

MAGazine

The Newsletter for Mature Age Gays

January and February 2010 Edition

BEST WISHES FOR
A GREAT 2010



A *real* Santa at our Chrissy Party



JBear — *entertainer extraordinaire*

Look us up on the web
magnsw.org

MAG is a
project of



NEW YEAR RECIPE

1 cup of gratefulness
6 cups of gladness
12 cups of charity
1 pinch of hope
1 dash of memory
7 cups of reverence
1000 buckets of love
A generous handful of
friendship
Fill to overflowing
Warm gently in the heart
Mix together and have a
Happy new year!!

President MAGazine

Hi Guys

By the time this message goes to print we will all be getting over the hectic festive season and well into the New Year.

What a wonderful night it was for our Christmas Party on the 12th December last, I think this was our best ever party and congratulations must go to Richard King and David Bowron for arranging the superb decorations, and the kitchen staff for preparing a scrumptious supper. Thank you to all the guys who turned up for our Boxing Day meeting, it just goes to show that MAG plays a very important part in so many lives as that time of the year can be very lonely for many of us.

The food was excellent and our executive staff and kitchen staff did a magic job in bringing this all together.

As you all know I had a hiccup in 2009 with a health scare but I am now fully recovered and I wish to thank all of you who sent or conveyed to me your best wishes and support during that rather difficult time.

I look to 2010 for a much better year.

I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you health, happiness and prosperity for 2010.

Love from your President,
Erroll.

Remembering MAG in your Will

Previous members have bequeathed a small amount of funds from their wills to MAG, following their passing.

We would be very honoured if members or friends of MAG may care to consider doing something similar.



OUR PLANNED EVENTS

9 January

Tony Breinl

Quality use of Medicines

30 January

Tony Breinl

More than Medicines –
Living Well

13 February

Jason Leech

Time Out Group

Sunday 21 February

Fair Day at Victoria Park

27 February

NO MEETING

Due to 2010 Mardi Gras Parade

Steve Ostrow MAGazine

Hi Guys,

Well, we are in the New Year — 2010, and as per our last survey the average age of us MAGs is now 65.9, think how young we are in comparison.

And that's only 2010 AD, whereas there were over 500,000 years before that when we first got up on 2 legs and became humanoids!

So what is the message in all of that? Well, as I see it, we need to take each new day as a gift. For as did the 80 billion people who existed and departed before us, we too, all 8 billion of us alive today, will also leave this finite planet to enter whatever state of immortality we shall be blessed with in the hereafter.

So I believe parting should not be looked upon as tragic but rather the culmination of a life lived to the fullest. And the fact that we have lived those 65.9 years and more is truly a gift that no one can take away from us. We did it, we lived it, we loved it.

We felt the innocence of childhood, the excitement of puberty, the folly and fun of adolescence, the strengths of adulthood, the wisdom of maturity, and now the joy and serenity of knowing that we made the trip, *and are still on the road*. CONGRATULATIONS!

As I said – each new day is now a gift and here at MAG we can share that gift with each other in the only way that really counts – LOVE.

For there ain't nothing else that really matters when we go; all our possessions will naught be with us, but the love we gave and the love we got, will in eternity ne'er be forgot.

HAPPY NEW YEAR and all *my* Love

Steve



WE ARE STILL SEEKING BOTTLES OF WINE FOR THE WINE RAFFLE, WE'LL BE CONDUCTING AT FAIR DAY
Any donation of a bottle or two will be gratefully received !!!!

Photos of Christmas Party courtesy of Richard and Erroll — thanks guys

Secretary MAGazine

Our 2009 Christmas Party What an evening!!!!!!

If you did not enjoy last year's party, well you really do need to have a good look at yourself! Congratulations to all who attended and made it a **GREAT EVENING** [over 130 guys were present].

Thanks to :-

Our wonderful catering guys for a job well done. Richard King for the **decorating the meeting and supper rooms** and John O'Dea for obtaining the delicious goodies we all consumed. The ham was mouthwatering, as was the plum pudding and custard. Thanks to those generous guys who brought along something extra nice for supper — it was very much appreciated. I was surprised and pleased to see Noel from Brissy at our Party.

JBear our *entertainer extraordinaire* was again **fabulous**. I really enjoyed the audience participation segments of JBear's act, especially with our own 'Barbie girl — *Bradilenia*' [with those BIG boobies] who assisted JBear. We even had a *real Santa* — I did not get the gentleman's name, but he was very appropriately dressed for the evening [a photo of this gentleman is on the front cover and with Glenn sitting on his lap on Page 6].

