

MAGazine

A Newsletter for Mature
Age Gay and Bisexual Men

AUGUST, SEPTEMBER
AND OCTOBER 2014

Caring for each other, sharing friendships and affection with others in similar situations to lead as full a life as possible

MAG'S FORTHCOMING FUNCTIONS

Saturday — 30th August — TBA

Saturday — 13th September — **MAG's 23rd Anniversary**
— **The theme is "Say it with Flowers"**.

Saturday — 27th September — TBA

Saturday — 11th October — a slide show of 2014 Sydney
Vivid by Michelle — **MAG's very own photographer**

Saturday — 25th October — MAG Members remembered

ANOTHER FUNCTION

THAT MEMBERS COULD BE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING

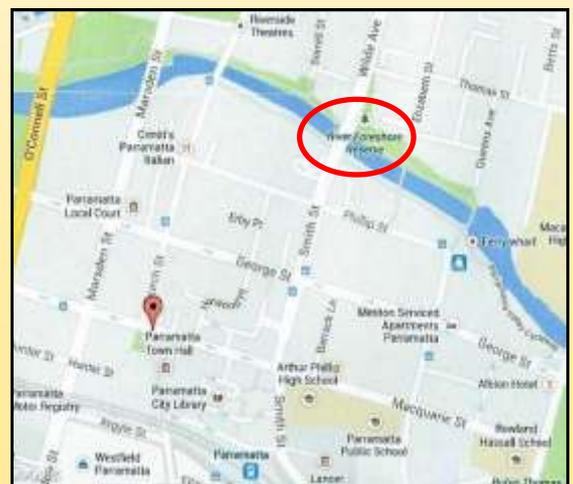
Sunday, 14th September — the 8th Annual Parramatta Pride Picnic and **MAG will have a Stall. Please come along to say "Hi"**.

This year it will be held at the Parramatta Riverside Foreshore Reserve, Parramatta. — see map  10am till 4pm. River Foreshore Reserve is off Wilde Avenue next to the bridge — between Wilde Avenue and Elizabeth Street.

DOGGYWOOD + FOOD TRUCKS

BBQ + ENTERTAINMENT

GAMES + MUSIC



MAG has been received approval from the NSW Department of Fair trading to be registered as **"MAG SYDNEY INCORPORATED"**. We will of course still be referred to as MAG — but our official name will be **MAG SYDNEY INCORPORATED**. This is terrific News!



Your President Reports

Members and Friends,

- I am pleased to report that the new Constitution for MAG is well under way, and I hope to have a draft copy ready for consideration by your Committee & Members in the coming months. Delays occurred, as I was overseas on a really terrific All Boyz tour of the Middle East [Jordan, Israel & Egypt] in June; then on my return my computer gave *up the ghost*.
- Attendance at our meetings has been pleasing, especially during the colder Saturday evenings.
- We were honoured and pleased that the State Member for the Electorate of Sydney, the Hon Alex Greenwich MP addressed our members.
- I am pleased the way we now serve supper at the meetings is working well.
- **MAG's 23rd Anniversary will be celebrated on 13th September 2014.**
The theme will be "**Say it with Flowers**" - participants might care to wear a floral shirt, or a single flower, or many flowers. Or could have flowers on their head or in a hat.
I look forward to seeing how far our members' creative imaginations will reach.
Spring heralds a great range of new blooms in gardens, whilst plastic flowers are available in most of the \$2.00 Shops.
- MAG lost a good friend in Eric Sinfield on passed away 19th June 2014.
John O'Dea and myself attended his funeral. To Laurie, Eric's partner, Eric's family and friends, I extend, on behalf of all at MAG our sincere sympathies.
- On 25 October we will be holding a MAG Members Remembered evening. This is where we will remember our loved ones on this evening.
- I would like to acknowledge the hard working members of the Committee and other guys, as well as the Catering Guys in the Kitchen for their efforts in ensuring MAG is moving forward [sorry Julia], I mean our meetings are interesting and our suppers are enjoyable.
- **I wish to thank Ian Rogan and his staff from Catering Specialists who are leasing ACON's Kitchen/Cafe area for providing MAG with the delicious and healthy sandwiches that everyone is very much enjoying at supper on the evenings we have sandwiches.**
- On Sunday 14th September, MAG will have a Stall at the 8th Annual Parramatta Pride Picnic, on the banks of the Parramatta River – please see our Forthcoming Events on the front page for further details. I invite our members to come along to support not only MAG, but the gay community living in the Western Suburbs of Sydney. David - President



