



THE AVASTAR

Your World. Your Voice.

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FORGET THE BAD PRESS:

HERE'S

WHY WE STILL LOVE SL

- MASS PROTEST AGAINST CHILD PORN SHOWS SOLIDARITY TO SL
- RESIDENTS REMAIN POSITIVE



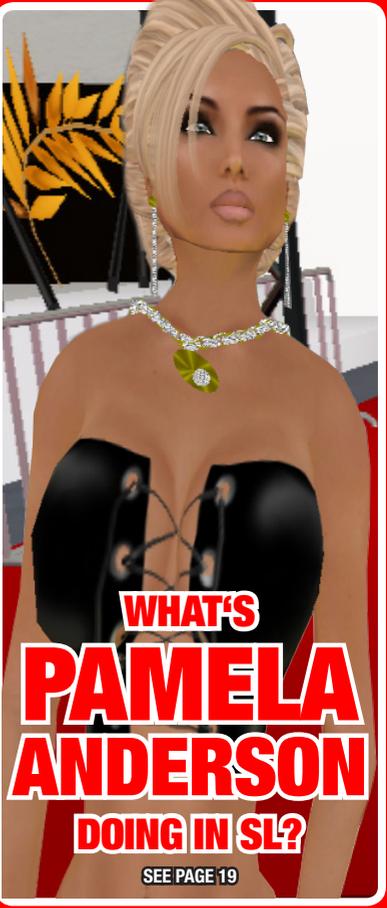
SECOND Life has taken a battering in recent weeks, from the child porn scandal to a mass revolt over technical problems and the uproar over age verification. But residents tell The AvaStar why they still see a bright future for their SL.

FULL STORY - PAGES 4 & 5



RESIDENTS HELP IN SEARCH FOR MADELEINE

SEE PAGE 9



WHAT'S PAMELA ANDERSON DOING IN SL?

SEE PAGE 19

INSIDE OPINION

"Many people will flatly refuse to get their age and identity verified for a variety of reasons, including not trusting the third party validation company."

GWYNETH LLEWELYN p.6

"One of the key improvements for SL to achieve a mass market is to reduce the average time it takes people to understand SL from four hours to 40 minutes, according to Philip Linden. That's not going to happen overnight."

REGIS BRAATHENS p.14

WRITE FOR THE AVASTAR

HAVE a story? Want to work for The AvaStar and earn big L\$? Send an email to newsdesk@the-avastar.com.



NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

8

... days before Sweden launched the first RL embassy in SL, the Maldives beat them to it with their build on Diplomacy Island.

14

... candidates were forwarded by food service firm Sodexo to local hiring managers as a result of last week's SL job fair.

24

... registered Second Life groups are dedicated to mermaids and other merfolk.

SCULPTIES ARRIVE IN SL!



LAWRENCE and Qarl Linden gave away sculpted fruit and plates soon after 'sculpties' were introduced in Wednesday's update. Pic by Daedalus Young.

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By REGIS BRAATHENS

WE SAY NO!



ORGANISERS: WhoFliesWithTheWind Writer & Sigi Kidd (not shown, Myth McMillan)

OUT IN FORCE: Residents at Amazonien demo

RESIDENTS TURN OUT IN FORCE TO DEMONSTRATE AGAINST CHILD PORN IN SL

HUNDREDS of incensed protesters rallied against child pornography in SL at widespread demonstrations yesterday.

Defiant residents grouped together at more than 20 sims to raise awareness of the 'No to child pornography' campaign. Over one hundred protestors took to the streets at the main demo at newBERLIN, to voice their support for the cause.

The demonstrations are the result of a general backlash after the discovery of child

pornography in SL and the subsequent banning of Age Play earlier this month.

SUPPORT

Activists WhoFlies-WithTheWind Writer, Myth McMillan and Sigi Kidd, who organised the demonstration in the name of 'KidsSchutz e.V', the RL German child protection

institution, were delighted with the massive show of support.

"The residents are the ones that can force change and ensure a clean SL. We have to work together. This demonstration is very important to show the German community is unified against any form of child pornography," said Kidd. Among the residents at the newBERLIN demonstration was Carbon Sirbu who echoed Kidd's call: "I want to support the

majority of the community, to show we are against paedophiles in SL." Amelie Cimino

was also pleased by the attendance at her Amazonien demo. "It's been brilliant for us. I hope that people will now be more aware of the problem," she said.

DISSENT

Yet a few voices of dissent could be heard in the crowd, with some calling the demonstration a 'witch hunt'. Demonstrator Bullwey Baphomet said: "What adults want to do behind closed doors shouldn't be regulated." There were no reports of any Lindens attending the protest.

PROTESTER: Carbon Sirbu

10 REASONS WHY WE LOVE SL

SECOND LIFE HAS TAKEN A BATTERING IN RECENT WEEKS, FROM THE CHILD PORN SCANDAL TO A MASS REVOLT OVER IN-WORLD TECHNOLOGICAL PROBLEMS AND THE UPROAR OVER AGE VERIFICATION. BUT A SHOW OF SOLIDARITY TO SL AT THE PROTEST AGAINST CHILD PORN THIS WEEK IS YET ANOTHER POSITIVE ASPECT OF THE COMMUNITY. RESIDENTS GAVE THE AVASTAR TEN REASONS AS TO WHY WE SHOULD KEEP SMILING IN SL:

Relay for Life Ribbon Wedges

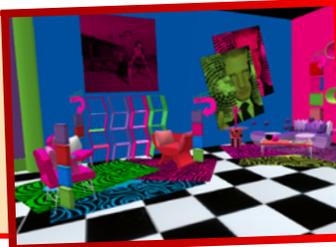


1 THE COMMUNITY

The SL community always pulls together in the face of adversity, especially for good causes. Susan Pegler is an organiser of the Virtual Angels charity, set up to help resident Ayeshe Millions who is ill in RL. Susan said: "SL is a fantastic place to have a charity, it's amazing how generous SL residents are."

2 UNIQUE STYLE

Whether it's a stunning futuristic build, wonderfully created hanging gardens or a sculpture of burning fire, the design possibilities in SL are endless. Renowned SL artist Dancoyote Antonelli said: "This is a fine place with a new set of rules not just a place for the same old tired stuff."



3 FREEDOM OF SPEECH

SL has become an important forum for RL politics, thanks to its freedom of speech. All the candidates from the recent French presidential election had a presence in SL, including the far right Front National party. French resident Wolfette Kuhn said: "SL is a platform for diverse possibilities. Politics is important - people need a place to voice their opinions."



4 FRIENDS AND LOVERS

Close friendships and romantic relationships are what drive many of SL's residents. Love at first virtual sight is a known phenomenon - it sometimes even leads to RL romance. Fallingwater Cellardoor and Eddie Escher are one example of a couple who fell in love in-world, and are now married in both SL and RL.



5 SELF-EXPRESSION & CREATIVITY



SL allows its residents to be whoever and whatever they want - even if it's an 'underwater galaxy' like Queue Marlowe's exotic blue skin. Each resident's avatar and profile allows them to explore aspects of their personality they can't in RL. Queue said: "My creations are inspired from the moment, whatever stimuli is floating around my head."

6 FREE LIVE MUSIC

Where else could you see Jay-Z, Suzanne Vega, Chamillionaire, and U2 live in concert for free? Not to mention a whole host of other musicians who are talented but unknown in RL - yet. Takamura Keiko was spotted by MTV in SL, and the young talent Lee Broderick played in-world before making his first RL world tour.