Members' Passing It is with regret that I inform readers of the passing of Ted Hansford (on 15 December 2009 — aged 83 years). Ted was a great supporter of MAG and regularly attended meetings up until a few years ago when he suffered a stroke. Ted was one of our terrific *Garden Guys*, who grew all those fantastic plants; along with John and Harry for our Fair Day Stalls. Ted also went on some of the All Boyz Tours. To friends of Ted we offer prayers and condolences.

Congratulations Joe Mula turned 80 years old on 20 December, and I was honoured to present Joe with an **OBE** at our Chrissy party. No not an Order of the British Empire; but an **Over Bloody Eighty Medallion and Certificate**. Joe has been a member of MAG for many, many years now and at our Social evenings *dresses* for the occasion. As I like doing the same, I appreciate Joe's efforts; plus am grateful for the beautiful goodies he makes and brings in for us to enjoy at supper. A pic of myself, [as an angel — with a *bent halo*] with Joe is opposite.

MAG MEETING ON SATURDAY 27 FEB

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING — this is due to the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade.

MAG's Mardi Gras Contingent

MAG will be joining in with ACON's Parade Contingent this year. Should any guys wish to join the group, kindly contact the President for details. You will need to be able to walk the entire length of the Parade route.

David, Secretary and Newsletter Editor.

Tel: [02] 9516 2063.

Disclaimer:

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of individuals and do not necessarily reflect the policies of MAG or ACON.



Alzheimer's Australia in association with ACON and Aged and Community Services Association of NSW & ACT launched the discussion paper, "Dementia: Lesbians and Gay Men" on 19th November 2009.

Paper No. 15.

The paper was launched by the on Michael Kirby, former Justice of the High Court of Australia.

The recent Access Economics Report, "Keeping Dementia Front of Mind", predict over 1.1 million Australians will have dementia by 2050. As a consequence, the health care system and the quality of life of Australians will come under greater pressure.

The impact of dementia on the GLBT community is already beginning to present itself. Although lesbians and gay men face many of the same challenges around dementia as heterosexuals, such as advanced care planning, assessments, community or residential care arrangements, many also face additional challenges such as social isolation, relationship recognition and navigating a complicated legislative environment.

Alzheimer's Australia's discussion paper, "Dementia" Lesbians and Gay Men", provides practical advice on the issues many lesbians and gay men with dementia and their carers may face. In addition, it is a valuable resource for practitioners working in health care and related fields.

For more information check out the web site—

www.alzheimers.org.au/content.cfm?=6243

GAY PAINTER

Recently on the recommendation of John O'Dea our Treasurer, President Erroll had his unit painted by a Jeff Liddle.

Erroll was so impressed with Jeff's expertise and manner he thought it worthy to recommend Jeff to all MAG guys who may be seeking a *gay painter*.

Jeff's fees are very reasonable and his work is exceptional.

For further details contact Jeff on his Mobile 0404176534.

Please mention to Jeff that you are a MAG Member.

The Photo to the left is of Jeff painting Erroll's second bedroom ceiling.



Our 2009
Chrissy
Party

MAGazine



JBear in full voice



Glenn on Santa's knee



JBear in white



John and Lionel dishing up the plum pudding and custard



Great pic of the meeting room. *Lord Jim* talking to another John, whilst Remy looks on. **John O'D** is on the *mike*

MAGazine

Chrissy Party
cont'd



Keith, John & Michael
entertaining us



JBear with Michael
swinging



Another pic
of the
meeting
room
*John is still
on the mike.*

Decorations
were created
& erected by
Richard



Bradilenia, Lionel & David



Tony & Noel

REMEMBER !!
SAFE SEX
ALL WAYS
ALWAYS

Yesterday, I went to the doctor for my yearly physical.

My blood pressure was high.

My cholesterol was high.

I'd gained weight, and I didn't feel so hot.

My doctor said "eating right doesn't have to be complicated and it would solve my problems".

He said just think colours

Fill your plate with bright colours — greens, yellows, reds, and so on.

I went right home and ate an entire bowl of M & M's.

[They are red, yellow, green blue, orange etc].

And sure enough, I felt better immediately.

I never knew eating right could be so easy.

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards.

One day they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me ... I know we have been friends for a long time ... but I just can't think of your name!!

