In 1997 three queer men walked into a bar in San Francisco’s Castro district dressed as nuns – it sounds like the start of a joke but it was actually the start of one of the largest LGBTQ+ community-led charitable organisations in the world, The Order of Perpetual Indulgence (OPI).

The Sisters as they became known worked to bring comfort to their community and they became interwoven in the cultural and political fabric of the city itself. In an era defined by counterculture and at times marked by political violence and religious oppression, the Sisters helped pry open spaces of community engagement and outreach.

To set the scene more properly this was in a community struggling through the start of the AIDS crisis, losing friends and family to a disease that seemed to come from nowhere and facing governments and religious groups who had turned their backs.

There are over 35 million people around the world still living with HIV, and since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic at least that many have been lost to AIDS. Many of our community have lost loved ones and friends, and many more continue with both the effects and the stigma HIV still unfortunately carries.

Thankfully, however, times have changed - the stigma is less, the deaths fewer, and the treatments better. The treatments are so much better, in fact, that recently the medical profession has stated that “those on effective regular treatment that has reduced their viral load to an undetectable level are now proven not to pass on HIV to sexual partners”.

In essence, undetectable now means untransmittable.

Thirty-eight years on from that 1979 beginning, on 1st Dec this year twelve members of the order of perpetual indulgence are lucky enough to live in a world that has moved forward enough we walked into a church in Leith at the invitation of both the Church and of Waverley Care (a fantastic charity doing work raising money for HIV and Hepatitis), to attend a vigil for World AIDS Day, and remember all those we have lost to this terrible disease.

In those thirty-eight years the Order has grown across the United States and Europe, with over a thousand members – we have a mission statement and a culture that says we believe all people have a right to express their unique joy and beauty and we do so much more: we raise and distribute money to some of the most marginalised people in our society.

We aren’t a religious order, we aren’t an order of gay men or lesbian women, we’re made up of LGBTQ+ persons and allies who want to change the world for the better and we welcome anyone looking to help. Oh... and we’d love you to come along and join us for a pint and maybe join us in our work.

The Sisters and Brothers of the OPI are part of a worldwide order of queer men and women of all sexualities which is open to all who feel the habit. Its talents are the exaltation of stigmatic guilt and the promulgation of universal joy through individual manifestation and perpetual perpetration.

And we’re back! After a year’s absence caused by my illness, ScotsGay has returned. I’d like to thank readers and advertisers for the good wishes I received following my stroke last Nov - a predictable consequence of failing to treat my body like a temple and instead using it as an adventure playground!

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Whilst future issues will be regular, it may take a while to get back to the previous monthly cycle, so tell all readers and advertisers to bear with us as we come up to speed. In particular, whilst I’ve tried to revise our listings, inevitably some of these will not be up to date. If you see something wrong or missing, it would be much appreciated if you could let us know.

We have performed gay marriages (even before they were legal), blessed safe spaces and thrown amazing fundraising events, we have stood as human walls to deflect hate at trans rallies for acceptance and marched in the forefront of prides. We continually campaign against persecution based on gender, sexuality or skin colour and we raise and distribute money to some of the most marginalised people in our society.

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Greetings and welcome to the Edinburgh scene, it’s great to be back in hard copy at last! As you read this, the Xmas lights are twinkling around the city, the big wheel is spinning, and the sky flyer is reaching for the skies. It’s such a year of new beginnings and breaking free from the scene and so many special events coming up, let’s go catch up! Starting out on the scene, it’s not just ScotiaGay that’s back bigger and better but a legendary club also returns to its prime. We are all looking forward to this wonderful time of year and the joy of new years. The scene is going to be as ever spectacular and the party is going to be as ever exciting.

GHO opened on stst Dec with the Edinburgh return of Nancy Clench and the colourful ‘Hottest’ DJ Justine James.” But, for those wondering, unfortunately there are no plans for the Hot Tubs to return.

Over at Pride Edinburgh, the team announced that the event will return to the city street this year, with new and exciting pop-up events and main stage and the beginning of the month of December, the festival. We will be bringing the stage to the centre of Edinburgh, with a range of music, dance, and entertainment throughout the weekend. The event will feature a variety of performers, including well-known names from the LGBT+ community, as well as local performers and drag acts. There will also be a range of workshops, seminars, and talks, covering a variety of topics related to LGBT+ rights and issues.

