

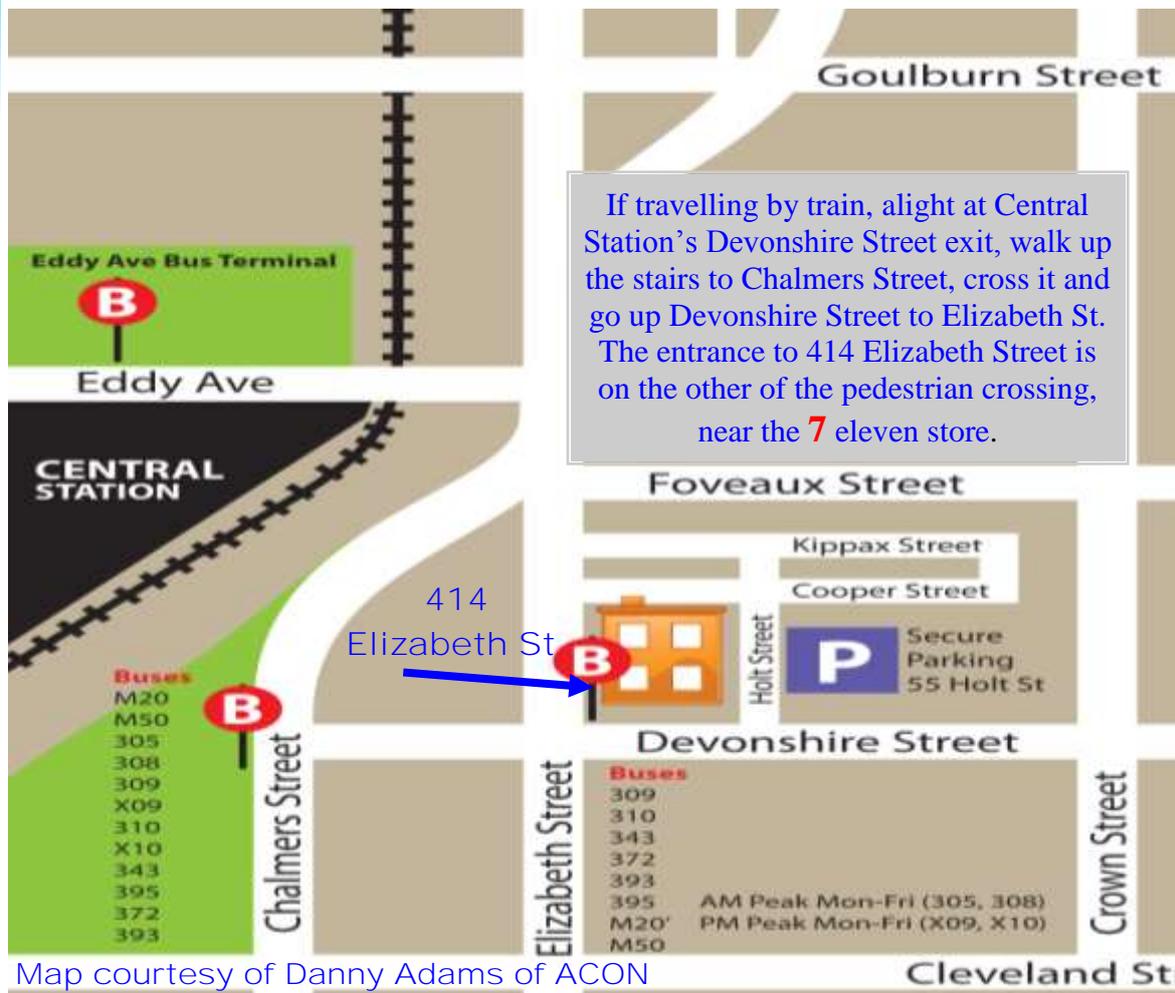
MAGazine

The Newsletter for Mature Age Gays

July and August 2011 Edition



WE HAVE A NEW HOME finally
at **414 ELIZABETH STREET, SURRY HILLS**



Map courtesy of Danny Adams of ACON

Look us up on the web
magnsw.org

MAG is a
project of



President MAGazine



Fellow Members and friends of MAG

I thank the MAG Members for giving me the opportunity to lead our organisation over the next year and I am sure you will be delighted with our new accommodation provided by ACON, although not finished, the facilities will ensure pleasant surroundings and more opportunities for our Members and Guests.

