Scotland Stands With Orlando
MY NAME IS LAURA.
I RESOLVED MY DEPRESSION AND MY ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY THRIVING. HEAR MY STORY.

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Or simply come to Thrive because of a sense that things can be better.

BOOKINGS AND INFORMATION
WWW.IMAGINEANATION.LIFE/LGBT
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A PREHAB REVOLUTION IN RESILIENCE. IMAGINE THAT.
Since our last edition of the magazine we can all say we live in a changed world, where the sadness of the tragedy that befell Orlando, that cost 49 people their lives and put countless others in hospital and left so many facing life without a son, daughter, father, mother and cherished one so is hard to bear especially as the world accepts this was a homophobic terrorist attack born of hate.

The world responded to this universally with Love, love which is so far more powerful that hate could ever be and we in Edinburgh joined the millions around the globe as we gathered on the evening of Wed 15th May in the steady falling drizzle in the heart of the capital, St Andrew’s Square to remember those lost in Orlando with an emotional vigil.

It was inspiring to see the 500+ people from across our community joining together with political leaders including our First Minister and the leader of the Scottish Conseratives along with speakers from Stonewall Scotland, the LGBTI Community Network and so many more. With performances from Loud and Proud Choir and the Edinburgh Guy’s Company this message was loud and clear, Love IS Love and the LGBTI community stands shoulder to shoulder with Orlando and I like so many of you was extremely proud to have been there and taken a small part. Pride is something we will share in the month ahead as we again come together to celebrate who we are, what we are and who we will be and that we can continue spread the message Love really IS Love, so let’s get all the details of the events planned for Sat and July.

Despite the news that the City of Edinburgh Council turned down the application for the last minute for the outdoor main stage at Greenside Place for Pride Edinburgh, the organising team has been hard at work putting together a suitable event that now more than ever celebrates diversity across our city.

Events will begin with the annual Scotia March which assembles outside the City Chambers from 8pm with speeches from invited dignitaries. The March moves off at 1.45pm heading down the Royal Mile to Parliament Square. The march will then proceed onward to Abbey Mount and then to The Mound and will be accompanied by the ever popular Fabulous Fannys as well as local drag favourites Alice Rabbit and her Bunnies.

The Main Stage will be going ahead indoors from 9pm at the Jam House just along Queen Street and will be comprised by Mr Gay Scotland. As we go to press the final line-up has yet to be announced but will include the ever popular Ryan Jagger, Shane, Alice and Lady Gogo to tribute acts along with local drag favourites Alice Rabbit and her Bunnies.

The Order Of Perpetual Indulgence will be holding their annual Tea Dance in Chalkey’s from 9pm, to which all are welcome to either take respite from the pace of the day or simply to share the care with the Free. Free, sandwiches and cakes (some vegan and gluten free) are on offer – although a donation would be appreciated!

Next door in the Holiday Inn, the Trans Engagement Zone will be held in association with the Transgender Alliance and a full programme being put together which will be available from the Pride website.

LGBT Youth Scotland also returns with their Youth Zone which this year makes its base at Broughton St Mary’s Parish Church. They will also be providing a stall at the Community Fair for anyone to access services and get directions or better still meet friends for the short walk down Broughton Street to the Youth Zone. For those with younger ones about, our friends at Mr Gay Scotland and Miss Scotland will be at Omnis with a range of community engagement at the special bases so be sure to check it out.

There will be many other events being held across the scene and more acts will be announced on the official Pride Edinburgh website at www.prideedinburgh.org.uk.

As they contribute to the costs of running all the events, we hope that you will turn out in force to show your support and possibly a donation.

The Health and Community Fair will be held in conjunction with the Health and Community Fair at The Mound that has been planned to give local services and agencies a chance to exhibit and community groups a chance to meet people.

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Our LGBTQ community has sustained a massive blow from the tragic events that took place at Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida. 49 lives lost, 53 injured, in a cruel, hateful and premeditated attack on the LGBTQ community. If ever we needed a reminder that we still live in a world where even in our safe spaces, our places of sanctuary, we are never safe from homophobia. It was a day that hurt us, that comforted us and reminding the vigil organised by Free Pride the night after the attack in George Square when hundreds of people gathered in front of the City Chambers, to pay tribute, hug, and stand together in defiance of hate. It reminded me that Glasgow is a city with a big heart: the rainbow flag flying at half mast above the City Chambers. Bear Night, a lone piper playing and every place of sanctuary, we are never safe from homophobia. It was very healing and comforting to attend the vigil held in the city centre as a mark of respect for the Orlando shooting.

Along at Klozet Bar, Dundee’s premier gay bar open 7 days a week, Fri and Sat see the one and only Ruby Rox as the resident karaoke host. On Sat 26th July they also have a lesbian tribute entry on the door and it’s only £3.50 from 10pm. An Adele tribute as well as Scarlet Damonte and Sam Solace are lined up for future appearances.

The Salty Dog team are doing a fantastic job with Ross pumping out the tunes and the Sunday Club has an atmosphere which kicks off from 3pm.

We also see Saltie Dog and Klozet taking part in the annual Blues Festival in Dundee from 16th-20th July which is an all-day free event over the three days. As we go to press the Almost Blue Festival hadn’t published their listings yet but do keep an eye on their Facebook page here: [Facebook Page Link]

BU Out has Sjuice Blue doing her karaoke with Dean and Jan pumping out the tunes every week at Out Nightclub.

Check their Facebook pages for event details [Facebook Pages]

If pubs and clubs are not your thing No 13 Sauna is still going strong on Princess Street.