7 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

SL provides all sorts of business opportunities for RL firms, from global communication and product testing to recruitment. Rivers Run Red CEO Fizik Baskerville said: "SL is full of some of the most creative minds, its very nature is about exploration, entrepreneurship and thinking in new ways."



8 SAFE SEX

Sex in SL is erotic, liberating and very popular. Thousands of residents enjoy letting themselves go in-world, such as by working as an escort. Stroker Serpentine founded the adult content sim Amsterdam. He said: "The ability to process your fantasies into a 3D realm is almost spiritual. Your dreams become a reality on a virtual palette."



9 ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

US\$500 million is floating around the virtual economy, with one stock exchange alone claiming to be worth L\$1 billion. SL provides a chance for residents to set up a business with minimum effort and risk. In-world designer Aimee Weber said: "Building a career in SL is liberating. It is a unique environment that is neither hostile nor condescending."



10 IT'S OUR WORLD!

The fact everything in SL is created and owned by its residents is what makes it so unique. It explains why it's constantly changing, with imaginative and independent thinking. Content creator Malluch Cleaver said: "SL is the prettiest user-based MMO out there. It baffles me that people talk so highly of other games, where nothing is really original."



NEWS BITES!

3D IMAGING AVS

REALISTIC customised avatars could become affordable to all residents with the opening of Avatar Island. 3D imaging studio CyberExtruder will take a user's photograph and turn it into a skin.

LAB'S TEA PARTY

RESIDENTS who want to become part of the Linden family can attend a recruitment party on May 30 for the new LL office in Boston. Check the website for details of the positions available.

CONTENT LOSS

SIMS from across the grid have suffered sudden unexplained content loss. The large-scale disappearances from Camp Kawabata and Albion have since been restored by Linden Lab.

ABC 'ATTACKED'

THE Australian Broadcasting Corporation claim grievers attacked their sim, the third most visited commercial site in SL leaving it a bombed-out ruin.

SL'S INTEGRITY

LINDEN Lab this week signed a contract with Integrity Services to provide age and identity verification services in SL.

ID SPELLS TROUBLE

AGE VERIFICATION COULD LEAD TO BIG PROBLEMS FOR SECOND LIFE

Analysis
GWYNETH
LLEWELYN

MANY people will flatly refuse to get their age and identity verified for a variety of reasons, including not trusting the third party validation company and not wanting to give out too many personal details.

Despite that, many will still get validated nevertheless. Effectively, by barring non-validated avatars from some sims, a subtle sort of indirect discrimination is being enforced. Non-validated avatars are 'second rate residents' who are not allowed to go where others can. On one side of the fence there will be the 'land of the validated avatars', and on the other the 'land of the non-validated avatars'. But Linden Lab has hinted that this is just the first step of valida-

tion. In theory, people could voluntarily give more information such as their age, sex, skin colour or religion, but if that kind of information was on an avatar's profile, others would be able to restrict access to just a certain type of resident - effectively discriminating amongst them. This is naturally very worrying.

DISCRIMINATION

It's not just discrimination in the sense of being denied access to parcels, but also suffering insults and privacy invasions. Many women feel that if other residents knew for sure they were female in RL, they'd be instantly bombarded with messages, mostly of a lewd nature, and not everybody wants to put up with that.



Tie that in with discrimination based on age, skin colour or whatever RL data you're going to submit, and the problems of active discrimination start.

FRAGMENTATION

We don't know yet if the validation issue will actually fragment SL even more. After all, this is not 'One World, One Community' any longer, but several communities in the same virtual environment. The change with detailed information about your RL data will probably just fragment those communities further, but for me, the issue is not one of fragmentation, but of discriminating against people based on their age, sex, religion, skin colour, country, or any data you're willing to 'validate' with LL.

A SPANISH FARCE IN SL

SPANISH POLITICS:
Zeros Kuhn, inset, and the attack on the PSOE

By BILBO WINKLER

SPANISH POLITICAL PARTIES ACCUSE EACH OTHER OF IN-WORLD 'TERRORISM'

A WAR of words between opposing Spanish political activists has descended into a farce amid accusations of grieving and 'terrorism'.

The wave of protest surrounding the in-world arrival of a communist politician led many activists to demonstrate outside the Spanish Socialist Party (PSOE) offices. Furious PSOE supporters accused the Spanish Popular Party (PP) of organising the attack and let out their wrath on the PP headquarters.

More activists rushed to take sides this week on the back of a Spanish RL media hype, as the

situation became increasingly farcical. Members of the opposing Democracia Nacional party joined protesters outside the PPSOE offices to voice their opposition to their RL policies.

INFILTRATION

But in an amazing cover-up, NONE of the activists will admit to taking part in the protests.

Zeros Kuhn of the PSOE remained cagey when pressed by The AvaStar. He said: "I don't know if they are members of the PP, but pro-PP placards have been seen as well.

"As to whether the PSOE has attacked the PP, anyone

can be part of the PSOE group. I believe that rightists infiltrated the group to attack the headquarters of the PP and say they were Socialists - but I can't prove it."

MEDIA IMPACT

Many Spanish residents feel it has all gone too far. Luis Aldrich, founder of popular website secondlifespain.com, said: "This is all pretty silly. The news has gone out, but it has been taken completely out of context. Politicians come to SL in search of media impact, but end up contributing nothing of value to Spanish residents."

FARCE: The DN protest at the PSOE sim



GRIEFING: A fire-breathing dragon

Välkommen, Sverige!

(Welcome Sweden!)



The National Dress

The official Swedish National Dress. Female and male versions. Made in cooperation with the lovely Pandora Jensen (Panjen at Absence 182,91,24).



The Garden Furniture

Typical Swedish garden furniture, made in different styles and colours, for instance pure white and a realistic used look.



The Lucia

On December 13, 2006, I arranged the first virtual Swedish Lucia party ever, in SL of course. The event was produced in cooperation with Phreak Radio. Over 350 residents attended the party, listened to the Lucia songs and learned about travelling to Sweden.

Since the earliest days of SL, I have introduced a lot of what's special with Sweden. Except for the mosquitos:-) I have also actively run a group with a strong focus on everything that's Swedish. Today, the group - Swedish People in SL - is one of the largest, oldest and most active in SL.

It started out when I saw all other nationalities expressing themselves in SL. Whereas Sweden - my country! - seemed to be nowhere. From the very beginning, my goal has been to bring out the Swedish in the international melting pot that is Second Life.

The pictures in this ad show some of the things that I have done - together with a lot of different friends. The objects are all a gift from me to the residents of SL: just ask me and I will give you a copy.



The Flag

Swedish flag, with colours and measures according to official Swedish flag regulations. Slightly shaded for a more realistic look, wafting in the Second Life virtual breeze.



The Midsummer Pole

Traditional Swedish Midsummer Pole, with birch leaves (texture by Osprey Therain) and traditional Swedish flowers. Can be seen at my store in Verloren, Otherland, as well as in the Second Sweden Archipelago.



The Information

In all of my SL projects I have arranged for the visitors to learn more about Sweden, both our culture and IRL travelling. And I always try to communicate everything related to Sweden, to everybody.



The Box

Everybody who joins my group will receive, at no cost, a box filled with a selection of the Swedish stuff made: with friends in SL - the National Dress, the Midsummer Pole, the Flag, etc.

