equality and his frank interviews about living with depression have made him an important spokesperson in our online age.

Olly said: “I want to make videos and songs and art that celebrate all different kinds of sexuality and queer identities.” His approach has enriched and emboldened the lives of a generation of LGBT+ people.

Dulcie Weaver of Brighton Pride, added: “Through their enchanting electronica and timeless song writing, Years & Years deliver life-affirming pop that stands as a beacon in a world where the darkness of inequality can often overwhelm so many. Brighton Pride put community and campaigning at the heart of everything we do, and we cannot think of an artist that better embodies our Summer Of Love than Years & Years.”

PRIDE WITH A PURPOSE

Brighton & Hove Pride is operated by Brighton Pride CIC, a not for profit community interest company. All ticket revenue raised goes directly to the operational and running costs of producing the Pride Festival, LGBT Community Parade, Pride Village Party and community fundraising for the Rainbow Fund and Pride Social Impact Fund.

Over the last four years, Brighton Pride has raised over £310,000 for the Rainbow Fund and Pride Social Impact Fund. The Rainbow Fund has a remit to receive donations and use them to make grants to LGBT+/HIV groups and organisations in Brighton & Hove who deliver effective frontline services to the LGBT+ people in the city.

The Pride Social Impact Fund benefits local good causes impacted by the Pride footprint and gives grants to a range of local community groups.

To purchase tickets for Brighton Pride, Summer Of Love on Preston Park, view: www.brighton-pride.org/tickets/pride-festival-tickets/
The **Legends Cabaret Big Top** will return to the Brighton Pride, Summer Of Love festival at Preston Park on Saturday, August 5.

Year after year the Legends Cabaret Big Top delivers world-class entertainment to a capacity crowd as drag artistes, performers and cabaret stars bring glamour and fun to the stage of the glittering camp jewel in Brighton Pride’s crown.

Paul Kemp, Director of Brighton Pride, said: “The Legends Cabaret Big Top, the biggest cabaret tent at any Pride in the UK, wouldn’t happen without the generous financial support of Tony Chapman at Legends Hotel, Club and Bar and I am delighted that he has agreed to continue his support for the LGBT+ community once again this year by sponsoring this much loved attraction at the Pride Festival.”

“Tony’s personal generosity and commitment every year to Pride ensures the cabaret tent is able to attract the finest cabaret artists in the country to appear.

“For many, Legends is the hub of the LGBT+ community in Brighton & Hove and their contribution to Pride and the whole Brighton LGBT+ scene is hard to match and their invaluable support for the Rainbow Fund enables Brighton’s LGBT+ groups and organisations to continue their work delivering effective front line services to LGBT+ people in the city throughout the year.”

Legends has received multiple awards in recognition of their support for local LGBT+/HIV community groups and organisations and has been the recipient of Pride’s Biggest Business Fundraising Supporter award for the last three years in a row.

---

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- Sun-Thur: 2 courses £13.95 + 3 courses £15.95
- Fri & Sat: 2 courses £17.95 + 3 courses £19.95

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SUPERSTAR DJ STARTS THE VITALITY BRIGHTON HALF MARATHON

Norman Cook, Brighton resident and international superstar DJ, was on hand to start the Vitality Brighton Half Marathon 2017 at the end of February. Norman (aka Fatboy Slim) sounded the starting klaxon to get more than 8,000 runners on their way before joining the 13.1 mile race himself, which took in city landmarks, including the Royal Pavilion and the Brighton Palace Pier. Norman was running to raise money for the charity Young Epilepsy. Despite damp conditions early on, hundreds of spectators lined the route to cheer on runners, and crowds were entertained with a host of bands, choirs and stilt walkers along the course, plus a community stage provided by The Grand Brighton.

The race is organised by the Sussex Beacon, a Brighton-based charity which provides a range of services for men, women and families living with or affected by HIV across Sussex. As well as local club runners, this year’s field included participants from Taiwan, the United States and Australia. The runners from Team Beacon raised over £30,000 in sponsorship for the charity.

The men’s elite race was won by Jonathan Tipper from Kent AC in 1:08:37. Stuart Hawkes was close behind in 1:08:43, with Neil Boniface from Horsham Joggers claiming third place. Eleanor Davis from Newquay Road Runners won the women’s elite race in a course record time of 1:14:26, Emily Proto from Arena 80 followed in a time of 1:21:27 and Sarah Hill took third place with 1:21:32.

This year’s event included, for the first time, a Wheelchair Race with eight entrants from around the UK. Rob Smith took first place in the inaugural men’s race, in a time of 1:14:23, while Yasmin Somers came first in the women’s race in a time of 1:49:05.

Alongside the elite field, thousands of charity runners took to the streets of the city, raising funds for over 50 charities, including local charities Chestnut Tree House, RISE and the Sussex Beacon and national charities, including Macmillan and WaterAid.

Martin Harrigan, Race Director, said: “Thankfully the stormy weather we had been seeing stayed away for the morning and it was great to see all the smiles on the finish line as runners collected their medals. We’d like to say a massive thanks to everyone who took part today – the runners and also all the volunteers who work so hard behind the scenes to make Brighton Half such a great event.”

The race forms part of the Vitality Run Series, a series of seven leading half marathons and one 10K in the UK.

BRIGHTON & HOVE LGBT SWITCHBOARD APPOINT NEW CEO

Brighton & Hove LGBT Switchboard have recruited a new CEO who started work at the organisation on March 20, 2017. Daniel Cheesman was previously the Director of Brighton, Hove & District Samaritans and has extensive experience of working in the voluntary sector.

Daniel says: “I’m excited to be joining Brighton & Hove LGBT Switchboard and look forward to leading the organisation through the next phase of its life. Having worked and volunteered in both the charity and statutory sector I know that this is a challenging time for organisations such as Switchboard, with decreasing public funding but an increasing need for services.

“It’s not all doom and gloom though as I believe that it’s also a time of great opportunity and a chance for the organisation to focus its offer and connect with the LGBT+ community to deliver a service that responds to the needs that the community and individuals within it have. As a gay man living in Brighton & Hove, and someone who used the Switchboard when coming out, I’m passionate about ensuring that we continue to keep on listening, supporting and connecting LGBT+ people.”

Dermot Scully, LGBT Switchboard’s Chair, said: “We’re delighted that Daniel is joining us as CEO of Brighton & Hove LGBT Switchboard. He brings us a wealth of experience, from working in both the public and voluntary sectors, including extensive experience of managing helplines from his time at Samaritans. He already has links to the community and is well liked and respected throughout the networks. We have a proud history of serving our community for more than 40 years and we aim to continue to support the LGBT+ community in Brighton & Hove through our various services and projects; the Board is excited about the future direction of Switchboard. Following the departure of our long-standing CEO Natalie Woods last year we’re thrilled to see Daniel joining us and leading us to our next phase.”

WHO’S TOP OF THE CLASS IN LGBT+ BRIGHTON?

Get your handbags at the ready for the annual Golden Quiz Challenge at Charles Street on Tuesday, April 25 at 8pm. The Golden Handbags Quiz kick starts the voting for this year’s Golden Handbag Awards which are celebrating their 21st anniversary and will take place at the Brighton Metropole Hilton Hotel on Sunday, June 11 starting at 7.30pm.

Grab some friends and book your team a place to find out which bar, club, shop or organisation has the best brains in LGBT+ Brighton.

The quiz will be compiled once again by James Brooks and the lovely Lola Lasagne will be your Quiz Mistress for the evening for what she says is her “Favourite gig of the year”.

To everyone who has a seat at Charles Street, this year the number of teams playing will be restricted to 17 with a maximum six players each. To secure your team a place, email: info@gscene.com

The winners receive the first Golden Handbag of the season, the award for Best Quiz Team of 2017.

Golden Handbags Quiz is at Charles Street, 8 Marine Parade, Brighton BN2 1TA on Tuesday, April 25, 7.30pm for an 8pm start; £20 for a team of six players.
THE UK'S BIGGEST PRIDE FESTIVAL
SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST 2017

HEADLINING PRIDE 2017 – THE LEGENDARY

PET SHOP BOYS
FULL, 90 MINUTE SPECTACULAR LIVE SHOW

SPECIAL GUESTS

YEARS & YEARS
A 2017 UK PRIDE EXCLUSIVE SHOW

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COMMUNITY VILLAGE · MARKET AREA · 'ONE FAMILY' DIVERSITY AREA · FUNFAIR AND MUCH MORE

FESTIVAL TICKETS AT BRIGHTON-PRIDE.ORG
£12.50 | £17.50 | £21.00 | £25.00 | £27.50 | £30.00

FUNDRAISING FOR THE RAINBOW FUND

SUMMER OF LOVE
Seventeen police officers are to be questioned as part of this year’s Secularist of the Year, Barry Duke, editor of the Freethinker magazine for the last twenty years, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Secular Society (NSS). As well as The Freethinker, Barry, a former Brighton resident and employee at Prowler in St James Street, also edits the Pink Humanist, the online magazine published by the Pink Triangle Trust.

As part of this year’s Secularist of the Year, Barry Duke, editor of the Freethinker magazine for the last twenty years, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Secular Society (NSS). As well as The Freethinker, Barry, a former Brighton resident and employee at Prowler in St James Street, also edits the Pink Humanist, the online magazine published by the Pink Triangle Trust.

Barry said: “News of this award came completely out of the blue. For over 50 years all of my energies were directed at fighting racism, sexism, religious fundamentalism and homophobia, and this award strengthens my resolve to continue that mission.”

Barry received his award from writer and commentator Yasmin Alibhai-Brown at The Secularist of the Year lunch held in central London in March. Yasmin is an author, columnist and broadcaster who has written for The Guardian, Daily Mail, Independent, Telegraph, New Statesman and is a regular newspaper reviewer on Sky News. In recent years she’s been a powerful advocate for women’s rights and a critic of sharia law and faith schools. During the lunch Yasmin Rehman was announced as Secularist of the Year and winner of the £5,000 Irwin Prize, for her advocacy of a secularist approach to tackling hate crime and promoting the human rights of women.

As part of the investigation IPCC investigators have so far collected and carefully analysed over 700 individual documents and around 200 statements. Following the interview process, which will take a number of weeks, investigators will be in a position to complete the analysis of the evidence at hand and begin preparing the IPCC’s final report.

Anyone with information should contact the IPCC on 0800 151 0021 or email: barking&dagenham@ipcc.gsi.gov.uk

Cindy Butts, IPCC Commissioner, said: “Over the coming weeks our investigators will be undertaking interviews with the 17 officers who have been served with notices as part of the investigation. These interviews are an important milestone in the investigation as we continue to build the picture of the police response to the deaths. Misconduct notices are not judgemental in any way.

“We are grateful for the information provided to us by the family and friends of Anthony, Daniel, Gabriel, and Jack, as well as members the LGBT+ communities and the wider public, and MPS officers. In an investigation of this magnitude, centred upon the tragic murders of four dearly missed young men, every piece of information counts and we continue to wish to hear from anyone who can assist this important work. My thoughts remain with everyone affected by Port’s horrific crimes, and they can be assured that we are committed to providing them with thorough conclusions as soon as we are able.”

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THANK YOU BAR BROADWAY

The Whitehawk LGBT group would like to thank Alassdar, Michael and the lovely staff at Bar Broadway who let them use the bar for one of their socials. Natalie from the group, said: “We loved the atmosphere, the music and the company. We had a really good time and look forward to another evening social soon. We’re a small friendly and welcoming group and meet daytime and monthly at the Whitehawk Inn.” For more info call 01273 682 222, or email whitehawkinn@whinn.org.uk

A ‘first’ for The Camelford, full size roulette and blackjack tables will be installed for the night by professional croupiers (one being Camelford regular Gary Smith, who is donating his services for the charity). Gary, who suggested the idea of a Camelford Casino, and his colleagues will be on hand to help first-timers play the tables – betting with their ‘Fun Money’ stakes. There will be prizes for the overall winners and a charity raffle to raise extra funds.

Advance tickets costing £20 are available from The Camelford, via Bear Patrol or the Sussex Cancer Fund and include a free glass of bubbly on arrival, a free all-night Camelford buffet, £200 ‘Fun Money’ to play the tables and a £10 donation to the charity. Suave fancy dress and tuxedos are optional.

The Camelford Fun Casino Night is on Friday, April 21, starting at 8pm: Tickets £20 available from The Camelford, via Bear Patrol or the Sussex Cancer Fund.
Bar Broadway
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Fireplace Sessions - Sundays 8.30pm
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Treat Your Hangover
Champagne Brunch
Sundays 3-7pm
BOYS SIX TIMES LESS LIKELY THAN GIRLS TO SEEK SUPPORT FROM CHILDLINE FOR SUICIDAL FEELINGS

Wayne Rooney, NSPCC Ambassador for Childhood, is backing a new Childline campaign, ‘Tough to Talk’, to encourage boys to speak out about any suicidal thoughts and feelings. Childline is urging boys to speak out about suicidal feelings as figures reveal they are six times less likely than girls to talk to counsellors about thoughts of ending their lives. In 2015/16 the NSPCC-run service delivered 1,934 counselling sessions with boys compared to 11,463 with girls. National statistics show that the suicide rate for boys aged 10-19 was more than double that for girls in 2015.

In March, Childline launched Tough to Talk, backed by Manchester United and England footballer, Wayne Rooney. The campaign, which includes a video entitled Things Guys Don’t Talk About, aims to empower boys to seek support for suicidal feelings. Wayne said: “Growing up in the world of football I know there can be a stigma attached to young men showing emotion and talking about their feelings. It can be seen as a weakness but the opposite is true and it takes great strength to open up and reach out for help. Hopefully Childline’s ‘Tough to Talk’ campaign will help young people, and boys in particular, see that they are not alone and it’s ok to speak out. They don’t need to suffer in silence. I would encourage any young person struggling with suicidal thoughts to talk to someone they trust or contact Childline.”

The boys who did get in touch with Childline talked about a wide range of issues, including relationship worries, abuse, bullying, sexuality, gender identity and mental health issues alongside feeling suicidal. 12-15 year olds were most likely to be counselled about suicide. In 20% of counselling sessions where boys mentioned if they had confided in anyone else, they said it was the first time they had spoken to anybody about their suicidal thoughts or feelings.

One young person told Childline: “I keep having suicidal thoughts and I feel like I need to speak to someone. I have thought about telling my Mum, but I think she will say that I just need to get over it. I have exams coming up but I haven’t been able to concentrate because of these thoughts I keep having. What should I do?” A 14-year-old boy told them: “Sometimes I think killing myself is the only option left. I’ve tried everything; I’ve been to my GP and have had counselling too but nothing seems to work. I feel as if nobody understands me. I’ve been depressed for a few years now and things seem to have become worse. Please help me, I don’t know what to do anymore.”

Peter Wanless, NSPCC CEO, said: “Children struggling with suicidal feelings may feel alone with nobody to talk to and nowhere to turn for help. For boys in particular it can be harder to ask for help due to a reluctance to talk about their feelings, but this could be stopping boys from accessing support when they most need it. We hope that by putting the spotlight on male suicide we can help boys see that they are not alone. If they can’t talk to friends or parents then Childline is here to listen to them, whenever they need us.”

Dame Esther Rantzen, President of Childline, added: “Many girls also tell Childline they don’t want to live any more, and to hear this from any child is heart-breaking. But we know that boys particularly struggle to talk about their despair because they regard it as weakness to share their feelings, so we want to encourage them to speak to us on the phone, or online, because we also know that if they try to combat these suicidal thoughts alone, they can become overwhelmed by them, and that’s when we can lose precious young lives. “Suicide is one of the leading causes of death for boys and young men. We need to draw attention to this growing problem, and make sure all our desperate children know that Childline is there for them, day and night.”

Children and young people can contact Childline for free, confidential support and advice, 24 hours a day on 0800 1111 or www.childline.org.uk

SUSSEX UNIVERSITY OFFER FREE HOUSING LAW ADVICE TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES

University of Sussex has launched a free legal clinic to give expert housing advice to local people. City residents can contact the Sussex Law School and receive legal support at no cost on a wide range of housing issues, including evictions/possession, disrepair, anti-social behaviour/neighbourhood nuisance, landlord harassment, tenancy deposit and leasehold disputes. The housing legal clinic, which started at the beginning of March, is part of the Uni’s Sussex Clinical Legal Education (SCLE), which has been helping people with family law and employment law advice over the last 12 months.

Dr Amir Paz-Fuchs, Director of SCLE, says: “For the past year, University of Sussex law students have been helping some of the most vulnerable people in their local community tackle what are often traumatic life circumstances. Pro bono legal clinics play a vital role in communities. And from the response we’ve had so far, it’s clear there’s a need for the type of help and guidance we can offer.”

The housing clinics, held on the University’s campus, are intended to benefit the clients, who have no other means of paying for legal advice, and the students, who are learning about the real and practical applications of their studies. The legal advice is provided by Sussex Law School students in partnership with solicitors with expertise in housing law issues.

The clinics are in addition to two projects, announced in October 2016, which saw the law school team up with the Brighton Housing Trust and JustLife Brighton to establish two advice projects. The first gives students the opportunity to assist the public with legal, administrative and research tasks, including County Court visits and clerking.

The second project raises awareness of legal rights among people living in temporary accommodation. It involves students attending a drop-in service run by JustLife and talking to service-users about legal problems they may be experiencing in areas such as housing, welfare benefits and community care.

So far the law school has helped dozens of people with family and employment legal issues since it started almost a year ago, including 50 in the last four months, with the weekly sessions fully booked.

To make an appointment online for the housing law clinic, view: www.sussex.ac.uk/law/clinical-legal-education/free-legal-advice or email: housinglawclinic@sussex.ac.uk

You can also call 01273 876797 and leave a brief message outlining your situation, plus a name and contact number. A student will then call back to arrange an appointment.

Local people can also make an appointment with the Family Law & Employment Law clinics by calling the hotline on 01273 876797 or by emailing: lawclinic@sussex.ac.uk

HELP NEEDED WITH RESEARCH ON HOUSING BENEFIT CUTS

A University of Southampton researcher is looking at the impact of cuts to housing benefit in the private rental sector on LGBT+ people. Dr Ililana Ortega-Alcázar, Research Fellow in Geography and Environment at the University of Southampton, is focussing on the Shared Accommodation Rate, a policy that affects single people between 18 to 35.

Since 2012 single people under 35 can only claim housing benefit at the rate of a room in a shared house as opposed to the rate of a self-contained property.

The project is seeking to understand the effects this policy change has had on ‘protected groups’ as defined under the 2010 Equalities Act (women, ethnic minorities, LGBT+ people and people with disabilities). The researchers are presently conducting in-depth interviews to assess the impact this policy has had on their daily lives and their ability to access safe and secure accommodation.

For further information about the research, view: www.lhacuts.uk
NEW MONTHLY MONDAY EVENTS

1. YOU TAKIN' THE BIS
   ST. MONDAY

2. Bears Night
   6PM-1AM
   2ND MONDAY

3. Fetish Night
   - SPORTSWEAR - UNDERWEAR
   - RUBBER - LEATHER
   3RD MONDAY

4. Transgender Evening
   6PM-1AM
   TH. MONDAY

THE BIGGEST & BEST MALE SAUNA ON THE SOUTH COAST
ALL-MALE SAUNA* | 75 Grand Parade, Brighton, BN2 9JA | 01273 68 99 66 | thebrightonsauna
*unless otherwise stated by special event visit www.thebrightonsauna.com for up coming events
**RadioReverb Partners with Brighton Festival**

RadioReverb, Brighton’s not-for-profit radio station, is this year’s Broadcast Media Partner for Brighton Festival 2017. RadioReverb started broadcasting in 2004 for two weeks during the Brighton Festival and was then awarded a full community broadcasting licence from OFCOM in 2007, making it a 10-year celebration for the team of home-grown broadcasters who produce a vibrant mix of locally relevant, advert free, speech and music programmes. With Kate Tempest as this year’s Guest Director, everyone at RadioReverb is very keen to work on a daily digest of Festival performances during May.

Emma Robertson, Head of Press & PR at Brighton Festival, said: “We’re delighted to be partnering with RadioReverb. Our Guest Director, Kate Tempest, is passionate about the power of the arts to bring communities together so it’s fitting that we’re working with a radio station that provides a platform for such a diverse spectrum of voices. With RadioReverb’s support, we hope Brighton Festival 2017 will encourage the whole city to celebrate the creativity in their communities and try something new.”

Tracey Allen, Director, said: “As we celebrate our tenth year of having a broadcast licence, it’s very apt that we work again with Brighton Festival, which was the catalyst for RadioReverb becoming an official station in the city. Having Kate Tempest curate the Festival fits in perfectly with our values of community, diversity and using communication for social good and entertainment. We can’t wait for Brighton Festival to start.”

Listen to the Brighton Festival hour-long shows on weekdays from 5pm on RadioReverb at 97.2FM, on DAB and online www.radioreverb.com from May 6. The show will be repeated at 10pm each evening and 8am the following morning. Podcasts of all the shows can be found on the Listen Again button on RadioReverb’s website.

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**War Horse at the Brighton Centre**

A multi-award-winning West End superstar was spotted on Brighton Beach and at the Royal Pavilion last month as Joey, the life-sized equine puppet and star of War Horse came to town to promote the arrival of the acclaimed National Theatre production, at the Brighton Centre, January 25 – February 10, 2018.

The play has been seen by over seven million people worldwide and completed a record-breaking eight-year run at the New London Theatre on March 12, 2016. It’s won 25 awards, including a Tony for Best Play on Broadway, and has been seen in 97 cities and 10 countries, with productions on Broadway, in Toronto, Berlin, the Netherlands, Belgium and China. Although War Horse has toured in the UK and Ireland before, this will be its first appearance in Brighton and is a major coup for the city and the Brighton Centre.

War Horse is a deeply moving story of a boy and his horse, a remarkable tale of loyalty, friendship and supreme courage set against the backdrop and horrors of WW1. Its ground-breaking puppetry work and innovative, multimedia staging has thrilled audiences around the world, and the play has become the most successful production in the National Theatre’s history.

During the run, the Brighton Centre promises special “atmospheric changes” to the venue which will help bring the passion and emotion of the production to life in the auditorium. To buy tickets online: http://brightoncentre.co.uk

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**Gogglebox Stars Open the First Cats Protection Shop in Brighton**

Gogglebox stars Chris Steed and Stephen Webb officially opened Cats Protection’s first shop in Brighton last month. The cat-loving duo, who appear on the hit Channel 4 TV show, cut the ribbon and met shoppers, volunteers and staff when they dropped in to the shop’s opening day on Wednesday, March 8.

The store, in Beaconsfield Road, will stock good quality second-hand clothes, toys, books and household items. All proceeds will go to help care for unwanted and abandoned cats.

Chris, whose much-loved pet cat Ginge died in 2015, said: “I have a friend who volunteers for Cats Protection so I know how valuable it is that people donate items, money or even their time to help out Cats Protection shops like Brighton. It’ll make a big difference to unwanted cats.”

Stephen added: “I’m helping out today in memory of Ginge. He was a lovely cat and I’m doing this for him and all the other cats out there that still need Cats Protection’s help.”

Cats Protection is the UK’s largest cat charity helping around 50 cats a day, or around 200,000 a year, through a national network of 32 centres and over 250 voluntary-run branches.

