

MAGazine

The Newsletter for Mature Age Gays

May and June 2011 Edition



The Lord Mayor of the City of Sydney, Clover Moore MP together with some of our **'girls'** along side of the MAG bus prior to the start of the 2011 Mardi Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade.
L— R Ben, Sau, *Dame Dolly Devine*, Clover More and *Suzie Wong*

The over 55 Services Unit of the City Sydney Council supported **MAG's entry for this year's Parade, and MAG is ever so grateful** for this support!!

Look us up on the web
magnsw.org

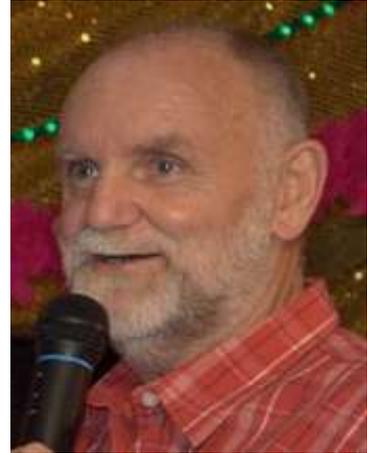
MAG is a
project of



President MAGazine

Hello guys

Well here we are about to say goodbye to our home for many years at Commonwealth Street. It has been a very good friend to us and seen us in good stead for many a long year. As we go to print we do not know the starting date for the new base in Elizabeth street and therefore we will be moving our Saturday evenings at the end of April and May to a temporary base at the Taxi club. I am sure you will enjoy these events and support them as you usually do.



This time of year has brought us through another Mardi Gras season and yet again in my view another successful one for MAG as well. I must say I am proud of the very hard work that Ken Mears and his team and the Committee put into the day from the reception at ACON to the bus/float and send a heart felt thank you to all.

I thought we looked good on the television (as I recorded it) however, I think the so called *comediienne* PAN AM's comments, 'we needed to try harder' were uncalled for.

So it's a goodbye to Commonwealth Street and a hello to Elizabeth Street and new exciting times.

I look forward to seeing you all .

Love from your President Erroll

OUR 2011 PLANNED EVENTS

Our Meetings for 14th & 28th May will be held at the Taxi Club, on 2nd floor!!!

14th May

TBA

Held at the Taxi Club

28th May

TBA

Held at the Taxi Club

11th June

Our AGM

Held at 414 Elizabeth St

25th June

Work of the RSPCA

Mark Jeffrey

Held at 414 Elizabeth St



Hi Guys, I con-du-it

As I look up, the sky seems to be an umbrella. Maybe **that's because it is.**

I have just arrived at my beach haven, only to find it raining. Well, rather than forsake my interlude of peace and harmony with the natural world, I have chosen to stay, propped against my rock, my little umbrella held in one hand while I write this little epic.

The other day---a splendidly sunny, early autumn one at that---I was reclining on one of the ancient sandstone ledges overlooking the waters of South Head. As I gazed upwards, squinting through my sunglasses, I could see the sun in its full circle, but almost devoid of light, behind an opaque cloud.

There was, however, an oval opening in the cloud cover, like some giant golden eye, and it was spotlighting me with its warm, solar rays. How could the sun be pale while this eye burnt brightly, I thought.

And then I knew that the eye was independent of the sun, and that I in fact was being observed. But for what purpose, I wondered.

I decided to let myself just be and see what would be revealed. And there was a message, just as clear as if someone was speaking.

I should preface this by saying that, whilst on the rock, I was trying to understand the current meaning of my existence and its relevance. I perform no longer. I procreate no longer. I have no more long-term goals, dealing instead with one day at a time. So what is my purpose now?

'You are a monad, my son,' the words rumbled.

Now I had just encountered that word in a metaphysical course.

'A monad?' I asked.

'Yes. A self-contained entity that reflects the totality of its world.'

'And what is my value to this world?'

'That you can pass on what you have seen and learnt to others.'

'But I am limited to my own knowledge and capabilities.'

