

THE AVASTAR

Your World. Your Voice.



Hot celeb party pics!

in your new look **a-stars**

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LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX BABY!

WILL ESCORTS USE VOICE CHAT?
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RESIDENTS HIT BACK AT AD SPAMMERS

L\$5,000 FOR 16m²? NO THANKS!

By **COYNE NAGY**

Backlash over ad farm scam as victims refuse to give in

DEFIANT residents have hit back against a money-grabbing ad-farm boss holding them to ransom over a tiny patch of land.

FULL STORY: SEE PAGE 3

INSIDE OPINION

"What really annoys me is that the Lindens were happy enough to intervene in the gambling affair, but when it came to the Ginko disaster they sat back and did nothing."

YOUR MAIL
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"As there is no regulation in SL's financial industry of the kind seen in RL, and as the Lab seem as reluctant to become involved as always, it will have to be self-regulation which ensures the Ginko fiasco is not repeated."



LEIDER STEPANOV
p.10

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

6

...prims are all that's used up by SecondView, a new HUD graphic RSS reader.

12

...gigabits per second is the total bandwidth taken up by Second Life, according to a Linden Lab press release.

2.6bn

...the amount of Linden dollars in circulation in SL, according to Linden Lab.

UHUHUUH, I'M ALL SHOOK UP



THE King is alive! Residents across the grid celebrated the anniversary of Elvis Presley's 'death' this week, with Gumby Roffo pictured here at O'Toole's Bar.

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"WE WON'T GIVE IN TO AD FARMS"

By COYNE NAGY



RESIDENTS FIGHT BACK AFTER AD FARM BOSS DEMANDS EXTORTIONATE PRICE

DEFIANT residents have hit back against a money-grabbing ad farm boss who was holding them to ransom over a tiny patch of land.

Umnik Hax had demanded an incredible L\$4,951 for just 16 square metres of land on the Glockler sim which he had been using for adverts. The parcel is the last remaining 'ad farm' on the sim, after one of its residents, MarkByron Falta, bought the rest. Now furious MarkByron has blocked the ads and have warned others away from Hax.

UGLY

He was clear in his message to Hax this week: "I want Umnik to rue the day he bought that plot and put up his phony ad for cheap L\$." Falta started buying up land

around his luxury mansion when he became fed up of ad farms, where sims are sliced into tiny

16 square metre plots containing ugly ad signs and billboards. He hadn't been asked for more than L\$700 for a 16 square metre plot until Hax.

FIGHT

Falta added: "I just wanted our area to be free of the stuff. I thought his price was a mistake at first but when it was apparent his price was L\$4,951 and no less, I demanded he adjust his ads so they didn't encroach my land. They are still too big and now he won't respond to me any more."

WARNING: The residents' sign
16 SQM AD CUTTER PLOT FOR 4951 LINDEN?! DO NOT BUY ANYTHING FROM UMNIK HAX!



FIGHT BACK: MarkByron Falta, left, and his barrier around the ad farm, above.

Falta was determined to fight back – and with the co-operation of a neighbour, he blocked out Hax's ads with objects and signs against the ad farm king.

IMMORAL

He has received the backing of the Arbor Project, dedicated to wiping out ad farms from the grid. Its founder Xereses Goff said: "Not only is this practice immoral extortion, it drives residents away from SL. It is precisely what we don't need in-world." Hax was unavailable for comment this week.

NEWS BITES:

SEX-LCC!

SAUCY avatar Yummy Tamale's tylist has offered RL sex to other residents at the SLCC event in Chicago. Those who impress her by email in the run up to the conference could be summoned to her room by means of a secret password code.

A SYMPHONY OF SUPER SOUNDS

THE Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra will take to the virtual stage to play a concert in SL. A replica of their own RL concert hall is being created to host the video streaming event on September 14.

SL HELPS LYING

NEW research by the University of Nebraska has suggested that people deceiving their RL partners online feel less anxiety when using an avatar than in plain text chat.

HELP 'RL-ERS'

THINKERER Studios has announced a new award programme to identify and promote creative products and services to engage people who are not in-world. A total of L\$30,000 will be awarded up to once a month under plans for the scheme.



BY DYLAN MILES

TALKING SEX

SEX in SL is big business – so how has voice affected girls of the night in-world? DYLAN MILES hit the virtual streets to find out.

BEING able to hear your partner whilst in the throes of passion is certainly going to be a shock for many sex-loving residents.

But will it make in-world sex a more realistic and fulfilling experience, or does it go against the whole point of it? One club owner, who wanted to remain anonymous, said he expected voice to give his business a boost: "Customers will use it for a more satisfying and intense experience. But voice will also bring new people to SL who are looking for virtual sex. Graphics and direct

voice chat combined can provide you with a very satisfying experience."

BLEAK

He added that one element of those working in the SL sex industry face a bleak future: "A huge number of escorts will be put out of business, because they are men, but my club is voice-based and all of my girls are genuinely female now."

PASSION

Voice chat will cover the whole of the grid and is much simpler to use than Skype. Escort Izzy Ross said: "I have used

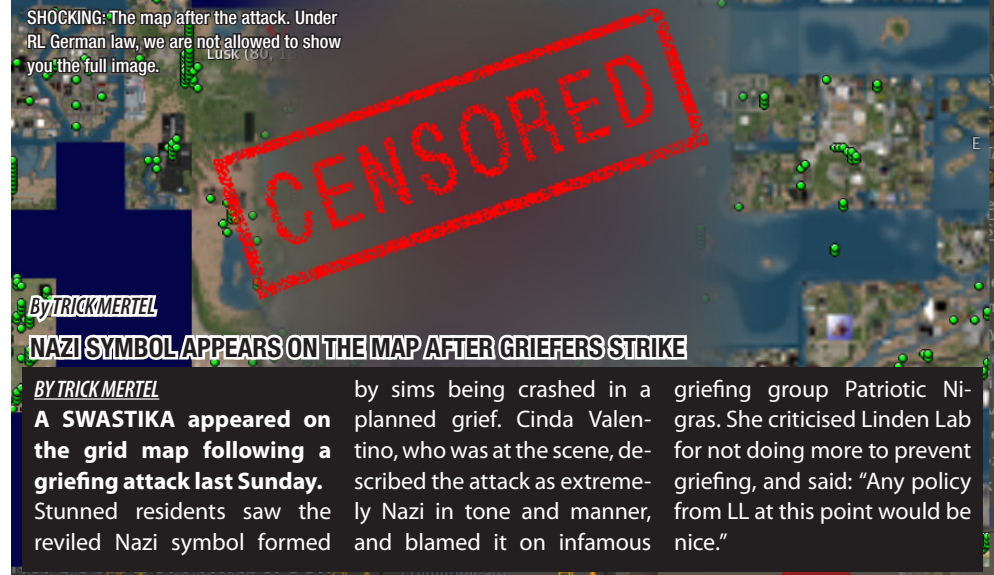
Skype in the past, but only with my regulars and if they pay well. I feel I lose some of my anonymity when talking to a customer and I feel less safe."

