And Davies presents

"Make us all, whatever our sexual preference, should not be taken for granted"

London Theatre 1

It is with a heavy heart that we must confirm the closures, pre-existing and imminent, of many public toilets in the Edinburgh area. These cultural hotspots will have closed by the time of publication. And whilst many of our more respectable community members may be glad to see an end to the informative fraternisations in these locations, it has been a reality for many that these outhouses have been outlets for cubicle-based connections, however fleeting.

Perhaps you view the inclusion of this information as seedy or unsavoury. Maybe you’d rather that we didn’t talk about men who have sex with men, the cottage queens, our tearoom toe-tappers. Well, we can’t just cut out swathes of people, dehumanise them or invalidate them simply because their behaviour or presence is challenging to us, because we decide to have a morality crisis. We can’t relate to people while we’re busy clutching our pearls and tutting at them.

July has been a stressful month for many, following the decision by the organisers of Free Pride in Glasgow to ban all drag performances from their stage, an elitist which has subsequently been rescinded. The event is set to run parallel to Pride Glasgow and is intended to be a protest that is accessible to all.

The announced ban echoed a similar NUS move back in Mar of this year against “cross-dressing as costume”. To be honest, it’s hard to write about this issue without expressing opinion, without examining certain words and triggering the same torrent of responses that have been so damaging over the past few weeks. This is not just about use of the terms trans, drag, cis – but also about gender expression, gender identity, gender vs sexuality, protected, honour, shock, shame, safety and comfort. Blame culture has abounded. Friendships have been lost and members of our community on an international basis – through the press and also online with such names as Lady Bunny and George Takei commenting. Nobody has been having much comfort. Blame culture has abounded. Friendships have been lost and members of our community on an international basis – through the press and also online with such names as Lady Bunny and George Takei commenting. Nobody has been having much comfort.

I have often described myself as straight, but I don’t see how that makes me any less queer. I agree with author Ruth Whitaker: ‘I am a queer. Queer is part of my identity.’

Some notable entries so far; Dandy Darby returns with another new show “Trigger Happy” at CC Blooms (Free Fringe), Okereka Dance Company present queer trans Scottish LGBTI&Bisexual Scottish Fringe, and the Voodoo Rooms for high camp and subversive songs.

Don’t have anyone to go see a show with? Why not investigate Be My Friend, where Nick Field invites you to choose his look and a show to go and see – and will come with you. It’s an exploration of the point where strangers become friends and how we negotiate those relationships.

Lastly, congratulations to the lovely Tim Hopkins of Equality Network, who was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Edinburgh in July. This was in recognition of his championing LGBTI rights from anti-Section 28 protests, to his involvement in the creation of Pride Scotland in 1995 and Equality Network since 1995. More of Scotland’s great and good will be celebrated at Equality Network’s Scottish LGBTI Awards at Grand Central Hotel in Glasgow on 20th Sep. The event will be hosted by Karen Dunbar, guest performances include Horse and Michelle McManus. You can vote for the nominees (who include ScotsGay in the Media Outlet of the Year category) on Equality Network’s website www.equality-network.org until 27th Aug where their recently-published Scottish LGBTI Equality Report is also well worth a read.

Doing something interesting? Let me be the judge! Send your events, happenings and pictures of humorously shaped vegetables to news@scotsgay.co.uk.
Good morning, good afternoon, good evening and in case I don’t see you, good night. (so please if you can tell me what film that’s from). How is everyone’s summer going? Got yourself a tan yet? Maybe some summer-melting frocks are popping out to say hello? If not then seriously... Get out more! We finally have some sunshine so we really ought to be out enjoying it, and don’t forget the factor 50!

