Edinburgh

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Walk to gay bars
and nightlife

Hey lavels! Two more months to go before 2012 rolls around! Just how will all the parties be here for the new year? This year Edinburgh has decided to join in! With a party every night from 9pm all the way to 4am the whole city will be jumping with the revellers! So for the price of £5 you can enjoy a night of fun and entertainment.

For those who fancy a bit of food and drink there are many bars all over the city that are open until the early hours. So if you fancy a few drinks after the party don’t worry, you will have plenty of places to choose from.

Other events include the world famous Regent Bar Quiz which is happening every Friday and Saturday night! This is a great way to meet new people and have a bit of fun.

Edinburgh is a great place to visit during this time of year and there is plenty to do and see! So make sure you make the most of it and have a great time!
GLASGOW, how I love thee! Even when the rain pours down and the wind to dampen spirits, your lively inhabitants have a way of Baying the soul! Oh, to praise more accurately, they have a way of selling cheap drinks. I won’t list how much every venue has been charging for a beverage throughout Oct, but if you’re a social moth like myself you probably already know! Everywhere seems to be dropping the prices of a sweary with some venues limbo-ing as low as £2 a tip for a vodka and cola! This might be good news on a night out, but surely doesn’t spell happy tidings the next morning as homosexuals across the city nurse their hangovers and apply the toast edal for over the day after the night before (nobody wants bags under the eyes!)! As with Glasgow in full swing there are more worthwhile and nourishing delights in store as this year’s festival considers a politically charged theme of “representation”. The festival enjoys greatest success most years, tying together elements ranging from the theatrical, the artistic and the political. This year I have my eye on a couple of hot tickets, principally comedy megastar Margaret Cho, as an up and coming talent from a performer of my nature, a good few cabinets show too! Alas ScotsGay goes to print before I can scuttle along to catch the legendary Johnny Woo live at the Arches but I’m fairly sure my way is just around the corner. Mr Woo is an internationally acclaimed cabaret artist whose all drag stylings have seen him perform in cities across the UK and in the US – we are lucky to have him performing for the first time in Glasgow this year and it’s a testament to the ongoing popularity of the festival that it continues to attract big names.

At the artistic and the Virgin Gallery have yet another offering, this time presenting a choice of pieces on the theme of “reinvention” (anyone else get an image of Madonna doing the ’vogue’ dance every time they hear that word?). I am particularly excited to check out the work of young photographer Grant Alexander McDonald whose picture managed to sneak its way into Attitude magazine this month, and I think it’s really good to see young gay people engaging with the community in a positive way. The gallery promises to present a study of the ways in which characters can be reinvented to champion communities, with particular focus on superheros and comic book art. Barry M Wolfe and Garry McLaughlin will be featuring new work in the intimate space beneath Luke and J everlasting, and it’s sure to be worth checking out.

At the clubbing end of things, the Glasgow programme was bolstered by the Annual Fringe Rave Days this year, the biggest drag event in Scotland presented by the team I work with at Mergeny. It’s pretty staggering the number of queens who come out of the closet and down to the dancehall for this annual ball, and the city clubs tend to enjoy a real boost in the aftermath of their busiest event of the year. Despite something of a moshpit within the team, tempestress Vanity von Glow moving on after her tenure with the club, Mergeny are sure to continue providing an exciting alternative disco for the beautiful freaks of Glasgow’s nightlife.

Actually as far as alternatives go things seem to be drying up right now. C U Next Tuesday is now the only weekly gay night not to take place at the Polo Lounge or Bennets. It was with a heavy heart the Glasgow kissed goodbye to Manson House’s guy Thu nights, run by promoters TLC who have retired after a decade of providing safe and fun clubnights for gay and straight people in Glasgow. I’m normally 22 years old so I am naturally too young to have been amongst the early nights like Planet Peaches but I do remember great nights at Grykes, Cule and Tunnel. Hopefully DJ Shaun Roberts can be coaxed out of retirement for the old GL at Glasgow’s pride events and other big calendar dates. As yet new venue The Village has yet to open, citing a few teething issues. Nonetheless a quick jaunt down Bruce street shows the bar to be almost ready to go so hopefully the wait won’t be too long – living in the Merchant City means I have a tendency to roll out of bed and into the pubs so it will be nice to have even more variety for the gay days!