While many punters may opt to continue with typing, whether to protect the identity or to keep the illusion SL provides, voice is set to revolutionise the way residents pay for passion in-world.



SWASTIKA ON THE GRID

SHOCKING: The map after the attack. Under RL German law, we are not allowed to show you the full image.



By TRICKMERTEL

NAZI SYMBOL APPEARS ON THE MAP AFTER GRIEFERS STRIKE

By TRICK MERTEL

A SWASTIKA appeared on the grid map following a grieving attack last Sunday. Stunned residents saw the reviled Nazi symbol formed

by sims being crashed in a planned grief. Cinda Valentino, who was at the scene, described the attack as extremely Nazi in tone and manner, and blamed it on infamous

grieving group Patriotic Nigras. She criticised Linden Lab for not doing more to prevent grieving, and said: "Any policy from LL at this point would be nice."

ADVERT

Welcome to R&O FASHION*
Male and Female Clothing Store

NEW COLLECTION

All products are:
- no copy
- no modify
- transfer

R&O FASHION

Design Junkies (158,126,22)

TO BUY, OR NOT DUBAI? BY COYNE NAGY

...THAT IS THE US\$68,000 QUESTION FOR ANYONE THINKING OF BUYING VIRTUAL DUBAI



ARKTIS CEO: Arik McAlpine

THE Burj al Arab Tower replica could shatter the price record for a SL build when it goes under the hammer on auction website eBay.

Bidding for the recreation of the RL tower in Dubai starts at a staggering €50,000, equal to US\$68,000 or L\$16.4m, in the auction which runs until August 22. The previous high for a virtual construction was a reported US\$50,000 received by Stroker Serpentine for the

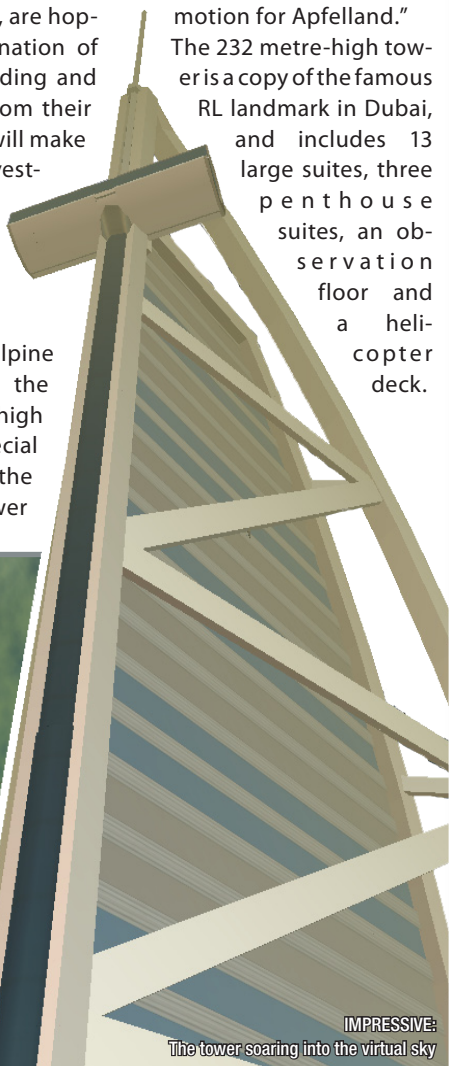
Amsterdam sim.

The tower is located on the Apfelland set of sims, one of the most popular places in SL for German speakers. Arktis Software, the creators and owners of Apfelland, are hoping that the combination of the sensational building and the nearby traffic from their neighbouring sims will make this the perfect investment for a business looking to launch an in-world presence.

PROMOTION

Arktis CEO Arik McAlpine explained just why the tower had such a high reserve: "The special thing in this offer is the area where the tower

stands. Apfelland is one of the most visited islands in SL so it is interesting for big companies or investors. I think we have a real chance of getting a bid but it is a big promotion for Apfelland." The 232 metre-high tower is a copy of the famous RL landmark in Dubai, and includes 13 large suites, three penthouse suites, an observation floor and a helicopter deck.



IMPRESSIVE:

The tower soaring into the virtual sky



FOR SALE: The SL Burj al Arab tower

IMPRESSIVE: The temple



By DYLAN MILES

"KRISHNA IS HERE IN SL"

Hare Krishna devotees finding their home in-world

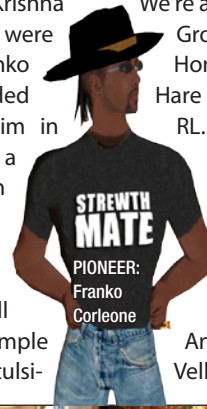
THE sight of joyful orange-clad dancers singing and chanting as they make their way down the street is common in many RL cities across the world.

It is no surprise, therefore, to discover a Hare Krishna presence in SL. They were led in-world by Franko Corleone, who founded the Hare Krishna sim in March after noticing a lack of spirituality in SL. The Hare Krishna group currently has 90 members, some of whom have small stores near the temple selling items like tuls-

beads, dhottis and sandals.