'Ah, but you are also a conduit.'

'What do you mean by that?'

'I mean that what you need to know, and how you need to share it, will come from inspiration.'

'But inspired by whom?'

And then the light faded as a dense cloud closed the eye. But I knew the answer.

A conduit, I thought. What more inspiration could I ever need? What more confirmation did I need to be?

And then my eyes closed too. I had heard what I needed to see.

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

Secretary **MAGazine**

2011 Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras

The Parade — Saturday 5th March 2011

Our Theme was — **MAG's Gold, Bold and Beautiful** —
and we were!

MAG had a bus to transport those MAG guys who could not walk the Parade route so these guys were able to enjoy the atmosphere of the evening in the comfort of our open roofed double decker bus.

We sincerely thank the Over 55's Services Unit of the City of Sydney Council for their support so we could hire the double decker bus. Special thanks to Jaimie and his Supervisor, Jackie.

We also had a large walking group who were at times *miles ahead* of the bus - but all participants agreed it was a terrific evening.

Thank you to Ken Mears for your wonderful creative talents in decorating the bus with the banners, and those *lips*.

My thanks to those generous guys who helped *dress the bus* and then remove the banners at Moore Park at the conclusion of the Parade. We had drinks and nibbles to cap off a great evening back in the ACON building.

I would also like to thank ACON for allowing the MAG guys and the 78ers to assemble in the Learning Centre Area prior to the Parade. ACON kindly offered to pay for pre-Parade nibbles and drinks, but President Erroll thought MAG should pay for this and MAG did.

We had 4 guys from Melbourne and 2 guys from Brisbane join us and well as friends of other members who assisted in making our group be very colourful. We had a new Bus driver this year, and he was very friendly and helpful. I think he enjoyed the evening, he did have a number of photos taken with our guys.

Talking of photographs — I would like to thank Michelle and Valery our photographers extraordinaire for some great photos of the night.

Michelle is selling photos from the Parade for only \$5.00, and they are a great reminder of a terrific evening. I would also thank John Murray for some of his pics— John was a Mardi Gras Volunteer stationed in Flinders Street and took a great one of the Bus pictured above.

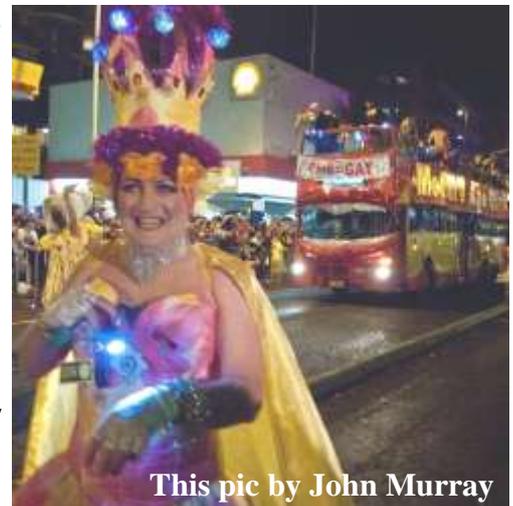
Changing our meeting location ACON will be moving to new premises situated at **414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills** [just near Devonshire street], now at the end of May — fingers crossed. A few problems have been encountered with the installation of a new grease trap for the industrial type kitchen on the ground floor, so the moving date has been revised. It is now hoped that ACON will be in 414 Elizabeth Street, at the beginning of June. Therefore MAG plans our meeting for 11th June will be the first in our new home. In the meantime meetings for May will be at the Taxi Club, up on the second floor. **MAG will be providing supper [from the Club's Restaurant] so we kindly ask that** no food for supper be brought by our members and friends. We do seek assistance to help pay for the supper by asking for a minimum donation of \$3.00 from those who will be attending. MAG will be paying \$12.00 per head for supper.

Should you seek further information, please ring either myself, the President or Treasurer. As I said in our previous Newsletter, whilst it will be sad to leave our *home* for the past 16 years, I am sure we will enjoy our new one.

