Owner to the other Great Gay Summer (Porkies) Cottages. Sadd- ing. Sad news this month as Edinburgh Council an- nounced the impending closure of ten tearooms in the area. Of the following only two will be opened: Cana Lane, Joppa, Hewes Pier (South Queens- ferry), Ardillan, Corrie, Juniper Green, St John’s Road, Tollcross, Canonnihis, alongside favourites at London Road, Middle Meadow Walk and Granton Square. Please take a moment of your day to mark the passing of the glorious glory holes and celebrated cubicles that so many have found such furtive fun in over the years. I’m planning to go into full mourning, black veil and all, when the time comes as an act of reverence to the closures: http://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/ sfc/public-toilets-survey

There are some positive and empowered tales too, not all doom and gloom. For more information on the Conference and speakers, visit britsoc.co.uk

One happy couple whose own unique issues are unlikely to be covered in Dr Thomas’s research are the first same- sex couples to tie the knot in the UK. Mikhail Gorbachev (40) and Marc Gooden (55) won’t be allowed to share a cell but their fifteen minute wedding regardless last month. Whilst both are incarcerated for awful crimes it’s hard not to ponder whether that would be the case in a better world, how their lives could have been different as well as the lives of their victims. Interesting questions arise about rights, society and what real-life diversity in a community means.

The saga that书写 itself leads us to Falkirk being the electoral seat that a gay UKIP candidate is canvassing for. David Coburn will be mounting the hustings with a pro-fracking ticket (maybe he mis-heard it) along with the usual range of UKIP-worthy remarks we’ve come to ex- pect. He was also the one who last year described equal- marriage supporters as Equality Nazis (yet also “raving communists”) and that marriage was only for “some queen who wants to dress up in a bridal frock and dance up the aisle to the Village People.” What a wonderful spokesperson! If Al Murray is standing against Nigel Farage down south, perhaps we could encourage Scott Agnew to do the same up here? Or about Christopher Saynt, Scotland’s first out and proud Wrestler? UKIP re- main the only political party in the UK to not include LGBT rights in their manifesto.

Some interesting themes within LGBT Health & Well- being’s upcoming programme. Their Men Night Drop In will feature a “Lighthearted Quiz” to mark Mental Health Awareness Week on 11th May, then be on the lookout for their “Kink Q&A” on 8th Jun (no bring & buy sale, sadly. I did check). 6th May will be a Zestful & Bright workshop at the Albany Centre in Glasgow, looking at attitudes and experiences around getting older. They’re doing much more besides, both in Edinburgh and Glasgow – visit lgbthealth.org.uk for details.

On a more positive note, Shaun Patrick Murphy has been elected as the LGBT Officer for National Union of Students Scotland. And LGBT Youth Scotland have just started a new youth group in Arbroath and Dundee. It’s aimed at 14–18 year olds who already identify as LGBT or might be interested in exploring that identity. For more details visit the league’s website at www.lgbtsportsleague.org.

## Editorial 

**Zander Bruce**

news@scotsgay.co.uk

S

pkr is here and as the nights get brighter and the beat of the Beltane drums play in the back- ground, let’s have a look at what’s going on around us, shall we?

At the risk of the News section turning into Sports, there are some things to look forward to for those among our community who love sweaty group activities held in brightly-lit establishments. It’s East v West yet again as Hotsco FC and Sallie Thistle FC, LGBT-friendly football teams meet this year’s GFSN Cup Final on Sun 3rd May with a 2pm kick-off at Stenhousemuir Football Club. Even though I only understand about three words of the above I’m as- sured it’s all very exciting, so get along.

For an alternative, what about LGBT Basketball every Tue night from 7pm?

Contact: thesonics@hotmail.co.uk for more details.
Since last month there has been quite a stunning development from Glasgow and no it’s not an opera but a bike rack! The Sun is Shining! Summer is coming! So dig out those denim cut offs and twenty vest T’s and give your pasty skin a treat! This month has seen some fabulous events take place in our wee gay corner of the world.

Cher Triffle is enjoying her residency in Katie’s Bar and I’m sure the patrons are enjoying her whilst sipping on their Jasper bombs and blue elbs. The Gallery Bar (The Gay Llamas) has live music, food and special offers on drinks. In the sunny weather the outdoor area proves very popular for gays who want to catch the rays.

The Merchant Pride has the fabulous Barbara Bryceland every Saturday with DJ Bruce returning to spin the wheels and play some classics from the popular hit parade. May Milk can who you can catch in the Waterlions on a Sat too is returning and looking better than ever! Big congratulations to the Waterlions for winning ‘Gay Friendly Bar in Scotland’ at the Scottish Hospitality Awards.

Speakeasy as always offers you something to suit your mood, or something you can hold in your hand and no I’m not talking about the perverse sexual fantasies I have about the lannisters William and Cole! With the gorgeous Clare on hand too you can be sure you will be well taken care of...nake doez!