I've thought and thought, but I just can't remember it.

Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes, she just stared and glared at her.

Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know???"

HAPPY NEW YEAR PRAYER excerpts from a prayer by Rabbi Jacob Pressman

May you get a clean bill of health from your dentist, your cardiologist, your gastro-enterologist, your urologist, your proctologist, your podiatrist, your psychiatrist, your plumber and the Tax-man.

May your hair, your teeth, your face-lift, your abs, and your stocks not fall: and may your blood pressure, your triglycerides, your cholesterol, your white blood count and your mortgage interest not rise.

May New Year's Eve find you seated around the table, together with your beloved family and cherished friends. May you find the food better, the environment quieter, the cost much cheaper, and the pleasure much more fulfilling than anything else you might ordinarily do that night.

May what you see in the mirror delight you, and what others see in you delight them. May someone love you enough to forgive your faults, be blind to your blemishes, and tell the world about your virtues.

May the telemarketers wait to make their sales calls until you finish dinner, may the commercials on TV not be louder than the program you have been watching, and may your cheque book and your budget balance— and include generous amounts for charity.

May you remember to say "I love you" at least once a day to your spouse, your child, your parents, your siblings; but not to your secretary, your nurse, your masseur, your hairdresser or your tennis coach.

And may we live in a world at peace and with the awareness of *your God's love in every sunset, every flower's unfolding petals, every baby's smile, every lover's kiss, and every wonderful, astonishing, miraculous beat of our heart.*

JOKES

MAGazine

Age & Experience

A wealthy old lady decides to go on a photo safari taking her faithful, elderly poodle named *Cuddles*, along for company.

One day the old poodle starts chasing butterflies and before long, *Cuddles* discovers that he's lost. Wandering about he notices a leopard heading rapidly in his direction with the intention of having him for lunch.

The old poodle thinks, "Oh, oh! I'm in deep doo-doo now!" Noticing some bones on the ground close by he immediately sits down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat. Just as the leopard is about to leap the old poodle exclaims loudly, "Boy the one was one delicious leopard! I wonder if there are any more around here??"

Hearing this the young leopard halts his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror comes over him and he slinks away into the trees. "Whew!", says the leopard, "That was close! That old poodle nearly had me!"

Meanwhile, a monkey who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the leopard. So he goes off, but the old poodle sees him heading after the leopard with great speed, and figures that something must be up.

The monkey soon catches up with the leopard, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the leopard.

The young leopard is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here, monkey, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now, the old poodle sees the leopard coming with the monkey on his back and thinks, "What am I going to do now?"

But instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet and just as they get close enough to hear, the old poodle says

"Where's that damn monkey? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another leopard!"

Moral of the Story!!

Don't mess with old farts ... age and skill will always overcome youth and treachery!!!

Bullshit and brilliance only come with age and experience.

Remember When I went to lunch today, I noticed a very old lady sitting on the park bench sobbing here eyes out. I stopped and asked her what was wrong, and could I help her. She said, "I have a 22 year old good looking husband at home. He makes love to me every morning and then gets up and makes me pancakes and sausages, fresh fruit and freshly grounded coffee." I said, "Well, why then are you crying?" She said, "He makes me homemade soup for lunch and my favourite brownies and then makes love to me for half the afternoon."

I said, "Well, why are you crying?" She said, "For dinner he makes me a gourmet meal with wine and my favourite dessert, and then makes love to me until 2:00am in the morning."

I said, "Well, why in the worlds would you be crying???"

She said, "I can't remember where I live!!!!"

Warren's Poem

MAGazine

BEING LOVED MEANS.

Being loved means,
"a lot to some", but not as much to some selfish living few.

It's what you think inside, and how you act on the outside.
That comes across in all you do.

It's the happening thing most people are wanting, to
discover.

It's the true honest feelings and sincerity, we must uncover.

Being loved means,
A longing for love as a part of life worth receiving,
and forever retaining.

It's the feelings in your minds memory,
you want to be there forever, always remaining.
To not live love, in all its many forms, is life without gaining.

Being not loved,

Was maybe felt by the selfish living few,
who probably didn't know how to love or what to do.

It might have been a task for them to learn to live,
the same as, "a lot of some", and not be the selfish living few.

To show their true honest feelings and come out from their
cover.

And maybe one day find their own love and a lover.

That's what, being loved means, for all who wish to
discover.



