



BEAU UNZIPPED!

He's done drag at Mardi Gras, is in a bromance with Ricky Martin, and has been waxed by Zac Efron. Yes, former rugby champ, Beau Ryan is actually straight!

DNA: You've gone from the rugby field to the entertainment world. Did you ever foresee that when you were younger?

Beau Ryan: As a kid, everywhere I went I had a footy in my hand. It was a mixture of wanting to play footy and entertain people. I always tried to make people laugh, which got me in a heap of trouble! But I never dreamed I'd be doing what I'm doing now. I always wanted to be an entertainer, even though people thought it would be stripping, it's not! Though, I have stripped before! [Laughs]

You're on *Sunday Night Takeaway* with Dr Chris Brown and Julia Morris. When you first met Dr Chris, you said he was so beautiful you couldn't stop looking at him...

Yeah! He has this presence, and that's a fair thing for me to say as I've met many athletes and movie stars. His change room is next to mine and every now and then I peep through the door... and he's fit! A lot of people say, "Yeah, he surfs, but he's not that fit." I can tell you, he's legit fit! He's got a six-pack, a good chest and enough Botox to look like he's still in his thirties!

You may have already answered the next question then: who would you turn gay for?

Ricky Martin in a heartbeat. My wife already thinks I'm gay with him! [Laughs] I'm good friends with Ricky. We first met at Channel Nine, and then I interviewed him half-a-dozen times on *The Footy Show*. Every time we go to LA we stay at his and we get on so well. I don't know what his husband thinks. [Laughs] He's like family to us.

You transformed into the most amazing drag queen for the 40th Mardi Gras. How did you feel that night?

Being on *The Footy Show* I'd done a lot of stuff but I'd never done full drag for a Mardi Gras. It started last year on the 40th anniversary and we did a drag race down at the starting line. It's a party within a party down there! I jumped at the opportunity to do it again this year. I've been to half-a-dozen Mardi Gras and I'll keep going. You haven't lived until you've done full drag and walked a kilometre up Oxford Street in your wife's heels.

I seem to remember, while on Oxford Street,



“ His claim to fame was that he was on his knees in front of me. I seem to draw gay people to me even when I'm not in drag.

a guy in leather was particularly interested in your, er, crotch!

Yes! I seem to draw gay people to me, even at the best of times let alone in full drag. But while I was hosting on *The Kyle And Jackie O Show*, those pictures from the event came up in *The Daily Mail* and that guy actually rang up! His claim to fame was that he was on his knees in front of me.

Speaking of heels, you were also part of the *Kinky Boots* #JustBe campaign. Did you find wearing those boots empowering?

Yes, I did! It was fantastic. The boots just felt right. That probably ignited the fire in me.

Last month, Hamish Blake told us about being tattooed by Pink, but you've had your pubes waxed by Zac Efron. You win!

That's right! I had my pubes, groin, chest and armpits waxed by Zac Efron. I flew to Miami for the *Baywatch* junket and asked Zac if he could wax my chest. The publicist was shitting herself and said, "No, this isn't happening!" But Zac rang Dwayne and they were down for it. I knew I was in trouble when they poured the hot wax on me, and it hurt like hell! My pain threshold is low. I also didn't realise that after a day you get the ingrown hairs... oh my God!

You know, being waxed by Zac could be some people's fantasy scenario?

I know! I still get notifications on Facebook and Twitter. I ended up on *E News* and some sort of gay feed that kept getting shared. Something like, "Zac Efron Waxes Oz Hunk Footballer's Pubes". They also thought I was gay, so I just went along with it.

Didn't you also have your balls examined live on radio?

Yeah. While off air, one of the producers asked how I was feeling and I said, "To be honest, my right nut hurts a little." So a doctor came into the studio and examined my nuts, live on air. Everyone jokes about it but we should really have our nuts checked. I'm still young but it gave me piece of mind. I think everything's cancer!

Who's your diva?

Dua Lipa. My favourite song of hers is *Electricity*. I like her music but I also like that she wears Adidas. When I'm picking sports gear for my wife, Kara, I pretty much buy whatever Dua Lipa's wearing.

You made your acting debut in the film *Chasing Comets* with another DNA Straight Mate, Dan Ewing. How was that?

Dan slept on my couch for a week while we filmed. I couldn't get rid of him! He was at home with my wife smashing vodkas while I was doing *The Footy Show*. He was basically a househusband while I was working. [Laughs] Seriously, I loved making that movie and I found it much easier than live TV. If you can do theatre and live TV, then you can do anything. I also played Vince Fontaine in *Grease: The Arena Experience*. Before the show, I peeked out from behind the curtains and saw 8,000 people. I'd never been so nervous in my life. In football you're in a team and you know what to expect,

but with this I had no idea. I was shaking but afterwards I just wanted to do more.

What's been the oddest moment on *Sunday Night Takeaway* so far?

A couple of weeks back we went to St Clair and were mixing with the locals. For some reason, I also draw Middle Eastern people to me and half way through the shoot we started smoking the shisha - which, is legal. I'd never been there before but I'd never felt so welcomed and safe.

Some have suggested your segment, *In For A Dollar*, could be its own show!

Oh yes, I'm pushing for that! I reckon we could do *In For A Dollar* in prime time, and run *Sunday Night Takeaway* off the back of it.

Chris and Julia host *I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here!* Would you go into the jungle?

Mate, I'd be up for anything. But I'd prefer it took place in Cronulla. Maybe I could be a three-way with Chris and Julia and stay in a six-star hotel with them... as a team!

What's the best piece of advice you've ever received?

Nothing is ever as good as it seems, and nothing is ever as bad as it seems.

Have you ever had a wardrobe malfunction?

My wife did at the Logies. Her nipple came out! [Laughs] Mate, I could be walking around with one of my nuts hanging out and it wouldn't embarrass me.

Well, you already did that on radio.

I was like a five-year-old boy pissing at school, with my shorts down around my knees. I was like that in front of Kyle and I couldn't have been more vulnerable. I don't care about those things. In fact, I'll mean to have my fly undone.

Briefs, boxers or free-balling?

For day, briefs. For bed, I wear boxers. But when I'm training I like some control down there.



DNA: Who would you turn gay for?

Beau Ryan: Ricky Martin in a heartbeat. My wife already thinks I'm gay with him! We're good friends.

MORE: *Sunday Night Takeaway* screens 7.30pm Sundays on Network Ten.