I take this opportunity to pay tribute and give our thanks to the dedicated and long serving Committee Members who did not seek re-election. I refer of course to the outgoing President Erroll Higson, treasurer John O'Dea and committee Members Bradley Falappi — we thank you we salute you and don't go too far away — we might need your advice!!

I would like to remind you that MAG is YOUR organisation, the Committee needs your input both positive and negative to ensure that we remain a viable and relevant organisation — does MAG fulfil your needs for friendship, education, entertainment etc?

Our contact details are included on the back page of this Newsletter, so pickup the 'phone and tell us.

This is MAG's 20th year — let's make it a good one!!!

Eric Ellem, President.

OUR 2011 PLANNED EVENTS

All our meetings are now held at
414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills

9th July
TBA

30th July

Professor Andrew Carr
St Vincent's Hospital
Research on HIV Medications
on people who do not have HIV
Please refer to the Flyer to Page 4

13th August
TBA

27th August
TBA

10 September
MAG's 20th
Anniversary Social

Steve Ostrow

MAGazine



Hi Guys,

If I had to encapsulate what has happened to MAG in **the last year, I would have to use the word 'matured'.**

In an organisation, which embraces social awareness and support of one another, I think we can honestly say that, after almost 20 years of growth and achievement, MAG has become both a landmark and a model for other institutions to build upon.

Which is not to say we should now become complacent. On the contrary, I firmly believe that, having reached the top of the mountain, we must now spread our wings and explore new horizons.

It is a fact, but no less deplorable, that the mature man in our youth oriented gay culture is marginalised. But it is also a fact that as we get older, the excesses of sex and partying, so much a part of that same culture, are no longer as attractive to us either.

What we do look for, as is evident by the success and steady attendance at MAG meetings, are those attributes which we need to sustain our humanness.

In simple terms, we need each other. We need to feel a connection with others who are travelling the same path we are.

It has been said that, 'what is most personal is most general.'

That the thoughts and feelings, we experience as uniquely ours, are, when we can share them, found to be understood and resonated with by others who are, and have experienced those same emotions, needs and concerns.

It is in this communal exchange of our deepest fears and anxieties, our joys, hopes and aspirations, that we can feel whole and at peace.

And I truly believe that this is and has been MAG's most important contribution.

As more people enter our age bracket and we all tend to live longer, but not necessarily better; how to sustain, broaden and embrace an even larger community and identify and provide access to what ageing supports are available, is, as I see it, our primary challenge for the future.

That and preserving the uniqueness that makes MAG-MAGIC.

Love Steve

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

Secretary **MAGazine**

Finally we meet in our new home We have finally moved into *our new home* with the 11th June being our first meeting in at [414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills](#); after we held our last 3 meetings at the Taxi Club. Whilst the area where we will be conducting our meetings [ground floor] is not quite ready, we held our AGM up on level 3. All went well, and we even had pizzas from the shop next door to ACON, for supper. All the guys present were most impressed with the meeting rooms on level 3.

Changing of the Guard At our AGM, Erroll Higson who had been our President since 2001 decided to step down and not seek re-election. Likewise, John O'Dea our Treasurer since 1998 also decided not to seek re-election.

To both Erroll and John, as I stated in my Annual Report to the Members at the AGM, I offer my sincere thanks to them

both; as well as our members' thanks for their stirring efforts & strong commitments to ensure the continued success of MAG.

Likewise to the guys on the Committee — Joe, Mario, Eric and Bradley thanks for your input to our Committee meetings.

MAG now has a new **President — Eric Ellem** and a new **Treasurer — Jon Allwood**, and a new Committee — Joe, Lewis, Mario and Stuart.