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xpressradio.scot
Or listen via the TuneIn App available on iOS and Android

Aidan Sutherland
aberdeen@scotsgay.co.uk

Park don more to offer; The ever gorgeous stage by Glasgow’s fabulous up too much, you just missed some of the best talent to hit Aberdeen this summer. I’m being widely repressed at the time, and you know what I mean to that? Real thing; a party, can I help you organise it? Before rambling into a triad of potential themes, ideas, locations, booze, entertainment, after parties, advertising amongst various other things. You’re having a parade? I know a number of good designers, carpenters, painters, florists, restaurants and charities who’ll donate stuff free of charge, plus we know all kinds of people who’ll help with sponsorship etc. and anything else you could think of to help.

For a long time I was afraid to be who I am, because society taught me that there was something wrong with some- one like me. Something you should hate, make fun of or simply just avoid. It made someone unworthy of love. I was unworthy of love. I remember crying at the sight of my first parade due to the free natured, loving, colourful, fun, happy spirit I could feel from everyone in it. I sorely wanted to be a part of it but unfortunately, I couldnt. That part of me was being repressed at the time and judged openly all around me. If anyone found out about me... I could lose my friends, my family, everything... I hold dear... all because I like guys. And worse, all round the world guys like me get bul- lied, beaten, hospitalised, arrested and even killed for choosing to sleep with, love or make a life with someone that has a different chromosome. Just to see that sink in for a second.

Today, being a happy out and proud drag queen/gay man, I march for that younger me who couldn’t march and for those who today can’t march for whatever reason. I march to show them they’re not alone. That they are worth of love and that we as a community are here, with open arms, to welcome them in. And whenever they need us, we will be here, because we are not just a community, we are a family (albeit a lot of a

Jeremy Kyle family) but as family nonetheless and we stick together: We do this because we need to, we’ve been re- pressed, insulted, joked and tried for centuries of our lives, a part that other people, and some- times even we ourselves can’t accept. Even in this day and age, it still shames and haunts some of us.

Now ask yourself, how many people do you know who get hassle for being straight? None. How many news stories have I heard about straight people rele- vant to this? None. How long did you have to petition to make your marriage legal? You didn’t. Is your love illegal in over a third of the world? No, no it’s not.

But mine isn’t.

You wouldn’t march for Pride because you’ve not been repressed or made to feel ashamed of yourself. You’ve not thought about that to feel the appropri- ate or any sense of self pride you feel isn’t just wrong, but something to be mocked, or punished.

So like I said, I’m willing to help, just tell me why.

Funky or Fierce

Our funny and fierce photos of the week should be pretty apparent. On the funny side we have the hilarious foppish on our front cover showing us her ‘Ahem’ face. And on the fierce side, the fierce Raja (above) looking like something that crawled out of a well, through your TV and into your nightmares! Also pictured are the cast of Fannie (minus Aaron Reid and Steven Dress). All photos are courtesy of Pinterest (or my phone).

That’s it again for this month in Aberdeen, thanks for stopping by. My flatmate told me I have to stop the cheesy puns, my response: Au-got give them a chance! See you next month folks!
T he story of Gladys Paterson falls into many chapters most you will know better than me. I can only share here a flavour for the stories that Gladys cared to share with me. I only ever knew Gladys but she always generously acknowledged her past, in particular her beloved wife Bette.

Gladys deeply emphasised from age seven or so with a neighbour’s young girl (Gladys), inside she felt she ought to be a girl like her. Although not having the words back then for this, she was convinced she had been assigned the wrong gender at birth. Early attempts to discuss this with her doctor as a teenager, (itself brave at that time), had been dismissed and Gladys explained, ‘the doctor had said ‘join the army, that’ll make a man of you’. Looking back, Gladys was absolutely convinced, given the time, this had been the only real caring option the doctor probably had. Conscripted into the army, she saw service in Africa, at one point, as bodyguard to the Hollywood film star Victor Mature whilst on film location there. From the little Gladys said of this time I took it she quite enjoyed the adventure if nothing else.

