



LOOKING FOR LOVE? VISIT OUR DATING WEBSITE  
[thelondonlove.com](http://thelondonlove.com)

THE HEART SURGERY YOUR RELATIONSHIP CLINIC

## My guy's net shame

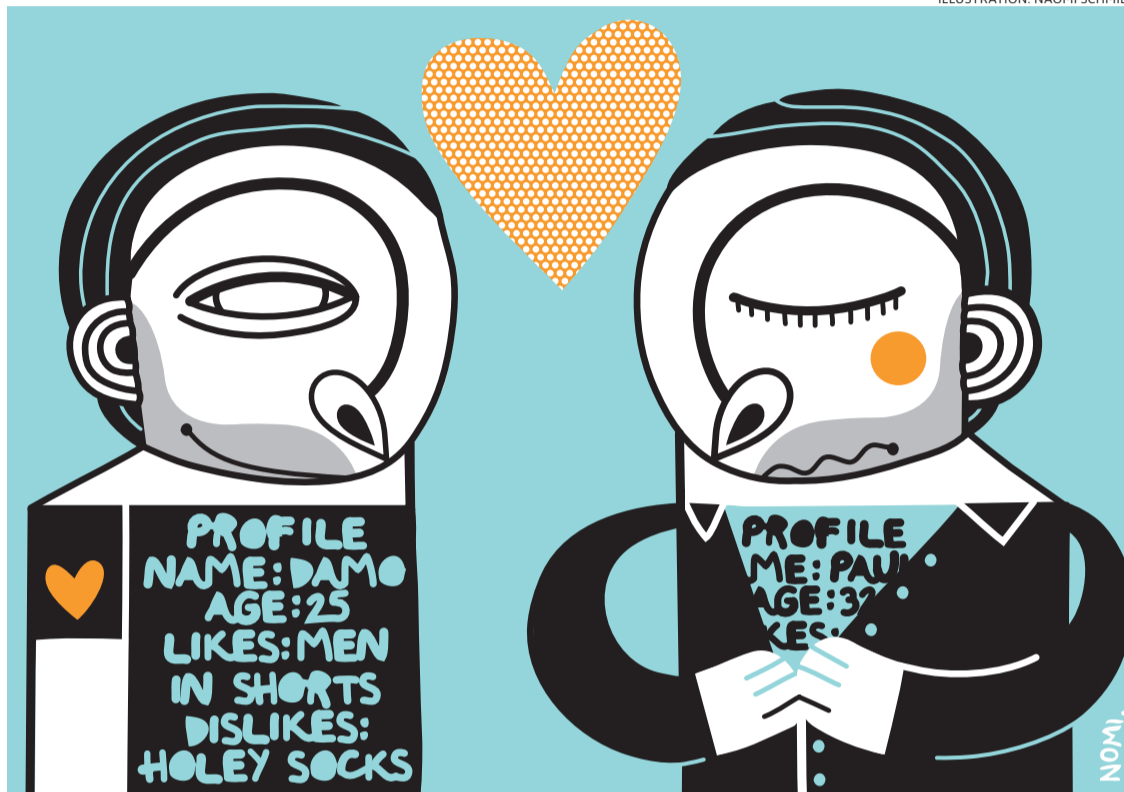
**Q** I met my boyfriend on a gay dating website. I'm fine, but he's mortified and doesn't want anyone to know. How do I get him to loosen up and not make it such a big deal?

**A** **WE SAY:** In an ideal world, we'd meet our other halves at wonderful parties, or through hilarious incidents involving mistaken identities and dropped letters. But we live in London, not a rom-com, and life's too short.

Firstly, well done for finding a boyfriend. With some of the longest working days in Europe, it's amazing, when you factor in friends and sleep, that Londoners manage to get any action at all.

Your boyfriend had no problem using the net to find a date, but the stigma of meeting on the net still exists. Gently point out you met on the internet, but dated in the real world.

With more people than ever finding a date next to their Amazon order, internet dating doesn't have to scream: "Hello, I'm a mental." You're both proof that's not the case. Be sensitive to his feelings - if he's really uncomfortable with it, just say you met on a



night out. It doesn't hurt anyone, and you can still tell your own friends proudly.

Finding love in London is the main thing. How you find it, whether by accident, at a party, or on the web, is just the means to an end.

**YOU SAY**

**SIMON:** Jeez Louise, what's his problem? Dating sites are the future for busy Londoners looking for love. A lot of gay men rank dating sites with STD clinics and your boyfriend

sounds like one of them. The truth is you and he found love online, so it's time both of you were ambassadors for it. I met my boyfriend on Gaydar and I'm happy to tell anyone who will listen because I love him and love like this doesn't come too often in the capital.

