

MAGazine

A Newsletter for Mature Age Gay & Bisexual Men
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2019



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

please check our web site www.magsydney.org



VALE JOHN O'DEA

An absolute Stalwart of MAG passed away on 19th September 2019.
John is in front of the dishwashing machine that he operated at MAG Meetings to ensure that all the crockery & cutlery were sparkling clean & *THEY WERE*
WE WILL MISS HIS LOVE, HIS ABILITY TO STIR US & HIS CHEEKY SMILE

Events planned for MAG SYDNEY INC

SAT 9 NOV — T B A

SAT 30 NOV — T B A

SAT 14 DEC OUR CHRISTMAS SOCIAL EVENING

KINDLY COME ALONG IN YOUR BEST CHRISSEY ATTIRE SO TO MAKE OUR YULE TIDE EVENT GREAT.

SAT 28 DEC NO MEETING AS BUILDING CLOSED

MAG's web site is www.magsydney.org

ALSO check out our [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) for updated Information

- see those details that are on the foot of all pages in this Newsletter



Newcastle Gay Pride. On Saturday 24th August, a group of MAG guys in the photo attended Newcastle Gay Pride. After arrival at Newcastle Interchange, it was a change onto the very efficient and regular Light Rail. On route to the Pride, we visited the Newcastle Library for the "Serving In Silence" Exhibition, a history of LGBT in the Military, an exhibition which had been in Sydney for the 2018 Mardi Gras 40 years. Then onto the Pride at Foreshore Park which overlooks the Hunter River and the Port. A great location. The Newcastle Pride had over 80 stalls, so it was their 'Fair Day'. ACON were well represented, Doggywood was there, plus many local Community groups and well known organisations from Sydney Fair Day.

There was a large attendance, considering the Pride Day has only been going a short time.

Photos & report
courtesy of Trevor



Trip to Bowral

On Monday 30th September, Bryson from The Pollys Club had organised for a trip to Bowral with MAG guys and LOVE Club guys. Bowral was 12 degrees max. on the day so it was cold. The tulips were so varied and colourful in Corbett Gardens.

A \$7 admission fee for Seniors/Pensioners. Devonshire Tea was available in the gardens and was enjoyable, and a good value lunch including home made pies at the Baptist Church, where there was an art and quilts exhibition.

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Your President

We had a terrific 28th Anniversary function on 14th September. The 2 Pauls did an outstanding job in entertaining us all. Our catering guys put on a magnificent spread for us to enjoy and we did. Fen our waiter was very helpful and attentive. He looked great in his white Speedos. I thank all those wonderful guys who came along dressed in the colours of the rainbow flag. Great photos taken by Valery & Michelle, recording the night beautifully. I sincerely thank them for doing this, as they gave up part of their night to capture the evening. Please see Michelle, at any of our meetings & check out her beautiful created photo books of the night. She will be pleased to take orders if you wish to obtain a photo of the night.

Please check out page 2 of the newsletter, which shows Trevor's reports & photos of the guys who attended his outings that he organized to Newcastle & to see the Tulips at Bowral.

On a sad note, John O'Dea, who I first met back in 1998, when Erroll Higson, took me along to a MAG meeting, to see Hugh Munro perform a drag show in the old Commonwealth Street building. John was the Treasurer back then. He did a lot of work behind the scenes for the success of MAG. John & his partner Harry were the backbone of MAG's successful Fair Day Stalls each year. They made home made delicious jams and grew plants at their homes for us to sell at our Stalls. I was honoured to be able to pay tribute on behalf of MAG members at John's funeral. On page 6, I have set out a few photos of John over many years, as our Tribute to him. We will miss his cheeky smile and he stirring us up. We always were able to have a good laugh. **RIP John**

MAG joined InterPride & we voted for Sydney's bid to host the **2023 InterPride**. I am pleased to announce that **TeamSyd** rec'd **60%** of the vote and **WON**. It will be held at the same time as the Mardi Gras Festival in 2023. There'll be lots of visitors to Sydney then.

MAG's Christmas Social will be held on Saturday, 14th December. I hope many guys will attend in *Chrissy gear* & make the evening fun. We have arranged some special entertainment, which I am sure all will enjoy. If attendees like, they may like to bring along their own favourite liquid refreshments.

Sorry to say but there will be no meeting on Saturday, 28th December, as the building will be closed.