Now, things are about to change. The official Sweden is finally making its debut in SL, with the Swedish Institute building, among other things, a Swedish Embassy and the spectacular Dalhalla outdoor concert arena.

I'd like to welcome Olle Wästberg (Olle Ivory), head of the Swedish Institute, and the rest of official Sweden to Second Life. I'd also like to offer my experience and my Swedish stuff. Finally, I'd like to express my hope that they, too, will share and build upon the open spirit of Sweden that I've always tried to maintain.

Heja Sverige!

mvh/ Tina (PetGirl) Bergman



Visit my EXAKT stores at Verloren, Otherland, and Second Sweden - All things in the stores are made from fresh biodegradable prims.

BTW: Lovely Dana Bergson, Otherland CEO, and Johan Hedberg at Second Sweden sponsored this AD.

Verloren (216, 30, 33) Second Sweden (72, 112, 24)

HELPING TO FIND MADELEINE

By MANTA MESSMER



ANXIOUS SL residents have joined in the RL search for missing British girl Madeleine McCann by mounting an in-world campaign.

The horrific abduction of the four-year-old from a holiday apartment in Portugal on May 3 has prompted avatars from across the grid to aid the investigation by setting up awareness groups and creating information banners and signs. The

abler was snatched from her bed in the Algarve while her parents ate at a nearby restaurant.

AWARENESS

Gloria Lemuria founded the 'Find Madeleine' group to help raise awareness. She said: "With its several million international residents, [SL] is yet another way in which details about Madeleine can reach those who don't yet know about the situation. To illustrate this, we now have posters in Italian, Spanish, German, Dutch and French, as well as English."

Other residents are showing their support

in any way they can. 3D Wise, a father in RL, said SL gave him the chance to help make a difference. He has created signs and banners displaying photos of Madeleine and police contact details. Two groups dedicated to maintaining law and order on the grid, 'Law Enforcement Squad' and 'M16 Agency', are now devoting their energies to the child's disappearance. Founder Hal Boa is directing his recruits to distribute information and collect donations.

PRAYER

London Trance Club owner KFH Pooraka has created a prayer site on her sim. "I believe in the power of prayer, and this little girl and her family need us to focus all our energies on helping them get through it," she said.

TAX MOVE MAY HIT SL BUSINESS

THOUSANDS of successful SL businesses may be stung with massive tax bills.

A US congressional committee is set to advise within two months how its government should treat money made in SL - specifically how to define virtual income which never leaves the world.

VIRTUAL ASSETS

A US congressional source this week told British newspaper The Daily Telegraph that virtual money should be treated in the same way as its RL equivalent: "Just because I can't tuck a Linden dollar into my wallet, that's almost irrelevant. There are plenty of intangible assets with real values. If you think of a copyright of a book, or the brand value of Coca-Cola - these are some of the most valuable brands in the world." A spokesman for the British Treasury said any profits made in SL which residents cashed out in RL would clearly be taxable.



EXAKT MadeAD/ Copy: Rikely West.



SUMMER 2007

a new exhibition at the heldscalla foundation

Buttermere 50,166,35



NICE: The light side of the exhibition

SL'S 'CLIMATE OF FEAR'

ARTISTS HIT OUT AT THE GROWING CENSORSHIP IN SL FOLLOWING THE CHILD PORN SCANDAL

BY HONEY BENDER

A DANGEROUS climate of fear and censorship is engulfing Second Life in the wake of the child porn scandal, according to two prominent in-world artists.

Since the scandal broke earlier this month, Linden Lab has banned Age Play, introduced plans for age verification on adult sims and censored the in-world search engine. These are simply the tip of the iceberg, according to artists Sysperia Poppy and Zoe Hartnell. They say they are afraid the Lindens have gone on a wild banning spree out of fear of RL lawsuits from countries such as the US and Germany. Alarmed by recent events, the pair have opened a controversial exhibition called 'Naughty and Nice' to address their concerns. In a film called 'Censorship is No Bueno', released to mark the exhibition's opening, Poppy and Hartnell say: "The current climate in SL

is frightening - banning search words like 'Lolita' and getting rid of doll advertisers and fearing people into submission. Censorship does nothing but create an underground where issues will fester, not heal."

The artists recently closed their Dolltropia shop for fear of being associated with Age Play, and say many owners of similar businesses will be

forced to do the same. Hartnell added that while not all residents and Lindens will agree with the violent and sexually explicit images used in the exhibition at the King Has Fallen Gallery in Sonata, they are still important as a cry for freedom. "If someone doesn't voice the mood of the public here, rumours will continue and the fear will heighten to terror. Let it be brought out now to be addressed."

The Lab has yet to confirm whether the exhibition will be censored.



WARNING: Artists Zoe Hartnell, left, and Sysperia Poppy

EVERY CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING

HIPPY Phil Linden Mark's WindLight, looks for inner peace while enjoying the clouds provided by Windward a totally radical new simulator that makes the skies look far out, man.



OMMMMMMM: Hippy Phil

DRESS PHIL UP!
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YOUR Photos

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Did you spot something unusual? Have you got exclusive snapshots of a SL celebrity? Were you at a great event or party? Have you seen something new that you want to share with others? Then send us your photos and you could earn yourself Linden Dollars. For each photo published in the newspaper the author will receive 500L\$.



your mail @ YOURMAIL@THE-AVASTAR.COM

SL IS A FLAWED UTOPIA

SUPERHERO PHIL WILL SAVE US!

Hey Regis,
PEOPLE think they are building a Utopia.

Utopia? Where half the outraged 'kiddie porn' fighters dress like, if not behave like, cyber escorts? A Utopia whose highest dream in most cases is a virtual beemer in the driveway of a virtual condo, with virtual bling dripping from a virtual girlfriend? This is a world that can be anything we can dream of. In-

stead, it's populated by people replicating the lowest common denominators: greed, sex, and materialism. And now fearmongering tabloids feed on fear and prejudice. Are furries next? After all, sex with animals is a common taboo. Age Play, while unseemly to me, is no differ-

ent, so long as they're consenting adults under the pixels. And as for the internet radio whiners, they say on one hand they understand the artists' rights, but on the other all these internet DJs will be put out of work. Ya know what? Price of the business. You don't want to pay for

L\$500 E-MAILS
WRITE TO:
YOURMAIL@THE-AVASTAR.COM

the flour, you shouldn't be a baker.

By Solivar Scarborough

VOICING MY CONCERN

Hey Regis,
'THE Future Is Bright' (issue 22) was a very interesting article, and was good at covering the main issues around the bend for SL, as far as I am aware.

The one thing that worries me is Gwyneth's conclusion that voice chat, when it launches, will spell an end to the 'immersionists'. I'd never thought of this, but am I the only one that thinks this is bad news?

That is the point for so many residents! I don't want to meet a ten feet tall monster avatar and hear a squeaky-voiced 19-year-old guy talk - and neither will he!

I hope it will be up to residents to choose whether they use voice or not, and that many will shun it. The problem might then be that SL will be divided between talkers and non-talkers, who will perhaps themselves be shunned to some 'mute' sim for anti-socials and people too lazy, poor or idealistic to install mics on their computers. The future is bright indeed....



VOICE CHAT: Will many shun it?

By Foxy Canning

Dear Regis,
I HAVE enjoyed seeing Philip Linden dressed up as a German and a pimp in The AvaStar in recent weeks.

