

The Place To *B* This October

Every Friday

The Queen Of Camp & Cheese Ricky Glass

Every Saturday

The Latest Queen On The Scene Cheryl Hole

2nd October - T Girls Go Back To School @ Abuv

3rd October - Yorkshire Bear Bash @ Abuv

4th October - Stripper Angel

10th October - Women only night @ Abuv

11th October - The Ruby Loren Show

17th October - Dress Code @ Abuv

18th October - The Fabulous Mindy Lahor Show

25th October - Pink Yard Party

Charity Fundraiser in aid of Breast Awareness

Featuring Pink Tribute Lady Pink

& A Special Performance from Bears Aloud

31st October - The Ultimate Halloween Party

The Biggest & Best Halloween Party

Ever Seen On The Scene

NB Special Events Held @ Abuv (Upstairs @ Blayds)

The Downstairs Bar Is Open To Everyone

blayds bar/ABUV 3-7 Blayds Yard, Leeds

Add Us On Facebook Blayds Bar/Abuv

13032
5

Yorkshire's lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender paper

Issue 157 October 2009

SHOUT!

All frocked up!



Bargain babes at Barnsley Pride.... the first ever Barnsley Pride went down a storm last month. Check out their Facebook page ('Barnsley Pride') for more info and pics. Pic: Grizz Br.

It's that time of year again when, all over Leeds, sequins are being stitched, make-up's being practised and a whole load of men are standing in toilets practising lip-synching in the mirror!

Yes... **Drag Idol** is back!

The original and best drag competition in the North of England is now in its sixth year and it's shaping up to be one hell of a night out!

The event is heading back to the world famous *Jongleurs Comedy Club* on Albion Street in Leeds on Tuesday 10th November at 8pm. Danny Cher Bailey from the organising team said: 'We are so excited that once again we are taking the competition to such a high-profile venue. We had such an amazing night there last year, and I can't wait for this year!'

Breaking with tradition, for the first time ever *Drag Idol* is keeping the same host. 'If you didn't see last year,' says Bailey, 'you missed out on the best host that the event has ever had, and so by popular demand she is back this year: *Drag Idol 2009* will be hosted by the gorgeous and incredibly talented Miss Bonnie La Blue. But to add something a little different this year, she has a little helper in the shape of DJ Degsie (or Derek Towell to those who know his real name.)

continued inside

Passing the baton

On October 23rd the whole of the Leeds gay scene is coming together to raise money for local HIV/AIDS services.

The first ever **Gay DJ Relay** will see your favourite scene DJs swapping venues for parts of the night. Expect to see them hot footing up and down the gay village with CD bags and laptops in tow along with the local drag artists and *MESMAC* volunteers who will be rattling buckets and

collecting much-needed funds. The recession has hit the charities hard and some have been forced to cut back staff or even face closure so it is more important than ever that we all dig deep. Keep an eye out for the posters in your favourite venue telling you of the theme for this special night. Anyone in fancy dress will get a free shot with their first drink from each of the participating bars on the night!

STEAM Complex

Steam Room - Sauna - Spa - Licensed Bar - Gym - Events Arena - TV Lounge - 4 Cinemas - Cruising Maze - Private Cabins
4 Slings - Showers - Smoking Area - Parking - plus lots more
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Great Yorkshire Bear Bash 1st & 3rd Saturday of every month 12 noon - 6 pm. Buffet at 4pm www.greatyorkshirebearbash.com	Kink - Explore Your Dark Side! 1st Saturday of every month 10 pm - 3 am (Complex open all night) www.kinkuk.com
Trans Action Every Sunday 7pm - 1am Crossdressers & their admirers	2nd Sat - Lads in Kit - 10pm - 3am 3rd Sat - Underwear Lads - 10pm - 3am 4th Sat - Trackie Lads - 10pm - 3am

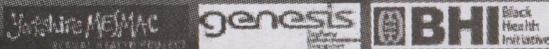
UK'S most accessible sauna. Centrally located just off M1/M62 in Leeds
Within easy reach of Newcastle, Manchester, Liverpool, Hull, Sheffield, Nottingham & Birmingham

The free, fast, flexible, confidential and convenient way for you to get an HIV test in Leeds.

Testing Times

Testing Times is a fast, free and confidential service every Thursday evening in a City Centre location from 6 - 7.45pm

For more information about Testing Times call: 0113 244 4209 or 07980 176 746



Time for a PEP talk?

PEP (Post Exposure Prophylaxis) is a combination of drugs that may prevent HIV infection after possible HIV exposure



- PEP MUST BE TAKEN WITHIN 72 HOURS OF POSSIBLE HIV EXPOSURE
- THE FASTER YOU START PEP THE MORE EFFECTIVE IT IS
- PEP SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM SEXUAL HEALTH CLINICS AND A&E DEPARTMENTS
- ON OCCASION PEOPLE DO EXPERIENCE SIDE EFFECTS
- PEP IS NOT A CURE FOR HIV AND THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT IT WILL PREVENT HIV TRANSMISSION
- CONDOMS AND WATER BASED LUBRICANT USED CORRECTLY ARE THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF PREVENTING HIV TRANSMISSION DURING SEX

For further information on all the above...

Yorkshire MESMAC
The Brunsvick Centre
NHS Direct
National Sexual Health Helpline

01132 444 209
01422 341 764
0845 46 47
0800 567 123

Yorkshire MESMAC



MESVAC

Hepatitis B VACCINATION service from Yorkshire MESMAC for Gay and Bisexual Men

In a scene venue from 6 - 8pm, please ask a member of staff for details.

Counselling Service



Yorkshire MESMAC can offer Gay affirmative counselling throughout the whole of West and North Yorkshire for:

Gay, Bisexual and homosexually active men

Female partners of men who are attracted to men

Lesbians and Bisexual women in Bradford and Airedale

This counselling is free if you are living in these areas and on a low income.

We can offer counselling for individuals and couples.

For information please call 07771 931 327

Charity no: 1040407

WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER

'CHEZ CHAINSAW MASCARA' I-CANDY'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

escapade
chesterfield

Live PA
Kelly Wilde
(Gloria - Maria - I need a hero)

Join your Hostess Ethel Shagnasty and DJ DanLisa (AXM- View-Hollywood) for a night of scares, screams, free shots and lots of surprises!

Doors Open at 22:30
Admission £1 with flyer/ £2 without
Selected Bottles £1

Cavendish Street, Chesterfield, S40 1UY Tel: 01246 551 414 Web: <http://chesterfield.clubescapade.co.uk> - www.kellywilde.co.uk
Over 18's-Photo ID required. Dress Code: Scary-Casual Facebook: Escapade Chesterfield / i-Candy

WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER

Testing Times

You can get yourself tested on the following dates:

October 1st, 8th,
15th, 22nd and 29th.

Call 0113 244 4209 (office hours) or 07980 176746
Details also available on our website: www.mesmac.co.uk/tt

Registered Charity No. 1040407

Yorkshire MESMAC
SEXUAL HEALTH PROJECT

The free, fast, flexible, confidential and convenient way for you to get an HIV test in Leeds.



LGBT Services

derbyshire sexual health promotion service
Services for the LGBT Community in Derbyshire
New services starts September

Open Space Wednesday 2pm-4pm

Socialise, network, access LGBT resources
and chat in a safe, friendly environment

LGBT Groups @ Tennyson

- Youth group Wednesday 5pm-7pm
- Men's group Wednesday 7pm-9pm
- Women's group starts soon (email sarah.thomasin@nhs.net)

Meet new friends in a safe, friendly and
confidential space. Diary includes social
activities, film nights, workshops etc

Rapid test for HIV (results within one hour)
It's fast, friendly and free
call for more details

Derbyshire Sexual Health Promotion Service 1 Tennyson Avenue, Chesterfield, S40 4SN

Gary Woodhouse (gay men) 07795 334487
Kevin Guthrie (HIV support) 07795 334462

Derbyshire County NHS
Primary Care Trust

16,740 tickets sold at
The Edinburgh Festival.
Now on tour!

