I hear that the Scottish Parliament is to announce its new anti-discrimination bill. Might the bill be a necessary measure to bring this country in line with other nations? Or is it a step too far? We all have our opinions, and I’m sure there will be plenty of discussion on this topic in the coming months.

As we approach Valentine’s Day, we’re seeing a surge in anti-homophobia campaigns. It’s great to see such a positive changes, but I can’t help but feel a little sad that we’re still having to fight for basic rights. I think that until we’re all treated equally, we should continue to raise our voices.

Happy Valentine’s Day, everyone! Whatever you do, don’t forget to love and be loved.

— Zander Bruce

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**The Playhouse in Edinburgh traditionally close out the year with the biggest and best productions (Wicked in 2014 and the recently announced Mamma Mia to close out 2020) so it was an interesting chance to bring Priscilla Queen of the Desert back for a third visit and place in the lucrative Xmas slot.**

**Priscilla Queen of the Desert Review:**

The Playhouse in Edinburgh traditionally close out the year with the biggest and best productions (Wicked in 2014 and the recently announced Mamma Mia to close out 2020) so it was an interesting chance to bring Priscilla Queen of the Desert back for a third visit and place in the lucrative Xmas slot.

It’s a choice that has paid off. In my last review of the show, I criticized the lack of investment in the story, with audiences reacting with a tepid and inferior技术 and inferior Priscilla Bus being used. I’m glad to say the show has been updated and given a brand new bus which truly shines in all its LED glory.

As this production is an additional step to the UK Tour, the principal cast inclu - ding Jonas Jonsson (tours) and Babsie the mechanic that gets Priscilla across the - back is Gavin Mitchell (the role of Still Game fame) who rather than give into the temptation of comedy overdrive actually delivers an understated and honest performance that drives the character towards new depths of honesty and likability - job well done.

The show retains all its old charm, glori - ous costumes, stunning choreography and some of the best disco and pop hits up until the lights went out. Grrr

**Priscilla Queen of the Desert, Playhouse Edinburgh Run Ended, Visits Glasgow King’s (with Duncan James returning to the role of Tick) from 29th Mar.**

**Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs Review (Glasgow King’s Theatre):**

The King’s Theatre Glasgow returns to opulent and family based pantomime following last year’s lacklustre attempt at Peter Pan with this glitzy production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs from the pen of the production director and panto legend Eric Potts.

Telling the familiar story of Snow White who is the fairest in the land thanks to the chargin of the Wicked Queen, this particular production gives the show a healthy dose of Glasgow satire and does a local twist which includes rather remark - ably the return of Gregor Fisher (Rab C Nebolt) to panto after a length break.

Gregor is on top form and pays affect - iation tribute to the legends of the King’s past with an entrance set to Fran - cie and Josie’s theme music and the cry of “Hello there!” It’s a special moment indeed. This show is a character that has more just than a little of Rab C in him but it’s so much the better for it.

Joining Gregor in the role of Mudies is Dunc Macintyre. After a length break from the role of MacIntyre, Denis, while likeable, tries far too hard to emulate the great Gerhard Kelly, which doesn’t work. Clarke is in a difficult position as many compare him to Kelly automatically when they should just let him be himself. Clarke could help - playing the role his way rather than how Kelly would have done.

Juliet Cadzow is bad and netten to the care in an excellent performance as the Wicked Queen although it’s obvious in one of her numbers she is lip syncing but that aside she delivers in spades. With Jenny Douglas as Snow White and the gorgeous and vocally talented Allan Jay as Prince rounding out the principal cast.

With a full cast of dwarf actors and two teams of panto bobbies, sumptuous sets, comedy, costumes and the latest puppets this is a winning production - and that, the Ghost Busters box is a bit outdated, it still adds charm. Now the King’s have built momentum let’s hope that their 2016-17 panto can capitalise on it further.

**Peter Pan Review (SECC Clyde Auditorium):**

Glasgow is a lucky city with three major pantomimes to offer, both King’s Glasgow and the Pavilion have panto not to mention various local companies producing panto in the smaller venues and the city’s biggest venue the Clyde Auditorium are offering Peter Pan for their audiences’ delight.

Following a wellocumented departure of local boy John Barmanon last year, the Kranks are joined by American superstar David Hasselhoff in the role of Captain Hook. It’s in that casting that lies the production’s biggest problem.