She met Bette at the Majestic Ballroom in Glasgow, they married in 1956. They had a very strong, loving marriage producing Carol and adopting young Alan. Gladys convinced, given the time, this had been the difficult hurdles she had to endure on her path to being fitting back, Gladys was absolutely convinced she felt she had been assigned the wrong gender at birth. Early at the age of ten, (itself brave at that time); she was convinced she felt she ought to be a girl like her. Although not having the words back then for this, she was convinced she had been assigned the wrong gender at birth. Early attempts to discuss this with her doctor as a teenager, (itself brave at that time), had been dismissed and Gladys explained, the doctor had said ‘join the army, that’ll make a man of you’. Looking back, Gladys was absolutely convinced, given the time, this had been the only real caring option the doctor probably had. Conscripted into the army, she saw service in Africa, at one point, as bodyguard to the Hollywood film star Victor Mature whilst on film location there. From the little Gladys said of this time I took it she quite enjoyed the adventure if nothing else.

She met Bette at the Majestic Ballroom in Glasgow, they married in 1956. They had a very strong, loving marriage producing Carol and adopting young Alan. Gladys had three sons and was cared for throughout by her beloved wife Bette. Bette contracted Parkinson’s Disease at the age of 40, producing Carol and adopting young Alan.

Later in life Gladys cared to share with me. I only ever knew Gladys but she always generously acknowledged her past, in particular her beloved wife Bette. Bette contracted Parkinson’s Disease at the age of 40, producing Carol and adopting young Alan.

Gladys was especially proud of her role with the Sandyford Transgender Group and directed folk on in the right direction. Safety was always uppermost in her mind back then.

Gladys was one of the leaders of the LGBT Community and directed folk along in the right direction. Safety was always uppermost in her mind back then.

Gladys swore by the Sandyford Transgender Group and directed folk on in the right direction. Safety was always uppermost in her mind back then.

A great many of us are proud and privileged to have known Gladys; we will find it hard coming to terms with her not being in our lives anymore.

A second BBC documentary will be aired in November 2015.

The full text by David Thomas is on our website.

Scotsgay.co.uk/gladys
Brett Herriot
edinburgh@scotsgay.co.uk

O ut on the scene it’s high summer and attention is turning to the Fringe in a big way! Three of our main venues are collaborating with Free Fringe and producing a plethora of shows as part of the 2015 Fringe. Starting with Buzz Club, which has finally let the daylight in downstairs. Work is progressing well and from what I hear from the boys it’s going to be a fabulous make over which will put it on par with the re-developed ground floor. For the Fringe, CC’s is hosting Anna Louise’s Contes D’Emmer a cabaret artist with a twist and she will perform most days of the Fringe. Also in CC’s is Dandry’s Tricker Happy. Danni will be flying from New York especially for these performances and it’s sure to be a hoot. Finally in CC’s, Elsie Diamond The Sensible Dresser who will give eight ex- cusive burlesque performances.

Moving over to Chalky’s, Cilla’s Drag Race was due to return for season 3 on Thu 30th July! Come on boys get those stiletto’s on and drop Cilla a message via Glasgay Glasgow or perhaps a pub supper beckons away or perhaps a pub supper beckons away from the main Fringe madness then get you self to the The Regent where suppers options are similarly extensive and drinks from wine to real ale are avail- able.

Finally I managed to grab a chat with those lovely folks down at LGBT Youth LIPS @ G-Town will also be launching their new shows as part of the 2015 Fringe. Start- ing with Buzz Club on Sat 31st July and indeed Festival to look for- ward too. I’ll be performing and review- ing and enjoying every moment of the Festival and I hope to see some of you out and about. I’d like to send my best wishes to everyone in Glasgow for an amazing Pride Festival at the end of the month and hope that the first West Loth- ian Pride on Sat just July was a success. Finally whatever you choose to do this coming month, have fun and stay safe!

W ell, well, well if you had told me last month I wouldn’t be writing about Glasgow’s Pride Wars I wouldn’t have believed you but we do live in a good and interesting community So for those of you who aren’t aware

Pride Glasgow is Scotland’s biggest LGBT Festival of the year, with headline acts Texas and Union J taking to the stage over the two day event, joined by acts such as Groovy Green, Angel Gold, Bestiality and Heather Peace what’s not to love! Well according to Free Pride Glasgow the price is set and until recently DRAG QUEENS?