Stephen K Amos The Feelgood Factor

"Born to entertain"
The Guardian

THE VICTORIA
THEATRE HALIFAX
Fountain Street • Halifax

Wednesday
28 October
8pm

Tickets:
£16.50



www.gloriousmanagement.com • www.boundandgaggedcomedy.com

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www.victoriatheatre.co.uk

SHOUT!

Yorkshire's queer paper

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Nottingham and London, of all
places!

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full details of prices, sizes
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Wakefield Pride raises £1700



This year's **Wakefield Pride**, held
at *The New Union*, was a huge suc-
cess and initially raised just under
£1700 for *Yorkshire MESMAC*-
which *The New Union* rounded up
to £1700. And, a short while after
the event, one of their regular cus-
tomer (who wishes to remain
anonymous) very generously
donated an extra £300 to round the
figure up to £2000. *The New Union*
together with Jeff Platts and Sally
Kitson from *Yorkshire MESMAC*
would like to personally thank
everyone who contributed for their
great generosity. 'This money will
make a real contribution towards
the health and wellbeing of the lgbt

community in Wakefield,' said
Platts. 'The funds will be used to
support the *Wellfit Exercise Project*
which provides free exercise for
people of all ages, and *The*
Fruitbowl youth project which
supports lgbt youth in the
Wakefield District.'

A special thanks goes to David
Baxter who is the authorised dis-
tributor for *Utility Warehouse*
Discount Club in Wakefield. He
organised a raffle which raised
£500 which he kindly donated to
the overall *Pride* funds. (Pictured
left to right: John, Sol, Jeff, David
and MarkyMark)

Gay landlord death mystery

Police in Bradford have questioned
a 38 year-old man after the discov-
ery of a body in a local pub. **Kevin**
Worrall, 46 was found at *The*
Seven Stars pub in the Greengates
district of the city last month.

Worrall, who had only recently
taken over the pub, is described as
very friendly by locals.

Whilst a post mortem has been car-
ried out, the cause of death has not
been determined. Police have
ordered further toxicology reports
which may take several weeks. It is
thought that Worrall may have had
relationship problems and had pre-
viously worked in the licensing
trade in both Rotherham and on the
Lancashire coast.

Secret under wraps



The summer may have gone but
there's another one on the way....
Shout!'s favourite local author,
Narvel Annable, has been beaver-
ing away putting the finishing
touches to his eagerly awaited lat-
est novel *Secret Summer*.

Annable has spent a lot of his time
this summer in Yorkshire ensuring
the accuracy of his latest novel.
Earlier this year he was spotted in
Bradford making notes about the
city and later in Harrogate again
researching for the book. More
details when we have them....

Tuesday 10th November 09 @
Drag Idol **SONGLEURS**
Leeds Tickets £7.50
www.dragidol.co.uk

Hosted By
Bonnie La Blue
& Derek Towell

Special Guests
Bears Aloud
& Kira

Judges
DCB
Daisy Dupont
Sam Buca
Brandy Babycham

Music By
DJ Marky Mark

The Trinity Centre Sexual Health Service

Trinity Road, Bradford
BD5 0JD. Tel: 01274 365490

New or back to Uni? Don't forget your sexual health check

Attend the Trinity Centre for your
free sexual health screening

We are LGB friendly
and offer HIV Rapid Testing

Under 16s welcome

Mon - Fri walk in clinic between 8.30 - 12.00 noon
Mon - Wed evening clinics

Appointments are available early morning,
afternoon and evening clinics

OutAloud needs you!

OutAloud, Sheffield's lgbt choir, is
starting a new term and is looking
for new members. If you can hold
a tune, are lgbt, and want to sing
with others, go along to Sharrow
Arts Space on Wednesdays from
7.15-9.30pm For more info, call
07892 896 806 or visit their web-
site at www.outaloud.org.uk

"FRIEND" - BRADFORD

Gay? Lesbian? Bisexual?
.... Unsure?

Need somebody to talk to? Listen?

Ring 01274 723802

Mondays, Wednesdays 6.30-8.45pm

Or write "Friend" c/o CVS,

19-25 Sunbridge Road, Bradford BD1 2AY

CALL US IN CONFIDENCE

World AIDS Day

Tuesday December 1st is
World AIDS Day, and, as usual,
our November issue - next
month's - is our **WAD** issue. If
you're involved with any
events to commemorate **WAD**,
please get in touch with us by
October 18th so that we can
make sure your event gets
publicised.

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Free phone 0800 8402296

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SCENE BRIEFS



iCandy

iCandy

Chesterfield's latest gay club night, **iCandy**, was launched in July at *Escapade*, and, say the organisers, has been going from strength to strength since then.

'The feedback we have had is all positive and it's good to see Chesterfield being put on the gay map,' they say. 'We are creating a night that people are travelling from all over to come to. That was always our aim, to create a night that would get people excited and get people talking and I believe we are going some way to achieving that. The support we have had from *Escapade* has been amazing. They are committed to putting on the best night possible including £1 entry and drinks at £1 too.'

October 28th sees *iCandy's* Halloween special with a PA from Kelly Wilde who's performed at Manchester, Birmingham and Maspalomas *Prides*. See the advert in this

issue for full details.

The New Union, Wakefield

It's another busy month ahead at **The New Union, Wakefield**.

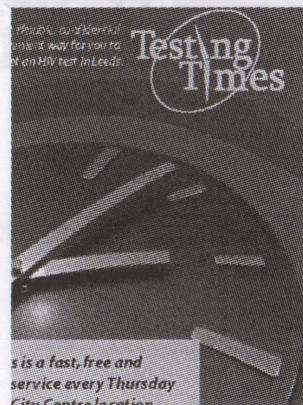
The Tuesday night quiz has been revamped and glammed up by their new hostess, Miss Sordid Secret (see this month's *10 inches of...*), who brings her sharp tongue with her to have you in stitches and a new format to the night, introducing camp bingo. 'As always,' they say, 'on a Tuesday night there is a free supper for everyone and don't worry if you're not the brainiest person on earth as there are prizes for coming second to last! Miss Sordid will also be joining MarkyMark on a Saturday Night bringing some glamour to the night and even cheaper drinks than ever as *The Autumn Price Crash* slashes the price of bottled Stella & VK's to only £1 every Saturday in October!'

Finally, remember to start preparing your costumes for *The New Union* Halloween Costume Ball. This year promises to be spookier than ever with £100 cash for the best dressed, £50 for second place and £20 for third place plus a *free* drink for everyone who comes in costume!

The New Union @ The Sun

Have you got a voice that could win you £150 cash? MarkyMark will be your host for *The Sun's Got Talent* starting October 18th at **The New Union @ The Sun** in Bradford. If you think your voice will wow their celebrity judging panel you could win £25 if you're the best singer in one of the five heats (18th & 25th October, 1st, 8th & 15th November) and £150 if you are the overall winner of the final on 22nd of November. See the centred Stella & VK's to only £1 every Saturday in October!

Testing times



This is a fast, free and service every Thursday City Centre location

Yorkshire MESMAC are now offering an 'as and when' service delivering **rapid HIV testing**, along with chlamydia and gonorrhoea screening at any time when a member of staff is available: all you need to do is call the Leeds office to make an appointment.

Pete Boyle from Yorkshire MESMAC tells us: 'The "as and when" service enables us to offer a more flexible approach to delivering rapid HIV testing. Clients who aren't able to make it to our Thursday evening drop-in sessions, can simply give us a call and arrange a time that's convenient to them. Once you have had your pre-test discussion with our trained staff we can give you your result within half an hour.'