DILF celebrated their first birthday and the next one is coming soon @ the Poetry Club.....Now time to dig out those exquisist chaps. Bruce Fraser is still pumping out the tunes for you on a Sat night in Merchant Pride straight after the Voice BarbaraBryceland. The Waterloo, has the Glasgow institution duo Amy and Robert Miller who are now available on mugs! It’s always a good laugh down the Waterloo!

I popped by drunkenly into Speakeasy for Karaoke with Martin on a Thu, everyone was having a grand old time and of course being served by the ever lovely Wili and his team. Undergound has Bear Night the first Fri of the month coming up! Chest rugs at ready! You’ll also catch the place jumping on a Sun with me for Cobalt!

Delhs is the mischievous duo Quennie and Bella doing karaoke every week and if you’re shite you get telt from what I mean! Pubs is downstairs wailing on you when you want to dance the night away whilst pounding the shots before you get pounded!

If you want to go out, let your rainbow flag fly, shake your ass, kiss someone, dance till dawn and defy those who want to make you anything other than the wonderful creature you are! LOVE WINS!

Hello Aberdeen. It is with great sorrow that I write this month’s article. The shooting in Orlando on 12th June is still weighing heavy on all our hearts. But before I get into that, I’ll take a quick look at what’s been and is going to be happening in Aberdeen.

Well, Chez has been in the news a bit, huh? Whether the press be good or bad it’ll all be great because the reason it’s always Chez’s Bar that’s being mentioned? It’s because this is the only gay bar in Aberdeen. It’s where we drink, discuss, debate drag and turn it out, this is our home, correction; YOUR home. No matter what happens, you can believe you’ll find someone here to talk to, or connect with about whatever is going on, be it a love life problem, a mass shooting or even a big sport game every year.

As always with Chez’s Bar the last Sun of the month sees Chez and Scarlet return with their monthly show! Tue (Quiz night) and Sat are coming to you straight from the Deepcakes herself Miss Romy! West gets musical with Ozzis Jon hosting karaoke. Thua has seen a slight change… in name! Peachez Kiki is now Penny’s Arcade because Miss Peach is no more, Long live Penny Dleck阜All the fun and games of Aberdeen has performed here and you can too! Just speak to Penny. Then we have Thank Bobbie! It’s Friday where Miss Dazzy takes you into the weekend with some tunes and banter! Ossie Romps is rocking your socks off to music on every Sun right through to come back on Sun with Miss Babewal (or Mr Thorton if she’s on holiday) to finish off your Sunday Funday.

There are a few not too big events happening in Chez in this July. Firstly we have the summer show! Now if you want to see all of the above mentioned Chez’s royalty together on one stage then look no further than the Chez’s Summer Spectacular: Grease Up! Come take a look at this classic get the Diamante gender bending treatment. Brian Elrick and Leahus on a magical journey of Summer Lovin’ in this hilarious take on Grease. Running from 15th-20th of July tickets are available at the bar now! Go ahead, put down the magazine and ask for some, it’s OK, it’s OK… Got them! Now where was I? Oh yes, aside from the summer show Chez will also be hosting Miss Dazzy on Sun 30th July she’s got some set of lungs on her! Very Vickious and the Ape Experience will be here on Sun 7th and I don’t know about you but that sounds like a great night to try out some Barbie doll readiness drag! (See you there Aberqueens!).

As always keep an eye on the La Lombarda facebook page for exclusive performances by Miss Cherry Babewal! Taking your Sat nights out of the clubs and into their Basement Bar, Cherry invites you to come in and have a drink whilst she entertains you between 9pm and midnight. This is a great way to start your night folks so don’t miss out!

Before I go I would like to pay tribute to all the people connected to the mass shooting in Orlando. These men and women have been taken from their families, their friends and their communities too soon. There are so many emotions coming to fruition here. Anger for America’s ridiculous gun laws, sadness for everyone’s losses, confusion as to why this all happened in the first place and pride in how the LGBTQ* community came together to support each other and be safe!

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If you want to help in any way then Please give what you can. www.oneorlando.org

http://www.quotevictimsfund.org

www.queersgiving.org

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That’s it for this month. As always be kind to each other (I really hope that message sinks in) as well as each other and be safe!

See you next month.

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Dundee Stands with Orlando

Holidalms

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Dundee Stands with Orlando

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The success of Blake Edwards’s 1961 classic movie which starred the legendary Audrey Hepburn from a book written by the often controversial but never excused Truman Capote is beyond being measured, it is a treasured piece of cinematic history.

It’s now taken to the stage in a production from the Curve, Leicester and what a production it is. Featuring the songs from the film by Henry Mancini this is truly a production that take you down Moon River and back again.

The story of the girl with something to hide who uses her feminine ways to get what she wants in the end and the writer who falls for her is timeless and this Emily Atack steps into Holly Golightly’s high heels and delivers a performance filled with conviction and truth that makes Holly’s story come across the footlights.

With Matt Baker delivering in equal measure as Fred, it brings a fresh take to the story yet allows the original Hepburn and Peppard to remain untouched and it’s all the better for it.

With a stunning costume and set design by Matthew Wright lighting that truly transports us back to the 60’s and 70’s, emotive and gifted direction from Nikolai Foster this is one production that honours the original but breathes a fresh life into a story that is suitable for all to be the best ever written and this production is one of the best up to the standard in spades, truly unmissable.

Breakfast at Tiffany’s, Kings Theatre Edinburgh, Run Ended.

Emily Atack
Breakfast Tiffany’s

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