RYAN JAGGER
Appearing at Cheerz in November
Forced Marriage

For many people, your wedding day should be one of the happiest days of your life, but that’s only if you wish to marry in the first place.

Sadly not all marriages are made through choice. Sometimes family members or partners use either emotional or physical pressure to force marriage on people and in some cases, this can be directly due to a person’s sexual orientation or self-identification.

In the first half of 2012, the UK Forced Marriage Unit was reported to have provided help in ten instances of forced marriage involving people from the lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender community. But for many support agencies, this figure is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the issue, with hundreds of enquiries in the last six months alone, from people from the LGBT community, worried about being at risk of forced marriage.

While for some LGBT people it may be more convenient to choose to marry, this is not the same as a forced marriage. In choosing to marry, both partners enter freely into a marriage that is mutually beneficial but in a forced marriage, one or both of the couple involved are married without their consent or against their will.

Both men and women can be forced into marriage and many are under great emotional distress as they don’t want to upset their parents and bring ‘dishonour’ on their family. While family and relationship issues are very important to communities, if you’re being threatened or blackmailed into marriage, this is wrong and help is available.

In November 2011, new laws in Scotland introduced Forced Marriage Protection Orders, which can safeguard your rights. Support agencies and local authorities across the country can help you apply for a Protection Order.

If you feel that you, a friend or relative is under the threat of forced marriage, or if you are currently in such a marriage, support is available to help you make the decision that is right for you.

For advice, support and protection visit youngrightsconf.org or call the women’s helpline on 0800 111 1234 or the men’s helpline on 0800 801 0327.
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EDINBURGH

It’s that time again, and at ScotsGay (famous we are aghast at how quickly this year has gone by) Halloween’s never far upon us, which means that consumerism will be 100% focussed on Xmas very shortly! We will try not to oodle over it of course, we know y’all just want hear about the good stuff!

Over at Planet, their Happy Days promotion are going down a storm - with reduced drinks due to Thu. The perfect accompaniment to karaoke with DJ Fredaer, who is entertaining every Mon from 9pm. And don’t forget their crazy selection of over-indulgent fishbowl, pitchers and shooters, a full bomb menu, and Cilla’s Fizz by the glass. Now who wouldn’t want to sample Cilla’s Fishy? Get rid of your Monday blues tonight by cultivating a nice hangover for the morning. And the Thu night quizzes are ever popular, with pop trivia and questions that won’t tax your alcohol-added brains too much. Cash prizes available, and free nibbles. Wed brings DJ Rooky, from 8pm-1am. And don’t forget that Planet opens every day from 1pm.

At Habana, another popular day-opening venue, they are throwing another of their now infamous Halloween parties on Sun 29th Oct, where the theme is Scary Sh*t Rainbow. Prizes for best dressed are up for grabs so don’t skimp on the creativity! They have the fabulous Lady Razzle Dazzle on stage at 10pm, with her ghoulish show to keep us all entertained. There will also be an exclusive Halloween pitcher menu too! Money will be raised for Waverly Care, with Diva Kei - so dig deep folks, it’s for a good cause! And as always, Sun Karaoke is proving popular at Habana. You can come and sing your heart out for re-enact a cat being murdered, whatever the case may be! from 4pm on a Sun, and 9pm Mon and Thu - you lucky lot!

Also at Habana, the HotScots Quiz is held monthly on a Mon night from 8.30pm - support our local gay football team whilst testing the oldgrey matter! The next quiz is on Mon 5th Nov. and The HotScots always seem to – so come down and beat them! Someone has to stop them! Free munchies too, what more can you ask for!

Over at Elbow, they are taking bookings for Xmas with their festive menu out already. Just the ticket if you’re looking for a place for your work’s night out or some other festive gathering. Get in touch now for a menu with something to suit all palates. Elbow has quite a reputation for their excellence in food so this is a great deal. I’m putting this one forward for my work’s night out!

