



MAGazine

A Newsletter for Mature Age Gay, Bisexual Men & Supporters

DECEMBER 2025

Congratulations ACON!



HERE FOR HEALTH ALWAYS

Congratulations on 40 years of wonderful service of ACON. It has been a beacon of hope to our LGBTQ+ Community throughout the years!

From the difficult years when we lost so many loved members of our community, to the ongoing health challenges of 2025 and beyond, ACON and its marvellous team of staff and volunteers have stood by us.

If it also wasn't for ACON and Steve Ostrow we wouldn't have the successful support group MAG.

Happy 40th and best wishes to ACON!

MAG seems to be going from strength to strength. We've welcomed some new members and we continue to have good attendance. MAG has had some interesting speakers — from Sea Story: Message in a Bottle, a fun Christmas in July, and Pride History Group, to Preparing for Those Older Years. We have a good Committee and volunteers, and a wonderful team of members. Lewis and his team prepare delicious meals for our meetings, which are greatly appreciated! Where can you get a two-course meal and coffee or tea for just \$7?

We've sadly lost a few members of our MAG community Jacques Verberkt and James Batty, both of whom are greatly missed and fondly remembered.

MAG is entering its 34th year of providing a valuable support group, as was intended by our founder, Steve Ostrow. Steve's presence is very much missed — he was an amazing achiever!

We are very thankful to ACON in its 40th year of valuable community service, and for hosting MAG over the years. A number of our members attended ACON's 40th celebration.

Another successful season of Queer Screen has passed, and we look forward to the next season. The opening and closing movies — the latter sponsored by ACON — were very moving and very connected to our mature-age community. They brought back many memories of very challenging times.

We look forward to seeing you at upcoming meetings!

magsydney.org | facebook.com/MatureAgeGays

Events

MAG's Mid-week social

Club Sydney, Wednesday nights
smaller group, 6.30pm to 8.45pm,
L2, 565 George St, City, next to
Cheers bar + opposite World Square.

Look for a large table of older guys.



Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of individuals and do not necessarily reflect the policies of MAG Sydney Inc. MAG is committed to the health and welfare of the mature-aged gay, bisexual men & our supporters. MAG has no political or religious affiliations.

**For MAG inquiries contact our Secretary
Roland 0448448445**

I hope we may see you at MAG sometime. Please introduce yourself to Trevor, myself, or any Committee members on arrival so we can make you feel welcome.

It can be a big step to attend for the first time, but many of us have been through that, and we do our best to make you feel at home! We're not a dating service — but you never know who you'll meet, and the supportive new friends you could make. Give it a go.

Think of MAG in your donations and Will considerations. We rely on such generosity to continue serving our members.

Cheers all,
On behalf of the MAG Committee,
Steve

MAG's Out and About Activities



Photo: Michelle Mika

The first Saturday in March was the Annual Mardi Gras Parade, in which MAG participated with the bus and a large walking group. A weather-perfect evening, and this year three members from the Harbour City Bears joined us — we thank them for their contribution to the smooth running of our parade entry.

Later in March, a group of us MAG guys went by train to Berry. A weather-perfect day for the intercity train journey to Kiama, and then a change to the Bomaderry-bound two-carriage diesel service to Berry. The journey south from Kiama is splendid, with the line hugging the coast and then heading inland through rich, verdant dairy and wine country. A very enjoyable counter lunch at the Berry Hotel, which dates back to 1860. We were joined on the day by several SCOG members.



In winter, during June, a group of us MAG guys went by train to Gosford. A short walk from the station to the northern side of Brisbane Water on a perfect winter's day, and then to Drifters Wharf for lunch. Stephanie, who runs the ACON Café, joined us at lunch. A very good fish and chips — and we travelled on a Monday, which is the 'cheap fish and chips' lunch day. A leisurely lunch taking in the Brisbane Water views.



In September, to welcome spring, a large group of MAG members travelled to Bowral for the tulips. The urban train trip to Campbelltown and the change to the Moss Vale-bound two-carriage diesel service to Bowral. The weather was mild for this time of year, and the tulips were colourful and in full bloom. Then to lunch at the Imperial Hotel — a good choice, as the hotel is used to handling large groups. A very good counter lunch, and then the return journey to Sydney.



MAG Members Attended Functions Marking ACON's 40 Years Anniversary.

A number of MAG members attended Firsts at the Wharf Theatre, Walsh Bay, a panel discussion hosted by the ABC's Jeremy Fernandez. The panel was made up of advocates and changemakers who were the first to come out in their respective fields — Michael Kirby, Ian Roberts, Brenner Harding and Georgie Stone. A very riveting 50-minute discussion.

Our 'Community Details' directory will return in the next MAG newsletter. Keep an eye out!

The LOVE (Living Older Visibly Engaged) Project's LOVE Social Celebration was held at The Imperial, Erskineville. This was an afternoon of lunch and entertainment specifically aimed at the ageing LGBTIQ community, but attracted all ages. The afternoon was hosted by Verushka Darling, and featured Nancye Hayes and Ryan Gonzales with Michael Tyack on keyboard. It was a great entertainment afternoon and wonderful to see Nancye Hayes. The Imperial's kitchen also served lunch. The event was sold out, with a great turnout of MAG members.



MAG members were also present at the LOVE Project's LGBTIQ+ Elders Dance Club at the Inner West Pride Centre, and at ACON's Parramatta Pride.

Out and About Activities organised and written by Trevor. MAG Treasurer

MAG Committee

At a recent meeting, a new Committee was elected, and we're pleased to introduce the team who'll be guiding MAG through the year ahead:

President: Steve Warren

Vice President: Lewis Turtur

Treasurer: Trevor Pritchard

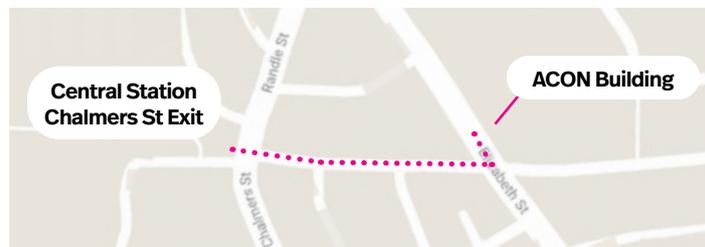
Secretary: Roland Mengyel and Michael Maher

Committee: Justin Grogan, Ross McKinnon, Naomi Potter-Rose, Graham Hillman

MAG meets

WHEN: Second and last Saturday of the month @ 6:30PM-ish - 9PM

WHERE: 414 Elizabeth St
Surry Hills
Near intersection of Devonshire St and Elizabeth St



Our meetings starts with an informative Guest Speaker and light supper for just \$7

To book, please contact:

Lewis 0482 672 635

Trevor 0437 586 442.

When leaving a message for MAG please mention MAG & your contact details.



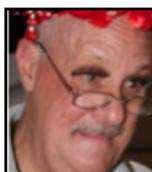
Founder

Steve Ostrow



President

Steve Warren



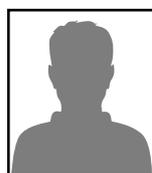
Vice President

Lewis Turtur



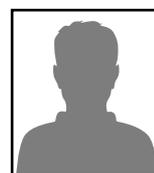
Treasurer

Trevor Pritchard



Secretary

Michael Maher



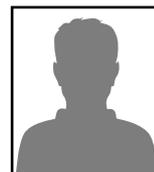
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Committee

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