HAPPY BIRTHDAY to PLANET

WOMANKIND BEAUTY

RIDING ROOM
Brand New Venue in Glasgow

CONTACTS LISTINGS
Students say “I Do” to Equal Marriage

After the consultation on Equal Marriage ended in December, LGBT students from the University of the West of Scotland decided to get as many people as possible to show their support to MSPs. So, at the start of the year, University of the West of Scotland students started to collect signed equal marriage postcards and sent them to MSPs. Now they have reached 1,000 signed postcards.

Jack Douglas, the LGBT President at the Students’ Association University of the West of Scotland said, “This is a great achievement not just for our campaign but for the equal marriage campaign as a whole. This proves students who study at our University support equal marriage, but it also gives evidence that people all around the West of Scotland support marriage for all.”

“Several weeks ago, we learned that a petition with 1,000 signatures of people who disagreed with same-sex marriages had been handed to Nicola Sturgeon. At that time we were nowhere near 1,000 signed postcards so we decided to go out on campuses for hours each day just trying get close to that number. LGBT students and friends have been working hard to ensure that we get over 1,000 postcards and if it wasn’t for them we wouldn’t be close to a four digit number.”

Rory Higgins from the Students’ Association of the University of the West of Scotland’s LGBTQ Committee added, “We hope our campaign, and the equal marriage campaign in general, continues to encourage the Scottish Government to hold to their initial view, that same-sex marriage should be introduced, and we are not going to slow down with the campaign any time soon. Students will be sending the final batch of postcards to each MSP along with a letter to say thank you for supporting same-sex marriage or urging undecided MSPs to do so. However, LGBT students at University of the West of Scotland will still be encouraging others to support same-sex marriage as far as long as necessary.”

a’chaidheach

HIGHLANDS

Sat 12th May is the date for the next disco for LGBT folks and friends with DJ Kol from 8pm at the Beaumont Hotel (Coldpath Road, Inverness). Tickets will be £10 on the door. See www.gay-ness.org.uk for more info.

The Highland LGBT Forum gave a presentation to the volunteers of the Rape and Abuse Line (RAL) in Dingwall in March. This included stories from individual LGBT people and covered some of the complexities of gender identity and sexual orientation. The charity supports male and female survivors of rape and sexual abuse, with face to face counselling and telephone help. RAL’s 8000123 answered by women and 08088000122 answered by men. For more info, see www.rapoardsubsline.co.uk.

The Highland Rainbow Folk meet every month in Inverness and they are now working on an update of their brochure to raise awareness of the issues facing older LGBT people. Age Scotland has awarded the group £3000 to help with their work. This year the group has been invited to give presentations to staff from Highland Council and Lifeline.

Craig Durnan writes: Sat 12th May will see the Inverness, Highlands & Islands LGBT Group host a picnic from 12.30pm for all LGBT and LGBT friendly folk. The event is family friendly and will take place at the stone circle on ‘the Islands’ – a popular spot in the centre of the River Ness which can be accessed by keeping to the west side of the River Ness up past Eden Court Theatre and crossing the bridge. The nearest bridge is adjacent to the junction of Bught Drive and Bught Road. The event is free and affords a chance to meet other LGBT people. Bring your own food to suit your own tastes. Dogs welcome but local byelaws ask they be kept on leads and owners clean up responsibly. And finally for this - contingency plan – if the weather is bad, we will convene instead at the covered area adjacent to the duck pond further west up at the top end of Bught Road in the White Park.

Inverness, Highlands & Islands LGBT Group is constantly amazed by the talent of LGBT people, and has responded to some requests by looking to host a taster session in June in creative writing. If you like the faster and easier people show interest then the group will organise a creative writing workshop over a number of weeks during the summer. I can vouch for the total enjoyment of the course, which will be taught by an experienced tutor. Places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis and if interested, contact 07549 195133 and leave your details. Costs for the taster day will be £10 including soup and sandwich.

