It’s no wonder my nerves are shot! I’m a sensitive soul and so in a bid to fend off an attack of the vapours I’m away with the Fairies. The Radical kind. It’s time for the Albionfuries Spring Gathering, so I’m writing this from the ballroom of a 13th Century castle in Northumberland while one gorgeous man does yoga and another plays piano. 6 days of sharing circles, healing, hilarious drag, cuddle piles and fresh country air should prove a soothing balm.

Before it all got too much, back at the end of Feb, LGBT Health & Wellbeing held a special screening of Pride, just ahead of the UK DVD launch. Guest speaker at the event was Kate Fearnley, one of the original members of LGSM. She was kind enough to field questions and also delve into her old diaries. Her anecdotes and insights into the queer politics of the time, the ties to the Communist left and the emergence of organisations like the Edinburgh Bisexual Group were as charming as they were informative.

Also last month but looking to the future, homeless charity Rock Trust were awarded a bronze accreditation by LGBT Youth Scotland for their continued commitment to providing safe, welcoming and empowered space for their LGBT service users (age 16 to 25). This is in stark contrast with some other home-less support providers such as the Salvation Army, who are renowned for preaching gospel to people who may be in a deeply vulnerable condition.

Young LGBT people are 8 times more likely to be home-less at some point than their straight or cis-gendered counterparts. Homelessness in urban areas is now iden-tify as LGBT. So it’s good to know someone’s taking care of the more vulnerable among us.

For the sporty among us the London Royals hockey team will be in Glasgow on 28th and 29th Apr on a recruitment drive. So dust off your St Trinian’s uniforms and visit londonroyals.co.uk to register your interest. They are the UK’s largest LGBT field hockey team and play mixed, mens and women’s matches. Their focus is on having fun on and off the pitch and all experience levels are welcome.

Views expressed in SCOTS GAY don’t necessarily reflect the views of the magazine.᧐


Unless otherwise stated some, all, or none of the above.

National News Items, Press Releases and Invites to Soirees should be sent for Zander Bruce’s attention at news@scotsgay.co.uk
The Street Art gallery is Easter Sun (5th Street), and the opening exhibition will be the work of the one and only Stik, Static, Hutch, Mr Brain - Keith Haring, Shepherd Fairey, Banksy, Barbara Le Bush, Scott and his team at AXM raising money for Momi Malawi, yet again proving their hearts are as big as their love of cheesy pop music! Energy @ AXM also saw the debut of current Season 7 contestant of RuPaul’s drag race Trixie Mattel. If that wasn’t enough, we also saw the return of the GBX Experience with the ever-popular queens in tracksuits. Scauli Night due to make its return soon.

Meanwhile, next door at Chalky’s - the home of Cilla Slack, Staying with CC’s their Fri nights are legendary, with Rocky and Scott and his team at AXM raising money for Momi Malawi, yet again proving their hearts are as big as their love of cheesy pop music! Energy @ AXM also saw the debut of current Season 7 contestant of RuPaul’s drag race Trixie Mattel. If that wasn’t enough, we also saw the return of the GBX Experience with the ever-popular queens in tracksuits. Scauli Night due to make its return soon.

Moving to a CC’s things continue to boom! So much so CC’s has been nominated in the Favourite Gay Friendly venue in the 2015 Scottish Hospitality Awards - so fingers crossed they win. Staying with CC’s their Fri nights are legendary, with Rocky and Scott and his team at AXM raising money for Momi Malawi, yet again proving their hearts are as big as their love of cheesy pop music! Energy @ AXM also saw the debut of current Season 7 contestant of RuPaul’s drag race Trixie Mattel. If that wasn’t enough, we also saw the return of the GBX Experience with the ever-popular queens in tracksuits. Scauli Night due to make its return soon.