Lana Beumer, Manager of the new Brighton shop, said: “We’d like to say a huge thank you to Chris and Stephen and all our new friends and supporters in Brighton who made our opening day such a success. We’re really looking forward to meeting local people and anyone who would like to become a volunteer at the shop is more than welcome to pop in to find out more.”

The new shop, at 70a Beaconsfield Road, is open Monday - Saturday from 9am - 5pm and on Sunday from 10am - 4pm. Donations should be delivered during shop opening hours. For more information or to check the items which can be accepted, call 01273 565675.
MONDAY MAYHEM
hosted by AMARTA-ANNA HORE • 8PM

TUE: PINK POUND NIGHT
with DJ CLAIRE FULLER • £1 entry & £1 drinks • 8PM

WED: PRISCILLA FACTOR
hosted by Candi Rell • £1000 prize package • 8PM

THU: PETE BENNETT’S BIG BENDER
hosted by PETE BENNETT • 8PM

FRI: ALL DAY KARAOKE
AFTERNOON SESSION with BETTY SWOLLOCKS • 2-7PM
TFI FRIDAY with GLORIA HOLE from 7PM

SAT: ALL DAY KARAOKE
AFTERNOON SESSION with RITA LINT • 2-7PM
BIG NIGHT OUT with LINDA BACARDI from 7PM

SUN: ALL DAY KARAOKE
AFTERNOON SESSION with BETTY SWOLLOCKS • 2-7PM
SUNDAY FUNDAY with PRINCESS C*NTY from 7PM

1/2 PRICE BAR (everything 1/2 price) MON-THU from 6-8PM
**WHY CAN’T FOX AND OWL GET MARRIED?**

*Fox And Owl Can’t Get Married* is a documentary that explores the inequalities for transgender people within the UK law, specifically on the subject of marriage. Fox and Owl are a non-binary couple who want to get married in the UK, however they are unable to tie the knot until their gender becomes legally recognised within UK law. The documentary will find them delving into the legal processes surrounding marriage and discovering what obstacles are preventing them from getting hitched.

What's non-binary I hear you ask? Non-binary people identify outside the rigid categories of being a man or a woman. These identities can include feeling like both, feeling that your gender is more fluid and not stuck in one place, or completely outside of this binary of gender. Imagine gender a bit like sexual orientation - a spectrum or a continuum of many possibilities.

Non-binary people face many challenges when it comes down to love and language. In an ever-expanding society of gender and sexuality, it becomes increasingly difficult for people who are somehow different to explain their identities and find terms that encompass them. Man or woman, gay or straight simply doesn’t cut it anymore. Dating and love is already complicated enough as it is, but trans people in general face even more bigger challenges when it comes down to their identities, bodies and people’s prejudice towards trans people.

For the documentary, Fox and Owl staged a protest wedding by the fountain on Old Steine on Monday, March 20 in front of friends and supporters. The vicar for the wedding was Oli Spleen and after the ceremony the group went to protest outside Brighton Town Hall before retiring to the Marlborough for some wedding cake.

The documentary is being made by *Illuminat Films*, a motivated group of final year university film makers who make projects that inspire change. They still need to raise money for travel and other expenses so that the documentary is the best it can be. With the help of your donations, they will be able to create an amazing film that does justice to the community/subject matter. To make a donation, visit: www.gofundme.com/foxandowldoc

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**BOXING FOR ALL - FREE CLASSES IN EASTBOURNE**

*The University of Brighton and Eastbourne Boxing Club* are joining forces to promote boxing to members of LGBT+ communities and to research best practice for the entire country. Free boxing classes are being offered in Eastbourne over four weeks in May with the aim of encouraging members of LGBT+ communities and their friends to join regular club nights.

The event is being funded by the university’s *Community University Partnership Programme* and is supported by organisations, including *England Boxing*, the university’s *Springboard Grants Programme* which provides awards to university Students’ Union-recognised societies and university sports clubs and teams, and *Love Fighting Hate Violence*, an anti-violence campaign launched by Dr Christopher R Matthews and Dr Alex Channon, both senior lecturers at the university.

Dr Matthews, who researches gender theory, men’s health, drug use, violence, combat sports and inequality in the workplace, has organised the sessions and will be involved in coaching participants. He said: “My research in boxing has used gender theory to highlight the way in which boxing spaces can be resistant to some of the social shifts that have happened in recent years in terms of issues connected to gender and sexuality. “As a development of this work, I’ve wanted to do some action research which engages in tackling these issues. This project represents the first stage in a long-term process where I’ll produce research, guidelines and policy recommendations. England Boxing have been supportive of the work and I hope that once the research is concluded I’ll be able to work with them and other governing bodies to help spread best practice.”

The classes, an introduction to non-contact amateur boxing, will be held at *Eastbourne Boxing Club* in Commercial Road, Eastbourne. For more information and to reserve a place email Dr Matthews at C.Matthews2@brighton.ac.uk
Prowler stores rescued from administration

Prowler, the well-established gay brand and one of the largest gay retailers in the UK, has been rescued from administration by UK-based erotic wholesaler ABS Holdings - the biggest distributor of erotic toys in the UK. ABS Holdings are owners of Fifty and Dean in Soho, as well as 29 stores nationwide carrying the Simply Pleasure branding.

ABS have purchased from the administrator the Prowler online business and shops in London and Brighton. ABS say they intend to breathe new life into the Prowler stores adding new products and making sure that classic favourites are once again in stock and readily available.

Symon Reeves, ABS Commercial Director, said: “I am really excited to be the new owner of Prowler Brighton and I am particularly looking forward to working closely with Peter Booth and the rest of the store team. Please forgive us for being a little understocked over the past couple of months, but we have just placed orders for some of your favourite lines. We have also ordered a whole lot of new great products that we know you’ll love to bring excitement back to the store.”

For the last 20 years, Prowler stores have been supporting gay communities across the UK, offering the best gay brands at the best prices. The Prowler shop in St James’s Street in Brighton is a focus for the LGBT+ communities in Brighton & Hove and the managers there have always actively supported local community organisations. This takeover ensures that Prowler in Brighton will once again be on mic duty. There will also be a raffle so you can win more than one prize on the night.

Peter Booth, the manager of Prowler Brighton, said: “We look forward to continue providing the gay communities in Brighton & Hove with excellent products at excellent prices and we can’t wait to add the ABS touch to the popular Prowler brand and to take the stores and website to the next level.”

Bear-Patrol collected £249.31 for Sussex Beacon

Bear-Patrol collected £249.31 for the Sussex Beacon during the twelfth annual BLAGSS Bowling Extravaganza at the Marina Bowlplex at the end of February. Two-hundred bowlers from different Brighton & Hove LGBT community groups took over the whole venue. BLAGSS Bowling group won the competition.

The Underbears Easter Special on Sunday, April 16 starts at 9pm until late. Entry is £3 for members and £5 for non-members with 50% of the door take going to the Rainbow Fund who make grants to local LGBT+HIIV organisations who provide effective frontline services to LGBT+ people in the city. Break out your Easter finest and join in the parade of men in jocks, boxers, trunks, thongs and probably much, much less. Free vodka jellies will help you get you in the mood.

Brighton Bear Weekend polo shirts (£15), T-Shirts (£12) and wristbands (£5) are now available at their online store and from Prowler in St James’s Street. To purchase online: www.brightonbearweekend.com
NO SYMPTOMS?
TAKE AN STI TEST ANYWAY.

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) like chlamydia, gonorrhoea and syphilis do not always display obvious symptoms.
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Monday 10.00am-8.00pm & Tuesday to Friday 10.00am-5.00pm.

www.tht.org.uk/brightonSTItesting

SHAC (Sexual Health & Contraception) Clinic locations.
Confidential walk-in services and booked appointments.
Please visit the website below for further information to find the right clinic for you.
www.brightonsexualhealth.com/services
**“IT FEELS REALLY GOOD TO MAKE YOUNG PEOPLE AWARE OF HIV”**

Mark Hamilton, 44, was diagnosed with HIV 15/16 years ago. After giving up alcohol three years ago, he now shares his story of living with HIV with young people locally, busting stigma and myths and promoting good sexual health.

Mark, from West Horsham, just outside of Brighton, said: “I gave up drinking three years ago, and as I became more sober I wanted to do something positive, related to my HIV. So at the end of 2015, I approached Terrence Higgins Trust (THT) about going into schools to give talks about HIV as part of their Positive Voices programme.

“Kids are sponges, they soak up the information you’re telling them and the questions they ask can be jaw dropping. They’re very aware of what is going on around them, probably from the internet, and curious to find out more. That’s why it’s really powerful for us to share our stories and educate them on sexual health.”

Mark, who was born in the UK and grew up in South Africa, explains how his HIV diagnosis was a shock. “I was diagnosed about 15 or 16 years ago while living in Cape Town. At the time I was binge drinking and probably taking risks because of this, but when I went for the test I’d no idea I had HIV. Back then the treatment was unaffordable in South Africa – it was the same price as my rent. Just after my diagnosis I contracted TB. I really thought I was dying. I couldn’t take my HIV meds at the same time as my TB meds, so I had to stop taking medication for my HIV which was really risky.

He continued: “In 2005 I moved back to England but my drinking continued. It got worse and worse. I couldn’t walk down the street without feeling self-conscious. On January 10, 2014 I was arrested for drink driving. It was the wake up call I needed, and I stopped drinking there and then. When I talk at schools, I include the alcohol element, because young people need to know that alcohol can lead to taking sexual risks that you might not take otherwise. For me, getting HIV was a result of my drinking.”

Stigma and myths still prevail around HIV, but with Mark’s talks, he is breaking down the stigma and separating fact from fiction. “It’s shocking that young people don’t know the difference between HIV and AIDS. I ask myself ‘how is that possible in today’s society?’ There are still people who run a mile when you tell them you’re positive, and there are still people that say if you have HIV you shouldn’t work here. The ignorance is shocking. People don’t understand what having an ‘undetectable’ viral load is or how important it is. Even gay men don’t know what it is.”

Mark has an undetectable viral load, which means the amount of HIV in his blood is reduced so much that he cannot pass on the virus. “This is a game changer. It changes everything. There are opportunities that HIV+ men haven’t taken out of fear of infecting someone.”

Reflecting on his life today, Mark says: “People ask would I do things differently and I always say no. My HIV has put life in a better perspective. I’ve met wonderful people and I’ve had the chance to make a difference to young people.”

For more information about Positive Voices, contact Sue Riley in Brighton on 01273 764200 or email: sue.riley@tht.org.uk

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**‘TIME TO TALK’ ABOUT SEX AND DRUGS**

**From May 1-14, established Brighton artist Ben Fearnside will be previewing his vibrant new work in a solo exhibition at Gallery 40, using real metals on canvas. The exhibition is also raising money for local HIV charity, the Sussex Beacon, through a sealed bid auction for one of Ben’s paintings.**

Ben works with bronze, copper, iron, silver and gold, combined with shells, inks and washes in a rich light-responsive finish. Dark as thunder, light as a stained-glass window. Contained abstract geometry suggests planets, cityscapes, field patterns, rock-strata, the view through a microscope or telescope. Slow change over time and tipping-points. Ben’s mind is as mercurial as his materials: go and see a creative journey wrapped around the walls. Ben said: “Someone close to me lives with HIV and the Sussex Beacon helped her at a very dark time. The Beacon’s unique services are under threat and we hope our charity auction will help raise awareness and funds. My paintings are about light, which seems fitting for The Beacon.”

To place a bid in the art auction, go to Gallery 40 any time during exhibition opening hours and write your bid in a sealed envelope. The envelopes will be opened and the winner announced on Saturday, May 13 at 6pm.

**Ben Fearnside: Abstract Alchemy: Metal On Canvas, Gallery 40, 40 Gloucester Rd (corner of Foundry Street), North Laine, Brighton; May 1-14: daily 11am-7pm; free entry.**

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**ART AUCTION TO BENEFIT SUSSEX BEACON**

**The Brighton Time to Talk project is an idea inspired by the Let’s Talk About Gay Sex & Drugs project in London which began as a response to a rise in heavy drug use, HIV and hep-c transmission in the capital. It’s clear that the LGBT+ communities in Brighton & Hove are very divided about drug use, sexual behaviours and organisers, think: “maybe it’s Time to Talk about it”.**

Dexter says the aims of holding such an event are too many to list, but he and his 15-strong steering committee want to create an entertaining, poignant, funny, honest evening with a mixture of speakers broken up with DJs playing music. Their focus is to open up an honest dialogue about drug use, sexual habits, behaviours and expressions.

To create a supportive environment where open, real discussion is encouraged our communities to make better choices about how they explore sex and drugs.”

**Time To Talk, Subline, 129 St James’ Street, Brighton, BN2 1TF; Thursday, May 25, 8-10.30pm, Free entry.**

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Will Writing Fortnight

Suggested minimum donations are:
£135 for a single Will
£175 for a joint Will

8-19 May 2017
Book from 10 April. A great opportunity to make or update your Will and to support your local hospice

Choose from 16 local Will writers offering their services in return for a donation to Martlets

For more information about our Will Writing Fortnight contact Gary Moyle our Legacies Manager on 01273 718778 or e mail gary.moyle@martlets.org.uk www.themartlets.org.uk

Martlets life-changing hospice care
‘BRING ON THE MEN’ WITH ACTUALLY GAY MEN’S CHORUS

Join Actually Gay Men’s Chorus on Saturday, April 8 for ‘Bring on the Men’ and flex a little muscle in a celebration of music and masculinity. Enjoy an eclectic evening of song which recognises some of music’s leading men, the dashing and devilish characters, award-winning songwriters and lyricists, who inspire audiences with more than a dash of testosterone. Debonair, heroic and mischievous, this repertoire from stage and screen triumphs from Sondheim to Miss Saigon, Bond, Bizet and Broadway. The performance will be conducted by Musical Director Samuel Cousins and making a welcome return to Actually will be cabaret artiste Miss Jason and guest soprano Sophie Causbrook. The evening will be raising money for the Rainbow Fund and Inclusion For All.

‘Bring on the Men’ with Actually Gay Men’s Chorus. St Andrew’s Church, Waterloo Street, Hove; Saturday, April 8, 7.30pm. Tickets £12/£10 concs (no booking fee). To book online, view: www.actuallygmc.org

RESOUND MALE VOICES ‘SOUNDTREK’

Resound Male Voices make their Brighton Fringe debut in May with Soundtrek, a devised show of choral music set in a pub! The group will explore vocal music from all over the world, including African, Irish and Swedish folk music, Indian raga, bossa nova from Brazil and bluegrass from Tennessee.

Stefan Holmström, Musical Director, said: “This is a fabulous opportunity for us to work on performance skills. Musically it’s also a challenge with so many different styles, and singing in eight different languages.”

This is the first time Resound will perform in their own show during the Brighton Fringe and the first time they’ll be working closely with a theatre director, Julia Roberts, to create a show built on the guys and the music they love to sing.

Julia Roberts said: “It is such a joy to be working with Resound! They are a fantastic group of singers who are constantly challenging themselves to develop their sound. Now we are working to develop a new performance which aims to move away from the traditional ‘stand and sing’ format and we hope that the Brighton Fringe audience will love the concept and style of this new show as much as we have enjoyed creating it together.”

Founded in 2011, Resound Male Voices are based in Brighton & Hove and perform a diverse repertoire from baroque to bee bop and actively welcome new members. See Facebook page and website: www.resoundmalevoices.org

Resound Soundtrek @ Brighton Fringe. The Old Courtroom, 118 Church Street, B(TN, Friday, May 5 and Saturday, May 6 at 7pm. Tickets £8/£7. To book online, view: www.brightonfringe.org

BRIGHTON GAY MEN’S CHORUS ELECT NEW CHAIRMAN

Vaughn Leyshon was elected Chairman of the Brighton Gay Men’s Chorus at their AGM in March. Vaughn was unanimously selected by members to head the body of trustees and officers who manage the Chorus. Vaughn, who’s been a member of the chorus for four years, says: “It’s an honour and a privilege to be elected Chairman of Brighton Gay Men’s Chorus. The Chorus is a vibrant and exciting organisation with a reputation for producing entertaining shows, which delight our large band of dedicated fans.

“Obviously, we are known for our singing and our shows, but we also offer opportunities for our members to socialise and we exist, in part, to support our members and the wider community. I’m looking forward to collaborating with the rest of trustees and, with our Musical Director, Marc Yarrow, building on Paul Charlton’s great work in growing the Chorus and expanding our repertoire, fans can expect regular high quality shows with some surprises and new material.”

The new Management Team is already hard at work producing the Chorus’ forthcoming new show, which will premier at the Brighton Fringe Festival at St George’s Church in Kemp Town on May 5 & 6. Entitled The Superhero Show, it will explore and celebrate those people that the Chorus’ members regard as their heroes, musical and not, who helped them become who they are now. The Chorus will be raising funds to help save the ‘outstanding’ flagship HIV charity the Sussex Beacon under the slogan #SaveTheSussexBeacon.

Erik Jacobsen continues in his role as Secretary to the Chorus and Silvio Grasso continues to handle PR.

‘CAN’T TAKE MY EYES OFF YOU’ WITH THE RAINBOW CHORUS

If you thought a night with the Rainbow Chorus couldn’t get any better, then stand by for a departure from their usual concert format. For one night only on Saturday, May 13 they will roll out an evening of songs from the familiar, the not so familiar, to the downright quirky as the marvellous, beautiful sounding and often hilarious Yorkshire-based, lesbian a cappella singing group, The Deep C Divas, join in the fun. Joining forces with the Deep C Divas will make for an entertaining evening of friendly rivalry and mutual admiration intended to move you, make you smile and lift your hearts. You won’t be able to take your eyes off them! This event is part of Brighton Fringe 2017. Gscene recently wrote: “If you wonder where the LGBT+ community in Brighton is, just go and see a Rainbow Chorus concert!”

Tickets are on sale now so get in early to avoid disappointment! Can’t Take My Eyes Off You with Rainbow Chorus and Deep C Divas is at St George’s Church, St George’s Road, Brighton BN2 1ED on Saturday, May 13, 2017 at 7.30pm. Tickets £14 adults, £10 concs. £7 children from: brownpapertickets.com/event/2724775

Paul Charlton, who served the last four years as Chairman and three more as trustee, says: “I had an amazing time, but after seven years, I decided to take a break from the management team and I can’t think of a better suited new Chairman for the Chorus. I want to wish Vaughan the best of luck with his new position and, of course, I will be actively helping behind the scenes when required.”

I want to wish Vaughan the best of luck with his new position and, of course, I will be actively helping behind the scenes when required.”

The evening will be raising money for the Rainbow Chorus concert!”

The Gscene editor recently wrote: “If you wonder where the LGBT+ community in Brighton is, just go and see a Rainbow Chorus concert!”

Erik Jacobsen continues in his role as Secretary to the Chorus and Silvio Grasso continues to handle PR.
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Whoever you are, however you feel, whatever life’s done to you.
WHO’S THE BOSS BEHIND THE BAR?

Now celebrating 26 years since it opened, Morgan Fabulous talks with Andrew Roberts about what makes Revenge one of the best places to party in the South East of England.

Andrew has managed Bar Revenge and Revenge for 13 years and has been responsible for hosting some of the biggest pop acts and club nights in the UK, including The Saturdays, The Wanted and Kelis. Revenge is also home to The Powder Room which hosts the stars from RuPaul’s Drag Race and has hosted the X-Factor finalists with their exclusive first performance after the show, including Cher Lloyd, Alexandra Burke and Fleur East to name but a few! He says: “When I took over as manager my first change was to bring in the best DJs, staff and acts I could find to really put Revenge on the map.”

He also put plans in place for the stunning rooftop terrace, which is as popular as ever offering panoramic views of our beautiful Brighton seafront! There are lots of exciting plans for the future to ensure they stay ahead of the game, including CHER Lloyd, Alexandra Burke and Fleur East to name but a few! He says: “When I took over as manager my first change was to bring in the best DJs, staff and acts I could find to really put Revenge on the map.”

Whatever your sexuality, gender or race, Revenge prides itself on being a welcoming, fun and safe venue for everyone – as long as you’ve got the right attitude (and photo ID!). Club Revenge is on three floors and includes two rooms of diverse music, playing everything from pop and house to R&B and rock. They employ a 50-strong staff team across both venues, which Andrew holds in high regard.

Revenge works closely with LGBT charities all year round to help raise awareness and funds for them. Previously they’ve teamed up and hosted fundraising events for the Sussex Beacon, THFT, the Rainbow Fund and the University LGBT societies.

Andrew is very proud of all the local and national awards that Revenge has won over the years. The Golden Handbags are always a highlight and Andrew was delighted around five years ago to (finally) pick up the award for Favourite Landlord.

Andrew was born in South London but grew up around Soho. From the age of 19, he lived in France and Southern Spain until his mid-20s when he returned to the UK to take over Vibes nightclub in Bristol for six years. He also managed the Branksome Arms in Bournemouth and worked as a Holiday Rep around Europe.

His job takes over a lot of his life as he’s very hands on at the club; however, he enjoys eating out and taking luxurious holidays, his favourite destination being Dubai. His favourite drink is Sol beer, which he enjoys after a long night at work, and his favourite Brighton restaurant is the Salt Rooms at the Hilton Brighton Metropole Hotel.
BAR BOY PROFILE: SAM STEPHENS @ CHARLES STREET

The first person new LGBT+ arrivals to Brighton & Hove meet when they arrive in the city are often the bar staff in their local LGBT+ bar. These ‘gatekeepers’ to the community provide an important role both befriending and signposting new arrivals. Over the coming months we will be finding out a little more about them and what makes them tick.

Where are you from?
I’m originally from a small fishing village in Cornwall (the Lizard Peninsula for your Cornish readers), but I moved to Brighton from Somerset where I did my GCSEs and A-Levels.

What brought you to Brighton?
I moved here to study geography and geology at Brighton Uni in 2004 and fell in love with the city.

Oddest thing asked for?
Well, you’d be surprised how many times I’ve been asked for wax, gel, hairspray and a comb and then people look at me and smile.

What’s the worst kind of punter?
People who order Guinness last when ordering a round.

What do you do when it’s quiet in the bar?
When it’s quiet? I do have a little bit of OCD so I’d be organising something somewhere behind the bar.

Do you know the difference between ale and beer?
Yes, ale tastes better than beer.

Are those really your photos on Grindr? Yes.

Can you pull a pint?
After 12 years of working in bars I’d like to think so, but I’m always happy to learn a new trick or two.

Do you prefer to be shaken or stirred?
Shaken as I like to do the stirring.

What’s your favourite tipple?
Cider, gin, tequila, normally in that order.

What makes you roll your eyes?
Eye roll emoji.

What makes a perfect bar person? A team player, who has a sense of humour for when it gets busy behind the bar.

Where do you like to go out when you’re not working?
The gym.

So why is it not working? Next!
Tell us a secret about yourself.
It’s not all true what you’ve been told.

What’s your nickname?
Samidge (Sam Midget, you get the idea).