Actually it’s not just The Village who have had some troubles launching, new gay nightlight, Drama has a minor adventure still this month when their launch was cancelled at Club 500. It seems the night originally planned for a Sun might be moving to a different night (my eye’s on Thurs) and I’m sure time will tell. Let’s hope the gang can get things together in time for next month’s shows!

Before then I will be away leaving at the piazzas live in Speaksasy on Thu nights. Do stop by if you fancy a chatter – a non-cocktail menu is reason enough if you aren’t the biggest fan of modern pop songs being rekindled into sombre acoustic waltz-sitters by a big fruit like myself. Oh and before I abandon my keyboard and get stuck into my bottle of wine – take the time this coming Nov to check out some of the Glasgow schedule. There really is a great deal on offer and details can be found on their website! Now where did I put that cornflakes?

Attention all gay couples and those considering Civil Partnership

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Dundee

Hey folks and welcome to another (very quick) round up of all that is new in the city of discovery (yeah, yeah I know that’s old hat but now the new-by-line for the city just doesn’t seem that old anymore)!

First up Brooks continues to have some great class acts on, at some great prices as well! FREE! Coming up on Sat 12th Nov there is ‘Maybe Gaga’ promising a great night with all the Beit Gagans tour. Brooks has also brought My Gay UK back to Dundee with a great night hosted by Jon Gappu (many thanks to Andy for getting some great photos of the night). Well done to former Brooks barman Stephen who won by audience vote and will go on to represent Dundee in the national heat! Look out for Mr Dundee Lebanon coming up very soon as well.

A well done to Dot nightclub who came in with silver at the Best Bar None Awards – a testament to the great atmosphere, music and staff – and we all know you should have got the gold! Sample it for yourself Wed to Sun nights, 8pm to 2am.

At the Kizet there are some great events coming up, there is a Day of Blows on Sat 5th Nov, 10 free gigs between the Kizet and Legende (should be legendary). Fri 11th Nov from 8pm in the Baroque Night, starring Tom DeWitt, Nappy Starblu, Robin Starbuck and Scarlet Flame. Sat 17th Dec will be another big night for the Kizet with that icon of the city community that is Hazel Bean, with supporting act and hostess Alona of Glasgay.

Quick shout out to the A2abe and the Salty Dog, who has never not managed to get around to this month, and to rightly say adios if it is time for me to once again hang up the quill and make way for a fresh perspective – and should get plenty of that with who we have lined up as the next writer! Many thanks to all those who have helped out over the past few months (except for the one proprietor who threatened to get me fired if I didn’t write more about them - then again I gave up a good laugh, and it is always fun to have some auld quid (introduce a lot of drama to life), so many thanks to Dean, Kerry & Barry @ Ross ‘The Salty Dog, Alan & Sushu Brooks, Michael & Brian & Suzie @ Brooks and, Colm who has never forgotten, Jimmy @ The Gauger.

Do you think that a Cohabitation Agreement might suit your circumstances?
Margaret Cho dvd box set

There can be no doubt that Scotland loves Margaret Cho. The bisexual ‘Drop Dead Diva’ stand-up star stormed the Edinburgh Fringe in Aug this year, before becoming the face of Glasgow’s own queer arts festival, Glasgow!


For those of you who have yet to come across her work, Cho’s comedy is in-your-face and direct, covering politics (she really does hate Sarah Palin), race, sex and sexuality (she loves and is adored by gay men).

At £32.99 this box set is excellent value and I enjoyed it immensely. Occasionally an American cultural reference might go over a Scottish head, and the whooping US audiences, who cheer and applaud her almost non-stop, may not entirely appreciate her more subtle points, but the big laughs are there.

We can be sure to keep the Margaret Cho phenomenon well on our radar as her new dvd set is released.

Dreams That Money Can’t Buy

Holly Johnson fans will be delighted at the release of this expanded version of his second, and best studio album. Around £13 it’s an absolute bargain.

Can you give £5 a month?