The 'as and when' service complements Yorkshire MESMAC's Thursday evening drop-in from 6-8pm from a scene venue and our city centre offices. At the drop-in they are able to offer hepatitis B vaccinations, in addition to rapid HIV testing, and chlamydia and gonorrhoea screening.

For more information, or to book an appointment, please contact Pete Boyle or Tom Hunt on 0113 2444209.

All frocked up! continued from front cover

Degsie is going to be making the trip from the DJ box and onto the main stage to help co-host the event. Ensuring that all sound and lighting runs smoothly is the lovely DJ Marky Mark.

With Anna Glypta moving on to other projects, it has left a space in the judges' row and the team are excited to announce that the brand new judge who will be joining Danny Cher Bailey, Daisy Dupont and Sam Buca is someone who has had a very successful drag career in the entertainment capital of the north. She's worked at such places as *The Flying Handbag* and *Funny Girls* in Blackpool and David Dabell from the team said: 'We are over the moon that our new judge is Miss Brandy Babycham from Blackpool. (pictured) We hope that having a judge from a totally different scene, where drag is so high profile, will add a whole different point of view to the judging panel.' Special guests for the event have now been confirmed, and this year *Drag Idol* is pleased to announce that there will be not just one special guest act, but *two*.



Causing a storm all over Yorkshire and beyond at the moment *Bears Aloud* will be guest starring at the event. Dabell said: '*Bears Aloud* seemed the perfect choice for this year's event, as at the moment they are hugely popular and very entertaining. What makes it even more special is the fact that two of the members entered *Drag Idol 2008*, which just goes to show what can happen after entering the competition.'

Danny Cher Bailey continued:

'Two thirds of men have had an HIV test'

A new report has been launched - **Testing targets:** findings from the *United Kingdom Gay Men's Sex Survey 2007*. The survey was carried out by *Sigma Research* and commissioned by *Terrence Higgins Trust (THT)*, on behalf of the *CHAPS* partnership. It is the largest survey of its kind in the world, with over 6,000 men taking part.

The findings indicate a big increase in the number of gay men who have ever had an HIV test. Whereas less than half of all men

surveyed in 2002 said they'd ever tested for HIV, the latest findings shows that 66% of men confirmed they have had an HIV test.

Among men that had ever tested, one-in-seven (15.2%) had tested positive for HIV infection. Testing for HIV and testing positive for HIV were most common among men living in London, men in their 30s and 40s and men with 30 or more male partners in the last year. However, testing and testing positive was common among all groups of gay men and in all regions of the UK.

Marc Thompson, Deputy Head of Health Promotion at *THT* said: 'A third of gay men have never tested and with a quarter of gay men with HIV unaware they are infected, the survey is vitally important when it comes to planning future sexual health campaigns and HIV prevention work. It's now recommended that gay men test at least once a year, or after any unprotected sex so if you have any concerns about your sexual health consider getting tested so you know for sure.'

Dr Ford Hickson from *Sigma Research* said: 'We want to say a big thank to you everyone who contributed to the survey including

'Another first for *Drag Idol* is that this year will be the first time we have had a live vocalist. Kira will also be performing live on stage. She's regular down on the Leeds scene and has also appeared on main stage at Leeds *Pride* twice.'

Tickets go on sale on Friday 2nd October at £7.50. A limited number of VIP tables will go on sale at Nice & Naughty at 10am on the same day. These will be sold in tables of six and will be sold on a first come, first served basis. These are £90 per table (£15 per person) After getting feedback from people who attended last year's event, the team have been able to move a few things around and have now got some areas with theatre-style seating which will enable more people to sit and watch the event.

All in all, this year's event looks set to be the biggest and best yet. Make sure you buy your ticket as soon as possible as numbers are limited and last year sold out in just 2 weeks. Book the date in your diary - Tuesday 10th November at 8pm (pre-drinks in *Bar Risa* from 6.30pm).

the 130 organisations that collaborated with us and all the men that took the time to complete it. It's crucial that we hear first hand about the experiences of gay men when it comes to sexual health.'

The report is available to download (or order for postal delivery) at www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/go.php/reports/report2009f/

Professional networking club launches in Leeds

A new networking and socialising group for lgb professionals in Leeds and West Yorkshire is preparing for its first event.

The White Collar Club is holding a launch party, with free entry, on Thursday 17th September at *Oracle* bar in Leeds (6.30pm for a 7pm start), offering a chance to meet and mingle with like-minded professionals in a relaxed environment. Committee member Nicola Perrott said: 'We are delighted to offer this opportunity to lgb professionals in Leeds and Yorkshire. There has been a need for a networking group of this nature for some time and we are very excited.' For details visit www.whitecollarclub.co.uk

10 inches of...



Miss Sordid Secret Quiz Mistress @ The New Union Wakefield

Describe yourself in 3 words
Profound, strenuous and very chic

Love of your life
Chav porn!

Your typical Saturday night?
An hour and a half playing with brushes and powders, attack my self with bling, and then strut my stuff at The New Union, entertaining all of our lovely boys, girls and breeders!

Best ever moment
If you cap your best moment then you're bound to miss out on the next one! Always strive for more!

Describe your sexuality
My sexuality is very sexual, so sexual I keep it in a jar at home between my pickled eggs and my spare vagina

The best thing about your body
How versatile it is - or can be!

Holiday hell
The countryside: it should be tarmaced and built on

Holiday heaven
A villa somewhere sunny surrounded by hunks

What's hot
Men in those grey jogging pants!

What's not
Menstruation

Quick-fire round
Summer or winter... *winter*
Monogamy or promiscuity... *monogamy*
Dogs or cats... *dogs*
TV or radio... *TV*
Home or away... *away*
Night or day... *night*

We are a dynamic community managed lesbian, gay and bisexual organisation, with our own LGB community centre. We wish to appoint two new staff to take forward our expanding work with Bradford's LGB communities and other partners locally and nationally. This is an exciting opportunity to influence the direction of equalities work, in an environment which is open and ripe for change.

Equity Partnership Manager: 37 hours per week to March 2013 financed by the Big Lottery Fund: SCP 36-40: £29,628-£33,231. To manage the organisation and staff and to lead on service and policy development work with partner agencies and structures.

Administrator: 29.5 hours per week to March 2010 (further funding sought): SCP 18-20: £16,941-£18,217 (pro rata). To organise and carry out administrative duties to ensure the efficient and effective running of the organisation.

For further details, contacts for informal discussion and an application form for any of these posts go to www.equitypartnership.org.uk or email jobs@equitypartnership.org.uk. If you do not have e-access ring 01274 727759 and leave your name, address and the post you are interested in.

Closing dates: Manager 26 October, Administrator 12 October



EQUITYPARTNERSHIP

Supported by The National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund

HOT HIGHLIGHTS FOR OCTOBER IN YORKSHIRE

Stephen K Amos



Stephen K Amos is appearing at *The Victoria Theatre* in Halifax on October 28th. Openly gay, Amos has appeared on many panel shows as well as at the Edinburgh Fringe and on *The One Show*.

See the advert on page four for full details.

Gay DJ Relay

October 23rd sees Leeds' favourite gay DJs running around the scene, playing in unfamiliar (and familiar) venues to raise money for Yorkshire MESMAC. See the front cover for more information.

Hallowe'en at iCandy

Wednesday October 28th is the date for iCandy's Hallowe'en spectacular at *Escapade* in Chesterfield. See the advert on page three for full details!