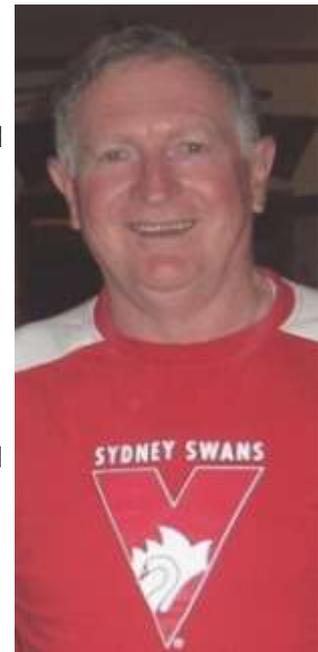
Eric thanked all members for their vote of confidence and thanked the outgoing Committee for their contribution to **MAG's success**. He hoped the new Committee will carry the success forward. He is keen to receive ideas, seeks co-operation and participation for all our Members and friends.

You can still pay 2011 Memberships

As mentioned in previous Issue of the Newsletter you can still pay your 2011 fees and our new Treasurer Dr Jon will be very happy to receive payments from all who wish to do so. You can pay him at any of our meetings or post him a cheque. All cheques are now

to be made payable to ACON Health just for logistical reasons.

David, Secretary & Newsletter Editor
Tel: [02] 9516 2063.



St Vincent's Hospital Darlinghurst

RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are currently studying the effects of HIV antiviral medicines on blood fats and sugars before and after food in adults without HIV infection.

Do you have time to help?

We are seeking volunteers with:

- relatively normal weight and (not trying to lose or gain weight)
- normal blood pressure, blood cholesterol and sugar levels
- time to attend our research unit, four times over a 6 week period (including two 6 hour visits)

Professor Andrew Carr will be our Guest Speaker on Sat, 30th July.

To find out more please contact:

Nicola Mackenzie at St Vincent's Hospital on 8382-2919 or nmackenzie@stvincents.com.au

Professor Andrew Carr at St Vincent's Hospital on 8382-3359 or acarr@stvincents.com.au



It is my pleasure to submit my 10th report as MAG's Secretary on our activities during the past 12 months. I was elected as the Secretary of MAG back in 2001.

THE EXECUTIVE

Erroll Higson as the President together with John O'Dea as the Treasurer and myself, as the Secretary makes up MAG's Executive. I thank both these guys for their sterling efforts and their strong commitments to ensure the continued success of MAG.

THE COMMITTEE

During the past 12 months, ten (10) Committee Meeting were held.

We cancelled two meetings due to our 19th Birthday Celebration and our Christmas Party. To the present Committee Members of Eric Ellem, Mario Panzarino, Joe Mula and Bradley Falappi thank for your input into the discussions that we had; and for your contribution to MAG.

GREETERS

Thank you to our greeters – Lionel, Alex, Roscoe and Stuart, plus a number of other guys who have assisted in making our members, friends and guests welcomed when they arrive in the foyer, and for writing out their name tags and recording the numbers of attendees to our Meetings [which is for my information].

CATERING COMMITTEE AND SET UP HELPERS

We do have a number of generous guys who give their time, working behind the scenes at MAG to make it all happen, and this is certainly true of our guys in the Kitchen, who arrive early do their magnificent job with the mouth-watering food platters for the supper tables. Then we have guys who set up the chairs in our meeting room; and those who clean up and wash up at the conclusion of the evenings. Guys like John, Jeff, Ronnie, Doug and Lionel; together with a number of others who are '**MAG's little doers**' and they do it all so well. Your efforts are sincerely appreciated by me, and on behalf of Members and Friends of MAG I thank you. We are always seeking more guys to lend a hand. So please let us know if you can help us out.

To help pay for the cost of us to provide a light supper, we ask guys to donate a gold coin towards this. Debate is always continuing as to what is a \$ amount that covers the cost of the supper, plus the incidentals such as paper table cloths, paper plates, napkins, tea, coffee, sugar, tomato sauce, washing up liquid, and so on. This is a continuing debate. To those few guys who do bring in items for the supper tables, my sincere thanks for doing so, and may I remind you very kind people that do not need to contribute to the buckets. We will be changing the way supper is served in the future, by serving food items onto your plate and then asking you to move on to the next server. This will ensure that those guys at the end of the queue do get to sample the food on offer.

