

THE MIDLANDS ESSENTIAL ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

MIDLANDS

What's On

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ISSUE 329 MAY 2013



EDDIE IZZARD
COMEDY GOLD ON TOUR

THE DEFINITIVE LISTINGS GUIDE INCLUDING BIRMINGHAM WOLVERHAMPTON WALSALL DUDLEY COVENTRY STRATFORD WORCESTER REDDITCH MALVERN SHREWSBURY TELFORD STAFFORD STOKE

INSIDE:

Marcus Collins

bringing some style to Hairspray
interview inside

Katherine Ryan

presenting Nature's Candy...
interview inside

Beverley Callard

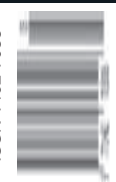
happy to be treading the boards in Little Voice...
interview inside

ALICIA KEYS

Girl On Fire and ready to set the Midlands alight ...

What's On
MAGAZINE GROUP

ISSN 1462-7065



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Great Theatre at the Grand!

MON 6 MAY

The Elephant Bridesmaid
created by Steven Lee
Ideal for ages 4 - 104

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The Guide

TUES 7 - SAT 11 MAY

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TO THE MUSICAL

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60
Diamond Anniversary TOUR

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The Telegraph

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★★★★★ 'JAW-DROPPINGLY AMAZING'

GHOST THE MUSICAL

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- SAT 25 MAY
MADE IN BRUM
- SUN 16 JUNE
BUDDY HOLLY: A LEGEND REBORN
- SUMMER PLAY SEASON 2013**
- TUES 25 JUNE - SAT 22 JUNE
MURDER IN PLAY
- TUES 2 - SAT 6 JULY
STEAMING
- TUES 9 - SAT 13 JULY
THE TROUBLE WITH OLD LOVERS
- TUES 16 - SAT 20 JULY
A MURDER HAS BEEN ARRANGED

WED 19 - SAT 22 JUNE

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Grandpa in my Pocket

Teamwork!

by Mellie Buse and Jan Page

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What's On
MAGAZINE GROUP



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News

A ROUND-UP OF LOCAL AND NATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Bollywood in Birmingham

One hundred years of Indian cinema is to be celebrated in Birmingham during the summer months via an ever-expanding programme of events. The brainchild of a consortium of arts, cultural and media partners from across the city - including Sampad, Endboard Productions, Birmingham City Council, mac, Birmingham Town Hall and The Drum - The Bollywood 100 In Birmingham Festival promises all the glitz and glamour associated with one of the biggest film industries in the world. Programming announced so far includes a Bollywood's Got Talent show at mac, a major exhibition of Bollywood film posters at The Drum, an evening of film songs at Birmingham Town Hall and a Bollywood cabaret show at Solihull Arts Complex.



Bass Festival to get its very own radio station

Birmingham-based Punch Records has announced it's to get its very own radio station. BASS.FM, which launches in June and operates for the duration of this year's BASS Festival, is on the lookout for keen young people to make an on-air contribution and gain an insight into the radio industry. Interested in getting involved? If so, contact Waqar Azam on 0121 224 7440.



Financial boost for Coventry Transport Museum

Coventry Transport Museum has received a grant of £4.6million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to transform a number of the site's galleries and visitor facilities. The funding will also enable the redevelopment of one of Coventry's most iconic buildings, the

Bananarama



Pride unveils biggest line-up to date...

Organisers of this month's Birmingham Pride have announced a stellar line-up for its main stage. In what's described as the festival's 'biggest line-up to date', the 2013 programme brings together legendary stars of the 1980s with some of the hottest acts on the contemporary music scene. Pop legends Bananarama kick off two days of entertainment on the Saturday with hits from their back-catalogue, including Venus, Love In The First Degree and Nathan Jones, while Brit Award-winning boyband JLS present a DJ set of their favourite sounds. The Sunday, meanwhile, sees burlesque songstress Paloma Faith playing a DJ set and Black Heart girl group Stooshe performing a live set of their chart-topping hits. Other acts contributing to the bank holiday weekend event include S Club, Booty Luv, A.M.E, Lucy Spraggon, The Mend, Misha B and Tich. As well as the main stage, Pride 2013 also features a carnival parade through the city streets, a dance arena, a cabaret stage, a community village green and a women's arena. Birmingham Pride takes place in the city's Gay Village on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 May. Anybody wishing to access the main festival site will need to be wearing an official wristband. Advance tickets are priced at £8 for the day and £12 for weekend access. For further information on Birmingham Pride, visit www.birminghampride.com

Grade One listed twelfth century Old Grammar School. It's hoped that the project, which will create lively and entertaining galleries and spaces in both buildings, will be completed by April 2015. The project marks the beginning of an innovative new learning programme, taking place at both Coventry Transport Museum and the Old Grammar School, which will be developed in partnership with the local community. Its aim is to attract thirty thousand people to participate in heritage, learning and community development activities.

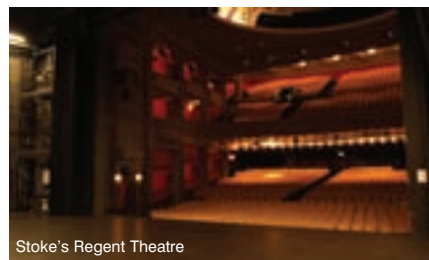
Stoneleigh Park to host new rural show

Warwickshire's Stoneleigh Park plays host to the brand new Stoneleigh Country & Livestock Show this summer. Organisers are hoping the event will attract in excess of seven thousand visitors over the weekend of 3 and 4 August. Promising two days of main arena entertainment, demonstrations, competitions and displays - as well as the opportunity to enjoy a spot of retail therapy - the 'town meets country' show will centre on the philosophy of preserving traditional, rural life within a modern lifestyle.

High-ranking success for Ambassador Theatre Group

National theatre chain ATG (Ambassador Theatre Group) - which counts Stoke's Regent Theatre and Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre among its thirty-nine venues - has taken sixth place in an annual list which ranks one hundred firms by their profit growth over a three-year period.

ATG was co-founded by Howard Panter and Rosemary Squire in 1992 and is now the largest owner/operator of theatres in the UK. During one of the toughest economic periods in recent history, the chain has continued to grow steadily each year, and was last year named in The Sunday Times Buyout Track 100 as the UK's second fastest-growing privately-backed company.



Stoke's Regent Theatre

A Stage Experience for Stoke's budding performers

Stoke's Regent Theatre is inviting budding actors, dancers and singers to apply to take part in its Stage Experience initiative this summer. An intense two-week project, Stage Experience provides participants with the chance to find out what it's like to be part of a professionally run production. The project culminates in a performance of *Guys And Dolls* on the Regent's stage. Interested? If so, contact Stage Experience Project Manager Laura Stacey on 01782 211 214

Birmingham Library launches new app

Collections from the soon-to-be-opened Birmingham Library are now available for viewing on the move, courtesy of a new free mobile app for smartphones and tablets. Entitled *Dozens & Trails*, the new app is devised to capture and share the knowledge, interests and expertise of library staff throughout Birmingham. *Dozens* presents different aspects of the Library of Birmingham, such as its services, collections and communities, while *Trails* features theme-based tours of twelve illustrated sites mapped around the city.



Jewellery heritage provides basis for new exhibition

Intricate work carried out by three designer-makers in Birmingham's prestigious Jewellery Quarter is being highlighted in a new exhibition. The recently opened Regenerated exhibition showcases the responses of the Birmingham-based artists to the 'perfectly preserved and historic' Smith & Pepper jewellery factory, which, when it closed in 1981, left a time capsule for future generations. Now a museum, it tells the story of the Quarter's heritage, and for the next nine months (until January 2014) will provide a home for unique works by Cathy Miles, Rajesh Gogna and Miranda Sharpe.



Birmingham Royal Ballet announces UK premiere

The UK premiere of Benjamin Britten's only commissioned ballet score, *The Prince Of The Pagodas*, will feature in Birmingham Royal Ballet's recently announced 2013/14 season. Choreographed by Company Director David Bintley and originally performed by the National Ballet of Japan in 2011, the show's scenery and costumes are the work of *War Horse* designer Rae Smith. This new addition to the company's repertoire will make its debut during the world-wide centenary celebrations of Britten's birth, showing at the Birmingham Hippodrome from 25 February to 1 March 2014.



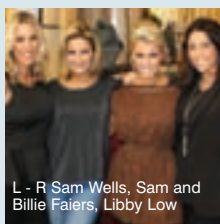
Starsky And Hutch star heading to the Grand

Paul Michael Glaser, one half of '70s cop duo *Starsky and Hutch*, is to make his Wolverhampton debut later this year. Glaser will star as Tevye in Craig Revel Horwood's new touring production of the classic musical *Fiddler On The Roof* when it shows at the Grand Theatre from 15 to 19 October. Fiddler features in an exciting line-up of new shows recently announced by the theatre. Others include a new stage production of Eric Chappell's *sitcom Rising Damp*, an adaptation of ER Braithwaite's masterpiece *To Sir With Love*, the currently touring version of international hit *Priscilla, Queen Of The Desert*, and a festive-season pantomime adaptation of *The Sleeping Beauty*, starring international cabaret artist Ceri Dupree alongside TV funnyman Joe Pasquale. For full theatre listings, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

IN BRIEF

Minnies pops up in Birmingham

A boutique which first came under the spotlight when it featured on ITV's *The Only Way Is Essex* has provided the inspiration for a series of pop-up shops currently touring the UK. Launched in April 2012, *Minnies* is the brainchild of sisters Sam and Billie Faiers, their mother Sue Wells, and their aunt Libby Low. This month sees Sam and Billy stop off in the Midlands to showcase their latest ranges and take part in signing sessions. *Minnies Pop Up Boutique* will be housed inside Birmingham's Pavilions during regular shopping hours on 18 and 19 May.



L - R Sam Wells, Sam and Billie Faiers, Libby Low

Birmingham well represented at prestigious classical music awards ceremony

Birmingham's growing status as a centre of classical music excellence has been confirmed by the nominations for this year's Royal Philharmonic Society Music Awards. Presented in association with BBC Radio Three, the RPS awards reflect the UK's global reputation as a 'powerhouse' of live classical music. Birmingham's nominees are the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra's Music Director Andris Nelsons in the Best Conductor category; Ex Cathedra in the Ensemble category; composer Tansy Davies, for her Birmingham Contemporary Music Group (BCMG)-commissioned piano concerto *Nature*, in the Chamber-Scale Composition category; a second composer, Gerald Barry, for *The Importance Of Being Earnest*, featuring BCMG, in the Large-Scale Composition category; and Birmingham Opera Company for Stockhausen's *Mittwoch aus Licht* in the Opera And Music Theatre category. Winners of the RPS Music Awards will be announced at the Awards Dinner in London on Tuesday 14 May.



Birmingham Opera Company

Youth theatre recognised in festival awards

The Worcester-based Swan Youth Theatre has picked up an impressive six accolades at this year's Worcester Theatre Festival. Comprising just six members, the troupe picked up awards for Best Youth Play, Best Youth Actor, Best Set, Best Youth Actress, the Adjudicator's Award for the closing moment of a show, and came second in the festival overall. The group will now go through to the quarter-finals of the All-England Theatre Festival (AETF), competing against other performers of one-act plays from across the country.



“*I'm really obsessed with celebrity culture, and I think we're all united in gossip***”**

Katherine Ryan

brings some of Nature's Candy to the Midlands....

Impressing millions of viewers with her parody of Nicki Minaj on this year's Let's Dance for Comic Relief, Katherine Ryan is a comedian obsessed with the power of celebrity - a subject that's evident in much of her material. Canadian-born Katherine this month returns to the Midlands with her Nature's Candy tour, performing alongside a host of top drawer comedians at the Comedy Hullabaloo in Stratford-upon-Avon. What's On recently caught up with her to find out more...

You're currently touring your first solo show. How's it going?

It's really, really fun, but very hard too. My three-year-old daughter has been travelling with me - except when I was in London. I'd then get a babysitter - and she really loved it as well.

Has your material evolved much during the tour?

I think it has to, or you probably get a little bit bored, and an audience can always tell if you're not enjoying yourself. I always enjoy myself, and I've changed the show a lot. I used to do a thing with Twitter, I used to have a projector and I'd get tweets from

each town I performed in. I'd ask in advance, 'tell me something about your town'. It was funny, and it was a great way to hear from the locals what the place in which they lived was like, but then sometimes it didn't go down so well, as people don't always have nice things to say about their home town. Sometimes it was funny, but there were

occasions when people would get really offended. So I took that out, thinking it was probably better to be safe than sorry. But I write all the time when I'm on tour. I like to keep things fresh.

