

MAGazine

CHANGE TO MAG's RELATIONSHIP WITH ACON

Joint Statement:

The MAG Executive has met with ACON management to discuss MAG's desire for greater autonomy and the need for ACON to continue to enhance its HIV prevention programs.

These discussions are in the early stages and it is envisaged that it will take some time to fully develop the details of a future partnership and support arrangements.

This will be a gradual process and both MAG and ACON are committed to working together to ensure the best outcome for all as MAG transitions to full autonomy.

The joint aim is to work together to develop a Memorandum of Understanding that will set out respective roles and responsibilities in the partnership.

Both parties agree that it is important that MAG members be kept informed and have the opportunity to provide input into this process

The MAG Executive and ACON look forward to continuing our long-standing partnership to ensure a sustainable MAG that continues to support current and future members of its community.

Eric Ellem: President, MAG

Shannon Wright: Director -

Community Health and Regional Services, ACON



Look us up on the web
magnsw.org

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN 2013

Our *Christmas in July* on Saturday 27th July will be an event not to be missed, so get on your Chrissy gear and enjoy.

Likewise, the Premiere of **"Continental"** will be held on Wednesday, 14th August at 5pm.

See page 4 for all the details

We have planned to **celebrate MAG's 22nd** Anniversary on Saturday, 28th September 2013. This date will depend on when the Federal election, oh sorry, I mean when the election is called.



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

MEETINGS FOR July and August 2013

Saturday, 13 July

Jose from Positive Living NSW

Saturday, 27th July

Christmas in July

Saturday, 10 August

T B A

Wednesday 14th August

Dendy Opera Quays

Cinema 2

"Continental" at 5pm.

A documentary on the Continental Bath House in New York City operated by our very own Steve Ostrow. Please see page 4 for all the details of this fabulous event.

MAG Members should contact Allan Jones for specially priced tickets being offered to Financial Members. Allan's tele is on the back page.

Saturday, 24th August

T B A

Saturday, 28th September

Our 22nd Anniversary Celebration - we hope it will be this date

THE PRESIDENT



It is with deep regret and with great sadness that I have accepted David Bowron's resignation as Secretary of MAG and I sincerely thank

David for the tremendous contribution he has made to MAG over many years particularly as Editor of our MAGazine, for his Secretary's report at our meetings which always included his jokes, sometimes rude, sometimes corny but always guaranteed to make us laugh.

David has indicated he would like to have a rest for a while but I hope we will continue to see *Dame Dolly Devine of Marrickville* on suitable occasions – thank you David for the help and guidance you have given to me personally and I am sure I speak for all our members when I say that you will be sorely missed and MAG will not be the same without you!!

You will have heard and read of the changes facing MAG, it has been reassuring to have the continuing support of ACON as we become a separate incorporated organisation.

ACON has agreed to continue to support MAG and its functions and as it is important that we "get it right" our committee will be in continuing dialogue with ACON as we proceed down the path to incorporation.

We will keep you informed as we move forward and participation by our members will be welcomed and encouraged

I thank the members of MAG who came along to the Forum held on 1st June, there have been many and constructive comments and suggestions which our Committee will take on board.

**Eric Ellem,
MAG's President.**

THE POMS BEAT US AGAIN!



Britain on Wednesday, 16.7.2013 legalised same-sex marriage after Queen Elizabeth II symbolically gave her royal stamp of approval, clearing the way for the first same-sex weddings in 2014.

Introduced by the government in January, the bill to legalise same-sex marriage in England and Wales was given royal assent one day after it cleared Parliament.

Possible Changes to our Meetings in August and September

The dates of our August and/or September meetings could change, due to the forthcoming Federal Election.

Whatever the date, should the election coincide on a MAG Meeting night, then our Meeting will still proceed, but conducted up on level 3, as the Café area will be used by the Australian Electoral Office.

We apologise to Members for the uncertainty of the situation, and as you can appreciate has us looking for other meeting plans - "Plan B" or "C" and so on.

Disclaimer

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

STEVE OSTROW

Hi all.

What a great nite, Saturday evening 13 July was. There were about 85 MAGs and a fab and very personal presentation by Jose from Positive Living!

Having been HIV Positive most of his life he described every aspect of his life and how he dealt with it. Most amazing and no holds barred. Oh, I meant no holds barred.

Our wonderful crew kept it all together and it was a night to be fully enjoyed by all and long remembered.

