

A Newsletter for Mature Age
Gay and Bisexual Men

JANUARY FEBRUARY
2013

MAGazine

Happy New Year
everyone!



This *classic* photograph is of our photographer, Michelle, playing the piano at our 2012 Christmas Party, under the watchful eye of Ken, a keen pianist himself.

mAG 
MATURE AGE GAYS
acon

Look us up on the web
magnsw.org

facebook

www.facebook.com/MatureAgeGays

Connecting mature age gays online all across NSW

 Like

2013 EVENTS

Hayden Orpheum,
the Art Deco Cinema
at 380 Military Road, Cremorne
will be screening the following film: -



If you liked “The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel”,
then I am informed, you will most certainly
enjoy “Quartet”.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Afternoon Delight for 2013

A movie matinee with a delightful finale:
a special program of gay and lesbian films
followed by a fun and delicious afternoon
tea.

**Presented by ACON in association with
Queer Screen.**

Sunday, 24 March 2013 1.30pm - 5.30pm.
NSW Teachers Federation Conference
Centre, 37 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills.

GOLD COIN DONATION

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

(02) 9206 2028 or

aeisler@acon.org.au

**Details of the movies will be
announced in the next
Newsletter.**

COMING MEETINGS

**for JANUARY,
FEBRUARY and
MARCH 2013**

12th January

TBA

26th January

Australia Day Social

9th February

Incredible India!

**Talk and slide show by David
on his recent trip to India**

SUNDAY, 10th February

**Fair Day at Victoria Park,
Broadway.**

Please come along and say “Hi”.

23rd February

TBA

2nd March

Mardi Gas Parade.

Please see page 7 for details

9th March

**SPANC Study -
Overview and review by
Andrew and Richard**

30th March

Easter Saturday

TBA

PRESIDENT

Belated greetings for the New Year, we are well and truly into 2013!

I hope Santa found you all and that you enjoyed Christmas.

What sort of a year is 2013 going to be for us?? Well we will have a Federal Election sometime this year so I believe it is important that we let politicians know we exist and quiz them on any "promises" which will no doubt be thrown around as the year progresses.

As President of MAG I have been invited to join the ACON Ageing Working Group which will endeavour to identify the service needs of the older GLBT community and advise our governments on appropriate strategies to address these needs.

It is encouraging that there has been the release of the NSW Ageing Strategy and the Federal Government's first ever National LGBTI Ageing and Aged Care Strategy, launched at the end of December.

MAG's plans for 2013??? ACON has promised to assist us to organise a conference/seminar/meeting to help us plan MAG's future directions and to learn what the members want – more details later!

It is disappointing that MAG will not have its own individual Float in this year's Mardi Gras Parade but members have been invited to join with ACON in the Parade.

However we will be there at Fair Day with John O'Dea's jams and our surplus books, ready and willing to tell everybody and anybody interested all about MAG.

Again my best wishes to all for a happy New Year

Eric Ellem
President

NSW Government and Telstra partnership to bring more Seniors online.

The Minister for Ageing, Andrew Constance announced a new partnership between Telstra and NSW Government to roll out the Tech Savvy Seniors training programme to encourage more seniors to embrace technology.

The Tech Savvy Seniors programme provides low cost or free training through community colleges to older people. It will cover courses on computers, tablets and smart phones which promote social connections, easier access to information and improve wellbeing.

To find out more about the Tech Savvy Seniors programme

visit www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/ageing

The DVD of MAG's 2012 Mardi Gras Parade Bus



We are pleased to advise that additional copies of last year's very successful MAG's Bus in the Mardi Gras Parade are now available.

Cost is still only \$2.00 - very good value, as it includes music that you can even dance and sing-a-long to.

Kindly see our Secretary at our meetings or by contacting on his home telephone number.

Details are on Page 12.

STEVE OSTROW

Hi guys,

OK - we are now well into the New Year!

The question is: what will we make of it?