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

2011 Membership Fess are now due and our dear Treasurer John will be most pleased to receive payments from anyone who may care to send him \$10.00; or guys can pay him at any of our meetings. Cheques to be made payable to MAG.

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



This pic by John Murray

Our New Home
maybe in
June 2011

MAGazine



As mentioned in the previous Newsletter ACON's new address will be **414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills** - very near the corner of Devonshire Street.

Café 414 and **7 Eleven store** are on either side of the entrance to **414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills**.

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

2011 MAG MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE !!!!!

The cost is a mere \$10.00 per year.

All persons who attend our meetings, receive the Newsletters, enjoy listening to our Guest Speakers, enjoy our sumptuous suppers are encouraged to kindly support MAG **financially**.

Our Treasurer John will gladly receive payments for anyone who cares to send or give him \$10.00 — thank you.

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



MCCGS 1st ANNUAL

PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP

37 EAST STREET, GRANVILLE
SATURDAY JULY 9th at 12 NOON

Sponsored by 4REEL PHOTOGRAPHIC *Australia
FOTOFRIENDS, Bankstown Centro, and
CARTRIDGE WORLD - Chester Hill



2 hours of fun tutorials for both still & video
PHOTOGRAPHY for only \$10 Adult. \$8 Student
Including light refreshments...
DOOR PRIZE and other give-a-ways.

ENTER OUR PHOTO COMP:
Bring along what you consider to be your
very best photo for judging on the day.

HOST: SHANE ANDERSEN
International Photographer



A great shot of our Bus in Flinders Street
Pic taken by John Murray



Phillip, Neil & Ross
The girls with the large white wigs are affectionately known as the yellow Beryls



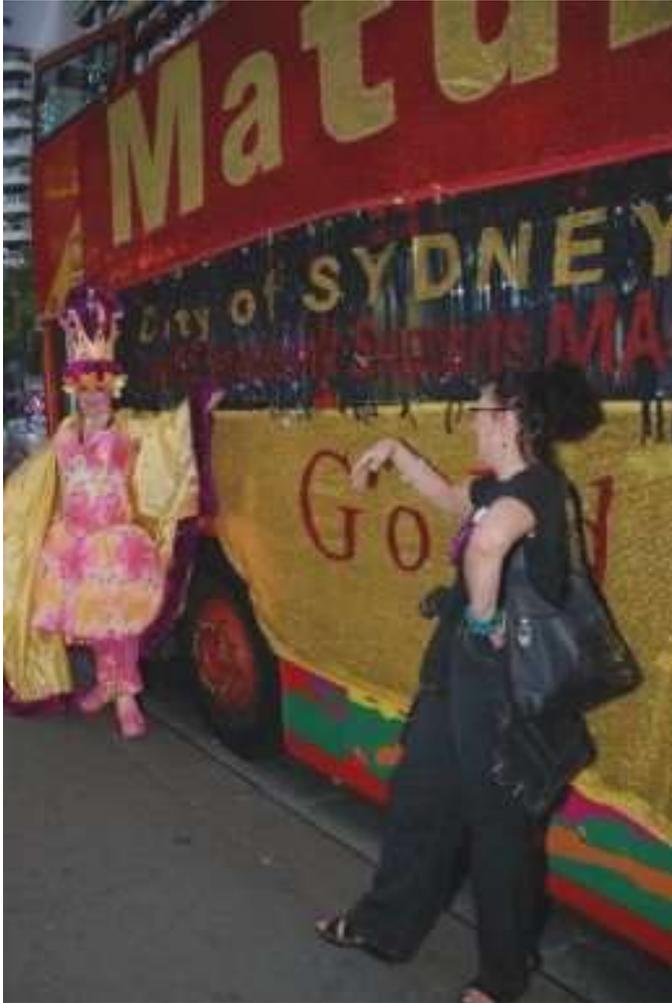
Francis, John, Dolly, Neil & Shervin



Francis, Dolly and John



Jon, Erroll and Mario at front of the Bus



Joe resplendent in black & gold

Dolly & Jackie from the Over 55s Services of the City of Sydney pose at the signage acknowledging the Council's support of MAG — this great pic was on the SX Newspaper's online site