The Inverness, Highlands & Islands LGBT Group has been approached by a gauge of basketers who are interested in supporting the formation of an LGBT Cooperative LGBT Centre and have met for initial discussions to discuss the formation of this, with city centre premises identified and currently under inspection. The vision is to run a café/bistro type premises with room for meeting, training, and Internet cafe facilities and a space for arts/crafts and books. Anyone with experience of a co-op or community venture should forward their details and interest to jim.mackenzie-winters@scotsgay.co.uk.
Womankind Beauty, based in Stockbridge has a warm friendly welcoming atmosphere, with highly trained, dedicated staff. Founded in 2006, they offer a wide range of treatments for both men and women. Their latest recruit, Dr Robert Watters, is opening a regular clinic providing wrinkle reducing injections (Botox®), dermal fillers, such as Juverderm or Restylane and non surgical facelifts. And did you know that it is also possible to eliminate underarm sweating, or sweaty palms using these injections? Dr Watters has been practicing for over thirty years and has been constantly updating his skills.

Womankind uses Elemis skin and body care products in the majority of their treatments and Australian Bodycare products for waxing. Enjoy the feel good factor of a spray tan without the dangers of the sun with a Fake Bake or Naturasun spray tan. And to continue developing your sense of well-being, a relaxing massage will never go amiss! Try Hot Stones massage for the the most luxurious of treatments.

To maintain an immaculate appearance, never underestimate the importance of beautifully kept nails. The staff are experts at making your cuticles beautiful! If you’re thinking of getting married, they offer a wide range of treatment packages to meet every need. If you can’t find a package that suits you, they’ll make one up for you.

The salon is open from 9am to 9pm from Tuesday to Thursday, from 10am to 6pm on Friday and Saturday from 9am to 5pm. For further information visit their web site: www.womankindbeauty.co.uk. To reserve your appointment with Dr watters or for any other treatment call today to discuss your requirements. Or Email: enquiries@womankindbeauty.co.uk

Attention to all gay couples and those considering Civil Partnership

- Do you know about the tax breaks of Civil Partnership?
- If you live together do you think that a Cohabitation Agreement might suit your circumstances?
- If you’re planning a Civil Partnership, would a pre-nup agreement help you?
- If things go wrong who can you turn to?

At MHD we have an award winning team of experts in all aspects of Family Law ready to help you. Call Donald now on 0131 555 0616 or email donald.skeenrev@mhdlaw.co.uk

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www.mhdlaw.co.uk
What a month April has been in Glasgow! I honestly don't know where all the time has gone. I sat down to write this article on one of the first days that I've not had to walk around in 7 inch heels! It's been an eventful month, and that's why I've written about my new feature all about YOUR experiences of the Glasgow Scene - as told by YOU!

It's been going on for a while now, but I was really overwhelmed by the response. It's wonderful to hear from the bears all over the world about their experiences. I now understand why this is happening, and I'm glad to be able to share these stories with you.

Talking of adoration, what a month April has been in Glasgow! I honestly don't know where all the time has gone. I sat down to write this article on one of the first days that I've not had to walk around in 7 inch heels! It's been an eventful month, and that's why I've written about my new feature all about YOUR experiences of the Glasgow Scene - as told by YOU!

I was there - so here I am writing about it! I've performed in Delmonicas in my time, but never enjoyed it as a performance venue - but my good friend Barbara & Craig certainly knows how to entertain the crowds in Del with her qirky (and vulgar) comedy.

The bar staff are something of gems, like diamonds but not so hard. They are always willing to help, and make the newcomer to the Glasgow scene welcome to what can be a daunting place to be! Bravo really does go out to the team at Del, especially Siro (who by the way is sunning himself up in Japan with Speakeasy's manager, Craig) who has pulled together a great team that knows what they are doing!