2011 MARDI GRAS - FAIR DAY

Our 2011 Fair Day effort was once more a great one for MAG - both financially and socially. We flew the MAG flag. It was a very successful presence and a fantastic effort by all concerned. To those generous guys who assisted us, namely Mario, Joe, Lewis, Bill, Damien, Alex, Ken M, Chris, Ken, Glenn and David our sincere thanks to you all as the day would not have been the success that it was without your help.

We made just over \$1,700.00 profit from the plants and jams stall, second hand books sales; together with the wine raffle. Our hard core guys namely John and Harry, Erroll and Dr Jon; plus yours truly were there from early morning until 6pm. I, or should I say Dame Dolly Devine of Marrickville, was a little late as she had to push her shopping trolley thru Newtown with her *drag* and other stuff for the Stall in it. Our Stall was decorated in silver sequins. Thank you Ken Mears for assisting in the decorating of the Stall and for display of small empty wine bottles. Punters again wrote out their own raffle tickets and placed them into the barrel. Sincere thanks to Harry and John for your magnificent efforts in growing the plants, making and bottling your delicious jams. The *Dame Dolly Orange* was another great seller, as was the *Mini Chew Orange* for those with false teeth.

2011 MARDI GRAS - PARADE

This year we travelled in style in an open roofed Double Decker Bus. The hire fee of \$1,600 was kindly given to us by the Over 55 Services Unit of the City of Sydney Council, for which we were most thankful, and have acknowledge the Council in our Newsletters and on our web site. Our theme was MAG's Gold, Bold and Beautiful. Thank you Ken Mears for all your hard work in decorating the bus in sequins signage. We even had a comment over the sign on the rear of the Bus, which caused a concern, by the organisation who saw it; which goes to show that people do look at our Bus. I do thank the 40 or so guys who participated in our contingent and we thank all who helped dress up the bus and undress it at the conclusion of the Parade. We had visitors from Brisbane and Melbourne and also some friends of MAG Members to help bolster our numbers. Our Bus driver was new to the Parade, and he seemed to enjoy himself, as he had heaps of photos taken with many of us. The Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP had a photo taken with us and we really appreciate her taking the time to have a pic taken. This photo appeared on the cover of our May & June Issue of our Newsletter. We were able to use the comfort of the ACON building before hand [thank you ACON] and had some light refreshments of sandwiches, biscuits, tea, coffee and soft drinks. We were well received by the crowds, as has happened in previous years.

At the end of the Parade we were dropped off near ACON and those who wished enjoyed some well earned refreshments and nibbles.

Thanks Michelle, Valery and John Murray for the great photos of the Parade.

I thank Lionel for preparing my face and Marcia Monterey of Muswellbrook for my outfit, although the cape was a bit long and I almost fell over a few times.

But it was another resounding success for MAG.

MAGIC MAG in the Community

Is a project of MAG for guys who are ill, in hospital, or who require assistance.

It is in the capable hands of Noel Hunter who can be contacted on (02) 9699 1317.

Noel would be pleased to know of any guys in these situations so he may be of assistance – a friendly chat or what ever.

From time to time we have had Members who have not been well.

We hope all who have been ill and now in better health.

OUR LIBRARY

The MAG Library was maintained by Alex and assisted by a few members, and they are thanked for their work with the Library. Guys were able to check out the books at each meeting. With us now moving into new premises, the future of our Library is unclear at the time of writing this report; but I do hope everything will work out well.

OUR WEB SITE

MAG's Web Site is www.magnsw.org – our Web Master is Luke Luk and he really does a terrific job in placing the latest Newsletter onto our Web site, plus adding the photographs and information that may be of interest to browsers of our web site.

I sincerely thank Luke for all his efforts in maintaining our web site.

OUR NEWSLETTER - MAGazine

Our Newsletter known as 'MAGazine' and is published every two (2) months.