President David presents Alex with a small token of our appreciation following his talk to us on Sat 12/7/2014

Photo courtesy of Tony Sierra

Look us up on the web - magnsw.org

Join a Research Study — The Cancer Council of NSW has asked if MAG members would be interested in participating in a Research Study. They add — "We are very keen to increase participation from people in the gay community, especially men. Right now, for example, we are helping recruit men and male partners of men with prostate cancer for a study on sexual wellbeing after prostate cancer. This one has been difficult, and more people would be such a help to the researcher?. People do not have to have, or have had, cancer to be of interest to them. They just need to be adults living in Australia. People can sign up and complete the questionnaire in just 5 minutes by going to cancercouncil.com.au/joinastudy

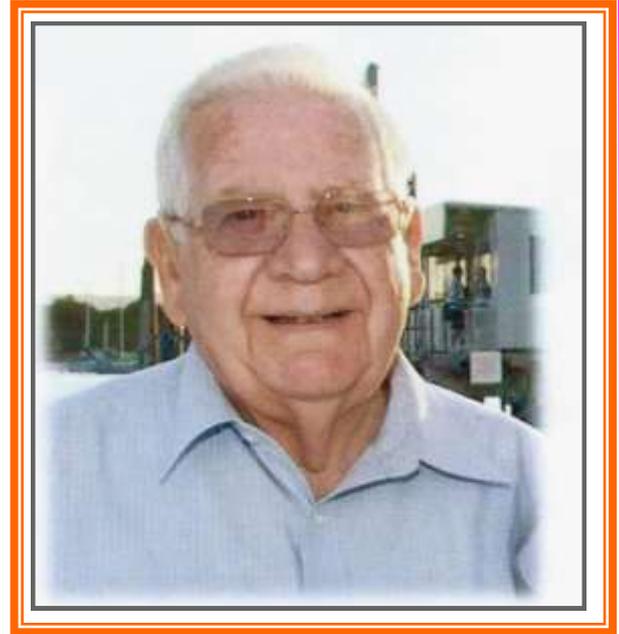
VALE – Eric Sinfield

4.11.1931 – 19.6.2014

Eric was a regular attendee to MAG meetings, with his partner Laurie until ill health prevented Eric from attending. **John O’Dea and myself attended his funeral** and it was there that I was told Eric met Laurie at a MAG meeting some 7 years ago.

Eric & Laurie always attended our social functions *dressed appropriately*; which I, as the then MAG Secretary really appreciated – they always added colour and fun to the social evenings.

In fact two [2] photos of Eric and Laurie taken at MAG socials were shown at Eric’s Wake. Eric was heavily involved with the Cronulla Gay Group and was a regular at the *good old* Taxi Club on a Sunday evening. To Laurie, I extend the prayers and thoughts of all at MAG – President David.



STOP THE PRESS:

[MAG Membership Fee will now be \\$12.00 per year.](#)

[The Membership period will now be 1st July until 30th June of the following year.](#)

At a Committee Meeting held on 9th August, the Committee discussed these matters and recommended to the General Meeting that the Memberships fee be increased to \$12.00 per year, and the period memberships revert to 1st July to 30th June of the following year.

At the General Meeting the two (2) matters were moved and seconded, with discussions following. The matters were voted on – **both carried with only 1 member abstained at the voting of Committee’s** recommendations.

There was 56 members and 1 visitor present at the General Meeting.
These 2 points will now be added to the draft Constitution.

The President informed the meeting that this is how he plans to conduct future meetings, with the Committee making recommendations and the General Meeting then voting on the matters.

An Application Form for Membership and also a Renewal of MAG Memberships are now required. The Committee will be working with Members to ensure a smooth changeover to the new procedures. If anyone has any concerns, please talk to your President on (02) 9516 2063.

This one of our members Ross Mackinnon in rehabilitation after having a knee replacement. Alan and Michael visited him on 5/8/2014.

Ross is in pretty good health and said to say ‘hello’ to all.

He misses everybody and hopefully he will see everybody soon.