There's one thing I do enjoy, and it's being on the television and another thing I enjoy is seeing people I know on the telly. So, I was ecstatic to see The Merchant Pride sing. Barbara greycloud in The Voice UK - and not only that, getting through in to Sir Tom Jones's TOP 10! An amazing achievement by an incredible voice. I'm just worried about what will happen on a Sat afternoon in Merchant Pride whilst she's already become a winner, but I'm sure that they'll have another icon to impress the growing crowds!

Some things brighten up our scene, and it warms the depths of my heart to see those with such enthusiasm to bring new, exciting events to Glasgow's scene - and this month has seen the launch of Pábado, an ‘unapologetic’ gay party for Glasgow's wilder party monsters which after two weeks has already been getting rave reviews, and I hope that every Thursday night becomes a success for these little monsters!

Pálido saw some rainbows coming their way when a local decided enough was enough and that he was sick of paying tax money to and from Glasgow for the chance to see some boys kicking in a night club. Forbidden Fruit launched last month in Paisley and their second event is coming very soon! 

There certainly wasn’t any VIP launch or tour of the new venue, but it’s La Bush worked its wonders in getting the crowd up for a night of partying, so I can walk forward to the day when Nancy Clench is in residence there as part of her UK Tour! (I did tell you Nancy Clench has a website? www.nancyclench.com) Queercore is another one of those monthly nights that will set the scene on fire, and one of the longest running and most successful club nights ever to grace Glasgow! The girls, and now some boys, that are behind Queercore know what they are doing to throw a party for the girls in our community that don’t like dancing to Summer of Love by hips - a rock, funk, jazz, rock, metal, and mixed night with music which will have you wrapping your hair back and feet - and now they are looking forward to their new order on the new venue, so watch out!

Some things happen in FHO - right above Speakeasy on the main street of every month!

And for all you hyper manics that love high energy (NRG!) italo disco with some make up and heels thrown in for good measure. Meniny is still running under the watchful eye of Lady Munter and this month’s was something to behold! Never before did I think I’d see Gandi Latr’s thighs wrapped around a stripper pole, but my gosh did I see it! Lady Munter knows how to put on a show and get the alternative gays bobbying their heads. Nancy Clench is next up on the Meniny stage - so watch out!

You have clicked yet? Nancy Clench is indeed my sister! (Looks more like your Grumpy, Ed) 

I was on the top two biggies - our clubs that keep us partying until 3am every night of the week! AMM brought their troops up from Manchester, painted Bennets and erected (LOL) a new sign and opened their doors this month to queues longer than Mr Glos’ rejection list! Now, I’ve yet to go in to the new venue, so I’ll not pass any judgements on it - I’ll know that you, and maybe I’ll have the time to get in this month! There certainly wasn’t any VIP launch or tour of the new venue, but I’ll put that down to those Manchester Gays wanting to be all equal! The Polo Lounge kept me feet warm, or wet when they decided to bring in a massive foam machine to ruin my Power Ballad Thu night and I say ruin, I don’t mean it but it was fun until I realised how much foam would stop me from getting my Power Ballad Thu night becomes a equal!

The Menergy stage on fire, and one of those Manchester Gays wanting to be all equal!

The new layout, glass entrance and new decor really brighten the place up and that’s evident from the moment you walk in. The private booths make the place a bit special and even include ‘little service’ buttons that will have a barperson over to take your new order! 

The VIP launch was something of an epic ‘Hard-kill party’ in which everyone was swilling the new, vibrant cocktail menu - served in either a teapot with little teacups or a tin can! The styling of the venue is very unique, different and quirky - I hope they keep it up to this standard as I enjoy it very much!

I urge you all to go and have a look around, the line up of cabaret acts every night is something to envy - so you’ll see me a bit in The Riding Room! Tallyho!

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What were your highlights of the Glasgow Scene over the past month?

So I wanted to get a flavour of what punters, ScotsGay reader and some randoms thought of the Glasgow Scene over the past month. I asked you - and we got a lot of comments! I’ve handpicked some out of Facebook and Twitter to give you a look at what other people are saying about the Glasgow Scene!