It constantly amazes and fulfils me to see how important MAG is in this era of ageing and dealing with the vicissitudes of a physically deteriorating yet rewarding life.

The MAG era is the fastest growing segment of our population, gay or straight or whatever. And although we are living longer, it is not necessarily better, except ... on a MAG night.

Wouldst it be every night.

Best, Steve - Founder of MAG and ACON's Project Officer for MAG.



“Continental” - ACON VIP Premiere - Wednesday, 14 August 2013

The founder of the Continental Bathhouse, Steve Ostrow.

Special guest Steve Ostrow will present the premiere of *Continental*, a new documentary by Malcolm Ingram (Small Town Gay Bar), as part of Possible Worlds, Australia's 8th Festival of American and Canadian Cinema. The founder and owner of the Continental Bathhouse, Steve Ostrow, will host an exclusive pre-screening function with champagne, finger sandwiches and canapés on Wednesday 14 August. Ostrow emigrated to Australia in 1992 and is now based in Sydney. For the past 21 years, Steve Ostrow has been committed to improving the lives of many hundreds of older gay and bisexual men through a support group he founded called Mature Age Gays (MAG). Steve Ostrow is the recipient of the 2013 *NSW Seniors Week Achievement Award for Health and Wellbeing*.

Continental is a riveting examination of a lively and controversial gay club that transcended sexual identity and acted as a beacon to the hip, beautiful and infamous. New York City's Continental Bathhouse was a place men went to have sex before gay sex was legal, but as nightspot, it also launched the careers of many, including Better Midler, Barry Manilow, Patti LaBelle and Frankie Knuckles. It became the keystone of a sexual revolution, fostering an environment of tolerance and contributing to a level of mainstream gay acceptance the world had yet to experience.

Through the colourful history of one establishment, discover the story of a generation of outlaws whose legacy lives on today.

ACON VIP Package Thanks to the generosity of the City of Sydney and Possible Worlds Film Festival, ACON has a great VIP package for the Australian Premiere on **Wed 14 August, 2013**.

Get a VIP experience by purchasing a premium ticket, with all proceeds going to ACON's Mature Age Gays support program.

Includes: Exclusive pre-screening function hosted by Steve Ostrow (founder and owner of The Continental) with champagne, finger sandwiches and canapés

VIP seating in the cinema

Double pass to Disco Bingay (ACON's weekly bingo fundraiser)

Complimentary gift.



What, Where, When...What: Pre-screening function with Steve Ostrow 5pm, followed by the *Continental* screening at

6pm Date: Wednesday 14 August, **5pm Where:** Dendy Opera Quays Cinema, 2 Circular Quay, Sydney

Cost: \$30 **Book online.** www.acon.org.au/continental

ACON's Umbrella

As mentioned by President Eric and Shannon, in ACON's joint press release, MAG will no longer be a Project of ACON, due to ACON's funding and financial rearrangements.



I stress that MAG is NOT being cut adrift, but will form a partnership with ACON and over the coming months will sign a Memorandum Of Understanding, which will set out the roles and responsibilities of our individual groups [MAG & ACON].

MAG will need to become an Incorporated body **MAG Inc** might be a good name, which in my opinion should have happened **many years ago**; so we will no longer be a glorified social club, but MAG.

We are not like any other Club, but are MAG and guys should keep this in mind.

The MAG funds that are held by ACON, will be transferred back to MAG, and our Treasurer will control these funds.

I am very pleased that ACON will continue to provide its current services to MAG, such as the accommodation for our meetings, printing and posting of the Newsletters.

It is therefore most important that readers contact the Secretary or Editor of the Newsletter to advise if you would like to still receive the newsletter by post, collect it at MAG Meetings, or by way of an email message.

If you do not contact MAG, to tell us of your wish, very soon, **then your name will be deleted from the mailing list.**

I sincerely thank all those guys who have told me that they do appreciate receiving the Newsletters, as it is very pleasing to receive a pat on the back instead of a *gripe*.

Naturally, MAG will support ACON in whatever endeavours they might seek our support - eg Parramatta Pride Picnic Day, Safe Sex Packing Volunteers, Seniors Week Afternoon Delight, and so on.

My farewell and "Goodbye"

It is with a great deal of regret and sadness that I inform you that this will be my last Newsletter, as I have submitted my resignation as MAG's Secretary and Editor of the Newsletter to Eric, your President.