Salary: £34,844.54

SLEEPING BEAUTY RAISES £396.54 FOR THE SUSSEX BEACON

£396.54 was raised for the Sussex Beacon at two performances on Saturday, February 4. All other performances generated £3,448 equally shared between Brighton & Hove Guide Dogs for the Blind and Help the Veterans, bringing the total raised during the run of the panto for good causes to £3,844.54. Pictured: the cast of the panto with the Mayor of Brighton, Cllr Pete West.
Brighton Bear Weekend (BBW), who organise the biggest annual bear event on the South Coast announced this year’s fundraising plans and launched their official merchandise for 2017 at the Camelford Arms on March 25. BBW volunteers were on hand selling wristbands (£5), BBW T-shirts (£12) and BBW polo shirts (£15) both carrying this year’s new logo designed by Tony Elias. BBW raise money for the Rainbow Fund who make grants to local LGBT/HIV organisations who provide effective front line services to LGBT+ people in the city. Photos by Matt Brooks.
Sophie Cook was deeply disappointed to see the recent National Union of Students’ transgender conference vote to try to block police from attending Pride events.

I was deeply disappointed to see the recent National Union of Students’ transgender conference (March 7) vote to try to block police from attending Pride events. The motion ‘No Pride in the Police’ expressed the view that the police were racist, classist and transphobic and said that “many trans people have faced mistreatment and violence at the hands of the police”.

I’m disappointed on a number of levels. Firstly, I’m disappointed that the delegates felt the need for this divisive motion rather than working towards a solution.

Secondly, I’m disappointed that people still feel marginalised by the police and that the support I see in the forces I work with isn’t filtering down to the public - there’s obviously more work to be done to win back hearts and minds.

As someone who is old enough to remember the bad old days when I was terrified of leaving the house as my true self, not because of attacks by the public but because of the fear that any interaction with the police would lead to me being outed, I know how bad the relationship between the police and the trans community has been.

But that was 20 years ago, times change, society has changed, and so, I believe, have the police.

I’ve worked with a number of police forces including Sussex, Surrey and Bedfordshire to raise awareness of trans identities and issues and I have met nothing but honesty and support from the officers and staff that I’ve had the honour to work with.

Of course there are still a small minority of officers with bigoted views, the police are part of society and reflect the diversity that exists on our streets, both good and bad. But the overriding impression that I get from the police I meet is of the need to support minority groups and to work together to make society a safer place for everyone.

The world improves when people work together to combat injustices, not when we fight those whose roles are to protect us. The way forward is conversation and inclusivity, not censure and exclusion.

The motion submitted by University of Manchester Students’ Union said:

**Trans Conference Believes**

1. The police disproportionately target trans people, along with sex workers, working class communities and communities of colour for policing, leading to an increase in those groups in the prison population.

2. Many trans people have faced mistreatment and violence at the hands of the police.

**Trans Conference Resolves**

1. To not work or collaborate with the police.

2. To encourage Prides to not have a police presence as part of parades, especially Pride events organised by student unions.

3. To support and organise actions against police presence at Prides.

**SOPHIE COOK**

Sophie is a former RAF engineer, motorbike racer, newspaper editor, football and rock photographer. She is a self-harm and suicide survivor and the first transgender newscaster on European terrestrial TV for Brighton’s Latest TV, and is the head of Latest LGBT+ TV, the UK’s first terrestrial LGBT+ TV channel, where she hosts Beyond the Rainbow, a weekly LGBT+ news and chat show.

She is the first trans woman to work in the Premier League as club photographer for AFC Bournemouth, she is an ambassador for Kick It Out, patron of Just A Ball Game? and has spoken at Wembley Stadium and the TUC.

Sophie is also a Hate Crime ambassador for Sussex Police and speaks regularly at conferences about LGBT+ issues and consults with a number of major companies about inclusion and diversity.
Information is correct at the time of going to press. Gscene cannot be held responsible for any changes or alterations to the listings.

**SATURDAY 1**
- **AMSTERDAM** SanFranDisco: DJ Mick Fuller 8pm
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** 7 Sins 9pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Jukebox: My Gift Is My Song – And This One’s For You 4pm
- **BAR REVENGE** WTF warm-up 9pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 11pm

**SUNDAY 2**
- **AMSTERDAM** Sunday roasts 12pm–till gone
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** DJ Bullard’s karaoke 8pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Brighton Bear Weekend’s Showtune Bear-a-oke: hosts Chris & Jon, fundraiser for Rainbow Fund 5pm; Fireplace Sessions presents Wain Douglas 8.30pm

**BAR 7 CRAWLEY**
- **7 Pegler Way, Crawley, RH11 7AG, Tel: 01293 511177, www.7crawley.co.uk**
- **OPEN** 6pm daily
- **DRINK PROMOS** Tues, Fri & Sat drink deals all night

**BAR BROADWAY**
- **10 Steine Street, BN1 1TE, Tel: 01273 609777, www.barbroadway.co.uk**
- **OPEN** Mon-Thur 6pm–1am, Fri 5pm–3am, Sat 4pm–3am, Sun 4pm–1am
- **DRINK PROMOS** 4–8pm daily, All Day Mon & Tues, Fri (7, 21 & 28) & is Da Luca Decadence with Prosecco for £15 a bottle till 9pm

**ONE FOR THE DIARY** Sunday (2) is Brighton Bear Weekend’s Showtune Bear-a-oke hosted by Chris Hibbett and Jon Bee from 5pm, free entry but voluntary donations to sing (or not!) gratefully accepted for the Rainbow Fund. Brighton Bear Weekend say: “Ever fancied belting out a show tune or a song from a movie? Well now’s your chance! With the help of our two talented hosts you’ll be able to sing your favourite show tunes and impress your friends. Chris and Jon will help with your selections and if you need a Maria to your Tony, Seymour to your Audrey or even Roxie to your Velma then they’re your men! We’ll also have Brighton Bear Weekend wristbands (£5), T-shirts (£12) and polo shirts (£15) available too.”

**ONE FOR THE DIARY** Sing your heart out every Tuesday at The Regency Singers’ BROADWAY LOUNGE featuring a piano, an open mic and you from 9pm.

**REGULARS** Wed is QUIZ NIGHT with Mark Flood at 8pm. Fri is LIVE ENTERTAINMENT alternating between Jason Thorpe’s Karaoke and Sally Vate’s Fun Friday Frolics, both at 9pm. Sat is SANFRANDISCO with DJ Mick Fuller (Radio Reverb) playing chilled out soul from 8pm. Check the Amsterdam website for May Day Bank Holiday Weekend events!

**BOUTIQUE** Open Cocktail Masterclasses 8pm; April Fools Party: DJ Klipz & special guest 10pm
- **CHARLES ST** Fierce: DJs on rotation 9pm
- **DR BRIGHTONS** Saturday Session: DJ Tony B 9.30pm
- **GROSVENOR BAR** cabaret: Trudi Styles & the Piano Man 9.30pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** Pre-club DJs 7pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Saturday Club 8pm
- **PARIS HOUSE** Live Jazz 4pm; TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenny 9pm

- **PRISCILLA’S All-Day Karaoke:** Rita Lin 2pm; Linda Bacardi’s Big Night Out 7pm
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Lola Lasagne 9.30pm
- **REVENGE** WTF! DJs over 2 floors 11.30pm
- **SUBLIME** Men’s Room: DJ Screwpulse 9pm
- **ZONE** cabaret: Davina Sparkle 10pm

- **AMSTERDAM** Sunday roasts 12pm–till gone
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** DJ Bullard’s karaoke 8pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Cabaret: Trudi Styles & the Piano Man 9.30pm

- **EASTER** Easter Sunday (16) special edition of SHOWTUNE KARAOKE with Sally Vate & Ross Cameron from 8.30pm. Come early, pick your song, and wait for the callback of your life! Easter Monday (17) the FIREPLACE SESSIONS present a Mystery Guest at 8.30pm.

**ONE FOR THE DIARY** Sunday (2) is Brighton Bear Weekend’s Showtune Bear-a-oke hosted by Chris Hibbett and Jon Bee from 5pm, free entry but voluntary donations to sing (or not!) gratefully accepted for the Rainbow Fund. Brighton Bear Weekend say: “Ever fancied belting out a show tune or a song from a movie? Well now’s your chance! With the help of our two talented hosts you’ll be able to sing your favourite show tunes and impress your friends. Chris and Jon will help with your selections and if you need a Maria to your Tony, Seymour to your Audrey or even Roxie to your Velma then they’re your men! We’ll also have Brighton Bear Weekend wristbands (£5), T-shirts (£12) and polo shirts (£15) available too.”

**BAR 7 CRAWLEY**
- **7 Pegler Way, Crawley, RH11 7AG, Tel: 01293 511177, www.7crawley.co.uk**
- **OPEN** 6pm daily
- **DRINK PROMOS** Tues, Fri & Sat drink deals all night

**SUNDAY 2**
- **AMSTERDAM** Sunday roasts 12pm–till gone
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** DJ Bullard’s karaoke 8pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Brighton Bear Weekend’s Showtune Bear-a-oke: hosts Chris & Jon, fundraiser for Rainbow Fund 5pm; Fireplaces Sessions presents Wain Douglas 8.30pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Pop/Candy: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm
- **BRIGHTON SAUNA** Naked Day 12pm
- **CAMELFORD ARMS** Bear Bash, free food & raffle 5pm; roasts & select menu 12pm–till gone
- **CHARLES ST** cabaret: Martha D’Arthur 7.30pm; Sally’s Rock & Roll Bingo 8.30pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** cabaret: Lady Imelda 3.30pm; roasts 12–3pm

**SUNDAY 2**
- **AMSTERDAM** Sunday roasts 12pm–till gone
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** DJ Bullard’s karaoke 8pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Brighton Bear Weekend’s Showtune Bear-a-oke: hosts Chris & Jon, fundraiser for Rainbow Fund 5pm; Fireplaces Sessions presents Wain Douglas 8.30pm
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- **CAMELFORD ARMS** Bear Bash, free food & raffle 5pm; roasts & select menu 12pm–till gone
- **CHARLES ST** cabaret: Martha D’Arthur 7.30pm; Sally’s Rock & Roll Bingo 8.30pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** cabaret: Lady Imelda 3.30pm; roasts 12–3pm
One for the Diary

EASTER Good Friday (14) with DJ Franco & Easter shots on arrival at 10pm. Sat (15) with DJ Oli. Easter cocktails & bunny girl cage dancers at 10pm. Easter Sunday (16) with top DJs on rotation, live band on the roof terrace, cage dancers & Easter egg hunt at 10pm. Easter Monday (17) Day Time BABY BOUTIQUE Easter Disco with soft play from 2pm, adult Boutique from 4pm.

ONE FOR THE DIARY Wed (19) is SINGLE MINGLE, an evening for singletons who want to meet somebody special from 8pm, entry £5 incl a free glass of bubbly on arrival. Becky, Marketing Manager, says: “It will be a calm, relaxed singles night where everyone is in the same boat but with no pressure! All singletons welcome!”

REGULARS Start the weekend with a bang every Fri with DJ Franco from 10pm and Shop Drop giveaways at 1am, 2am & 3am (7 & 28). Learn how to make your favourite cocktail every Saturday at the OPEN COCKTAIL MASTER CLASS in Bar 2 from 8pm. In the evening join DJ Klipz & a special guest (1) and Oli for tunes/themes/specials/giveaways from 10pm.

MARINE TAVERN Sunday roasts 12-5pm. Drag Open Mic with Stephanie Von Citz 9pm. PARIS HOUSE live jazz: Simon Studd 6pm. PRISCILLA’S All Day Karaoke: Betty Swollocks 2pm, Princess C’tnty’s Sunday Funday 7pm. QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Elesha as Whitney & Tina Turner 6pm & 9.30pm. SUBLINE Guilty Pleasures: DJ Screwpupus 9pm. THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS Jazz Roast 9pm, Sunday roasts 12-5pm.

MONDAY 3

BRIGHTON SAUNA You Tikin’ The Piss monthly event 8pm.
CHARLES STREET Studio 150 10.30pm.
LEGENDS BAR Miss Jason’s Madhouse 9.30pm. PARIS HOUSE live jazz: Mick

TUESDAY 4

BAR 7@CRAWLEY Crewsday: DJ Lewis Osborne 9pm.
BAR BROADWAY The Regency Singers: open mic 9pm.
MARINE TAVERN Nat’s Quiz 9pm.
PRISCILLA’S Pink Pound: DJ Claire Fuller 8pm.
REVENGE Bangers & Trash: DJs Toby Lawrence & Trick 11pm.

WEDNESDAY 5

AMSTERDAM Quiz: Mark Flood 8pm.
BAR 7@CRAWLEY Freshl! DJ Jazzy Jane 9pm.
BAR BROADWAY Open Mic Madness: Jason Thorpe 9pm.
BAR REVENGE Lip Sync For Your Life: Crystal Lubrikunt & prizes 9pm.

BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Ice: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm.
BRIGHTON SAUNA Naked Day 11am.
CAMELFORD ARMS Seniors’ lunch 2-3.30pm.
CHARLES ST Silly Willy Wednesdays: Drag With No Name 9pm.
PARIS HOUSE live jazz: Fleur de Paris 7pm.
PRISCILLA’S Priscilla Factor hosted by Candi Reli 8pm.
QUEEN’S ARMS Sally Vate’s Easter Special 9.30pm.
SUBLINE Happy Hump Day 9pm.
VELVET JACKS Quiz: cash prize 8pm.

THURSDAY 6

BAR 7@CRAWLEY Total Request Thursdays: DJ FRESH Princess 9pm.
BAR BROADWAY Quiz: host Ross Cameron & jackpot 8pm.
BAR REVENGE FOMO pre-party 9pm.
CAMELFORD ARMS £300 Big Cash Quiz 9pm.
CHARLES ST Throwback Thursday: DJ Ruby Roo & hostess Ms Joan Bond 9pm.
GROSVENOR BAR Abel Mabel’s Bingo 8.30pm.
MARINE TAVERN Throwback Thursday, 80s Jukebox 8pm.

BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Ice: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm. BRIGHTON SAUNA Naked Day 11am. CAMELFORD ARMS Seniors’ lunch 2-3.30pm. CHARLES ST Silly Willy Wednesdays: Drag With No Name 9pm. PARIS HOUSE live jazz: Fleur de Paris 7pm. PRISCILLA’S Priscilla Factor hosted by Candi Reli 8pm. QUEEN’S ARMS Sally Vate’s Easter Special 9.30pm. SUBLINE Happy Hump Day 9pm. VELVET JACKS Quiz: cash prize 8pm.

PARIS HOUSE Brighton Jazz School Talent Sessions 5pm. Musical Quiz: Miss Danny J’Adore 7.30pm.
PRISCILLA’S Pete Bennett’s Big Bender 8pm.
QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Miss Jason 9.30pm.
REVENGE FOMO: DJs 11pm.
SUBLINE Brace Yourself 9pm.
THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS Quiz: cash jackpot 7.30pm.

BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Ice: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm. BRIGHTON SAUNA Naked Day 11am. CAMELFORD ARMS Seniors’ lunch 2-3.30pm. CHARLES ST Silly Willy Wednesdays: Drag With No Name 9pm. PARIS HOUSE live jazz: Fleur de Paris 7pm. PRISCILLA’S Priscilla Factor hosted by Candi Reli 8pm. QUEEN’S ARMS Sally Vate’s Easter Special 9.30pm. SUBLINE Happy Hump Day 9pm. VELVET JACKS Quiz: cash prize 8pm.

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QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Miss Jason 9.30pm.
REVENGE FOMO: DJs 11pm.
SUBLINE Brace Yourself 9pm.
THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS Quiz: cash jackpot 7.30pm.

BAR 7 @ THE LOUNGE @ 7
CRAWLEY’S NEW GAY BAR
CHECK OUR WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE
BAR 7 & THE LOUNGE @ 7
CRAWLEY RH1 1TD
APRIL LISTINGS

CAMELFORD ARMS

- 30-31 Camelford St, BN2 1TQ, Tel: 01273 622386, www.camelfordarms.com
- OPEN daily from 12pm. The most dog-friendly pub in town.
- FOOD Mon-Sat 12-9pm. Sunday roasts and select menu served 12pm–till gone; seniors’ lunch served Wed 2–3.30pm, two courses £9.50.

EASTER Thur (13), BRIGHTON BEAR £300 CASH QUIZ. Host Dale Drury at 8pm for 9pm start. £2 entry to Rainbow Fund. Hot Cross buns served on Good Friday (14). Easter Sun (16), free Easter Eggs with every roast.

ONE FOR THE DIARY Fri (21) CHARITY CASINO Night with professional croupiers managing the Roulette and Blackjack tables from 8pm.

REGULARS Thur is the BIG CASH QUIZ. £300 cash prize at 9pm.

FRIDAY 7

- AMSTERDAM Jason Thorpe’s Karaoke or Sally Vate’s Fun Friday Frolics 9pm
- BAR @CRAWLEY 7 Upstairs 9pm
- BAR BROADWAY Jukebox: My Gift Is My Song – And This One’s For You 4pm
- BAR REVERSE WTF warm-up 9pm
- BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Fusion: Dj Peter Castle 11pm
- BOUTIQUE Open Cocktail Masterclasses 8pm; Dj Oli 10pm
- CHARLES ST Fabulous Fridays: Dj Morgan Fabulous 9pm
- DR BRIGHTONS House Rules: Dj Nick Hirst 9.30pm
- GROSVENOR BAR Mystery’s Karaoke 9pm
- MARINE TAVERN Friday Night Jukebox 8pm
- PARIS HOUSE Guest DJ 9pm
- PRISCILLA’S All-Day Karaoke: Betty Swollocks 2pm, Gloria Hole TFI Friday 7pm
- QUEEN'S ARMS cabaret: Rose Garden 9.30pm
- REVERSE Pop Tartz: DJs 10.30pm
- SUBLIME Steam 9pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS DJ Havox 7pm
- ZONE cabaret: Stone & Street 10pm

SATURDAY 8

- AMSTERDAM SanFranDisco: Dj Mick Fuller 8pm
- BAR @CRAWLEY 7 Sins 9pm
- BAR BROADWAY Jukebox: My Gift Is My Song – And This One’s For You 4pm
- BAR REVERSE WTF warm-up 9pm
- BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Fusion: Dj Peter Castle 11pm
- BOUTIQUE Open Cocktail Masterclasses 8pm; Dj Oli 10pm
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- REVERSE Pop Tartz: DJs 10.30pm
- SUBLIME Steam 9pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS DJ Havox 7pm
- ZONE cabaret: Stone & Street 10pm

SUNDAY 9

- AMSTERDAM Sunday roasts 12pm–till gone
- BAR @CRAWLEY DJ Bullard’s karaoke 8pm
- BAR BROADWAY Fireplace Sessions pres Farrah Joy 8.30pm
- BAR BROADWAY Jukebox: My Gift Is My Song – And This One’s For You 4pm
- BAR REVERSE WTF warm-up 9pm
- BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Fusion: Dj Peter Castle 11pm
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- ZONE cabaret: Stone & Street 10pm

CHARLES STREET BAR

- 8 Marine Parade, BN2 1TA, Tel: 01273 624091, www.charles-street.com
- OPEN daily from 12pm
- FOOD served Mon–Sat 12–8pm
- AFTER WORK HAPPY HOUR All drinks half price 5–9pm Mon–Sat and all night on Sun from 8.30pm, right after the cabaret. Excludes sparkling wine and cocktails.

EASTER Thur (13) THROWBACK THURSDAY EASTER SPECIAL: tunes, drink deals from £1 and the Queen of Hearts. Ms Joan Bond at 9pm, entry £1. Charles Street says: “Joan’s been a very busy bunny getting ready for her Easter Egg Hunt! Can you find her Golden Egg? It’s gonna be a cracking night!”

Fri (14) is FABULOUS GOOD FRIDAY: topless bunny boys, cheeky bunny girls, Easter Eggs, giveaways and pumping tunes with Dj Morgan Fabulous from 9pm, free entry and drink deals all night.

Easter Sunday (16) CABARET with Drag With No Name at 7.30pm, full menu till 7pm. Bank Holiday Mon (17) CABARET with Mary Mac at 7.30pm: Sally Vate’s ROCK & ROLL BINGO; straight after, then STUDIO 150 at 10.30pm

ONE FOR THE DIARY Tue (25) is the inter venue GOLDEN HANDBAGS QUIZ with hostess Lola Lasagne from 7.30pm for 8pm start. A table of 5 costs £20.

REGULARS Sunday CABARET at 7.30pm: Martha D’Arthur (2), Kara Van Park (9) and Miss Jason (23). Bank Holiday Sun (30) The Vixens. Followed by Sally Vate’s ROCK & ROLL BINGO with big cash prizes. It’s back! Drag With No Name and SILLY WILLY WEDNESDAYS – a night of crazy entertainment from 9pm. Is it a game show? Is it a quiz? Is it cabaret? We don’t know! But we do know it’s a night of hilarious antics and cash prizes galore! DWN says: “Expect campness and frivolities! Plus it gets you out of the house for a couple of hours so you’re not stuck indoors watching The One Show. It’s no a brainer really…”

ENVY @ CHARLES STREET

- 8 Marine Parade, BN2 1TA, Tel: 01273 624091
- ONE FOR THE DIARY Bid the Brighton & Hove Sea Serpents adios Sat (8) at SPANISH ENVY from 7pm. Advance tickets £12.50, rising to £15 from April 7 and on the door. The city’s gay inclusive rugby team boys are heading to Madrid for the biennial Union Cup so bring your castanets and maracas, flamenco moves and fake tans, for a night to remember! Host Kara Van Park with songs, dancing, fun and laughter, including performances from the Sea Serpents, helped by some of Brighton’s favourite stars: Miss Jason, Spice and Jason Thorpe and DJ Claire Fuller spinning the tunes! The Sea Serpents say: “Buenos Noches! We’re off to Madrid in May to represent Brighton & Hove at the biennial Union Cup - Europe’s premier rugby competition for gay and inclusive rugby clubs. So were bringing you a flavour of the Mediterranean right here in Brighton!”

ENVY @ CHARLES STREET

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Mary Mac
EVERY BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
from 7.30pm

throwback tunes, throwback prices
#throwbackthursdays
Easter Special
hosted by Joan Bond
Thursday 13th from 9pm

SPANISH ENVY
Hosted by Kara Van Park
Saturday 8th April 7pm
Tickets: spanishenvy.bpt.me

Fabulous Fridays
Easter Special with topless bunny boys and 241 cocktails! Friday from 9pm!

Easter Sunday
The Drag With No Name!
Showtime 7.30pm

SHOWTIME
2nd Martha d’ Arthur, 9th Kara Van Park,
16th Drag with no Name, 23rd Miss Jason, 30th The Vixens
EVERY SUNDAY 7.30pm FOLLOWED BY ROCK & ROLL BINGO WITH SALLY VATE
(Rock & Roll Bingo moves to Monday on a Bank Holiday)

www.charles-street.com for full April listings. 8-9 Marine Parade, Brighton. 01273 624091
*All offers subject to terms and conditions available at the bar, not in conjuction with any other offer and maybe withdrawn at any time without notice. R.O.A.R., I.D. CONDITION OF ENTRY
**DOCTOR BRIGHTONS**

- **16-17 Kings Rd, BN1 1NE.** Tel: 01273 208113 www.doctorbrightons.co.uk
- **OPEN** Mon-Thur 3pm-11pm; Fri & Sat 1pm-3am; Sun 1pm-midnight.
- **HAPPY HOURS** all day Sun-Thur; 1pm-close on Fri. 1-7pm on Sat. BOGOF Cocktails all day Sun-Fri. till 7pm on Sat. Free pool with every round every day.
- **EASTER** Good Friday (14) DOCTOR’S PARTY with top DJ spinning 70s/80s/90s /00s tunes from 9.30pm. Free entry. **Easter Sunday** (16) REFLEX with DJ Adam Rice camp 70s/80s tunes from 9.30pm. Free entry.