By Warren Sawkins

MAG MAGazine

POET

Written 10th February
2009

2010 Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras

This year MAG will again be having a Stall at Fair Day, which is on Sunday, 21st February, at Victoria Park, situated on Broadway and City Road, near the University of Sydney.

We will be again selling home grown plants and home made jams, plus the usual wine raffle for [dirty sex] 36 bottles of wine — for only \$1.00 a ticket. Donations of bottles of wine will be gladly accepted from our members and friends. Please plan to come along to Fair Day and enjoy what *our community* has to offer, and by all means say 'hi' to the guys who will be volunteering their time to make our efforts a success!!

For the Parade, 27th February MAG will be *walking* with the ACON Contingent, under our own banner. If you, or your friends, are fit enough and would like to join us, please come and be part of the Mardi Gras Parade — if you **have never been in a Parade before you don't know what you are missing!!**

MAGnet

MAGnet — is our mid week venue for mature gay and bi men.

Every Wednesday evening meeting at the Taxi Club, on Flinders Street, Darlinghurst, from 6:30pm for a meal.

It is a great place to be at. We recommend guys join the Taxi Club — **it's only \$11 per year** and you can enjoy all the benefits. MAG invites all mature age gay and bisexual men to join our guys in having a meal, a drink and socialising.

Please speak to President, Erroll should you wish to join the MAG Group in the Parade

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MAG's Details

Executive Members:

President: Erroll Higson 9557 5903
Secretary: David Bowron 9516 2063
Treasurer: **John O'Dea** 9521 1953

ACON — Project Officer MAG
and the founder of MAG:
Steve Ostrow 9358 1460

Committee Members:

Bradley Falappi 9550 6359
Ross MacKinnon —
Richard King 0425 248 480
Mario Panzarino 0438 931 999

MAGIC

MAG in the Community.
For guys who are ill, in hospital,
or who require assistance. Please
contact Noel Hunter on (02)
96991317.

Our postal address is:
MAG PO Box 350
DARLINGHURST NSW 1300

Web site is magnsw.org.

MAG meetings are held at:
Lower Ground Floor
ACON Building
9-25 Commonwealth Street,
Darlinghurst

The entrance is at the back of
the building, on the corner
of Clarke and Alberta Streets.
We meet on the second and
last Saturdays of each month,
from 6:30 pm for tea & coffee
with the meeting commencing
at 7:00pm, usually with a
Guest Speaker — sometimes
we'll have a social evening.

A light supper follows.

The Executive Committee
meets on the second Saturday
of the month after the General
Meeting.

Editor — David 9516 2063

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Acceptance (Gay Catholics) Tel. 9568 4433.
Friday Mass, St. Josephs Church, Bedford
Street, Newtown, 8pm.

Aleph Australia for gay Jews & friends,
Contact *Michael* 9300 9700.

Asian Project Contact Solomon 9206 2080
bgay Community News
Contact Marc on 0404112831.

Country Network a national social network
of gay men. Sydney Metro contact is Neil
Maguire on 9547 1258.

Cronulla Gay Group
Contact John 9528 9158 or Eric 9589 1161.

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

GAMMA Gay & Married Men's Assoc
Meets on 1st & 3rd Wed every month,
at 9 C'wealth St, Surry Hills. Tel. 9267 4000
www.gamma.org.au

Gaydownunder www.gaydownunder.com
GLCS Tel. 1800 184 527

GSN - Gay Sydney Nudists
contact *Tony James* 49725357.

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

MCC Sydney 10:00am & 6:30pm Sundays
Pastor *Gavin Ward* Tel. 9569 5122
96 Crystal Street, Petersham.

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

SCOG Southern Cross Outdoor Group:
bushwalks and other outdoor activities in the
Sydney area. Contact *John* 9907 9144.

Email address is scog@scog.asn.au
SPAIDS Dates on tree planting days contact
josken@zipworld.com.au for further information.

Christ Our Hope Community
Meetings: fortnightly at 320 Riley Street,
Surry Hills, at 11am. Contact: Father Peter
on 9588 6893 or 0419 464 353

WAGS 1st and 3rd Saturdays of month
ACON, 13 Ellen Street, Wollongong
7:00pm till 9:00pm.

There is no supper. www.wags.net.au
Apostolic Community of St Nicholas
Meetings: 1st Sunday of month at 11am.

10/5-6 Edgar Cres, Belfield
Community Pastor Alexei G Schmidt
9642 7881