Well my lady lovers, lady boys, girly men and queernights, yet another month rammed tighter than Pipework Sauna at 3am on a Sat night! Glasgow, Glasgow, Glasgow what treats you’ve had in store for us all. I would like to start by saying I do try my very best to give all venues equal and fair coverage in this column so if for any reason I have missed something out I apologise, but I am only one fallible human! So if there is anything you would like to see featured, just let me know!

AXM were dishing out a whole parade of fabulous events this month, the gruesome I’m A Homosexual Get Me Out Of Here hosted by the wonderful Barbara Le Bush, Scott and his team at AXM raising money for Momi Malawi, yet again proving their hearts are as big as their love of cheesy pop music! Energy @ AXM also saw the debut of current Season 7 contestant of RuPaul’s drag race Trixie Mattel. If that wasn’t enough, we also saw the return of the GBX Experience with the ever-popular queens in tracksuits. Scauli Night due to make its return soon.

Moving next door to High Kicks, the ultimate Sun party for Bank Holiday Weekend, you can always be sure of a good night in Polo. The 80s prom night is sure to keep the twinks shiney and the lesbians hot! The wonderful Tom Harlow is going from strength to strength and if its show tunes and FILTH you’re after, get over to see him do his thing and his thing! Katie’s Bar as ever is a great way to have a night out, with fab entertainment and cheap drinks. I hear they have some Coronation Street hunks (I’m hoping it’s Norris) on the way and also Chen Treffel has moved from The Warrior and will be starting her residency in Katie’s from Easter Weekend onwards!

Speaking of The Warrior, as ever the corner stone of the community has a week full of great entertainment and good people. You can be sure the long walk will be worth it!

The Gallery or the Gay Larries as it’s more colloquially known is bringing some great live music on at the weekends, to keep all the customers suitably entertained whilst they enjoy a cool drink in a cool bar. The Merchant Pride whether it’s karaoke, Barbara Bryceland or May Miller you’re after, they have it all covered!

Finally Underground. If you’re a bear or an admirer of wild, sweaty furry men then make sure you are going down on the first Fri of the month, you’re in for lots of BIG surprises. The bar I call home is always guaranteed to make you smile and make you feel welcome, as Victoria the bar maid extraordinary says. “Love is what we practice, PRIDE is what we teach!”.

So until next month, my gorgeous creatures of the night, be safe, be proud and be free!
Oliver!

55 years after its debut on the West End, Lionel Bart's greatest musical Oliver got its very first performance at Edinburgh's Kings Theatre thanks to local company SLO. What a wonderful performance it was. Director Andy Johnston has stayed away from trying to darken the show to make it match Dickens's original intentions by utilizing a massive cast of adults and kids, adding a splash of colour and some beautiful orchestrations for the wonderful musicians in the pit under the baton of Company Musical Director David McFarlane. Featuring the company young Alexander Morrison completely conveys Oliver's journey from the poor house, to the adventures of Fagin's gang to the bright side of life after Spamalot. The principals were backed by several wonderful performances in the smaller roles especially Alan Hunter and Avenly Nash as the Sowerberry's and Averyl Nash as the Sowerberry's bruiser it's easy to see why the house was clearly having fun in the funeral parlour plus a comedy tour de force from Scott Walker as Dr Grimwig. Backed by a large ensemble cast and equally big kids chorus it's easy to see why the house was packed. Janice Bruce has delivered choreography that would rival the London Palladium production being clearly inventive and fluid. This was a winning production and if SLO have any sense they will bring back this year's production team to deliver what whispers say will be the Wizard of Oz!


Spamalot Review:

Monty Python's Spamalot gets back on tour to bring the West End production to theatres across the land. With fun, observation and a deep sense of hope for a future even as the epilogue is read out and Hector begs the audience to pay their talents forward you're left feeling completely satisfied. This is what all good evenings at the theatre should be! Bravo to the Kings for programming it!

The History Boys, Kings Theatre, Edinburgh. Run ended. UK tour continues.