INDESCRIBABLE

Corleone said: "I think Krishna would want us to spread his word all over and celebrate him where ever we are. Krishna is all. Krishna is here in SL. We're all part of him."



Group member Nava Homewood said: "I'm a Hare Krishna devotee in RL. I come to the sim to partake in events, meditate and chat with other group members. The experience is indescribable for me."

Another member, Dhan Vella, said: "This medium

is perfect to bring the message of Krishna to the people. Many residents are searching for something until they find it here: peaceful meditation and the love of Krishna."

APPEAL

Devotees are required to follow a strict lifestyle, including not gambling or eating fish, meat or eggs, and there are plans to build an ashram where devotees in SL can all live together. The appeal of Hare Krishna is growing among residents. Glory Enoch said: "Sometimes I take walks in the lovely park to get a break from the wild and crazy SL. I'm thinking about becoming a devotee."

DEVOTEE: Nava Homewood

SOULFUL: Singing his praises

HARE KRISHNA: SL presence



WORSHIP:
How Phil might look like as a Hare Krishna follower

BIG Phil has turned to Hare Krishna to help save the grid from its persistent problems ... and to plead forgiveness for showing SL porn on the Official Linden Lab Blog.

DRESS PHIL UP!
SEND US YOUR SUGGESTIONS TO
REGIS@THE-AVASTAR.COM

HOT Slaggin'

"Paradise Island"

ARTWORK:
Ermanno Spitteler



© Andrea Manfredini 2007

your mail @

YOURMAIL@THE-AVASTAR.COM

ACCEPT OUR FREEDOMS

Hey Regis, FREEDOM gives SL businesses advantages and disadvantages, that RL businesses don't have.

One advantage is that you get to start with a clean slate - your history and background don't matter. But a disadvantage is that without transparency there is a lot of mistrust, and people have to accept losing out.

feel that with Linden Lab releasing real life information to Stroker Serpentine to aid him in his RL law suit against another player, that something is amiss. If the Lab are willing to release this sort of information for him, they will have to do the same for others in the future. In-

evitably then, SL businesses will be forced to just work on real life principles. Stroker is right to feel cheated, with another business copying his SexGen bed idea. However, we all come into this world - for one reason or another - knowing the risks of the freedom that we

chose to invest in. We can't have it both ways.

By J.B.

ACTION NEEDED ON GINKO BANK

Dear Regis, I AM now flat broke and angry, and it is all because of Linden Lab.

Last week I lost all of my virtual savings in the Ginko Bank disaster. In the same week I also lost one of my favourite hobbies in Second Life, gambling. What really annoys me is that it seems that the Lindens were happy enough to intervene in the gambling affair when it suited them, but when it came to the Ginko disaster they were content to sit back and do nothing.

CONSISTENCY

I appreciate that the Lab is in a difficult position in regards to some of these issues and their potential to cause trouble with RL laws, but it needs to define its role in SL more clearly.

It needs to decide if they are going to intervene or allow SL to develop on its own. They can't have things both ways. All I am asking for is some consistency in these matters, otherwise SL might lose more of its residents, me included.

By Justin3 Humphreys

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

NO TERRORISTS IN SL!

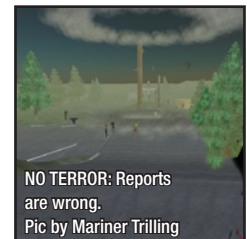
Dear Editor, FOR a change, I find myself in agreement with The AvaStar in its criticism of the RL media's reaction to supposed terrorism in SL.

The articles in the Sunday Times and The Australian completely miss the point - how can you kill that which has no life and how can you be terrorised by that which you can mute, ban or just ignore? "But SL can be used as a medium to plan attacks

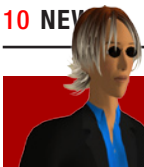
and promote extremism." That's right, I've also heard that there is a remote possibility that books are being used by terrorists, so for the safety of our children, they must be banned!

There is a sizeable gulf between key-

board strokes in a virtual world and physical movement in reality. If their target is virtual, these so-called terrorists should never be described as more than just glorified griefers. If the target is real, they should be derided for their idiocy in choosing SL as their platform. Until the Jihad is declared via IM and terrorists start teleporting into battle, I will - I think - roam the grid in safety.

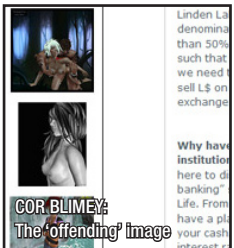


By F.R.



LEIDER STEPANOV

PUT A STOP TO LINDEN PORN!



Linden Lab denominated more than 50% of the L\$ on exchange

Why have institutions here to do banking? Life. From have a place your cash

COR. BLIMEY: The 'offending' image

I ALWAYS appreciate people who don't take SL too seriously – so top marks to the aptly-named Sly Writer, blogging on Lhorentso Nurmi's Free Porn Times.

The eagle-eyed spoof blogger noticed that there were some rather naughty pics on Linden Lab's official blog. He said: "Next time they pick on gamblers and role-players remind them that they're just as bad as the rest of 'em."

"It makes me sick to my stomach to think that children may be viewing these images. If I were a parent I would be outraged. In fact, I might go adopt a kid in SL just to be able to do so. "Join me in this campaign to keep secondlife.com free of objectionable material. Yeah." Hear, hear!

DUBAI FOR US\$68,000? A SIGN OF THE SL TIMES

ECONOMY IS GROWING - BUT BEWARE OF 'GINKO EFFECT'

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

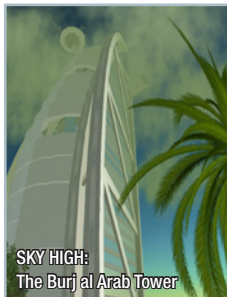
a virtual replica of one of the emirate's buildings - €50,000, about US\$68,000.

REGULATION

"THE city built for tourism all around the year with excellent hotels, resorts, shopping and sports facilities."