Thank you everyone for your help to make our social group a great success in 2019. From the guys who attend our meetings, to those who financially support MAG, to our catering guys. All these small wheels within the big wheel, which keeps on turning.

The Committee has approved MAG having a small 4 ton truck in next year's Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade. We will have white & silver outfits, so we are seen. Like Ben wore in this year's Parade.

Guys on the truck will be seated and be **seen** by the crowds, instead of being inside a bus & only a hand waving being seen. Those walking, will be **behind** the truck, with white lights shining on us so we will stand out.

Our theme **SUPPORT EACH OTHER MATTERS**
SUPPORT MATURE AGE GAYS MATTERS

In closing, may I wish everyone the best of good wishes for an enjoyable Christmas and a happy & healthy 2020 **David - President.**

Pic to the right shows the beautiful floral arrangements at the Bowral Tulip Festival - pic courtesy of Trevor



I am with Ben, both of us in our stunning outfits at MAG's 28th Anniversary



Our **WEDNESDAY** nite social gathering

Our social evening get togethers are now on a WEDNESDAY night.

Why not join fellow MAG guys who meet at the Petersham RSL Club, from around 7pm.

The Club is located very close to the Petersham Railway Station.

We enjoy a very reasonably priced meal, have a drink of whatever. Some of us partake of delicious desserts with ice cream - Lemon Meringue Pie or Bread & butter Pudding - off course all 99% fat free

Everyone is more than welcome to join us.

For any further information, KINDLY contact David on 0447 600 966

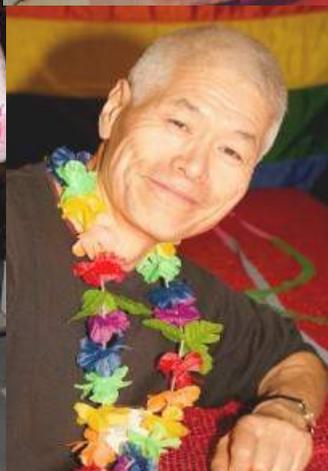
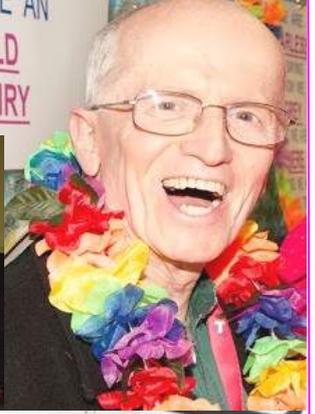


Michelle's Card





28th BIRTHDAY





John with his "cheeky" smile

I HEARD YOUR VOICE IN THE WIND TODAY

I heard your voice in the wind today and I turned to see your face; The warmth of the wind caressed me as I stood silently in place.

I felt your touch in the sun today as its warmth filled the sky; I closed my eyes for your embrace and my spirit soared high.

I saw your eyes in the window pane as I watched the falling rain; It seemed as each raindrop fell it quietly said your name.

I held you close in my heart today it made me feel complete; You may have died...but you are not gone you will always be a part of me.

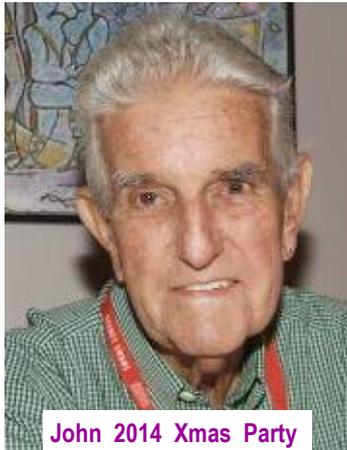
As long as the sun shines... the wind blows... the rain falls... You will live on inside of me forever for that is all my heart knows.