- **ONE FOR THE DIARY** Sunday (9) SMILEY SUNDAY with stand-up comedy at 7.30pm, £3 entry to Rainbow Fund. Bank Holiday Sunday (30) REFLEX Party with DJ Adam Rice camp 1970s/80s tunes at 9.30pm. Free. Adam Rice says: “The night is a total ‘guilty pleasure;’ it’s not cool, it’s fun, it’s tongue in cheek, it’s what the 1980s were! The night is all about having fun with plenty of laughter. And I only play songs from the 1970s & 80s, despite being told I need to get with the times!”

- **REGULARS** Fri (7) HOUSE RULES with DJ Nick Hirst, decadent house 9.30pm.
  **VINYL FRIDAY** (28) DJs spin vinyl only from 9.30pm.
  **SATURDAY SESSIONS** with DJ Tony B at 9.30pm.

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**GROSVENOR**

- **16 Western Street, Hove, BN1 2PG.** www.thegrosvenorbar.com
- **OPEN** daily from noon-late.

- **EASTER** Easter Sunday (16) is the annual EASTER BONNET PARADE and charity DRAG RACES, organised by the Bedford Tavern and the Grosvenor to raise money for the Sussex Beacon from 12pm. Prizes will be awarded for the best bonnets so everyone, young and old is encouraged to get crafty and make an Easter Bonnet for the parade at 1.30pm. After the parade, place your bets on which Drag Queen or Drag King you think will be triumphant at the afternoon of Drag Racing.

- **ONE FOR THE DIARY** Sat is top-flight CABARET from 9.30pm. Trudi Styles & the Piano Man (1), Miss Jason (8), Double Trouble (Maisy Trotter & Posh La May) (15), Jason Lee (22) and Davina Sparkle (29).

- **REGULARS** Thur is MABEL’S BINGO from 8.30pm. Fri is KARAOKE with Mystery at 9.30pm.

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**DOCTOR BRIGHTONS**

- **CAMELFORD ARMS** Bear Bash, free food & raffle 5pm, roasts & select menu 12pm–till gone.
- **CHARLES ST** cabaret: Kara Van Park 7.30pm; Sally’s Rock & Roll Bingo 8.30pm.
- **DA BRIGHTONS** Smiley Sunday: stand-up comedy fundraiser 7.30pm.
- **LEGENDS BAR** cabaret: Miss Jason 3.30pm, roasts 12–3pm.
- **MARINE TAVERN** Sunday roasts 12–5pm. Drag Open Mic with Stephanie Von Clitz 9pm.

**GROSVENOR**

- **THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS** Jazz Roast 3pm; Sunday roasts 12–5pm.

**MONDAY 10**

- **BRIGHTON SAUNA** Bears night 6pm.
- **CHARLES STREET** Studio 150 10.30pm.
- **LEGENDS BAR** Miss Jason’s Madhouse 9.30pm.
- **PARIS HOUSE** Live jazz: happy hour 5pm, £5 6pm; £8 7pm.
- **PRISCILLA’S** Monday Mayhem: Amarta-Anna Hore 8pm.

**TUESDAY 11**

- **BAR 7@CRAWLEY** Crewsday 9pm.
- **BAR BROADWAY** The Regency: £5 mic 9pm.
- **MARINE TAVERN** Nat’s Quiz 9pm.
- **PRISCILLA’S** Pink Pound: DJ Claire Fuller 8pm.
- **REVENGE** Bangers & Trash: DJs Toby Lawrence & Trick 11pm.

**WEDNESDAY 12**

- **AMSTERDAM** Quiz: £5 mic 9pm.
- **BAR 7@CRAWLEY** Fresh: DJ Jazzy Jane 9pm.
- **BAR BROADWAY** Open Mic Madness: Jason Thorpe 9pm.
- **BAR REVENGE** Lip Sync For Your Life: Crystal Lubrikunt & prizes 9pm.

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**DOCTOR BRIGHTONS**

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- **HAPPY HOURS** all day Sun-Thur; 1pm-close on Fri. 1-7pm on Sat. BOGOF Cocktails all day Sun-Fri. till 7pm on Sat. Free pool with every round every day.

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- **REGULARS** Thur is MABEL’S BINGO from 8.30pm. Fri is KARAOKE with Mystery at 9.30pm.
LEGENDS
www.legendsbrighton.com

seafront bar | hotel | club | terrace | food
open 11am-5am | 7 days a week | food served daily 12-5pm (sun 3pm)

FOOD
12-5pm (sun roast 3pm)
Summer menu from April

BUY A BOTTLE
GET THE 2ND HALF PRICE
WINE
MON-FRI 12pm-11pm

from April every Friday at 9pm
pro Glitter party with new hostess Stephanie Von Clitz

She’s back!
MISS JASON
Mad Monday’s
Monday 9.30pm

Sunday Roast 12-3pm then Cabaret 3.30pm

2nd Lady Imelda
9th Miss Jason
16th Martha D’Arthur
23rd Lucinda Lashes
30th The DWNN

Wi-Fi ZONE

Deals/Promos/Programme may be subject to change. Mixermix. T&C’s Apply.
31-34 Marine Parade | Brighton | Tel: 01273 624462
**LEGENDS BAR**
31-34 Marine Parade, BN2 1TR Tel: 01273 624462, www.legendsbrighton.com

**OPEN** daily from 11am - 5am

**FOOD** Mon - Sat 12 - 5pm; Sunday lunch 12 - 3pm, choose from beef, pork, chicken or wholesome nut roast, served with seasonal veg, crisp roast potatoes, homemade Yorkshire pudding and real stock gravy.

**DRINK PROMOS** Buy one bottle of wine, get 2nd half price, Mon - Fri 12 - 11pm. No promos over Bank Holidays.

**EASTER** Easter Sunday (16) CABARET with Martha D’Arthur, peddler of positivity, hard working lady and ‘original jukebox’ (120 songs now), from 3.30pm.

Easter Monday (17) is CABARET with JLo, not one but two cabaret stars of the stage. Miss Jason & Lola Lasagne, from 3.30pm. Miss Jason says: “The name JLo was Lola’s idea - she’s the clever one you know. It’s means Jason and Lola. I can’t stand Jennifer Lopez, she gets on my tits, dear. But as I said it was Lola’s idea and over the years I’ve found it is best not to argue with my sister… Working with Lola is great fun; I enjoy her wit, she has the same wicked streak that I giggle. The show is really fun, I do whatever comes into my mind, which all depends on how much I’ve had to drink! I also love raucous crowds! Lola is the disciplinarian, so I leave the crowd control to her – she’s had the experience, you see, as she used to be a cattle herder when she was a girl. Anyway, come along and see what happens. We’re both strong girls and like to get our own way. It’s a battle of wills all the time. Tell me, dear, which of you would put your money on?” “I don’t know Miss Jason, then stay on for MISS JASON’S MAD HOUSE from 9.30pm.

**REGULARS** Sunday CABARET with top acts at 3.30pm. Lady Imelda (2), Miss Jason (9), Lucinda Lashes (23) and Drag With No Name (30). Mon is MISS JASON’S MAD HOUSE at 9.30pm.

**PARIS HOUSE** Brighton Jazz School Talent Sessions 5pm, Musical Quiz: Miss Danny J’Adore 7.30pm.

**PRISCILLA’S** Pete Bennett’s Big Bender 8pm

**QUEEN’S ARMS** Spice’s Disney Special 9.30pm

**REVENGE** FOMO Easter Special: DJs 11pm

**SUBLINE** Brace Yourself 9pm

**THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS** Easter Quiz: cash jackpot 7.30pm

**FRIDAY 14**

**AMSTERDAM** Sally Vate & Jason Thorpe’s Easter Show 9pm

**BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** cabaret: Mary Mac 11pm

**BAR BROADWAY** Jukebox: My Gift Is My Song – And This One’s For You 5pm

**BAR REVENGE** Pop-Tartz warm-up 9pm

**BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Glitter: DJ David Noakes 11pm

**BOUTIQUE** Good Friday: DJ Franco, Easter shots on arrival 10pm

**CAMELFORD ARMS** Good Friday: hot cross buns & regular food 12pm; Friday Club 6pm

**CHARLES ST** Fabulously Good Friday: DJ Morgan Fabulous, giveaways, topless bunny boys, bunny girls & Easter Eggs 9pm

**DR BRIGHTONS** The Doctor’s Party: DJ 9.30pm

**GROSVENOR BAR** Mystery’s karaoke 9pm

**MARINE TAVERN** Friday Night Jukebox 8pm

**PARIS HOUSE** Guest DJ 9pm

**PRISCILLA’S** All-Day Karaoke: Betty Swelllocks 2pm; Gloria Hole TFI Friday 7pm

**QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Sandra 9.30pm

**REVENGE** Pop Tartz DJs 10.30pm

**SUBLINE** Big Easter Scrum + SUBLINE Easter Egg Hunt with prizes 10pm

**ZONE** cabaret: Spice 10pm

**SATURDAY 15**

**AMSTERDAM** Easter SanFranDisco: DJ Mick Fuller 9pm

**BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** Annual Easter Beach Party 11pm

**BAR BROADWAY** Jukebox: My Gift Is My Song – And This One’s For You 4pm

**BAR REVENGE** WTF! warm-up 9pm

**BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 11pm

**BOUTIQUE** Open Cocktail Masterclasses 8pm; DJ Klipz & Easter cocktails 10pm

**CHARLES ST** Fierce: DJs on rotation 9pm

**DR BRIGHTONS** Saturday Session: DJ Tony B 9.30pm

**GROSVENOR BAR** cabaret: Double Trouble (Maisy Trollette & Pooh La May 9.30pm

**LEGENDS BAR** Pre-club DJs 7pm

**MARINE TAVERN** Saturday Club 8pm

**PARIS HOUSE** Live jazz 4pm; TC’s

**JOLLY Noise** DJ Kenny 9pm

**PRISCILLA’S** All-Day Karaoke: Rita Lin 2pm; Linda Bacardi’s Big Night Out 7pm

**QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Miss Jason 9.30pm

**REVENGE** WTF!: DJs over 2 floors 11.30pm

**SUBLINE** In The Cave & SUBLINE Easter Egg Hunt 9pm

**ZONE** cabaret: Sophie Causbrook 9pm

**SUNDAY 16**

**AMSTERDAM** Easter Sunday: An Evening with Jason Thorpe 9pm, roasts 12pm-till gone

**BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** DJ Bullard’s karaoke 8pm

**BAR BROADWAY** Bank Holiday Showtime Karaoke: Sally Vate & Ross Cameron 8.30pm

**BAR REVENGE** Sunday Club: DJs 9pm

**BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Easter Sunday Pop/Candy: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm

**BOUTIQUE** Easter Sunday Special: DJs, live bands, cage dancers 8pm

**BRIGHTON SAUNA** Naked Day 12pm

**CAMELFORD ARMS** Easter Sunday Bear Bash, free food & raffle 5pm, roasts, select menu & Easter Eggs 12pm - till gone

**CHARLES ST** Easter Sunday cabaret: Drag With No Name 7.30pm

**DR BRIGHTONS** Bank Holiday Reflex 80s Night: DJ Adam Rice 9.30pm

**GROSVENOR BAR** Annual Easter Bonnet Parade & Drag Racing 12pm

**LEGENDS BASEMENT CLUB**
31-34 Marine Parade, BN2 1TR, Tel: 01273 624462, www.legendsbrighton.com

**OPEN** Wed - Sun from 11pm, free entry.

**ONE FOR THE DIARY** Wed is Ice with DJ Claire Fuller melting the dancefloor with a hot mix of chart, house & R&B tunes.

**REGULARS** Fri is GLITTER with DJ David Noakes sparking up the start of your weekend with chart & dance tracks; Sat is FUSION with DJ Peter Castle spinning chart & club remixes to blow your mind from 11pm. Sun is POPICANDY with DJ Claire Fuller sweetening you up with a sugary mix of new and retro pop.
MARINE TAVERN
13 Broad St, BN2 1TJ, Tel: 01273 905578, www.marinetavern.co.uk
OPEN daily from 12pm.
FOOD daily from 12-9pm. Tue is Curry Night with curry for £1
7.30-8.30pm. Sunday roasts served 12-5pm.

ONE FOR THE DIARY Tue is the CURRY & QUIZ
night with £1 curry served 7.30-8.30pm, then it’s a
Brighton institution. NAT’S QUIZ, at 9pm, with beer and
money to be won. Nat says: “The quiz started in June 2003
and it’s still going strong. It’s a good old-fashioned pub quiz
that suits its surroundings – I like to call it a retro quiz.
There’s usually a warm a friendly crowd and no one takes it
too seriously. It’s a night to meet new people and quiz against them. Plus, you get to
hear my bad jokes so what more could you ask for?”

REGULARS Sun is DRAG OPEN MIC with the ever-fabulous Stephanie Von
Clitz at 9pm. THROWBACK THURSDAY is with 1980s music from 8pm.

PARIS HOUSE
21 Western Rd, BN3 1AF, Tel: 01273 724195, www.parishousebrighton.com
OPEN daily from 12pm. FOOD daily from 12pm – close.

ONE FOR THE DIARY Thursday is the Brighton Jazz School TALENT
SESSIONS at 5pm. Miss Danny J’Adore’s MUSICAL QUIZ is at 7.30pm.

REGULARS Mon free LIVE JAZZ: Mick Hammer Trio at 2pm; more jazz 7pm:
Sam Carlese Trio (3), Ollie Howe Trio (10), Sara Oschlag Trio (17) and Sara’s
Jazz Trio (24). Wed free LIVE JAZZ at 7pm: Fleur de Paris (5), Dan Cartwright
Trio (12), Sam Carlese Trio (19) and Jason Henson Trio (26). Fri PARTY
TIME with guest DJ at 9pm. Sat AND ALL THAT JAZZ live jazz at 4pm. TC’S
JOYFUL NOISE with DJ Kenny at 9pm, free. Sun LIVE JAZZ at 6pm: Simon
Studd (2), Area Code (9 & 23) and Miss Dione (16 & 30).

MARKET HOUSE
21 Western Rd, BN3 1AF, Tel: 01273 724195, www.parishousebrighton.com
OPEN daily from 12pm. FOOD daily from 12pm – close.

ONE FOR THE DIARY Thursday is the Brighton Jazz School TALENT
SESSIONS at 5pm. Miss Danny J’Adore’s MUSICAL QUIZ is at 7.30pm.

REGULARS Mon free LIVE JAZZ: Mick Hammer Trio at 2pm; more jazz 7pm:
Sam Carlese Trio (3), Ollie Howe Trio (10), Sara Oschlag Trio (17) and Sara’s
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JOYFUL NOISE with DJ Kenny at 9pm, free. Sun LIVE JAZZ at 6pm: Simon
Studd (2), Area Code (9 & 23) and Miss Dione (16 & 30).

BRIGHTON SAUNA Fetish night 6pm
CHARLES STREET Bank Holiday
Cabaret: Mary Mac 7.30pm; Sally’s Rock &
Roll Bingo 8.30pm; Studio 150 10.30pm
LEGENDS BAR Easter Monday
Cabaret: JLO (Miss Jason & Lola Lasagne)
3.30pm; Miss Jason’s Madhouse
9.30pm
PARIS HOUSE live jazz: Miss Dione
6pm
PRISCILLA’S All Day Karaoke: Betty
Swilloocks 2pm, Princess C’ntry’s Sunday
Sunday Fundy 7pm
QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Dave Lynn
6pm & 9.30pm
REVENGE Easter Sunday Special DJs
11pm
SUBLIME Underbears Brighton Bears
underwear party + Sublime Easter Egg
Hunt 9pm
THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS Easter Jazz Roast & Easter Eggs 3pm, Sunday
roasts 12-5pm
VELVET JACKS live music: Mike Newsham
4pm
ZONE cabaret: JP Christian 6.30pm

MONDAY 17
AMSTERDAM Hangover Brunch: full
English breakfasts & Bloody MARYs
10.30am
BAR BROADWAY Fireplace Sessions
pres a Mystery Guest 8.30pm
BOU TIQUE Baby Boutique Easter Disco: soft play 2pm; Adult Boutique
4pm

WEDNESDAY 19
AMSTERDAM Quiz: Mark Flood 8pm
BAR 7@CRAWLEY Fresh! 9pm
BAR BROADWAY Open Mic
Madness: Jason Thorpe 9pm

EASTER SATURDAY:
DJ Mick Fuller
EASTER SUNDAY:
An evening with Jason Thorpe
EASTER MONDAY:
Chill out and hangover brunch
**PRISCILLAS**

- **129 St James’ Street, Brighton, BN2 1TH**
- **OPEN Mon-Thur 6pm-midnight, Fri, Sat & Sun 2pm-midnight.** Come and see what all the fuss is about at Priscilla’s, Brighton’s newest karaoke and cabaret fun bar. It is open seven days a week for camp fun, frolics, karaoke and cabaret.
- **DRINK PROMOS:** 6pm-8pm Mon-Thur half price bar - everything half price.

**ONE FOR THE DIARY**

Sun (23) is a live performance from the sensational Ruby Murry who took Britain’s Got Talent 2016 by storm with spectacular live vocals from 5pm. Ruby is anything but a drag, having performed her act in front of audiences in the UK and abroad (of course, she’s known as the Queen of Ibiza) for the past few years. The classic vocalist, hostess and all-round performer, had praise heaped on her at BGT after a stellar performance of Nussum Dorma with David Walliams saying: “If only Pavarotti had dressed like that! You are a fantastic singer.”

**REGULARS** Sat is all day KARAOKE with Rita Lin afternoon session 2-7pm and Linda Bacardi’s BIG NIGHT OUT from 7pm, camp tunes, karaoke, drinks promos and fun guaranteed! **Sun is KARAOKE** with Betty Swollows afternoon sessions 2-7pm and Princess C*nty’s SUNDAY FUNDAY from 7pm. **Mon is MONDAY MAYHEM** hosted by the fabulous Amarta-Anna More from 8pm. **Tue is PINK POUND** night with DJ Claire Fuller from 8pm entry £1 and £1 drinks. **Wed is PRISCILLA FACTOR** with Candi Rell. £1,000 prize package from 8pm. **Thur is Pete Bennett’s BIG BENDER** from 8pm. **Fri is all day KARAOKE** with Betty Swollows afternoon session 2-7pm and TFI FRIDAY with Gloria Hole from 7pm.

**QUEENS ARMS**

- **7 George St, BN2 1RH, T: 01273 696873. thequeensarms.wix.com/thequeensarms**
- **OPEN 4pm Wed-Fri, 2pm Sat & Sun.**

**EASTER** Make the most of your Easter Bank Holiday Monday (17) with a spot of CABARET from disco diva and glamour puss Kara Van Park performing showtunes and a bit of camp from 6pm. The songstress, whose heart is in all things theatrical and glamorous, says: “I started doing cabaret completely by accident! I had been working with a good friend of Baga Chipz, who asked me if I’d ever done drag, which I hadn’t. He and some other mates, suggested I give it a go and here I am. I’ve been very lucky and my act has grown and developed along with my fan base and audience. I can’t quite believe how far I’ve come and the popularity I’ve gained. I’m having a blast seeing everyone having a good time and I love belting out tunes. Anyone who comes to see my show can expect a camp night of showtunes, big ballads and standards as well as high camp and glamour! I’m now a local girl so come and spend your Bank Holiday with me! It’ll be a great night for all.”

**ONE FOR THE DIARY** Every Wed in April is Sally Vate’s EASTER SPECIAL from 9.30pm.

**REGULARS** Thur CABARET with top acts at 9.30pm: **Miss Jason (6), Spice’s Disney Special (13), Stephanie Von Clitz (20) and Lola Lasagne (27).** Edge yourself into the weekend with Fri CABARET at 9.30pm: Rose Garden (7), Sandra (14), Myra Dubois (21) and Drag With No Name’s Party (28). **Sat with CABARET at 9.30pm.** Lola Lasagne (1), Lucinda Lashes (8), Miss Jason (15), Gabriella Parrish (22) and Son of a Tutu (29). **Sun is a double-helping of top CABARET at 6pm and 9.30pm.** Elesha as Whitney & Tina Turner (2), Mrs Moore (9), Dave Lynn (16), Miss Penny (23) and Kara Van Park (30).

**BAR REVENGE** Lip Sync For Your Life Grand Final: Crystal Lubrikunt & prizes 9pm

**BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS** Ice: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm

**BOUTIQUE** Single Mingle: singles night 8pm

**BRIGHTON SAUNA** Naked Day 11am

**CAMFORD ARMS** Seniors’ lunch 2-3.30pm

**CHARLES ST** Silly Willy Wednesdays: Drag With No Name 9pm

**LEGENDS BAR** Pre-club DJs 7pm

**PARIS HOUSE** Live jazz: Sam Carles Trio 7pm

**PRISCILLA’S** Priscilla Factor hosted by Candi Rell 8pm

**QUEEN’S ARMS** Sally Vate 9.30pm

**SUBLINE** Happy Hump Day 9pm

**VELVET JACKS** Quiz: cash prize 8pm

**THURSDAY 20**

- **BAR 7@CRAWLEY** Total Request Thursdays; DJ FRESH Princess 9pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Quiz: host Ross Cameron & jackpot 8pm
- **BAR REVENGE** FOMO pre-party 9pm
- **CAMFORD ARMS** £300 Big Cash Quiz 9pm
- **CHARLES ST** Throwback Thursday: DJ Ruby Roo & hostess Ms Joan Bond 9pm
- **GROSVENOR BAR** Abel Mabel’s Bingo 8.30pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Throwback Thursday: 80s Jukebox 8pm
- **PARIS HOUSE** Brighton Jazz School Talent Sessions 8pm; Musical Quiz: Miss Danny J’Adore 7.30pm
- **PRISCILLA’S** Pete Bennett’s Big Bender 8pm
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Stephanie Von Clitz 9.30pm

**REVENGE FOMO DJs:** 11pm

**SUBLINE** Brace Yourself 9pm

**THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS** Quiz: cash jackpot 7.30pm

**FRIDAY 21**

- **AMSTERDAM** Jason Thorpe’s Karaoke or Sally Vate’s Fun Friday Frolics 9pm
- **BAR 7@CRAWLEY** 7 Upstairs 9pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Jukebox: My Gift Is My Song – And This One’s For You 5pm
- **BAR REVENGE** Pop-Tart warm-up 9pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS** Glitter: DJ David Noakes 11pm
- **BOUTIQUE** DJ Franco 10pm
- **CAMFORD ARMS** Friday Club 6pm
- **CHARLES ST** Fabulous Fridays: DJ Morgan Fabulous 9pm
- **DR BRIGHTONS** Funky Friday: DJ Nick Hirst 9.30pm
- **GROSVENOR BAR** Mystery’s karaoke 9pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Friday Night Live with Ruby Murry 9pm
- **PARIS HOUSE** Guest DJ 9pm
- **PRISCILLA’S** All-Day Karaoke: Betty Swollows 2pm; Gloria Hole TFI Friday 7pm
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Myra Dubois 9.30pm
- **REVENGE** Pop Tartz DJs on level 1; Love Shack: DJ Claire Fuller on level 2 10.30pm
- **SUBLINE** #Fifth fetish event 9pm
- **THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS** DJ Havoxx 7pm
- **ZONE** cabaret: Miss Jason 10pm
TOP CABARET EVERY NIGHT

MON 17 APR 6PM
KARA VAN PARK
BANK HOLIDAY SPECIAL

WED AT 9.30PM
SALLY VATE’S
EASTER SPECIAL

THURSDAY AT 9.30PM
6 APR MISS JASON
13 APR SPICE DISNEY SPECIAL
20 APR STEPHANIE VON CLITZ
27 APR LOLA LASAGNE

FRIDAY AT 9.30PM
7 APR ROSE GARDEN
14 APR SANDRA
21 APR MYRA DUBOIS
28 APR DRAG WITH NO NAME

SATURDAY AT 9.30PM
1 APR LOLA LASAGNE
8 APR LUCINDA LASHES
15 APR MISS JASON
22 APR GABRIELLA PARISH
29 APR SON OF A TUTU

SUNDAY DOUBLE CABARET
AT 6PM & 9.30PM
2 APR ELISHA AS WHITNEY & TINA TURNER
9 APR MRS MOORE
16 APR DAVE LYNN
23 APR MISS PENNY
30 APR KARA VAN PARK
**BAR REVENGE**

- 5-7 Marine Parade, BN2 1TA, Tel: 01273 606064, www.revenge.co.uk
- **OPEN** Sun-Wed 12pm-1am, Thur 12pm-2am, Fri & Sat 12pm-6am.
- **DRINK PROMOS** 50% off all drinks Sun-Fri 5-9pm; from £2.50 every Fri & Sat. Buy a drink on Thur, Fri & Sat to pick up discounted entry passes for Club Revenge.