Professional Drag shows featuring Show Time Fridays. 1st Dec marked six years of CC’s Stack choosing to call Edinburgh home. And to celebrate, we have a new, monthly comedy show! Cilla’s Drag Race Season, will also arrive in a new, special edition on the opening night on 1st December.

In conclusion, the event is expected to be a great success, with a range of activities and entertainment for all ages. Attendees can expect a fantastic atmosphere, with plenty of food, drinks, and music. Whether you’re a regular supporter of the event, or new to the scene, this is an event not to be missed.

Finally, don’t forget to pop into The Regent if a pint of Real Ale is your calling or a bite of supper from their ever-changing menu of daily dishes plus all the old favourites or if you’re down Broughton Street, Cafe No De Plume serves delicious food, wine, spirits and beers to suit every palate and is a great start to any evening out. If you like a bit of sparkly, Xmas lights that are twinkling around the city, the big wheel is spinning, and the sky flyer is reaching for the skies. It’s such a year of new beginnings and breaking free from the scene and so many special events coming up, let’s go catch up! Starting out on the scene, it’s not just ScotiaGay that’s back bigger and better but a legendary club also returns to its prime. We are all looking forward to this wonderful time of year and the joy of new years. The scene is going to be as ever spectacular and the party is going to be as ever exciting.

There are also festive editions of Club of High Kicks, with the now legendary Rabbit Hole evening hosted by queen of queens Marie Ribid. Towards the end of the month on 28th Dec, CC’s is hosting the big finale, with a range of music, dance, and entertainment throughout the weekend. The event will feature a variety of performers, including well-known names from the LGBT+ community, as well as local performers and drag acts. There will also be a range of workshops, seminars, and talks, covering a variety of topics related to LGBT+ rights and issues.
Happy December. Let’s start with introductions shall we?

My name is Cameron and I will be one of your new correspondents for Glasgow. Whether you see me in the adult store Lake and Black promoting Healthy Sex Positivity or dawning my nun attire as Novice Pommy Taville (member of the Order of Perpetual Indulgence-Glasgow) I will be here to keep you up-to-date with the goings on around pubs, clubs and societies within the community. First off, let’s dive in with World AIDS Day events that went on around the city on the 1st Dec.

Terrence Higgins Trust teamed up with a #SeeRed event at Glasgow Caledonian University along with the Glasgow Frontformers team promoting Safer Sexual Practices and collecting for charity. Later that evening they held their annual WAD gathering at their Glasgow branch with Glasgow Positive Voices’ Scott Agnew. The Polo Lounge had a tremendous live performance, “A Nashville Nocturne” created by the unmistakably talented queen Lucy Rain. Afterwards the club did some fundraising on behalf of THT for World AIDS Day.

Speak Easy was blessed with the talents of Bella Houston and DJ Will. Delmonica’s collected donations with the evening led by DJ Andy.

Down at the Waterloo, to celebrate the appearance of Steps at the Hydro, they were due to have a pre-party on 7th Dec with DJ Paul playing all their hits. So many events, so little time. And with the festive season nearly upon us most venues are starting to prepare for work nights out, Xmas jumpers and antler head bands.

Katie’s Bar on 29th Dec will have the exotic styling of Allsorts Cabaret. Hosts Monkre De Saxe and Miss Innocence Bliiz giving a “Decadent December” with festive dance and song, as well as a stalls. Best of luck! Santa will no doubt see who’s been naughty and who’s been nice at GOLF GLASGOW. Xmas Party is on the 16th of the month at The Poetry Club. 30th of December let’s get the party started at NiceNSeazy with QUEER THEORY: GENDER TROUBLE Hosted by Boni Gay. There will be an eclectic range of music from Black Doves, Acolyte and Alternative Cracks. Drag from the femme fatale Tom Harlow, poetry, performance art and comedy. No matter the venue, they’ll have you covered all through Dec from Xmas right up to Hogmanay. Check out their Facebook pages for further details.