Last month, we pushed the BearScotFest – and now we can report that this was the busiest and most successful BearScotFest ever, with over 600 guys from around the world attending the event! The feedback has been very positive, and highlights how friendly and well organised the weekend was. Graham, one of the organisers, said that he was “very proud of the involvement of the Gay community in making the weekend possible from Mitch and the team at CC Blooms, Alan and Colin at Neum Plume, Stephen and the team at the New Bar and Jason Durham and the team at Electric Circus. Also home grown talent which included comedian Scott Agnew and the popular Glasgow DJs of Minika and Donny. It was great to promote safe sex with the Order of Perpetual Indulgence going and condom packs on Fri and the guys from Gay Men’s Health handing out packs on the Sat.”

Huge accolades, and it’s always lovely to hear of the community coming together for a common cause. The weekend also helped raise £1200 for Gay Men’s Health, a worthy cause – and Jason Green was crowned this year’s Mr. BearScots. Plans are already afoot for next year’s event.

Over at BHD, Wonderland Saturday and Lollipop Tuesday, both nights have been growing in popularity. DJ Rueben Lowenthall is spinning the tunes both days and their regular DJ, Justin James, is in the dance bar every Sat. They are also sponsoring BLDGS. And the fun just continues, with a Psychedelic Wonderland on Sat 27th Oct, and Dead Famous Lollipop on Tue 30th Nov. So go along dressed up and show off your freaky side! It’s then the launch of the new ‘bottle shop’ packaging and a new cocktail menu.

Fri nights have kicked off big time, and have been renamed Fabulous, because every Fri should be! it promises to be a fabulous camp night, with DJ Shazza playing all the Diva Hits and Camp classics. And every last Fri of the month, beginning from Fri 30th

Nov, there will be a tribute show on stage. Thu Nights kick off on Thu 1st Nov with XXX Factor, hosted by a well known and loved host - this is a singing competition which will span 6 weeks, with the winner voted on by 3 judges. The winner will win a fantastic prize that will enhance their music career. This competition is open to all! So keep an eye out on facebook and twitter.

And as Xmas approaches, GHD have exciting offers and products being released including cocktail masterclasses, a private fun hire for your parties and much much more! it gets you in the festive spirit. So keep your eyes peeled.

Over at CC Blooms, there’s a Halloween special ELECTROSexual on Fri 2nd Nov, with very special guest Stephen Gregoried. It’s basically a huge fancy dress party with prizes for best dressed, so get your best outfits sorted. With residents Lucky Luciano and James Fleming playing back to back as well, it’s going to be a very special night!

And over in the Kingdom, they had a whole Broad on Hallowe’en spectacular last week. Everyone put a huge e’ru into their costumes, getting prepared for the big night itself. The organisers pushed the boat out, with a magician entertaining the crowds, and also the night’s sponsors The Body Shop handing out fancy dress parties, flotillas. Everyone’s had a ball, with the Princes for bestdressed! It’s going to be a very special night!

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Another month goes by and we get closer to Xmas. Good news seems to be floating around the scene this month, a happy but slightly quieter month as people start to delve into the Xmas wish lists and stocking up the winter wardrobe. It’s easy enough for me to write about the usual suspects this month, I could write about Underground, The Watertower, Delmonica’s, Pais, AWS, The Court Bar or Speakeasy but I thought this month I’d take a trip behind the scene and delve into gay culture – in a month where gay culture is celebrated with the wonderful Glasgay! Festival.

This year, Glasgay! As its brochure describes is about finding out how we define ourselves as a gay community in the 21st Century. It’s an exciting time to be gay for many different reasons – whether you’re looking forward to getting married in 2015 when the Scottish Government legalise gay marriage or whether you want to be part of the debate on whether Independence will progress the equalities agenda – and Glasgay! takes all my buttons this year.

Their extensive programme, in which entries should go to Producer Stvere Thomson and all the team that put this up each work every night and every show, from Bob Hope to the cabaret host and every artist who’s contributed to the programme over the years. It’s a great day to be gay within this festival and every show is a great show. What’s the best night? My pick of the week, so get out and enjoy it!