At a time when he seems to be so busy talking to RL newspapers, it's great that he still had time to hang out in SL strip-joints. It's good to know he's still down to earth. If it's good enough for him it's good enough for all of us!

I know, of course, that you're just dressing a replica Phil av up - but it's good fun, anyway. Seeing as how he has been busy defending SL lately, my suggestion for 'Dress up Phil' is to have him as some kind of do-gooder - not any kind, but superhero Phil! Batman, Superman, Wonderwoman, who cares - we need Phil to come and save us from the laggy sims before they freeze us in time!

By F.L.



DRESS PHIL UP: Last week's pimp outfit



REGIS BRAATHENS

LIND-O-METER

A BUSY week for Philip, with the acquisition of new technology, an angry residents demonstration and disappearing sims. How did he fare?

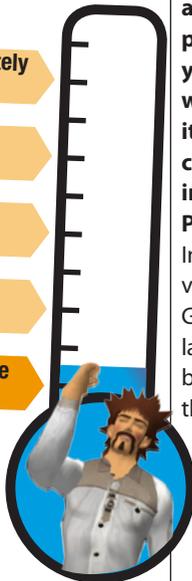
Lab-solutely awful!

Phil-ing blue!

Lagging behind!

IMproving

Sim-ply the best!



LAB'S SIGN OF INTENT

SMALL STEPS BEING TAKEN ON THE ROAD TO SL'S BIG FUTURE

DRAGGING myself through the sea of lagging and intermittently crashing grey avatars at the 'No to pornography' demo yesterday made me wonder just how long it will take until SL comes close to fulfilling the ambitions of Philip Linden.

In an interesting interview with the British Guardian newspaper last week, King Phil boasted once again that "SL is the next worldwide web". I'd like to believe that, but is it realistic? In all fairness, Philip is no mug and realises the mountain

of work to do to take SL to the next level: "This is only the beginning of the 3D web and SL," he said.

SIGN But the acquisition of advanced atmospheric rendering technology was a sign of intent from LL this week that they are working towards creating the future of SL - one key being more realistic graphics.

The imminent arrival of voice will be another long awaited step in the right direction. King Phil also reiterated in the interview his plan to open source SL and urged companies

PLEASE SEND ME YOUR COMMENTS:
regis@the-avastar.com

to develop "branded orientation experiences" better than the Lab's current offering. One of the key improvements in order for SL to achieve a really mass market is bringing the average time it takes people to understand SL down from four hours to 40 minutes, said Phil. And that's not going to happen overnight. We've got a long way to go. So for now, lie back, enjoy and watch the clouds go by!

YOUR VERDICT:

Sim-ply the best!

"I think adding realism to SL graphics is totally what is needed" wrote in Filipa Decosta. Philip's appearance in-world to meet protestors outside his office was warmly applauded, as was the swift recovery of vanished sims including Mars Japanese Gardens. Hail King Phil!

TAKE PART IN THE AVASTAR INNOVATION DAY



HEATED DEBATE: AvaStar editorial staff discuss matters on AvaStar Island

THE AvaStar will be holding an Innovation Day in SL soon - and we want YOU to get involved.

We are looking for a

number of residents to join the editorial staff and experts in giving feedback, coming up with new ideas and suggesting ways of making SL's favourite tabloid even better.

If you would like the chance to be involved, then email me at regis@the-avastar.com.

L\$500 PICS OF THE WEEK

yourphotos@the-avastar.com



Singer-songwriter **JACOB MILLER** performed a live video concert for NBC, in which fellow musician **Rickie Lee Jones** also appeared. Pic by **Milady Guillaume**.



French SL chanson singer **FABRICE CROSBY** was spotted by **DYLAN MILES** at a recent concert at the Bliss Gardens Center. He never plays without the little frog on his shoulder, which is his lucky charm.



Famous German RL football coach **REINER CALMUND** has opened his own sim - as captured by **OLE ETZEL**.



CHRISTIN KNOPFLI earns L\$500 for this snap of the crazy Stadt sim.



Night sailing is great fun according to reader **BING SE-WELL**, who took this picture of his boat at Tamita Bay.

PHILIPS: WE'LL GIVE MORE



PROMISE: The Philips sim

By BILBO WINKLER
PHILIPS Design have launched in SL with a promise to work with residents more actively than many RL firms have managed in the past.

The company say they will set up a 'Co-creation Team', continuing the user-generated content buzz in SL marketing. A spokes-

woman said: "We want to work with people, that's the difference - they will be invited to workshops to get involved." Branded goods will be handed out at the opening party next Friday June 1, including a coffee maker, a photo slide-show tool, and a specially-made draught beer.



SIM DESIGNER: Wendy Mahana

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WORK WITH US

FIRMS MUST CO-OPERATE WITH RESIDENTS, SAYS NEW REPORT



ENTRY: Sky News

By BILBO WINKLER
BRANDS in SL must co-operate with residents if they are to succeed, according to a new Australian government report.

But the report, entitled 'Business in Second Life: an Introduction', also identified far more positives than negatives for corporations heading to SL.

TEMPLATE

The research, partly-funded by the Australian government and undertaken by the Swinburne University of Technology, looked at the whole in-world economy from small, resident-run businesses to large-scale RL firms. It says that companies which just measure costs against the 'small' in-world population are missing the point, and stresses SL's educational value:

"SL is a brilliant if imperfect early template for the promise such worlds hold."

EXPERTS

The report adds that the prime tip for corporates is to respect the virtual world order, which places a premium on co-creation, participation and community building. That advice has been taken to differing levels by three major RL brands which have entered Second Life this week, all assisted by Rivers Run Red. Sky News will allow residents to pose questions to a RL panel of media experts, while the Renault ING Formula One team will let residents do their own racing.

INNOVATION

Channel 4 Radio, an offshoot of the British firm Channel 4 Television, launched an island which appears to offer residents nothing they haven't seen before, but will give away 'watches' which teleport users to the island and provide them with the broadcasts. Channel 4's director of radio Nathalie Schwarz, echoing previous corporate entries into SL, said: "Channel 4 Radio's launch into SL demonstrates our commitment to innovation from the ground breaking content we strive to deliver for our listeners to the way in which we reach new audiences through new technology and new platforms."



STANDARD: Channel 4 Radio

BIZ BITES:

VIRTUAL WORLD ECONOMY LINK

ANSHE Chung Studios will link investment and capital flow between virtual world economies when the Interworld Trading Platform launches in June.

SIM UNDER THE EBAY HAMMER

3D LIGHTING has become the latest SL business to go up for sale on eBay, with owner Wrestling Hulka expecting it to fetch up to US\$15,000.

MAKING A MARK IN SECOND LIFE

AUTHOR Taran Ramprasad has published a guide entitled 'Making Your Mark in Second Life: Business, Land, and Money' with tech specialists O'Reilly Media.

TWINGO REVVED UP FOR LAUNCH

THE new Renault Twingo will be showcased in SL at the Renault Italia Island from May 31. Visitors will be able to test the car.

NEW EXCHANGE LAUNCHES IN SL

A NEW financial exchange has been launched in SL - the Allinvest International Exchange.



RACING: ING Renault



A-STAR GOSSIP
JenZa Misfit

By HONEY BENDER

THE latest collection from Kallyfaith Roland of KO Designs was on display at ASpiRE! on Sunday.

