

MAGazine

A Newsletter for Mature Age Gay & Bisexual Men
OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2016



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



Steve cuts one of our 25th Birthday cakes with *Crystal* and David looking on.

We had fresh cream & jam filled sponges. Each sponge had written:-

Happy
25th
Birthday
MAG
Well
Done
Steve.

We even had a birthday cake for Ian Bayly who's birthday was on the day of our function.

MAG wins the Community Organisation Award in the 2016 Honours Awards

for its 25 years of providing support, health education services and social activities for older gay and same-sex attracted men.

Your President's acceptance speech given at this glittering ceremony in the Ivy Ballroom, George Street, Sydney please see Page 2.

check us out on the web – www.magsydney.org

Events planned for MAG SYDNEY INC

SATURDAY, 10th October — Duncan McNab - Gay Hate Crimes

SATURDAY, 29th October - 55+ Luncheon—see page 11 for details

SATURDAY, 29th October - **MAG MEMBERS REMEMBERED EVENING** Members Remembered past loved ones

SATURDAY, 12th November - Frank O'Sullivan — keep active in retirement

SATURDAY, 26 November - Photos of a terrific trip to China by 5 MAG guys in September 2016

SATURDAY, 10th DECEMBER — **MAG Christmas Social Evening** [Chinese theme]

SAT 31st December — **NO MEETING** as the ACON Building will be locked

Please do check MAG's web site for information on Guest Speaker/Topics for the TBA meetings etc.

www.magsydney.org

To all our readers - we send best wishes for a happy Christmas and in 2017, may we all have good health and much happiness.

Due to the many great pics from our 25th birthday party, a report & photos from the 5 MAG guys who travelled to China in Sept will be included in Jan Feb 2017 Newsletter



Your President's acceptance speech on MAG receiving the 2016 Honours Community Award.

"As the President of Mature Age Gays or MAG, may I sincerely thank the Judges for honouring MAG with this Award. I would like to acknowledge the founder of MAG, Steve Ostrow, who is not in the best of health, but is *still hanging in here*. Steve had an idea of a meeting place where mature elderly gay guys could come together in a safe & happy environment; as once you reach 40 then the younger crowd don't want to know you. Steve for those who do not know, ran the Continental Bath House in New York City — 1967 to 1975 during the Stonewall period. He discovered the talents of people like Peter Allen, Barry Manilow, Bette Midler & many others; in fact he paid Bette \$25 for her to perform in Bath House in front of guys who wore just a towel around their waist. AFAO & ACON supported Steve's idea and MAG had its first meeting on 16th September 1991, in the Clock Tower Hotel, Crown Street - which was Steve's birthday. Steve tends to forget people's name, but would never forget his birthday. MAG is truly grateful and thankful to ACON for its support back then & for their continued support today in allowing us to use their facilities at 414 Elizabeth Street. This gesture is repaid by my Members who volunteer their time on ACON's Safe Sex Packing Team. So it's a win for ACON, a win for my members who volunteer to help our community in a small way & for the gay community in general by hopefully wearing a condom and stop the spread of HIV. MAG is celebrating its 25th Anniversary tonight at the Paddo RSL, I was there earlier at our function & arrived here by cab. I will now return with this lovely Award for some popping of champagne corks. Over the years we have met & loved many, many wonderful elderly gents, who are sadly no longer with us, this Award acknowledges their contribution for the success of MAG, as it does for us guys present today. This makes me so proud. Thank you again, please enjoy the rest of the evening & may the red and white go onwards to victory over *Footscray* on Saturday".

Dates for your 2017 diaries —

Raising of Rainbow Flag — Sydney Town Hall — Friday, 17th February 2017. Fair Day — Sunday, 19th February, **at Bicentennial Park, Glebe Point;** as Victoria Park being renovated.
Mardi Gras Parade — Saturday, 4th March 2017.

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Thank you to everyone who attended our 25th Anniversary function. From all accounts it was a good evening.

My apols for the sound system which prevented Crystal from performing to her full potential.

I also apologise for being absent and spending most of the night in Taxis to the CBD and return to Paddington.

My sincere thanks to guys who kept the party going – you know who you all are.

