

MAGazine

The Newsletter for Mature Age Gays

March and April 2011 Edition



WHAT A GREAT 2011 FAIR DAY

MAG had another great day at the 2011 Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Fair Day, held at Victoria Park, Broadway on Sunday, 20th February 2011.

MAG flew the flag and our signage was noticed from people passing by our Stall.

Our Plants, Jams & old Books Stall was well received, as was our Wine Raffle of 36 bottles of *fine* wines.

Our Spruikers of *Dame Dolly Devine of Marrickville* together with *Christine from Scone* did a magnificent job in trying to lure customers to purchase some raffle tickets, some jams or possibly a plant or two.

We had *magnificent* help from a few of our members who did a fantastic job, selling raffle tickets, jams, plants, and 2nd hand books.

Please refer to the photos on pages 6, 7 & 8

It now looks likely that we will be moving to our new home possibly in early May 2011. Please see page 5 for details

Look us up on the web
magnsw.org

MAG is a
project of



President MAGazine

Well Hello to all

Here we are at the start of a new year. How time seems to pass these days so quickly.

We are at the busy time of the year with **Fair Day followed by the Bus/float for this year's Mardi Gras Parade**. By the time this Newsletter is issued I would like to thank all of you who will get involved for your great help. I, with my

partner Jon, intend to fully enjoy both events to the full. However I do still feel that we as an older group are only tolerated and not made to feel part of these events.

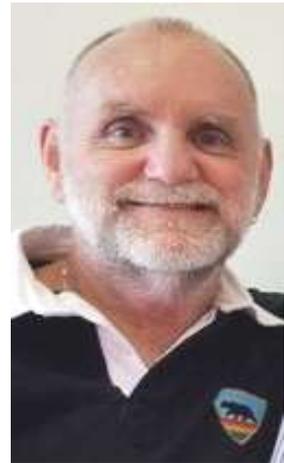
Well we are all up for great change this year at MAG with our move to the new ACON building in Elizabeth Street.

I know that many of you are concerned as to what is going to happen. Well you can all be assured that all on the Committee are working with ACON to make the transfer as easy as possible .

I think that this is going to be a most interesting and exciting new venture for us one could say a new departure.

So these are the last meetings we will be having at our old home so please let us make them some of our happiest and popular, with that in mind I look forward to seeing many of you over our next few Meetings.

Love from your President Erroll



Jon and Erroll at Fair Day

OUR 2011 PLANNED EVENTS

12th March

New Study of Anal
Cancer Precursors

Prof Andrew Grulich

26th March

A Gay Nursing Home

Karen Jansen

9th April

Blood

Tony Breinl

30th April

Preparing a Last
Will & Testament

Indraveer Chaterjee

from ACON's Legal Dept

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Hi Guys,

While I'm writing this on a sunny Feb morning, I am energised by the scope of oncoming activities that we will all experience shortly.

FAIR DAY...if it hasn't happened already by the time you read this MARDI GRAS...the same *AND* the move from our present home to a brand new adventure in the new facility at 414 Elizabeth Street date to be advised.

It has been said that the only constant thing in the world is change...and so it is.

ACON and all it's friends, SWOP, Bobby Goldsmith, GAMMA, HALC, and on and on will share a modern open house facility where we can all interact and draw energy and creativity from each other.

Commonwealth Street has been a wonderfully nurturing home for all of us for so many years, but now we must move on.

And it's all about people, so an address is only a number, but MAG being the largest gay organisation in Australia and in the world catering to the Mature Age Gay Man ... **ACON and MAG** will be a centre and a haven for all of us who are lucky enough to have lived to this day!

My Love to You All,
Steve.



Mature Age Gays MAG

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

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.

Secretary **MAGazine**

Changing our meeting location

ACON will be moving to new premises situated at **414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills** [just near Devonshire street], possibly from May 2011.

Details plus a photo of the new building are on the following page, .

Exciting times are in the wind, and whilst it will be sad to leave our meeting home for the past 16 years; moving to a new home I am sure will be challenging for some, but we will be up to the task— I am. **Further details will be published in the May & June Issue.**

ACON's postal address & telephone numbers will stay as they are.