How would you describe your particular comedy style?

I really like to focus on the positive, even when things aren't going so good. The show's called Nature's Candy and it looks at the last year of my life, as well as at celebrity culture and politics. It kind of links them all in a positive way. I'm really obsessed with celebrity culture, and I think we're all united in gossip, but what I don't do is talk about celebrities in a nasty way. I think everything I say, audiences go with, because they can tell that I'm passionate about the culture. I celebrate them. I find my own little way to celebrate the worst things that they do.

Does anything irritate you about celebrity?

I think to get comedy from a pile of crap is fun, and I think the fact that people are consumed by tabloid culture, buying the magazines and watching all these TV shows, says a lot about us. I think it says something that there are these millions and millions of believers around the world who try to take their children and turn them into money-making machines; people like Kim Kardashian. I think the psychology behind it all is very interesting. Although I say I celebrate it, there's no way I want my daughter growing up like on *Geordie Shore*. But in my work I find a way to act like I'm being positive about it all, when really I'm just highlighting the hypocrisy and the ridiculousness of it all.

What's a typical Katherine Ryan audience?

I've been trying to figure that out, because it's quite scattered. I get creepy guys - more so since I've been on *Let's Dance* - who often leave me little notes. And then I get young girls and boys - I guess a lot of teenagers. A lot of the people who follow me on Twitter are teenagers, and I interact quite a bit with them, especially the young girls.

Why did you come to England from Canada to ply your trade?

I think a lot of what we fall into happens by accident. I was in uni studying urban planning in Toronto. I never thought I'd be a city planner, but I chose that course so I could move away from my small town and live in the big city. I also knew that doing that course would make my parents happy. In Toronto I started doing a bit of presenting and a bit of acting. At the same time I was waitressing to pay for school. I then decided that I'd like to have a go at doing some stand-up, but I didn't tell anyone. As a presenter I'd realised that if you've got anything out of the ordinary, or anything funny to say, it's greatly appreciated in Canada. I'd always loved comedy, and had always enjoyed writing little sketches and recording little videos, even when I was a child.

It was when I was doing stand-up that I met my daughter's father. I met him in a comedy club. I didn't know he was a comedian. Had I known, I'd have run the other way. He'd been doing comedy a lot longer than me, and he was really big on comedy in the UK.

He really wanted to move over here, and I'm so glad we did. My first job here was working for a magazine; I didn't do any comedy for quite a while - I just watched. Then, after time, I started doing open mics. Then I had my daughter, so I stopped again. Then I picked it up again full-time when she was about one year old and I've been doing it ever since.

Did you envisage yourself as a performer when you were a child?

I lived in this awful town where there wasn't a lot going on, but thankfully there was one musical theatre group which nurtured all the little gays in the town and all the little girls who wanted to perform. My sisters and I were involved in that - I did musical theatre, tap, dance, piano etc.

Is there a distinct difference between Canadian and British humour?

People often ask me that and I try to remember, because I've been away so long. I think Canadian humour is almost like a little bridge between American humour and British comedy. From what I remember, it wasn't as cerebral, it wasn't as literary. I remember when I first came here I did an open mic night and listened to comedians doing jokes about Henry VIII and getting huge laughs, and it struck me as being very smart. I'm very happy and proud to be from Canada, but there's this whole big open space in the middle where there's not a lot going on. They're not a Soho audience; people there want to hear about drinking and shagging and that's it. They're not as open-minded to alternative comedy, and to girls being in comedy.

What do you miss most about Canada?

I don't really miss it that much. I miss my family and I love the notoriety that comes with being Canadian, but that's about it.

You've described yourself as being a bit of a misfit. Can you expand on this?

The town that I'm from is very athletic, and it's a place where not a lot of people leave. My dad, who's from Ireland, was one of the few people who came from outside of the town. My mum was very funny and creative, and she always encouraged my sisters and me to entertain ourselves. Instead of pushing us into sports that we didn't want to do, she let us go a bit wild and be creative, which wasn't always welcomed by other people.

Your comedy has often been referred to as having dark edges. Does it reflect your personality?

Well, there's no comedy that offends me too much. I'm a huge fan of Frankie Boyle. I love him, and even though I wouldn't say the things he says, I think his structure and the way his brain works, the way he finds jokes, none of that can be argued with. You have to take him for what he is. In my own life, I've had cancer twice, I suffer from the auto-immune disease Lupus, and I've had a terrible time splitting from my daughter's father - but I like to remain positive. Sometimes I've been very lonely, especially when my daughter was a baby, when I had no support from my mum or my sisters. I guess I was a single mum in a foreign country, but I think what Lupus has given me

is such a blessing. If I stress about something, I'm instantly ill. Physically, I start to get hot. I think stress and sadness affects us all, but when you've got an auto-immune condition that's exacerbated by stress, you get a little warning right away and you have to calm down. So I turn everything around and look at everything positively. There's light and there's dark in life, just as there's light and dark in comedy. This morning I was screaming at the dog in the garden, so I can still get angry, but most of the time I'm just very happy. I consider myself to be very lucky.

Did you consider yourself unlucky not to win *Let's Dance for Comic Relief*?

No, not at all. I couldn't believe that I'd even made it to the final. The fact the people loved my little dance and that the money went to such a wonderful charity was just great. It was so much fun, and one of the best things I've ever done. Also, I loved the fact that they let me do the kind of thing that I wanted to do - you know, the whole celebrity thing. Some people didn't get the big bum thing, but Nicki Minaj is known for her big boobs and bum implants; so, for me, it was a comment on living in an over-sexualised society.

Did you have free rein regarding who you chose to parody?

I had to beg to do her. I had to really convince them, because some of the cultured people there at the BBC, especially the older ones, had never heard of Nicki Minaj. I still get people asking me - older people particularly - who she is.

Are you a competitive person?

Even though I've never played organised sports, I think I'm definitely competitive. Any panel shows I do where there are points to be won - you know, like *Mock The Week* - I always really, really want to win.


You're currently writing a sitcom. What's that based upon?

Have you heard of the American restaurant Hooters? Well, it's a bit like 'Cheers meets Girls'. I worked for Hooters during uni. I worked there for about five years, and I opened their first restaurant in the UK. I loved it there, and to take something which has such a negative reputation - a lot of people think it's a strip joint - and turn it into a sitcom is fun. It's about a Canadian girl's journey in the UK in an American-style restaurant. I don't call it Hooters, I call it *American Breast Of Chicken*. It's a little bit autobiographical but it's also about powerful women, the service industry and the clashes between American and UK customer service. There's also a little bit of romance.

Finally, if you weren't a comedian, what would you be?

I think I would open my own Hooters. I certainly don't think I'd be working in urban planning!...

Katherine Ryan performs at Comedy Hullabaloo which takes place at various Stratford-upon-Avon venues from Thurs 23 to Sun 26 May. For full festival line-up, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk



“ Off stage I tend to be quite shy. I don't really enjoy appearing as Beverley a great deal. I'm not a 'presenter'. I'd rather have a character to hide behind. ”

Beverley Callard

happy to be treading the boards in Little Voice...

To many, Beverley Callard will always be best known for playing Liz McDonald in the nation's favourite northern soap. Beverley's currently treading the boards as the multi-faceted Mari Hoff in Jim Cartwright's *The Rise And Fall Of Little Voice*, and this month returns to the Midlands with the critically acclaimed production, stopping off at two of the region's theatres. What's On recently caught up with Beverley to talk about her love of the stage - and to find out whether she'll ever return to the cobbled streets of Weatherfield...

So Beverley, how's the tour going so far?

Just fantastic. We did twelve weeks originally, last year, and that was all it was planned to be. But because it went down so well with audiences, and every other theatre wanted it, we're now in the middle of a twenty-week run.

How would you describe Mari, the character you play?

Oh, she's amazing. When Jim Cartwright first asked me to be involved, it was just such an easy thing to say yes. It's just a gift of a role, and to work with Jim is just incredible. He's the most adorable man you could wish to meet. This is a play that's showed all over the world. Jim had seen about forty different productions of it, and, of course, there's the film as well, but he said to me that he felt it'd always lacked something, so he wanted to direct it himself.

What did he give as his reasons for wanting you to play the part?

He flattered me greatly and said he thought I was the right actress to play Mari. Now he says that I've made the character mine, and that no one has played the role quite like I do. He's just thrilled to bits with it, and so am I. I think I've made people feel sorry for her, but that's something I saw in the script the first time I read it. Yes she's funny, she's an alcoholic and, certainly on the surface, she's a terrible mother, but the thing is, she's a grieving widow as well. And although she'd never have remained faithful to her husband, she'd always have gone home to him. She resents him for dying, and because that's happened, the relationship between Mari and her daughter has completely broken down. There are so many aspects to the character, and I love that.

It's a huge part, and very full-on. How do you manage to keep your performance fresh, particularly on such a big tour?

I think there are only six pages when I'm not on stage, but to be honest, it's easy. There are so many jewels in the script, and you just keep discovering things. It almost goes from Jacobean tragedy to something which is amazingly funny. I certainly never get bored with it.

It's also very physically demanding. I seem to remember you doing a very impressive handstand on stage.

Oh yeah, and I've put on two stone for the part. Mari's meant to be lumping and bumping out of her clothes, and although she tries hard, she fails miserably. I wanted her to be right, and she wouldn't have been right if she'd been a stick insect. There's a line where Ray says, "When your clothes come off, your body's all over the place". So I deliberately put the weight on, which was very easy - although getting it off might not be!

How do you maintain your fitness levels with the extra weight?

It's very difficult. When we were in Buxton I actually took a fitness class, but to be honest, the part just spurs you on. On two-show days, it's hard, and I'm certainly glad we don't do three. But you just have to remember that all those people in the audience have paid good money for their tickets, so you just have to be the best you can be.

As with Liz McDonald, Mari's a feisty character. Is that a trait you recognise in yourself?

Maybe, but not as much as Liz and Mari, that's for sure. Hopefully I'm quite a strong woman, but I'm quite different to both characters. Off stage I tend to be quite shy. I don't really enjoy appearing as Beverley a great deal. I'm not a 'presenter'. I'd rather have a character to hide behind.

Going back to your Coronation Street days, what lay behind your decision to leave the Street?

I wanted to go back on stage again, but I'd also been very ill about four years ago and had never really taken the time to recover properly. Also, my mum was very ill at the time with Alzheimer's. Although it's demanding playing Mari, there's nothing as demanding as being in Coronation Street, believe me! The schedule is relentless, and certainly for Liz it was, because she was landlady of the Rovers. You can't dip in and out of it - you just have to give it your all. At that time I had so much going on, and as much as I loved it - and I really did enjoy playing Liz - I felt it was the right time to go.

So was that departure your last?

You mean would I ever go back again? Well, they were marvellous to me, and when I handed in my notice, they said 'we're not going to kill you off, we want you to come back at some point. We love Liz and the writers love writing for her'. I'm not saying I would never go back, but certainly not yet, because I'm so busy. I do miss it, though. I've not been able to watch it because I've been on stage, so I don't know what's happening.

Looking back at your time on the Street, do you have any regrets? Were you ever concerned you might become typecast?

No, never! I enjoyed every single moment of it, but unfortunately there are lots of casting directors out there who don't have any imagination. It's really difficult, because I think what you've got to do as an actor is remember the writer, whether it be Shakespeare, Chekhov, Jim Cartwright or Jonathan Harvey. No matter who's written the piece, they have agonised in getting that role onto paper, so as an actor you have to agonise about bringing that role to life. I think the best compliment you can receive is

when a member of the audience says to you that the role must have been written for you. People say that about Mari. She wasn't written for me but I've made it that way. Before we even got to rehearsals I spent two months on the script. Solidly, every day, nine to five. That's how I did it with Mari. You know, some of the writers on Coronation Street had never met me. They didn't know Beverley as a person but they knew Liz. That can be a disadvantage, because casting directors think you're just like the person you portray, when actually you're nothing like them at all. Obviously you put something of yourself into the role, but you're not that person.

Has your return to the stage given you an appetite for more live theatre in the future?

Yes. That's really why actors of my age went into the business in the first place. It's just so amazing to play different characters.

You touched on your illness earlier. How much did that period in your life change your outlook on a professional level?

Aside from my children, obviously, I think it was always my work that I put first. I wouldn't do that again. I had warning signs but chose to ignore them. I'd never had clinical depression before, so I didn't really know what it was. I just knew that I wasn't myself. In hindsight, I should have taken better care of myself.