I was pleased we received the Award, as there were other worthy recipients in our category. I am grateful to the judges for awarding MAG The Community Award in the 2016 Honours Award; especially in our 25th Anniversary year.

MAG has received great publicity, and there has been nothing but praise for the work we have done from 1991 to the present. As Steve correctly said at our Anniversary function – if it was not for the support of our Members then MAG would not continue. To all past and present members thanks for all your support, either big or small.

To all who enjoyed the evening, I am so pleased that you did.

My acceptance speech at the 2016 Honours Award I have printed it on page 2, for your information.



On my return to the Paddo RSL, Michelle kindly took this photo of me holding MAG's beautiful 2016 Community Award and a beautiful bouquet of flowers, that all winners were presented with.



The President & Crystal 'the loyal toast'

Photo courtesy of Michelle



Thanks Adrian Eisler, a great supporter of MAG, for representing ACON at our function and offering words of congrats. I am so pleased and thankful to Fran and Greg from Mardi Gras for being with us for a short time to offer their congrats to MAG, then left for the Honours Awards function.

Thanks to the guys who dressed for the evening, especially Brian – in your silver creation – fantastic. The Honours Awards function was an amazing event, I am sorry I could not have remained here, but wanted to share our victory with the MAG guys.

Sorry I was delayed with photos being taken. I would like to congratulate the SX Newspaper for its coverage of the Awards evening. Many people not associated with MAG have read about MAG's success, and have offered their congrats to me. I in turn have much pleasure in passing on their congrats to all of you, the Members of MAG.

Here is to another 25 years!!

Best wishes to you all – David – President

Steve accepts applause after cutting the birthday cake, then blows kisses to all



Adrian Eisler addresses the gathering with words of congratulations on behalf of ACON



The President toasts "absent friends"

A note from Dr Justin Koonin, President of ACON.

"I believe Nic has been in touch. I wanted to apologise for not being able to be there at your 25th anniversary on Thursday as I think you know it's also the ACON Honour Awards that night and I need to be there.

Thanks for the wonderful work you and MAG have done over the past 25 years. I wish you another wonderful 25 to come!

Warmest wishes, Justin."

Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO

Tuesday, 30 August 2016

Mr David Bowron
President
MAG Sydney Inc
414 Elizabeth Street
SURRY HILLS NSW 2010

Dear Mr Bowron,

Thank you for your letter of 22 August 2016 extending a gracious invitation to my husband Sir Nicholas Shehadie and myself to MAG's Silver Anniversary; which will commemorate 25 years of fine service and outreach to Sydney's elderly gay and bisexual men in our community, to be held at Paddington-Woolahra RSL Club on 29 September 2016.

Both Nick and myself would have been delighted to join you all for such an important and happy celebration. However, we have already accepted a commitment that same evening relating to children's cancer.

Nick joins me in sending you all our warmest congratulations, and appreciation of the fine work which yourself and colleagues have contributed to so many over the years.

May this 25th Anniversary be a most happy and memorable commemorations.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Dame Marie R Bashir AD CVO

An absolutely magnificent letter from a great supporter of the GLBT community — Dame Marie Bashir to MAG on its 25th



The Co – Chairs of Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Fran and Greg offer congrats to MAG



Michael

Crowd photo - In foreground, Gay lady in purple hair, Theo, Jon, Ian, Niko, Geoff, Joe