2011 Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras

Fair Day — Sunday, 20th February 2011

MAG was again noticed by lots of people at this year's Fair Day.

It was reported that over 70,000 people were present. The storm did not eventuate, but it was hot and humid. *Dame Dolly* certainly perspired, and in her outfit created by Marcia Monterey of Muswellbrook, she was cool and *looked the part*. Many, many photos were taken of her and together with her. She even made the SSO & SX Newspapers in her official photo, which included 'a *say something sign*' which read:

"7 Sucks! David Campbell is a decent man. He did not deserve your SH#!". *Dame Dolly* had another fantastic day.

On behalf of the Executive, [President, Secretary & Treasurer] who were there from 7am until well after 7pm, I offer our sincere thanks to all those generous guys who gave up their time to assist us make our presence an outstanding success for MAG. Guys on the Committee [Joe & Mario] assisted on the day, thank you; together with Jon, Lewis, Lionel, Bill, Damian, Harry, Alex, Ken M, Chris-[*Christine from Scone*], Ken, Glenn and David all worked **MAGnificently**.

It was a **TERRIFIC TEAM EFFORT — THANK YOU GUYS!!**

To all who purchased jams, plants and raffle tickets — thank you. To those generous guys who donated a bottle or two for the wine raffle thank you too. The raffle was drawn by a lady Police Officer and was won by a gentleman named Paul, who will collect the 36 bottles from ACON.

We made a profit our around \$1,700, which is fantastic.

Thank you too to all our guys who came along and gave moral support to the MAG effort.

Thank you Valery, Chris and Shane for the wonderful photographs of us at Fair Day.

MOST IMPORTANT THANK YOU John O'Dea & Harry West for the delicious jams & exotic plants

The Parade — Saturday 5th March 2011

This issue of our Newsletter is being printed just prior to the Parade. A full report, together with pics will appear in the May & June Issue. Most of the guys will be travelling **the Parade route by Bus, with some walking**. We do thank the **Over 55's Services of the City of Sydney Council** for funds to hire an open roofed double decker bus.

Our Theme — MAG's Gold, Bold and Beautiful.

Gold will be our colour, and ties in very well with the City of Sydney **Over 55's Services GOLD programme** — Growing Older Living Dangerously. Participants can wear or wave **gold** garland scarves. These will be great in Taylor Square where it will be brighter than daylight for the Foxtel TV cameras.

Another Member passes I am saddened to report that Bill Sullivan [pictured right] passed away in December 2010. Bill had been a regular attendee to our meetings.



Dame Dolly's Official photo



Our New Home
possibly from
May 2011

MAGazine



ACON will be moving to new premises located at **414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, possibly in May**. The nearest cross street to 414 Elizabeth Street is Devonshire Street. People who travel by **train to reach MAG's new home** will now alight at Central Railway Station, exit at the Devonshire Street exit. Turn left **when you leave the station's concourse; go up the stairs or by new elevator** [when it becomes operational], cross Chalmers Street at the pedestrian traffic lights, walk up the small incline past the Irish Pub, to Elizabeth Street. Then cross at the lights, and on the other side turn to the left and 414 Elizabeth Street is just there. There are approx 347 paces from the ticket barrier to the front door.

You look for **Café 414** and the **7 Eleven store**, the entrance to our *new home* is in between these two premises.

ACON's postal address of PO Box 350 Darlinghurst 1300 and telephone number of (02) 9206 2000 will remain unchanged.

KINDLY CHECK DETAILS PUBLISHED IN THE MAY & JUNE ISSUE OF THIS NEWSLETTER FOR THE EXACT DATE.

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

Should you no longer wish to receive this **MAGazine**, kindly inform the Secretary



Lionel with David's camera



Our Stall with the Jams, Plants & Books
Mario is serving some customers

John's Dame Dolly Orange Marmalade was a huge seller — *apparently*. The mini chew Jams for people with false teeth went well too



Ken's Wine Raffle Pyramid



Lewis and Joe at the Raffle Table
Tony sits at the side of the customers



Damian and Lewis at
the Raffle Table
Harry & John behind
Lionel with a pink lei *manning*
in our Stall
Just love the flowers in
those Hats



Jon and Lewis at the Raffle Table
Harry sitting at the back
Thanks Lewis for your time



Glenn & David at
the Raffle Table



Lionel, Erroll, Zita and her friend enjoy the shade whilst enjoying the sights. Zita tries to wake President Erroll who was *working very hard* [having a little Nana nap & *dead to the world*]
 Dr Eddie is behind Lionel who is wearing a pink lei.
 Also, on the right of the photo you can see a side shot of Dame Dolly holding her pink fan behind a man's head, with other guys looking on.
 This is what DDDM was doing all day with the photos taken of her with her *adoring fans*.