Free Pride I think I got themselves on the wrong foot with the community, by tack- ing other organisations such as the fabulous ICON Awards and Pride Glas- gow. I think the intention behind the event due to be held in the Art School on 22nd Aug were understandable and I was willing to offer my support until they de- cided to ban drag performers from their stage. Citing obscure academic reason- ing, I don’t think they anticipated the global response that soon arrived and have now reversed the ban.

As anyone who understands the history of pride and the commodification of the cracking start. Speaking of all things drag, it continues to enjoy a long over- due burst in popularity with Sun nights bringing The Church of High Kicks in CC’s allowing many new queens to show their talents. Also in Chalky’s every Thu night is Dandry’s Drag Race with a rotation of queens taking their moment to shine in the spotlight backed by various acts from across the scene. It’s an incredible tribute to drag that huge audiences are developing ground floor. For the Fringe, CC’s is hosting Anna Louise’s Contes D’Emmer a cabaret artist with a twist and she will perform most days of the Fringe. Also in CC’s is Dandry’s Tricker Happy. Danni will be flying from New York especially for these performances and it’s sure to be a hoot. Finally in CC’s, Elsie Diamond The Sensible Dresser who will give eight ex- cusive burlesque performances.

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Stephen Bailey - Should have been a pop star. This is the title and catty, Stephen Bailey returns to the Fringe for his second show. What makes him so fun to watch is behind the innocent look and boyish exterior lies someone you wouldn’t want to cross with. The last person to do that was his last boyfriend, and he wrote his debut show all about an as he was. But Stephen is trying to mellow out a bit more for his new show, which is all about the absurdity of the situation. He’s a self-confessed gossip and loves to go off script so who knows what will happen each show. Plesiance Courtyard (Venue 32) Aug 5-30 not 29 @ 8.30pm

Andrew Doyle: Minimalism! Stand up, playwright, actor, author, writer of musicals, Andrew is genuinely a man of many talents. But along with all of him there’s also something of a chameleon. His four stand-ups show to date have all featured wildly different characters, each unrecognisable from the last. So now his latest is all about trying to find where these characters end and his true self begins. Andrew is a fiercely intelligent performer always playing with the audience’s expectations and managing to keep two steps ahead. Toyng with observations on sexuality, religion, freedom of speech, racism and a number of other topics that push some buttons. He’s slowly becoming one of the most interesting comedians around. The Stand Comedy Club & Bar (Venue 55) Aug 5-30 @7.15pm

Dandy Darkly’s Trigger Happy Master story-teller Dandy is back and we all at Scotsgay can’t wait to see what he is going to come up with this time. Last year’s show was a gloriously dark and at the same time shocking analysis of man and their fear of the vagina. It was both wicked and thought provoking, shining a light on the absurdity of the situation. This year it looks to be even more political.

The Wild Cat Kitten Show This is a cabaret show performed as a backup for her sophomore year to bring you more from the world of her character comedy. Bobbi-Duiker, the well and truly fed up hip-hop show girl. Katya the hyper sexual, mail order bride who is here to turn slot dancing on her head and a new character Jacqui Du- mont, the Persuan Performance artist who is here to bring culture to the uncul- tured through Daedalus poetry. It’s no coincidence that these portrayals are all from the art world. A place that she knows very well, after spending years training in physical theatre, comedy and burlesque. So she able to base these characters on her unique experiences and make them come alive in ways other comedians couldn’t. Laughing Horse (The Newsroom (Venue 37) Aug 6-30 not 22 @ 10.30pm