Looking again at live theatre, is there a particular role you'd like to play in the future?

It would be nice to do some Shakespeare. I've just been offered a Noel Coward, but I'm not sure whether I'm going to do it yet. I love Noel Coward, and when I was about twenty I read his complete works in chronological order, so saw his writing change and develop. There are so many parts I'd love to play, and although I love the intimacy of performing in front of a camera, nothing beats a live audience and that instant reaction.

The current tour finishes in June. What's on your agenda afterwards?

Well, I'm lucky enough to have received a few job offers, and my agent and I are just going through them now. I'm hoping to have a couple of weeks off, and then we'll make a decision about what comes next.

And what about working with Jim again?

It's not official, so I can't say, but we may be working together again in the future...

The Rise And Fall of Little Voice shows at the Crewe Lyceum from Mon 20 May to Sat 25 May; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry from Mon 27 May to Sat 1 June

“ I’m probably between a five and a seven. Cool enough to blend in, but not cool enough to be a trendsetter ”



Marcus Collins

bringing some style to Hairspray...

A hot contender to take the X Factor title in 2011, Marcus Collins was finally pipped at the post by all-girl band Little Mix. The past eighteen months have seen the former hairdresser gain chart success with his self-titled album and debut single, increasing his ever-growing fanbase along the way. Now the affable Liverpoolian is back in the spotlight, aptly performing as Seaweed Stubbs in the much-loved musical Hairspray. What's On recently caught up with Marcus to discuss the art of being cool, and why being polite is so important...

You'd always wanted to be a performer; was musical theatre always on your radar?

Yeah, most definitely. When I was sixteen I went to theatre school and studied various aspects of performing art. It really opened my eyes to a job that I thought I could do; something I really enjoyed, and something I could hopefully get paid for. I started to do a bit of hairdressing to pay for auditions and everything else, so I've ended up fulfilling two passions which I've held from a very young age.

It's quite fitting that your first professional musical role should be in Hairspray, isn't it?

Yeah, it's incredible. I feel really blessed to be doing this. I jumped at the chance as soon as it was offered to me.

How did your role in Hairspray come about?

I'd been in the studio and I'd been doing a lot of TV performances where I was just performing to a camera. I was beginning to think - not that I was getting complacent - that what I was doing was a bit too set and a little bit samey. I needed a bit of a challenge, something that would push me a bit. I always wanted to feel that I was growing as an artist; that I wasn't just an X Factor contestant who'd come off the show and was fading away. People knowing that I was a singer was the first step on the ladder for me, but I didn't just want to fall by the wayside. Anyway, I'd bumped into Jodie Prenger a couple of times, and she then sent me a message on twitter telling me there was this role I'd be perfect for. The next thing I knew, I'd got a casting. I went down and auditioned with everyone else and was lucky enough to be given the part.

Were you familiar with the musical before becoming involved in the tour?

I'd never seen the West End show but I'm a big fan of the film and I'd seen that lots of times. I've got it on DVD and had the soundtrack on my phone. This is a musical of something I was always a fan of, and that's stood me in good stead in rehearsals because I already knew most of the melodies and the lyrics.

How's the tour going so far?

It's great. It's been very well received, and every night we're getting standing ovations. It's great fun but very, very tiring. Now and then we try to get together and have a night out - pop for something to eat and a drink - but generally we're usually exhausted and go straight to bed.

What's the best thing about performing in Hairspray?

You're on such a high after a show; it's sometimes quite difficult to wind down. It's a high-energy and uplifting show, no matter what's going on in your personal life. My

uncle died a few weeks ago, and I was unable to get to see him and say my goodbyes. I was devastated, but Hairspray has an ability to uplift you and give you hope and help you carry on. It really is that powerful.

What's been the biggest obstacle you've had to overcome in playing Seaweed?

To be honest, I don't think there've been any. When I asked the director how they'd gone about casting everyone, he said a little bit of each character was naturally identifiable in every person cast - everyone had some similarities to their character. As far as I'm concerned, when I think of Seaweed, I see this really cool guy. He really is the coolest kid around. He's a ringleader. He's a nice guy on the inside; he helps Tracey with all these dance moves and he's really up for integration. So I thought, 'yeah, I'll have that!'

How cool would you say you are on a scale of one to ten?

I wouldn't say I was very cool. I try to be, but I don't really think I am. I'm probably between a five and a seven. Cool enough to blend in, but not cool enough to be a trendsetter.

And what about Seaweed?

He's definitely a ten. It's 1962 and he's right at the forefront of integration and moving things forward, and asks for nothing in return. Being that genuine and having that kind of upbringing is the coolest thing you could have done in the '60s.

Does your previous role as a hairdresser mean you're required to offer hairdressing tips behind the scenes?

Oh, I'm forever doing it; fixing the wigs and helping out. Everyone has to go to what we call Wig Village - a section of the theatre where performers go to get their wigs put on. I've become good friends with Richard, who makes the wigs - he's custom-made them for Danny La Rue and Dame Edna - and he gave me free rein to design Seaweed's wig. It's got a bit of my character in it, as well as meeting all of Richard's criteria. Meeting Richard has really inspired me, and I'm planning to open a salon in Liverpool this year. It's going to specialise in wig pieces similar to those we use in the show. People who've suffered with alopecia, premature baldness, and people going through chemotherapy will all be able to come along and get help. I'm really excited about getting the shop open, and about being able to help people.

You'll soon be performing in front of a home crowd in Liverpool. Are there any nerves?

No nerves whatsoever. It's sold out and I can't wait to perform there. The first time I went to the Liverpool Empire was in 1998. I

went to see Les Miserables with my mum when I was ten, and one of the guys performing in the company of Hairspray on this tour was actually in the cast of Les Mis when I saw it there. How weird is that? For me to go home and perform on that stage is a dream come true. I just can't wait to show what I've achieved to the people of Liverpool.

Is your music career currently on hold, or are you running the two simultaneously?

I'm running the two side-by-side, and have just taken on a new manager and Gary Barlow's put me in touch with some incredible writers. We're looking ahead to the next single. We've got four of five options and we're just going to see what happens with them. I'll do a bit of presenting and see how it goes. I really want to move forward with my singing after this. I feel that I've grown vocally, personally, and as a performer, and I think I'll now be able to bring more to the table as an artist.

What's the most valuable thing that your time on X Factor taught you?

I suppose it has to be that the show will always go on, so you need to make sure that you're always prepared. I really believe in the saying, 'If you fail to prepare, you prepare to fail'. Also, it taught me to always be nice to people and give the public what they want. Gary has always said to me to be polite to everyone. There's nothing that travels faster than bad publicity, and I always pride myself on being polite.

So has Gary been to see you in Hairspray yet?

He hasn't had the chance yet. I texted him the other day and he said that he's going to try and come down with his wife Dawn and their kids, but I appreciate he's very busy.

You've talked about getting back into the recording studio, but surely this won't be the last we see of you in musical theatre?

No, absolutely not. I started in musical theatre and I'll probably die on the stage. It's where I feel most comfortable, and this show is most definitely one of the best things I've ever done.



Hairspray shows at the Birmingham Hippodrome from Tues 21 May to Sat 1 June

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Music

Lana Del Rey

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Sun 12 - Mon 13 May

With her auburn hair and bee-stung lips, it's no surprise that Lana Del Rey's been signed as the face of the Jaguar F-Type. Nor that she did, until recently, endorse H&M. The 'self-styled gangsta Nancy Sinatra' has been out of the spotlight of late, busily recording new song Young And Beautiful for The Great Gatsby soundtrack, as well as material for her 'cinematic and dark' follow-up to Born To Die. Scottish band Cassidy, whose singer Barrie-James O'Neill is Lana's boyfriend, offer support on this ten-date UK tour.



Noah And The Whale

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 4 May

Gearing up for this month's release of fourth studio LP Heart Of Nowhere, Noah And The Whale are playing nine UK dates in support of the record, including one at the Hay Festival of Literature and the Arts. Following up 2011's platinum-selling Last Night On Earth, the band are releasing a film to accompany the album in a special dual-format CD. The record was recorded in just a few takes, in order to give it an organic feel that sacrificed 'technical perfection for emotional intensity'. Expect a blend of new tracks and classics such as L.I.F.E.G.O.E.S.O.N. at this live show.



Noah And The Whale

Paul Brady

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sun 5 May

One of Ireland's most successful artists, Paul Brady is a singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who recently defined himself as 'the elder statesman'. Starting out playing traditional Irish music and folk, first with The Johnstons, then Planxty, and finally as a solo artist, Brady had moved onto rock by the time the 1980s arrived, upsetting a few fans along the way. Andrew James O'Brien offers support in a show that sees Brady revisiting musical highlights of a career stretching back forty years.



Alicia Keys

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Sat 25 May

"This album has been a labour of love and full of new beginnings, new perspectives and fresh starts," said Alicia Keys of Girl On Fire, the album she's promoting with her latest tour. "I'm so excited to be touring again, and it's great to be back in the UK. I'm looking forward to performing and feeling the energy of the crowd - there's nothing like it." Songwriter, pianist, singer and producer Keys first exploded onto the music scene in the early twenty-first century, her talent quickly transforming her from a complete unknown into a global superstar. She's collaborated with rapper Jay-Z, written hits for Whitney Houston, held her own on stage duetting with Lou Reed, David Bowie, Chris Martin and Annie Lennox, and has even been dubbed 'the girl who made Bob Dylan weep' after being immortalised by the great man in the title track of his album Modern Times. With over thirty million albums and thirty million singles sold worldwide, not to mention over one hundred award wins, Keys' star is so much in the ascendant it's pretty much out of sight.

Muse

Ricoh Arena, Coventry, Wed 22 May

Selling out not just arenas but stadiums too, Muse play four UK dates as part of The 2nd Law tour. Playing Coventry before dates in London, Manchester and Europe, the band are famed for their extravagant shows, sets, lighting and props. With their latest album making it to the top of the UK charts and receiving plenty of critical acclaim, the boys are crossing their fingers they can conquer America, saying: "You don't think about it when you start, you're just content to be recognised on home soil. But then you want something more". Dizzee Rascal supports.



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Kyle Eastwood

Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa,
Sat 4 May

The eldest son of actor and director Clint Eastwood, Kyle grew up surrounded by music, spending his time listening to jazz artists such as Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Miles Davis. Now a respected musician, he's got six albums under his belt and has worked on numerous film scores, including his father's *Gran Torino* and *Letters From Iwo Jima*. A bass player, composer and band leader, he's recently released new album *The View From Here*, and will be playing his primary style of jazz with soul and Motown influences when he appears in Leamington.



Ed Harcourt

The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, Fri 31 May

The son of an army officer and the great nephew of Nicholas Ridley, Baron Ridley of Liddesdale, Ed Harcourt is competing with James Blunt for the title of 'poshest man in pop'! The thirty-five-year-old made his breakthrough with *Here Be Monsters* some thirteen years ago, and now juggles his music career with his role as a husband to Gita and a father to Franklyn, to whom latest single *Hey Little Bruiser* is dedicated. With so much going on in his life, it's hardly surprising he's learned to be super-efficient - new album *Back Into The Woods* was recorded at break-neck speed, taking just one six-hour session at the famous Abbey Road studios to complete! Catherine AD supports.



Ewan McLennan

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Sat 11 May

This up-and-coming folk artist is on a real roll at the moment, winning the Spiral Earth 2013 Award for Best Male Singer, making the cover of *Living Tradition* magazine and racking up nominations for both the BBC Radio Two Folk Awards and Scots Trad Awards. Drawing on the folksongs of Britain, his native Scotland and further afield, Ewan's self-penned work has been widely praised, with noted music journalist Colin Irwin hailing one of his offerings as 'a modern classic'.



Laura Mvula

The Glee Club, Birmingham, Wed 8 May: The Institute, Birmingham, Tues 8 October

Causing a stir with her Nina Simone-esque voice and strong personal style, this Birmingham artist's YouTube channel has already garnered 1.5million views. Shortlisted for Critics' Choice at the 2013 BRIT Awards and finishing fourth on the BBC's *Sound Of 2013*, the soul singer cites Erykah Badu, Lauryn Hill and Jill Scott as influences. Director of the Lichfield Community Gospel Choir, Laura's music has been called 'gospeldelia'. She plays this intimate venue before returning to the Institute on her October tour.