Photographs courtesy of Valery



Ben

Jeff

David

Chito

Wayne



Jim

Victor

Horas

James

Scott

Trevor



Ian

Lewis

Michael

Robert

Ross

Santoro

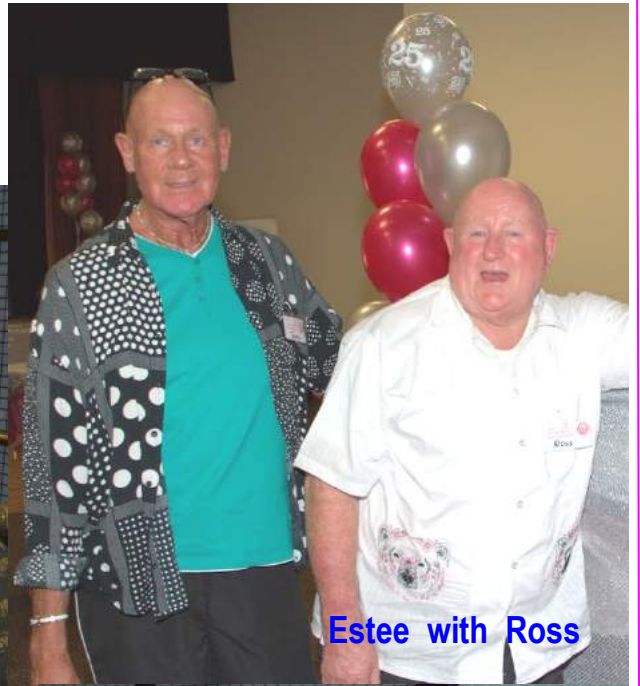
Dai



Crystal with David holding Ian's birthday cake for him to cut — as it was Ian's actual birthday on 29th September



Michael, Lionel, Sau, Ben



Estee with Ross



Jacques, Ross, Tony, David, Eddie, Adrian, John, John, Ken, Brian



Geoff with birthday boy Ian



Baz, Frank, Laurie



All The Treasurers

MAG's Treasurers

l-r

- John O'Dea,
- Jon Allwood,
- Ken Mears,
- Bill Alford.

MAG's 25th

MAGazine

Chito

Lionel doing a great job with the birthday



Jerry

John



Ken

Sau



David with Elliott



Gary, Eddy, Steve, Niko



David, Eddie, Brian
[in a very creative silver costume]
Ronghui, Richard

Photographs
courtesy of
Valery



Harry Jon

Roscoe, Kevin, Ross, Peter
still has a silver vest from
2006 M G Parade "Hello Dolly"



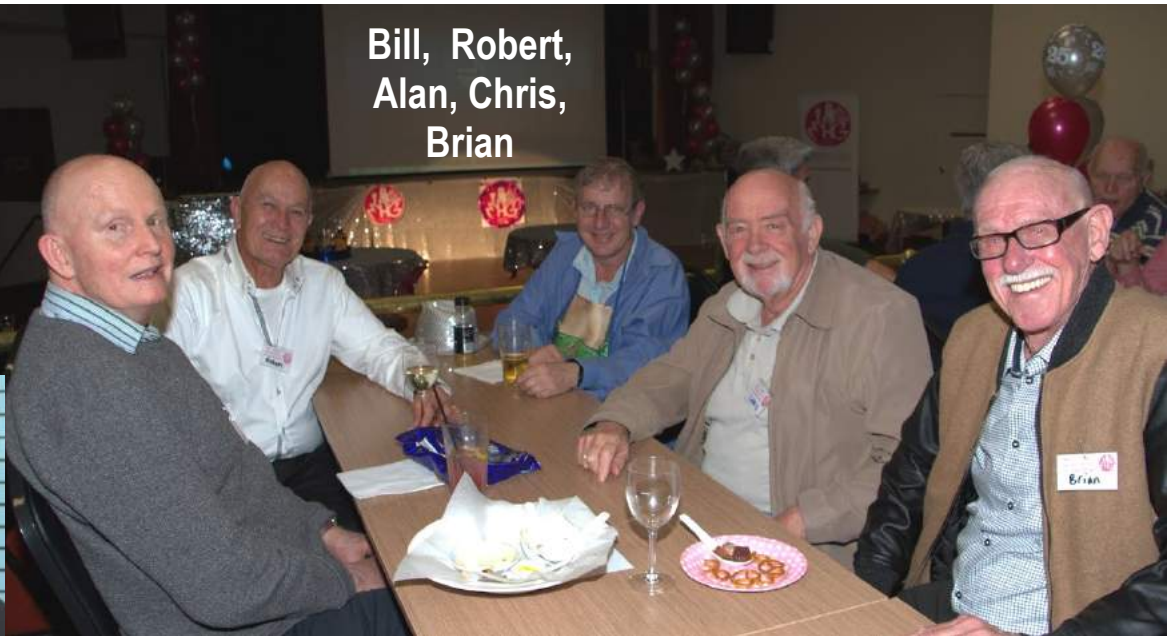
Michelle



Sau, Ben, Tony, Michael, Lionel

Please check out Michelle's books of photographs she took of our birthday

Bill, Robert, Alan, Chris, Brian



Bradley



Geoff, Peter, Ian, Theo, Jon, Joe



Michelle with Elliott 'dancing the light fantastic'

Ken, John, Erroll, Michael, Harry, Jon, Ross, Eric, Joe



Crystal swinging those hips



Lewis ready to slice up the cakes for our guest to enjoy



Pic of our guests



All the President's Men

MAG's President -

- l-r Steve Ostrow, Richard Buckdale, Erroll Higson, Eric Ellem, David Bowron.

