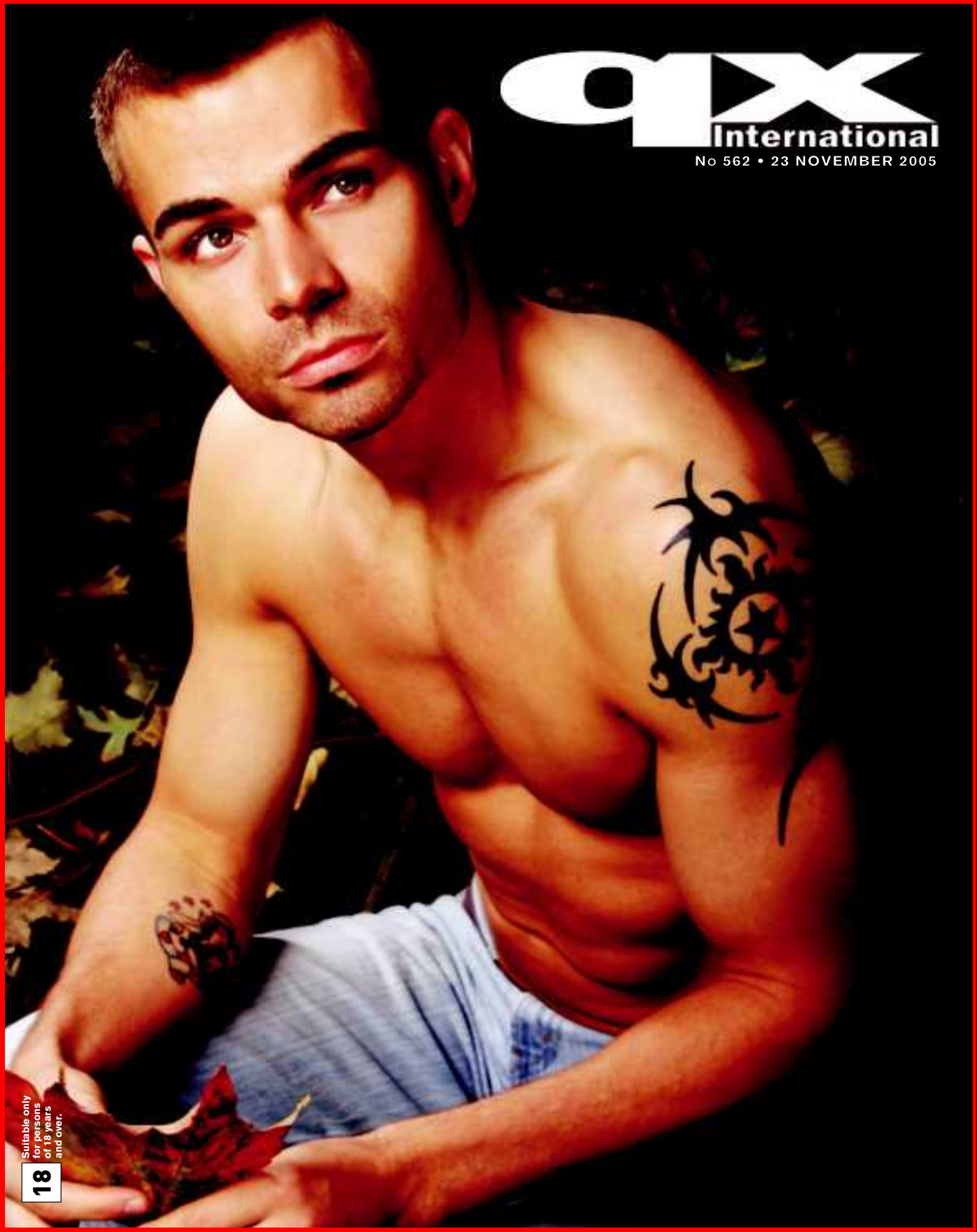


# QIX

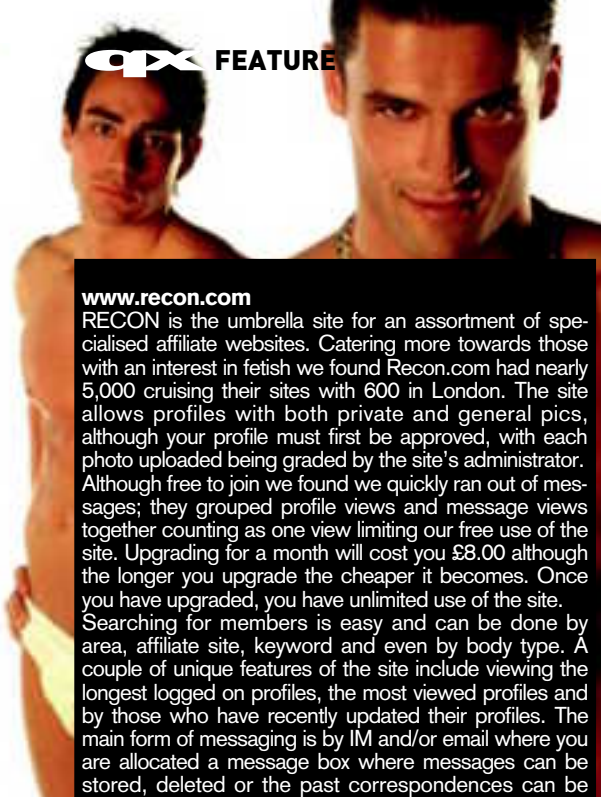
International

No 562 • 23 NOVEMBER 2005



Suitable only  
for persons  
of 18 years  
and over.

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**www.recon.com**

RECON is the umbrella site for an assortment of specialised affiliate websites. Catering more towards those with an interest in fetish we found Recon.com had nearly 5,000 cruising their sites with 600 in London. The site allows profiles with both private and general pics, although your profile must first be approved, with each photo uploaded being graded by the site's administrator. Although free to join we found we quickly ran out of messages; they grouped profile views and message views together counting as one view limiting our free use of the site. Upgrading for a month will cost you £8.00 although the longer you upgrade the cheaper it becomes. Once you have upgraded, you have unlimited use of the site. Searching for members is easy and can be done by area, affiliate site, keyword and even by body type. A couple of unique features of the site include viewing the longest logged on profiles, the most viewed profiles and by those who have recently updated their profiles. The main form of messaging is by IM and/or email where you are allocated a message box where messages can be stored, deleted or the past correspondences can be viewed. The message window also shows who has recently checked out your profile.



**www.dudesnude.com**

ANOTHER Stateside website, you join Dudesnude by adding yourself to community for which you need to be approved for. If you want to join Fit Jock Dude, that is what you must be, otherwise perhaps leather men or Sex Pig is more you. London members of this site can easily be found under the search function where you can find members by location right down to the nearest borough. On Monday night we found 1,617 online members with nearly 100 of these in London. This site has one of the best search functions we found where profiles can be viewed by location, most 'hot listed', by photo (such as images with underwear only) or you can search the site for people who only have marked you as 'hot'. A unique function of the search engine is the ability to compile a virtual hot list based around certain search strings you place in the engine which are then cross referenced coming up with the guys it thinks would be most suited to you. Profile creation allows both private pics (that can be sent to other remembers using their