**ONE FOR THE DIARY** Wed is **LIP SYNC FOR YOUR LIFE** with Crystal Lubrikunt, which is like karaoke but without the singing from 9pm. Move those lips to your favourite song for a chance of winning £50 cash prize at the **GRAND FINAL** on Wed (19) plus a paid gig supporting Latrice Royale on Bank Hol Monday on May 29 at Club Revenge. Crystal says: “The time has come to lip-sync of your life! Come on down and move those lips and shake them hips with me, Crystal Lubrikunt!”

**REGULARS** Heat up the end of your weekend at **SUNDAY CLUB** with drink promos, **free pool** and all-star DJs spinning tunes from 9pm.

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**SATURDAY 22**

- **AMSTERDAM** SanFranDisco: DJ Mick Fuller 8pm
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** 7 Sins 9pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Jukebox: My Gift Is My Song – And This One’s For You 4pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 8pm
- **BOUTIQUE** open cocktail masterclass 8pm; Spring Party: DJ Klipz 10pm
- **CHARLES ST** Fierce: DJs on rotation 9pm
- **DR BRIGHTONS** Saturday Session: DJ Tony B 9.30pm
- **GROSSEVOR BAR** cabaret: Jason Lee 9.30pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** Pre-club DJs 7pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Saturday Club 8pm
- **PARIS HOUSE** Live jazz 4pm; TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenny 9pm
- **PRISCILLA’S** All-Day Karaoke: Rita Lin 2pm; Linda Bards’s Big Night Out 7pm
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Gabriella Parrish 9.30pm
- **REVENGE** WTF!: DJs over 2 floors 11.30pm

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**SUNDAY 23**

- **AMSTERDAM** Sunday roasts 12pm-till gone
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** DJ Bullard’s karaoke 8pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Fireplace Sessions pres Sophie Causbrook 8.30pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Pop/Candy: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm
- **BRIGHTON SAUNA** Naked Day 12pm
- **CAMELFORD ARMS** Bear Bash, free food & raffle 5pm; roasts & select menu 12pm–till gone
- **CHARLES ST** cabaret: Miss Jason 7.30pm; Sally’s Rock & Roll Bingo 8.30pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** cabaret: Lucinda Lashes: 3.30pm; roasts 12-3pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Sunday roasts 12-5pm; Drag Open Mic with Stephanie Von Citz 9pm
- **PARIS HOUSE** live music: Area Code 6pm

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**MONDAY 24**

- **BRIGHTON SAUNA** Transgender night 6pm
- **CHARLES STREET** Studio 150 10.30pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** Miss Jason’s Madhouse 9.30pm
- **PARIS HOUSE** live jazz: Mick Hamer Trio 2pm; Sara’s Jazz Trio 7pm
- **PRISCILLA’S** Monday Mayhem: Amarta-Anne Hore 8pm

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**TUESDAY 25**

- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** Crewday 9pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** The Regency Singers: open mic 9pm
- **CHARLES ST** Golden Handbags Annual Inter-Venue Quiz: host Lola Lasagne 7.30pm
**MARINE TAVERN**
Nat’s Quiz 9pm

**PRISCILLA’S**
Pink Pound: DJ Claire Fuller 8pm
Cheesy Tuesday 11pm

**AMSTERDAM**
Quiz: Mark Flood 8pm

**BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS**
Ice: Claire Fuller 11pm

**BRIGHTON SAUNA**
Naked Day 11am
Camelford Arms Seniors’ Lunch 2-3.30pm

**CHARLES ST**
Silly Willy Wednesdays: Drag With No Name 9pm

**PARIS HOUSE**
Live jazz: Jason Henson Trio 7pm

**PRISCILLA’S**
Priscilla Factor hosted by Candi Reil 8pm

**QUEEN’S ARMS**
Sally Vate 9.30pm

**SUBLINE**
Happy Hump Day 9pm

**VELVET JACKS**
Quiz: cash prize 8pm

**THURSDAY 27**

- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY**
  Total Request Thursdays: DJ FRESH Princess 9pm

- **BROADWAY**
  Quiz: host Ross Cameron & jackpot 8pm

- **CAMELFORD ARMS**
  FOMO pre-party 9pm

- **Charles ST**
  Throwback Thursday: DJ Ruby Roo & hostess Ms Joan Bond 9pm

- **GROSVENOR BAR**
  Abel Mabel’s Bingo 8.30pm

- **MARINE TAVERN**
  Throwback Thursday: 80s Jukebox 8pm

- **PARIS HOUSE**
  Brighton Jazz School Talent Sessions 9pm. Musical Quiz: Miss Danny J’Adore 7.30pm

- **PRISCILLA’S**
  Pete Bennett’s Big Bender 8pm

- **QUEEN’S ARMS**
  Cabaret: Lola Lasagne 9.30pm

- **REVENGE**
  FOMO DJs 11pm

- **SUBLINE**
  Club Silencio’s Mission To Uranus: cabaret of the bizarre 8.30pm

**EASTER WEEKEND**

**FRI 14**
**BIG EASTER SCRAM**

- **SPORTSWEAR NIGHT**
  10pm • £5 IN KIT OR £7

**SAT 15**
**IN THE CAVE**

- **UNDERBEARS**
  UNDERWEAR PARTY • 9pm • MEMS £3 / £5

- **50% GOING TO RAINBOW FUND**

**SUN 16**

- **UNDERBEARS**
  UNDERWEAR PARTY • 9pm • MEMS £3 / £5

**FRI 21**
**#FILTH**

- **TICKETED FULL FETISH EVENT**
  9pm

**THUR 27**
**CLUB SILENcio**
**MISSION TO YOUR ANUS CABARET OF THE BIZARRE**

- **8.30pm • £6**

**SAT 29**
**LEATHERMEN SOUTH**

- **10pm • FREE IN LEATHER OR £5**

**SUN 30**
**CUM IN YOUR PANTS**

- **UNDERWEAR PARTY • 9pm • MEMS FREE / £5**
THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS

50 Norfolk Sq, BN1 2PA, Tel: 07720 661290 http://tinyurl.com/VelvetJacks
OPEN Tue – Thur 4 – 11.30pm, Fri & Sat 12 – 11.30pm. Sun 1 – 11pm.
FOOD Meat & cheese boards and wood-fired pizzas served all day, every day; roast potatoes on the bar on Sunday.

DRINK PROMOS all day every Tue.
EASTER Easter Sunday (16) is an intimate afternoon of LIVE CHILLED OUT TUNES with Mike Newsham and his guests from 4pm. If you’re interested in performing then message Mike on Facebook.
REGULARS Wed is QUIZ NIGHT with a cash prize at 7.45pm for an 8pm start.

GROSVENOR BAR Mystery’s karaoke 9pm
MARINE TAVERN Friday Night Jukebox 8pm
PARIS HOUSE Guest DJ 9pm
PRISCILLA’S All-Day Karaoke: Betty Swallowlocks 2pm, Gloria Hole TFI Friday 7pm
QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Drag With No Name’s Party Night 9.30pm
REVENGE Pop Tartz DJs on level 1; Fat Lip: DJ Fill on level 2 10.30pm
SUBLINE Steam 9pm
ZONE cabaret: Topsi Redfern 10pm

SATURDAY 29
AMSTERDAM SanFranDisco: DJ Mick Fuller 8pm
BAR 7@CRAWLEY 7 Sins 9pm
BAR BROADWAY Jukebox: My Gift Is My Song – And This One’s For You 5pm

BAR REVENGE WTF! warm-up 9pm
BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 8pm
BOUTIQUE Open Cocktail Masterclasses 8pm, DJ Dl 10pm
CHARLES ST Fierce: DJs on rotation 9pm
DR BRIGHTONS Saturday Session: DJ Tony B 9.30pm
GROSVENOR BAR cabaret: Davina Sparkle 9.30pm
LEGENDS BAR Pre-club DJs 7pm
MARINE TAVERN Saturday Club 8pm
PARIS HOUSE Live jazz 4pm; TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenby 9pm
PRISCILLA’S All-Day Karaoke: Rita Lin 2pm; Linda Bacardi’s Big Night Out 7pm
QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Son of a Tutu 9.30pm
REVENGE WTF!: DJs over 2 floors 11.30pm
SUBLINE Leathermen South 10pm
ZONE cabaret: Sally Vate 10pm

SUNDAY 30
AMSTERDAM Sunday roasts 12pm - 5pm
BAR 7@CRAWLEY DJ Bullard’s karaoke 8pm
BAR BROADWAY Fireplace Sessions

THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS

59 North Rd, BN1 1YD, Tel: 01273 608571, www.3jollybutchers.com
OPEN 12pm on Mon – Sat, 1pm on Sun. Private function room available.
FOOD Thur & Fri 12 – 8pm, Sat 12 – 7.30pm. Sunday roasts 12 – 5pm. Meal Deal: two specials for £15 Mon – Wed, 12 – 7.30pm. Private function room available.
EASTER Easter Sunday (16) is the JAZZ ROAST with chilled jazz & free Easter Eggs at 3pm.
REGULARS Thur is QUIZ NIGHT with £50 cash prize from 7.30pm. Fri & 7 ( & 21) is with DJ Havoxx playing tunes to get you moving from 7pm. Sun is the JAZZ ROAST with chilled jazz at 3pm, free entry.

EASTER Easter Sunday (16) is LIVE MUSIC with the sensational vocalist JP Christian from 6.30pm.
ONE FOR THE DIARY Don’t miss Sunday Bank Holiday (30) with live music from sensational vocalist JP Christian at 6.30pm. JP is incredibly versatile and has a broad vocal range, enabling him to perform a number of styles - musicals to pop, rock, soul and swing from the last 60 years. His cabaret sets are like a potted history of popular music, so he’s sure to perform songs that you know and love!
REGULARS Fri is LIVE ENTERTAINMENT at 10pm. Stone & Street (7), Spice (14), Miss Jason (21) and Topsi Redfern (28). Sat is CABARET at 10pm Davina Sparkle (1), Sally Vate’s Birthday Show (8), Sophie Causbrook (15), Tabitha Wild (22) and Sally Vate (29).

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ONE FOR THE DIARY Don’t miss Sunday Bank Holiday (30) with live music from sensational vocalist JP Christian at 6.30pm. JP is incredibly versatile and has a broad vocal range, enabling him to perform a number of styles - musicals to pop, rock, soul and swing from the last 60 years. His cabaret sets are like a potted history of popular music, so he’s sure to perform songs that you know and love!
REGULARS Fri is LIVE ENTERTAINMENT at 10pm. Stone & Street (7), Spice (14), Miss Jason (21) and Topsi Redfern (28). Sat is CABARET at 10pm Davina Sparkle (1), Sally Vate’s Birthday Show (8), Sophie Causbrook (15), Tabitha Wild (22) and Sally Vate (29).
GSCENE OUT & ABOUT

THE GROSVENOR BAR
15 Western St, Brighton
01273 438587
www.thegrosvenorbar.com
OPEN Daily 12pm-Late

BINGO every Thur 8.30pm
hosted by Abel Mabel

KARAOKE every Fri 9pm
hosted by Mystery

CABARET every Sat 9.30pm
1st Trudi Styles & The Piano Man
8th Miss Jason
15th Double Trouble
15th Miss Jason
22nd Jason Lee
29th Davina Sparkle

Easter Sunday 1.30pm
The Grosvenor Bar and Bedford Tavern annual
EASTER BONNET PARADE & DRAG RACING

THE ZONE
BAR | CABARET | COCKTAILS | LIVE MUSIC
38 ST JAMES STREET, BRIGHTON, BN1 2UQ
Happy Easter
ENTERTAINMENT IN APRIL
ARTISTS APPEARING IN APRIL INCLUDE
DAVINA SPARKLE, SIMON & STREET, SALLY YATE, SPECE,
SOPHIE GALLOWAY, JESSICA, MISS JASON,
TATIANA & TOPSY RENEGADE
SEE WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS & LINEUPS
WWW.ZONEBRIGHTON.CO.UK | 01273 682249

THE MARINE TAVERN
MCFARLANE STREET
TUESDAY CURRY & QUIZ NIGHT
QUIZ & CURRY FOR £1
CURRY 7.30-8.30PM QUIZ WITH NAT 9PM
BEER & CASH TO BE WON!

TRADITIONAL SUNDAY ROASTS 12-5PM
BEST QUALITY: Beef/Chicken/Lamb/Rut Roast
BEST VALUE: £6.95 each/2 for £13 • Starters & desserts from £2.95
12 BROAD STREET BRIGHTON TEL. 01273 685576 OPEN DAILY FROM NOON-1AM

Easter Sunday
HALLOWEEN BALL
HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS
DJ'S
MISSY B/LUKE ENNOR/RUPERT ELLICK/LOUIE ROBINSON/TOBY LAWRENCE

THURSDAY 13.04
FRIDAY 14.04
SATURDAY 15.04
9PM - 6AM

DIVINE DISCO

16/4/17 | 21:00-06:00
| DJ'S LEE HARRIS & LUKE ENNOR
| VOCAL HOUSE | COMMERCIAL FLOOR FILLERS
| CONFETTI CANNONS | CO2 CANNONS | DRAG HOSTS | FIRE BREATHERS

Hampshire Boulevard, Hampshire Terrace, Southsea, Portsmouth, PO1 2QH.

Open: Sunday & Monday 9 - 2:30am
Wednesday & Thursday 7 - 2:30am
Friday & Saturday 7 - 3am

@HBnightclub
**Hampshire Boulevard Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Terrace**, Southsea, PO1 2DN. Tel: 02392 297509
- **Open** Sun & Mon 9pm–2.30am, Wed & Thurs 7pm–2.30am, Fri & Sat 7pm–3am.
- **Happy Hours** Sun all night, Wed & Thur 7pm–12am, Fri & Sat 7–10pm.

- **Old Vic** 104 St Paul's Rd, Southsea
  - Tel: 02392 710652. Friendly bar with cabaret, DJs & food.
  - Open: Mon–Wed 12-11pm, Thu 12–12.30pm, Fri & Sat 12-1.30am, Sun 12–11.30pm. Food: Mon–Sat 12–3pm, Sunday 12–3.30pm.
  - **TITANIC** S infill St, SO14 2BE
    - [www.thenaticanpucb.co.uk](http://www.thenaticanpucb.co.uk)

### Sunday 1

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Saturday Sessions: host Dani Dior & Dj Rupert Ellick till 3am
- **Old Vic** DJs all night

**Southampton**

- **Edge** The Big One: DJs 10pm
- **London Hotel** Gouly Pleasures: DJ Neil Sackley 8.30pm

### Sunday 2

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Sunday Funday: DJ Luke Emnol till 2.30am

**Southampton**

- **Edge** Rounded: DJ 11pm
- **London Hotel** London Podium: Tanya Hyde & Dr Beverley Balllcrusher 8pm, roast 12-3.30pm
- **TITANIC** Sinfill St, SO14 2BE
  - [www.thenaticanpucb.co.uk](http://www.thenaticanpucb.co.uk)

### Monday 3

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** 2am: Djs Lee Harris & Luke Emnol till 2.30 am
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** DJs 11pm

**Southampton**

- **Old Vic** DJs 11pm
  - **Edge** Video jukebox 11pm

### Wednesday 5

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Alfie Ordinary's karaoke & mid-week party 7pm
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** Bar 150: DJs & karaoke 10pm

### Thursday 6

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Aura-J’s karaoke, games & show 7pm
- **Old Vic** Karaoke 8pm
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** Pop! DJ 11pm
- **London Hotel** Mellow Martha’s Music Box: karaoke 9pm

### Friday 7

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** That Friday Feeling: host Cherry Liquor & DJs on rotation till 3am

### Saturday 8

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Saturday Sessions: host Dani Dior & Dj Rupert Ellick till 3am
- **Old Vic** DJs all night

**Southampton**

- **Edge** The Big One: DJs 10pm
- **London Hotel** Gouly Pleasures: DJ Neil Sackley 8.30pm

### Sunday 9

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Sunday Funday: DJ Luke Emnol till 2.30am

**Southampton**

- **Edge** Rounded: DJ 11pm
- **London Hotel** London Podium: Tanya Hyde & Dr Beverley Balllcrusher 8pm, roast 12-3.30pm

### Monday 10

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** 2am: Djs Lee Harris & Luke Emnol till 2.30am
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** DJs 11pm

### Tuesday 11

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** 2am: Djs Lee Harris & Luke Emnol till 2.30am
- **Southampton**
  - **Old Vic** Quizz 8pm
- **London Hotel** Gouly Pleasures: DJ Dizza 8.30pm

### Wednesday 12

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Alfie Ordinary’s karaoke & mid-week party 7pm
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** P rounded: DJ 11pm
- **London Hotel** London Podium: Drag Queens, Silly Willy’s, roast 12-3.30pm

### Sunday 16

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Easter Sunday Divne Disco: DJs Lee Harris & Luke Emnol + confetti/C02 cannons, drag hosts & fire breathers till 2.30am
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** Rounded: DJ 11pm
- **London Hotel** Easter Sunday London Podium: DJ Fanny Love & Tiara Thunderpussy 8pm, roast 12-3.30pm

### Monday 17

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** 2am: Djs Lee Harris & Luke Emnol till 2.30am
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** DJs 11pm

### Tuesday 18

**Portsmouth**

- **Old Vic** DJs 6pm
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** Video jukebox 11pm

### Wednesday 19

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Alfie Ordinary’s karaoke & mid-week party 7pm
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** Bar 150: DJs & karaoke 10pm

### Thursday 20

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Aura-J’s karaoke, games & show 7pm
- **Old Vic** Karaoke 8pm
- **Southampton**
  - **Edge** Pop! DJ 11pm
- **London Hotel** Mellow Martha’s Music Box: karaoke 9pm

### Friday 21

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** That Friday Feeling: host Cherry Liquor & DJs on rotation till 3am

**Southampton**

- **Edge** P rounded: DJs 10pm
- **London Hotel** Fairyldea Friday: DJ Ruby Rose 8.30pm, cabaret: Miss Penny 10pm

### Saturday 22

**Portsmouth**

- **Hamshire Boulevard** Saturday Sessions: host Dani Dior & Dj Rupert Ellick till 3am
- **Old Vic** DJs all night
**LONDON HOTEL SOUTHAMPTON**

2 Terminus Terr, S014 3DT, Tel: 02380 710652, www.the-london.co.uk

**OPEN** daily from 12pm.

**FOOD** Mon-Sat 12-3pm, Sunday lunch 12-3.30pm.

**EASTER** Good Friday FAIRYLEA (14) with DJ Ruby Roo and Drag With No Name at 10pm. EASTER SUNDAY NIGHT ON THE LONDON PODIUM (16) DJ Fanny Love & Tiera Thunderpussy at 8pm.

**ONE FOR THE DIARY** SUNDAY NIGHT ON THE LONDON PODIUM features some of the UK’s top live performers tearing up the London stage from 8pm. Drag With No Name's Silly Willy (2), Tanya Hyde & Dr Beverly Ballcrusher (8), DJ Fanny Love & Tiera Thunderpussy (16), Mrs Moore & Kara Van Park (23) and Lucinda Lashes & Miss Jason (30).

**REGULARS**

**THURSDAY**
- **EDGE** The Big One: DJs 10pm
- **LONDON HOTEL** Guilty Pleasures: DJ Lucinda 8.30pm

**SUNDAY 23**
- **HAMPSHIRE BLVD** Sunday Funday: DJ Luke Ennor till 2.30am, Portsmouth
- **EDGE** DJs 11pm
- **LONDON HOTEL** Mellow Martha’s Music Box: karaoke 9pm

**MONDAY 24**
- **HAMPSHIRE BLVD** Something: DJs Lee Harris & Luke Ennor till 2.30am, Portsmouth
- **EDGE** karaoke 8pm

**TUESDAY 25**
- **HAMPSHIRE BLVD** That Friday Feeling: host Cherry Liquor & DJs on rotation till 3am, Portsmouth
- **EDGE** Old Vic DJs: all night
- **LONDON HOTEL** Guilty Pleasures: DJ Claire 8.30pm

**SATURDAY 29**
- **HAMPSHIRE BLVD** Saturday Sessions Bank Holiday Special: host Danni Dior & DJs Rupert Elick & Rob Davies 9pm-6am, Portsmouth
- **EDGE** The Big One: DJs 10pm
- **LONDON HOTEL** Guilty Pleasures: DJ Claire 8.30pm

**SUNDAY 30**
- **HAMPSHIRE BLVD** That Friday Feeling: host Cherry Liquor & DJs on rotation till 3am, Portsmouth
- **EDGE** Bar 150: DJs & karaoke 10pm

**SOUTHAMPTON**
- **EDGE** The Big One: DJs 10pm
- **LONDON HOTEL** Guilty Pleasures: DJ Lucinda 8.30pm

**SUNDAYS...**
- **DRAG WITH NO NAME’S SILLY WILLY SUNDAY**
- **TANYA HYDE & DR BEVERLEY BALLCRUSHER**
- **EASTER SUNDAY: DJ FANNY LOVE & MISS THUNDERPUSSY**
- **MRS MOORE & KARA VAN PARK**
- **LUCINDA LASHES & MISS JASON**

**THE LONDON PODIUM**

PICS FROM LONDON HOTEL SOUTHAMPTON
**ALBUMS**

1. However fleeting, that’s sunshine peeking through the clouds promising a summer of love and we reckon it’s time to prepare with some April wonders.

First up is the must hear low-down shady slo-mo beats of Greymatter’s No Blood Without on Unique Uncut Records. Quality.

As are the ever mind-expanding adventures of electro, new wave, and EBM Hamburg heroine Helena Hauff’s A Tape on Dark Entries, the bleeps and beeps of Tenacity 2017 and the funk fuelled session that is Rebirth 10 (Remixed) on Rebirth. Girl those grooves are fine.