Half Man Half Biscuit

The Robin, Bilston, Thurs 23 May

Birkenhead band Half Man Half Biscuit have been singing their sardonic, satirical, and downright grumpy songs for many a year now; since the 1980s, in fact. Compiling a list of their most common grievances in last year's release, the humorously titled *National Shite Day*, they treated themselves to a good old British moan about subjects such as rail replacement buses and lack of loo roll. They were hailed as a national treasure by the late John Peel, and proved particularly popular in the post-punk period, thanks to their punky and lyrical rants. Kidderminster-based Ian Passey, aka The Humdrum Express, supports.

Roller Trio

Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, Wed 29 May

Although you might expect a group of Leeds lads to conform to the indie mould, this trio play sax, not synth, to create jazz rock. Formed whilst studying at Leeds College of Music in 2010, they were shortlisted for the Mercury Prize after the release of their debut album last year. Making a big impression with their fusion of styles and explosion of raw new sounds, they combine drums, sax and guitar to create a whirlwind of the unexpected. In support is baritone saxophone player Colin Mill's band, Mendeleev Quartet.



Ghostpoet

Kasbah, Coventry, Sat 18 May

British singer and producer Ghostpoet made his mark with *Cash & Carry Me Home* in early 2011. He then released debut album *Peanut Butter Blues & Melancholy Jam*, narrowly missing out to PJ Harvey for the 2011 Mercury Prize. An ex-Coventry University student, he credits the city for helping him write his debut album whilst he was studying. This latest thirteen-date tour sees him showcasing songs from his follow-up album *Some Say I So I Say Light*, which he's releasing just prior to hitting the road.



Title Fight

The Institute, Birmingham, Sat 11 May

With a sound and style that gives more than a gentle nod in the direction of Jawbreaker, Kid Dynamite and Lifetime, American Hardcore punk rock act *Title Fight* cite as influences melodic punk rock act *Saves The Day* and emo favourites *Knapsack* and *Seaweed*. Touring with bands such as *New Found Glory*, *Four Year Strong*, *Set Your Goals*, *A Day To Remember*, *Bayside*, *Comeback Kid* and *Rise Against*, the Pennsylvania foursome released second album *Floral Green* last year, and are being accompanied on their current UK and European tour by *Dead End Path* and *Whirr*.

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Thea Gilmore

Birmingham Town Hall, Sun 5 May

One of the most prolific artists around, Thea Gilmore has released fourteen albums and is still only thirty-three years of age! Starting out working in recording studios, Thea was discovered by her now long-time collaborator, producer, and husband Nigel Stonier. Not letting the challenges of parenthood get in the way of an international career, she wrote her single London while on maternity leave in 2011 - the track was heavily used by the BBC during its 2012 Olympics coverage. New album *Regardless* is released the day after this Birmingham show.



Billy Ocean

The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury, Sun 5 May; Lichfield Garrick, Wed 29 May

Trinidad-born Billy Ocean scored his biggest successes in the 1970s and, particularly, the early-to-mid-'80s, winning the 1985 Grammy Award for Best Male R&B Vocal Performance for his worldwide hit *Caribbean Queen*. As well as enjoying numerous hits himself, Ocean has also penned songs for various other artists, including LaToya Jackson, Randy Crawford, Marti Pellow and Boyzone. In 2011, he became a Companion of the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts, his title being presented to him by Sir Paul McCartney.



Little Green Cars

Institute, Birmingham, Mon 20 May

Flying the flag for Ireland, this Dublin five-piece have been making a name for themselves Stateside. Releasing full-length debut *Absolute Zero* within two weeks of previewing the album at SXSW, the band play seven UK dates before hitting Benicassim and Lollapalooza. Perching musically between Mumford & Sons and The Maccabees, their dusty percussion and vocal harmonies should ensure they become just as appreciated on this side of the pond as they are in the US.



Leona Lewis

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Mon 6 May

A split from her management company in early 2013 cast doubt on the brightness of Leona Lewis' future. Even worse news came in the form of sales figures for the single *Lovebird*, which reached a pitiful total of just six hundred. So her future at the time of writing looks uncertain, but there's no question her past has been little short of glittering. The winner of the 2006 series of *X Factor*, Leona went on to sell more than twenty million records worldwide. A mezzo-soprano with a penchant for powerful ballads, Lewis has been likened in singing style to Whitney Houston.

Eric Clapton

LG Arena, Birmingham, Mon 13 May

A god of modern music, Eric Clapton ranked second in Rolling Stone magazine's list of the One Hundred Greatest Guitarists Of All Time. Not only that, he's also the only three-time inductee to the Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame, having been inducted not only as a solo artist but also as a member of The Yardbirds and Cream. A recovering alcoholic and drug addict, Clapton is perhaps best known for three songs: his version of Bob Marley's *I Shot The Sheriff*; *Layla*, recorded by his band Derek And The Dominos; and *Robert Johnson's Crossroads*, recorded by Cream.



Spiers And Boden

The Roses, Tewkesbury, Fri 17 May

Founding members of big band folk phenomenon Bellowhead, John Spiers and Jon Boden are musicians extraordinaire, boasting between them an impressive mastery of fiddle, guitar, assorted squeezebox instruments and the stomp box. Oh, and they both know how to carry a tune into the bargain! With more than a decade's-worth of experience playing together, the fellas are a well-honed duo indeed, and are widely admired for their ability to give traditional folk music a brand new feel.



James Hickman & Dan Cassidy

Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury, Sun 19 May

A transatlantic duo, James is a Shrewsbury native while Dan is none other than the late Eva Cassidy's brother. With soaring vocals supplied by the Brit half of the duo and ingenious fiddling from the US half, the pair have created a sound that flows nicely between British and American folk. Starting out playing small local shows in and around Shrewsbury in 2008, they were soon performing further afield, recording and releasing debut album *Severn Street* the following year.

A\$AP Rocky

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Thurs 23 May

Supporting none other than Rihanna last year on her North American *Diamonds* tour, Rakim Mayers, aka A\$AP Rocky, returns to Britain for the first time since *Wireless* 2012. A member of the hip-hop collective A\$AP Mob, his long-awaited debut EP *Live.A\$AP* was released in January and made the top ten in twenty-four countries and number one on the Billboard 200. A \$3million deal with Sony and the recent launch of a clothing brand with close friend and collaborator Raf Simons should ensure Mayers remains in the spotlight for some considerable time to come. A\$AP Ferg supports.



For further reviews, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

Don Broco

Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton Civic Since the release of debut album *Priorities* last year, Bedford-based alternative rock trio Don Broco have enjoyed something of a meteoric rise to fame. In a set characterised by its clever re-workings of established rock riffs, what stood out most about these dynamic performers was their ability to balance classic rock posturing with pinpoint technical precision, whether showcasing their ear for harmony - as in the slow-to-build *You Got It Girl* - or plunging full-throttle into out-and-out 'mosh-pit' mode, courtesy of their roof-raising closing performance of *Fancy Dress*.

Featuring firm favourites from their 2012 debut album and lesser-known gems from 2011 micro-LP *Big Fat Smiles*, the set's highlights included a chirpily upbeat performance of the pop-infused *Whole Truth*, a welcome revival of the markedly contrasting *I'm Good*, and a high-on-life rendition of the single *Priorities*, a tongue-in-cheek rebuff to any would-be rock star who's ever ditched their mates for the sake of a girlfriend! This was a no-holds barred night of infectiously energetic rock, with an appeal that stretched far beyond the mosh pit! Get your priorities straight and check them out asap!

Kathy Ewing ■■■■

Ludovico Einaudi

Symphony Hall, Birmingham

As one of the world's most successful living composers, it's impossible to escape Ludovico Einaudi. Featured on countless commercials and film scores, including *Black Swan* and *Intouchables*, his emotionally charged music is transformative, transportative and poignant. Against a dramatic black backdrop, a maquette of silhouettes appear, with just the light from a small lamp illuminating the sheet music atop a piano. The music box strains of the ivories introduce us to *Walk*, taken from new album *In A Time Lapse*. Accompanied by a ten-piece orchestra, violins and percussion complement the ever-central piano, played by the piano-master himself. *Walk* plays with the sparseness of sound, whilst *Waterways* marries the piano with strings. Like much of Einaudi's music, title-track *Time Lapse* borders unsettling, *Life* is rousing and uplifting, and the chilling *Orbits*, inspired by the planets, makes the lightness of the glockenspiel somehow creepy. Part two revisits the composer's best-loved works, including *Nightbook* and *I Giorni (The Days)*.

A master of piano progression, Einaudi creates crashing soundscapes of music that tell stories more vividly than words ever could. His exquisite work is complex, deeply reflective and atmospheric. It has the ability to bring you up before sending you crashing back down again. The chills I felt were testament to the fact that this is music that touches the soul and encompasses the gamut of humanity. You cannot fail to be moved by this masterclass in perfection.

Alev Dervish ■■■■■■

Marillion Weekender

Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

After hugely successful weekends in both Canada and Holland, it was the turn of Wolverhampton to host the Marillion Weekend - three consecutive nights of music, with the band playing a complete album from their back-catalogue on each evening.

The first night began with support from Aziz, who presented a truly amazing blend of Asian music and blues, generating a sound which warmed up the crowd nicely. Marillion then entered the stage to play his 1998 *Radiation* album. The tension built in the darkness as Costa Del Slough linked into *Under The Sun*. Steve Hogarth was full of energy and humour, the band's rhythm section as tight as ever, and Steven Rothery made his guitar sing in his typical, uniquely understated way.

A Few Words From The Dead transformed beautifully midway; flowers were raised and we were asked simply to 'love' instead. Many classic songs from the archives followed.

At the end of an exhausting evening, the audience knew they had two further nights of Marillion magic to come, a fact which no doubt ensured they headed home with a keenly felt sense of anticipation...

Jon Breese ■■■■■■

For full listing information on gigs, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

WED 1 MAY

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III Birmingham Town Hall
JEZ LOWE & THE BAD PENNIES The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham
STACKRIDGE Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
IAN SIEGAL The Robin, Bilston
DOG IS DEAD Kasbah, Coventry
CHRIS DEAN'S SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA Lichfield Garrick
THE PIGEON DETECTIVES Institute Birmingham
ALESSI'S ARK Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
REVOKER The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
BROTHER & BONES The Flapper, Birmingham
MARIUS NESET mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
JACQUI MCSHEE'S TAKE 3 Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
MARIUS NESET mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
LARRY MCCRAY BAND The Jam House, Birmingham
JOSH TAERK The Asylum 2, Birmingham

THUR 2 MAY

PENDRAGON The Assembly, Leamington Spa
HOME SERVICE Huntingdon Hall, Worcester
THE TROGGS The Robin, Bilston
TPAU 25TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
WE BUTTER THE BREAD WITH BUTTER The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
CHAS N DAVE Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton
COLIN HAY O2 Academy, Birmingham
JAKI GRAHAM The Jam House, Birmingham
TRADITIONAL SONG SESSION Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham
SHARKS AND BEACH BLOOD Institute, Birmingham
TO THE BONES Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
ON AND ON The Rain-bow, Birmingham
TRAILER PARK BOYS The Institute, Birmingham

FRI 3 MAY

BROTHERS GROOVE The Roadhouse, Birmingham
OLD MAN MARKLEY O2 Academy, Birmingham
GAGA Prince Of Wales

Centre, Cannock
NINE BELOW ZERO Huntingdon Hall, Worcester
MOSTLY AUTUMN The Robin, Bilston
HATEBREED The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
THE SEARCHERS Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
A VISION OF ELVIS - ROB KINGSLEY Palace Theatre, Redditch
KYLIE M The Swan Theatre Worcester
KNOXVILLE HIGHWAY Forest Arts Centre, Walsall
WILLIAM CONTROL Ed-dies, Birmingham
PARLOUR FLAMES FEAT. BONEHEAD The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury
THE JAYWALKERS Wade Street Church, Lichfield
SOUR MASH & STONEPIT LANE The Flapper, Birmingham
POMBAGIRA & GOAT LEAF The Asylum, Birmingham
TOM DEMAC Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
CROSSFAITH, WE BUTTER THE BREAD WITH BUTTER & THIS GAMES OF THRONES The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
THE INTENTIONS The Jam House, Birmingham

SAT 4 MAY

THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham
THE REDEEMED The Drum, Birmingham
LIFE OF BRYAN - BRYAN ADAMS TRIBUTE The Roadhouse, Birmingham
KYLE EASTWOOD Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
LOLA LAMOUR WITH HER BAND THE LAMOURS Palace Theatre, Redditch
THE BARRON KNIGHTS Lichfield Garrick
GLASSBULLET WITH SUPPORT FROM NYA, RED-SHIFT, FALSE PRETENCE, MORNINGSTAR O2 Academy, Birmingham
ARCANE ROOTS Kasbah, Coventry
CLUTCHING AT STRAWS Artrix, Bromsgrove
KYLIE M Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock
KICK UP THE 80'S The Robin, Bilston
DINGUS KHAN The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
NOAH AND THE WHALE Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
DAVE HAUSE PLUS SUPPORT FROM JOHNNY TWO BAGS The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