This brand new production from Sell A Door production keeps the National Theatre's original production alive while imbuing it with a new sense of purpose. Richard Hope steps into the shoes of the late great Richard Griffiths as he plays the titular role of Hector. He delivers the plays strength is the acceptance of sex- uality without questioning or judging it which is a wonderful achievement. The boys in the play are all mostly new to the industry but their performances define this with skill and depth especially Steven Roberson as Pooner and David Young as Rudge. Boys at the opposite end of the spectrum, but equally talented in life. This is a production filled with fun, observation and deep sense of hope for a future even as the epilogue is read out and Hector begs the audience to pay their talents forward you're left feeling completely satisfied. This is what all good evenings at the theatre should be! Bravo to the Kings for programming it!

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Spamalot tells the legendary tale of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table and features a bevy (or possibly a brace) of beautiful show girls, witch burnings (cancelled due to health and safety) not to mention cows, killer rab- bits and French people. The show features fantastic tunes more magical than a Camelot convention, including He Is Not Dead Yet, Knights of the Round Table, Find Your Grail and of course the Nation's Favorite Comedy Song (Reader's Digest Poll 2010 - before it went bust), Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life. The latest tour, which was directed by Christopher Luscombe, arrived at the Edinburgh Playhouse and delivered the very best in comedy musical fun from a small but talented cast. The role of King is taken by Joe Pasquale and boy does he deliver. With Todd Carty as Patsy the co-cinematic bawling servant, they whip through the show at a rocket pace. The show comes in at 2 hours with interval which may leave a little sour taste for some given some of the extreme prices to see the show but the laughter will soon clear that away. The production is sheer joy and keep an eye out for special guest appearances from local celebrities (in Edinburgh Grant Stott popped up). You will truly leave the theatre looking for a Camelot convention, including He Is Not Dead Yet, Knights of the Round Table, Find Your Grail and of course the Nation's Favorite Comedy Song (Reader's Digest Poll 2010 - before it went bust), Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life.


The History Boys Review:

Called “One of the finest plays Alan Bennett has ever written” by the Daily Telegraph. The History Boys opened at the National Theatre in 2004, to rave reviews and a sell-out run and went on to become one of their biggest ever hits, winning over 30 major awards including the Oliver and Tony Awards for Best New Play. In recent national survey this comic masterpiece was voted the nation's favorite play.

Set in the 1980's, The History Boys is the story of a group of bright, funny and unusually sixth-formers in pursuit of sex, sport and a place at university. Their mercurial English teacher is at odds with the young and shrewd supply teacher, whilst their headmaster is obsessed with results and league tables. Staffroom rivalry and the anarchy of adolescence overflow, provoking in- sistent questions about history and how you teach it. Their A Levels may be over, but their true education is only just beginning.

The History Boys, Kings Theatre, Edinburgh. Run ended. UK tour continues.

This was the Met premiere of Rossini's 1829 opera – what took them so long? Musically and vocally superb - to be expected with Joyce Di Donato and Juan Diego Flórez heading the cast – and with the added bonus that the two mezzos end up to- gether, it was expecting an evening of unalloyed pleasure. The principals acted and sang with deeply-moving intensity, but the production initiated the hall out of me! The chorus were given little direction, shambling on- and off-stage, dressed in a ragbag assortment of costumes: the nadir was the arrival of some men in blue harem pants and waistcoats, whose arm-waving and chanting was supposed to arouse the warriors' patriotic fervour, but which I found frankly embarrassing.

Rossini La Donna del Lago Metropolitan Opera Live relay March 24, 2015

The brightly-lit restrained elegance of the king's court in the final scene contrasted strongly with the dark and wild “rude savagery” of the clans – what took them so long? Musically and vocally superb – to be expected with Joyce Di Donato and Juan Diego Flórez heading the cast – and with the added bonus that the two mezzos end up together, it was expecting an evening of unalloyed pleasure.

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Perform s regularly, and m eets ‘anthem s’, and show tunes.