Not just for men

'We have a fantastic counselling service at our disposal,' says Claire Bergman, Counselling Organiser for Yorkshire MESMAC, the *OUR Project* and *The Brunswick Centre*, 'which aims to provide counselling for client groups that is free at the point of access, fully accessible and confidential.'

Yorkshire MESMAC fund counselling within Leeds, Bradford, Wakefield and North Yorkshire for any gay or bisexual men or men who have sex with men.

'But women can also access the counselling service,' says Bergman. 'Counselling is available for any female partners of men who are attracted to men. Lesbian and bisexual women in the Bradford and Airedale area can also make use of the service. We also provide counselling for young lesbians accessing youth groups run by Yorkshire MESMAC and for minority ethnic lesbians attending the Asian and black community group in Bradford. We have a very committed and highly qualified team of 40 freelance counsellors who have all undergone training in issues faced by our client group.' For more information or to access the counselling service please call Claire Bergman on 07771 931 327 or e-mail counselling@mesmac.co.uk

Let's get physical!

Bradford's *Equity Partnership* have three different physical activity sessions coming up. *Salsa Sessions* from Friday 13th November-Friday 18th December, 6pm-7.30pm. Why not come along to our sessions of salsa dancing, it's good for your health and well-being and can be quite sexy as well.

Weight Management Sessions led by a qualified weight management facilitator. Venue: *Equity Centre*. Dates and times TBC (likely to be late October/early November) *Touch Rugby Taster Session*. Venue: *Richard Dunn* sports centre, Saturday 7th November, 11am-1pm

Faster HIV test

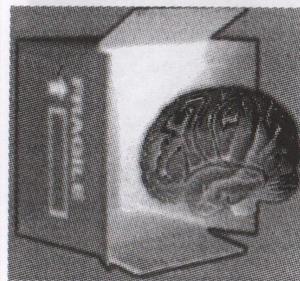
Terrence Higgins Trust (THT) has begun to offer a new type of rapid result HIV test at its clinics which can detect the virus just four weeks after the date of infection. Previous tests were only reliable three months after exposure to the virus. The finger prick blood test will be used at *THT's Fastest* clinics and results are normally available in about 20 minutes. If the test result is positive, staff would always advise another test is taken, just to confirm the diagnosis.

Dr Michael Brady, Medical Director at *THT* said: 'If you're worried you've been exposed to HIV waiting three months for an accurate test result can be agonising. Technology has now moved on, so we're able to offer reliable tests earlier. If you think you've been at risk or you're in a high risk group you should consider getting a test. It's quick, confidential and could put your mind at rest.'

Groups at highest risk of HIV in the UK are Africans and gay men. Over a quarter of people with HIV don't know they have it and almost a third of people are diagnosed late, potentially putting their health at risk. To find out if there is a *Fastest* clinic near you visit www.tht.org.uk/fastest.

HIV tests are also available in GUM clinics nationwide and you can find your nearest by visiting www.tht.org.uk/clinics or by calling *THT Direct* on 0845 12 21 200.

World Mental Health Day



Saturday 10th October marks **World Mental Health Day**.

How relevant is that to us, asks *Clive Spendlove* from Yorkshire MESMAC?

One in four people experience some kind of mental health problem at some time in their lives. However, it is known from research that, on average, lesbian, gay and bisexual people experience significantly higher rates of depression, anxiety, excess alcohol use, eating disorders, self-harm and attempted suicide than the general population, and that older lgb people are more single, isolated and unsupported.

But who doesn't experience psychological distress?

And that's my point. Mental health isn't just about hospitals and psychiatric diagnoses. It is about responses to the stressors of life which are not at all unusual. 'Mental illness' often makes perfect sense when you look at a person's life as a whole. Distress is normal, and we can learn how to deal with it. How?

That's a big question, but one of the first keys is to get good information and support. This might be through a whole range of mental health services which you can find out more about from your GP or from various websites like www.mind.org.uk

Of particular interest to lgb people, Yorkshire MESMAC's website has a page of information: go to www.mesmac.co.uk and click on *Mental Health & Well-Being Project*.

The project also supports individuals and groups for any lgb people in the Bradford and Airedale areas - feel free to contact Clive Spendlove via email at c.spendlove@mesmac.co.uk or by telephone on 07913 264967.

Up-front return for Back Door Disco



Back Door Disco burst back onto the Leeds party circuit last month with a mega-sized relaunch party. The night returned when its host venue, *Mission*, reopened after a huge overhaul. The club is now back with an enhanced interior, new management, new door staff and a brand new weekly line up. The promoters behind BDD promise that it will be bigger and better than ever before, with more DJs, big brand sponsors and special offers. Almost all drinks are priced at £2.50 and the door tax is just £5 all night. Despite the changes, clubbers can be sure it's still the best weekend party experience in Leeds with free shots from the

Back Door Disco team and legendary mix masters Scott Kelly and Philip James on the decks. The relaunch party saw the night rammed to the rafters as the hottest gay boys and girls in the city came out to take a look at the new and improved *Mission*. Muscle-bound gym bunnies, well dressed fashionistas and a decidedly trendy crowd filled the club right until dawn. Expect lots lots more in the coming weeks, they say, plus a 'Disco Bloodbath' at the Halloween fancy dress party. *Back Door Disco* takes place every Saturday from 11pm at *Mission 2* on Lower Briggate. For more info, go to www.backdoor disco.com

IN BRIEF...

YORKSHIRE MESMAC IS GIVING AWAY OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO GAIN NEW SKILLS and experiences (and have a right old laugh and a spot of socialising to boot!) by becoming involved in contributing to the work they do in our communities in West and North Yorkshire. 'Volunteering at Yorkshire MESMAC is as varied and fun and interesting as ever,' says Ann Marie Maguire, 'and we're always up for developing new roles. Our next Volunteer Induction Day is on Saturday 17th October 1.30pm at Yorkshire MESMAC's Leeds office. This is the opportunity for you to get a taster of what volunteering at Yorkshire MESMAC is all about. Some current opportunities for volunteering at MESMAC include Leeds Switchboard Volunteer, Youth Group Volunteer, Community Testing and Vaccination Support Volunteer, Events and Fundraising Volunteer.' Give Ann Marie a shout at the Leeds office on 0113 2444209, or email volunteer@mesmac.co.uk for more information

FOR A CHANCE TO WIN TICKETS TO MEIN BUNKER, THE LATEST COMEDY FROM THE Encore Shipley Theatre Company, as well as free refreshment at the performance or an ESTC mug, simply log onto the website at www.estc-online.co.uk It's on 16th and 17th of October at Shipley United Reformed Church. 'We are a vibrant new company based in Shipley,' they add, 'looking for members to join us. Whether you are interested in performing or becoming part of our backstage/front of house crew, we would love to have you on board. Call 01274 592727 or email encoreshipley@talktalk.net

THE LAUNCH OF RYEDALE'S THIRD PARTY HATE INCIDENT REPORTING CENTRES TAKES place on Thursday 8th October at Malton and Norton Rugby Club in Malton from 10am to 2pm. They tell us: 'It's a free event, fully funded by Safer Ryedale, to bring together staff from the twelve reporting centres and the wider community, to promote the work of Ryedale's reporting centres and raise awareness of this vital new resource.' There will be a welcome by Cllr Keith Knaggs, Chairman, Ryedale District Council and the Keynote Speaker will be Khalida Ashrafi, Regional Manager, Equality and Human Rights Commission. There will also be a 'marketplace' of stalls which will provide an opportunity for organisations to showcase their work to raise awareness of the range of agencies providing support services in the district. For more information, telephone 01653 600120, or email post@rva-cvs.org.uk

Gay humanists call for protest when Pope visits UK

The gay humanist charity the **Pink Triangle Trust (PTT)** has called for a strong protest to be made when Pope Benedict XVI visits the UK early next year.