We could not have a photo taken of MAG's Secretaries as Murray Johnston had passed away, and other Secretaries were absent.



Steve's group — Mary, Karl, Kevin, Aaron guys from America who intend to do a movie on his extraordinary life



Is Joe trying to get away from Jon? Brian in the background



Steve gives a parting wave, as Mary helps him to leave our 25th

LGBTI 55+ SHARED LUNCHEON

**AGEING WELL AND MAKING
NEW CONNECTIONS**

Yoga – Mental Health – Nutrition – Meditation – Salsa Dancing

ACON's LOVE Project and Inner West Council invites you to a FREE social event for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people 55 plus to explore healthy ageing and wellbeing.

Hosted by the fabulous Aunty Mavis. Come and share a healthy lunch. Make some new friends and have fun. Health professionals will be demonstrating activities that promote healthy ageing.

The LOVE Project aims to empower older LGBTI people to lead healthy, active & social lives



Saturday 29 October

10.30 for 11am start until 2pm

**Petersham Town Hall,
107 Crystal St Petersham**

RSVP before 26 October

9206 2017

rgluyas@acon.org.au

Bookings essential

This event is a partnership between ACON's LOVE Project and the Inner West Council.



Where & when MAG meets

We meet on the second and the last Saturdays of the month at
414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills
 [which is near Devonshire Street]
 just up from Central Railway Station,
 from 6:30 pm for tea and coffee, with the meeting commencing at 7:00pm, usually with a Guest Speaker — every so often we might have a social, or a 'pop corn' night.

A light supper follows.

The Committee meets whenever the need arises prior to a General Meeting.

Geoff Ostling is maintaining our Guest Speaker Listings.

Should members feel that a certain person could give an informative talk at MAG, then kindly contact Geoff on **9568 3029**.

He will be very pleased to hear from any of our members or friends.

MAG's Details:

Office Bearers:

Treasurer:	Bill Alford	8096 4891
Secretary:	Michael Filipovic	0429 290 000
Vice Pres:	Lewis Turtur	9319 1280
President:	David Bowron	9516 2063

The Founder of MAG:

Steve Ostrow - contact the President for Steve's mobile

Committee Members:

Ross Mackinnon	0439 601 224
Michael Darley	0408 359 989
Trevor Pritchard	9369 4206

Our postal address is now the same address as where we meet:

**MAG SYDNEY INC,
 414 ELIZABETH STREET,
 SURRY HILLS NSW 2010**

Our web site is **www.magsydney.org**

The Editor: Michael Filipovic

Our Community's Details:

Acceptance (Gay Catholics) 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

Bobby Goldsmith Foundation [BGF]

to empower & support people living with HIV to live well
 L 3, 111-117 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills
www.bgf.org.au 9283 8666

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

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

SYDNEY GAY MEDITATION GROUP

+++SESSION DETAILS+++

EVERY TUESDAY 7PM, (*contribution - by donation*)

MEDITATION SPACE, 99 CROWN STREET, EAST SYDNEY
www.sydneygaymeditationgroup.com

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) 31721170 for more details.

MCC Good Shepherd — 6:30pm Sundays 37 East Street, Granville. Pastor *Robert Clark* Tel. 0412 481 195

MCC Sydney - 96 Crystal St, Petersham. 10:00am & 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 & other outdoor activities in 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

COMPANIONS OF HOPE - Meetings: fortnightly (2nd and last Sundays) at 11am, Level 3, 414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills

Contact: Bishop Peter on 9588 6893 or 0419 464 353

Email: christ-our-hope-community.net

GONG GUYS - <http://www.gongguys.site90.com/>
<http://www.gongguys.info/>