Among the outfits being modelled by the ASpiRE! girls were classic formals, stylish casuals, sassy costumes and sexy silks. The show was presented by Bianca Darling and Trina Noland from the ASpiRE! Agency.



A-STAR GOSSIP

SILKY, STYLISH, SEXY!
ASPIRE! REVEALS ITS LATEST!

GRRR!: Sexy Anastase Rosewood in Naughty Geisha look

PHEW!: Beauty Roanik Newell wearing the Scarlett BBQ dress

TAXI!: Gorgeous Colleen Desmoulin in Taxi Cab Driver outfit

SL TV STARS

PORTUGUESE beauty Ana Lutetia and SL intellectual Eggyp Lippmann appeared on Portuguese national TV this week talking about SL.



Pics ROLAND VOOM

EVEN BETTER THAN THE REAL THING!

RIP-ROARING ROCK: THE EDGE and BONO wow crowds with excellent stage effects.

GUESS who? Yes, U2 were back again on Saturday for another rip-roaring gig! It seems SL fans can't get enough of the hit rock band, packing the sim to the brim again. Excellent animations and effects accompanied the playback of their 2006 Adelaide concert.



A-STAR GOSSIP

By REGIS BRAATHENS

(From left) Marilyn Monroe (Natacha Salomon), Pamela Anderson (PamelaHot Korobase) and festival builder Zep Cortes

STARS GALORE!

FANS gathering to watch screenings of the Cannes Festival had to pinch themselves as Pamela Anderson and a string of RL celebrity avatars posed for photos on the red carpet.

Galienni (aka Galienni Renoir) and caricaturist Christophe Hugo created the 'avastars' including Jack Nicholson, Marilyn Monroe, Woody Allen and Brad Pitt. Pamela Anderson (aka PamelaHot Korobase of Luxury Designs) was also there to display her famous assets.

As part of the 'Second Festival' celebrations on Gangz Island, French artist Stéphane

The stars are on show each day from 9-11am SLT, until May 27.

LOVE CALLIE OR DIE HARD: Bruce Willis (aka Galienni Renoir) looks smitten with beauty Callie Cline

SL'S HOTTEST GIRLS PARTY

By BABA COEN

GUESTS toasted Callie Cline's success in making Maxim's list of the world's 100 hottest women at a surprise party held for her.

SL celeb Callie celebrated with friends including Electric Sheep's Forseti Svarog and Torrid Midnight, designer and builder Shiryu Musashi, L'Oreal's

Isabella Sampaio, content creator Sue Stonebender and jeweller Elexor Matador. The party was thrown by Callie's sister, designer Kiana Dulce, and model Ally Geer.

"It was a complete surprise so I didn't quite show up dressed for the garden party!"



(From left) Ally Geer, Callie Cline, Kiana Dulce, Tuli Asturias



BOOGIE: Guests enjoy the garden party

LOOKING HOT: Callie Cline

CHANGING FACES

By CARRIE SODWIND RL CELEBRITIES ARE ALWAYS CHANGING THEIR IMAGES, AND IN SL KEEPING YOUR LOOK FRESH IS JUST AS IMPORTANT. IN-WORLD CHANGES CAN BE VERY DRASTIC, AND INVOLVE SOME VERY CAREFUL TWEAKING AND CONSIDERATION. ANTONIA MARAT'S GEEK-TOWN GIRL LOOK AND MIA LINDEN'S FIERY BALL OF RED HAIR HAVE BEEN ICONIC LOOKS IN SL. BUT WHERE WILL THEY GO FROM HERE?

MIA LINDEN: THE LOVELY LAB LIAISON

Mia has bought skin by Starley Thereian and Munchflower Zaius, but says she loves variety and is always trying new designers and different outfits.



In her 'punk days' Mia used a pale opaque grey skin, complete with goggles to top her wacky look.



Pale skin enhanced her strong features, dark eyes and lips.



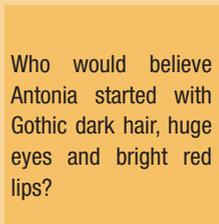
Her features became more natural, but the fiery red hair definitely took over.



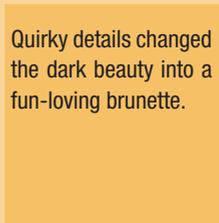
NOW: She is natural and grown up, but has retained her potent green eyes.

ANTONIA MARAT: ARTILLERI DESIGNER

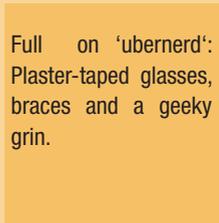
Antonia buys skins from Lovey Darling's boutique. She said: "Those skins simply rock. Other than that I'm addicted to prim lashes from Sin Skins."



Who would believe Antonia started with Gothic dark hair, huge eyes and bright red lips?



Quirky details changed the dark beauty into a fun-loving brunette.



Full on 'ubernerd': Plaster-taped glasses, braces and a geeky grin.



NOW: With wider eyes and lips and paler skin, Anti has returned to her traditional beautiful looks, but with striking carrot hair.

callie cline's STYLE HOTLINE



CALLIE HITS THE CATWALK

SL'S HOTTEST GIRL ON HOW TO BECOME A SUCCESSFUL MODEL!

ONE of the questions I get asked most in SL is, "how do I become a model?"

It can seem like modelling jobs in SL are few and far between – largely because it's easy for most designers to do all their own modelling. But all is not lost! SL is booming, and there are modelling opportunities for those willing to work



hard, be creative, and find a gap in the market. Here are a few tips to help you:

1. Make the best avatar you can.
2. Develop different looks, as models are asked for a variety of styles.
3. Have a great attitude – believe it or not, your inner beauty can and does show through your pixels.
4. Develop a portfolio of photos by finding a photographer who's looking for models.
5. If you're go-

ing to take your own photos, be creative and make sure you're lit well.

6. Join any and all model searches - even if you don't win, you're going to learn each time you submit photos.
7. Put "model" in your profile using a good pic of yourself.
8. Don't give up! You'll need plenty of poses, and attending fashion shows and speaking to the models can help a lot. Remember, behind every successful SL model is a person who has worked hard and learnt by doing, so start now!

WHAT'S HOT! TARTAN MINIS AND STOCKINGS

By CARRIE SODWIND

ANYBODY who hasn't noticed the tartan mini-skirt and stockings fad is just not getting out enough. It's a great look that has taken off in-world probably because it is totally impractical for real life, unless you live a fanciful high-school life like Alicia Silverstone in



Clueless. For the best way to wear this look, make sure your skirt is very short but with plenty of flexible pleats or fabric. Finish it off with pointy boots or heels.

INVENTORY SNEAK PEEK TIGERLILY KOI

By CARRIE SODWIND



MY JEANS...

"I'm a mix and matcher, so these jeans by Nyte are my favourites, and I'll throw on a top with them. This is one of my current favs, called Sally Casual from Nicky Ree, because I'm modest and I don't like showing my stomach."

MY JEWELLERY...

"This jewellery set is probably my most precious thing. My friend Phia Vaughan gave this set to me for Christmas. She made it just for me, and they're tiny, perfectly detailed little Calla lilies. When I drop them the details are even more striking."



MY DRESS...

"I love, love, love Total Betty. This dress is her Let's Dance. I actually requested this colour, and she was sweet enough to do it and a few others for me. I adore the tulle slip, it totally brings out my girliness. And it floofs so pretty when I walk."