So says Dubai's department of tourism about the RL Middle Eastern destination. Well, it sounds great, if only I could afford to go. But I could afford to go every year for the rest of my life for the cost of

That's an awful lot for what is essentially a load of pixels, but it shows how SL's economy is progressing. As does, unfortunately, Ginko Bank's collapse. Whether anyone is actually willing to pay €50,000 upwards for the Burj al Arab recreation, I'm not so sure. The fact that it is being asked for, though, is proof in itself that SL



SKY HIGH: The Burj al Arab Tower

For that process to be developed further, the money men in SL must get their house in order. As there is no regulation in the financial industry of the kind seen in RL, and as the Lab seem as reluctant to become involved as always, it will have to be self-regulation which ensures the Ginko fiasco is not repeated. There is still a long way to go, however, before residents' faith in SL financial institutions will have been restored.



GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK: Avatars study a Ginko teller machine

NICE to see that not everyone in the RL media has joined the Let's Trash SL club.

The world-famous New York Times ran an article entitled 'A House That's Just Unreal', explor-

ing how and why residents in SL have homes. It is a perfect example of just how important proper research and an open mind are for anyone who doesn't know SL but wants to write about it.

L\$500

PICS OF THE WEEK

yourphotos@the-avastar.com

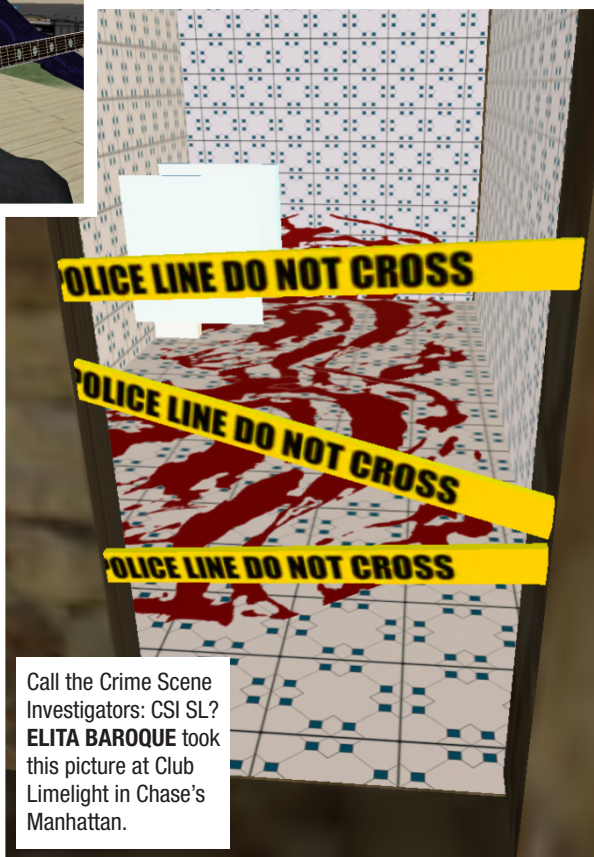
A nice cup of joe always goes down well – and now you can visit your local Starleybucks store at Dazzle Isle! **D.M.**



ISOLDE FLAMAND snapped **SHANTU SELENE** entertaining the crowd at Nantucket with his ballads and classic guitar melodies.



MAXIMILION KLEENE was encouraging the crowd at the Cyberpyper concert at The Fabrik to raise their hands. **D.M.**



Call the Crime Scene Investigators: CSI SL? **ELITA BAROQUE** took this picture at Club Limelight in Chase's Manhattan.



8th - 9th september 2007

share and discuss ideas about the 3D web

"The web3Dcamp is a free of charge and open un-conference for every resident, who wants to talk about the 3D web. You are invited to do presentations, participate in discussions or to just listen what other residents are thinking."

Sebastian Otaared, Initiator web3Dcamp

Join now:

<http://web3Dcamp.org>



THERE dozens of clubs in SL, but what's in it for the owners? **ROB ANATINE** went to find out.

IF you're thinking about starting a dance club in SL, consider this - the odds of it becoming profitable are slim at best.

The vast majority of SL-based clubs never make it into the black, and most cost their owners a fortune just to keep the doors open.

Lady Sakai's Rumrunner is a good example. The Duran Duran-inspired club costs up to L\$8,000 a month to run, but brings in very little. "Clubs are money pits," she said. "I try to run it professionally, but one of my 'demands' to the staff is to have fun while they work."

PROMOTION

Trish Brennan, who owns and runs Xanadu International Spacestation with her husband Aeros Taggart, typically spends 40 hours a week on her club.

To keep people coming back, Xanadu hosts events 12 hours a day, seven days a week. The club itself is not profitable, but it does bring substantial traffic to Trish's other businesses - a tactic

employed by many successful clubs such as the popular The Edge club. Owner Jenna Fairplay pays out about L\$200,000 a week in promotions, wages and events to keep The Edge near the top of SL's list of popular places. She said: "It's a tool to bring in the people to generate the revenue to offset expenses and hopefully be in the green at the end of the month. They can be profitable but it's such a fine line, a balancing act."

PARALYSED

Though they may not be great moneymakers, clubs can provide intangible benefits. Fairplay added: "I have had people get married in RL who met at The Edge. I have had staff who are paralysed in RL but worked for me hosting events and dancing, telling me for the first time in their life they were able to feel alive again."



BIZ BITES: **LAND SUPPLY TO BE CUT DOWN**

LAND prices will be propelled up by a new fiscal policy announced this week by Linden Lab. The Lab will cut the supply of new regions auctioned each day to ten until the end of August.

ROCK OFFERS SL DEPOSITS COVER

FOLLOWING a lively meeting called to discuss how to restore investors' faith in SL, the Rock Insurance Company has revealed it will issue two-week certificates to insure bank deposits, although only certain banks will be eligible for the service.

SLCE LAUNCHES

THE new-look SL Capital Exchange was opened to investors on August 14. It was created when JT Financial purchased and re-branded the Allinvest International Exchange.

LAB OUTSOURCE TO SAVE US\$1M

LINDEN Lab have outsourced all their financial and accounting work to Consero Global Solutions in a move which they hope will save them around US\$1 million.