The PTT's secretary George Broadhead said: 'This pope has shown himself to be paranoid about homosexuality. His opposition to lgbt rights knows no bounds. In his Christmas message last year he declared that saving

humanity from homosexual behaviour was as important as saving the rainforest from destruction. This must be the most outrageous and bizarre claim yet made by someone who has already got a well-deserved reputation as one of the most viciously homophobic world leaders on a par with Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran and Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe. The Vatican reinforced its anti-gay reputation

by strongly opposing a UN declaration calling for an end to discrimination against gays and the Pope's Christmas message provided clear evidence of an obsession about homosexuality which is tantamount to paranoia. It is imperative that the strongest possible protest be made when he visits the UK next year', continued Broadhead. 'During the last papal visit to the UK by John Paul II in

1982, a protest called *POPE (People Opposing Papal Edicts)* was instigated by the gay humanist group of which I was a founder member. It had the support of other gay and secular organisations including the *Campaign for Homosexuality* and the *National Secular Society*. On the occasion of the next papal visit we must pull out all the stops to demonstrate our opposition.'

AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE SCENE

LEEDS GAY COMMUNITY

Social Group for Gay and Bisexual Men since 1982

We meet every Friday at 7.45pm at a convenient venue in central Leeds. Other events too! In fact about eighty opportunities to socialise each year.

Details on 07986 615 912 (mobile) or 0113 255 9973 (Raymond), email info@leeds-gay-community.org.uk website www.leeds-gay-community.org.uk or write LGC, c/o PO Box 417, Leeds LS1 5PN

A safe space to meet other like minded people. Advice on HIV & STI's * 1-2-1 with a worker * Free condoms & Lube * Refreshments * Web

Brunswick Centre Monthly Men's Groups

- @ Dewsbury Group 1st October (5.30-7.30pm)
- @ Huddersfield Group 01484 469691 8th October (5.30-7.30pm)
- @ Halifax Group 01422 341784 15th October (5.30-7.30pm)
- @ Dewsbury Group 22nd October (5.30-7.30pm)
- @ Huddersfield Group 01484 469691 29th October (5.30-7.30pm)

Richard - 07900 533137 Frank - 07703 187872
www.thebrunswickcentre.org.uk
MSM Helpline 07955 872 307
info@thebrunswickcentre.org.uk

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Luxury accommodation above

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Open 7 Days A Week
Hot & Cold Food Served Daily

Monday : Discounted Drinks All Day Ever Week

Tuesday : Karaoke Night - Free Shot For Every Singer

Friday & Saturday : Regular Disco Nights
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Sunday Day : Traditional Sunday Lunch
Two Course Sunday Lunch £6.95 Outstanding Value

Sunday Night : Charity Quiz- £1 Per Team Of Five
Crate Of Beer Or Alcopops To Winning Team All Proceeds Go To Charity

Amazing Happy Hour 3 - 9 Tues - Thurs

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Open 7 Days A Week
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With Jack Pot Bingo, Karaoke, Quiz and loadz of other fun stuff!!

Thursday : Study Period! Student Night Special
All House Doubles & Mixer £2 Selected Bottled Beers £2 From 8pm

Friday : T.B.I.F. Thank Bubbles It's Friday
Party Night With Bubbles Open The Box Gameshow With Cash Prize

Saturday : Bubbles & Brenda's Discoteque
Camp Up Your Saturday Night With Huddersfield's Busiest And Best Gay Venue

Sunday : Get In The Spirit

Double House Spirit & Mixer Only £2 From 4pm till midnight

THE NEW UNION HALLOWEEN COSTUME BALL
Saturday 31st October With Bubbles & Brenda
Cash & Drinks Prizes For The Best Costumes



Function Room Available To Hire For Any
Occasion You Name It We Can Cater For It!
Christmas Bookings Now Being Taken!



Happy Hour Every
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3 Union Bank Yard New Street Huddersfield HD1 2BP Tel: 01484 535 435

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Wakefield eatery & bar

Open 7 Days A Week
Hot & Cold Food Served Daily

Monday : 2 - 4 - 1 On All VK's From 7pm

Tuesday : The All New Quiz & Bingo With Miss Sordid Secret

Wednesday : Free Pool From 7pm

Thursday : Karaoke with MarkyMark
FREE SHOT For Every Singer & 2 - 4 - 1 VK's From 7pm OPEN TILL 1am

Friday : Just B With DJ Tommi B £2 A Pint From 7pm*
A Night Of Top UP FRONT CHART TUNES | DANCE | R'n'B | Draught Lager, Bitter & Cider Ex Bud & Stella

Saturday : Over The Rainbow With MarkyMark
A MIX OF CHART & DANCE HITS Plus CHEESY POP & CLASSIC HI NRG With Bottles Of Stella & VK £1

THE NEW UNION HALLOWEEN COSTUME BALL

Saturday 31st October With MarkyMark &
Miss Sordid! £100 Cash For The Best Costume



The All New
Tuesday Night Quiz
With Free Supper



And Prize



Now Open Till
Midnight Every Week

Introducing Your New Hostess

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Every Saturday
In October!



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@ The Sun

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Tuesday : Game 4 A Laugh With Dame Judy Woods
Play Your Cards Right, Quiz & Gay La Bingo Big Cash Prizes & A Free Supper

Wednesday : Free Pool - From 7pm

Thursday : Open The Box With Marigold Addams

All Pints Of Bitter & Selected Pints Of Lager £2.50 First Pint Further Pints £1.50

Friday : Thank Frock It's Friday

Kick Start Your Weekend with the Best Drag DJ's From Far & Wide

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Madness & Mayhem With A Sprinkling Of Cabaret From Missy

Sunday : MarkyMark's Sunday Service From 7pm till 1am
Karaoke A Free Shot For Every Singer & 2 - 4 - 1 VK's All Night & Special Offers From 9pm

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Saturday 31st October All The Usual Fun
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Bradford's Longest Running &
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MarkyMark's Sunday Service
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The Sun's Got Talent
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Heats Start 18th Oct See Facebook For Details

FREE SHOT FOR EVERY SINGER
2 - 4 - 1 VK's From 7pm
Open Till 1am

Every Sunday
Special Offers From 9pm till close

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Arts

Old masters

Both **Pedro Almodovar** and **Oscar Wilde** have a rock-solid queer fan base that will turn out to applaud any new production that comes out under their name. Any critical faculties are muted - it is sufficient that production has been on show. Both Pedro and Oscar offer a camp, witty, colourful and self-confident view of gay life and we generally leave the cinema feeling good. But do *Broken Embraces* and *Dorian Gray* work their magic once more?

Dorian Gray appeals on a number of levels. It is a gothic horror story based in late Victorian London. The ravishingly handsome Gray is sucked into a hedonistic and debauched life-style by the manipulative Lord Henry Wooten. Mirroring his moral decline, Gray's portrait, which showed his original beauty, begins to age and ooze maggots. Gray, in a Faustian pact with the devil, (we assume) keeps his youth whilst all around him age. Seeking to destroy the portrait, he dies in a fire having grown instantly older as the portrait burns.

We see the hypocrisy of Victorian high society which shut its eyes to the squalor and corruption in taverns, brothels and private SM parties. It's a moral tale which warns that every pleasurable sin exacts a price.

For connoisseurs of the homoerotic, Gray, played by Ben Barnes, is the floppy-haired posh boy with a

flawless complexion, not above giving a kiss and blow job to the artist who painted his portrait. Indeed the film opens with his being propositioned by a group of rent boys on his arrival in London. Gray is soon obsessed with a desire for pleasure and woe betides anyone who tries to stop him....