Also ticking our April box this month is the Tooting brilliance of Repopulate Mars EP getting us hot under the collar.

**DANCE MUSIC**

BY QUEEN JOSEPHINE & KATE WILDBLOOD

**ALBUMS**

Soulnatural’s Love Says Yes! on British Soul Standard, the sublime sonic sensation that is Greg Gow’s Lost Days on Social Experiment Records and the twisted dancefloor delights of Anthony Parasole’s Infrared Vision on Dekmantel UFO.

Add our April besties courtesy of Terry Francis’ tech house opus Together on Hallucienda, Chopstick & Johnjon’s exquisite Reviewed O1 on Suol and the divine Hector Romero’s Weaving Genres on Nervous Records.

And yes, as Bourgie Bourgie sings, we are living the life. Enjoy.

Catch Wildblood & Queenie’s Home Service on RadioReverb 97.2FM DAB radioreverb.com April 1, 15 & 29 at 7pm. perfectdistractions.com

**WILDBLOOD & QUEENIE’S ADORED APRIL 12”**

1. BRESS UNDERGROUND The Jam Roots For Bloom Those Shag Edits just keep getting finer and finer.

2. ATHLETE WHIPPET Friend Of Mine (Severino Remix) Squareglass Warm-up for Horse Meat Disco at Patterns anyone?

3. PONTY MYTHON Black Magic Burnin’ Music And the prize for best band name goes to...

4. SANDY TURNBULL From The Start Galleria Records Jackin’ soulful back-to-the-old-days house of the grand kind.

5. SCOTT DIAZ Mistreated Grand Plans Raw, soulful and perfect. Just how we like it.

6. MOULLINEX Love Love Love Discotexas Guaranteeing more disco spins than a kitchen appliance.

7. TOMSON, Eddie Leader & Chez Damier I Am With You Hudd Trax A beaut of a track that will haunt you all summer long

8. CHEZ MOON Don’t Need You Anymore Repopulate Mars Repopulate Miami EP getting us hot under the collar.

9. ROBIN BALL Acid Stomp Memory Box Making tunes as good as their parties, Memory Box deliver.

10. ASTROCATE Astrocate Honey Glazed Records Feline fabulous destined to keep your pussy wiggling.

**DJ PROFILE: DAVID NOAKES**

Where do you DJ?

I’m the Friday night resident DJ at Legends (11pm–4am) and also at Charles Street on monthly rotation, Revenge from time to time as well as some London clubs and various other venues – I always post my gigs on my Facebook page (David Noakes). I’m busy working on new material in my studio this week.

What do you play?

In my own name I play house and a lot of bootlegs and remixes, some I do myself. Production in my name is house but I also write for other artists in various styles from rock to pop and had a no.1 in Japan last year for the girlband Happiness with a song called Born to Be Free, which is on Youtube. As Noaksey I released a dance tune Red Sky last year which got on to six compilations - Creamfields, Pacha etc - and got support from Martin Garrix, The Magician and many more...

All time fave tune?

This is hard as I love everything from The Beatles to house with a lot in between! Club-wise, Insomnia by Faithless ranks highly.

Best thing about DJing in Brighton?

I live here, hah! The mix of people is vast, London has a great clubbing scene but in Brighton it’s cosier and people seem more connected.

Ultimate dream gig?

EDC would be great or V or Creamfields. Club-wise I’ve not yet played at Ministry though I’ve been itching to for ages. So that’s my first choice.

Tune you wish you’d never played?

Hmmm... I won’t name one but it’s usually giving in to someone drunk nagging me over and over convinced their tune will go down well and that’s not always the case! But now I will only play a request if it fits and will work as it’s not fair on the rest of the dancefloor.

Guilty pleasure?

Star Trek! That and Bailey’s, which I don’t often drink but love.

Describe yourself in three words?

Am bitious, determ ined, friendly.

**DJ DAVID NOAKES’ CURRENT TOP FIVE**

1. JAX JONES feat Raye You Don’t Know Me (my Quickmix) White

2. JONAS BLUE feat Raye By Your Side (Extended mix) Virgin EMI

3. BECKY HILL Warm (Midnight City remix) Eko

4. RIHANNA Umbrella (David Noakes’ remix) White

5. RYAN BLYTH Show Me (Club mix) new State Music
One of my favourite TV shows as a kid, maybe even favourite ever, is *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers*. Not the mammoth series that it became that changed Rangers every year, I’m talking about the original three seasons and by extension *Power Rangers Zeo* and *Turbo*. If you’ve never seen it, why not? Check it out on Netflix ASAP! It’s fun, light-hearted and yet can be emotional and heart-warming with some kick arse fighting scenes thrown into the mix. Oh, and giant robots too because this is based on a Japanese series so you must have giant robots!

Last month saw the release of the movie reboot so let’s look at the latest comic book series based on the franchise which is consistently brilliant. Published by Boom! Studios, the series follows the original six Rangers but in an alternate previously unseen timeline which has a more mature tone than the TV series and is more in line with the tone of the reboot movie. Most of the same events of the TV series still happened with the five teens being recruited by Zordon and Tommy (the sixth ranger) being an evil Ranger created by Rita and then joining the team once his brainwashing was cured.

The series also contains new events, such as the comedy relief, Bulk and Skull, being recruited by Zordon and becoming previously unseen Power Rangers to save the main team, which is all very much like the first story of the *All New Uncanny X-Men* series. My favourite new storyline follows Kimberly, the first Pink Ranger, who after leaving the team must use the power within her to become an all new Pink Ranger to save the world. It’s a cool story about female empowerment and I love seeing the original Pink Ranger kicking arse again.

The series is fantastically written by three writers with the main writer, Kyle Higgins, a personal favourite of mine who wrote the amazing first *New 52* series of *Nightwing* (my fave DC character!). On top of that, the art is truly beautiful especially the covers which are more than worthy of being framed! If you’re a huge fan of the series or just fancy reading a cool comic, this series is one you should definitely look into.

### COMICS

*Mighty Morphin Power Rangers* is about a group of teenagers with attitude chosen by an intergalactic being called Zordon to protect the Earth from alien invaders, specifically the villainous witch Rita Repulsa and the evil Lord Zedd. The teenagers (looking more like they’re in their mid-20s) use morphers to change them into superpowered warriors and gain the power to pilot Zords: huge mechanised robots based on pre-historic animals like the T-Rex and the Sabre-Tooth Tiger.

By far my favourite of the original series’ games was the first one on the SNES, shockingly called *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers*. The gameplay consists of a side-scrolling fighting game where you can take control of any of the five original Rangers and beat up a hell of a lot of putty patrollers. Unique to this game is the fact that you play as your chosen character unmorphed until you reach a boss with each of the five having their own fighting style. Zack does his hip-hop akido (dancing mixed with martial arts), while Billy is unconfident and bumbling with his fighting moves. The soundtrack and graphics are fantastic with each Ranger looking just like their on-screen counterparts. As it is my personal favourite Power Rangers game I am a little biased but I promise you that anyone who wants a memorable game based on this amazing series could do much worse.

For Sega fans, *Power Rangers The Movie* for the Mega Drive is almost as good as the original SNES game. Playing much like *Streets of Rage*, but with Power Rangers, the gameplay consists of a side-scrolling beat ‘em up for up to two players with all the Rangers from the movie present. The action is fluid and fun with the graphics and soundtrack once again being brilliant and instantly memorable. Anyone with a Mega Drive should grab this game and add it to their collection!

### GAMES

As this month is all about *Power Rangers*, it’s about time we looked at the video games based on this classic series. Below I’ve highlighted a few of my favourite Power Rangers games, most of which are of course for the consoles of the 1990s. If you don’t have access to the consoles and want to play these games, you can always try downloading an emulator and experience them that way. The new movie is based on the first series of the show, so I’m only looking at the video games based on the *Mighty Morphin* line of the *Power Rangers* franchise and not anything from Zeo to *Super Megaforce*.

**Fighting game fans should check out Mighty Morphin Power Rangers: The Fighting Edition** for the SNES. It’s based solely on the latter segment of most episodes where the rangers jump into their giant robots which combine to become the Mega Zord. This is usually because the bad guy has become gigantic thanks to the powers of Rita Repulsa or Lord Zedd. All the Mega Zords on the show at the time are available to control as well as certain villains like Goldar, Lord Zedd and even movie bad guy Ivan Ooze. Although the game is fairly simple, any fans of the series will find it a fun and enjoyable game.
**BRIGHTON CENTRE**
Kings Road, Brighton, Box office: 0844 847 1515

**NE-TO (Sat 1)** The singer/songwriter plays hits *Stay, Champagne Life* and *Let Me Love You (Until You Learn to Love Yourself)*.

**CARO EMERALD** (Fri 14). Since her 2010 multi-platinum debut album *Déjà Vu* Emerald has forged her own niche. Gorgeous and stylish, Caro blends retro jazz with sampling and modern pop to create her signature sound.

**DIVERSITY** (Tue 18). After their 31-date Up Close and Personal tour, Diversity’s new tour Genesis is the concluding part of their superhero fantasy epic and follows ‘Limitless: The Reboot’.

**BAD GIRLS**
The Old Market, Upper Market St, Hove, Box office: 01273 201801

**BAD GIRLS: THE MUSICAL** (Tue 18–Sat 22). Based on the iconic TV series and set in the fictional HMP Larkhall, *Bad Girls* is the story of

- **new idealistic Wing Governor Helen Stewart and her battles with the entrenched old guard of Officer Jim Fenner and his sidekick Sylvia “Bodybag” Hollamy.** Featuring a host of well-known characters, from Shell Dockley, Denny Blood, Noreen Biggs and Yvonne Atkins, the musical with a fabulous jazz, swing, rock, score played by a live band tells the stories of these characters that are ‘all banged up’ for being fantastically Bad!

**BENT DOUBLE**
Komedia, Gardner St, Brighton
Box office: 0845 293 8480

**BENT DOUBLE** (Sun 2). A gay-friendly, irreverent night of fun and frolics hosted by Zoe Lyons (Mock The Week and Michael McIntyre’s Comedy Roadshow). Featuring headliner Alistair Barrie with Desiree Burch, Julie Jepson and guest MC Jen Brister.

**BROADWAY LOUNGE**
Upstairs @ Bar Broadway, 10 Steine St, Brighton

**LAUGHTER IN THE LOUNGE** (8pm, Sat 29). Monthly stand-up comedy night with six comedians from London and the south coast taking to the stage, entry £3.

**EYES WIDE OPEN**
eyeswideopencinema.co.uk

**Duke’s at the Komedia**
Brighton’s queer cinema collective presents:

- **THE FILMS OF KENNETH ANGER** (Tue 18). One of the 20th Century’s most important and influential filmmakers, Kenneth Anger changed the landscape of both queer and experimental cinema irrevocably. With his visually arresting, sometimes erotic, sometimes mystical, and always singular films, Anger’s visions have a significant legacy of their own. This selection of some of his most celebrated films *Fireworks; Eaux D’Artifice; Scorpio Rising: Kustom Kar Kommandos; Lucifer Rising* are just as impactful today. Introduction by Dr Thomas Houlton.

**TRAUMFRAU**
Attenborough Centre for The Creative Arts, Gardner Centre Rd, Falmer, BN1 9RA, www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2901473

**TRAUMFRAU THE INFAMOUS ACCA QUEER TAKEOVER** (Fri 9). Who let the weirdos touch the nice things? Traumfrau is taking over ACCA for a night of infamous fun, music, DJs, live art and performance. All queer. All completely over the top. Music from: DJ Naam, Butch Please and DJ Russo; shows: Almost Xavi with Tomato Jolly Time, Travis Alabanza with Obstacle Burguzz plus VJS, live art and lots of Dancing! Tickets £10/£7 (concs & University of Sussex students) and £5 early bird.
I'm beginning with two shows that I'm involved in this month, before moving on to more local events.

**STUDIO 1 GALLERY**
7–9 WandsworthPlain, London, SW18 1ES, www.studio1gallery.co.uk
I made a series of great and grand thematic albums, often with his Golden Quintet. His latest is a celebration of America's national parks, although three of the six tracks on this double CD are named after places in the USA like the Mississippi River that aren't actually national parks. All the music is fully scored, with plenty of space for the musicians to improvise. The approach is serious, elegiac and in places magisterially grand, an evocation of the natural beauty found at Yosemite and Yellowstone. Smith's declamatory trumpet cuts through with blears and smears, while cello and bass revolve around each other in resonant contrasts. Piano and drums make their own commentaries. Both serious and spiritual, this is fine music to be slowly savoured.

**LUBOMIROV ANGUS HUGHES GALLERY**
My work is also included in STORYBOARD (Apr 14–May 7), a group show with Miranda Boulton, Rosin Fogarty, Suzanne Holtom, Gareth Kemp and Lexi Strauss. The exhibition explores how the artists have responded and manipulated the temporal process of paint.

**BRIGHTON MUSEUM & ART GALLERY**
Royal Pavilion Gardens, Brighton BN1 1EE, brightonmuseums.org.uk
CONSTANCE AND BRIGHTON (Apr 8–Oct 8) explores John Constable's time in the fashionable seaside resort, where he stayed with his family between 1824 and 1828. Working between Brighton and London, he produced around 150 works in the town. The display brings together over 60 of his sketches, drawings and paintings of Brighton for the first time, in the place where they were created. Highlights include Chain Pier, Brighton (1826, Tate), Rainstorm Over The Sea (c. 1824-28, Royal Academy of Arts), A Windmill Near Brighton (1824, Tate), his painting box, his children's toy stagecoach, and the gold medal he won for The Hay Wain when it was exhibited at the Paris Salon of 1824.

**UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON GALLERY**
58–67 Grand Parade, Brighton BN2 0JY, arts.brighton.ac.uk
GEORGE HARDIE FIFTY ODD YEARS (until Apr 7) is a retrospective of work by renowned graphic designer, illustrator and educator George Hardie, artist behind some of the most iconic album covers of 20th Century. Having trained at St Martin’s and the Royal College of Art, Hardie worked as a designer/illustrator for more than 40 years for clients around the world. He was the artist behind Led Zeppelin’s debut album Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd’s Dark Side of the Moon. Having taught illustration at the University of Brighton from the early 1980s until his retirement in 2014, he continues with PhD students, having become Professor in 1990.

**ZIMMER STEWART GALLERY**
29 Tarrant St, Arundel, BN18 9DG, www.zimmerstewart.co.uk
TOM FARTHING - STILL LIFE (Apr 8–29) known for his figurative paintings, here presents a series of still life-inspired works.

**JERWOOD GALLERY**
Rock-a-Nore Rd, Hastings, TN34 3DW www.jerwoodgallery.org
IN FOCUS: EILEEN AGAR - BRIDE OF THE SEA (until Jun 4) is an overview of her work including works from the Tate Collection, Tate Archive, the Royal Academy of Arts, Government Art Collection and Arts Council Collection. Agar attended Leon Underwood’s studio school and the Slade School of Fine Art, and was the only female British artist represented in the influential International Surrealist Exhibition in London.
music can be hard to make immediate sense of, but then as his ten Piano Sonatas demonstrate, once you join his soundworld, there is much to reward your attention. Peter Donohoe remarkably performs all ten sonatas in a single concert (well over two hours of music) – catch him at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama (23 April). The moody and dark first sonata was written when Scriabin was 20, when he had damaged his right hand from over-practising, and thought it was the end of his performing career. A freer second sonata, inspired by his first sight of the sea in Latvia, is followed by the deeper, soul-searching third. The fourth’s Wagnerian harmonies are almost jazz-like and improvisatory, and the fifth has an incredibly passionate climaxes, with hammering chords. By the sixth, conventional tonality is almost gone, and the mysterious harmonies are deeply unsettling – even Scriabin found it ‘frightening’ and wouldn’t play it in public. The White Mass seventh combines weighty textures with extensive use of rippling trills. The eighth is more anxious than overtly turbulent, which Donohoe brings out well, with some almost skittish, impetuous passages, before disappearing away to nothing. The ninth, Black Mass, is full of ‘satanic’ tri-tones and chromatic scales, whereas the final sonata, which he described as his ‘sonata of insects’, is full of light and radiance. The recording is rounded off by one of Scriabin’s final works, Vers la Flamme, his representation of rising heat, growing from nothing to brilliance, with the heat of the sun eventually destroying the world. So, a mammoth range here, and Donohoe takes us on a wild journey through these highly individual works. The weight of his playing, particularly in the rapturous seventh, as well as his anxious filigree in the eighth, and the full-on romantic flourishes of the fourth and fifth amply demonstrate his phenomenal range. The virtuosic command on show here is almost forgotten as the depth of his performances of these dark and complex works engulfs you. Somm SOMMCD262-2

0 German mezzo-soprano Gerhild Romberger, with pianist Alfredo Perl, has recorded three of Gustav Mahler’s (1860-1911) song cycles. Most are better known in their orchestrated versions, so it is good to hear them in this form. Here we have the Rückert-Lieder, the Kindertotenlieder (also with texts by Friedrich Rückert), and the Lieder Eines Fahrenden Gesellen (Songs of a Wayfarer). Romberger has a rich mezzo voice, well suited for Mahler, and can regularly be heard in the symphonies, appearing several times at the Proms. Her full tones are demonstrated in Blicke Mir Nicht In Die Lieder from the Rückert-Lieder, yet in the first of this set, Liebes Du Um Schönheit, his private piece for Alma and the only one he didn’t orchestrate, the tender lifts to high notes have great poise. Romberger gives a heartfelt performance of Ich Bin Der Welt Abhanden Gekommen, although perhaps a little over controlled for this desperate plea. The Lieder Eines Fahrenden Gesellen have strong links with the first symphony, the rustic Ging Heut Morgen’ and the melancholic Die Zwei Blauen Augen both appearing there. However, it is in the third song, Ich Hab’ Ein Glühend Messer, that Romberger gives full vent, with wild anguish and high drama. In the heartfelt Kindertotenlieder, which draw on some of the 428 poems Rückert wrote following the death of his children, Romberger again shows great control in the rising lines of Nun Seh’ Ich Wohl, and pianist Perl has the opportunity to shine in the first song of the cycle. A commanding set, and Romberger and Perl present a strong argument for these pared down versions of Mahler’s finest songs. MDG 9031972-6

0 The Doric String Quartet has released their second CD of String Quartets by Franz Schubert (1797-1828). Here they pair the wonderful Quartettsatz, a single movement of his projected but unfinished twelfth quartet, with his final String Quartet in G major. The Dorics open the Quartettsatz with glassy determination, giving this miniature masterpiece great clarity and energy. The final String Quartet in contrast comes it at over 50 minutes, and is a mighty challenge. Again, the Dorics attack this with high energy, intensity and precision throughout. There is high drama here, and despite the G major key, Schubert shifts between major and minor right at the start, highlighting the conflicting moods that run throughout. The Dorics give the frequent tremolandi an edge of anxiety, and the slow movement is dark and mournful. It is only in the Trio of the Scherzo that follows that there is any sense of calm, and the players relish the successive duet writing here. But the finale dashes all this to one side, and in its relentless race to the finish, the players never lose attention to detail, whilst maintaining impressive intensity and energy to the last. Catch them in the Brighton Festival (26 May). Chandos CHAN10931

Reviews, comments and events: nickb86@uk @nickb86uk

0 The Doric String Quartet

CINEMA

George Balanchine’s ballet, Jewels (Tues 11), with music by Fauré, Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky, performed live by the Royal Ballet from the Royal Opera House. Robin Ticciati conducts Tchaikovsky’s Eugene Onegin (Sat 22) from the MET Opera, with Anna Netrebko and Peter Mattei. In local cinemas, including: Duke’s @ Komedia Brighton, Cineworld Eastbourne and Connaught Cinema, Worthing.

CONCERTS

ST MARTIN’S CHURCH

Lewes Rd, Brighton, www.bremf.org.uk

The BRFM Consort of Voices (6pm, Sat 8), perform Meditation, early renaissance English music by Payfax and Ludford.

BRIGHTON DOME

www.brightondome.org.01273 709709

The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Pete Harrison (7.30pm, Sat 22), perform Heroes & Legends – music from the movies, including scores by John Williams, Maurice Jarre and Miklos Rozsa.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Joshua Weilerstein (7.30pm, Sat 29), perform Sibelius, Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninov’s Piano Concerto No. 2, with Mark Bebbington (piano).
PRIDE AND JOY: A GUIDE FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANS PARENTS by Sarah and Rachel Hagger-Holt (Pinter & Martin, £11.99). There's always been LGBT parents, but now there's a 'gayby boom'. Changes in social attitudes, the law and medical technology mean that more LGBT people are becoming parents, and living proud and open family lives. Yet there are still few role models. Pride And Joy is full of stories, advice and real-life experience from LGBT parents and their children. Sometimes funny, moving and surprising, every story sheds new light on what it's like for LGBT people raising children in the UK and Ireland today. All of them constructive, healthy and loving families filled with honest appraisal and love. Pride And Joy is positive and practical. It's inclusive and sees things from a LGBT perspective, covering everything from starting a family, dealing with schools, talking with children about different families and maintaining an LGBT identity as a parent. This is essential reading for anyone who wants to better understand issues facing LGBT families, including parents or prospective parents, extended families, friends, social workers, teachers and other professionals. 

WHEN WE RISE: MY LIFE IN THE MOVEMENT by Cleve Jones (Constable, £13.99). Born in 1954, Cleve was among the last generation of gay Americans who grew up wondering if they were the only gays. He found community in the ramshackle apartments shared by other young adventurers, in the city's bath houses, gay bars and burgeoning gay district, the Castro. With Harvey Milk's encouragement he dove into politics and found his calling in 'the movement'. When Milk was assassinated in 1978, he took up his mentor's progressive mantle only to see the arrival of AIDS transform his life once again. By turns tender and uproarious, he chronicles the heartbreak of losing friends to AIDS; his co-founding of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation; his conception of the AIDS Memorial Quilt; the story of 1970s San Francisco and the magnetic spell it cast for many young gay people and other misfits; and the harrowing, sexy, and hilarious stories of Cleve's relationships with friends and lovers during an era defined by unprecedented freedom and violence alike. This is not only the story of a hero to the LGBTQ community, but the vibrant memoir of a full and transformative life. I needed to read this right now to remind myself of the strong beating heart of the US and how passionate committed people like Jones can inspire us further. Inspiring. (Now a US mini TV series based on this book). 

GAY IN THE 80s: FROM FIGHTING OUR RIGHTS TO FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES by Colin Clews (Troubador, £14.99). The 1980s heralded many challenges for LGBT people around the world. The rise of the New Right in the USA; Section 28; the trial of Gay's The Word book shop in the UK; and the continuing criminalisation of homosexuality in the majority of Australian states. Underpinning all this was the unfolding of the AIDS crisis, a time when LGBT people realised they were not just fighting for their rights but fighting for their lives. But it wasn't all doom. By the end of the 1980s there had been real progress. Major political parties had LGBT rights in their manifestos, trades unions took up the cause and regional legislators introduced anti-discrimination laws and policies. LGBT people became more prolific in film, TV, music and literature and the LGBT community grew significantly. Clews examines the dynamics behind the changes: some the result of prolonged campaigns; others stemmed from the influence of the pink £/$; others a consequence of the growing anger at government intransigence to the AIDS crisis. Gay In The 80s covers the broad political context of the 1980s and takes a comparative approach to events in these countries from Clews' personal experience. 