POLITICALLY INCORRECT THE SONGS OF TOM LEHRER Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham
WE ARE THE IN CROWD WITH SUPPORT FROM NEVER SHOUT NEVER Institute Birmingham
KILLSWITCH ENGAGE WITH SUPPORT FROM SYLOSIS AND HEARTIST Institute Birmingham
JAR MUSIC LIVE PRESENTS DRIVE THROUGH THERAPY, THE MIGHTY YOUNG, THE DIRTY CHEATS, THE REBELLION, CHECK DA CONE, THE RAT RACE, FREEDOM OF THE CITY O2 Academy, Birmingham
THE RIFLES Kasbah, Coventry
NYA KING Artrix, Bromsgrove
WATCHFIRES, SUNRISE OVER EUROPE, THE MOURNING SUNS, SYLVIA The Flapper, Birmingham
THE STORY SO FAR The Asylum, Birmingham
NANCY KERR & JAMES FAGAN The Talbot Theatre, Whitchurch, North Shropshire
FOREVER YOUNG ROCK NIGHT Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
THE INTENTIONS The Jam House, Birmingham

SUN 5 MAY

FUDGESTOCK The Robin, Bilston
ENTER SHIKARI Kasbah, Coventry
DR FEELGOOD Crewe Lyceum
QUEST Civic Hall, Wolverhampton
NICKY MORAN'S CARPENTER TRIBUTE SHOW Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock
BILLY OCEAN The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury
PAUL BRADY Artrix, Bromsgrove
THE ANN DUGGAN BAND Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham
RONDO Institute Birmingham
ALT-J O2 Academy, Birmingham
2 MANY DJS Kasbah, Coventry
THEA GILMORE WITH STRINGS Birmingham Town Hall
SMALL FAKERS The Irish Centre, Birmingham
JET PACK & THE THREADS The Asylum, Birmingham
ENTER SHIKARI Kasbah, Coventry
STEEL PULSE The Roadhouse, Birmingham

MON 6 MAY

FRANCES GRIFFIN & LEO TURNER An evening of Spanish and South American music. Crescent Theatre, B'ham

BRING ME THE HORIZON Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton
SPOCKS BEARD The Robin, Bilston
LEONA LEWIS National Indoor Arena, Birmingham
TREETOP FLYERS & CAPITAL SUN Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

TUES 7 MAY

LIVE FAST TOUR The Institute, Birmingham
FAKE THACKRAY John Watterson's tribute to Jake Thackray - a singer-songwriter in the French tradition, The Robin, Bilston
GRAMME Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

WED 8 MAY

OLI JOBES/ PHILLIP HENRY & HANNAH MARTIN The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham
THE BLUES BAND Artrix, Bromsgrove
ENUFF Z NUFF The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
DICK VALENTINE O2 Academy, Birmingham
LAURA MVULA The Glee Club, Birmingham
UNKNOWN MORTAL ORCHESTRA Institute Birmingham
GILES ROBSON AND THE DIRTY ACES Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
THE ZOMBIES The Jam House, Birmingham
KATMEN Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
ALBERT LEE & HOGAN'S HEROES Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
JAMES RHODES The Barber Institute, Birmingham
THE JOHN MORRIS TRIO The Yardbird, Birmingham

THUR 9 MAY

THE FUREYS & DAVEY ARTHUR Solihull Arts Complex
MUGENKYO TAIKO DRUMMERS Birmingham Town Hall
THE STEVE GIBBONS BAND The Robin, Bilston
FAKE THACKRAY Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
JOHN GRANT Institute Birmingham
ELKIE BROOKS Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton
REFLECTIONS OF A ROCK & ROLL TOUR Crewe Lyceum
THE PARIS 1940S The Jam House, Birmingham
VEXXEN PLUS SUPPORT FROM SOMEONE SAID FIRE, MOODY BOMBER, LIFE UNWRITTEN, THEIR SOULS FOR GOLD O2 Academy, Birmingham
WOLF PEOPLE Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
DON'T MOVE! Taylor

John's House, Coventry
ADRIAN CROWLEY The Glee Club, Birmingham
HUGH WILLIAMS & MAARTIN ALLOCK Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
JOHN GRANT The Institute, Birmingham
LUCY SPRAGGAN The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

FRI 10 MAY

THE LEGENDS OF SWING - ACCESS ALL AREAS! Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton
CLOUDBUSTING - A TRIBUTE TO KATE BUSH Huntingdon Hall, Worcester
DRESSED TO KILL - TRIBUTE TO KISS The Robin, Bilston
THE ULTIMATE EAGLES The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

HELLRAZOR The Roadhouse, Birmingham
DENNIS LOCORRIERE Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
SHOWADDYWADDY Lichfield Garrick
ARCANE ROOTS The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
BUDDY HOLLY'S WINTER DANCE PARTY Solihull Arts Complex
JOOLS HOLLAND & HIS RHYTHM & BLUES ORCHESTRA Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
THE BORN AGAIN BEATLES Lichfield Guildhall
EMMYLOU HARRIS & RODNEY CROWELL Symphony Hall, Birmingham
LORDI Institute, Birmingham
PETE ROE The Glee Club, Birmingham
STILL CORNERS The Rainbow, Birmingham
THE BORN AGAIN BEATLES Lichfield Guildhall
IROHA The Asylum, Birmingham
LORDI Institute, Birmingham
STEVE GIBBONS BAND Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
FRANKO, DAVE GILES & CENTRE EXCUSE The Institute, Birmingham
DRESSED TO KILL The Robin, Bilston
SHOWADDYWADDY Lichfield Garrick
RAT ATTACK The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
MAXIMUM ZERO The Flapper, Birmingham
THE SUBTERRANEANS The Jam House, Birmingham

SAT 11 MAY

RAYMOND FROGGATT The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
MCFLY Civic Hall, Wolverhampton
THE ZOMBIES Huntingdon Hall, Worcester
EWAN MCLENNAN



Title Fight - The Institute, Birmingham

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
THE TWANG & CAST O2 Academy, Birmingham
RADIO CLASH The Roadhouse, Birmingham
THE ILLEGAL EAGLES Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
PAUL VERNON CHESTER & NICK MELLOR - NOTE FOR NOTE A unique take on the musical legacy of Django Reinhardt, Lichfield Garrick
T-REXTASY Solihull Arts Centre
THE DAMES OF DARKNESS FESTIVAL FEATURING DELAIN, VISIONS OF ATLANTIS, WHYZDOM, APPARITION, AZYLIA, EX LIBRIS, CHEMICKILL, INCARNA The Robin, Bilston
ALEX HUTTON TRIO The Hive, Shrewsbury
CURTIS STIGERS Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
VERA VAN HEERINGEN Bookmark Bloxwich
BEE GEES FEVER The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
THE TRICKS Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham
DEXYS BOOTLEG RUNNERS The Irish Centre, Birmingham
CLUB PHOBIA PLUS SUPPORT The Flapper, Birmingham
CAPTAIN HORIZON, BLACK STAR BULLET & SALVATION The Asylum, Birmingham
FOLK DAY FEAT. HERBS & LEEKIES, RICK FORD, BIRDSCARERS, SONS OF CLOGGERS & HIS WORSHIP & THE PIG Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
JEZ LOWE Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton
TITLE FIGHT The Institute, Birmingham
JEAN JEANIE The Public, West Bromwich
THE SUBTERRANEANS The Jam House, Birmingham

SUN 12 MAY

LANA DEL RAY O2 Academy, Birmingham
LAU The Glee Club, Birmingham
WE'LL MEET AGAIN Symphony Hall, Birmingham
RAYMOND FROGGATT The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
THE WATCH PLAYS GENISES The Robin, Bilston
THE BIG REUNION LG Arena, Birmingham
REAL DIAMOND - TRIBUTE TO NEIL DIAMOND Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
ALBERT LEE & HOGAN'S HEROES Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
OLD MAN LUEDECKE The Hive Shrewsbury
ATHLETE O2 Academy, Birmingham
MARTY WILDE & THE WILDCATS Crewe Lyceum
SUNDAY SOCIAL FT. CHRIS WHITING, TITUS WALDEN-FELS & NIX DADRY The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham
THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENTS Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
FIELDFARE The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire
TOM COPSON & PATRICK DUFF The Flapper, Birmingham

MON 13 MAY

VALERIE JUNE The Glee Club, Birmingham
ERIC CLAPTON LG Arena, Birmingham
ANDY CAIRNS Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
EASTER BEFORE CHRISTMAS The Asylum, Birmingham
LANA DEL RAY O2 Academy, Birmingham
LARRY & HIS FLASK Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

TUES 14 MAY

MEMORIES ARE MADE OF HITS Dudley Town Hall
THE ULTIMATE EAGLES Palace Theatre, Redditch
KING TUFF, CEDAR HOUSE BAND & TABLE SCRAPS Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
THE WEDDING CRASHERS The Jam House, Birmingham
FAITHFUL DARKNESS The Roadhouse, Birmingham

WED 15 MAY

BRUCE MOLSKY The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham
MARTIN TURNER'S WISHBONE ASH The Robin, Bilston
JANE SIBERRY The Glee Club, Birmingham
SHOW OF HANDS Artrix, Bromsgrove
CURTIS STIGERS Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
DANIEL HIGGS Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

THUR 16 MAY

MOTOWN'S GREATEST HITS - HOW SWEET IT IS Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent
JOURNEY 2 TOTO The Robin, Bilston
WE ARE LOST BOYS O2 Academy, Birmingham
HOSTILE & MORAY FIRTH The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
STEVE HACKETT - GENESIS REVISITED Symphony Hall, Birmingham
MARTIN CARTHY Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
CHRIS WOOD Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
ALASDAIR ROBERTS Taylor John's House, Coventry
HANG THE BASTARD The Asylum, Birmingham

FAIRPORT CONVENTION Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
SKATERS The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
DIRTY OLD FOLKERS Symphony Hall, Birmingham

FRI 17 MAY

THEN JERICO The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
SHE WILL ROCK YOU The Roadhouse, Birmingham
WILD IRISH Forest Arts Centre, Walsall
AMONG THE ECHOES O2 Academy, Birmingham
BBC BIG BAND: BLOWIN' UP A STORM Celebrating a century a Woody Herman, Birmingham Town Hall
BLACKLIST SAINTS The Asylum, Birmingham
MAETLOAF The Robin, Bilston
T.REXTASY Tamworth Assembly Rooms
NIGHTS ON BROADWAY: THE BEE GEES STORY Malvern Theatres
ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
SPIERS AND BODEN The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
THE SELECTER The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury
BOVINE WITH SUPPORT FROM POLIO The Flapper, Birmingham
HOSTILE, UNDER BLACKENED SKIES, LEFT UNSCARRED & MORAY FIRTH The Asylum, Birmingham
NEIL INNES mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
DAVE BERRY & THE CRUISERS Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
DJ YODA Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
THE HOSTILE The Asylum, Birmingham
THE PHOENIX FOUNDATION The Institute, Birmingham

Music LISTINGS

For full listing information on gigs including, times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

TOTAL BRASS The Barber Institute, Birmingham
HEADRUSH The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
SOLID SOUL The Jam House, Birmingham
THE DOORS EXPERIENCE The Roadhouse, Birmingham

SAT 18 MAY

REGGAE CITY 2013 Line-up includes The Selector, Hollie Cook, The Overproof Soundsystem meets Ital Audio, 1 Eye, Mungo's Hi-Fi, Charlie P, Buggsy and many more... The Rainbow, Birmingham
THINK FLOYD Crewe Lyceum
TOO REX - TRIBUTE TO MARC BOLAN & T-REX The Roadhouse, Birmingham
VOICE OF THE HEART - KAREN CARPENTER TRIBUTE Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
MUGENKYO TAIKO DRUMMERS Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
ROY ORBISON AND

FRIENDS Palace Theatre, Redditch
CLIFFE... AS IF! Lichfield Garrick
T'PAU 25TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
THE MAVERICKS Symphony Hall, Birmingham
THE ABYSSINIANS Institute, Birmingham
MANIFEST LIVE FT. MODERN MINDS OPEN TO FIRE, THE REBEL BEATS, SHARKSVBEARS AND SALOPHIA O2 Academy Birmingham
MID-DAY MANTRA: DEEPA NAIR RASIYA Symphony Hall, Birmingham
GHOSTPOET Kasbah, Coventry
MARTIN HAYES & DENNIS CAHILL Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire
ABSOLVA & BABYLON FIRE The Asylum, Birmingham
THE GLISSANDO GUITAR ORCHESTRA mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTING The Institute, Birmingham
ROCK FOR SPON 2 FEAT.