Want to be part of this section next month?

Start following me on Twitter @NathanSparling and get tweeting me your comments, mini reviews and I’ll include them in next month’s issue!
customers are my favourite! reason not to be our favourite... I will that stands true, unless you give us the front door - ‘A Warm Welcome’ - Haha - All our customers of course! Do you have a favourite customer?
gay bars.
scene well - a nice balance in Edinburgh relaxed and laid back feel, which I think on holiday etc. The New Town has done that week, where they have been knowing their drinks, what they have knowing most of them by name and We invest in talking to our customers, gay community. The New Town has Edinburgh cater to a different area of the other gay bars in Edinburgh?
What makes NTB different from the I personally feel that all the gay bars in I've been been at The New Town Bar . I've been doing that week, where they have been knowing their drinks, what they have been doing that week, where they have been on holiday etc. The New Town has a relaxed and laid back feel, which I think complements the other bars on the gay scene well - a nice balance in Edinburgh gay bars.
Do you have a favourite customer? Haha - All our customers of course! (Cheeky smile). As our sign says outside the front door - ‘A Warm Welcome’ - that stands true, unless you give us reason not to be our favourite... I will stand by the answer... ALL our customers are my favourite!

Stephen Martin - New General Manager at the New Town Bar. I’ve been been working here for three and a half years. What makes NTB different from the other gay bars in Edinburgh? Interestingly Irvine that all the gay bars in Edinburgh have been the more mature man. We want to be talking to our customers, knowing most of them by name and knowing their drinks, what they have done that week, where they have been on holiday etc. The New Town has a relaxed and laid back feel, which I think complements the other bars on the gay scene well - a nice balance in Edinburgh gay bars.

Tell us about the latest changes. The New Town is undergoing some AMAZING changes - it’s very exciting, especially for me who has just taken over the reins. The biggest change is that we have now been freed from lease with the brewery that we have been tied to for 5 years. And we’re going to celebrate that! Jimmy has bought the pub! It’s great to think that the New Town now has proper roots and we are here to stay. More changes include the increase of fantastic events - most likely prompted by the new change in ownership, management and new freedom we have a WHOLE month of promotions... That includes All Moonlight Beers and Lagers dropping to £2.99. All Main Spirits dropping in price and loads more to be announced - FOAYS A WEEK for the whole of May. We are also giving great deals on our Sunday Lunches - Free Dessert or Starter with any Main Meal every Sunday Lunch time (pick up a voucher in the bar).

The New Town Bar works closely with Waverley Care. I remember my very first day and my induction; it was made clear from my that we will do everything we can to raise awareness and funds for Waverley Care. The staff over the years have done some amazing fundraising and that shall continue. I think we have raised £15,000 over the years, and particularly look to push that over to £20,000 mark in the next year. Jimmy Quinn has always been inspired to have a great relationship with the lovely guys at WC, to promote the great work they do and to keep people talking about it. What he has tried to instil has definitely worked as well I know by the time ScotsGay is out in the audience at her shows, I just think that she would have a field day looking through the audience at the New Town over the Festival, hah.

But seriously, having people like Scott Agnew totally commit and come back and host every year, Michelle McCann pulling in a Hall House of launch night world famous Margaret Cho pop along to perform and the theatre group I own, the STAGS getting to share the stage with some of the greats like Bob Downe - is a dream in itself.