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A new LGBT staff network for public sector employees in Highland was launched at Eden Court on 11th Oct. Network members Dee Ellen and Liz Mackay set the ball rolling with introductions and exercises to ascertain what staff may want from such a network. Speakers included Liz Scott (Equalities Manager, HIE), Nicola Dwan (Workplace Officer, Stonewall Scotland) and Kirsty George (Aberdeen City Council). Information stalls were provided by the Equality Network, Highland LGBT Forum, Highland Council and UNISON Highland. The launch was welcomed by Roy Stewart (Employee Director, NHS Highland) and Colin Drew Miller (Chair of the Community Safety, Public Engagement and Equities Committee, Highland Council). Visit www.highlandlgbtnetwork.org or E-mail LGBThighlands@t2.net to join the network.

There are a few nights out coming up for theatregoers at Eden Court Theatre. On Fri 9th Nov the award-winning movie Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs brings its funny and fast paced story to Eden Court Theatre. Then on Sat 10th Dec, our favourite Scottish lesbian singer-songwriter Alice MacNiven is on tour with her new album. Martin in Stornoway has started a new initiative on Facebook to bring together people in the Highlands and Islands who feel isolated by circumstance and location, whilst respecting privacy which is a highly sensitive issue. Show your support and join the network. Find them on Facebook by searching for “LGBT Highlands Islands” and “LGBT Western Isles” or E-mail lgbt.highlandsandislands@yahoo.com

Don’t forget to dress up for the Highland LGBT Forum Halloween disco on Sat 3rd Nov from 8pm at the Boorfford Hotel (Culduthel Road, Inverness). Tickets are £5 on the door.

Scene News
Cheerz Bar & Club have unveiled Ryan Jagger (pictured right) and Hazel Dean as their main acts for Nov along with plenty of other events about. Ryan is an international recording artist, critically acclaimed pop writer and performer having played live to over 200,000 people on his UK Pride tours which have seen him billed with The Wanted, Bastille, Alexandra Burke and N-Dubz. Cheerz are really excited to having Ryan and BD’s sensation Hazel Dean as part of the line up which includes a Halloween Party with a difference on 2nd Nov with a cannon firing out Monster Mash and Space Invaders crisps. Who says Cheerz doesn’t give you something different?? Also don’t forget that Cheerz is open from 11am Monday to Sunday and have a full programme to offer. If you’re lucky she might even give you table service!! As well as Cheerz don’t forget to support your other LGBT venues Chaplins and The Market Arms who both have something for everyone with music and drinks offers to suit all.

Gay Men’s Health News
The team at Gay Men’s Health in Grampian are gearing up for the busy festive season with a few new and innovative ideas taking fruition in the region. GMH and NHS Grampian are doing HIV testing at Wellman Sausa starting in Nov for a trial period. For more information please phone Marc Walsh on Aberdeen (01224) 930335 or E-mail: marc.walsh@gmh.org.uk GMH are also helping to arrange something for World AIDS Day on 1st Dec at Cheerz. If you can help out, get in touch with the team using E-mail: grampianlgbt.org.uk

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PER MIN
chat and hook up now!

Age,touse me as his slave.Preferably wish ismy com mand. Box SG13116.

Looking for someonewho's intomusic, running,cinema,pubs,clubs,walking, snooker.Looking to meet gay or big guys needs/desires are compatible? Other than got to lose by replying and seeing if our interest is mutual. Box SG13114.

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Sincere Gay Woman - 56 - GSO H L

Honest,loyal,sane gay woman with a good sense of humour, intelligent and educated IQ 165, loyal gay woman with a good sense of humour, intelligent and educated IQ 165. I am an attractive fullerfigured, (noporn) are available for a donation to the "Upgrade" area, enter the promotional code." Contact ads are free. To reply to a contact ad, just pay your reply in an envelope with the box number written in the top right corner and place the envelope with your reply in the mailbox with the box number written in the top right corner. Your reply will be telephoned by ScotsGay to confirm your subscription. You can subscribe to "Upgrade" area, enter the promotional code. Contact ads are free. To reply to a contact ad, just pay your reply in an envelope with the box number written in the top right corner and place the envelope with your reply in the mailbox with the box number written in the top right corner. Your reply will be telephoned by ScotsGay to confirm your subscription. You can subscribe to...
**Interview**

**LUKE & JACK**

**What's been the best thing about being Sex Shop Owners?**

Drew: We prefer “adult boutique” or “erotic emporium” as we aren’t actually selling sex! But the best thing, I suppose is that it is not working in any other shop.