THE NEW SAINTS & FRIENDS The Robin, Bilston
BREAKING SATELLITES The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
SOLID SOUL The Jam House, Birmingham
THE REVOLUTIONAIRES The Roadhouse, Birmingham

SUN 19 MAY

CRAIG DAVID Institute Birmingham
SPACE RITUAL FEATURING



Jane Siberry - The Glee Club, Birmingham

WED 22 MAY

MUSE Ricoh Arena, Coventry
LOUISE PETIT BAND Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham
MOTOWN'S GREATEST HITS - HOW SWEET IT IS Belgrade Theatre, Coventry
LISA KNAPP The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham
TERRY REID The Robin, Bilston
CHRIS WOOD The Glee Club, Birmingham
BENJAMIN FRANCIS LEFTWICH Institute, Birmingham
FIGHTING WOLVES, CHASING SKYLINES & MOTHER CORONA The Asylum, Birmingham
DERVISH New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs
THE JOHN MORRIS TRIO The Yardbird, Birmingham

THU 23 MAY

HOLD BACK THE NIGHT Belgrade Theatre, Coventry
DENNIS LOCORRIERE Huntingdon Hall, Worcester
ASAP ROCKY O2 Academy, Birmingham
DR. FEELGOOD The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
HALF MAN HALF BISCUIT The Robin, Bilston
THE COMPUTERS The Rainbow, Birmingham
FATHOMS, HIGH HOPES, SOMEONE CALLED FIRE, LIFE UNWRITTEN & FRAGMENTS The Asylum, Birmingham
URBAN FOLK QUARTET Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
EL MORENO Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
THE WOLF HARE & TRIBES, SUPERFOOD &

THE BRUTE CHORUS The Institute, Birmingham
LES AND THE LICKS The Jam House, Birmingham

FRI 24 MAY

MARK KNOPFLER LG Arena, Birmingham
MARTIN SIMPSON Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
A NIGHT OF QUEEN WITH THE BOHEMIANS Lichfield Garrick
ROXY MAGIC The Roadhouse, Birmingham
THE BIG BEAR FOLLY FEATURING KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS, VAL WISEMAN, TIPTINA & ROY FORBES Solihull Arts Complex
FLASH - A TRIBUTE TO QUEEN The Robin, Bilston
THE COUNTERFEIT STONES Belgrade Theatre, Coventry
DAN MESSORE AND INDIGO KID Symphony Hall, Birmingham
MIDLANDS GOTH FESTIVAL Feat. Vince Ripper, Pussy Cat, The Dirty Johnsons, Dick Venom & The Terrortones, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
A EVENING OF DOOM METAL OCCULT MYSTERIES: THE WOUNDED KINGS, DOPETHRONE & HUATA The Asylum, Birmingham
MR SCRUFF Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
TRUE GROOVE The Jam House, Birmingham
THE VIEW O2 Academy, Birmingham

SAT 25 MAY

DARKSIDE - THE PINK FLOYD SHOW Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock
JACK JONES Birmingham Town Hall
THE NOTEBENDERS Symphony Hall, Birmingham
SOUL'D OUT The Robin, Bilston

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Timothy West narrator
Carolyn Sampson soprano
Jeffrey Skidmore conductor

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JACKIE OATES Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
HOT RED CHILLI PEPPERS The Roadhouse, Birmingham
THE RAGDOLLS Lichfield Garrick
ALICIA KEYS National Indoor Arena, Birmingham
ALAN BARNES & HIS LIQUORICE ALLSORTS Solihull Arts Complex
PENNY DREADFUL The Flapper, Birmingham
RICHARD DIGANCE Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
SEVERED TIES O2 Academy, Birmingham
THE UPLOAD TOUR 2 The Institute, Birmingham
NOW WE ARE 2013 The Public, West Bromwich
BLACK ROAD HOME The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
TRUE GROOVE The Jam House, Birmingham

SUN 26 MAY

RUSH LG Arena, Birmingham
ROGER HODGSON Symphony Hall, Birmingham
FISH The Robin, Bilston
THE SEARCHERS The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
WIDOWSPEAK & HOOPLA BLUE Institute, Birmingham
THE UNDERTONES The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
WOODEN HORSE Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

ham
MISTY'S BIG ADVENTURE & KATEGOTES Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
RATTLE SNAKE RIOT Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton
BOAT TO ROW O2 Academy, Birmingham
THE BESNARD LAKES Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

MON 27 MAY

LUCY ROSE Institute Birmingham
SLAM DUNK FESTIVAL Civic Hall, Wolverhampton
ED DREWETT Kasbah, Coventry

MON 28 MAY

JOURNEY / WHITESNAKE LG Arena
THE 1975 The Institute Birmingham
DISTRICT3 O2 Academy, Birmingham
STEVE ASHLEY The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs

TUES 29 MAY

ROLLER TRIO Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
BILLY OCEAN Lichfield Garrick
THE MICKY GREANEY

BAND Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath
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HAMILTON LOOMIS The Jam House, Birmingham

WED 30 MAY

GUNNRUNNER The Robin, Bilston
THE UPBEAT BEATLES Crewe Lyceum
THE COUNTERFEIT STONES Lichfield Garrick
PIERCE THE VEIL The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
VOICES UNLIMITED - THE WAY WE WERE The Swan Theatre Worcester
JOHN WILLIAMS Malvern Theatres
THE BEAT GOES ON Palace Theatre, Redditch
THE SEARCHERS Theatre

Severn, Shrewsbury
MARNIE STERN Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE FOLK ENSEMBLE Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
THE ENID The Institute, Birmingham
PIERCE THE VEIL The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

THU 31 MAY

ROCK AROUND THE SIXTIES Huntingdon Hall, Worcester
ELVIS COSTELLO AND THE IMPOSTERS Symphony Hall, Birmingham
ED HARCOURT The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
SHOWADDYWADDY Palace Theatre, Redditch
ELVIS ON TOUR The Robin, Bilston
LIMEHOUSE LIZZY Tamworth Assembly Rooms
THE ELO EXPERIENCE Artrix, Bromsgrove
MENTALICA The Roadhouse, Birmingham
BUDDY HOLLY - A LEGEND REBORN Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
THE SUPER SONIC 70S SHOW The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
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Lucy Rose - The Institute, Birmingham

BRYAN CORBETT QUARTET Symphony Hall, Birmingham
45 SHOP LOCK: SOUND SYSTEM FRIDAYS The Drum, Birmingham
WOLF ALICE The Victoria, Birmingham
GOODNIGHT LENIN & HOWIE PAYNE The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham
THE CHRISTIANS The As-

sembly, Leamington Spa
CLIMAX BLUES BAND Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
NIKKI LLES AND THE PRINTMAKERS mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
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25 YEARS Birmingham Contemporary Music Group

Illuminating Britten

Saturday 18 May 2013, 7.30pm
 CBSO Centre, Birmingham

Part of Birmingham's Britten centenary celebrations:
www.birminghambritten.co.uk

BCMG celebrates Benjamin Britten's centenary with a programme of the composer's early works, framing them with similarly small-scale pieces from composers with close connections to him.

Introduced by BCMG Artist-in-Association
 John Woolrich

Alban Berg: Four Pieces Op. 5; Adagio
Benjamin Britten: Elegy, Going down Hill on a Bicycle; Three pieces from Suite Op. 6; Phantasy Quartet
Aaron Copland: Nocturne; Ukejele Serenade
Hans Werner Henze: Oily on the Shore
Oliver Knussen: Cantata Op. 15

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Freiburg Baroque Orchestra

Birmingham Town Hall, Sun 19 May

Boasting a wide-ranging repertoire of music from the seventeenth century through to the present day, the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra are considered to be one of the finest early music ensembles in the world. Their high-ranking position on the international music scene is endorsed by collaborations with some of the world's most revered artists, including Andreas Staier and Rene Jacobs. During twenty-five years in the business, they've accumulated an impressive discography, acquiring a plethora of prominent awards along the way. This Birmingham concert sees the orchestra joined by Petra Müllejans, Gottfried von der Goltz and Anne Katharina Schreiber. The programme comprises Vivaldi's Overture to L'Olimpiade and Sinfonia for Strings in A, RV168, and Bach's Violin Concerto No 1 in A minor, Double Violin Concerto in D minor, Violin Concerto No 2 in E and Concerto for Three Violins in D.

Leamington Music Festival Weekend

Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa, Fri 3 - Tues 7 May

To mark the centenary of the birth of Benjamin Britten, Leamington Music has chosen to base this year's Festival Weekend around the best of British classical music. Works by Frank Bridge and John Ireland feature alongside compositions from Finzi and Vaughan Williams in what will be the picturesque spa town's twenty-fourth classical musical festival. The five-day event features performances from the recently formed London Soloists Ensemble, the Fitzwilliam String Quartet, the Carducci String Quartet, the Hepplewhite Piano Trio and Roderick Williams (pictured).



Pavao Quartet, featuring Timothy West

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Fri 24 May

Since forming in 1998 at the Royal Academy of Music, the all-female Pavao Quartet have earned themselves a wealth of accolades, including a classical Grammy Award in 2012. Comprising Kerenza Peacock and Jenny Sacha on violins, Bryony James on cello and Natalia Gomes on viola, the quartet this month stop off in Bromsgrove as part of a UK tour, and will be performing Janacek's Quartet No.2 Intimate Letters, with narration provided by veteran actor Timothy West. This Artrix event forms part of the annual Bromsgrove Festival.

Moscow State Symphony Orchestra

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 22 May

Considered to be one of the greatest conductors of modern times, Pavel Kogan here directs the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra in a programme of Russian classics, culminating in one of the nation's greatest symphonies - Tchaikovsky's overwhelming Symphony No.6 Pathétique. This final concert in Warwick Arts Centre's classical season sees acclaimed cellist Nina Kotova - a player said to be 'born and bred in the great Russian tradition' - join the orchestra for a performance of Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No.1. Khachaturian's Waltz from Masquerade and Adagio from Spartacus also feature.



Birmingham Contemporary Music Group: Illuminating Britten

CBSO Centre, Birmingham, Sat 18 May; Maidement Hall, Shrewsbury School, Fri 24 May

One of five concerts to mark the centenary of Benjamin Britten's birth, Illuminating Britten features a programme of the revered British composer's early works, presented alongside small-scale pieces from other composers. These include Alban Berg's Four Pieces Op.5, for clarinet and piano (1913), Aaron Copland's Nocturne and Ukulele Serenade, Oliver Knussen's Cantata Op.15, for oboe and string trio (1977) and Hans Werner Henze's Olly On The Shore, for piano (2001).