MARGOT & ME by Juno Dawson (Hot Key Books, £7.99). How can you hate someone in the present and love them in the past? Fliss's mum needs to recuperate from a long illness so they move to the country to live with Margot, Fliss's stern and enigmatic grandmother. Life on the farm is tough and life at school even tougher, so when Fliss unearths Margot's wartime diary, she sees an opportunity. But Fliss discovers Margot's life during the war was full of adventure, mystery and surprising passion. She learns a secret and as she struggles with huge changes in her life and circumstances, it's Margot who seems to be the rock to cling to. As much a funny retro romance as a tear jerker, Dawson has produced an inclusive and fun book about the things our heart leads us to do, how people deal with difficult times and constraining circumstances and the impact they have on who we become and the families we create.

CRITICAL & EXPERIENTIAL: DIMENSIONS IN GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY edited by Previn Karian (Resonance, £42.99). A multidisciplinary collection of chapters on gender and sexual diversity (GSD) that moves beyond the LGBTQ… acronym to include non-binary and heterosexual variation by academics, practitioners and activists from the UK, US, Canada, Russia and India. Although aimed at the practitioner and professional, there's much here for the informed layperson, not least the voices of people living lives of delicate complexity and discussing openly and with clarity the ways and means of developing one's identity, life choices and experiences based on what's true to you. There are profoundly interesting chapters that challenge as much as inform. Anyone with an interest in non-pathologising discussions of gendered identities and sexual practices will find this invaluable in a process of personal understanding or development. This is Karian's personal rebut to the shock of latent homophobia at a conference in London a few years back and its clear tone and clarity of vision pushes against ignorance and harmful assumptions on the professional level and many others. Complex and insightful this is certainly food for thought.
WHAT MAKES AN ADDICT?

SEX ADDICTION: THE LECTURE

Spencer Charles Smith chats to Tommy (aka The Queer Historian) about his new project, Sex Addiction: The Lecture - his attempts to recover from his sex addictions.

It was a sunny Thursday afternoon when I sat down with Tommy in Alcampo Lounge to discuss his latest solo-show in this year’s Fringe. Tommy isn’t a stranger to GScene, having contributed articles in the past on queer mental health, queer history and Russell Tovey. With shandies in hand, because it felt like summer, we dove right in.

Tommy is a recovering sex addict. In three years, Tommy slept with 3,597 men; he has spent the last five years in recovery.

“Sex Addiction: The Lecture is about my recovery as an addict and how people struggle to class sex as an addiction.”

For years Tommy has faced criticism from both friends and acquaintances who refuse to more commonly know addictions like drugs, alcohol and gambling.

Since this show explores the concept of addiction, I think it’s useful to begin with a dictionary.com definition: addiction – the state of being enslaved to a habit, or practice (or to something that is psychologically or physically habit-forming) to such an extent that its cessation causes severe trauma.

With this in mind, the concept of addiction can be broadened to any excessive activity that becomes oppressive and/or destructive to anyone compelled to perform it. And yet, Tommy continues to face scrutiny.

“People tell me that I have nothing to recover from, so one aspect of this show is how people’s opinions strip away my own experiences.”

But why?

“I think people struggle with the concept of sex addiction because it’s something we all do. But sex addiction is just like any other; it lies, it destroys and makes you the centre of its lavish story.”

Originally from Chingford, Essex, Tommy trained in technical theatre at Mountview Academy in London, then relocated to Brighton five years ago.

“Brighton saved my life when I was an addict. I moved down from London to Brighton because I knew I needed to do something drastic to get me out of my routine.”

Since then Tommy has been performing in cabarets and live art spaces across the UK. His critically acclaimed production of Homophobia premiered in the Brighton Fringe last year; the show revisited a homophobic attack Tommy experienced at the age of 15.

“Brighton Fringe is the place that reignited the spark in me to be a performer again, so it will always be close to my heart.”

Some of Tommy’s past favourites include Nando Messia’s The Sissy’s Progress and Patrick Sandford’s Groomed. After a smashing success in last year’s Fringe, Homophobia was taken up to London where it hosted a week-long run at the King’s Head Pub Theatre.

“My work is about bringing taboo subjects to the forefront, so they can no longer be ignored.” And with that, Tommy is hoping Sex Addiction: The Lecture spawns a much needed conversation about sex and addiction.

“The piece isn’t so much about my opinions, but about the opinions of society, and how society portrays certain set expectations for what makes an addict.”

And, in preparation for this show, Tommy has collected a wide range of opinions: from reading stories about cottageing, cruising and saunas (“my addiction spiralled into me finding sex in anonymous places, rather than me using hook-up apps”), to online surveys, to speaking with leading academics in sex and gender anthropology.

Rather than providing answers, Tommy hopes the show produces questions – questions that will lead to a much larger debate.

“I want the audience to walk away questioning their own belief system on addiction and questioning everything they think makes an addict.”

What about after the Fringe? What’s next for Sex Addiction: The Lecture?

“I hope the conversation lives beyond the Fringe because I think more people need to get involved, so we hope to get a tour in place and travel the country.”

Tommy also revealed that all of his shows are linked in some way – “a natural progression” – so after Homophobia and Sex Addiction: The Lecture, there will be a dance show that journeys through the 3,597 men he encountered during his addiction, and then a final show that explores domestic violence within the LGBT+ community. Needless to say, Tommy has a bold future ahead of him and I can’t wait to see it.

With our shandies dry, Tommy and I sauntered out of Alcampo Lounge, but not before one final question: What excites you the most about Sex Addiction: The Lecture?

“We’re choreographing an epic dance routine to the sweet sounds of Will Young. And there are sequins. Obvs.”

SEX ADDICTION: THE LECTURE

Sex Addiction: The Lecture: One Church Brighton, Gloucester Place, Brighton BN1 4AA, May 11, 12 & 13 at 8pm. Tickets £8.

Exclusive GScene discount! Get 10% off your Sex Addiction: The Lecture ticket price when you use the code “Gscene”. 

*SEX ADDICTION: THE LECTURE*
HANDMADE CHILDREN’S EASTER EGG BAG, £6.50; SMOKING JACKETS (can be customised to order), £7.50; SWIMMERS’ EARRINGS by Lynne@BL, £14.50; MEN AT WORK EARRINGS by Lynne@BL, £16.50 (Barbary Lane, 95 St George’s Road, Brighton, www.barbarylane.co.uk and Facebook)

ENDLESS POETRY (Artificial Eye blu-ray). Cult director Alejandro Jodorowsky takes a self-consciously Felliniesque look at his life as a poet in 1950s’ Chile. It’s visually arresting and certainly has momentum on its side. Though its characterisations are pretty thin – and despite his genetic credentials the director’s son, Adan Jodorowsky, doesn’t really have the charisma needed to carry the movie – its procession of eccentrics, muses and at least one ultrapianist certainly make up for any lack of cohesive story. For the most part it’s great fun though the last half hour drags a bit. I’m guessing this is the kind of film which will more fully reveal itself – for better or worse – on a second viewing.

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS (Eureka blu-ray). Paul Schofield gives a dignified performance as Thomas More, the man who stood up to Henry VIII (Robert Shaw) during the latter’s spats with the Catholic Church. It’s a compelling portrait of an honourable man sticking to his principles in the face of a tyrannical monarch, a scheming Thomas Cromwell (Leo McKern) and a poisonous opportunist played by John Hurt. Adapted by Robert Bolt from his play, the film is pretty much a hagiography of More – it neglects to mention he thought burning was the best way to deal with heretics. It’s a fine example of English thesping coupled with a serious, even high-minded, script.
CRAIG’S THOUGHTS

If you can’t be kind be civil.
Or straight people can love too.
By Craig Hanlon-Smith @craigscontinuum

1. Whilst conducting a series of research interviews with members of the older lesbian and gay community, Dr Jane Traies rather took me by surprise as she said to me that Civil Partnership is singlehandedly the most important and significant piece of equality legislation from the past 50 years. That's more important than the partial decriminalisation of homosexuality in England and Wales, more significant than the equalisation of the age of consent. Upon closer reflection, it is of course not much of a stretch to see why.

Another gentleman I spoke to, aged 70 and accompanied by his Civil Partner of three years, spoke of the essential need to have his relationship legally recognised especially in the later years of life. Some seven years earlier, his former partner of 30 years sadly died. At that time legal partnership recognition was not an option but he had thought little of it as he was left both the house they’d called home for more than 20 years and his partner’s cash and pension assets in a will. The will was successfully challenged by four nieces and nephews of the deceased and the surviving partner turfed out of his home with no more than a suitcase of clothes and penniless, aged 60.

My own experience of Civil Partnership was much less of a business move and much more emotionally driven. No change there then. From the morning after our ceremony my overwhelming feeling was one of a new family, just the two of us but our own clan none the less. This sense of a tight unit has in no way diminished more than 10 years later and on the ninth anniversary of our Civil Partnership we were, just the two of us, and the registrar, legally married.

And therein lies the problem. The introduction of same-sex marriage and so what now for Civil Partnership? The recent high-profile court of appeal case would suggest there is life in the not so old dog yet. Although Rebecca Steinfeld and Charles Keidan lost their case to extend Civil Partnerships to heterosexual couples, this was merely on a technicality and the presiding judges were quite critical of the government’s failure to address the inequality the current system and stated that it is only a matter of time before the UK Government is in breach of the Human Rights Act.

Now that the LGBT community can get married, preventing heterosexual couples from entering into a Civil Partnership is surely and act of inequality not seen since, well the introduction of Civil Partnerships in the place of same-sex marriage. Was Civil Partnership a political stopgap? A temporary measure until the real thing arrived? And if so, just what is the point anymore?

The introduction of legally recognised partnerships was seen by some as an unacceptable compromise by the government led by a Prime Minister who was at the time (although we didn’t know it) taking private instruction from the Catholic Church. Tony Blair converted to Catholicism a matter of weeks after stepping down as Prime Minister and much of the organised Catholic community had been formal opponents to same-sex marriage. I personally know some gay couples who point blank refused to enter into such an arrangement until marriage itself became law. To them it created a further layer of inequality and emphasised rather than included difference. I happen to think it was a political masterstroke.

Although by the time Civil Partnerships began to take place in the UK, in late December 2005, the Netherlands and Spain, itself a Catholic country, had taken the full plunge into marriage equality - it wouldn't have happened here if when the bill was first passed in 2004 its content had been marriage and not partnership recognition.

Our collective social memory is short and it’s easy to forget that the UK was a country that in 1988 introduced Section/Clause 28, an amendment to local authority legislation that prohibited local authorities from intentionally promoting homosexuality, or, and here comes the part that smart, the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship. This highly controversial and deeply offensive legal footnote wasn’t repealed in England until November 2003, a mere two years before the first Civil Partnerships took place. Do you think for a second that the political godfathers of the establishment would have acquiesced to the idea of boys marrying boys and girls other girls? If you do, I admire your positive utopian fantastical ideal but I fear it would have been the stuff of Narnia.

Surely it was a better idea that we get the wider conservative (small C) community to accept the idea of same-sex partnerships without fearing that the gays were getting above themselves too soon. Then we could roll into town to the ding-dong merrily on high of wedding bells once the world realised that the tsunami wouldn’t come, the fires wouldn’t rage nor plagues descend, and that society as we know it wouldn’t crumble under the weight of our LGBT communities pretending that they were families.

Same-sex marriage was practically a shoe-in by the time it arrived in 2014 and this is largely thanks to the thawing properties of Civil Partnerships. And to my LGBT brothers and sisters still table thumping about the unacceptable wait for marriage and the inequality of the Civil Partnership overture I have two things to say.

First, if we’re going to split hairs, the same-sex marriage bill was a separate piece of legislation to allow LGBT people to believe we were now formally entering a pretended family relationship. If the government had truly wanted to really flex its biceps and be the progressive game changer David Cameron claimed to be in his resignation speech, he and they could have extended and amended the existing marriage legislation to include us, just as they amended the local government act in 1988 to include Section 28 in order to exclude us. This shit isn’t difficult but it doesn’t appeal to the whining conservative (small C) majority and one might argue that separate legislation actually emphasises rather than includes difference. Sigh.

Second, I appreciate how emotionally significant Civil Partnership legislation was, I signed up and cried on my wedding day, on both of them, I get it. Therefore the idea of clinging on to Civil Partnership as ours and only ours seems churlish, unequal and unfair. If Civil Partnerships are to remain, and I firmly believe that they should, then they should be extended to all, homo, bi, and heterosexuals alike.

It’s time to forgive the sins of governments past and just as we’ve now been allowed to develop pretended family relationships, the heterosexual community should be allowed to believe that they too can aspire to life long and Civil Partnerships.

“Same-sex marriage was practically a shoe-in by the time it arrived in 2014 and this is largely thanks to the thawing properties of Civil Partnerships”
1. Find at least one other person you feel able to confide in and who would be able to confide in you. If you don’t know anyone you need to find a new set of friends - or start up a Meet-up Group!

2. Find a special object (call it a talisman) to hold and pass around the circle.

3. Designate a date and time and set aside at least two hours free of disturbance.

4. Turn all your devices off and prepare to communicate the truth of what is going on for you right now. In the flesh. No edits. The raw, honest, authentic truth!

5. Pick up the Talisman and say ‘In this Heart Circle I will have the opportunity to share but only when I hold the Talisman. Do you agree to do this too?’

6. Wait for all present to say, Yes I agree! (If they don’t, then send them home and find another group!)

7. Light a candle and pass the Talisman and this text to the left. The next person says ‘At the beginning of my sharing I will say my name and it will be repeated back by the circle as an affirmation of mutual support. Do you agree to do this too?’

8. This person lights a candle then passes the Talisman and this text to the left and so on.

“I promise to listen with empathy and to have a compassionate awareness of any judgement as it arises within me”

9. These statements are said, asking for agreement, by other participants or if there are just two or three of you they are shared between you:

- I will speak from the heart about what is alive and true for me right now.
- I will own my statements by using ‘I’ and ‘my’ rather than ‘you’ or ‘we’.
- I promise to listen with empathy and to have a compassionate awareness of any judgement as it arises within me.
- During the circle, I may hear something that resonates with me. I will not directly comment on, or offer any advice to others. However it may affect my subsequent sharing.
- I may say nothing when the Talisman comes to me, but I will allow myself time to be present with my feelings before passing it on.
- I will allow others personal space to be fully with their own experience - in tears or laughter. Comfort or hugs may be non-verbally offered and accepted when the sharing has finished.
- I will look after my emotional and physical needs and if I have to leave the room I will do so at the end of a share.
- If I would like to talk about something said in the circle with that person afterwards, I may ask but I accept that the answer could be no.
- I promise to keep everything in this Heart Circle CONFIDENTIAL.

10. Now take the Talisman and share from the heart for as long as it takes, then pass it on. When all has been said, hold hands. Take three deep breaths then blow the candles out. Enjoy!

This time I felt relieved, I didn’t have to suppress it anymore. In hindsight I was probably not as good of an actor as I believed I was. I think that most people around me recognised that over a period of time, even before the diagnosis, I had started to change. The physical conditions just brought everything to a head.

So these days, when I move you can almost hear the rattle of pills. I have got over this to some extent as I accept that I must trust modern science to assist me with my conditions. I also accept that medication is not the only cure and that I have to also face the mental health issues that have been raised. But I am very lucky to have an incredibly supportive husband and friends have also rallied round. So even though it has been difficult, I feel very lucky to have this support network around me. If anyone reading this feels in anyway like I did, please take my advice and reach out to someone, I promise it will help.

“I accept that medication isn’t the only cure and that I have to face the mental health issues that have been raised”
I just want to make one thing clear: Having a ‘free press’ doesn’t just mean that you don’t have to pay for it. Remember when WHSmiths gave us the ‘pay what you want’ buckets at the rail stations? Most people paid what they wanted – nothing. And even when they emptied the buckets they found them full of pennies. Or, people were paying the price of an Evening Standard for a few high-end glossies. Needless to say they put an end to that soon enough.

The Free Press (in title case) is what you are reading right now whether you paid for it on the black market or not. It allows me and everyone else to talk to you about whatever we think fit. Or unfit, as is usually the case with my copy. We then leave it up to the frantic newsroom downtown to edit as they need to. But they don’t usually need to. Because this is the Free Press. You can decide not to read this magazine and that’s fine too. Because it is the Free Press. Perhaps someone may be offended by our lifestyles. Or perhaps all those garish colours that the graphics department mix up to draw us all in are a bit too much on the morning after for some people. Again, it’s your choice to read on.

People use the Queer press for lots of reasons. One of the best and most original has always been for the use of coming out. It used to be down to walking around with a few Bowie albums shoved under your arm until someone eventually came out as straight. (Everyone was Queer with Bowie, even if some were straight. And we loved the inversion of it all). I remember I had some friends when I was 17 or so, who went to that London and shoplifted poppers, white chocolate, and the magazines Zipper and Him International – flaccid porn with images that you can actually see in the mainstream these days - back then they were the only one-handed reads you could find. One of our heartthrobs in the provinces was Joe Hill - a perfect Camden-based young skinhead, famous for wearing white socks and nowt else. Boy, oh boy - we dreamed of heading to that London and finding him somewhere – in Heaven, or the Joiners Arms or in the Black Cap. And my cousin actually did find him, several times.

One Saturday I went away for some concert in another town and came back on the Sunday where I discovered my bed being freshly made by mum sie. And yes - carefully placed hanging out from underneath the mattress were my two magazines, plus another American leather mag which was stolen for me by some lesbian friends shoplifting harnesses and the like from Soho sex shops. But this hanging over the edge was really mum sie’s way to tell me that she now knew and we never had to speak about it again. Some people would do this with Queer listings mags in order to let the family know that they were part of some community or other and that they were somehow OK.

Now we’re lead to believe that social media is real news (which means, I suppose, that these magazines are ‘fake news’), that is, if you think tweeting or snap-chatting someone across the club in abbreviated text and emotions is somehow real. Let’s face it, we all now know that Grindr is nearly always fake news, especially when the photographs and dimensions don’t add up to what we end up seeing before us when we open the front door.

The culture has always loved fake but not something pretending to be fake. So, for the last time, drag queens are not fake women. If they were they’d present themselves as something else, perhaps something more conforming. We all know they’re not women so shut up for lord’s sakes. How about the drag queen’s audience? Wowzie, look at them with their ‘fake tans’… Nothing wrong with that. Jeeze, with our climate we’d look like Fritzel captives and never get laid. So, if we don’t get sunlight, we buy it in a can. Nothing fake about that. Unlike our friends over the pond, we’re not yet there with having surgery so that it looks like surgery, just so that people know we have enough money to do it. But nothing wrong with fake lifting of a jowl or jabbing some filler into your brow if you feel like it.

We have done the fake to death - including the fake news. AIDS is a cesspool of our own making, the gays are so rich and consumery or that Sondheim-loving gay man is really your average kiddie-fiddler on the roof… and the beat goes on.

Last month, The Guardian was not allowed into the Whitehouse press room, together with the BBC, CNN, The New York Times and The Washington Post. All right-wing press outlets were allowed in – remember this is also the Free Press. The others mentioned have been sanctioned as ‘false news’ mongers and so are banned. You do the maths. Because all Free Press has to be supported and contributed to. Myself and my colleagues here do just that and all for reasons bigger than ourselves. Sometimes for reasons bigger than this community. All of us have a duty to stand on a box and shout until we are heard. To represent everyone. To remember the LGBTI... ever-changing acronym – we have to put a ‘W’ in there which we never in a million years thought we’d have to. To create the Queer mass again, which has always included women and everyone else who isn’t the straight white men who run international news media and the most powerful seats on the planet. To lead the world in a Sissy/Pussy Riot of resistance. And to never, ever, settle.

Love to you all x

“Last month, The Guardian was not allowed into the Whitehouse press room, together with the BBC, CNN, The New York Times and The Washington Post. All right-wing press outlets were allowed in... the others have been sanctioned as ‘false news’ mongers and so are banned”
**MIRROR MIRROR**

Ah, spring! A deep breath, a new rant and the chance to cover you in my ranty spittle as I go off on one in a rabid jaw gnashing seethe about something or other which has rattled my cage or caused me unutterably crushing moments of frustration; but Dear Reader, what is this? I find no flecks of foamy spit clinging to the your wipe-clean tabard (nice pinny by the way) nor a worried frown as you desperately cling to reason and try to decode or simply understand what I’ve written about. You seem content, and that means that I must be too, for you are the mirror of my mind Dear Reader, and it’s a clean mirror, not the type you see in mucky selfies on Grindr – all soiled, splattered and grubby, nor a discoloured, distorted fairground mirror that makes you look like a Gnome and me look ever so slightly overweight and certainly not one of them baroque gilded magic mirrors that are secretly sneeringly evil while seemingly granting you your every wish... Oh no, we won’t get caught like that again will we Dear Reader, not after the last time...

Mirror mirror on the wall, feel the hammer’s wrath and down you fall. Why Snow White didn’t just smash the damn thing and end the narrative tension - but then the drama would have fizzled out. Talking of which, back to the non-tirade. My heart-stopping Grandmother Ivy used to have a small mirror set in an enamelled compact that had pressed orangey pink face powder in it, at least I’m pretty sure when she was powdering her nose it was her complexion she was adjusting. It had a small foam circular pad in it that smelled of grannies and was softer than a puppy’s ear. Her cheeks were that same colour, as was most of the skin on her face, and it was a smooth and unblemished as a desert at night. She informed me that mirrors only reflect what’s been revealed to them and she only ever looked behind her with hers, just to check... She told me she’d used the mirror to save the life of Ernesto Guevara Lynch while riding pinion on his motorbike escaping from Miramar, Argentina where his jealous girlfriend, Chichina, tried to shoot him for leaving her. I suspect Ivy may have had something to do with her anger, and her relationship with Che (as she named him) never quite recovered and they parted company sometime after in Peru. She’d used the mirror to flash the hot Argentine sun into Chichina’s scorned furious eyes, dazzling her just enough to deflect the bullet. She kept the compact to remind her of learning to drive a motorbike, not for shortlived romance with her proto revolutionary. She was sentimental like that was Ivy. I found it the other day, opened it to a small puff of burnt amber smoke and I swear it whispered to me when I looked in it, a voice from the mercurial back-to-front world itself. It said: ‘Young man, be exquisite and never explain.’

**TRUTH HURTS**

I love a bastard! Whatsapp me 10 minutes after we’ve gone our separate ways at the end of the first date, and I’ll have lost interest by the time I turn my bedside lamp off. Leave it for two days, and I’m yours forever!

And yet, how I hate to wait! Many an hour I’ve spent picking up that phone, putting it down, picking it up, staring at that screen, willing something to happen until my eyes water, cursing those wretched little blue arrows! That reply that never comes.

Men and messages. Those you never hear from again, and those you do, because when that reply makes your mobile beep at long last, oh greatest joy, all is not always what it seems.

Get a reply or get ignored. All been in that boat, haven’t we? And getting ignored is a tricky one. Oh the courage it takes to hold back a self-righteous, or rather self-defeating text tirade to let him know just what he’s missing out on!

Reply or ignore? For how often is the shoe on the other foot, or the mobile in the other hand? When you are the one whose turn it is to type and you have to ask yourself the age old question - how do I let him down gently? My mother used to say, “If you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say anything at all.”, but so far the jury’s still out on that one.