This is a film for those who love costume drama and tightly-troused heroes. Heavy Victorian furnishings are lightened by Wilde's witty dialogue: 'You can die from common sense'. It's a well-made film that tells a straightforward narrative. The gloomy, nihilistic scenes in the slums give a real sense of menace and forbidden pleasure. In contrast Gray's home and magnificent furnishings also resonate with a sense of menace with the suppurating portrait up in the attic as an awful secret.

Almodovar's *Broken Embraces* maintains his hallmark features. Lovers of 60s furniture in poster colours will not be disappointed. Fans of Penelope Cruz will enjoy her leading role. The film within a film *Chicks and Suitcases* is a reminder of his early movies in its silly, youthful exuberance. As always, the female roles are strong but the gender balance is beginning to change.

The storyline is complex, deliberately so. In Madrid (where else?), blind screenwriter Mateo Blanco, who now wishes to be called Harry

Caine, receives a request from a young film maker. Ray X is the gay son of a recently deceased industrialist and film backer Ernesto Martel. His homosexuality is rejected by his father. We then flash back to 1994 and the reasons for Mateo's blindness and name change.

Mateo is making a film starring Martel's lover, Lena (Cruz). They have an affair and Martel engineers a traffic accident in Lanzarote where the lovers have fled, to be alone. Lena dies and Mateo is blinded. Ernesto has also re-edited the film with all the substandard out-takes now included to ruin Mateo's reputation.

Hispanic machismo (to be mocked) and domestic murders with kitchen knives that have been the hallmarks of Almodovar's previous films are missing here. To be honest, this is a film more for dedicated, geeky, cineastes who will want to pick out all the references to other movies: Lena is named after Marlene Dietrich and Mateo declares he wants to hear the sound of Jeanne Moreau. Perhaps disappointingly, Ray X is a more dowdy, suburban queer than the splendid drag queen in *High Heels*. Do we really want a happy ending with Almodovar? The film's noirish elements are unfortunately too muted here.

No doubt fans of Almodovar and



Wilde will enjoy these films despite what the critics say - savouring a familiar ambience and feeling a sense of community with two queers who don't care about offending bourgeois sensibilities. Certainly *Dorian Gray* is a more meaty dish than Wilde's other drawing room plays.

We have all met self-obsessed, evil queens who live a life of indulgence, dancing on the edge of debauchery. Perhaps we wish secretly that we could enjoy a little more licentious fun beyond the work routine? The appeal of *Broken Embraces* is the luminous screen presence of Penelope Cruz and the vignettes of retro chic set design in *Chicks and Suitcases*. We see wonderful views of Lanzarote beyond the gay tourist ghetto, and it's great that Pedro is still making films.

We can't all preserve the youthful beauty of a Dorian Gray but perhaps we can make a little more effort in front of the mirror before going for a night out at the cinema?

Nick Tyldesley

My hero



I've been thinking about heroes. All the recent fundraising for 'Help for Heroes' made me think about who my real heroes are. Who inspires me? From the gay world there are people like Quentin Crisp who was out and proud and in-her-face at a time when gay people were arrested and beaten on a reg-

ular basis. Not just him though... I appreciate *all* of the gays of his generation for blazing the trail for the rest of us. It's down to people like him that I have such strong views on being out and open about our sexuality. Obviously I'm going to site Divine as one of my heroes: the sight of her bulbous form gyrating away on *Top of the Pops* had such an impact on my life. Boy George too. These artists were out there and doing it and bugga what anyone thought! Closer to home I see people working away all the time behind the scene to benefit others, whether it's Danny and David working on *Drag Idol* or Tom, Mark and everyone working on *Pride* or John working on... well... everything, or the guys behind *Daybreak Trust* who have worked for *years* to support people

with HIV/AIDS and have always done so privately and quietly. All these people are real heroes. They put in the leg work and the time and the majority of people have no idea.

My biggest hero though is my mum. This woman raised two kids virtually alone (my dad was in the RAF and away for 6 months at a time.) She worked in a series of jobs that allowed her to always be home for us after school and on weekends. Three years ago she developed a brain tumour the size of my fist just as she was about to retire and enjoy the rest of her life. The damage caused by the tumour, the operation to remove it and subsequent infection left her in a wheelchair and unable to walk. When my dad died very suddenly a year later she had a stroke which

caused further damage. But this woman has the spirit of my grandmother running through her and refused to give up. Now two years on she is walking again and planning to go into an independent flat. She is someone who has never had much recognition but who has worked her whole life for others. She is my hero and always will be. She has always been a huge support to me and my sister and a lot of my strength comes from her. It's a cliché for a gay man to be close to his mum but it's true. I would not have had the courage to stand up and be who I am were it not for her. To all of you I simply say appreciate your parents while you can. Their stories are often unheard but always important. To my mum I simply say: I love you!

Anna Glypta

XXY



Until recently, I was quite ignorant on the subject of 'intersex' having only a basic awareness that there are some people labelled as 'hermaphrodite' who are born neither male nor female but have physical characteristics of both sexes. I recall at a young age, looking at an encyclopaedia photograph of a hermaphrodite and being shocked at this person who seemed to have breasts but also a penis. Awareness of this condition has been amplified recently due to the publicity surrounding Caster Semenya, the South African runner who won the 2009 World Championships. On the internet, you can read about her gold medal achievement and the controversy surrounding her win and the gender testing she has had to undergo to ascertain whether she is really a woman or a man masquerading as a woman: 'Caster was born intersex, assigned female

based on her predominant genital appearance, and raised as a girl. She grew up knowing she was not a typical female, which liberated her from gender conventions. She was a classic tomboy...'

Caster did not, however, question her female sex assignment, only gender role limitations. An excellent athlete, chances are that she was defined by her physical abilities, as are many tomboy athlete girls with typical female anatomy. When she began to compete in major sporting events, her status as a woman was questioned, and *Athletics South Africa* "cleared her" declaring her female. Now that she has proven her remarkable running ability on an international stage, her international competitors want her disqualified for "cheating" by not "really" being a woman. The *International Association of Athletics Federations* has stepped in and is investigating her status, in what most news sources are oddly calling "gender testing."

Coincidentally, I bought Heidi the film *XXY* for her birthday - a film which has courted controversy with its unflinching portrayal of a 15 year-old with a secret. Alex is intersexual and lives with her parents in a remote part of Uruguay. She was brought up female and has to take many hormones to keep her male physical characteristics from developing. Her parents have tried

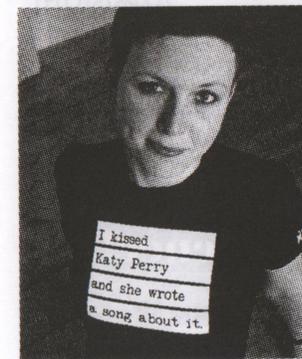
to protect her from the outside world and their prying eyes by keeping her out of school and away from society. In the film, a family friend who is also a plastic surgeon is invited to stay with them along with his teenage son Alvaro. Soon, Alex realises the ramifications of the visit plus develops an unconventional sexual relationship with Alvaro.

In the film - and also, it seems, in Caster's experience - both individuals have been brought up as a certain sex as though there are only two sexes to choose from; male or female. Susan Moore argues 'Caster is being punished not for her sexual preferences - but for not fitting into the gender straitjacket. Yet all of us have surely met people who are not absolutely male or female. As levels of testosterone or oestrogen drop as we age do we become a different gender? No. Sex and gender are two different things.'

I agree. When I was a little girl, I felt more like a little boy. I refused to wear dresses and even got into trouble at school for my determination to stay in trousers when all the other girls preferred skirts. Heidi also felt like this and remembers playing with *Action Men* rather than *Barbie* dolls, rough and tumble as opposed to tea parties. Fast forward to today, and you will find Heidi and I can wear 'masculine' clothes without too much fuss.