**PRATHIT:** Let's be honest, there's only so much "dating" that goes on with gay dating websites - they are primarily used as hook-up joints, so it's normal that your boyfriend doesn't want people to know you met on a hook-up site.

Why is it a cause of concern for you? I don't think it should be about how you met but about who you are. How about making up a story you are both comfortable with and sticking to it? We do things for people we love, don't we?

**ALICE:** I'm intrigued to hear that there's this stigma among gay people as well as straight ones. I'm envious of my gay friends. They have dates coming out of their ears thanks to sites like Gaydar, whereas I just end up propping up the bar with drunk accountants lunging at me.

**>> NEXT WEEK**

I snogged a bloke at a party. He's told me he's not interested, but still flirts with me. Now I'm really confused - I want to cut him off, but I like the flirting.

**Have you got a question or an answer?**

Email your dilemma or advice to [love@thelondonpaper.com](mailto:love@thelondonpaper.com) by 5pm Wednesday. We can keep your name confidential if you prefer

## LOVESTRUCK CHANGE YOUR FATE

♥ To the guy in the white T-shirt and scarf who was working in the chemist in Welling on Thursday. You made me giddy! **WHITE T-SHIRT BOY**

♥ To the platinum-haired, edgy girl who gets the 159 bus at 7am. We made eye contact. Drink? **GUY WITH IPOD AND SPECS**

♥ The Social on Little Portland Street, Thursday. You: looking smart and sexy in a suit. Me: checked shirt, pixie haircut. Pint? **BLONDE AT THE BAR**

♥ To the guy with a mullet, stubble and beige T-shirt on the 55 bus. We smiled several times and you shook my hand at Holborn. **MURAKAMI'S 100 PER CENT PERFECT GIRL**

♥ To the stunner in the black dress on Friday. You got on the Tube at Baker Street at 6.25pm, I got off at London Bridge. We both know I nearly said something. Second chance? **LIP RING GUY**

♥ To the pretty Asian girl at Hammersmith bus stop who told me about a friend offering a lift on a bike. I would rather have talked to you. **J**

♥ To the stunning brunette wearing a green dress and black leggings

at Bank station, Friday, 6.30pm. I gave you a weird stare. You looked freaked out. Coffee? **TALL WITH GLASSES**

♥ Redhead in The Rickshaw, Victoria. You stuck out your tongue, I blew a raspberry. Do you think our tongues might be put to better use? **TRILBY AND TRAINERS**

♥ **To the sexy Brazilian guy who I was talking to on the 73 bus. Talk some more?**

**IRISH GIRL**

♥ To the tall guy who catches my train - the 8.12am from Grove Park to Charing Cross. You walk down the Strand. Coffee? **BLONDE WHO SHARES GLANCES WITH YOU**

♥ To the patient driver of the 16 bus, Friday, 5pm. Drink? **GIRL IN BLACK WITH RED FLOWERS**

If you are any of these people, let us know and you could win a meal at an ASK restaurant.

**WIN!**

Email [love@thelondonpaper.com](mailto:love@thelondonpaper.com)

Terms & conditions apply, see [www.thelondonpaper.com/lovestruck](http://www.thelondonpaper.com/lovestruck). Find your nearest ASK at [www.askrestaurants.com](http://www.askrestaurants.com)

**If you have seen someone you fancy in London...**

Text LOVE, followed by a space and then your message, to 88855. Texts cost 50p plus standard network extras. Printing is subject to the editor's discretion.

Missed Lovestruck yesterday? Catch up just in case at [thelondonpaper.com/love](http://thelondonpaper.com/love)

thelondonlaugh

## Half-price comedy tickets!

As part of *thelondonpaper's* comedy initiative with Soho Theatre, *thelondonlaugh* is offering readers half-price tickets to see Mikangelo and the Black Sea Gentlemen on Friday, 4 September, at 9.30pm.

Internationally acclaimed and immaculately dressed, Mikangelo and the Black Sea Gentlemen are the most devilishly handsome, musically brilliant and audaciously entertaining fellows you are ever likely to meet.

Mikangelo, part-ringmaster, part-crooner, part-beast possessed, has toured the world starring in the Olivier award-winning *La Clique*. With the Black Sea Gentlemen he has packed houses from Budapest to the Sydney Opera

House, enthralled audiences, critics and artistic peers alike with deliciously dark cabaret.

As part of *thelondonlaugh*, we have been hosting monthly "opening night" comedy gigs at Soho Theatre and offering *thelondonpaper* readers discount tickets. As they say, all good things must come to an end and this will be the final *thelondonlaugh* - so make sure you snap up a ticket fast!

**HOW TO ENTER**

To book call **020 7478 0100** and quote 'thelondonlaugh' or visit [thelondonpaper.com/laugh](http://thelondonpaper.com/laugh)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: You must be 18 years of age or over to purchase a ticket. Subject to availability.

**thelondonlaugh**