Ian: We get many people who just come in buy one or two items and the experience for them beyond (we hope) good customer service is probably like any other shop selling any other products, but on some occasions we get to know regulars who come in and chat...

Drew: In a way that used to exist for past generations, in small local shops of yesteryear.

Ian: We get to know people in a way that some shops would not. Also helping people find, without judgement the products that they need to fill their sex lives, and their fantasies, is very satisfying.

Drew: It can feel quite a responsibility particularly as we offer a confidential service, so don’t ask what someone else has bought as we won’t tell you! Also it is great to see people relax and ask for the information, products and sometimes advice we support they need.

Ian: The best thing about owning the shop is that we get to challenge the sadly still prevalent idea that sex is taboo or embarrassing. Our shop is bright, welcoming and cheerful.

**What’s your favourite product in the store?**

Drew: Oh, that could be telling we are all wired so differently! For me, it could well be a well written story: a book of erotic fiction or one of the books that we stock that features a gay aesthetic or central gay character. For the answer you are actually looking for—probably a “Ricks Off” toy… everyone should experience that “Vibe”, if you know what I mean.

Ian: I’m loving the range of e-stim toys from ElectraStim at the moment. We have a demonstration kit for customers to try (on their fingers). They are incredibly versatile with so many accessories, and the sensations are better than any vibrator in my opinion.

**What’s your best moment since Luke and Jack opened?**

Ian: Selling our very first sex toy will always stick in my mind. It was the American Challenge for those who are curious. Also hiring out at Gay Men’s Health, our stall at THT. The list goes on.

Drew: Not sure how to choose from all the amazing things that we’ve been part of the last two and a half years. We think we need an X-Factor style montage of all our best bits here.

Our catwalk show at Delmonica’s, our launch party at Revolution (Underground), getting training from Strathclyde Police for Third Party Reporting of hate crimes, helping out at Gay Men’s Health, our stall at Glasgow Pride, a sex toy demonstration for THT. The list goes on.

The Virginia gallery brings a different market to the shop, how do you type this up?

Ian: Actually a lot of the people who come to the gallery probably really aren’t “arty-hypes”, but people who love art, but sometimes may get off, or feel excluded by the unnecessary mystique that seems to surround art. We are trying to create a supportive and enjoyable space for art, artists and customers alike and not take ourselves too seriously.

Drew: The gallery does bring a different dimension to the shop updates. It opened by accident, an artist approached us about having a pop-up gallery and it never closed. It is exciting to again get people into the gay gallery who “don’t do art”, and people who feel more relaxed about entering the adult boutique on their own.

Ian: The gallery also means that no two days are the same, and that we are able to talk about and publicise ourselves a lot more easily.

Drew: We have exhibitions coming to us from Paris (“Patchwork 7”) and London (“Stand up, Get Snapped”) next year, and also the chance for some new and emerging artists, both Scottish and from around the world, to get a new audience. And a chance for established artists to have a chance to explore elements and produce work that is not constrained.

Ian: We are an Over-18 premises, due to the shop, and this allows us to have erotic art, art that may have other challenges. We are not a “gay gallery” or “erotic gallery” per se, but it does allow artists to be able to produce some pieces without fear of censorship.

Drew: At the moment we have an illustration of a male nude that a Glasgow printer refused to print. It’s a beautiful illustration by Garry McLaughlin, a self portrait that shows an erection. We do not think it contains obscenity in the slightest. But clearly some venues would feel unable to show this.

What’s on at the Virginia Gallery this month?

Until 6 o’clock until 10th Nov and is our second year of being part of Glasgow Festival. Artist taking part in this group show are Garry McLachlin, Snooko Mono, Rachel Sharpe, Kris Keski, Yannis Roussakis, and several artists from the Nouvel Collective.

The next exhibition to follow is ‘White’ in December (Ed: ScotsGay Exclusive) with more info available from www.scotsgay.co.uk or find them on Twitter or Facebook.
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A new bathroom concept