PHOTOGRAPHING THE BIG APPLE

By JENZZA MISFIT

A PHOTOGRAPHER from New York has brought his passion for the art form into SL.

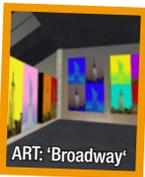


BIG APPLE: 'Greenwich Street'

Xzavier Taov lives in the famous RL American city, and opened a gallery of his work last week at Poggiodomo (97, 205, 246). The multi-level gallery gives a feel of being in New York complete with famous street signs. Xzavier said SL had had a positive influence on his work. "SL gave me the confidence I

needed to become a serious photographer. Until SL, I was only playing around – barely a hobby. Because of this experience, I take my photo-

graphy more seriously, which has led me to put more and more energy into it, and consequently love it more. I keep explaining to people – this is not a game!"



ART: 'Broadway'

STAR CRIBS By LIONILA LIGHTFOOT

LAYLAH'S LODGE

1 THE HOUSE
An open space with no doors and only a few walls. The couple love to play in every corner of the house.

This week's star: **LAYLAH MISTRAL**
Born: 10/3/05
Activities: Tattoo artist and photographer
Home base: Celestial Isle
Style: The house is a modern playground for mouse Laylah and fox Jon Desmoulins.

2 DINING ROOM
Laylah is proud of her elegant dining set on which a wheel of cheese cannot be missed.

3 KITCHEN
The couple has a kitchen counter with lots of snacks on offer, just like Mom used to make.

4 PHOTO STUDIO
Laylah works on the second floor in her photo studio loft with a skyline picture of NYC.

DESIGNERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Piper Pitney
SL Birth Date: 7/26/06
Famous for: Thoughtful building, designing for Virtuool

By LIONILA LIGHTFOOT

THE AVASTAR: What are you working on at the moment?

PIPER PITNEY: The next self-driven project is ShareOPic, kind of a flickr for SL. We are still searching for a partner to help set it up. You can share pictures, rate them and maybe even win a prize. The winning picture could be handed out. Those terminals can be set up in a club, for example, so that people can put snapshots in.

TA: What is your design style?

PP: A big part of building in SL is actually scripting. You want those objects to be reacting to the Avs. I found many places in SL built as a kind of single-player event and we like to change that to have features on the island that involve multi-avs to run.

With camping chairs, for example, avatars just sit there, interaction is not mandatory. I think it would be nice to have them make co-operative games



such as Multi-Slingo, where you have many people involved.

TA: What is the future stage of building in SL?

PP: As in RL there will be an increasing specialisation and people will team up more to inspire each other. Many ideas will be lost if not shared with others.

TA: What's next for building tools?

PP: Next will be the sculpties. I think they will be a revolution to design in SL, and building gets a little bit less available for amateurs. It is the sculpturing of primitives using a special overlay so that you can make a one-prim orange or a single prim face so SL will get more organic and less cubic. There will be ways to make organic prims that change shape.

BREAKFAST TIME

By TINA (PETGIRL) BERGMAN

Working Toaster
Keep an eye on it or else your toast will burn!
By Don Bricklin
Hibdon (39, 242, 24)
L\$195

Waffle Maker
A steaming waffle appears when you press on the 'Click Me for Waffle' button.
By Alphazero Sugar
Egremont (34, 140, 41)
L\$50

Steaming Hot Bread on Cutting Board
By Tim Hoffman
Hoffman Designs
(39, 219, 25)
L\$75

Large Pot
With lid and ladle
By DavidDM Therian
Kitchen Korner (194, 46, 41)
L\$75

Kaffe Jug
In deep green or red.
By Dellybean North
Goun (178, 75, 35)
L\$135



TINA'S MUST-HAVES

NEW SIMS

THREE EUROPEAN CITY RECREATIONS, AN EMBASSY AND A FILM PROMO ARE THIS WEEK'S NEW SIMS.

By MANTA MESSMER

EUROPEAN cities Munich, Manchester and Venice have all been added to the SL skyline, along with a RL embassy and a home for the new Die Hard film.



COMPACT: Munich

Planners from the German city of Munich have condensed it into a tourist-friendly size by focusing on famous sites like the Frauenkirche and Marienplatz.

The Manchester UK sim is already finished, and received its grand opening this week at the city's RL Big Chip Awards ceremony. Venice Italy is due to open next week, with famous bridges and churches galore.



MAPPED: Manchester



UNIQUE: The Maldives Embassy

An exotic beach house makes up the new Maldives Embassy, which has narrowly beaten the Swedish

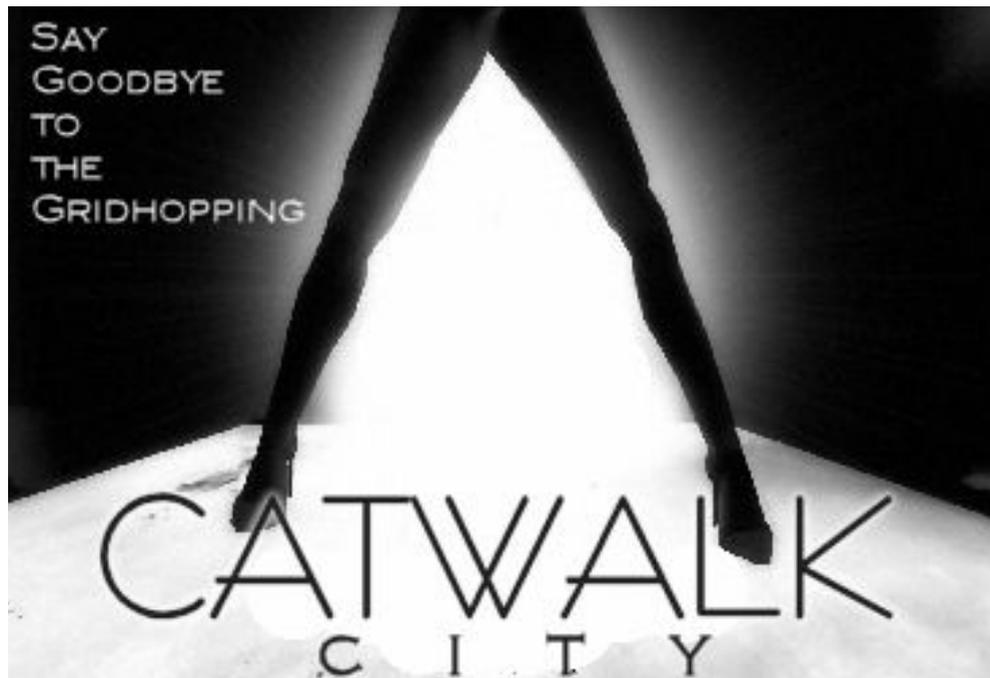
Embassy into SL. The Die Hard sim has been set up to promote the forthcoming action film 'Live Free or Die Hard'.



DIE HARD

MOVIE MAYHEM: Die Hard

ADVERT



SAY GOODBYE TO THE GRIDHOPPING

CATWALK CITY

MY TRAVEL TIPS

By BILBO WINKLER

FUNKY furry Maldavius Figtree owns Darksphere Creations as well as being a talented sculptor.



ASTOUNDING: The Ivory Tower Library



CREATIVE: The wastelands

THE AVASTAR: Which sims have you explored lately?

MF: There's so much out there that people don't know about! Most people need to open their eyes and see the world a bit more.