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Films To Know About

by Mike McGrath

Her second husband was comedian Dicky Dawson whom she had two sons by taking them to Hollywood to make the two worst films ever made MARRIED A WOMAN and THE UNHOLY WIFE. Returning to make a film she left the sons with him. At a party she met a struggling pop singer, Tony Danre, who must have had what it takes in bed as although he was a compulsive gambler she kept him for four years. Sending money to Dicky to keep the boys she imported them just for holidays.

While acting in a TV play actor Alan Lake caught her eye whom she married not knowing he was an alcoholic. In a pub during an argument he was so violent he got an 11 month prison sentence. As she was the most amusing conversationalist in the country I enjoyed seeing her and after his release he was playing snooker next door with a friend something staggering in to talk to us. She smiled at me saying “How you ever fancied an animal?” I said I had but would have got it out of the system as soon as possible. She laughed “My problem is I married it.” She died at 52 in 1988. Soon after Alan Lake committed suicide with a shotgun. Shopping Direct has a box set of the Diana Dors collection on 7 discs that has 6 of her British films plus a documentary about her extraordinary life.

MISS SAGON was one of the most successful stage musicals written by the couple who wrote the equally successful LES MISERABLES. A stage version was filmed to celebrate the 75th anniversary that is now on a Universal DVD. It is an updated version of the opera Madam Butterfly transferred to the Vietnam war where a US soldier falls for a local girl. This is a double disc with the second one showing rehearsals that has a giant helicopter on stage.
**Welcome to another edition, it’s great to be**

**Playhouse Theatre Edinburgh:**

A masterpiece of filmic composition will our best to ensure reviews appear as soon as possible after seeing a production. Also we now have a dedicated twitter so send us all following a stint covering for Glenn Close in Duet for One, Kings Theatre Edinburgh,

**The show came to life in 1992 in Webber’s original star Ria Jones returns to reclaim the greatest role of all and succeeds in style. Jones performs with consummate grace of the auditorium, especially during seeing.

**Son of A Preacher Man**

**Kings Theatre Edinburgh,**

As it is this is endlessly watchable affair of the audience. The Doctor before you. A wonderful achievement. Director Robin Lefevre has carved an en -

**Duet for One. King’s Theatre Edinburgh,**

**Honest the role demands and possess a**

**UK Productions and Flying Entertainment**

This is a deeply human and emotional tale of the human condition and one well worth seeing. Such a shame that audiences to their feet at the end of every performance and we are seeing a production. Also we now have a dedicated twitter so send us all following a stint covering for Glenn Close in Duet for One, Kings Theatre Edinburgh,

**Duet for One, Kings Theatre Edinburgh :**

**Sunset Boulevard**

**The Curve Theatre Presents “Sunset Boulevard”. Edinburgh Playhouse Theatre, Run ended. Production visits Glasgow Theatre Royal from 26th May 2019**

Duet for One, Kings Theatre Edinburgh : Tom Kempinski’s two hander, Duet for One is a part physiological drama and part human tale. Telling the story of Stephanie (Belinda Lang) who is a virtuoso violinist struggling to cope with toll of life’s and now using a wheel to help her to abandon her life’s work. Unable to cope the begins therapy with Dr. (Oliver Cot -

**Sunset Boulevard, Playhouse Theatre Edinburgh.**

Andrew Lloyd Webber’s understandable mastery of three dimension will always be Sunset Boulevard. Telling the story of failed silent movie star Norma Desmond (the utterly divine Rita Jones) who longs to reclaim her stardom when studio writer Joe Gillis (a sparkling and on form Danny Mac) happens upon her mansion thus behind the scenes drama of the late 80’s and early 90’s beset with the scourge of drug addiction and the ensuing AIDS epidemic was based as much in the Khan district of Kabul, whose closest friend

**Theatre from 26th May 2019.**

**Duet for One, Kings Theatre Edinburgh :**

**Theatre. Glasgow and Edinburgh Run**

**Theatre.**

**UK Productions and Flying Entertainment**

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**UK Productions and Flying Entertainment**

This is purely a writing failure, direction from Craig Revel Horwood is typical of his style, a stylistic musical soundscape, this is a vastly superior production so than during the “Choose Life” speech in the material and the landscape that is

**Duet for One. King’s Theatre Edinburgh,**

**KC’s other lone star to return to
cinema, she begins to suffer from the
in the play as Hassan’s son Sohrab
don’t have plans already! They’re a

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