For those of us 40 or over, or should I say 65.2 yrs or over (according to our latest MAG survey) it's time to realise that there is less time ahead of us than behind. Every moment now is a gift and must be cherished. That does not mean we have to be frantic, but a re-evaluation of values and goals can be both rewarding and enlightening. There is so much good and beauty in the world that we do ourselves a disservice if we don't take the time to appreciate it.

Recently I wandered out into the evening and boarded a bus for home. After a while the bus became quite crowded and all the seats were taken. At one particular stop the bus proceeded to leave when a rather elderly man, apparently suffering from a malady that affected his legs, could just as well have been me, struggled to drag himself to the bus that was already in motion. The bus driver saw him in the side-view mirror and stopped the bus in busy traffic, allowing the man to painfully manage, with the help of a walking stick, to mount the bus. After showing the driver his concession card, the man sincerely thanked the driver for waiting for him and proceeded into the body of the vehicle. A man in his 30's with a backpack, having observed what had happened, rose from his seat well before the elderly man approached, making a place for him to sit down.

It was obvious he wished to be anonymous, but the elderly man had noticed his gesture and a warm and grateful smile lit his countenance, acknowledging the donor. The bus continued its journey.

Having watched this brief and simple ceremony, a feeling of warmth and goodness welled up inside of me, bringing tears to my eyes.

Once again I realised that there is goodness and love all around us if we just open our eyes and our hearts to it.

There are now over 6 billion people in the world today. One might ask the question: Where do we start to help? Well the answer might be very simplistic. If we were *each* to share ourselves with one other person and so change their lives in some way, then no one in the world need feel left out.

MAG can be a wonderful opportunity to share ideas and experiences. One can feel alienated and alone as we get older and friends and acquaintances thin out. So do something for yourself. Look around for that other person today whose life you can make better by having been a part of it, and where better to find that opportunity?

With a hundred or so fellow MAGS on any second or last Saturday of the month!

With love from Steve

MAG Project Officer.

[www.magnsw.org]

9206 2072

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

acon

**BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY'S
HEALTH & WELLBEING**

Happy New Year to all.

This issue is running late, due to a number of reasons; the main one being that I was on a fabulous holiday in northern India, in early January.

A few other MAG guys went on the same tour last year and thoroughly enjoyed it. I was tempted to go and I am glad I went this year.

The Taj Mahal and watching 18 cremations all taking place on the banks of the River Ganges in the evening were two highlights for me.

We had a great group of gay men and straight women, who got on really well together.

I plan to give a presentation on my trip to MAG on Saturday, 9th February 2013.

Our Christmas Party

Our 2012 Annual Christmas party held on Sat, 8 December was another terrific evening.

Thanks to all who helped in the Kitchen John, Allan, Lewis, Jon and Lionel for the mouth-watering supper.

Previous Issue of the Newsletter

The November December 2012 MAG Newsletter was printed in a booklet format.

It was an error when first printed, but I thought it looked great; as it saved on A3 paper, and was very easy for myself and Ken Mears to fold then insert into the envelopes, so I decided to go ahead with the smaller print.

A few guys told me that they did not like the format; which I appreciated being told, and not *behind my back*. However, I was shocked to learn that the evening I was absent from a MAG meeting, guys vented their anger at my decision towards our President.

I take full responsibility for the decision to go ahead with that smallish size issue - I think it was practical [I do need glasses to read].

I have been asked to return the Newsletter to the normal size [A3 paper].

I thought I could save on the cost of paper. As guys could not read the font etc and for their convenience, I am now increasing the font in 14 size in Times New Roman print.

I will also limit the number of photos shown of our functions in the Newsletter.

Should readers wish to see more photos of those events, I strongly encouraged all to visit the MAG web site, where our Web Master will have placed more photos.

In fact, I recommend that all readers look up the web site where ever they can - if one does not have computer, you can go to any Municipal Library, or Internet Cafe.