Dolly with our bus Driver



John, Damien and Suzie Wong holding the MAG letters On the left in white shorts is Francis and Damien is to the right



Our President Erroll with mask

John O'D, John G & Damien [head around the letter G] holding the MAG letters



Suzie Wong in front of the Yellow Beryls



Eric, Joe & Mario your Committee guys [Bradley was missing]

Roy, an undertaker recently came home with a black eye.
“What happened to you?” asked his wife.
“I had a terrible day.” replied Roy. “I had to go to a hotel and pick up a man who had died in his sleep.
When I got there, the Manager said they couldn’t get him into a body bag because he had this huge erection.
Anyway, I went up and sure enough there was this big naked guy lying on the bed with this huge erection.
So I grabbed it with both hands and tried to snap it in half.”
“I see”, said his wife, “but how did you get the black eye?”
Roy replied, “Wrong room”.

The other day, a gentleman went to a Dentist’s office to have a tooth pulled.
The Dentist takes out a freezing needle to give him a shot.
“No way”! “No needles”! “I hate needles”, the man said.
The dentist starts to hook up the laughing gas and the man immediately objected.
“I can’t do the gas thing either; the thought of having gas mask on is me suffocating me.
The Dentist then ask the gentleman if he has any objections to taking a pill.
“No objections”, the man said.
“I’m fine with pills”.
The Dentist then returns and says, here is a Viagra tablet.
The gentleman is totally lost for words, said in amazement, “WOW”!
“I didn’t know Viagra worked as a pain killer.”
“It doesn’t”, said the Dentist, “but it will give you something to hold on to when I pull your tooth”.

If you can start the day without Caffeine,
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,
If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
If you can conquer tension without medical help,
If you can relax without alcohol,
If you can sleep without the aid of drugs. Then you are probably

THE FAMILY DOG!!

And you thought I was going to get all spiritual ha ha - Ed.

My Poem

My face in the mirror
Isn’t wrinkled or drawn.
My house isn’t dirty —
The cobwebs are gone.
My garden looks lovely
And so does my lawn.
I think I might never
Put my glasses back on. - Thanks Geoff

Warren's Poem

MAGazine

GOD IS IT WORTH GOING INTO THE LIGHT?

Is it really worth going into the light?
Maybe there are some straight people.
Still going around using homophobia
With great delight.

From what one hears and sees.
Beyond the light.

It's a real pleasure place.

Where everything.

All the time.

Seems picture quality right.

God, I'm sorry if I have any doubt.

There are sometimes feelings,
One must get out.

Do you really have the power at your command?

To broadcast your everlasting story.

Your powerful not repeated again truth.

This you can really demand?

We Gay Brothers and Sisters

Want to relive in our guaranteed.

Eternal everlasting time with peace.

Homophobia is not what we want.

Any more.

We seek from you its release.

God as an alternative.

After our death.

Maybe, we could find peace on earth.

As a fellow spirit among a gay spirit network.

Our bodies and identity always hidden

From the public view.

From all the people who go to lengths.

To discrimination against you.

God please give our Brother's and Sister's.

A good powerful sign.

So we can make up our personal mind.

Whether beyond the light

Is the place we must search for and.

Ultimately be determined.

We undoubting would want to find.

**God is it really worth going into the
light?**



Warren Sawkins
MAG MAGazine
POET

Written
13th March 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 — here \$100 badge draws are made 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.

**REMEMBER!! SAFE SEX
ALL WAYS — ALWAYS**



MAG's Details

Executive Members:

President: Erroll Higson 0412159168
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

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.

**We will be meeting on
the 2nd floor of the
Taxi Club, Flinders
Street for the
14th & 28th May 2011.**

**We hope our meeting for
11th June will be held
at 414 Elizabeth Street,
Surry Hills.**

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 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 7743 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