It has been my extreme pleasure to be your Secretary for the past 12 years - since 2001, although in recent months I have not been enjoying my time at MAG, as everything I do seems to upset guys, and sometimes I cannot take a trick. So, perhaps my time is up and you seek another person to be Secretary. My decision has not been made lightly and is certainly not because of the changes in the *new* relationship between ACON & MAG. In fact, I applaud ACON for what is proposed and thank them for what they have done for MAG in the past and will continue to do for the MAG group in the future.

I feel, **MAG Incorporated** will be a good thing. To all the guys who have helped me along my journey as Secretary, I say "a big thank you".

A lot of guys have since passed away, but I have great memories of those wonderful men. I thank those who have paid me compliments for my efforts, as I really did enjoy doing those chores.

If you do not enjoy what you are doing in what ever and you are not happy, then it is best to go and seek *greener pastures* and to find some-place where you will be happy and contented; and this is so for myself.

I was very happy and really loved what I did for MAG for a long, long time, but recently it has not been so.

I place on record my thanks to all in ACON who have help me to make my job as the MAG Secretary a lot easier. I have sent a letter to ACON's CEO expressing my thanks to Nic and his staff.

I wish MAG all the best for the future and hope it goes from strength to strength.

I might come along to a meeting one day in the future, but for now "Good bye and thanks".

David - ex Secretary.

2013 SYDNEY GREAT TRAIN EXPO

On Sunday 9th June, Jim and David went along to Central Station to see the 2013 Sydney Great Train Expo on Platform 5. After inspecting the trains along the platform we enjoyed a Heritage Express Trip out to Clyde and return. Jim kindly shouted David a Devonshire Tea and a Coffee and we enjoyed it sitting in the Southern Aurora Dining Car stationed along side Platform 5 - thanks Jim. We then went over to the AHRA Bookshop to browse thru their many books. Seeing we are both keen steam train buffs, Jim and David both had a great day.

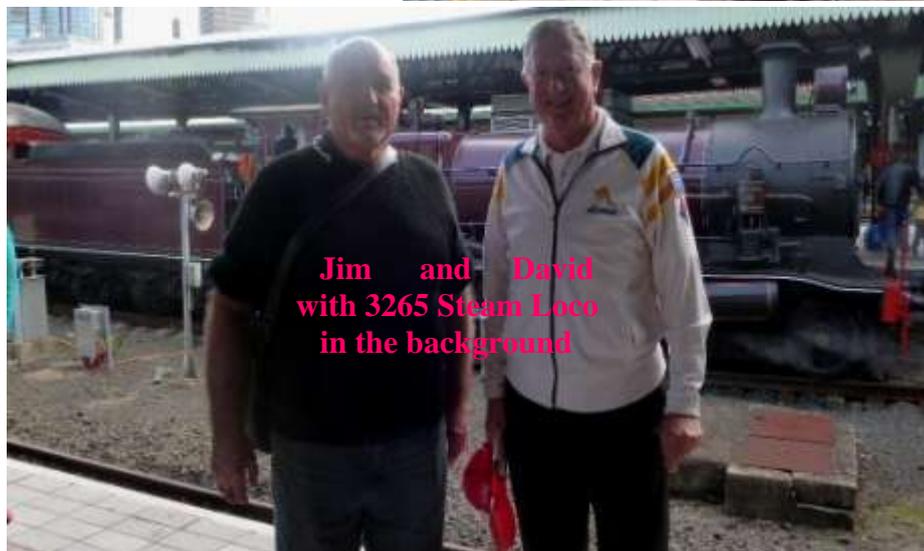
Our train trip to Clyde is about to depart Central with Steam Loco 3642 pulling the train



A Ticket for a ride on the Heritage Express



Our return trip to Central was pulled by Diesel Loco 4520



Jim and David with 3265 Steam Loco in the background

Photos courtesy of David

2013 SYDNEY VIVID DISPLAY

On Monday 11th June, David was pleased to act as a Guide for ten MAG guys on a tour of the 2013 Sydney Vivid Light display around Circular Quay and Darling Harbour. We met outside Wharf #4 at 6:45pm, then proceeded to see the Customs House lit up, then walked

to the Museum of Contemporary Arts, then saw a Warehouse outside the Overseas Passenger Terminal.