2013 Mardi Gras Fair Day

Sunday, 10th February will be Fair Day, at Victoria Park. ACON has kindly arranged for a MAG Stall, [thank you] where MAG will be selling 2nd hand books, jams and plants. I will again be *tarting it up* in silver sequins like last year, plus supporting ACON's theme of 'Ending HIV'. Look for a large flag pole with the rainbow flag on it. Please come along and say "hi". Mardi Gras has prohibited any stalls from selling raffle tickets. They want to make more money - they already are they only seller of cold drinks etc; so *Dame Dolly* will be spruiking for the items we will be selling, plus asking for a gold coin from any persons who wishes to have their photo taken with *her*.

This money will go to MAG not *her*. Next you know Mardi Gras will want to make money from photos being taken on the day. They could do really well with that. Charge all persons who come to Fair Day with a mobile phone or camera a fee - they do it at certain Temples and Palaces in India - or maybe I should stop giving them ideas! ha ha

2013 Mardi Gras Parade

Saturday 3 March is the Parade.

MAG's decision for an idea for an entry was too late to really plan well for it, so no entry. If any one would like to join in with ACON, and they are welcome to do so, you **MUST** wear their issued T Shirt and follow their directions.

Please see page 7 for details, should anyone wish to participate in the Mardi Gras Parade. In the Chinese New Year, Year of the Snake, we do hope for a cool and fine Saturday evening.

Have a safe and great 2013 Mardi Gras!!!!

David, Secretary



Valery Chris
Valery normally takes the photos



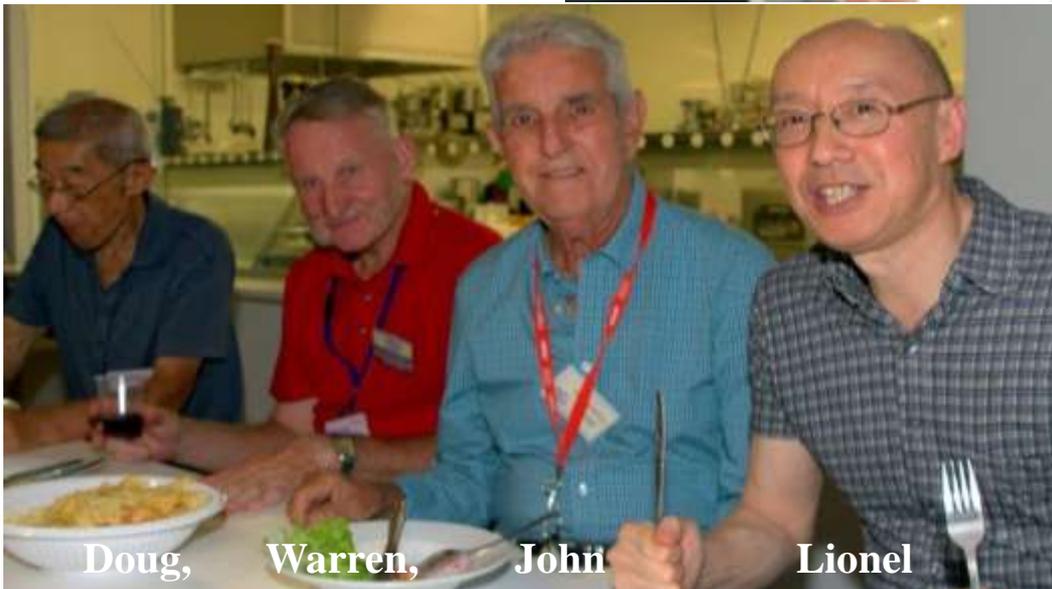
Allan, Michael David



Stephen Bill



Jerry, Ross Peter



Doug, Warren, John Lionel



Lewis

For more photos go to www.magnsw.org -
Please take the time to check the web site out

2013 Mardi Gras Parade.

MAG will not be having an entry in this year's Parade.