Underground has its monthly bear night to look forward to, all those big burly, hairy, chunky beefcakes on display a lady can be quite overcome and go white on the face. As ever if you want to sing or play bingo pop you will find me on hand to indulge your desires!

AXM had another epic night of GBX tunes, I’m not familiar myself with such musical tastes but I hear it was ‘heavily banging’ and a ‘purr brilliant night’ and say the day after most were extremely hungover! The steamy London Club Night Room service presented by Merryman is also coming to the top floor.

Glasgow is a city with a bit of everything and I’m sure you will find something to suit your mood no matter what you are looking for you won’t go wrong with a night in Glasgow. So where are you off to this weekend?

Marriage Equality is here

Strathblane Country House

The perfect gay-cued venue for ceremonies and celebrations

Make a date for your wedding at Strathblane Country House

www.strathblanehouse.com
Mel Brooks’ musical classic is back on the Allans Stewart’s Big Big Variety Show: master of his craft. had the audiences in stitches and left the classic McRoberts Brothers which entertained generations of audiences. still much to be said from a format that’s road with brand new production. The finest variety moments which prove ally about Allan and his friends delivering who deliver big band hits and modern from Saxation a quartet of musicians who trots out comedy treasures from with her wry observation on Life. There turn back the clock to the glory days of Leo Bloom (Jason Manford) who is a producer but can’t get a hit for love nor money. The two end up to -ing Carmen anywhere near where it should be and Bedella is slightly hinered by this. Bedella is able to control Spence’s overacting with either a withering stare or a brilliant placed line and makes the partnership very watchable. All that being said, this is a classy production with excellent vocals from the entire company of performers and leads for a sparkling night out at the theatre. If you like your musicals with belly laughs then this is the one for you! Director Matthew White has delivered in style in the role of Leo as he finds love with Ulla and the orchestra is sublime. As Carter leads the company through the challenging and moving final scenes there is some satisfaction to be had but also a feeling of what could have been with better casting and more commit- ment. To see the show at its best, check out the DVD recordings as this tour is far from justice for Jesus at the moment. Cirque Eloize Cirkopolis Review: The art of blending stunning dance movements with the awe inspiring elements of circus has been brought to the fore in recent years by the well-known Cirque Du Soleil. This has inspired many companies to explore a similar style, fel- low Canadian company Cirque Eloize brings a story of factory workers who constrained by their miserable existence dream of something better and drift off into wonderful day dreams. What is re- vealed are workers who can produce extra human feats of daring. Like the fly- ing trapeze and the human wheel. The show is backed by excellent visual pro- jection which further developed the themes and a musical landscape that is completely encapsulating and makes for a unique experience at the theatre. It sits between storytelling and magic and to- tally pulls in the viewer. There are plans for the company to tour further so if they’re in your neck of the woods, be sure to check them out. Cirkopolis: Festival Theatre Edinburgh. Run ended. UK tour continues. The Producers: Festival Theatre Edin- burgh. Run ended. UK tour continues. Visits Glasgow Theatre Royal from 15th Jun and Aberdeen HMT from 22nd Jun. The Producers Review: Mel Brooks musical classic is back on the road with brand new production. The story of Leo Bloom (Jason Manford) who wants nothing more in the world than to be a producer of hit Broadway shows is mirrored by Max Bialystok (Gary English) who is a producer but can’t get a hit for love nor money. The two end up to- gether and realise that if they can put a show on that’s so terrible it closes as soon as it opens they are quids in. Hence the search for a terrible script and the creation of Spring Time for Hitler. The laughs come thick and fast as you would expect from a show which is laden with comedians - Phil Jupitus also appears in the role of Franz Liebkind. Manford pos- ses an excellent voice and echoes the role of Leo as he finds love with Ulla (Tiffany Graves). The show’s titular role of Roger De Bris is taken by David Be- della who truly shines in the role like the West End star he is. However, the one down fall is the casting of Louise Spence in the role of Carmen Ghia: he can’t act and his delivery of the role is sorely lack ing Louise Spence in all his laughing glory. His move- ment is excellent as one would expect from a trained Dancer but he isn’t play- ing Carmen anywhere near where it should be and Bedella is slightly hinder- ed by this. Bedella is able to control Spence’s overacting with either a withering stare or a brilliant placed line and makes the partnership very watchable. All that being said, this is a classy production with excellent vocals from the entire company of performers and leads for a sparkling night out at the theatre. If you like your musicals with belly laughs then this is the one for you! Director Matthew White has delivered in style in the role of Leo as he finds love with Ulla and the orchestra is sublime. As Carter leads the company through the challenging and moving final scenes there is some satisfaction to be had but also a feeling of what could have been with better casting and more commit- ment. To see the show at its best, check out the DVD recordings as this tour is far from justice for Jesus at the moment. Jesus Christ Superstar: Playhouse The- atre Edinburgh. Run ended. UK tour continues. The Laramie Project: MacRoberts Arts Centre, Stirling. Run ended. The Laramie Project Review: The true story of the horrific homopho- bic killing of Matthew Shepard who was beaten and tied to a fence overlooking the town of Laramie Wyoming as brought about dramatic change in hate crime legislation throughout American and this is mainly thanks to the Tectonic Theatre Company who visited Laramie in the immediate aftermath and held over 200 interviews with the residents and looked at the impact. Local Stirling Company SUDA take on the challenge of presenting the resulting play and deliver a hugely moving and thought provoking evening at the theatre. Director Kieran Skelton makes his directorial debut and delivers a production that he clearly un- derstands and feels enormous compas- sion for and it shows through with stylist- ical performances from the entire cast who must play multiple roles. Particularly of note are James Craig who delivers a much layered and totally believable set of characters with the best being Matthew and Calum Moore who brings a deep sense of innocence to his performances. Where the play really moves the audi- ence are the moments where we see the community coming together to make the statement that hate will not win over love and Matthew will never be forgot- ten, Skelton has directed the production with a light touch and imbued it with the honesty and truth it needs. It leaves an audience truly satisfied at what has just been performed and Skelton and his team have much to offer the theatre in the future. This is truly theatre at its best. The Laramie Project: MacRoberts Arts Centre, Stirling. Run ended. Cirque Eloize Cirkopolis Review: Jesus Christ Superstar Review: One of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s and Tim Rice’s finest works has been around since the early 1970’s and has enjoyed global success and rightly so. With a mu- sical score that encompasses Rock, Gospel, Soul and Pop stylings, it mes- sily tells the story of the Crucifixion of Christ and its effects on those closest to him. This new production for assy by Bill Kermieght features the return of Glenn Carter in the lead role and he delivers it and Calum Moore who brings a deep much layered and totally believable set of characters with the best being Matthew and love and Matthew will never be forgot- ten, Skelton has directed the production with a light touch and imbued it with the honesty and truth it needs. It leaves an audience truly satisfied at what has just been performed and Skelton and his team have much to offer the theatre in the future. This is truly theatre at its best. The Laramie Project: MacRoberts Arts Centre, Stirling. Run ended. Cirque Eloize Cirkopolis Review: Jesus Christ Superstar Review: One of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s and Tim Rice’s finest works has been around since the early 1970’s and has enjoyed global success and rightly so. With a mu- sical score that encompasses Rock, Gospel, Soul and Pop stylings, it mes- sily tells the story of the Crucifixion of Christ and its effects on those closest to him. This new production for assy by Bill Kermieght features the return of Glenn Carter in the lead role and he delivers it and Calum Moore who brings a deep much layered and totally believable set of characters with the best being Matthew and love and Matthew will never be forgot- ten, Skelton has directed the production with a light touch and imbued it with the honesty and truth it needs. It leaves an audience truly satisfied at what has just been performed and Skelton and his team have much to offer the theatre in the future. This is truly theatre at its best. The Laramie Project: MacRoberts Arts Centre, Stirling. Run ended.
5 reasons why you need a gay solicitor