And finally, what’s your favourite drink served at the bar? My favourite drink served at the bar... well I know by the time ScotsGay is out you could be saying (smiles) - I would say the new selections of wines we have. I do love an odd glass/bottle, as I am sure a lot of your readers have been, so I was important for me to have a nice selection that caters to different tastes. The same with the new change in some lagers and beers - you have to see it to believe it. And finally, what’s your favourite drink served at the bar?... I enjoy a odd glass/bottle, as I am sure a lot of your readers have been, so I was important for me to have a nice selection that caters to different tastes. The same with the new change in some lagers and beers - you have to see it to believe it.
ALL NEW
ALWAYS A WARM WELCOME

MONDAY // GAMES NIGHT
TUESDAY // POPCORN AND YOUR FAV FLIX
THURSDAY // QUIZ
FRIDAY // FUN & FROLICS
SATURDAY // MIX & MINGLE
SUNDAY // LUNCH
and ROUND THE PIANO
LIVE MUSIC

FRIDAY // MENS BAR
1ST SAT // FIRE ISLAND REVISITED
2ND SAT // BEAR SCOTS
3/4 TH SAT // THEMED CLUB NIGHT
1ST SUN // LEATHER AFTERNOON
2ND SUN // NTB PANTS PARTY
3RD SUN // TRACKIES // SPORTS KIT AFTERNOON
4TH SUN // MSC PANTS PARTY

New promos and permanently reduced prices

26b Dublin Street Edinburgh EH3 6NN
// newtownbar.co.uk
Hello all! Giving you all the goss, updates and info on the Edinburgh scene! Firstly, the sad demise of Priscillas! The news spread like wildfire that Priscillas would abruptly be closing, and they sure did go out with a bang in a rockin’ last night. Hundreds of tributes have been pouring into the Priscillas Facebook site, a venue which gave us original and live cabaret, the best drinks offers on town, baskets, hotboxes and vases of cocktails... RIP Priscillas! We hope to see you again in some other form. And now the huge furor will be – who will take over this venue now? Will it stay gay? Or will the multitudes get it? Time will tell? And to put all this gossip rumours to rest! May is gonna be huge for the ALL mainline spirits will be less than £2 – this means that throughout the whole of May reign with a MONTH OF MAY MADNESS, 100% gay-owned and gay-run! Starting his including the awesome brewery and have only gone and bought the will the mudbloods get it? Time will tell! And of course a night out in DELS PIC: GHQ over 15 years! And bringing it to top glory or other with some promoter or another for fundraising. This is ‘it’s ‘Summer in the City’ – will be hosting more fundraisers throughout the year! They’ve gone ALL OUT!! – NOT because they are just a new monthly quiz starting on the first Sat of the month, for free nibbles and drinks for everyone petting themselves wearing something! Drama fans will be pleased to hear DRAMAS is now back and bigger than ever!! They are launching a new monthly night at the fantastic new venue The Annexe, underneath Liquid Rooms. They are now re-branded as BRANDYCALL, and will be on Sun 6th May – Bank Holiday Sun too, so get down and get yourself some guilt free boozy!!! for no other reason than to support this vital charity! The launch of the new night Viren was a huge hit last month at the Voodoo Rooms, and the girls have launched this female-run, female-focused event as an alternative to the scene. For those who like something a little bit edgy, a little bit dark, a little bit different... Viren is the event for you! Check out their Facebook page for this queer knock-out to kick your socks off – so many hot queer girls in one place, a thing of true beauty! And birthday celebrations in store for Rom De Plume, celebrating their third birthday at the end of last month! How’s it flowin’. The café is now busier than ever, and the staff have been manically re-planting their window boxes! This is one of a magnificent display for Pride at the end of Jun. Up at The Regent, they had a special guest ape from Adamh’s Brewery called Sake Star who was doing a sake tasting, backing a real punch in flavour. Great for a few pints without knocking your head off. Live acoustic nights on the second Tue of every month at The Regent, plus THE WORLD Famous Regent Bar Quiz on Tue 29th May. This is some serious highbrow quiz action, with some serious highbrow prizefees! Free nibbles for everyone watching – join us with Gay community establishments, charities, they are inviting representatives from all the staff and volunteers... And of course neighbouring businesses and suppliers – and of course YOU, regular, loyal customers who have seen Planet go from strength to strength under John’s reign! This is going to be a smashing night, also combining a fundraiser for local charity LGBT Youth Scotland. Also at Planet, Dejazid’s Tues nights are filling the floor each week, and there is also a new monthly quiz starting on the first Mon of the month for the Hotsots LGBT Jotzie team. This month it will be Mon 7th May. All proceeds go to help the guys fund their travel and expenses, as they have become so successful – travelling all over Europe to play other LGBT teams. Planet will be hosting more fundraisers throughout the year to support these wonderful guys who travel hard and are making a huge impact on LGBT football over the 5 years they’ve been around. Big up to Anticocks, and to Planet for their support. And by a way of a vote update for the ladies of Hotsots, they have one massive game coming up to finish off the season. On Sat 5th May, they play their main rivals, the Newcastle Panthers, at Fettes Police HQ – and at stake is the second automatic promotion spot. They’d welcome lots of support for this vital fixture! So get on down to see some hot lads and hotter ball action. Every third Friday of the month at Planet is Drag Do, so this month’s Fri 18th May – with Streamworks Saucy providing the main prize each night of a free massage and entry for the day! Awesome prize. As an aside, the Streamworks Sauna is a really professional service – they are a gay venue and regularly gives prizes for community raffles, etc. The sauna is open 11am-7pm 7 days a week, and is very big – so plenty of room to chill and relax, or if you can hit people up for a good chat just like you were in one of the bars. Very clean facilities too, and it also has a really nice café. TV lounge and PC for going on the internet! And if you’re after something a bit more ’intimate’, this is available – in a non-pushy so way you can have a little look without pressure to get involved. Just a wee shout-out for the lovely Jamie Lee Merley, who you will have seen at various Edinburgh scene establishments over the years. Most recently of Piccolo, Jamie will now be hosting shows, DJs, drag etc with both Habana and the Newtows. He started evening karaoke at Habana, and will be doing alternative Fridays there and at the Newtows. Starting at NTB on Fri 4th May, back on Fri 18th May. Go give this awesome local face some support – and also check out his amazing YouTube clips. I’ve never heard such a beautiful voice! He does it live with no backing music at all – gives those chart losers a run for their money!!!