email client) or general pics (images need to be approved and rated) that show on your profile. You can even upload small video clips of yourself. You have the ability to verify your profile and this is done by the site emailing you a number that then you must show in a photograph with yourself. A hassle, but at least you know who is real on the site. Some members will only search for verified profiles, and with good reason considering how much bullshit there is in the cyber world.

**www.mand8.com**

THE relatively new Mand8.com revealed on a Monday night an online population of 232. Like the other sites you can set up a profile for free with both private and general images but unlike other sites this site remains 100% free with unlimited access to all its web services.

By far Mand8.com had the most ways of communicating with others either by email, IM, video chat (very popular), by voice (like using a phone, but over an IM client) and by general chat rooms. Profiles show which other users have microphones and webcams if you prefer to cyber than arrange a meet, or just drop in for a perv.

Members can set up friends list and networks too, where networks are mini-sites of people who feel they may have something in common. Unique to this site is the testimonials where members can write what other members are like. We found everything from 'wild in bed' to 'what a nice guy' as testimonials.

Apart from the cruising, Mand8 also has forums, an event calendar and links to various interest groups. They also have a mobile phone network called the Mand8 express phone chat: a fast, real-time Voice IM platform that also allows you to connect live 121 with other Mand8 members over your mobile phone.



Website	basic membership	costs of upgrades	profile with g & x pics?	IM	chat rooms	video	voice	search function?	verify profile?
gay.com	free	free	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N
gaydar.co.uk	free	£8/mth	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N
recon.com	free	£8/mth	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N
qxchat.com	free	free	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
bigmuscle.com	free	donate	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y
dudesnude.com	free	£3/mth	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
m4m4sex.com	free	free	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N
mand8.com	free	free	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
gayromeo.com	free	£2/mth	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y