As its Editor, I sincerely thank all those guys for their help; like Tony Sierra who submitted an article on Rita Hayworth and my special thanks to Warren Sawkins for his Poems.

I do hope all our readers have found the Editions interesting and informative.

Contributions of recipes, jokes and interesting articles are always sought to make the Newsletter interesting for all. So if you have an article or whatever you feel that other members may find interesting, please let see me.

I do thank those who have sent me positive complements and notes concerning the Newsletters.

JOKES

My thanks to friends John [from NZ], Peter; and now Donald for all the jokes I receive from them. I am glad Members enjoy them at the Meetings & those published in the Newsletters.

MAGnet

Our social venture on a Wednesday evening is held at the Taxi Club, located in Flinders Street, Darlinghurst. All are warmly welcomed to attend and enjoy a reasonably priced meal, plus Taxi Club Members go into the drawer to maybe win \$100.00 – every half hour from 6:00pm till 8pm. I have won the \$100 a couple of times, as has Steve Ostrow and David Ritchie. So it is worthwhile being a Member of the Taxi Club.

ACON

As all our guys would appreciate MAG would not be the success it is today without the support of ACON. The use of their building for our meetings and storing of our gear, plus the financial support we receive for the printing and posting of our Newsletters; and this is very much appreciated by all at MAG. MAG in return has a number of Members; including myself, who are ACON volunteers for the safe sex packing team. The days are very enjoyable, with a light lunch being served. Some of the stories that are told would make your hair curl.

GUEST SPEAKERS

We thank all our Guest Speakers who have given up their valuable time to come along on a Saturday evening to speak to us at MAG. We had some really interesting and informative evenings over the past year. This has also been so when our members talk on their lives and experiences. Please let me know if you have a topic or would like to address a Meeting.

FINANCIAL MEMBERS

On behalf of our Treasurer, I do thank all those guys who have made a financial contribution to MAG and become a *financial member*. This commitment is greatly appreciated by the Executive and the Committee. I am really concerned that a number of guys who regularly attend meetings and who receive the Newsletters don't contribute financially. Then we have a most peculiar thing happening – we have guys who live in the country, also guys who live interstate and cannot make our Meetings but are financial members. Our venue is great and is close to all amenities, our speakers are certainly interesting, our social activities fun and suppers sumptuous and it only cost \$10.00 per year to be a true MAG member.

ATTENDANCE

To all those guys who do attend MAG meetings I thank you for doing so and trust you have enjoyed the meetings with a Guest Speaker or a social function. I apologise that am unable to give an average on the number of attendees to MAG meetings, as my paper work is in storage [due to the move to new premises at 414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills]. I do thank all those guys who make an effort to come along to our social evenings in colourful outfits. They most certainly added to the success of those evening. This was very much evident with our Bus in recent Mardi Gras Parade. Our 19th Birthday evening was a great success, with the honourable Michael Kirby our special guest of honour. The evening was full of surprises when we had a bare bottom waiter bring out our **magnificent** birthday cake, created by the very talented Dawn Hough from Pride in Diversity. To see the face of Michael when he realised the waiter was showing his bare butt was absolutely priceless. Then there was our 2010 Christmas Party which was another great success with the fabulous entertainer JBear. Both functions were well attended and I thank all who helped to make them so. We look forward to celebrating our 20th Birthday later on this year.

VALE

We have lost dear members and friends over the past year. These guys were loved and respected by all and will miss them. Our condolences are extended to all who have lost close loved ones and family members over the past year. We do share your loss.

Each year in October we will now be conducting an annual MAG Members Remembered Evening. We light a candle and we remember these guys who have gone before us, as for without these guys MAG would not be the success it is today. May they rest in peace.

THANK YOU STEVE

Steve founded MAG almost 20 years ago this year. He is ACON's Project Officer for MAG. If it was not for Steve Ostrow's idea, and ACON's support, we would not be here meeting tonight, so we thank Steve for MAG.

I also thank him for his advice to me as MAG's Secretary.

In closing may I state that it has been my pleasure to be MAG's Secretary.