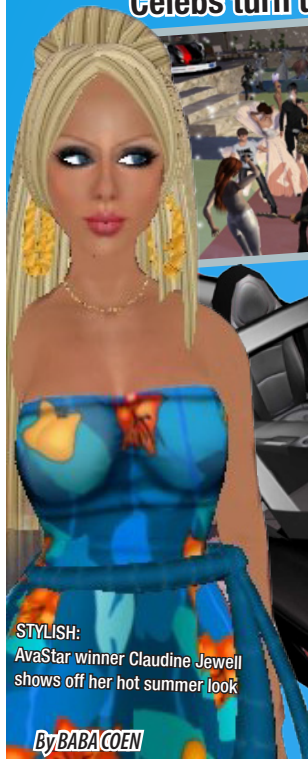
a-stars



A-STARs gossip with Dylan Miles, Babu Writer & JenZa Misfit

MAD MAX-IM!

Celebs turn up to Maxim/Motorati Madness



STYLISH:
AvaStar winner Claudine Jewell shows off her hot summer look

By BABA COEN

IT was madness at the exclusive MAXIM/Motorati bash as SL VIPs partied hard - even dancing in the swimming pool!

Celeb beauty Callie Cline who hosted the party at her beachside villa said: "The party was absolutely fantastic - you could see people were having a blast!"

Prominent guests included Gideon Television, TheDiva Rockin, Kiana Dulce, Ciera Bergman,

SCORCHERS: Ciera Bergman, Kiana Dulce, Callie Cline and Roxanne Lusch



PARTY ANIMALS:
Guests show off their moves

PIMP YOUR GARAGE:
Exclusive Maxim edition of Pontiac's Solstice GXP



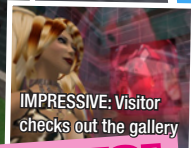
Winston Corleone and AvaStar competition winner Claudine Jewell. The gorgeous Amanda Shinji didn't stop at wowing guests with her fishnet top and hot panties but starred alongside DJ Shane Hornet providing dance tunes all night. The exclusive Maxim edition of the Pontiac Solstice GXP, given away to lucky partygoers throughout the night, was also designed by the lovely lady in pink.

HOT STUFF:
Amanda Shinji, aka DJ Miss Cyberpink



UNUSUAL:
Exhibition at the new gallery

WHITE CUBE GALLERY:
Now Open at new BERLIN



IMPRESSIVE: Visitor checks out the gallery

NICE CUBES!

THE third branch of the renowned White Cube Gallery opened with a massive party including live video and audio from RL last weekend. Among the guests at the gallery on the Berlin newBERLIN sim were Frank Dryburgh and Dan Cundey. The gallery is now open for artists and art projects. By ISABEL BROCCO

SPOTTED!



WHAT a grrrrrrrrreat performance! Natalie Moody wowed the crowds at the Three Lions pub in Bourton Village with her acoustic set last week.

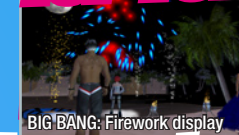
PIC By KITTY OTOOLE

By BABA COEN

GIANT holiday company TUI launched its island with a bang thanks to a giant fireworks display at its opening bash. Residents hit the dancefloor at the be-

ach party to the live sounds of DJ Maik and watched the fireworks from the comfort of their deckchairs. The island also offers golfing, surfing, diving and chill-out areas.

Flying start for TUI



BIG BANG: Firework display



RELAX: Great summer destination

Anshe shows her support

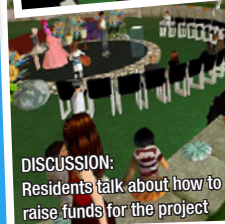
By KITTY OTOOLE

TOP SL stars packed into the official opening of the Non-Profit Commons project.

Among them was famous land baron Anshe Chung, who has donated the sim which will hold office space for 32 non-profit organisations ranging from wildlife projects to medical charities.



HELPING HAND: Coughrin Mayo is heavily involved in the project



DISCUSSION: Residents talk about how to raise funds for the project

GENEROUS: Anshe Chung donated a sim to the organisation (Pic by Jez Watanabe)

PUNK REVIVAL

BY ISABEL BROCCO

DON'T believe what you hear - punk is not dead! The world of punk rock fashion in SL is rich and imaginative, combining all sorts of interesting textures. Live dangerously in chains, net, tartan, rips, leather, daring hair cuts and piercings.

Piercings from Ravens Requiem

Beckett dAlliez (107, 144, 40)

L\$200

Devil Red Hair from Electro Kitty

Tenjin Fukuoka Japan (25, 36, 501)

L\$100

L\$350

Plush Mohawk

FNKY Cake (175, 66, 27)

Piercings from Realistic Piercing

NineinchNerds (74, 89, 27)

L\$299

Mens Jolly Roger outfit from Red Ruin

Hwaryeo (107, 25, 58)

L\$100

B@R Enroached outfit

Bare Rose (154, 19, 30)

L\$140

L\$250

Stiletto boots from Backyard

Vision of trust (116, 213, 22)



callie cline's STYLE HOTLINE



HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER

Be prepared for any situation with ready-to-go outfits

MANY people still haven't heard about a wonderful trick in SL - 'making an outfit'.

With this trick you can be ready at a moments notice to go ANYWHERE. You should take an hour one day and make a few 'outfits' to have on hand.

I'd suggest: 1. Casual 2. Classy casual 3. Business 4. Party 5. Formal 6. Swim/pool party 7. Funky fave 8. Retro 9. Sporty 10. Club girl or anything that suits your SL lifestyle.

How do you do that? It's very simple! First, put on an outfit you want to 'save' - you can mix and match and make sure you add your fa-

vourite hair, shoes, jewels, etc. Then go into 'appearance mode' and click 'make outfit'. You will then see a window that allows you to click everything you want in this outfit. Always click shape, skin, hair, accessories, everything you want. This works fabulously with clothes that are 'copy' as you can use the same pieces for many outfits.

OUTFIT

So after you have everything you want checked, name it as the outfit. For example, in the photo

I have named these 'Loreal formal', 'Loreal swimwear' and 'Loreal classy casual', as these outfits needed to be available quickly for the L'Oréal pageant. When you want to wear the outfit, type in the name in your inventory and then drag the folder on yourself or your name and tada! A whole new you!