Belinda O'Hooley

She's not my mum!



I recently had a very strange - but realistic - dream that I was shopping at *Tesco* with the missus, and at the checkout was a lady who looked like two of my mum's friends mixed together, saying to me - 'Aw, has she let you push the trolley?' I flipped and spat: 'I am 29 years old, not ten, I am not Belinda's daughter, I am her part-

ner, I am *sick* of being treated like a child!' The next morning I woke up and told my partner about the dream, to which she congratulated me for having stood up to the lady, and having done a degree in Behavioural Sciences a number of years ago, she very cleverly deduced that this dream represented something I was feeling in real life.

Well, she was right. This dream sort of mirrored something that happens to us on a fairly regular basis, the only difference being I haven't shouted at anyone to put them right. As some of you may know, her ladyship entertains in nursing and residential homes. A couple of years ago I did a summer with her, carrying her equipment and setting it up for her, and even singing the odd verse to the old dears, who bless em, couldn't work

out if I was her son or daughter, or if she was my mum or my dad. You can forgive a partially-sighted 85 year-old person for not being able to make out what the chuff I am, but when a 30 year-old Eastern European carer excitedly thought we were mother and daughter... Like you do, we pathetically agreed with her and got on with the show. The other week we went to peruse some old pine drawers that a family were selling through the local paper. Wifey did the talking, as she normally does, while I awkwardly hovered behind her nodding and smiling. We agreed we liked the drawers, so she went to pull the car up to the door and instructed me to 'Pay the lady', as the lady's husband asked me: 'Are these for your bedroom then?' I said they were, realising he thought I was either Belinda's son or daughter. What I should have said was that they were for *our* bedroom, of course.

In a society where heterosexuality

although both of us are sometimes confused by others for men. I wasn't born intersex, but I have a strong identity with my male side, possibly stronger than with my female side. I sympathize with Caster and the terrible media spotlight she has fallen into. It confirms my fear that society will always want to categorise no matter how adversely that affects individuals and their diversity. Because gender roles of masculine and feminine are so clearly defined and regimented, those of us who do not conform either physically or mentally face prejudice. It matters not whether your difference is having penis and breasts or that you were born male but prefer women's clothing. Society is not geared up to cope with diversity and as such you will be classified as a freak.

I feel passionate about celebrating not condeming diversity in our societies. Bullying, hate crimes and fascism all stem from fear of difference. For those of us who just want to live our lives without having to conform, being visible and challenging stereotypes is the only way forward. I hope that one of the more positive consequences of the unrelenting publicity of Caster Semenya, is that issues around intersex are discussed more freely and that leads to acceptance at some point in the future.

Belinda O'Hooley

is considered the norm, for some people who have had little experience of same-sex couples, perhaps it is just completely beyond them to realise that two women, or two men just might be in a relationship together. OK, my lady is 9 years older than me, but surely she doesn't look old enough to be my mum (or dad) - *does she?* How many of us have been in this situation? I wish that other people's narrow views weren't so important, that I could just confidently put them right and watch their faces turn crimson when they fathom we're a couple of rugmunchers. We all have a responsibility to not hide our sexuality, just because it might make someone else feel uncomfortable. To combat homophobia, and pave the way for younger generations to come out, we need to be visible, hold our partner's hand in the street, and show that we exist.

Olivia Cruise

SHOUT! directory

HIV and Sexual Health

Barnsley HIV Support Service - +ME: Positive About Change. 07543442547.

Barnsley DGH GU Clinic. Appointments 01226 432599. Health advisors 01226 432210.

BCAT. Sexual health/HIV advice and info for black/Asian people. 0113 243 100.

BEGIN. Support and help for people affected by HIV/AIDS in the Wakefield district. Suite 1, Unity Buildings, Calderdale Road, Wakefield WF1 5PE. Email mail@beginwakefield.co.uk

Bradford Sexual Health Dept (Trinity Centre). We are lgb-friendly, offer HIV rapid test. Mon-Fri is a walk-in clinic 8.30 to 12. Appointments available in afternoon and evening clinics. Call 01274 365490.

Derbyshire Sexual Health Promotion Service. Sexual health advice & info for all across Derbyshire. 1 Tennyson Avenue, Chesterfield S43 4SN telephone 01246 559431. e: dshps@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.net

C'field & N Derbys RH GU Clinic 01246 277271.

Dewsbury GU Clinic. 01924 816120.

Doncaster Pathways. Free, confidential advice, info, support on issues around HIV/AIDS. Support group and befriending service. 01302 327445 (a/phone out of hours). Website: www.dpathways.org.uk. email info@dpathways.org.uk

Doncaster RI GU Clinic 01302 333111.

Forge Centre. Social work help for people affected by HIV. Confidential HIV testing. 6 Claremont Place, Sheffield S10 2TB. Tel 0114 2261142.

Halifax GU Clinic. 01422 305553.

Harrogate Sexual Health Clinic. Heatherdene House. 01423-553428 Tues & Fri only. Please call for an appointment/advice.

Huddersfield GU Clinic. 01484 482266.

Josephine Butler Centre for Sexual Health. Clayton Hospital, Wakefield. Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm. Call 01924 214421 for advice or appointment.

Leeds GU Clinic. 0113 292 6724.

Leeds HIV Unit. Coordination of Council's response to HIV. Soc Services Dept, Leeds City Council, Merrion House, Merrion Centre LS2 8QA. 247 8670.

Leeds Skyline. Support services for those living with or affected by HIV in Leeds. 0113 2449767.

MSM Project. Action on sexual health for gay & bi men in Calderdale & Kirklees. 01422 341764.

National AIDS Helpline. 0800 567123 (24 hrs).

North Yorkshire AIDS Action. A voluntary organisation offering support to people in N Yorks affected by HIV/AIDS. For more info contact 11 Stonebow House, The Stonebow, York YO1 2NP. Tel 01904 640024.

Rotherham DGH GU Clinic 01709 307777.

Scarborough/Ryedale HIV & Sexual Health Counselling Service. Free confidential info & counselling for pre & post test issues, STIs, safer sex, sexuality. HIV, Hep B & C testing available. 01723 380633.

Scarborough Sexual Health Clinic. The Mulberry Unit, 01723342785 Tues & Fri only. Call for an appointment/advice.

Sheffield Centre for HIV & Sexual Health. Sheffield PCT-funded organisation offering information, education and training. Open Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm. Contact 0114 226 1900.

Sheffield GU Clinic. Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Glossop Road S10. Tel 0114 276 6928.

Sheffield Youth Clinics. Central Health Clinic Mulberry St. S1. Sexual health advice for young people. 0114 271 6790.

Shield. Reg charity providing buddies for people infected and affected by HIV. Volunteers always welcome. PO Box 1093, Sheffield S1 2XP. 0114 278916.

Shout! Centre. Health and community centre for gay and bisexual men in Sheffield, offering a range of health, social and welfare services. Open Thurs 6.30pm-9.30pm. 0114 253 6767 or 0114 226 1900.

Terrence Higgins Trust Yorkshire. Services for those living with/affected by HIV. Advice, info, counselling, drop-ins, community support, complementary therapies. 0113 236 4720. 2 Oxford Place, Leeds LS1.

Wakefield HIV Counselling & Support Service. Free confidential advice, counselling, testing, etc to those infected/affected by HIV/AIDS. H Gwynne Jones Centre, Stanley Royd, Aberford Road, Wakefield WF1 4DG. Valerie Danson 01924 364144.

York GUM. Monkgate, 01904-725417 Mon-Fri. Please call for an appointment/advice.

Yorkshire MESMAC. Leeds: PO Box 417, Leeds LS1 5PN. 0113 244 4209. Bradford: PO Box 267 BD1 5XT. 01274 395815. Wakefield: PO Box 19 WF1 2YE. 01924 211116. York: PO Box 549 YO30 7GX. 01904 620400.