Peter Tatchell Foundation is seeking 1,000 people to take out a standing order of £5 or more a month, to fund our work promoting human rights, democracy, global justice and LGBTI freedom. Please fill in the form opposite. Alternatively, to make a donation via PayPal or telephone and internet banking please visit our website:

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Peter Tatchell Foundation
Comedy

LORRAINE BOWEN’S POLYESTER PIESTA!
The Arches
8th Nov at 10pm. £14 (£10)
Combining her quirky hit songs with cheesy charity shop records and a wardrobe of synthetic outfits, Lorraine Bowen sings and celebrates the 70th anniversary of polyester! It’s a funny cabaret cabulawk show and perfect for a Friday night! Join Lorraine, Kay’s catalogue-style dancers and a geeky scientist in this passionate polyester homage and why not why not dress up for the occasion in your favourite polyester or synthetic outfit! But… no lighters!

Film

KINK CRUSADERS
CCA
8th Nov at 7pm. £5 (£3)
A loving, historic profile of the International Mr. Leather Contest, an annual event that began in the back of a Chicago bar over 30 years ago… and which now draws thousands from around the world to compete for a sash.

Events

LESBIAN AVENGERS & OTHER UNRULY WOMEN
Glasgow Women’s Library
8th Nov at 6pm. FREE
Come along to hear about the history of key lesbian campaigns including the Glasgow branch of the Lesbian Avengers in the fight for equality, and if you were involved then let us know and record your story. Using the objects from the lesbian archive as inspiration, there will also be an opportunity to make your own campaign materials – badges, whistles and attitude welcome!

Events

LESBIAN AVENGER'S NEXT UNRULY WOMEN
Glasgow Women’s Library
9th Nov at 7.30pm. £5 (£3)
Non-stop cabaret including minstrelsy, classical dance, live cabaret. Under the direction of Kally Lloyd-Thomson.

Film

POLYESTER
Glasgow Film Theatre
9th-12th Nov at 7.30pm.
A loving, historic profile of the International Mr. Leather Contest, an annual event that began in the back of a Chicago bar over 30 years ago… and which now draws thousands from around the world to compete for a sash.

Events

THE BALTIMORE WALTZ
Glasgow Film Theatre
11th Nov at 2.30pm. £10
Putting their trademark modern stamp on live cabaret, Company Chordelia present an evening of song and dance, sensuality and sumptuousness, inspired by 1930s Berlin cabaret. Under the direction of Kally Lloyd-Jones and featuring baritone Damian Tharney, traditional touches intermingle with modern; alongside the high leg kicks and Minelli-esque vamping, classical dance sequences are infused with 21st Century twitches.

Film

THEY CALLED HER JACQUI
Glasgow Film Theatre
11th Nov at 6.30pm. £10
A loving, historic profile of the International Mr. Leather Contest, an annual event that began in the back of a Chicago bar over 30 years ago… and which now draws thousands from around the world to compete for a sash.

Events

JACKIE FORSTER: FROM HIGH HEELS TO SENSIBLE SHOES
Glasgow Women’s Library
5th Nov at 2pm. FREE
In 1997 lesbian activist Jackie Forster was featured in BBC series The Day That Changed My Life. This is a rare opportunity to see this documentary which explores how a lesbian love affair in 1958 changed Jackie’s life. As well as founding the UK lesbian organisation Sappho, she also set up the Lesbian Archive. After the screening there will be a chance to learn more about Jackie’s activism and to see items from her own collection and the archive. An exhibition will also be on show at the library throughout Glasgow!

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  Male Dom in the West End. Interests: Male Love, Male/J-Male. Contact: Michael* Ebony
- **Toby**
  Young, fit and active. Love to have sex with other men. Contact: Toby
- **Gavin**
  Fun, attractive and fit gay man looking for male who enjoys: sex and fun times. Contact: Gavin
- **Liam**
  Trust, honesty and communication is very important. Contact: Liam

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Billy Bud Salter
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Lorraine Bowen
Justus Kohneke
Hard Ton' Peaches
Johnny Woo
Scootie
Amy Lam
Craig Hilt
Margaret Cho

Representation? This is the Year Of