THE LOOKS: Formal, swimwear and classy casual

WHAT'S HOT! SCI-FI GOES SEXY

By CARRIE SODWIND

TREND-SETTING owner of Bare Rose June Dion was spotted this week in a silver dress with large hoop details, sharply cut and tied with a sash. Paired with shiny bronze tights and a stern black hair cut, the outfit was reminiscent of an amazing costume from a sci-fi film. The look has taken off, with fashionistas enjoying futuristic style. One daring trend setter was wearing a floor length warrior style red coat and Princess Leia hair.



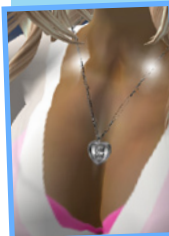
TREND SETTER: Sci-fi

INVENTORY SNEAK PEEK KATJA RAU OF R&O FASHION

By CARRIE SODWIND

MY MOST PRECIOUS ITEM IS...

"My Bad Girl necklace. I wear it all the time. It was a gift to me from my boyfriend. He bought me my body shape, and the necklace came as a token with it."



I ALWAYS WEAR...

"My black pants by Nyte Caligari at Nyte'N'Day. She's an amazing designer. These pants are so useful, as they look good wherever I am in SL. They are comfortable but I can dress them up to look smart too."



I LOVE THE DESIGN OF...

"My white blouse by Nyte Caligari. I have based my style in SL on this sort of design. It is classic and simple, and very much what I like to wear in real life too. With the sheer fabric you can see my favourite pink bra underneath!"



A SEAT AT THE BAR



By TINA (PETGIRL) BERGMAN



Habitat Bar Stool
In teak
By Juro Kothari
Where: Deneb (87, 159, 27)

L\$125



Classic Bar Stool
By Fade Languish
Where: Cult (103, 186, 27)

L\$100



Turquoise Soda Stool
By Usul Eros
Rave Islands (84, 177, 26)

L\$100



The Barfly
Touch to change the pose.
By Maximilian Milos
Maximum Minimum
(128, 128, 0)

L\$150

ADVERT

Purple Rose Jewelry & More

Jewelry Super Store

Located @ Babeli (180,178,23)

NEW SIMS

THIS WEEK: A POLISH CITY, AN INSURANCE COMPANY BASE AND A LUXURY CAR SIM.

By TRICK MERTEL

SECOND Krakow is the latest sim to follow the trend of recreating RL cities in SL, following Amsterdam and Berlin.

The main town square, Rynek Glowny, contains sights such as St Mary's and the Sukienece,



and a live concert stage. You can take a ride in a horse-drawn car-

riage and eat a pretzel. Rumour has it other Polish cities will be appearing on the grid shortly. Europ Assistance Island is the virtual entry point for the Paris-based RL insurance company



of the same name. It effectively functions as a newbie orientation sim, and visitors can take a free protective sash offering vir-

tual protection from teleporting accidents.

MotorCity is home to the highest quality SL car manufactur-



ers and related retailers. It also features an exclusive hotel with residential space available. Although not officially launched, it is open for a visit to see how the other half live.

TAKE YOUR PICK

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



G-AXIS
Igbo (81, 184, 351)
A paradise for virtual rev heads, G-Axis caters for avatars with a need for speed. Sit behind the wheel of an SLPD police van, helicopters and boats, or take a go-kart for a spin around the track racing the clock or your friends.



SECRET REFLECTIONS
Secret Reflections (60, 151, 42)
This nocturnal misty cave is a favourite meeting place for lovers and hopefuls alike. Small lanterns light pathways to secluded romantic alcoves. Mind the giant spider web on the way to the tree house and be sure to knock before you enter.



LUSKWOOD
Lusk (209, 123, 52)
Of all the furry hang out places in SL, Lusk is the oldest. It's also a great place to shake your fur in the fresh air amongst the gorgeous trees, and all 'considerate' avatars are welcome to come and join in the party.



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

DEAR

MY GIRL FANTASISES ABOUT OTHER WOMEN

She wants to look at and touch their breasts - are threesomes ok?

Dear Randi: MY girlfriend and I have been dating in SL for a couple of months, and the relationship has always been happy and lots of fun! While she says she is not gay or even bisexual, she has a really big sex drive and describes to me how she loves looking at other women's breasts and fantasizes about touching them. She has

been saying recently that she wants to experiment with a threesome with another woman in-world. I've never done anything of the sort and feel like participating would be unfaithful to her in some way. How should I proceed? — Z.A.

Randi says: There's an old saying that goes, "if your wife says it's OK, it's not adultery".

This seems to be a perfect example of that! What the two of you do in private is no one else's business but your own. Select an experienced escort, who will know that part of her job is confidentiality.

Then go have fun together! The experience may even enhance your relationship in the bedroom.



BEST MAN IN HOT SEX SHAME WITH BRIDE

Dear Randi: I AGREED to be the best man at my friend's upcoming wedding in SL before I actually met his bride-to-be. He introduced me to her last week, and it turned out that she was a former escort I had frequented several months ago. After he signed out she sent me an IM and I invited her over to my place for a chat. The chat turned into a mind-blowing sex session, this time free of charge. After we were finished she asked me to pretend it never happened. Should I tell the groom? — N.S.

Randi says: No. You were disloyal to your friend by having sex with his fiancée, no matter her previous occupation or your past relationship. Keep quiet about it forever if you can. She has nothing to gain by telling her husband about your hot sex. Go be in the wedding and perform your duties properly. Just make sure never to be alone with her again!

FALLING IN LOVE WITH FRIEND'S FORMER WIFE

Dear Randi: ONE of my good friends recently dumped his wife after cheating on her several times. I have also been long-term friends with his now ex-wife, who used my shoulder to cry on several times after the break-up happened. We haven't had sex or anything like that, but I now feel like I am falling for her. When I told the ex-husband about our relationship, he said he doesn't want her back but added that he thinks too little time has passed since they broke up. Is he wrong? — B.L.