Distinguished Gentlemen (But Really Its Just The Two of Us) Out Cast Theatre has made my shortlist of shows this year that I simply have got to see, especially after the ballsy humour and cleverness of last year’s The Importance of Being Earnest as Performed by Three P** Lion Queens and a Duck. It promises to be a sheer delight and as per last year’s offering is penned by the incredibly talented Steve Dawson. It centres on two old queens viciously trying to destroy each other’s reputations and loving for the carnal attenions of a mysterious young lgbt at the same time. It’s as filthy and funny as ever. I can’t wait! The Space on the Mile (Venue 39) Aug 7-29 not 9, 16, 23 @8.40pm

Puddles Pity Party An evening of stunning operatic renditions of popular songs by the towering figure of Puddles The Clown. Mike Geier stands at 6’5” and then there’s the crowning on top of and that have been looking for inner peace ever since she realised at just four years old, that life is very much not a fairy tale. Unwilling to cut costs. What could possibly go wrong? Momentum Venues @ St Stephens (Venue 65) Aug 6-28 not 18 @8pm

Cina: Herstory This is one that’s really exciting for me. It marks 18 years since Tina C, country drag sensation created by Chris Green, debuted Rhinestone Cowgirl at the Pleasance Theatre. I was there in 1997, then again in 1999 for Leaving On A Jet Plane and in 2002 for her Tinian Towers. I lost track of her after that and have missed subsequent shows. I still find myself at work singing her hits under my breath– classics like “He Dicks As Hard As My Life” and “I Became Schizophrenic (So I Could Love You Twice As Much)” So this is something of a connection with a dear old friend. Welcome back, Tina! Underbelly Pottershow (Venue 38) Aug 5- 27 @7.30pm

Masters of the Yoniverse Another local lass Bonnie Fairbrass (SYTYF and Funny Women semi-finalist (which I missed) so it’s reassuring that... feed him. He might let you. Just The Tonic @ The Venue 88 (Aug 6-28) 7.15pm

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conferences, forums, and other events. All of the words from the newsletter are frequently updated. Sample copy www.diversity.org.uk

Queer alternative DIY magazine

www.stonewallscotland.org.uk

Organising Edinburgh Pride 2016

Tel: Freefone 0800 838 587

info@tht.org.uk

A.L.E.D LGBT (Equality & Longevity of Same Sex Relationships) is a political and campaigning organisation which will be held in Edinburgh in December 1992. Tel: 0131-474 8019.

Organising Edinburgh Pride 2016

www.scottishLGBT.org

Camps for equality and representation and action. Write: Scottish Charity and as a Scottish section of their web site for more.

Edinburgh LGBT Centre, 10 Leith Street, Edinburgh, EH10 4D P. Tel: 0131-332 3838 or 07763 3YG.

Katrina on 07760 701308.

STONewALL SCOTLAND IN VERN ESS:

Gay Guys Inverness: info@lgbthealth.org.uk

Gay Guys Inverness: Tel: 0141-211 8133 or 01387 249964. Write: Sandyford Women’s Centre, Farmhill, Retford. DN22 7PA. Please support and volunteering for women in a relaxed environment. M eets with organised football in a welcoming and supportive environment. M eets in the back lounge, side of the MacNabs Bar & Bistro at the Blenheim Palace Hotel, EH10 4NP. Tel: Freefone 0800 838 587.

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BORDERS:

Voluntary group which has been working in or visiting Caithness, Donegal (01356) 629366. M eets in the back lounge, side of the MacNabs Bar & Bistro at the Blenheim Palace Hotel, EH10 4NP. Tel: Freefone 0800 838 587.

A church of the LGBT community and beyond. W ith organised football in a welcoming and supportive environment. M eets in the back lounge, side of the MacNabs Bar & Bistro at the Blenheim Palace Hotel, EH10 4NP. Tel: Freefone 0800 838 587.