He was staying at the Calvary Health Centre and has been recently released from hospital he is currently at home in Revesby if anybody is interested in ringing and saying hello and if interested in visiting home please call on the phone no: 0439 601 224 or the home no: 9792 7774



POETRY AND JOKES

MAG is holding our 23rd Anniversary, our "Say It in Flowers", promises to bring you lots of, MAG pride, pleasure and love. Witnessed by our dear, MCC God above. As we settle down, enjoy our times together. This incident is recorded, in our special, shared moment, that will timelessly pass. As, the night goes on, and we finally say goodbye. In your own individual memorable, alone hours. We hope, that this night with all it's pride, pleasure, love and shared joy. Will have touched you deep inside. Live on forever in your hearts and feelings. This is our dedication, from our MAG heart. To all our treasured, fun loving members. To our special girl and many boys.
POEM by Warren

This blonde decides one day that she is sick and tired of all these blonde jokes and how all blondes are perceived as stupid, so she decides to show her husband that blondes really are smart. While her husband is off at work, she decides that she is going to paint a couple of rooms in the house. The next day, right after her husband leaves for work, she gets down to the task at hand. Her husband arrives home at 5:30 and smells the distinctive smell of paint. He walks into the living room and finds his wife lying on the floor in a pool of sweat. He notices that she is wearing a ski jacket and a fur coat at the same time. He goes over and asks her if she is OK. She replies yes. He asks what she is doing. She replies that she wanted to prove to him that not all blonde women are dumb and she wanted to do it by painting the house. He then asks her why she has a ski jacket over her fur coat. She replies that she was reading the directions on the paint can and they said....
FOR BEST RESULTS, PUT ON TWO COATS.

"A little girl and boy are fighting about the differences between the sexes, and which gender is better. Finally, the boy drops his pants and says, "Here's something I have that you'll never have!" The little girl is pretty upset by this, since it is clearly true, and runs home crying. A while later, she comes running back with a smile on her face. She lifts her dress, drops her knickers, and yells, "My mommy says that with one of these, I can have as many of those as I want!"

"I was sitting on my own in a restaurant, when I saw a beautiful woman at another table. I sent her a bottle of the most expensive wine on the menu. She sent me a note: "I will not touch a drop of this wine unless you can assure me that you have seven inches in your pants." So I wrote back: "Give me the wine. As gorgeous as you are, I'm not cutting off three inches for anyone."

"A cucumber, a pickle, and a penis are sitting at a bar complaining about their lives. The cucumber says, "My life sucks. I'm put in salads, and, to top them off, they pour ranch dressing all over me. My life sucks." The pickle says, "That's nothing compared to my life. I'm put in vinegar and stored away for months, out of sight. Man, my life is boring. I hate life." So the penis says, "What are you guys complaining about? My life is so messed up that I feel like shooting myself. They constantly wrap me in a plastic bag, shove me in a cave, and make me do push-ups until I throw up."



Mature Age Gays
Caring for each other, sharing friendships and affection with each other in similar situations to lead as full a life as possible



MAG MEMBERS OUT AND ABOUT



John O'Dea & John Smit at Trivia night at MAG 2014



'The Sisters of MAG' at Trivia Night 2014



MAG members at Acceptance Trivia night at Newtown



Outrageous Aging at Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre at Enmore Park 14th June 2014



'Father' Mark



Group photo



The Sheik, Lewis, & Michael

Our MAG members at Trivia Night May 10th 2014. A great effort guys to all who 'dressed up'.



'Sexy' Lewis

MAG's TRIP TO ISRAEL/EGYPT 2014 PHOTOS OF MEMBERS

MAG members visit the Middle East

Nine years ago, In 2005, a group of MAG members and friends visited Turkey for the 90th anniversary of the 1915 Gallipoli landings. At their own expense, of course. At the end of the trip we asked for suggestions for future overseas trips and one suggestion was Israel.

It took almost nine years, but in 2014 it became possible and six MAG members along with their American friend were able to make this trip. We flew into Amman, the capital of Jordan and saw the excavated Roman ruins of Jerash. After Amman, we travelled by mini-bus across the Allenby Bridge into Israel and up to Sea of Galilee where we had the rewarding, if spartan, experience of staying in a kibbutz.

In Tel Aviv we took part with thousands of other gay men and lesbians in the Tel Aviv Gay Pride Parade, the equivalent of Sydney's Gay Mardi Gras. It was a day we will never forget. We also drove south through the desert to Beersheba, the place where Abraham, in the Bible, found water. The excavated site is now a World Heritage Area.

Modern-day Beersheba contains the new and very beautiful memorial park dedicated to the men and horses that took part in Australian Charge of the Light Horse Brigade — "The Park of the Australian Soldier". Close-by is the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery commemorating the Australians who lost their lives while taking part in the charge. This charge led to the capture of Jerusalem and to the eventual defeat of the Turkish army.

Other highlights of our trip included a 'swim' in the Dead Sea, a walk though Jerusalem to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and in Bethlem we saw the birthplace of Jesus.