Randi says: Absolutely. If she had dumped him, you should wait perhaps three months before taking up with her. But when he broke it off with her, she became completely free to date whomever she chose. Why should you deny yourself happiness because of his rules? Go be happy with his ex, and if he doesn't like it that's his problem and not yours.

RANDI

The Virtual World's
No 1 Agony Aunt

JEALOUS 'FRIEND' SPREAD LIES

Dear Randi: ME and my four girlfriends in-world share absolutely everything with each other, or at least we did. About three months ago, two of us began a business that became quite profitable. We were splitting the profits evenly, but as time progressed I was doing almost all the work. I decided

to dissolve the partnership and gave her L\$20,000. At that point she became angry, and made up a story that I had cheated with the husband of one of our other friends. It's a complete lie, but the other girls believe it. What should I do? — G.C.

Randi says: She sounds unsta-

ble, and perhaps you're lucky she's no longer pretending to be your friend. You need to meet with the husband and wife to sort out the situation. If that doesn't work, talk with your other good friends and tell them what you have told me. If no one believes you, then go look for other friends.

RANDI'S PHOTO CASEBOOK BRADY AND HIS BUDDY'S BRIDE - WEEK 4

"Hey Brady, how are ya, bud? Listen, I'm so pleased that you and Rosa are getting along so well."

"Yeah, getting along a bit too well."

"He has to know the truth - but telling him that may cost us our friendship. What should I do?"

"She is such a good woman, I'm so pleased I married her."

Randi says: "Come clean. It will hurt everyone involved, but there is no way you can carry on like you are - and he deserves to know what his new bride is really like."

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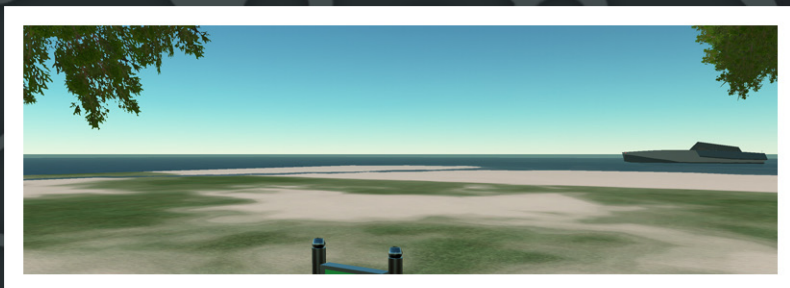
HOME RENTALS FROM
450 PRIMS

L\$ 1200L/WEEK



LAND RENTALS FROM
FROM 878 PRIMS

L\$ 2500L/WEEK



LAND SALE BEACH FRONT 49,000L\$



Freebies SL's best FREE stuff!

BY PETRONILLA PAPERDOLL

This Week: Birds



SINGER:
Blue jay

BIRDS are everywhere in SL - flying over green fields or around Linden

modified and completely free. A flying version is available just in front of the stand, and again it's only L\$1. You may enjoy watching it zoom about, but be careful - it doesn't peck, but it does use up 50 prims!

trees swaying in the wind.

They are refined objects, scripted and full of details - but you can still find some good examples for free (or the standard L\$1 freebie fee). Pick up a blue jay by Kim Manilow at Parrot Island (128, 128, 0). It can sing in three different ways and it stays on a lovely bird bath. They cost L\$1 each, as well as a bird feed stand just nearby.

AMAZING

If you look at the big parrot stand in Rosewood, with a toy for the birds and bowls of food, you can find a white sulphur-crested cockatoo for L\$1, and just near it the amazing scarlet macaw by Alberto Linden,



FLY-INDEN:
Alberto's macaw



PERCHED: Parrots

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

By GAETANA FAUST

- + Click land and pick Edit Terrain to change the contours of your land.
- + Apply changes by left-clicking the sections of land you want to work on.
- + Flatten, raise, lower, smooth or roughen the land until you like the way it looks.
- + Select the size of land you want to work on - small, medium, or large.
- + Click the Show Owners box to see land colour according to owner.
- Accidentally hit Abandon Land. Big and costly mistake!
- Leave the Edit window without selecting Revert Land if you goof up. It will undo the damage.
- Be careless with the Join and Subdivide buttons.
- Forget to check the covenant for rules about how much you can raise or lower your land.
- Allow other residents to edit your terrain. Turn it off in About Land.

My First Day in Second Life

MODEL SUPREMO UNA EWING:

By Viscount Lisle

THE AVASTAR: How was your first day in SL?

UNA EWING: It was initially quite chaotic, Orientation Island was confusing. I know it's helpful to try out basic functions before entering, but I also think it puts a lot of people off SL. However, I met a lovely girl who helped me and as girls do, we immediately went shopping!

TA: What was your most embarrassing moment?

UE: When you are a newbie, you really can't do anything wrong, it's all a learning curve. That said, I kept removing key items like underwear in public - very embarrassing!

TA: What was your most amusing moment?

UE: Definitely when I went to a club and boldly climbed up on a pole and started dancing in my full newbie glory. I upset a few people: the proper dancers started complaining and the manager pulled me off and gave me a stern warning.



POLE DANCE:
Una Ewing

callie cline
in callifornia



stay awhile...

shopping • beaches • entertainment

THE GUIDE

TOP EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

THIS WEEK: ANIMALS

BAMBOO:
Escapade Zoo



BY GAETANA FAUST

BEAR NECESSITIES OF SL

Check out all creatures on the grid, great and small

EXPLORE the wild kingdoms of SL and take a tour of zoos and other in-world animal havens.

Escapade Zoo and Safari in Apollonia (156, 106, 25) is an expansive natural habitat where animals can rove the range freely. You'll encounter every type of animal from llama to sea turtle, with cuddly panda bears chewing on bamboo and koalas scaling eucalyptus trees.

Another great place for all kinds of animal life is Nirvana Animal and Pet Sim in Dementia (129, 129, 22). It's divided up into sections for wildlife, farmyard, birds and aquatics. Among the more unusual items on display are the 'undead' fish and the dragon snakes. At Imagination Breeding and Zoo in Stone Pike (104, 237, 25), you'll find some serious oddities on display - don't miss being juggled by an immense pink elephant!