Erroll and John



Christine from Scone
 Christine's pic appeared in 'SSO'



Dame Dolly Devine of Marrickville poses under her parasol and carrying a hand bag that were designed by the creative & talented Marcia Monterey of Muswellbrook.
 DDDM received many compliments on her outfit, and she inturns wishes to acknowledge and sincerely thank Marcia.

An Obituary printed in the London Times — interesting and sadly rather true.

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, **Common Sense**, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

Knowing when to come in out of the rain;

Why early birds get the worm;

Life isn't always fair; and May be it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies [don't spend more than you can earn] and reliable strategies [adults, not children are in charge].

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-introduced but overbearing regulations were set in place.

Reports of teens suspended from school for using mouth wash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing their job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

Common Sense lost the will to live as churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realise that a steaming cup of tea was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death, by his parents, **Truth** and **Trust**, by his wife, **Discretion**, by his daughter, **Responsibility** and by his son, **Reason**.

He is survived by his four stepbrothers:

I know my **RIGHTS**

I want it **NOW**

Someone else is to **BLAME**

I'm a VICTIM

Not many attended his funeral because so few realised he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

MAG members paused as a mark of respect at our meeting held on 26 February for those people who had lost their lives and the many, many people who were caught up in the terrible floods in Queensland, Northern New South Wales & Victoria.

Also the bush fires in Western Australia and more recently the awful earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand.

REMEMBER!!
SAFE SEX
ALL WAYS — ALWAYS

Warren's Poem

MAGazine



Warren Sawkins
MAG MAGazine
POET

Written
2nd December 2010.

LOVE IS, NOT WHAT YOU SAY,
BUT WHAT YOU DO.

Love is, understanding those around you.
Then doing it, as you do.
Love is, recognizing those you once knew.
Remembering them.
Till your days are through.
Love is finally letting go.
Of those you still care for and know.
When your hearts were one, and a glow.
Love is, sometimes a feeling.
Of the tears that ran down your face.
From a past memory of a moment of love

You'll never erase.

Love is, the feeling inside.

You couldn't hide.

When you once heard a child.
One night upset scream and cry.
All you could do was listen.
Do nothing, just stand by.
Love is, seeing someone happy.
Now move to the light.
Their final needs with the living.
Have been satisfied.
For their long duration of find years,
months days and nights.

Love is, not what you say,
But what you do.

Pensioners – Don't mess with them.

Two businessmen in town were sitting down for a break
in their soon-to-be-open new shop.
As yet the shop was not ready, only a few shelves set up.
**One said to the other, 'I bet any minute now some
pensioner is going to walk by, squash his face to the
window, and ask what we're selling.'**
No sooner were the words out of his mouth when, sure
enough, a curious, old woman walked to the window,
had a peek, and in a soft voice asked,
"What are you selling here?"
One of the men replied sarcastically,
"We're selling arse-holes."
Without skipping a beat, the old dear said,
"Must be doing real well ... only two left."

Pensioners - **don't mess with us!!**

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 — here
are \$100 badge draws
from 6pm till 8pm for
those members
present.

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.



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
Eric Ellem —
Mario Panzarino 0438 931 999
Joe Mula —

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

Meetings for March 2011 will
still be held at LG of
9-25 Commonwealth Street,
Surry Hills. The entrance is at the
back of the building, on the corner of
Clarke and Alberta Streets.

We always 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 — 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.

MAG meetings possibly from
May 2011 will be held at:

414 Elizabeth Street,
Surry Hills.

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
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 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.

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 *John* 9907 9144.
Email address is scog@scog.asn.au

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