We need to start planning for an entry at least 9 months before the Parade and we didn't.

After saying that, our guys have been invited to join with ACON's Contingent, in walking the Parade Route [sorry no transport].

You are required to wear their issued T Shirt and follow their directions.

How to apply to join, please visit the site below:-

<http://www.acon.org.au/get-involved/mardigras2013>

MAG guys will be warmly welcomed in their support of "Ending HIV".



KNOW THE RISK

There's a number of ways to reduce HIV risk. Condoms are the safest.

Some practices are riskier than others - **none is zero risk.** You need to **know the risk involved and the conditions that apply.**

Be informed. **KNOW THE RISK** before you take it.



Pos, neg, top, bottom... calculate your risk at:

knowtherisk.org.au



acon
BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY'S
HEALTH & WELLBEING

Artwork by
Peter Skirrow
Retro

MAG's *MUGS* Gallery

YOUR EXECUTIVE



Eric Ellem
President



David Bowron
Secretary



Ken Mears
Treasurer

Our PHOTO-GRAPHERS



Michelle

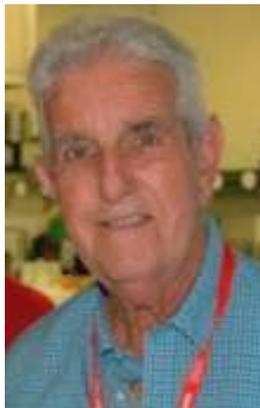


Valery

YOUR COMMITTEE



Lewis Turtur



John O'Dea



Warren Sawkins



Jon Allwood



Allan Jones

OUR ALL ROUNDERS



Doug Lee



Lionel Fong-Kee

MAG's FOUNDER



Steve Ostrow
Founder & ACON's
Project Officer for MAG

The people listed on this page are some of the **hard working** people that ensure your Meetings and other functions operates smoothly for **your** benefit!

A Retiree's Last Trip to the Supermarket.

Yesterday I was at my local Woolworths Supermarket buying a large bag of Purina Dog Chow for my loyal pet, Jake, the Wonder Dog and was in the check out line when a woman behind me asked if I had a dog.

What did she think I had an elephant?

So because I'm retired and have little to do, on impulse I told her that no, I didn't have a dog.

I was starting the Purina diet again.

I added that I probably shouldn't, because I ended up in Hospital last time, but that I'd lost 50 pounds before I awakened in an intensive care ward with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IVs in both arms.

I told her it was essentially a Perfect Diet and the way that it works, is to load your pants pockets with Purina Nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry. The food is nutritionally complete so it works well and I was going to try it again. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in line was now enthralled with my story].

Horrified, she asked if I ended up in intensive care, because of the dog food poisoned me. I told her no, I stopped to pee on a Fire Hydrant and a car hit me.

I thought the guy behind the lady was going to have a heart attack, as he was laughing so hard.

The Supermarket won't let me shop there any more. Better watch what you ask retired people - they have all the time in the world to think of crazy things to say!!

In the kitchen with Mitchell



Hi I'm Mitchell.

Welcome to my Kitchen.

As summer seems to be the time of outdoor entertaining, I thought you blokes would like to try my favourite dip recipes.

The first is egg plant dip recipe and is one I have made for over 10 years.

Greek Eggplant Dip [Melizano Salata]

- 1 large, or 2 medium oval purple eggplants [up to 500 gms]
- 1 clove of garlic.
- Sea salt to taste.
- 3/4 cup of soft white breadcrumbs [I use Turkish Bread].
- 3 tablespoon of lemon juice.
- 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil.
- 1 small red or brown onion grated.
- 2 tablespoons of flat leave parsley.
- Freshly ground black pepper to taste.

Place whole eggplant(s) on a baking tray and cook in a moderate oven [180c] for 30 - 50 minutes, depending on the size, until soft to touch. While hot remove the skin - please wear rubber gloves when doing this.