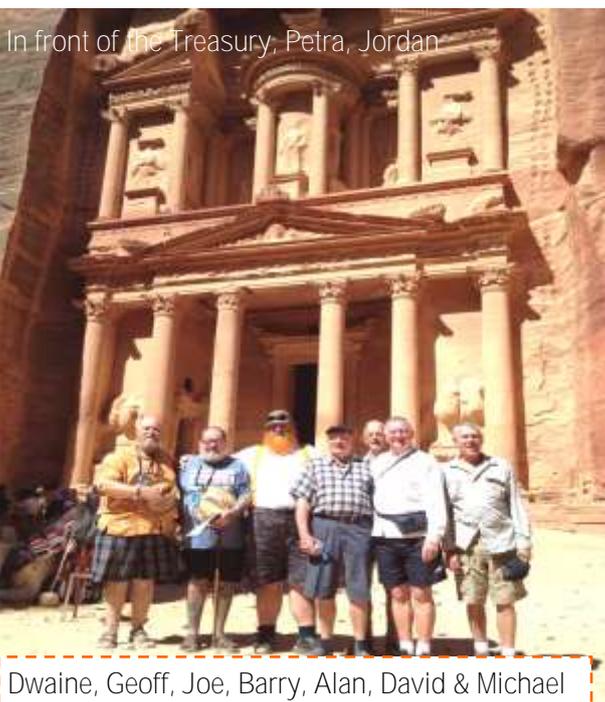
After crossing the border back to Jordan, we spent a day exploring the ancient city of Petra carved out of solid rock.

Then to Egypt — we flew first to Luxor to visit the huge temple complex and to the Valley of the Kings. Only one tomb not to have been stripped of its treasures by grave-robbers in ancient times is the Tomb of Tutankhamen, discovered in 1922. We then travelled up to Cairo to see the Sphinx, the Pyramids, and the Egyptian Museum before our flight home.

The very deadly war between Israel and the Palestinians broke out the next day. It is now almost impossible to imagine how our group was in the actual place that is now a war zone where only fortnight later more than 1000 Palestinians were killed. Places in Gaza which we had seen from the lookout on the shoe-shaped ANZAC Memorial & Forest that overlooks the border between modern Israel and the Palestinian territory of the Gaza strip, including schools and hospitals, have been pounded out of existence.

It reinforced the stupidity of warfare. When we were there less than a fortnight before, we felt safe, secure, and had not the slightest idea that the war between Israel and the Palestinians in Gaza City would break out so suddenly and with such a terrible death toll.

We were so lucky to have had such a fabulous, peaceful trip and I cannot imagine how long it will be before tourism can return to the this wonderful land. **Geoff Ostling**



In front of the Treasury, Petra, Jordan

Dwaine, Geoff, Joe, Barry, Alan, David & Michael



In front of the Great Pyramid of Giza, Cairo, Egypt

Barry David Alan Geoff Joe Michael

The Southern Cross Outdoors Group is a not-for-profit association, formed in 1981. Most people call them **SCOG**. They are based in Sydney and surrounds. SCOG organises bushwalking and other outdoor activities for **gays and lesbians. You don't have to be a member to try their activities.**

Their principal objects are:

To promote health and friendly association for gays and lesbians, principally through outdoors activity

To conduct activities that includes both members and non-members

Their Activities include:

- ◆ Bushwalks, hikes and camping trips (usually two or three times a month)
- ◆ Suburban and historical walks
- ◆ Mountain biking
- ◆ Train excursions
- ◆ Restaurant get-togethers
- ◆ Tennis
- ◆ Mardi Gras Bush dance
- ◆ A ski week at Perisher (once a year for various grades)

Skills and fitness requirements vary depending on the activity, so no matter what your experience or interest SCOG will have something for you. Click on Diary - Walks & other activities to find out more.

If you would like further information or would like to lead a walk or organise an activity please email

southern.cross.outdoors.group@gmail.com or

contact either David on (02) 9698 9308 or Joe on (02) 47878029.

SUGGESTED EXCURSIONS THAT MEMBERS MIGHT CARE TO PARTICIPATE IN

HERITAGE RAIL TOURS



You can have a wonderful day out on the Cockatoo run heritage train to the beautiful Southern Highlands.

The vintage train travels south from Sydney along the scenic Illawarra coast to Wollongong then up the steep Illawarra escarpment to Robertson and Moss Vale through rainforest, past waterfalls and splendid coastal views.