It was obvious that Hasselhoff was just coming off various knee surgery and spent the entire performance limping about the stage, although thankfully it did actually suit the character. However, when David started to sing it was a show stopping moment for all the wrong reasons: he was nowhere near the depth of the role and in a pitch all of his own. When he stops it’s a relief, the other issue being that David simply because of being American doesn’t understand the art form he is working in which shows on more than one occasion with comedy lines fudged – it is Leila…

This opera was receiving its first Met performance in a century – it will likely become a staple in the repertoire, with its haunting melodies and exotic, delicate sound palette far removed from the blood and thunder of Carmen.

Zurga and Nadir, both in love with the Hindu priestess, Leila, agree to impersonate her and protect her presence. A veiled priestess is brought to the village to pray for the pearl fishermen’s safety – it is Leila…

The opera opened with a stunning scene of divers descending in streams of bubbles to the depths of the sea. The singing was superb – Matthew Polenzani and Marko Lausecic’s duet ‘Au fond du temple saint’ predictably stopped the show, but their solos, and duets, were equally magnificent, while their delicately nuanced acting underlined the emotional complexities of their situation. The contemporary setting (with divers and delft blue tiles) but the audience accused them of not being serious.

Mary Woodward
Starting with CC Bloom: Following the death of legendary pop icon David Bowie, The Rabbit Hole staged an affectionate tribute that was as funny as it was moving. The Rabbit Hole night (Tue) continues to go from strength to strength with the lady herself popping up on STV Edinburgh in a pinker than pink look. Fri nights continue to see the double club night in full swing, with hop on the ground floor and lively in the Lab. With partying till the small hours it makes CC’s the place to be.

Moving next door to Habana which is looking pretty amazing following its makeover! With comfy new booths great drinks promos and Quiz & Quiz teams bringing the best in indie club entertainment especially the evenings where the ever so hardcore DJ Tom won’t go around. News just in from Habana sees the welcome return of CoCo Chanel, the legendary drag queen, the first confirmed date is Thu 29th Jan – let’s hope it’s the first of many. Keep your eyes on the Habana Facebook for details of their Valentine’s shenanigans!

On Thu nights the W VA at 50 venue welcomes the funniest person in Scotland as they try to keep up the very high standards of the previous year. If you can’t make the Thu night it’s also great on Sun night.

Once Planet closes its doors of an evening, things are still going strong over at Chalke’s with a range of club nights on offer including the revival of Drama on Tue which is enjoying great success. With a plethora of themes already planned and a few surprise nights in the pipeline, the future for Drama looks good. Thu nights are also great in Chalke’s with the Cabaret Night featuring the stars of Claire’s Drag race – each week featuring a different star with guests. It’s always packed, so be sure to drop in.

Moving down to Planet, they enjoy a phenomenal festive season being the place many people started their Xmas party nights, and things continue especially on Thu nights when it’s packed to the rafters for the quiz night hosted by Cilla Sloth – the perfect excuse to banish the Jan blues and embrace the slightly lighter nights of Feb.

Feb marks LGBT History Month, this annual celebration of LGBTIQ+ culture, counter culture and at its heart the journey through the rainbow for many generations. There is a wide programme of events planned across Scotland in collaboration with LGBT Youth Scotland and many other partners. One of the highlights in Edinburgh is the Laugh-Out Loud LGBTYS Fundraiser on 10th Feb kicking off at 7.30pm in the Stand Comedy Club. With host Bruce Devlin and guests Sue McClo and Larry Deen already on the bill (with more to be announced), it’s going to be a belter of a night and your support will provide support for the generation of tomorrow! For full details of the LGBT History Month programme visit www.lgbthistory.org.uk.

So there we have it, another month rounded up! I hope all those lucky enough to have a partner enjoy Valentine’s Day and for those who don’t hopefully Mr Right (for me anyway) or Mrs Right is waiting just around the corner for us all!

Whatever you choose to do in the coming month enjoy it and stay safe.

Brett x
W
ill Happy New Year to you all! I trust you all had a great festi-
val season? Nice Xmas dinner? Lots of presents, but more im-
portantly ALCOHOL?!! “F’ the season to be jaded as they say (either that or I need to find me some new friends). Now be honest, how many of you have already failed your New Year’s resolutions? Believe it or not, I have ac-
ually stuck to mine! I took a relaxing break away to start the year, celebrated my sister’s 21st over drinking and found out I can apply for my Canadian Work Permit so I can move there later this year!!! Anyway, enough about this selfish bash... On with the show!