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LGBTH Q:

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The Living Memory Association, traditional music, lesbian/gay communities, recording life-Documents the collective info@ourstoryscotland.org.uk www.loudandproudchoir.org

Listings continued from page 12

www.pinkcastle.eu

please contact them. Write:

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**VANES / EMPORIA**

**DURBANE**

18 Market Street. Tel: 0131-220 2663. Annual gay-friendly market from 9am-5pm.

**MARKET ARM S**


**THES PINEAPPLE**

6-8 Fisher Street. Tel: (01228) 6-8 Fisher Street. Tel: (01228) 535 7069. M on-Sat 11am-1am. Sun Noon-11pm.

** Funky**

2-3 Cowgate. Tel: 0131-557 9331. Wed-Sun 11am-1am.

**KA TIE'S BAR**

10 John Street. Tel: 0141-553 5235. M on-Sat 10am-6pm. No EIGH TEEN.

**HIGH KICKS**

5 Barony Street. Tel/Fax: 0131-662 9112. Sun Noon-3am.

**THE REGEN T**

5 Barony Street. Tel/Fax: 0131-662 9112. Sun Noon-3am.

**THE AULD HOOSE**


**HIGH KICKS**

5 Broughton M arket. Tel: 0131-662 9112. Sun Noon-3am.

**THE AULD HOOSE**


**AXM CLUB**

3-5 Barnton Street. Tel: (01786) 477 3567. D aily 11am -11pm.

**P OLO LOUNGE**

20 Clerwood Place. Tel: 0131-564 0199. M on-Sat 11am-2am.

**SILKS AND SECRETS**

22 Greenside Place. Tel: 0131-568 8828. Mon-Sat 11am-1am.

**THE PIP EW ORKS**

350 Sauchiehall Street. Tel: 0141-352 4900. F ax: 0141-332 3524.

**ELECTRO-SEXUAL**

29 Virginia Street. Tel: 0141-357 6891. Sun Noon-6pm.

**FH Q**

345 Sauchiehall Street. Tel: 0141-357 6891. Sun Noon-6pm.

**EDIN BURGH LGBT CEN TRE**

9 How e Street. Tel: 0131-523 5866. Mon-Sat 11am-1am.

**ACHILLES**

7-11 Princes St. Tel: 0131-555 1799. Mon-Sat 9am-2am.

**WHOCANHELP**

1100. LGBT com m unity centre for meetings and training. Tel: 0131-555 1799.

**THAC**

1100. LGBT com m unity centre for meetings and training. Tel: 0131-555 1799.

**B4OUT**

345 M orrison Street. Tel: 0131-656 5551. 1pm -1am.

**TRADING UP**

135-137 East Broughton Street. Tel: 0131-656 5551. 1pm -1am.

**THE ADORAL**

27 2nd Avenue. Tel: 0131-555 1799. Mon-Sat 9am-2am.

**THE VICTORIAN**

111 Raeburn Place. Tel: 0131-656 5551. 1pm -1am.

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111 Raeburn Place. Tel: 0131-656 5551. 1pm -1am.

**DUNDEE B4OUT**

27 2nd Avenue. Tel: 0131-555 1799. Mon-Sat 9am-2am.

**EDINBURGH B4OUT**

196 Broughton Street. Tel: 0131-555 1799. Mon-Sat 9am-2am.

**OVER ART**

15 Smirnoff Street. Tel: 0131-555 1799. Mon-Sat 9am-2am.

**EDINBURGH B4OUT**

196 Broughton Street. Tel: 0131-555 1799. Mon-Sat 9am-2am.

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196 Broughton Street. Tel: 0131-555 1799. Mon-Sat 9am-2am.
Pride Parade Sat 22nd August
Assembly Point Glasgow Green, 12pm (Parade Start 1pm)

FREE YOUTH ZONE (13-25) |
PRIDE CARNIVAL | COMMUNITY EXPO | PRIDE MARKET | DOG SHOW

Saturday 22nd August
Hosted by Scotland’s Favourite Drag Artist
Cheri Treiffel

Sunday 23rd August
Hosted by Clyde 1’s
Grant Thomson

PLUS MANY MORE OVER 2 STAGES