Photo credit: Clive Barda

Classical LISTINGS

For full listing information on classical concerts, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Programme includes works by Webern, Mozart, Messiaen & Scriabin, Thurs 2 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

SENIOR CITIZENS ORCHESTRA Thurs 2 May, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

CARDUCCI STRING QUARTET Programme includes works by Vaughan Williams, Barber, Ian Venables & Elgar, Thurs 2 May, Malvern Theatre

BERT KAEMPFERT GALA CONCERT Featuring the Greg Francis Orchestra and Singers, Fri 3 May, Crewe Lyceum

CBSO BAROQUE ENSEMBLE An eighteenth century musical journey around Europe featuring works by Sammartini, Tartini, Quantz and CPE Bach, Fri 3 May, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

SACCONI STRING QUARTET FEAT. DAVID CAMPBELL (CLARINET) Programme includes works by Bridge, Britten & Bliss, Fri 3 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

BBC PHILHARMONIC: GALA FINALE Fri 3 May, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

RICHARD UTTLEY LUNCHTIME CONCERT Programme includes works by Haydn, Britten & Debussy, Fri 3 May, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

THE HEPPLEWHITE PIANO TRIO Programme includes works by Beethoven & Ireland, Fri 3 May, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

HERMES ENSEMBLE & NEW MUSIC ENSEMBLE Programme includes works by Dallapiccola, Maderna, Clementi & Malavasi, Fri 3 May, Bramall Music Building, Birmingham

LONDON SOLOISTS ENSEMBLE Programme includes works by Bridge, Bax, Walton, Ireland, Moeran, Vaughan Williams, Bliss & Stanford, Sat 4 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Programme includes Webern, Mozart, Messiaen & Scriabin, Sat 4 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

COULL STRING QUARTET-FEAT. ANNA TILBROOK (PIANO) Programme includes works by Simpson & Bridge, Sat 4 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington

Spa

MARK BEBBINGTON PIANO RECITAL Programme includes works by Ireland, Bridge, Richard Causton & Britten, Sun 5 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

FITZWILLIAM STRING QUARTET Programme includes works by Gurney, Britten, Delius & Vaughan Williams, Sun 5 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

ORGAN RECITAL WITH PAUL CARR Mon 6 May, St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham

GREG MORRIS ORGAN RECITAL Programme includes works by Whitlock, Byrd, Purcell, Ireland, Stanley & Walton, Mon 6 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

RODERICK WILLIAMS (BARITONE) & JOSEPH MIDDLETON (PIANO) Programme includes works by Vaughan Williams, Finzi, Ireland, Quilter, Bridge & Britten, Mon 6 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

CARDUCCI STRING QUARTET Programme includes works by Britten, Finzi & Bliss, Mon 6 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

HEPPLEWHITE PIANO TRIO Programme includes works by Howells, Howard Skempton & Ireland, Tues 7 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

CROPPER, WELSH, ROSCOE PIANO TRIO Tues 7 May, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs

LEAMINGTON MUSIC FESTIVAL FINALE CONCERT Feat. Benjamin Nabarro (violin), Gemma Rosefield (cello), Tim Horton (piano), Lucy Gould (violin) & Tom Dunn (viola). Programme includes works by Vaughan Williams & Elgar, Tues 7 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

JAMES RHODES PIANO CONCERT Programme includes works by Beethoven, Schubert & Chopin, Wed 8 May, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

CBSO: VIVA ITALIA! Programme includes works by Strauss, Tchaikovsky & Mendelssohn, Wed 8 May - Thurs 9 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

COULL QUARTET: A NIGHTINGALE SINGS Programme includes Haydn's Quartet in E flat Op.41 No2, Thurs 9

May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

LUCA LUCIANO CLARINET CONCERT Programme includes works by Berio, Gershwin & Luciano, Fri 10 May, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

CONSERVATOIRE ORGAN DEPARTMENT IN CONCERT Fri 10 May, St Philip's Cathedral, Birmingham

NIGEL KENNEDY Sat 10 - Sun 11 May, Malvern Theatre

ORGAN PROM Sat 11 May, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

ENGLISH TOURING OPERA present Donizetti's classic in which Jeremy Silver conducts musicians Paula Sides, Helen Sherman, Eddie Wade & Cozmin Sime, Sat 11 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

ENGLISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Featuring Donald Hunt (conductor) and Michael Bochmann (leader and soloist), Sat 11 May, Artrix, Bromsgrove

ALED JONES CATHEDRAL TOUR Sat 11 May, Coventry Cathedral

STAFFORD MUSIC FESTIVAL 2013 Featured artists include Cantemus Chamber Choir, Walton Trio & Stafford Sinfonia, Sat 11 - Sat 25 May, various locations in & around Stafford

MARIE FEL: RAMEAU'S MUSE PRESENTED BY THE EX CATHEDRA CHOIR AND BAROQUE ORCHESTRA Featuring Jeffrey Skidmore & Carolyn Sampson (soprano), Sun 12 May, B'ham Town Hall

NIGEL STUBBS, JULIE STUBBS & SUE BRERETON-BANKS Play the music of Anton Kammeil, Sun 12 May, Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire

INNOVATION ENSEMBLE - CHAMBER PLAYERS FROM THE CBSO Programme includes works by Dvorak, Martinu & Tchaikovsky, Sun 12 May, Concord College, Nr Shrewsbury

LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERT WITH THOMAS TROTTER Programme includes works by JS Bach, Messiaen, Darke & Duruffe, Mon 13 May, Birmingham Town Hall

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN: SCHUMANN'S PIANO CONCERTO Featuring Benjamin Grosvenor (piano). Programme comprises Philip Sawyers Symphony No2, Schumann's Piano Concerto in A minor & Mendelssohn's Symphony No4 Italian, Tue 14 May, Stratford Civic Hall

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN: SCHUMANN'S PIANO CONCERTO Featuring David Curtis (conductor) & Benjamin Grosvenor (piano), Programme comprises

Mendelssohn's Intermezzo, Nocture and Scherzo from A Midsummer Night's Dream; Schumann's Piano Concerto & Mendelssohn's Symphony No 4, Italian. Wed 15 May, Birmingham Town Hall

CBSO: VARIATIONS ON AMERICA Programme includes works by Ives, Herrmann, Copland, Adams & Bernstein, Wed 15 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

CONSERVATOIRE ORGAN DEPARTMENT IN CONCERT Thurs 16 May, St Philip's Cathedral, Birmingham

MANCHESTER CAMERATA: BEETHOVEN Fri 17 May, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

CBSO SILENT HEROES: HAROLD LLOYD Featuring Carl Davis (conductor). Programme includes: High and Dizzy 26' and The Freshman 76', Fri 17 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

TOTAL BRASS Featuring Robert Smith & Jason Evans (trumpets), Elise Campbell (horn), Ross Learmonth (trombone) & Matthew Blunt (tuba). Programme includes works by Berio, Tom Harold, Plog, Bach, Koetsier & Lutoslawski, Fri 17 May, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

CBSO PLAYERS: SCHUBERT'S STRING QUARTET Fri 17 May, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN: THE TRUMPET SHALL SOUND Programme includes works by Purcell, Jeremiah Clarke, Britten, Robert Saxton & Shostakovich, Sat 18 May, Bedworth Civic Hall

MIDLAND SINFONIA: CELEBRITY CHAMBER MUSIC Programme includes works by Schubert, Mahler & Tchaikovsky, Sat 18 May, St Laurence Church, Alvechurch, Worcestershire

GLOUCESTER CHORAL SOCIETY & ST MICHAEL'S SINGERS Programme: Mahler's Symphony No.2, Sat 18 May, Coventry Cathedral

BIRMINGHAM CONTEMPORARY MUSIC GROUP - ILLUMINATING BRITTEN Sat 18 May, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

THE FREIBURG BAROQUE ORCHESTRA Sun 19 May, Birmingham Town Hall

CBSO FAMILY CONCERT: INCREDIBLE ADVENTURES Featuring Stephen Bell (conductor), Paul Rissmann (presenter), Sun 19 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

BERLINER PHILHARMONIKER: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Evening of Mendelssohn and Berlioz's - featuring Deborah York and Stella Doufexis- screened

live from Berlin, Sun 19 May, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

ORGAN RECITAL WITH DAN MOULT Programme includes works by JS Bach, Mozart & Britten, Mon 20 May, St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham

FRONTIERS SERIES: COMPOSERS' PLATFORM Mon 20 May, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

ORCHESTRE DE LA SUISSE ROMANDE: TCHAIKOVSKY'S PATHE-TIQUE SYMPHONY Featuring Neeme Jarvi (conductor) & Boris Berezovsky (piano). Programme includes works by Arvo Part, Grieg and Tchaikovsky, Tue 21 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

MOSCOW STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Wed 22 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

CBSO: TRIFONOV PLAYS TCHAIKOVSKY Featuring: Mario Venzago (conductor) and Daniil Trifonov (piano). Programme includes works by Mozart, Tchaikovsky and Schumann, Wed 22 - Thurs 23 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

BIRMINGHAM CONTEMPORARY MUSIC GROUP - ILLUMINATING BRITTEN Fri 24 May, Maidment Hall, Shrewsbury School

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN: THE TRUMPET SHALL SOUND David Curtis conducts the orchestra as they perform works by Purcell, Jeremiah Clarke, Britten, Robert Saxton & Shostakovich, Fri 24 May, Stratford Civic Hall

BLAKE Fri 24 May, Malvern Theatres

IAN WATT GUITAR CONCERT Fri 24 May, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

PAVAO QUARTET FEATURING TIMOTHY WEST Fri 24 May, Artrix, Bromsgrove

COULL QUARTET Featuring Dave Le Page (violin). Programme includes works by JS Bach, Britten & Purcell, Sat 25 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

ISABELLE BRUET & ANNE LE BOZEC A song recital which sees Shakespeare's lyrics set to music. Pieces from Brahms and Berlioz to Korngold and Gurney all feature, Sun 26 May, Birmingham Town Hall

CBSO: A BOY WAS BORN Featuring: Andris Nelsons (conductor), Kristine Opolais (soprano), Mark Padmore (tenor), Tue 28 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

BEYOND CLASSICAL: NYMPHS AND TANGOS Featuring Heather Roach (flute) & Jo Sealey (piano), Thurs 30 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

JOHN WILLIAMS Solo

guitar recital, Thurs 30 May, Malvern Theatre

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN: SPRING SEAS Programme includes works by Britten, Paul Moravec, James Nyoraku & David Matthews, Fri 31 May, Stratford Civic Hall

MARTIN ROSCOE AND PETER DONOHOE: MUSIC FOR TWO PIANOS. Programme includes works by Mozart, Brahms, Schumann, Debussy & Ravel, Fri 31 May, Malvern Theatres

NEW LONDON CONSORT: PURCELL'S KING ARTHUR Featuring Nicholas Le Prevost (actor in the tv show Merlin), Fri 31 May, Birmingham Town Hall

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Comedy

Andy Parsons

Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, Thurs 16 May; The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Fri 17 May; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 25 May; Crewe Lyceum, Tues 28 May; Palace Theatre, Redditch, Wed 29 May

With complimentary reviews (well, sort of) including such observations as 'what he lacks in hair, Parsons more than makes up for in originality', Andy Parsons is a sharp and topical comedian who's well-known from TV shows such as BBC's *Mock The Week* and *Live At The Apollo*.



Comedy Hullabaloo

The Courtyard Theatre, Idilize Spielget, Swan's Nest Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon & Stratford-upon Avon Boat Club, Fri 24 - Sun 26 May

Some of the biggest names on the circuit feature in three days of comic madness when Comedy Hullabaloo makes its debut this month. Organised by Underbelly, the entertainment company responsible for Udderbelly Festival London and London Wonderground, this new event is spread across four venues in Stratford-upon-Avon. Al Murray, Mark Watson, Justin Moorhouse, Rob Rouse, Miles Jupp, Ed Byrne and Danny Bhoj are among the well-established names who're booked to appear, while the up-and-coming James Acaster, Rob Beckett, Sara Pascoe and Katherine Ryan will also be plying their trade.



Robin Ince

Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 17 May; The Public, West Bromwich, Sat 18 May; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sun 19 May

As with many a comedian nowadays, versatile comedy veteran Robin Ince is no stranger to all manner of laughter-inducing television programmes, with *Mock The Week*, *Never Mind The Buzzcocks*, *The Now Show*, *The News Quiz* and *Loose Ends* all having benefitted from his often-hyperactive ranting.



Eddie Izzard

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Wed 15 & Thurs 16 May

Not many comedians make it to God-like status just through stand-up performance alone. Jerry Seinfeld had a TV show, and Saturday Night Live alumni like Steve Martin and Bill Murray used the movies to make it big. Only people like Bill Hicks, Jackie Mason and Lenny Bruce managed it through stage work alone - but more recently you can certainly add Eddie Izzard to that list. Sure, he may have made the odd movie, but it's his brilliant working of a live audience that's really made his name.

Eddie's latest offering is *Force Majeure*, a show he's performed to a sell-out audience in New York's Madison Square Garden - a sure sign that his material is now regarded as pure comedy gold.

Read the interview with Eddie Izzard at www.whatsonlive.co.uk

Reginald D Hunter

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 5 May; Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Sun 19 May; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Wed 29 May; Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire, Thurs 27 June; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 19 October

American funnyman Reginald D Hunter is one of the most popular comedians currently working the UK comedy circuit. His no-nonsense style and hugely amusing perspectives on the differences between the US and the UK have struck a real chord with his audiences, earning him an impressive legion of admiring fans. With regular gigs on TV shows like *Have I Got News For You* keeping him in the public eye, it's fair to assume that his loyal fanbase is just going to carry on growing and growing...