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VENUES & EMPORIA

ABERDEEN

CHAPLIN
20 Anglian Quay & 6 The Quay,
2pm–5pm, Fri 5pm–9pm, Sat
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CHEEVERS
11 Hudson Street, Long stay bar
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Dundee, DD1 1BJ. Tel: (01387) 255058.
218 Holburn Street. Tel:

DUNDEE

2BJ. Tel: (01387) 255058.
218 Holburn Street. Tel:

477 4756. Mon-Fri 11am-7pm,
Sat 11am-6pm. Scotland’s only
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80 Glassford Street. Tel: 0141-
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THE VIRGINIA GALLERY
22-24 Greenside Place. Tel:
0131-225 2564. Sat 16th Jun.

THE PIPER FASCI
5-10 Metropole Lane. Tel:
0141-204 1000. 1st Wed of
Mon in Aug) from 9pm.

THE TUNNEL, 84 Mitchell Street.
Tel: 0141-553 2251. Sun
9pm-3am, Mon-Thur 4pm–
2am, Fri 4pm–3am. Long
Distance Karaoke Crowds.

THE GARGOILS
306 Argyle Street. Tel: 0141-
5595904. 5pm-3am. Liquor
concession).

THE PIPEWORKS*
3011. Mon-Thu Noon-1am,
Fri-Sat Noon-3am, Sat Noon-
Sun 12.30pm-1am, Sun 12.30pm-
1am. Stylish bar and club.

THE VIRGINIA GALLERY
22-24 Greenside Place. Tel:
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THE PIPER FASCI
5-10 Metropole Lane. Tel:
0141-204 1000. 1st Wed of
Mon in Aug) from 9pm.

THE TUNNEL, 84 Mitchell Street.
Tel: 0141-553 2251. Sun
9pm-3am, Mon-Thur 4pm–
2am, Fri 4pm–3am. Long
Distance Karaoke Crowds.

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