“Why is communication amongst the unfairer sex such a struggle? What is wrong with plain and simple honesty? Everything”

Why is communication amongst the unfairer sex such a struggle? What is wrong with plain and simple honesty? Everything. It goes against human nature, because you see, deep down, even the biggest bastard is a people-pleaser. No man sets out with the ambition to convince the world of what an A-grade ratbag he is. We hate to say “No” so we lie. We say what we think they want to hear, and don’t quite mean it, to buy us some time. Something truth-adjacent like, “Sure, I’d love to see you, but I’m really busy this week!” We mean “busy”, and they hear “love to see you”.

Remember that Ricky Gervais film where no one can lie? If only!

“Yes, you are good company, but I’m sorry, I just can’t bring myself to have sex with those love handles!”

“I like quite a few things about you, but it’s not enough for a third date, sorry.”

“I’m keeping you sweet, though I’m actually after someone else. If that falls through, hey, we’re on baby!”. Yes, how often they string us along, and we let them. And so hopes and dreams are created and crushed, because we hear what we want to hear, and don’t say what we mean. We get disappointed text by text, and still make excuses. And still forgive.

Because the men we really like, they can do whatever they want, and they’ll always be able to make it up to us. The problem is, they hardly ever do.

**GSCENE 57**

BY MICHAEL STEINHAGE

**HOT GOSSIP**

**TRUTH HURTS**

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that most surgeons wouldn't touch me stating that I was simply not a candidate for this surgery and my only option was wigs, or they would try to take my money upfront knowing that they would only be able to give me a partial head of hair and not tell me this until I had made the journey to their country and was half way through surgery.

I'd just about given up hope after receiving so many knockbacks when my now standard email explaining who I am accompanied with photos of myself didn't get a refusal email, but a request to Skype.

I wasn't too hopeful as I'd been through this process many times and been refused, but this time was different. I had my first Skype consultation with a female surgeon who explained what I'd heard many times about the limited amount of donor hair, but I appealed to her, reminding her why she went into this line of business in the first place and made it very clear I was prepared to take a risk if she would.

This would be new to her as even the most advanced clients are done in one day of surgery lasting 8-10 hours, and perhaps the next morning. She warned me that this wouldn't be easy, it would be pioneering. There would be no guarantees and that I'd have to sit through up to 16 hours of surgery a day over multiple days. She recruited extra nurses to work alongside her and we were all set to try something new - so, I was off to Riga. Scary on all accounts.

I'd never used my female passport before and going through the London airport I found it all very exciting. Having breasts and testicles show up on the 3D scanner, which then assumes that one of them is concealing drugs, resulted in me being referred for extra security.

My gender and pronouns were respected and I felt I was treated with dignity. This continued as I passed through the airport which, by their very nature, are a crossroads for all types of people of all diversity. It was only when I approached the gate of a Latvia-born flight by a Hungarian carrier that the attitudes towards me changed. I'm a strong woman who's not easily flustered anymore and although I could tell the man sitting shoulder to shoulder with me on the flight wanted to punch me in the face, he knew he couldn't and I felt safe knowing that.

Passport control was much easier than anticipated and before I knew it I was in a car on the way to a five-star hotel. The hotel and the staff were amazing and couldn't do enough for me, even running out for cigarettes for me because I didn't feel safe.

The next morning I was picked up in a car at 8am and taken to surgery. I met my team of five who were to be working on me and we wasted no time. The actual procedure was worse than I'd ever imagined but I always knew it wasn't going to be a walk in the park. We worked solidly, stopping twice for meals and I was driven back as the nurses cleaned up the theatre at 11.30pm. I was picked up at 8am the next day and we finished at 11pm, agreeing that the potential risks of working a third day far outweighed any benefits, so we stopped and booked another two full days of surgery in 10 weeks time when I have, fingers crossed, healed without infection.

The physical and emotional pain I was in over those two days was matched by the physical and emotional exhaustion from the team working on me. I consider myself very lucky to have found them and to have convinced them into taking on this level of work.

As I prepared to fly home my face was swollen beyond recognition. I tried my best to apply some make-up to at least try to look a little like English from my surgeon explaining what I'd been through and that I wouldn't look like my passport photo. Nor could I wear a wig, and so bandaged up, with my best foot forward I headed home, grateful of those letters, as I really did need them.

I'm now seven days post-op and the nerve-endings are starting to come back which is increasing my pain levels despite the cocktail of painkillers. There's no sign of infection, which is great, and I'm looking forward to nine weeks time, five by the time this is published, when I fly back to be reunited with my surgical team for another few days of work.

What a lucky, lucky woman I am.
Today is International Women’s Day (IWD) and a friend posted on Facebook that a female colleague was wondering “how much equality do women need?”, closely followed by a suggestion that perhaps there should be an International Men’s Day to match. Well there is. It’s in November, because men face issues that need highlighting too. BUT... the comparisons stop there. There is no issue faced by men that overshadows the truth of the continued oppression of women in our society today.

Whatever the troubles faced by men, they simply can’t be lined up in competition with those encountered by women, and they are certainly not caused by them. Not here in our Western society, not elsewhere in different cultural milieu, not in our past, nor in our foreseeable future, have we seen a true shift in global action on this single most divisive and persistent inequality. The stark reality is that while many demographic groups and minorities face huge issues of inaccessibility, unequal treatment and closed doors, there is no single bigger inequality than that stimulated by the gender divide. No single bigger disadvantaged group, across the globe, than women. And no group more in need of hearing this, than men.

The conversations and events around IWD seem to get better and better each year. Or maybe I’m being more and more exposed to it through the circumstances of my life. Either way I’m being made increasingly aware of sexism and misogyny in all its forms, from the downright subtle to the blatantly discriminatory. I’ve been captivated by the voices of strong women this week; in particular women of colour.

I’m also increasingly convicted that misogyny is universal and heavily ingrained in all of us, women included, and that the fight, the feminist fight, is the single most important battle of our times. It strikes me that if this chasm can be bridged, then humanity will be healing itself of all the other schisms and separations that we have created for ourselves.

Partitions and divides that make us feel safe, allow us to ‘other’ those who are not like us. This capacity to discriminate, and the need to differentiate, starts even before we leave the womb. Parents today can determine the sex of their unborn child long before they are born, and the weight of cultural and societal expectation about how this child will behave, conform and adhere to our rigid gender rulebook, comes to bear even before we draw our first breath.

Misogyny is perpetuated by both men and women, and is sometimes incredibly hard to spot. We’ve all grown up in a world that carries the millennia-old legacy of oppression of women, and although huge strides have been made in the last century especially, there is still a very long way to go. I struggle to see it in myself, but it’s very much at work despite my intentions. I’m a persistent offender when it comes to exposing my internalised beliefs about women. I horrify myself, and my wife, on a regular basis.

I understand the fight, and I hold the values dear, but I’m as guilty as the next man of slipping into habits that have been ingrained since my conservative and restricted childhood. These habits are hard to spot, deeply embedded, and even harder to break. I hope I’m making some progress under the tutelage of my amazing wife, who picks me up on a daily basis.

The fight here is fundamentally a human rights issue. That all people deserve to be treated with equal respect. This is the kind of feminism that I am signing up to, that all human life is of equal value. That all of humanity has inherent dignity, which makes us equal in stature to one another, regardless of our background, wealth, success, good health, or our ability to be heard. Indeed, a true feminist is one who looks beyond the gender divide to every other instance of prejudice and discrimination, and adds their own voice to the battle-cry: “We are all one!”

Feminism seeks to unpack the inherent injustices that are systemic in our culture. From the way we dress our children to the way we address our children, we are creating a structure that is built on sand, a colossal tower of falsities which will not survive the tidal wave of change that is coming. It’s not going to happen at an executive level though; it won’t be our leadership that changes this. It will be the people, the revolution.

This is happening at a grassroots level, with Twitter feeds and conversations amongst like-minded people, strings of comments on Facebook threads, protest marches and public debates. There’s a groundswell of action, and increasing numbers of people starting to ‘get it’. The gender divide is a construct. Our human biological diversity is vital and self-perpetuating, but doesn’t necessitate or indeed dictate that we apportion roles, jobs, positions, attributes or indeed wealth to individuals based on their biological sex at birth.

As a transperson, I’m fortunate enough to have bridged that seemingly uncrossable divide. I never saw the process of transition as a blessing, or indeed anything to be proud of. I’ve done it out of sheer necessity, in order to save my life. But in the process I’ve shifted from living as a woman to living as a man, and as a consequence have seen with my own eyes, how the world treats men and women differently. I’ve felt it in my personal and professional relationships. Male privilege is something I’ve acquired through no initiative or just deserts.

It’s the same for all men. We did not deserve this advantage, this pedestal that the world beholds upon me to climb down, and lead others to do the same. This position that men hold universally must be deliberately and gracefully ceded, rather than expecting women to push us off.

CLARE PROJECT meets every TUES 2.30–5.30PM at DORSET GARDENS METHODIST CHURCH Dorset Gardens (off St James Street) Brighton BN2 1RL Except 1st Tues when there’s an optional meal out preceded by the drop-in 5–7.30PM www.clareproject.org.uk  Clare Project clareprojectinfo@gmail.com

CLARE PROJECT NEW MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING GROUPS FOR 2017 INCLUDING OLDER AND TRANS PLEASE SEE CLARE PROJECT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS
MINDOUT
We will survive? What to do to ensure LGBTQ mental health
www.mindout.org.uk

There’s much excitement at MindOut with the publication of an excellent report from the London Assembly. They take LGBTQ mental health seriously up in the big city, and so should we! They investigated, met with various groups, did some consultation and found the following:

• Around 40% of LGBTQ people experience a mental health issue, compared to 25% of the wider population.
• LGBTQ people are often overlooked when health commissioning decisions are made because of a lack of data and poor consultation.
• Generic, general mental health services are not meeting the current needs of LGBTQ people.
• Without specialist support, LGBTQ people will continue to experience mental health inequality, stigma and discrimination.

The London Assembly Health Committee published its findings and recommendations to the Mayor of London on how he can provide better mental health support for LGBTQ people.

The report recommends:

• Hospital staff and GP surgeries, including frontline staff, should be more LGBTQ-friendly with improved equality and diversity training. Mainstream services – not just mental health services – must be better equipped to support LGBTQ people to maintain good mental health. LGBTQ people need to be more directly involved in shaping services that meet their needs.
• Prevention and resilience needs to be at the heart of all initiatives. All too often too little action is taken, too late, to prevent avoidable mental ill health. We need a joined up policy approach to tackle the root causes of mental ill health, including housing, employment and community cohesion.
• We need a public campaign to tackle discrimination against LGBTQ people, which explicitly recognises the different groups within the LGBTQ umbrella.
• In developing mental health plans and commissions we must ensure that the specific mental health needs of LGBTQ people are explicitly set out.
• The scale of the issue within LGBTQ communities should be properly assessed.

For LGBTQ people, as with the wider population, the route to accessing mental health services starts at their local doctor’s surgery. But a worrying number of LGBTQ people report that they’re uncomfortable disclosing their sexual orientation or gender identity to their GP, or that they’ve had a negative experience when they do so. They found similar issues across the health and care sector:

• Many older LGBTQ people express concerns about having to go back ‘into the closet’ when they engage with social care providers, palliative and end of life care services. This can add significantly to feelings of social isolation which are damaging to mental health.
• Lesbian women have highlighted concern that assumptions are made in antenatal or maternity services, or for cervical cancer screening.
• Trans men and women report that GPs and psychologists often ‘treat the trans, rather than the person’, even for health conditions unrelated to their gender identity.
• Bisexual people report that their identity is frequently misunderstood or simply erased by health professionals.

There are a number of straightforward practical steps that can be taken to demonstrate commitment to more inclusive service provision right across the public sector. For example, it’s important that staff are trained to avoid making assumptions about people in relation to their sexuality or gender identity, for example asking somebody if they have a partner, rather than assuming a boyfriend or girlfriend, or asking somebody what pronouns they use to describe themselves. This includes any service that comes into contact with the public, including transport, policing and housing services. Reviewing campaigns, strategies and public consultation documents to ensure that language, monitoring questionnaires and imagery do not exclude LGBTQ people is a good first step. And LGBTQ+ people must be encouraged to speak up when services fail to meet their needs and expectations.

Too little is done too late to prevent mental ill health in the first place. Mental ill health is preventable. Waiting until people reach mental health crisis is unacceptable, ineffective and expensive. There needs to be a far greater emphasis on promoting mental wellbeing for LGBTQ people. Stigma and discrimination towards LGBTQ people is a double burden – it contributes to poor mental health and prevents people from accessing support early.

Improving self-esteem and reducing incidences of discrimination are key to improving the mental health of LGBTQ people. LGBTQ people, like everyone else, experience better mental health when they are able to be open about their identity and are accepted and understood by wider society. So improving the visibility and inclusion of LGBTQ people should be a key priority.

CELEBRATE THE POSITIVE
Focusing exclusively on the negative experiences faced by LGBTQ people risks reinforcing damaging messages about what it means to be LGBTQ. Celebrating the positive contribution of LGBTQ communities is therefore an important way of helping LGBTQ people to combat self-stigmatisation and improve mental wellbeing, as well as tackling discrimination by wider society. We need to change the narrative around mental health in general and about LGBTQ people in particular. Visible, ongoing and inclusive health and community campaigns which explicitly recognise and celebrate LGBTQ people and our diversity are essential.

These are some highlights from the report, read more at: www.london.gov.uk/press-releases/assembly/i-will-survive-lgbt-mental-health

Much of the above is happening, somewhat, in Brighton & Hove right now. MindOut has been working to these aims and more for 17 years and huge strides in acknowledging and addressing LGBTQ mental health have been made in that time.

MINDOUT INFO
MindOut provides advice, information and advocacy services, online instant chat, peer support group work, peer mentoring, wellbeing courses and workshops. We have specific trans advocacy, housing advocacy and urgent need advocacy. For our latest groups, workshops and events see our website: www.mindout.org.uk

All our services are run by and for LGBTQ people with lived experience of mental health issues. All our services are free, independent, person-centred, confidential and non-judgemental.

If you would like to know more about what we do, if you need support for yourself or someone else then please do get in touch.

You can contact us:
• email info@mindout.org.uk
• call 01273 234839
• see our website www.mindout.org.uk

Our online service is open most evenings and at weekends.

“If an LGBT+ person is facing prejudice elsewhere in their lives, they need to feel absolutely sure that they are safe in the mental health service they are trying to access”
LGBT SERVICES

ACCESS 4 ALL
LGBT disabled people’s forum. Safe, welcoming, support, activities. 07931 178071 or email stevenwithm@talktalk.net

ALL Sorts YOUTH PROJECT
Drop-in for LGBT or unsure young people under 26. Tues 5.30-8.30pm 01273 721211 or email info@alllsortsyouth.org.uk www.alllsortsyouth.org.uk

BRIGHTON & HOVE POLICE
Report all homophobic, biphobic or transphobic incidents to: 24/7 assistance call Police on 101 (for emergencies 999) Report online at: www.sussex.police.uk LGBT team (not 24/7) email: LGBT@sussex.pnn.police.uk

BRIGHTON & HOVE LGBT SAFETY FORUM
Independent LGBT forum working with the community to address and improve safety issues in Brighton & Hove. info@lgbt-safety-forum-brighton.com www.lgbt-safety-forum-brighton.com

BRIGHTON & HOVE LGBT SWITCHBOARD
Help-line with email & webchat facility from 5pm daily on 01273 204 050

LGBT specialist face to face low cost counselling service, LGBT Older peoples’ project, LGBT HIV engagement project, Volunteering opportunities 01273 234 009. www.switchboard.org.uk/brighton

BRIGHTON WOMEN’S CENTRE
Info, counselling, drop-in space, support groups. 01273 688036 or visit www.womenscentre.org.uk

BRIGHTON GEMS
Social group for gay men over 50 with several events every month inc meeting at Dorset Gardens last Fri of month 7-9pm. For info email info@brightongems.com www.brightongems.com

LESBIAN LINK BRIGHTON
Local social group offers friendship, social events, meet 1st Thur at Regency tavern, 7.30pm. 07594 578 035 www.lesbianlinkbrighton.co.uk

LESBIAN & GAY AA
12-step self-help programme for alcohol addictions. Sun 7.30pm, Chapel Royal, North St, Bln (side entrance). 01273 263 343 (general AA line)

LGBT NA GROUP
Brighton-based LGBT (welcomes others) Narcotics Anonymous group every Tue 6.30-8.30pm, Millwood Centre, Nelson Row, Kingsway. 0300 999 1212

LGBT MEDITATION GROUP
Meditation & discussion, every 2nd & 4th Thur, 5.30–7pm, Anataha Clinic, 119 Edward St, Brighton 07799 861 367 or www.bodhitreebrighton.uk

LUNCH POSITIVE
Lunch club for people with HIV. Meet/make friends, find peer support in safe space. Every Fri, noon–2.30pm, Community Room, Dorset Gdns Methodist Church, Dorset Gdns, Brighton. Lunch £1.50. 07846 464 384 or www.lunchpositive.org

MCC BRIGHTON
Inclusive, affirming space where all are invited to come as they are to explore their spirituality without judgement. 01273 515572 or info@mccbrighton.org.uk www.mccbrighton.org.uk

MINDOUT
Independent, impartial info, guidance for LGBT people with mental health problems. 24 hr confidential answerphone: 01273 234839 or info@mindout.org.uk www.mindout.org.uk

NAVIGATE
Social/peer support group for FTM, transmasculine & gender queer people. Every 1st Wed 7-9pm & 3rd Sat of month 1-3pm at Space for Change, Windlesham Venue, BN1 3AH. For info see https://navigatebrighton.wordpress.com/

PEER ACTION
Regular low cost yoga, therapies, swimming, meditation & social groups for people with HIV. peeractiononmail@gmail.com or www.peeraction.co.uk

RAINBOW FAMILIES
Support group for lesbian and/or gay parents 07951 082013 or info@rainbowfamilies.org.uk www.rainbowfamilies.org.uk

SOME PEOPLE
Social/support group for LGB or questioning aged 14-19, Tue, 6-8pm, Hastings. Call/text Nicola 07974 579865 or email Neil or Nicola: somepeople@eastsussex.gov.uk

VICTIM SUPPORT
Practical, emotional support for victims of crime 08453 899 528

THE VILLAGE MCC
Christian church serving the LGBT community. Sundays 6pm, Somerset Day Centre, Kemp Town 07476 667353. www.thevillage mcc.org.uk

HIV PREVENTION, CARE & TREATMENT SERVICES

AVERT
Sussex HIV & AIDS info service 01403 210202 or email confidential@avert.org

BRIGHTON & HOVE CAB HIV PROJECT
Money, benefits, employment, housing, info, advocacy. Appointments: Tue-Thur 9am–4pm, Wed 9am–12.30pm Brighton & Hove Citizens Advice Bureau, Brighton Town Hall. 01273 733390 info@brightonhovecab.org.uk

CLINIC M
Free confidential testing & treatment for STIs including HIV, plus Hep A & B vaccinations. Claude Nicol Centre, Sussex County Hospital, on Weds from 5-8pm. 01273 864 721 or www.brightonsexualhealth.com

LAWSON UNIT
Medical advice, treatment for HIV+, specialist clinics, diet & welfare advice, drug trials. 01273 664 722

SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICE
Pavilions Partnership. Info, advice, appointments & referrals 01273 731 900. Drop-in: Richmond House, Richmond Rd, Brighton, Mon–Wed & Fri 10am-4pm, Thur 10am-7pm, Sat 10am-1pm. 9 The Drive, Hove 01273 680714 Mon & Wed 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm, Tue & Thu 10am–4pm, info & advice (no appointments). Fri 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm.

MARY SMITH (LG BT* Support) 07884 476634 or email gsmith@pavilions.org.uk For more info visit weblink: pavilions.org.uk/services/treatment-recovery-options/

SUSSEX BEACH
24 hour nursing & medical care, day care 01273 694222 or www.sussexbeacon.org.uk

TERRENCE HIGGINS TRUST SERVICES
For more info about these free services go to the THT office, 61 Ship St, Brighton, Mon–Fri, 10am–5pm 01273 764200 or info@brighton@tth.org.uk

THT
Venue Outreach: info on HIV, sexual health, personal safety, safer drug/alcohol use, free condoms/lubricant for men who have sex with men.

The Bushes Outreach Service @ Dukes Mound: advice, support, info on HIV and sexual health, and free condoms and lube.

Netreach (online/Mobile App Outreach in Brighton & Hove): info/advice on HIV/sexual health/local services. THT Brighton Outreach workers online on Grindr, Scruff, & Squirt.

CNDM MALE: discreet, confidential service posts free condoms/lube/sexual health info to men who have sex with men without access to East Sussex commercial gay scene

Positive Voices: volunteers who go to organisations to talk about personal experiences of living with HIV.

Fastest (HIV Testing): walk-in, (no appointment) rapid HIV testing service for men who have sex with men. Results in 20 minutes. Mon 10am-8pm, Tues-Fri 10am-5pm. (STI Testing available)


Face2Face: confidential info & advice on sexual health & HIV for men who have sex with men. Up to 6 one hour appointments.

Specialist Training: wide range of courses for groups/individuals. Specific courses to suit needs.

Counselling: from qualified counsellors for up to 12 sessions for people living with/affect by HIV.

Informed Passions: Expert Volunteers project to identify & support sexual health needs of local men who have sex with men and carry out field research in B&H on issues affecting men’s sexual health. Extensive training provided.

What Next? Thrus eve, 6 week peer support group work programme for newly diagnosed HIV – gay men.

HIV Support Services: info, support & practical advice for people living with/affect by HIV.

Volunteer Support Services: 1-2-1 community support for people living with or affected by HIV.

HIV Welfare Rights Advice: Find out about benefits or benefit changes. Advice line: Mon–Thur 1-3-30-2.30pm. 1-2-1 appr for advice & workshops on key benefits.

TERRENCE HIGGINS EASTBOURNE
Dyke House, 110 South St, Eastbourne, BN21 4LZ. 01323 649897 or info.eastbourne@tth.org.uk

HIV Support Services for HIV diagnosis, managing side effects, sex and relationships, understanding medication, talking to your doctor, finding healthier lifestyle. Assessment of support needs and signposting on to relevant services. Support in person, by phone or email.

Support for people at risk of HIV confidential info and advice on sexual health and HIV for awareness for men who have sex with men. Up to 3 one hour appointments depending on need. Sessions in person or on phone.

Web support & info on HIV, sexual health & local services via netreach and myhiv.org.uk

Positive Voices: volunteers who go to organisations to talk about personal experiences of living with HIV.

SCHOLARLY WORTHING
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POSITIVELINE (EDDIE SURMAN TRUST) Mon-Fri 11am-10pm, Sat & Sun 4-10pm 0800 1969806

MAINLINERS 02075 825226

NATIONAL AIDS HELPLINE 08005 67123

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EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT

ICE
DJ CLAIRE MELTING THE DANCEFLOOR
WITH CHART, HOUSE & R&B

SELECTED BOTTLES £2
HOUSE SPIRIT & MIXER £2.50
11 pm-3am / free entry

Friday

GLITTER
with dj david noakes
Pre Glitter party
@ Legends Bar
from 9pm
11-4am/free entry

FUSION
saturday night dance party
chart & club remixes
dj peter castle
11pm-4am
free entry all night

POP! CANDY
sugar coated pop with dj claire
drinks promos
every Sunday
11pm-6am
free entry