This month’s article will look at some of the bigger things to come this year as well as a look at what’s to come in Feb (since Jan is practically or already finished, depending when you’re reading this). Also this year you have decided to get rid of the ‘Funny or Fierce’ photos and just include normal pics, most likely taken by the fabulous Miss Lisa Grey in Cheerz Bar and Club so be sure to turn your Sun best on and get out there! I’ll also not be letting MYST Loan anyone anymore as I realised, she sounds like a miserable bitch when she does (see all know she is, my sister always let her just keep that in her head).

The big news in Cheerz is the return of Miss Cherry Buckle! / Kevin Thorburn! That’s right, everybody’s favourite ‘Tart with a heart’ is coming back to take over our Sun nights! Get your glad rags Sun best or whatever you would call it and get out to welcome her back!!! This bitch is one of the best this town has and she deserves an audience!

The other big news is that after a dry spell (we all know that’s code for rehab) MYST Pool will be starting her own weekly games night every Thu! With games such as Limbo, Ring Toss (Mr pipes please), Finish the lyrics and many more. I’ve heard there’ll be some lip syncing with severe consequences if you don’t win For those of you that watch ‘RuPaul’s Drag Queens’ that don’t watch ‘RuPaul’s Drag Race’, the final two contestants have to Lip Sync for their Lives and one of them wins whilst the other will inevitably be eliminated from the competition... i.e. dies.

This is setting up to be the best student night in town! The night will be running from 9pm-Midnight but I know all you students like to pre-drink until about Midnight and show up for the Kiwi (when it’s on) so there are some cheap drink deals and a cash prize to entice you into the bar earlier.

Feb as some of you may not know (but definitely should be) is LGBT+ History Month and our very own GMH will be holding some events to celebrate/com-
memorate the achievements we as a community have achieved, and those we have lost along the way in our fight for equality ad against discrimination / stigma. See the attached photo for details and buy something purple!

One of the current heroes of the LGBT+ community at the moment is none other than Miss Ru Paul herself! Through her career she has constantly been pushing boundaries and really brought drag and more importantly (yet perhaps inadver-
tently) Trans issues to the forefront of television, pop culture and fashion. Before her transition Bruce Jenner was an Olympic medal winner and someone who was adored. Then he got into a car crash and killed someone (yeah, Google it, he killed someone) and... got away with it! (Where’s the justice in that?) (FYI, I’m using the name Bruce here as at the time of the accident he was still legally named Bruce and legally male, she changed these legally in Sep). Anyway, taking away from that (and forgive the upcoming pun), I admire Bruce for his balls to say ‘I want to become a woman’. Coming out as gay was hard enough so genuinely congratulations on the strength and bravery that took consider-
ing you live in the public eye. However, now that you are this beautiful Trans woman, and again, did I need to add the word ‘trans’ there? If we keep the title does that mean there are more than a seco: male, female, trans male, and trans female? (See a lot of this stuff is at the very core of the Trans community without actually doing anything decent (or anything) I hear of anyway, it’s all gossip dread and scandal with this family). I didn’t like the Kardashians to begin with as they’re mindless heils and it seems that this wonderfully athletic person has decided to use the attention she’s getting from her transition to just become one of them as opposed to ask the tougher questions and push for more. “Slowly claps hands” Well done Caitlyn, well done.

I am over to compare two trans women and show my love for one and my hatred of the other.

Caitlyn Jenner: First let me back up a minute.

Before her transition Bruce Jenner was an Olympic medal winner and someone who was adored. Then he got into a car crash and killed someone (yeah, Google it, he killed someone) and... got away with it! (Where’s the justice in that?) (FYI, I’m using the name Bruce here as at the time of the accident he was still legally named Bruce and legally male, she changed these legally in Sep). Anyway, taking away from that (and forgive the upcoming pun), I admire Bruce for his balls to say ‘I want to become a woman’. Coming out as gay was hard enough so genuinely congratulations on the strength and bravery that took consider-
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Anyway guys, that’s it for this month. Be sure to come and see me on Thu 22 Feb for MYST! Hole’s very first ‘Gayme Night’.

1 x 3 |

2 x 4 |

3 x 5 |

4 x 6 |

5 x 7 |

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7 x 9 |

8 x 10 |

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