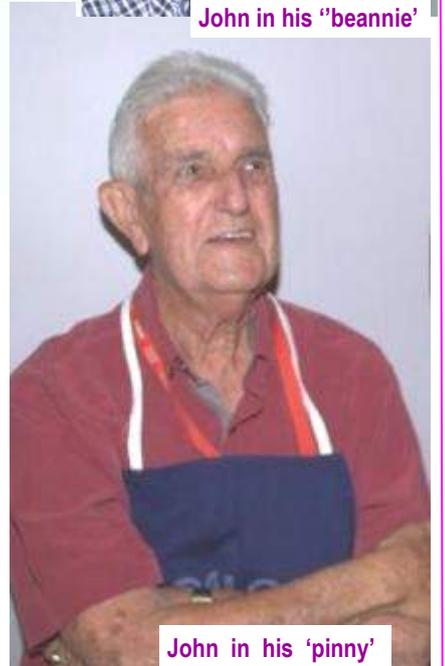
John in his "beannie"



John & Trevor 2018 MG Parade



John 2014 Xmas Party



John in his 'pinny'



John & Michael cutting 'their' birthday cake



John with Harry at MAG's 2008 Fair Day Stall



Photos courtesy of Richard Hedger, 2015

HERE FOR AGEING



Our LOVE (Living Older Visibly and Engaged) Project is about creating better conversations and improved social engagement with older lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people.

FACT SHEETS

In response to consultations with community members and health professionals, a series of healthy ageing fact sheets have been developed covering topics specific to our LGBTI elders' needs.

For more info or to download the factsheets, visit:

WWW.LOVEPROJECT.ORG.AU

- Ageing and HIV
- Alcohol and Prescription Drugs
- Dementia
- Depression and Anxiety
- Elder Abuse and Domestic Violence
- Fitness and Exercise
- Health Checks
- Health Screens
- Legal Tips
- Nutrition
- Smoking
- Social Connections



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 intersection with Devonshire Street]
 just up from Central Railway Station,
 from 6:30 pm for tea and coffee. Our meetings starts at 7:00pm, with an informative Guest Speaker, or every so often we might hold a social, or a 'pop corn' night.

A **light** supper follows.

The Committee meets whenever the need arises.

David is maintaining our Guest Speaker Lists.

If any member feel that a certain person could give an informative talk at MAG, then kindly contact David on 9516 2063. He will be very pleased to hear from any of our members or friends.

MAG's Details:

The Founder of MAG:

Steve Ostrow
 contact the President for Steve's mobile



Office Bearers:



Treasurer/Secretary:
 Trevor Pritchard
 9369 4206

Vice President:
 Lewis Turtur



President:
 David Bowron
 9516 2063



Committee:



Geoff Ostling
 8354 1416

Steve Warren
 0417 393 877



Sau Foster
 9690 0578



MAG's postal address is the same address, as where we meet:

**414 ELIZABETH STREET,
 SURRY HILLS NSW 2010**

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

Editor of the Newsletter is **David Bowron**

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

COMPANIONS OF HOPE - Meetings: weekly at home.

Contact: Bishop Peter on 9588 6893 or 0419 464 353

Email: petermons@live.co.uk

COUNTRY NETWORK for friendship and support through social events & networking across rural, regional & city AUST. Info at www.countrynetwork.com.au

CRONULLA GAY GROUP - www.cronullagaygroup.com.

Contact John 9528 9158

CROSS SECTION - for gays within the Uniting Church
 Des 9319 0722.

GAMMA - Gay and Married Men's Assoc

Tel. 9267 4000 - www.gamma.org.au

GAY DOWNUNDER - www.gaydownunder.com

GLCS - Tel. 1800 184 527

Gay Sydney Nudists - GSN -

www.Meetup.com/en-AU/Gay-Sydney-Nudists
 contact *Tony James* 49725357.

Mature Age Men - MAM last Saturday of month Sportsman's Hotel, Springhill, Brisbane at 4pm

Contact Noel (07) 31721170

MCC GOOD SHEPHERD WESTERN SYDNEY INC - Tues 7pm
 9 Carlton Street, Granville. Pastor *Robert Clark* Tel. 0412481195

MCC SYDNEY - 96 Crystal St, Petersham. 10:00am &
Sundays 6:30pm Pastor *Rev Dale Yardy* Tel. 9569 5122

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 contact josken@josken.net

SYDNEY GAY MEDITATION GROUP

Monday — 6.30pm. Heffron Hall cnr Burton & Palmer Sts, East Sydney
 www.sydneygaymeditationgroup.com

THE LOVE PROJECT - creating better conversations & improving social engagements with older gays & lesbians
 Phone Russ 02 9206 2017 . Email: rgluyas@acon.org.au

GONG GUYS - http://www.gongguys.site90.com

**Best wishes to all for a happy
 Christmas & good health
 & much happiness in 2020**