For further Information and bookings:
1300 65 3801 — www.3801limited.com.au

Macquarie Princess Cruises BEROWRA WATERS Weekday Luncheon Cruises



AFTERNOON TEA CRUISE

Join Macquarie Princess Cruises for an afternoon tea aboard the historic M.V Macquarie Princess for a two hour cruise including homemade scones, jam and cream, cake, tea and freshly percolated coffee.

The Afternoon Tea Cruise departs at 3pm and returns at 5pm on the second Sunday of each month (excluding winter).

Phone 8402 3702 -

www.macquarieprincesscruises.com.au

Where & when MAG meets

We meet on the **second** and the **last Saturdays** of the month at **414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills** [near Devonshire Street — just up from Central Railway Station], from 6:30 pm for tea and coffee, with the meeting commencing at 7:00pm, usually with a Guest Speaker — every so often we might have **a social, a 'pop corn' night** **A light supper follows.**

The Committee meets on the second Saturday of the month, prior to the General Meeting.

Committee Member Geoff Ostling is maintaining our Guest Speaker Listings. Should one feels that a certain person could give an informative talk at MAG, please contact Geoff on 9568 3029. Geoff will be very pleased to hear from any members or friends.

MAG's Details:

The Executive:

President: David Bowron 9516 2063
 Vice Pres: Michael Darley 0408 359 989
 Secretary: Michael Filipovic 0429 290 000
 Treasurer: Ken Mears - email: ken_me55@hotmail.com

The Founder of MAG: Steve Ostrow - 9358 1460

The Committee:

Lewis Turtur 9319 1280
 Bill Alford: 8096 4891
 Warren Sawkins 0413 292 363
 Geoff Ostling 9568 2039
 John Waterstreet 9568 3079

MAG/IC - MAG in the Community.

Guys who are ill, in hospital, or who require assistance. This position is vacant at the moment

Our postal address is:

MAG, PO Box 350, DARLINGHURST NSW 1300

Our web site is www.magnsw.org

Newsletter Editor — Michael Filipovic

Look us up on the web - magnsw.org

Our Community's Details:

Acceptance (Gay Catholics) Tel. 9568 4433. Friday Mass, **St. Joseph's Church, Bedford Street, Newtown**, 8pm.
Aleph Australia for gay Jews and friends, Contact *Michael* 9300 9700.

Asian Project Contact Min 9206 2080
bgay Community News - www.bgay.com.au.
 Contact Marc on 0406645075

Country Network for friendship and support through social events and networking across rural, regional & city Australia. Info at www.countrynetwork.com.au

Cronulla Gay Group - www.cronullagaygroup.com.
 Contact John 9528 9158

Cross Section for gays within the Uniting Church phone Des 9319 0722.

GAMMA - Gay and Married Men's Assoc
 Tel. 9267 4000 - www.gamma.org.au
Gaydownunder - www.gaydownunder.com
GLCS - Tel. 1800 184 527

SYDNEY GAY MEDITATION GROUP

+++SESSION DETAILS+++

EVERY TUESDAY 7PM, (*contribution - by donation*)
 MEDITATION SPACE, 99 CROWN STREET, EAST SYDNEY
www.sydneygaymeditationgroup.com

GSN - Gay Sydney Nudists - www.gsinc.com
 contact *Tony James* 49725357.

MAM — Mature Age Men — Meets the last Saturday of month Sportsman's Hotel, Springhill, Brisbane at 4pm Contact Noel (07) 325 77743 for more details.

MCC Good Shepherd — 6:30pm Sundays 37 East Street, Granville. Pastor *Robert Clark* Tel. 9386 9293

MCC Sydney - 96 Crystal St, Petersham. 10:00am & 6:30pm Sundays Pastor *Greg Smith* Tel. 9569 5122
 Email — office@mccsydney.org

PFLAG - Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays.
www.pflagaustralia.org

SCOG - Southern Cross Outdoor Group: Bushwalks & other outdoor activities in Sydney area. Contact *David* 9698 9308.
 Email: southern.cross.outdoors.group@gmail.com

SPAIDS - Sydney Park AIDS Memorial Groves

Dates on tree planting days kindly contact josken@josken.net

COMPANIONS OF HOPE - Meetings: fortnightly (2nd and last Sundays) at 11am, Level 3, 414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills
 Contact: Bishop Peter on 9588 6893 or 0419 464 353
 Email: christ-our-hope-community.net

GONG GUYS - <http://www.gongguys.site90.com/>
<http://www.gongguys.info/>