Enjoy a charming scene at the Maya Zoo in Mount Curl (176, 62, 98), with sweet dragonflies and gelatinous jellyfish around the pond area, and giraffes and Amazon cats roaming the land.

Beware, though, that you may be pursued with a vengeance by a stinging green eel. It's one of the risks of exploring the wilds!

It's a bit tamer at Apfelland Zoo in Apfelland Wohnen (230, 209, 24). Pens containing sheep and chickens sit next to resting camels and grazing deer. For a different kind of zoo, take a journey on the Tropical Jungle Boat Ride in Zenlan (124, 64, 21). Killer whales and stingrays swim below you while you watch lions on the shore and venture through the pirate's cove.

DON'T GET THE HUMP APFELLAND ZOO



Sheep and chickens live next to hardy camels and grazing deer, making for a relaxing day out.

Where: Apfelland Wohnen (230, 209, 24)

ANIMAL ODDITIES IMAGINATION ZOO



Enjoy everything from penguins and picnic ants to banjo flies.

Where: Stone Pike (104, 237, 25)

CHARMING CRITTERS MAYA ZOO



Dragonflies and jellyfish are joined by giraffes and Amazon cats.

Where: Mount Curl (176, 62, 98)

8.17. - 8.24.

DON'T MISS! –



LIVE MUSIC

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Help people affected by July's earthquake in Japan by enjoying performers like Freestar Tammas. All proceeds to the Japanese Emergency Relief Effort.

When: August 18, 10:00-20:30

Where: Furumachi (225, 190, 23)



PARTY

COMING OF AGE IN SL

The cover picture for new book 'Coming of Age in SL' by anthropologist Tom Bukowski will be chosen by popular vote, with a DJ afterwards.

When: August 19, 12:00-14:30

Where: Cetus (214, 9, 39)



DISCUSSION

SWEETER THAN HONEY

New York Times best-selling author Mary B. Morrison discusses her novel 'Sweeter Than Honey'.

When: August 19, 14:00

Where: Cookie (132, 171, 25)



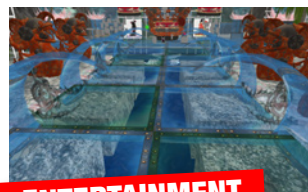
NIGHTLIFE

80S PARTY LAUNCH

DJ Jossy spins 80s music favourites at the event's launch party.

When: August 18, 11:00

Where: Design Junkies (157, 112, 21)



ENTERTAINMENT

BARE ROSE GRAND BALL

One of SL'S biggest fashion stores marks its second birthday with a celeb-packed party.

When: August 17, 16:00 – 18:00

Where: Black Cat (33, 161, 35)



EVENT OF THE WEEK!

2 GOOD 2 BE REAL

A unique music event – a RL concert video will be streamed to SL where avatars will be performing, with in-world video being beamed backed to the RL gig.

When: August 18, 13:00

Where: Muse Isle (166, 175, 30)

EVENTS OF THE WEEK



LIVE MUSIC

ALAZARIN MONDRIAN

Alazarin Mondrian and The Invisible Band will play a selection of original dynamic space rock music in a show unlike any other in SL.

When: August 24, 15:00

Where: Eson (224, 110, 74)



OPENING

CHIC BOUTIQUE

Come along of the launch of this new store, and check out the fabulous range of glamorous flexi dresses amongst other stuff.

When: August 21, 07:00 – 10:00

Where: A Corp Beta Site (208, 112, 21)



ART & CULTURE

SANTIAGO FILM FESTIVAL

The culmination to the week-long festival sees a special screening of the finalists in the short film category followed by a presentation to the winner.

When: August 20, 20:00

Where: Isla Chile (129, 128, 27)



EVENT OF THE WEEK!

VIBESTIVAL

A non-profit afternoon of rock in the chilled out settings of VibeHQ. The line-up boasts some of the hardest rockers in SL.

When: August 18, 12:00-18:00

Where: Shaea (234, 183, 35)



NIGHTLIFE

MASQUERADE BALL

Dress up and join other guests in all sorts of disguises, and enjoy chatting and dancing with strangers and friends alike.

When: August 20, 23:30-02:30

Where: Valuta (213, 76, 29)

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 newsdesk@the-avastar.com.

Get AvaStar gadgets for FREE!



- EACH week we will give away FREE AvaStar merchandise to members of 'THE AVASTAR READERS GROUP'.
- AS a member you will also be the FIRST to hear about Avastar news, competitions and giveaways.
- JOIN the group now by searching for 'The Avastar Readers Group' in search. (or send an im to Viscount Lisle)

This Week: AvaStarchi

FED up of seeing your hands waving about in mid-air when you type? Soon you can chat in style with The AvaStar Laptop!



THE AVASTAR OF THE WEEK

BY COYNE NAGY



REBEL HOPE

REBEL AND HER PARTNER RH ENGL RUN A FULL-TIME BUSINESS PRODUCING JEWELLERY, CLOTHING AND COSTUMES FOR THEIR STORE, RH DESIGNS.

AVA - ID CARD

NAME: REBEL HOPE
BIRTH DATE: 12/29/2004

PROFESSION: Designer and shop owner
ATTITUDE: "Life is short and we need to have fun!"

INTERVIEW

The AvaStar: What is your best feature?

Rebel Hope: I have beautiful eyes. I'm not sure what it is about them but they are so seductive! I haven't changed my look since I started.

TA: What would you change in SL?

RH: The missing inventory, it's a horrible problem here. People spend really good money on things then they go missing.

TA: What was your biggest fashion mistake?

RH: I make them daily! In designing I would say that some of my first designs were horrid. We all have to learn but I have a couple that were huge mistakes. One was once referred to as very 'rug' looking.

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

RH: A unique piece my partner won for me in a Relay For Life auction. It's by Devyn Grimm and it's an Ankh Amulet. Devyn is an amazing designer, my favourite. This is a one of a kind piece by him which I'm very proud to own.

TA: If SL had a president, who would you vote for?

RH: Me! Oh I don't have time for that kind of thing. I would have to say... Starax for president! He's a genius.