Then chop flesh roughly and drain off the excess moisture.

Place all remaining ingredients and eggplant, excepting the olive oil into a food processor [Braun] and process.

The gradually add small quantities of the olive oil to the mixture and blend.

Place in bowl and chill well.

The dip mixture will thicken as it chills.

ENJOY!!!!!!

Vale - Les Pagget

Les moved to Harden NSW a while back and was not in the best of health.

Sadly Les passed away recently aged 67 years.



Les helped out with our 2010 Fair Day Stall. To Colin, Les's family and friends we offer our thoughts and prayers. He was certainly a *real character*, with many a tattoo!

HOUSE TO SHARE

Wyong centre

6 minutes walk to shopping and 'fast' trains to Sydney.

Would ideally suit a mature aged pensioner seeking a homely atmosphere. "HIV +" most welcome. Additional furniture, etc welcome.

Prefers non-smoker, tidy drinker.

For further details please contact at any time:-

0439 480 797

Disclaimer

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

Remembering MAG in your Will

Previous members have bequeathed a small amount 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.

WARREN'S POEM

THE RAIN

The rain fall mysteriously to the ground,
without feelings or thought, with its own
unique sound.

This I view through the sliding glass window
wall,
an isolated area within this private unit, not
seen by all.

Rain drops, some large some small,
skid, dance in a semblance form upon the
balcony wall.

Saturated plants within the balcony, now swing
and sway,
secretly wishing for the wind and rain to end
its temporary stay.

A tiny moth is seen to kamikaze into the
sliding glass pane.
Leaving a tiny remain, after entry into an
unknown domain.

The wind is still intermittently blowing,
strongly showing.
Leaving a path, after its memorable aftermath.

A single bird is seen to land preoccupied
on some flowering potted plants or two.
Maybe looking for some new found food,
or just something different to do.

Like a protective screen, a single bird glides
by,

On a maneuver or two, circling the sky.
Now gone out of view from the naked eye.
In the distance once more and through the rain.
A tiny face is seen to peer through a foggy
window pane.

MAG's DETAILS

Executive:

President: Eric Ellem 0418 686 429
 Secretary: David Bowron 9516 2063
 Treasurer: Ken Mears see his email below
 ken_me55@hotmail.com

ACON — Project Officer MAG and the founder of MAG:

Steve Ostrow 9206 2072

Committee:

Allan Jones 0423 595 177
 Lewis Turtur Vice President 9319 1280
 Warren Sawkins -----
John O'Dea 9521 1953
 Jon Allwood 0431 062 343

MAG / C

MAG in the Community.

For guys who are ill, in hospital,
 or who require assistance.

Please contact Eric Ellem on
 0418 686 429

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

Our web site is

www.magnsw.org

We meet on the **second** and the
last Saturdays of the month

at **414 Elizabeth St.,**
Surry Hills

[near Devonshire St],

from 6:30 pm for tea and coffee,
 with the meeting commencing
 at 7:00pm, usually with a
 Guest Speaker — every so
 often we have a

social, or a 'pop corn' night

A light supper follows.

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

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Acceptance (Gay Catholics)

[Celebrating their 40th year] Tel. 9568 4433.
 Friday Mass, St. Josephs 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 Contact Marc on
 0404112831.

Country Network for friendship and support
 through social events and networking across rural,
 regional & city Australia.

Information at www.countrynetwork.com.au

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 and Married Men's Assoc
 Tel. 9267 4000 www.gamma.org.au

Gaydownunder www.gaydownunder.com

GLCS Tel. 1800 184 527

GSN - Gay Sydney Nudists

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 and 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 and
 other outdoor activities in the 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 for further information.

Christ Our Hope Community

Meetings: fortnightly (2nd and last Sundays)
 at 11am, 414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills
 on level 3.

Contact: Mons. Peter Johnson O.S.C.
 on 9588 6893 or 0419 464 353

GONG GUYS

www.wags.net.au