TA: Where do you hang out and relax?

MF: I hang out at Help Island Public usually, helping people there or in the sandboxes tagging grievers with ARs. It's a lot of fun meeting new players; they are what SL is all about.

TA: Where do you party?

MF: At my club in Dozer, called Darksphere Crea-

tions. It was built by myself and the rest of the artisans. I also give free houses to people and such there, great people.

TA: What sims do you find the most creative?

MF: The wastelands sims. An astounding amount of work is done by the development teams in making the game that runs there. They're astounding.

TA: What are your top tips for exploring SL?

MF: I would say to check out the Ivory Tower Library of Primitives, and the Particle Laboratory. Both of those places are an astounding way to start off your SL experience.

TAKE YOUR PICK

Take a quick peek at the hot destinations in profile picks. This week: MERMAIDS



AISHA GAGLIANO

MERMAID OASIS

Kot (57, 237, 81)

Novice merfolk not yet fully acquainted with their scaly second halves can frolic and flap their fishy tails around this specially created inland pool, with its plant life and lounging rocks, before swimming out into the vast SL ocean.



RHIANNA MERLIN

MAUVE FALLS

Mauve (109, 172, 36)

Bathers looking for peace and tranquillity beneath a waterfall should search elsewhere, as here they will find themselves facing a raging King Kong or a fire-breathing dragon against the backdrop of neighbour Olympia's Land of Weirdness.



DEE FIREFLY

SELUNE'S KISS

Maculata (56, 12, 23)

When SL sirens are not out shipwrecking sailors with their enchanting songs they often like to unwind in this cosy grotto, where they can swim amongst the vibrantly colourful aquatic life or sit and have a gossip with their merfriends.


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For advice write to
 Randi Barracuda at:
 dearrandi@the-avastar.com

DEAR RANDI



TAKEN FOR A RIDE?

I BOUGHT A RL CAR FOR MY SL GIRL - NOW SHE SAYS IT'S OVER

Dear Randi: I thought all my savings to buy my SL wife was going to be the love of my real life. So much so, in fact, that I travelled across the Atlantic to see her. Everything was wonderful and we planned for me to return in a few months to visit again. Since she had no car in RL, I used

her one. But when I returned home, things changed between us in SL. Then she suddenly said she had no time for me, and told me we were through. Did I just get taken? - R.I.

Randi says: I'm afraid it definitely looks like you were. This is one of

the inherent dangers of taking a relationship from SL, or anywhere else on the internet, into RL. You were on an extended first date and were used in a big way. If you plan on buying a vehicle for another woman who isn't your RL wife, keep the title in your name.

RANDI'S PHOTO CASEBOOK WEEK 5

Kath is at breaking point with Angel...



"Forget about Scott! We'll have much more fun together!"



Randi says: Be straight with Angel - tell her that she either gives you more space, or you cut all ties with her. It is not worth losing Scott over this!

BRO WANTS TO BE MAID OF HONOUR

Dear Randi: I've been in SL for over a year, and my brother - my only RL sibling - recently joined as well. We are rarely together here and he knows none of my friends. I recently became engaged to a wonderful man and will be married here in August. When I told my brother about it, he said he wants to be my maid of honour. His avatar has a unisex name, and he plans to doll 'her' up for the ceremony. Is this crazy? - J.D.

Randi says: Since you don't have a RL sister, if you haven't already picked a maid of honour then let him enjoy his fantasy. Traditionally, your attendants would all be ladies at any rate, and the female avatar should help keep the wedding party balanced. Best wishes!

MY LOVER WON'T LEAVE HIS WIFE

Dear Randi: I have fallen in love with a married man. I know it's not ideal, but I just can't help loving him. I'm thinking of leaving him, not because I'm jealous of his wife but because I'm making his life too complicated. Meanwhile, another guy is in love with me and says he'll wait for me no matter what. I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. What should I do? - P.G.

Randi says: No matter how wrong you think it is or is not, it's always going to be extremely messy to fool around with a married guy. You're right to break it off if he isn't ready to leave his wife, and doing it now is going to be better than doing it later. Then you'd be completely free to explore the possibilities with your other guy.



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THE GUIDE

TOP EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

THIS WEEK: SURFING

CATCHING A WAVE: Monkey Isle

SURF'S UP!



By GAETANA FAUST

EVERYBODY'S GOING SURFIN' = SURFIN' SECOND LIFE

CATCH a virtual wave and check out the surfing scene in SL.

Papillion Lepidoptera (79, 64, 35) is a spectacular resort. Pick up one of the surfboards lying around the beach, or just admire the luxurious seaside mansion. The landscaping is simple and beautiful, a tropical paradise with lots of hidden corners to explore and sunny spots for catching some rays. Kahuna Beach in Hedonism XII (33, 213, 24) has a nice L-shaped beach lined with shops for all your surfing needs. Another place to ride the surf is at Monkey Isle Head and Surf Shop in Sands dAlliez (227, 106, 21). Grab a board from one of the tiki-topped stands and hit the water running. Check out Tropical Island Surf in Quan Li

(200, 130, 22) for the radical waves and active surfing scene.

GNARLY

The peaceful, uncrowned beach at Chi (180, 206, 21) is an ideal place for an afternoon playing amid the rolling, realistic waves. If you fancy something more restful, skip the surf and belly up to the tiki bar right on the beach. Surfer girls can pick up Bermudas and bikinis at Sand Shack Surf Co. in Amour (131, 172, 30), which has an extensive collection of cute, beach-ready clothing. Guys and gals will find some gnarly gear at Reaction in AlterNation (95, 174, 37). With its boogie boards, shorts, towels, and other beach necessities, you can stock up on everything you need.

BEAUTIFUL BEACH BORA BORA ISLES



Palm trees sway on the white sand while dramatic sunsets make an ideal background for a day of surfing. Choose from a wide range of surfboards. Where: Bora Bora Isles (184, 48, 21)

SURF AND CHILL RICKETY OLD BOARDWALK



Surf or just relax in a beach chair to the sound of waves on the shore. Where: Goun (159, 171, 21)

HANG TEN SURF CANADA



Take a break and check out the mean waves at this classic surf sim. Where: Surf Canada (151, 109, 21)

5.25. - 5.31.

DON'T MISS! –



SPORT

BASKETBALL

The NBA sim hosts a competition of the game 'horse' worth checking out on court number eight, with official NBA clothing as prizes.

When: May 27, 12:00-14:00

Where: NBA Courts (216, 133)



OPENING

AUGSBURG CITY

The sim opens its doors to the public with a party featuring live music ranging from soul to house, galleries and competitions.

When: May 29, 9:00

Where: Augsburg City, (128, 128)



NIGHTLIFE

FESTIVAL OF CULTURES

NewBERLIN will replicate the RL festival, with bands and stalls gathering in the name of diversity.

When: May 25-28

Where: New Berlin, (128, 128)



TRIVIA

TEATIME QUIZ

Head to the Museum of Teacups for trivia and organic tea, with host Nelly Teatime.

When: May 28, 11:30 -12:30

Where: Dreamtime (169, 6)



LIVE MUSIC

RAP BATTLE

Come down for the chance to win SL's first open mic rap battle, with a top prize if L\$10,000 on offer.

When: May 25, 20:00

Where: Hawaii (15, 65, 25)



EVENT OF THE WEEK!