Then viewed the Opera House from across Sydney Cove, walked up to under the Coat Hangar to catch a ferry to Darling Harbour. We had problems getting on the ferry to Darling Harbour, so some of the guys returned back to the Quay. Eventually five of us made it to see the 9pm in Darling Harbour for the music and light show, in Cockle Bay.

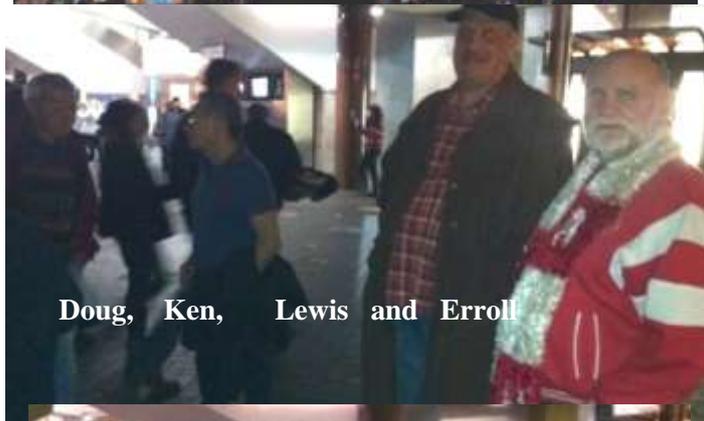
We had *Maccas* for dinner before the show and walked up to Town Hall Station after it finished.

The lights were very spectacular.

We hope Michelle will be able to show us a few of her fabulous pics of the display in the coming months. Tour Guide David was pleased all seemed to enjoy the lights.



Customs House - moving pictures



Doug, Ken, Lewis and Erroll



Adrian, Joe, David, Kris [back] and Ian [back]

[Photos courtesy of Jon and David](#)



LOVE

Living Older

Visibly and Engaged

LOVE is in the air

Do you wonder what you will do as you age, where you will live, whether your partner can live with you, how those around may respond.....?

If you're interested in the ageing needs of the GLBT* community come and inform us about your experiences, your service preferences and how you think things can change.

LOVE (Living Older and Visibly Engaged) is a new ACON project funded by Aurora and by the Office for Ageing that aims to kick-start a conversation in our community about **GLBT aged care, support needs and preferences** to help develop better services.

Whilst we acknowledge there has been discrimination in the past, we are looking to build on the strengths of the GLBT community in providing informed feedback to the NSW Government.

We would like to run a small consultation with MAG members to gather your opinions, ideas and concerns on aged care needs and service provision. Later in the year we will host forums with service providers

PLEASE REGISTER your interest for the initial small consultations or opportunity to provide personal stories by visiting: www.acon.org.au/loveproject

For more information please contact Diana Bernard at dbernard@acon.org.au or 02 9206 2033.

If you can't come in person you can contribute via our website at ACON.

www.acon.org.au/loveproject



acon
BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY'S
HEALTH & WELLBEING

LIBRARY

Over the past few weeks Donald and I with the help of Jeremy have spent some time cataloguing and categorising the library to make it easier for members to look at the books.

We have about 600 books covering a vast range of topics, something for everybody. There's a big selection of fictional novels including; gay westerns, gay murder mysteries, gay romances set during wartime, a lot of fun books depicting the gay lifestyle and gay classics such as; *Maurice* by E M. Forster. In the Non-Fiction Section, as well as books on gay history and politics, there's a book called *Gay & Gray* which looks at issues for older gay men. Many other books contain fascinating information about the gay lifestyle. Amongst the Autobiographies there are a few books by Steve Ostrow, well worth a read, he's had an interesting life. We also have a couple of books by Carlotta. There are a number of books of Short Stories. We have a good selection of Erotica, covering most sexual tastes, so I'm sure you'd find something to your liking. We have a book called *Bearotica*, which I think might be quite popular. Throughout the Library there's a good representation of Australian writing. The Library is on Level 3 and will be open from 6pm before every MAG meeting, so come in and have a look; hopefully you'll find a book you'd like to borrow.

Ian Lauchlan

*Always go to
bed with a
good book.
Or with
someone who
has just read
one*

A,B,C,D

After being married for thirty years, a wife asked her husband to describe her.

He looked at her for a while, then said,

"You're an alphabet wife ...

A, B,C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K."

She asks .. "What the hell does that mean?"

He said, "Adorable, Beautiful, Cute,

Delightful, Elegant, Foxy, Gorgeous and Hot."