Switchboards/phonelines

Asian and Black Community Group and Helpline. Sundays 1-6pm - Tel: 01274 744798.

Bradford Friend. Confidential help/advice for g/b women and men. 01274 723802 Mon & Wed 6.30-8.45pm or c/o BCVS, 19-25 Sunbridge Rd BD1.

Calderdale & Kirklees Men's Support Line. Are you in a relationship with a woman but also attracted to men? Confidential advice, information. Tel/Text 07955 872307.

Derbyshire LGBT Switchboard. Confidential support, understanding, info to lgbt people. Tue/Wed/Thu 10am-1pm, 7.30pm-9.30pm. 01332 349333. Email info@gayderbyshire.co.uk, website www.gayderbyshire.co.uk

Huddersfield (Kirklees) L&G Switchboard. Confidential support, advice and info for Hudds LesBiGay Youth Group. Tues/Sun 7-9pm. 24 hour a/phone. 01484 538070. PO Box 293 HD1 1WV.

Indigo. Sheffield monthly support group for lgb people from black/minority ethnic communities. 0114 226 1900 or 07974 199230.

Leeds Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Switchboard. Support/advice. 0113 2453588 Tue-Fri 7-10pm.

Notts L&G Switchboard. 0115 934 8485 or 01623 621515 Mon-Fri 7pm-10pm or e notts@lgswhitchboard.fsnet.co.uk

OUR. Free and confidential service - support, advice and info for people living with/affected by HIV/AIDS in the Bradford Met District. 01274 740548.

Rotherham Line. Young people's confidential lgb helpline. 01709 821523 7-9pm Tue/Fri or a/phone.

Scunthorpe Helpline. Wed/Fri. 7-9pm. 01724 271661.

Sheffield LGB Youth Initiative. Support/activities for under 25s. 0114 2289266, mob 07729360739. 24 hr a/phone. Email gayandlesbianyouth@hotmail.com

York Lesbian Line. 01904 646812. Fri 7.30-9pm. 24 a/phone or write to PO Box 225, York YO1 1AA.

Women's events

Bradford Northern Older Lesbian Network. 1st Sat of month, 1-5pm at The Equity Centre, Contact B. 0113 257 9214 or Rosemary, 0796 329 1580.

Calderdale Calder Valley Lesbian Lounge. Want to meet new women? Meet the 1st Fri of month at convenient venues in the Calder valley. 07989 437250 or e lesbian lounge@hotmail.co.uk

Derbyshire N Derbyshire L&B Women's Group. Support and social activities. Meets every 4 wks on Thurs 7-9pm. For details or to be added to email forum: email dshps@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.net. Tel 01246 559431.

Hebden Bridge Women's Disco 4th Sat of month at B@r Place. 01422 642814. www.barplace.co.uk

Lancaster Women's night with DJ Hev. Sat 25th Apr 8.30-12.30 at The Park Hotel, St Oswald St. Tel 07828162146. And last Sat every month. £5/£3.

Leeds Leeds Stepping Out. Lesbian social egroup. Meet first Saturday and third Wednesday 8pm at Blyd's Bar. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/leedssteppingout Email leedssteppingout@yahoo.co.uk

Sheffield Lesbian Social Group. Meets at Dempsey's pub. 3rd Tuesday in month, 8.30pm.

Lesbian Bisexual Support Group meets Wednesday night at Dempsey's Bar. 8-9pm for discussion and from 9pm for a social.

Something in Sheffield - Sheffield email social group for lesbians. Monthly pub meets, regular meals out, anything you want to organise. For info on how to join, email somethinginsheffield@yahoo.com

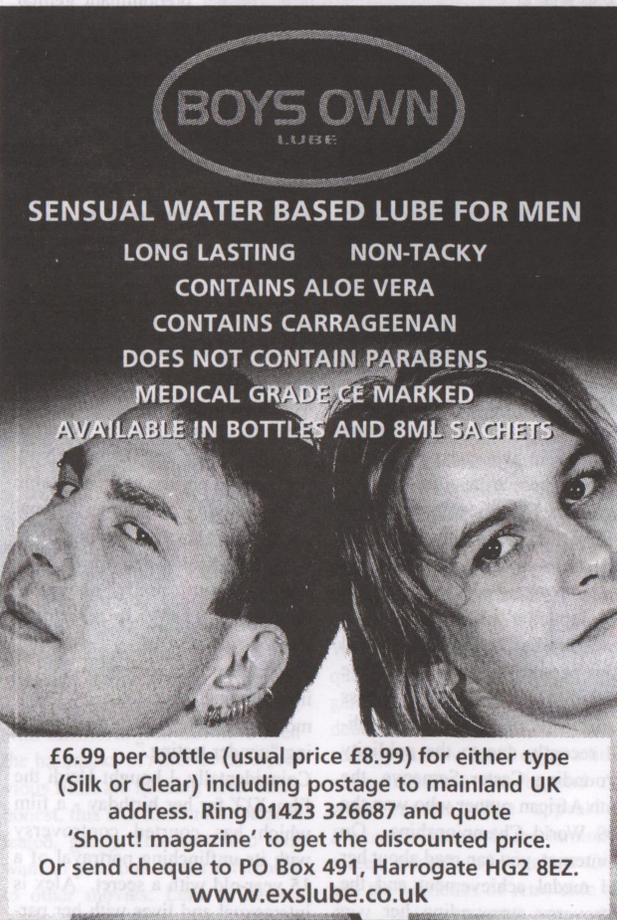
Sheffield - Lesbians Meet 1st Sat of month. 8pm. Details, contact Irene on 0788 1766829.

Todmorden Tod Women's Disco. 2nd Sat of every month at Tod Cricket Club. 07917195953 for details.

York Over 35 Social Group. Call 01757 249 679 for details.

Women's social. 1st Friday, William's Bar. 8pm onwards. Call York Lesbian Line: 01904 646812.

Any corrections or changes? Email shout.magazine@ntlworld.com For full scene and non-scene listings, downloads of Shout!, picture galleries and videos, see www.shoutweb.co.uk



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MSM project Support for gay/bi men-groups - info - condoms - 121 support.

The Brunswick Centre
@ The Resource Centre
Hall street
Halifax, HX1 5AY
T - 01422 341764
F - 01422 341822
E - info@thebrunswickcentre.org.uk
W - www.thebrunswickcentre.org.uk
Huddersfield T - 01484 469691
Registered Charity No. 1015450



begin

Begin offers support services to people affected by HIV in the Wakefield Metropolitan District

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(f) 01924 216 111
(e) mail@beginwakefield.co.uk
www.beginwakefield.co.uk
reg. charity 1033719

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For more details contact Counselling organiser 07771 931 327 or your local MESMAC or Brunswick Centre office

Classifieds

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- 1: Put your reply in an envelope, seal it, and write the box number (eg M12, P2999) you're replying to in the top right hand corner.
- 2: Put this envelope inside another, along with two loose first class stamps.
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- 4: Stick a stamp on it and post it!

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Charity No 1040407

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PLASTIC IVY. FRIDAY 3RD JULY early afternoon. Me - tall, cropped hair, stubbly goatee and moustache. You - medium height, dark hair, chunky. I was grateful but left in a hurry - should have said more. Last saw you in the locker area - eyes met. Would like to see you again. Box M43.

PLASTIC IVY. FRIDAY 3RD JULY early afternoon. Me - tall, cropped hair, stubbly goatee and moustache. You - medium height, dark hair, chunky. I was grateful but left in a hurry - should have said more. Last saw you in the locker area - eyes met. Would like to see you again. Box M43.

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www.leedsskyline.org.uk