David Bowron -

Secretary, Mature Age Gays, MAG.

A few Funnies

Thought for today!

Everything is further away now than it used to be.

It is twice as far to the corner – **and they've added a hill, I've noticed.**

I have given running for the bus — it leaves faster now than before.

It seems to me they are making steps steeper now than the old days.

And have you noticed the smaller print they use in the Newspaper and Telephone Books?

There is no sense in asking anyone to read aloud — everyone speaks in such a low voice that I can hardly hear them.

The material in clothes is getting so skimpy—especially around the waist & hips. Even people are changing. They are much younger than they used to be when I was their age.

On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am.

I ran into a friend the other day & she had aged so much she did not recognise me.

I got to thinking about the poor thing, while combing my hair this morning and in doing so I glanced at my reflection and, would you believe, they don't make good mirrors like they used to.

Thanks Herb — Ed

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

APOLOGY:

To the guys who were accidentally locked out of the building on Sat, 11th June, I do apologise. We encountered problems with the front glass doors due to an accident.

Our meetings commence at 7pm sharp, and should you arrive after that, please ring me on my mobile telephone, so somebody will come to the front doors to let you in. My number is 0447 600 966.

David Secretary, MAG. 8



TODAY WAS A DAY TO REMEMBER

Today was a day to remember.
I felt like ringing up.
Saying to a friend or two.
How's the heat wave weather,
Affecting you?
What's you been up to.
So I did and it gave me a thrill
And a good feeling inside.
To hear the voices of those I care for
And make no effort to hide.

Life can be hard.
For the people who think only themselves.
Don't let unhappiness affect your health.
Your health is your wealth.
Most people today stayed on the line for a chat.
One friend said a few words and left.
That was that!
Disappointing, what can one do.
Maybe the weather in a different way
had affected his day too.

The day was hot.
Nobody can deny.
Most of us were stuck inside
Trying to get by.
One day I will meet a phone friend in person.
A man I have known for a year or two.
To have a real friendship.
As others take for granted and do.
As the day progressed.
And the night came with time.
I played some music from a past tape collection.
A good feeling of music resurrection.
Before I closed my eyes for the night.
I remembered theses words.
That were still stuck in my mind.

Today was a day to remember.

Warren Sawkins
MAG MAGazine
POET
Written
3rd February 2011.

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.

For instance the Wednesday Members Badge Drawer — \$100 is given to lucky Members present at 6pm, 6:30pm, 7pm, 7:30pm & till 8pm.

The meals are well priced and enjoyable.

MAG invites all mature age gay and bisexual men to join our guys in having a meal, a drink and socialising.

REMEMBER!! SAFE SEX
ALL WAYS — ALWAYS

MAG's Details

Executive Members:

President: Eric Ellem 0418 686 429
 Secretary: David Bowron 9516 2063
 Treasurer: Jon Allwood 0431 062 343

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

Committee Members:

Joe Mula —
 Lewis Turtur —
 Mario Panzarino 0438 931 999
 Stuart Ferguson —

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

We meet on the second and last
 Saturdays of each month,

**at 414 Elizabeth
 Street, Surry Hills**

[which is near to Devonshire St]
 from 6:30 pm for tea & coffee
 with the meeting commencing at
 7:00pm, usually with a Guest
 Speaker — **every so often we'll**
 have a social evening.

A light supper follows.

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

Editor — David (02) 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
 for gay men. Sydney Metro contact Max Cluff or
 Ian Campbell Tel. 9648 0304.

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 414
 Elizabeth street, 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.

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
 Pastor *Robert Clark* Tel. 9386 9293
 37 East Street, Granville.

MCC Sydney 10:00am & 6:30pm Sundays
 Pastor part time *Greg Smith* Tel. 9569 5122
 96 Crystal St, Petersham.

Email — office@mccsydney.org

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 *Barry Webb* 9662 6409.
 Email address is southern.cross.outdoors.group@gmail.com

SPAI DS Sydney Park AIDS Memorial Groves
 Dates on tree planting days kindly contact
josken@josken.net 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