She smiled happily and said

"Oh that's lovely. How about I, J, K?"

He said, "I'm Just kidding!"

The swelling in his eye is going down and the doctor is fairly optimistic about saving his testicles.

REMINDER -

DO YOU STILL WISH TO STILL RECEIVE MAG'S NEWSLETTER BY POST?

In the previous issues, readers were asked if they still wished to have the Newsletter posted out to them.

We have received a number of replies, which we do thank those guys for their responses.

We are pleased to hear that a number do hand their Newsletters onto others, and do not throw their Newsletters away.

A few guys said they would like to view the Newsletters on MAG's Web site; and a few have asked for the Newsletters to be sent to them in an email message.

We are not wanting to stop guys from still receiving the Newsletter in the mail.

BUT you must let us know how you wish to get the Newsletter in future.

1. **Having it posted to you.**
2. **Having it sent by an email message.**
3. **Collecting it at a MAG meeting.**

Your co-operation is much appreciated.

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.

In the kitchen with Mitchell



INDIAN TIGER FRITTERS

225g Chickpea Flour
available from Fiji Market in Newtown
1 teaspoon sea salt (I use Korean)
1/2 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
400ml water
Peanut Oil for cooking

Sift the chickpea flour, sea salt and bicarbonate of soda into a large bowl. make a well in the centre and add the water, using a balloon whisk, gradually mix the flour into the water to form a smooth batter.

Set aside for 15 minutes.

Heat enough Peanut Oil to cover the bottom of a frying pan over a medium heat.

Add a small quantity of the batter to the pan and cook for 3 minutes each side - until golden.

Repeat with the remaining batter.

Correction:

In the last Recipe, the Editor wrongly mistook the handwriting of Mitchell, my apols for this - Ed.

It should be 250gm of tomatoes, and the Oil should be Peanut Oil.

A FEW GREAT RESPONSES.

No. 1. - In a recent interview, General Norman Schwarzkopf was asked if he thought there was room for forgiveness toward the people who harboured and abetted the terrorists who perpetrated the 9/11 attacks on America.



His answer was classic Schwarzkopf. The General said, "I believe that forgiving them is God's function OUR job is to arrange that meeting."

No. 2. - Dana Perino from FOX News describing an interview she recently had with a Navy Seal. After discussing the countries that he had been sent to, she asked if they had to learn several languages?



"Oh, no ma'am, we don't go there to talk."

No. 3. - Conversation overheard on the VHF Guard (emergency) frequency 121.5 MHz while flying from Europe to Dubai.

Iranian Air Defence Site: "Unknown aircraft you are in Iranian airspace. Identify yourself."

Aircraft: "This is a United States aircraft. I am in Iraqi airspace."

Air Defence Site: "You are in Iranian airspace. If you do not depart our airspace, we will launch interceptor aircraft."

Aircraft: "This is a United States Marine Corps FA - 18 Fighter. Send 'em up, I'll wait!"



Air Defence Site: (total silence)

**WARREN'S
POEM****PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE.**

Written By Warren Sawkins

Is there a light at the end of the tunnel?
Or maybe we sometimes crawl blind through
a long narrow shame filled funnel.
Realities of life never hides, but the future may
lend a clue.

We dance happy along the level green fields.
Of our sunlit sometimes day to day uncertain
life.

Unpredictably our level sunlight green fields
may be heading for hills.
These we must climb to surmount our present
strife.

Sometimes all the doors along our long
shallow hallway offer no inclusions.
We must seek the positive key, otherwise fall
victim to life's delusions.
We may cry at our adversities, we may revel
as our equal fortunes abound.
A friend may console, offer a better possible
tomorrow, but strife is profound.

Yesterday's have brought us pain with disdain,
tomorrow's maybe a view with a gain.
If you wish to find hope, climbing a slope.
Always remember, to get to the top, you
mustn't stop.

We must surmount our adversities, revel in
equalled fortunes, this helps to inwardly grow.
Possibly there's a light at the end of the
tunnel, or maybe a glow to let you think it so.

acon

BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY'S
HEALTH & WELLBEING



MAG's DETAILS

Executive:

President: Eric Ellem 0418 686 429

Secretary: **VACANT**

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 -----

Jon Allwood 0431 062 343

MAGIC

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 Street,
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. 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 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 - 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 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, Level 3, 414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills

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

GONG GUYS

www.wags.net.au