Edinburgh. W rite: PO Box 28, the City Art C entre in 2006. W rite: Community C hoir, led by ‘Rainbow C ity: Stories from LGBT people’ s lives, histories and www .loudandproudchoir .org

Listings continued from  page 6

REM EM BER W H EN  P ROJECT choir. Led by Karen D ietz, it was more about their upcom ing activities to prom ote positive emotional support for people who are 40+ and living in some one is living with HIV or 50+). M eets every W ed 11am -5pm. T el: 0141-445 8797.

N O N -R E S T R I C T I V E

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www .lgbthealth.org.uk

www .lgbtyouth.org.uk

TRANSMEN SCOTLAND

www .liberal.org.uk

www .bigtent.com /groups

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211 8628 for appointm ent.."
BROADCAST* 33/34 Canal Street, Manchester. Tel: (0161) 958 3000. Mon-Sat 11pm-3am. Free entry, drinks from £2, live music and DJ sets.

BROOK STREET 50 Bennetts Lane, Manchester. Tel: (0161) 832 1200. Mon-Sat 11am-3am. Free entry, drinks prices vary. Bizarre entertainment.

BRIXTON BY THE SEA 100 Hopton Road, Brixton, London. Tel: (020) 8673 8000. Mon-Sat 8pm-3am. Free entry, drinks prices vary. Live music, drag shows, karaoke, DJs.

BUNGALOW 215 Old Street, London, EC1V 9PL. Tel: (020) 7619 1905. Mon-Sat 11pm-3am. Free entry, drinks prices vary. Live music, drag shows, karaoke, DJs.

BURBERRY DAY #1 1-31 Hadden Street, tel: 01224 25562. Lively gay bar and club. A popular LGBT friendly venue. Recently renovated.

BURBERRY DAY #2 478 1372. Café/bar at the LGBT Centre. M eals, snacks, drinks. Free Wi-Fi. Outdoor smoking area.

USERSERVICE* 580053. LGBT friendly pub with entertainment and more.

BUTCH 2-30 Rosebery Avenue, Edinburgh. Tel: (0131) 622 6417. Mon-Sat 11pm-3am. Free entry, drinks的价格 vary. Live music, drag shows, karaoke, DJs.

BEARD 218 Holburn Street. Tel: 01224 25562. Lively gay bar and club (mixed). Also available to women and transgender people.

BEARD using BAGGINS 220 Union Street. Tel: (0114) 249 8500. Mon-Sat 11pm-3am. Free entry, drinks prices vary. Live music, drag shows, karaoke, DJs.

BEERZ THE BAR & CLUB* 111 Princess Street. Tel: (0131) 558 0416. Mon-Sat 11pm-3am. Free entry, drinks prices vary. Live music, drag shows, karaoke, DJs.

BELFAST & FRIENDS 46-48 Donegall Street, Belfast. Tel: (028) 9023 3729. Lively gay bar and club. A popular LGBT friendly venue. Recently renovated.

BLOOM CAFE 204 Ballymacarrett Road, Belfast. Tel: (028) 9087 3388. Outdoor smoking area.

BLOOM SHED 206B-1 Ballymacarrett Road, Belfast. Tel: (028) 9087 3388. Outdoor smoking area.

BLOOM WAREHOUSE 208 Ballymacarrett Road, Belfast. Tel: (028) 9087 3388. Outdoor smoking area.

BLOOM STUDIO* 9 Crichton Street. 2pm - 11pm (last entry 1 hour prior). Gay &queer friendly venue. Open mic, DJ sets, karaoke, drag shows, quizzes.

BLOOM STUDIO* 10 John Street. Tel: 0141-553 5500. Mon-Thurs 11pm-3am. Free entry, drinks prices vary. Live music, drag shows, karaoke, DJs.

BLOOM STUDIO* 350 Sauchiehall Street. Tel: 0141-221 1921. Mon-Sat 11pm-3am. Free entry, drinks prices vary. Live music, drag shows, karaoke, DJs.


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