RICHARD DAWKINS

The RL author, who wrote the best-selling book 'The God Delusion', will entertain residents during a week of in-world screenings running until June 5.

When: From May 29

Where: Elysian Isle (227, 131, 24)

EVENTS OF THE WEEK



ENTERTAINMENT

DATING PARTY

Romance is in the air at the Arbor treetop restaurant, which is hosting a speed dating evening. Places are limited, visit the sim to find out how to sign up.

When: May 31, 18:30

Where: RastaOpen1 (78, 113, 62)



OPENING

SWEDISH EMBASSY

Swedish foreign minister Carl Bildt and Swedish Institute director general Olle Wästberg will officially open the embassy.

When: May 30, 00:01

Where: Swedish Institute (128, 128)



ENTERTAINMENT

THE GREAT SL COW DANCE

Check out this mooooonumental event in aid of the Relay for Life charity, as they party across the mainland on dancing cows using the Linden Roads.

When: May 26, 12:00-16:30

Where: Rue dAlliez (168, 41, 22)



EVENT OF THE WEEK!

DLEMF

The three-day Detroit Life Electronic Music Festival, billed as the biggest all-electronic music event in America, will feature DJs including Richard Vission, Kevin Saunderson, DJ Bone, Static Revenger and Asrock.

When: May 26-28

Where: Detroit Life (140, 192)



OPENING

VENICE ITALY

All the famous RL bridges, churches and monuments have been recreated for this 26-island replica of the beautiful Italian city – and the gondolas, of course.

When: May 26, 12:30

Where: Venice Italy (93, 100, 23)

WANT TO SEE YOUR EVENT HERE?

DO you have an event which you would like to see published in The AvaStar's Events section? If so, email us details at news-desk@the-avastar.com.



How to...

Everything a newbie needs to know!

CREATE THE PERFECT PLACE TO SIT DOWN

HAVE you ever noticed that some objects are easier to sit on than others?

There is a free widely-available 'basic sit target' script that builders can put into objects. This is especially useful for creating sitting places on curved

and strangely-shaped objects. If someone right clicks and selects "sit here", they will sit in exactly the right spot, facing the right direction.

POSE

Another way is to create an object, and select the option in

the Edit menu for simply clicking on the object to sit. For example, you may create a fallen tree trunk and turn the whole thing into a sit object. If someone clicks normally on it, they will automatically sit down. There will be no exact lo-

cation defined, though, so they could sit on the edge or in the middle, facing any direction. Most builders just use pose balls. They may add an extra prim and are unsightly, but they are easy to use and arrange. For a more beautiful scene with less prims, use a sit target script or a posed animation script and put it directly in the chair or object. The problem with these scripts is that you need to define exactly where they need to sit (position) and what direction (rotation) they will be facing. This is true if you put an animated or posed sit in the object as well.



SITTING: Taking a breather

ADVERT

Rendezvous

couple animator

featured at Muse Isle
(89, 175, 28)



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RUG ADDICTS

By PETRONILLA PAPERDOLL

DO you need a rug for your SL home and can't decide which one? Now you can choose from 15, all for the symbolic price of L\$1.

At Gnubie (Indigo, 205, 81, 39), you can find the amazing RUG-O-MATIC by Forseti Svarog. With a simple click on the one-prim object, you can rotate between different rug textures, enabling you to find the one which suits the style of your house, from the more classical to the abstract and geometrical one. But RUG-O-MATIC is an interesting tool because it is customisable. You can add your own textures to the 15 the rug comes with – all you have to do is drop them into the object's contents. Look for fabric textures at Gnubie itself, for example, or grab

a free huge box of rugs at Dagmar Zhukowsky's (Pinson 41, 86, 103).

IMAGINATION

An SL rug can also be extremely different from a RL one. For something special, fly to Torley Linden's Watermelinden Land (Grasmere 164, 33, 45). Here you can find, in Torley's words, a "sumptuous assortment of exquisite textures in a variety of styles, from surreal to sketchy to painterly to pixelated 'n' glitched-up — most are a challenge to describe but tend to provoke smiles". Don't limit your imagination - create a multiple rug of your own.



DO + DOS AND DON'TS: GESTURES - DON'T

By GAETANA FAUST

- + Click the Gestures drop-down at the bottom right of your screen to play a gesture in-world.
- + Select Edit/Gestures from the main menu to view all your gestures.
- + Create your own gestures by combining animations, sounds, and words that appear in chat.
- + Use a trigger, such as '/dance' so that you can invoke your favourite gestures using the chat line.
- + Share fun gestures with friends.
- Play gestures with noise during a live music show.
- Feel a need to have a gesture for every emotion. Everyone knows what LOL means.
- Use gestures that type a lot of spam on the chat line.
- Leave your animated override on while doing gestures.
- Turn sound effects off in your preferences, as this blocks the sounds associated with gestures.

My First Day in Second Life

ADVENTUROUS furry Patchouli Woollahra spends time as a mentor for newbies. How was your first day in SL?

I bought a beautiful wild-cat model in Luskwood, then started getting into content creation, visited Svarga and got drunk on feeding the birds. I logged off after 12 hours tired, happy, and primed for addiction.

What was your most embarrassing moment as a newbie?

Walking around with a house on my head. For added bonus - I shrunk the house by accident while attempting to remove it - I looked like a walk-on for a Philip K. Dick-esque movie.

What was your funniest moment as a newbie?

Naked Wednesday - the grid was acting up, there were no attachments, no clothes rezzing. I was sitting around with other people in a PG sim violating their rule against public nudity without any repercussions at all.



PRIMED: Patchouli Woollahra



new sim opening soon!



women's fashion & beauty items, accessories, shoes, "mainLine" for men, "home" by caLLie cLine and more.

now in PLUSH LAMBDA



THE AVASTAR OF THE WEEK

SOFIA GRAY

IS A SULTRY BEAUTY AND WINNER OF THE RECENT PRESTIGIOUS LACOSTE MODEL SEARCH COMPETITION

By MANTA MESSMER

PROFILE

NAME:
Sofia Gray
BIRTH DATE:
10/08/2006
PROFESSION:
Model and photographer
ATTITUDE:
Foxy and focused

THE AVASTAR: What is your best feature?

SOFIA GRAY: My eyes! I really love Toast Bard's work, and the eyes in my opinion are just beautiful.

TA: What is your favourite place in SL?

SG: That's a really tough one. I've found inspiration from all over SL, and my favourites are always

changing. I'd have to say my all time favourite place has always been Tableau. Right now, though, I spend a lot of time at Dogglounge, the atmosphere and the people there are really wonderful.

TA: What would you change in SL?

SG: I've felt lately like the walls are closing in on Second Lifers, and that the world is shrinking instead of expanding in some ways. I'd like to find a way to change that feeling.

TA: How do you spend your time in SL?

SG: Well you can usually either find me shopping, dancing with my friends (we call ourselves the Champagne Train), or shooting some photographs with my friend Mariya Nesiote.

TA: Which personal achievements are you most proud of?

SG: I've achieved a lot in my life that has really made me proud, and turned me into the person that I am today. However in SL

so far I think I am most proud of winning the Lacoste Model Search competition. I worked hard to get people to vote for me, and I was determined to win.

TA: What is the most precious item in your inventory?

SG: My shape, because although a lot of people will say "every girl looks the same" with certain skins or features - I've spent a lot of time working on my shape and tweaking it into what it is today, and I'm quite proud of it.