1. Comfortable and confidential environment
2. Respect for you and your relationships
3. Recognition that we have some different needs
4. A gateway to other gay solicitors who can help in specialist areas
5. 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.s.kinnear@mhdlaw.co.uk

Adoption service • Civil Partnership advice • Conveyancing
Estate agency • Estate winding up • Family Law advice • Will writing

Edinburgh's only guesthouse for gay men
45 Alva Place, Edinburgh
0845 257 1475
www.alvahouse.com

5 Broughton Market
(between Barony St. & Dublin St.)
0131 477 3567
11am - 11pm Daily
www.steamworks-sauna.co.uk

Steamroom
Dry Sauna
Labyrinth
Massage
Cafe Lounge
Free Internet
Large Spa Pool
Vertical Tanning

Stylish rooms Reasonable rates In-room TV / Video library Walk to gay bars and nightlife
The Life and Music of a Hollywood Legend

JUDY

THE SONGBOOK OF JUDY GARLAND

STARRING
LORNA LUFT

Louise Dearman ★ Ray Quinn
Featuring Judy’s dancers – The Boyfriends
Creative Director Arlene Phillips

Fri 8 – Sat 9 May
0844 871 3014 (bgp fees)
www.atgtickets.com/edinburgh (bgp fees)

Advertising & sponsorship opportunities now available.
Early Bird discounts up to 50% off.

your diversity station

XpressRadio.Scot
Contact us for details: info@xpress.media 01698 767300

The best music mix, news and debate for you.

XpressRadio.Scot
Or listen via the TuneIn App available on iOS and Android