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TOM STADE Wed 1 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
NINIA BENJAMIN, MARK MAIER & ALASTAIR BARRIE Thurs 2 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
SEAN LOCK Thurs 2 May, Crewe Lyceum
KAI HUMPHRIES, JUNIOR SIMPSON, BEN LAWES & ALAN DONEGAN (COMPERE) Thurs 2 May, The George Hotel, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent
CATRIONA KNOX All-female sketch group, Thurs 2 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
JUNIOR SIMPSON, KAI HUMPHRIES, OMAR HAMDY, GWILUM ARGOS & LARRY DEAN (COMPERE) Thurs 2 May, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs
CHRIS STOKES Thurs 2 May, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
JIMMY CARR - GAGGING ORDER Fri 3 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham
SEAN LOCK Fri 3 May, Malvern Theatres
RHYS MATTHEWSON & CHRIS STOKES Fri 3 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
LEO MUHAMMAD - ONE MAN, TWO FACES Fri 3 May, The Drum, Birmingham
NINIA BENJAMIN, MARK MAIER, ALASTAIR BARRIE & MATT REES Fri 3 - Sat 4 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
MANDY KNIGHT, DAVID HADINGHAM, RAYMOND

MEARNS & STEVE HARRIS Fri 3 - Sat 4 May, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham
RICH PEPIATT Sat 4 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
REGINALD D HUNTER Sun 5 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
SIMON EVANS Mon 6 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
JOHN SHUTTLEWORTH Wed 8 May, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton
LAUGHING COWS FEATURING JO ENRIGHT, MAUREEN YOUNGER, RUTH COCKBURN AND ROSIE WILBY Wed 8 May, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham
RICH HALL Thurs 9 May, Malvern Theatres
SEAN LOCK Thurs 9 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
JOHN SHUTTLEWORTH Thurs 9 May, Hereford Courtyard Theatre
OWEN O'NEILL, PIERRE HOLLINS, IAIN STIRLING, DAVID TRENT Thurs 9 - Fri 10 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
DANIEL SIMONSEN & ALFIE BROWN Fri 10 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
RICH HALL Fri 10 May, Crewe Lyceum
JAMES COOK, SUZY BENNETT, STEFANO PAOLINI & GEOFF BOYZ Fri 10 May, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham
SEAN LOCK Fri 10 - Sat 11 May, Birmingham Hippodrome

OWEN O'NEILL, PIERRE HOLLINS, IAIN STIRLING, DAVE TWENTYMAN Sat 11 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
JAMES COOK, TONY JAMESON, STEFANO PAOLINI & GEOFF BOYZ Sat 11 May, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham
DANIEL SIMONSEN & ALFIE BROWN Sun 12 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
ALISTAIR MCGOWAN: NOT JUST A PRETTY VOICE Tue 14 May, Artrix, Bromsgrove
BARNSTORMERS COMEDY NIGHT Tue 14 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
AL MURRAY - THE PUB LANDLORD Wed 15 May, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent
CHRIS COX Wed 15 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
EDDIE IZZARD Wed 15 - Thurs 16 May, National Indoor Arena, Birmingham
JOSH WIDDICOMBE Thurs 16 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
ANDY PARSONS Thurs 16 May, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton
ZOE LYONS, DANNY MCLOUGHLIN, DOC BROWN, JAMES ALDERSON Thurs 16 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
JULIAN CLARY: POSITION VACANT, APPLY WITHIN Fri 17 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
LEE NELSON LIVE Fri 17 May, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton
TOM STADE Fri 17 May, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester
ANDY PARSONS Fri 17 May, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire
ZOE LYONS, DANNY MCLOUGHLIN, DOC BROWN PLUS ELIS JAMES Fri 17 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
SIMON BLYTH, THE RAYMOND AND MR TIMPKINS REVUE, BENNY BOOT & TANYALEE DAVIS Fri 17 - Sat 18 May, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham
ZOE LYONS, DANNY MCLOUGHLIN, DOC BROWN PLUS RICHARD MORTON Sat 18 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
ROBIN INCE Sat 18 May, The Public, West Bromwich
BARNSTORMERS COMEDY NIGHT Sat 18 May, Artrix, Bromsgrove
RICHARD HERRING Sat 18 May, Courtyard Theatre, Hereford
REGINALD D HUNTER Sun 19 May, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent
LEE NELSON LIVE Sun 19 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
ROBIN INCE Sun 19 May, Artrix, Bromsgrove
CHRIS COX Sun 19 May, Warwick Arts Centre,



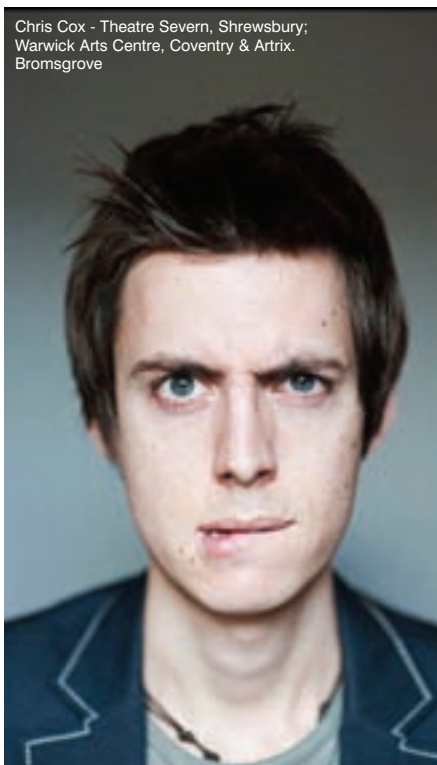
John Shuttleworth - Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton & Hereford Courtyard Theatre.

Coventry
JACK DEE Sun 19 May, Crewe Lyceum
RICHARD HERRING Tue 21 May, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
JOSH WIDDICOMBE Thurs 23 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
ED BYRNE, MILES JUPP, DANNY BHOY, ROB BECKETT, MATT FORD & SPECIAL GUEST MC Thurs 23 May, The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon
BILL BAILEY Thurs 23 - Fri 24 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
EDDY BRIMSON, JARRED CHRISTMAS, KEITH FARNAN & NATHAN CATON Thurs 23 - Sat 25 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
ANDREW LAWRENCE Fri 24 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
ED BYRNE, MILES JUPP, DANNY BHOY, JUSTIN MOORHOUSE, SARA PASCOE Fri 24 May, The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon
ALISTAIR MCGOWAN Fri 24 May, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire
MILES JUPP, LLOYD LANGFORD, KATHERINE RYAN, JOEL DOMMETT Fri 24 May, Idolize Spiegelent, Stratford-upon-Avon
KEVIN DEWSBURY, JOJO SUTHERLAND, THE NOISE NEXT DOOR & ADNAN AHMED Fri 24 May, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham
DANNY BHOY, ANDY ZALTZMAN, JOEL DOMMETT, ROB BECKETT Fri 24 May, Swan's Nest Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon
ED BYRNE, JUSTIN MOORHOUSE, SARA PASCOE, MATT FORDE, KATHERINE RYAN Fri 24 May, The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon
THE HORNE SELECTION Fri 24 May, Idolize Spiegelent, Stratford-upon-Avon
ANDY ZALTZMAN, MATT FORDE, ALEX HORNE & ROB BECKETT Fri 24

May, Stratford-upon-Avon Boat Club
JOJO SUTHERLAND & BRYAN LACEY Sat 25 May, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham
MATT FORDE'S POLITICAL PARTY Sat 25 May, Idolize Spiegelent, Stratford-upon-Avon
ANDY PARSONS Sat 25 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
AL MURRAY FOR LUNCH Sat 25 May, Idolize Spiegelent, Stratford-upon-Avon
DAVID MORGAN & RHYS MATHEWSON Sat 25 May, Artrix, Bromsgrove
MARK WATSON, ELIS JAMES, SARA PASCOE, DOC BROWN Sat 25 May, The Courtyard, Stratford-upon-Avon
JUSTIN MOORHOUSE, LLOYD LANGFORD, CARL DONNELLY, ROB ROUSE Sat 25 May, Stratford-upon-Avon Boat Club
JAMES ACASTER, CELIA PACQUOLA, JOEL DOMMETT, ROISIN CONATY Sat 25 May, Idolize Spiegelent, Stratford-upon-Avon
JOE LYCETT, JOEL DOMMETT, SARA PASCOE, ROB ROUSE Sat 25 May, Swan's Nest Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon
ELLIS JAMES, KATHERINE RYAN, DOC BROWN, CELIA PACQUOLA Sat 25 May, Idolize Spiegelent, Stratford-upon-Avon
MARK WATSON, JUSTIN MOORHOUSE, LLOYD LANGFORD, JAMES ACASTER Sat 25 May, The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon
CARL DONNELLY, ROISIN CONATY, KATHERINE RYAN, JOE LYCETT Sat 25 May, Stratford-upon-Avon Boat Club
SANDI TOKSVIG: MY VALENTINE Sun 26 May, The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon
MARK WATSON, DOC BROWN, CHARLIE BAKER, CARL DONNELLY Sun 26 May, Idolize Spiegelent, Stratford-upon-Avon
MILTON JONES, LLOYD LANGFORD, CELIA PACQUOLA, MARK OLVER

Sun 26 May, The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon
JAMES ACASTER, ELIS JAMES, JOE LYCETT, ROB ROUSE Sun 26 May, Stratford-upon-Avon Boat Club
ELIS JAMES, LLOYD LANGFORD, DOC BROWN, MARK OLVER Sun 26 May, Idolize Spiegelent, Stratford-upon-Avon
MARK WATSON, MILTON JONES, CHARLIE BAKER, ROB ROUSE Sun 26 May, The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon
CARL DONNELLY, JOE LYCETT, JAMES ACASTER, CELIA PACQUOLA Sun 26 May, Stratford-upon-Avon Boat Club
ANDY PARSONS Tue 28 May, Crewe Lyceum
REGINALD D HUNTER Wed 29 May, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham
TOM STADE Wed 29 May, Artrix, Bromsgrove
ANDY PARSONS Wed 29 May, Palace Theatre, Redditch
JONGLEURS COMEDY CLUB LIVE Thurs 30 May, Tamworth Assembly Rooms
GAVIN WEBSTER, GAR MURRAN, ROB ROUSE PLUS COMIC TBC Thurs 30 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
OMID DJALILI Thurs 30 May, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham
JULIAN CLARY: POSITION VACANT, APPLY WITHIN Fri 31 May, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton
LEE NELSON LIVE Fri 31 May, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham
GARY DELANEY Fri 31 May, The Glee Club, Birmingham
GAVIN WEBSTER, GAR MURRAN, ROB ROUSE & PAUL RICKETTS Fri 31 May - Sat 1 June, The Glee Club, Birmingham
CHRIS CAIRNS, DALISO CHAPONDA, JOHN GAVIN & PAUL MYREHAUG Fri 31 May - Sat 1 June, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

Chris Cox - Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry & Artrix, Bromsgrove





TUE 7 & WED 8 MAY
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presents
SUTRA
A Sadler's Wells
Production

119 - 125

SUN 12 MAY
SUNDAY NIGHT
AT THE
BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

Brian Conley - Joe Pasquale
Lesley Joseph - Lynda Bellingham
Paul Zerdin - Don Maclean
Malcolm Stent - Ceri Dupree
Basil Brush - Kathryn Robney

JEFFREY HOLLAND - NICOL FLACOTT
ANDREW RYAN - MAITIN RAMSDEN

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in memory of BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

125

TUE 14 - SAT 18 MAY
HIGH SOCIETY

114 - 124

TUE 21 MAY - SAT 1 JUN
hairspray

'THE MOST HAPPY,
FUNNY, SUNNY,
SHOW IN TOWN!'

OSCARA
'THE MUSICAL
WITH EVERYTHING
A TRIUMPH!'

OSCARA

119-50 - 125

TUE 4 - SAT 8 JUN
Coppélia

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET
Operas - David Boothby Ltd

125 - 147

WED 12 - SAT 15 JUN
MUSIC & LYRICS IN ASSOCIATION
WITH VENUE CYRILL LEANDRINO PRESENTS
WNO

WAGNER DREAM

Lohengrin
Richard Wagner
Wagner Dream
Jonathan Harvey
Madam Butterfly
Giacomo Puccini

119 - 124

WED 19 - SAT 22 JUN
Giselle

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET
Operas - David Boothby Ltd

125 - 147

WED 16 OCT - SAT 9 NOV
The National Theatre Production of
War Horse

Based on Michael Morpurgo's story - adapted by Nick Stafford
in association with Newbury Puppet Company

'A landmark
theatre event.'
The Telegraph

129 - 158

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AND THE
Seven Dwarfs**

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122 - 129

Disney presents
THE LION KING
THE AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL

SEASON
BEGINS
29 JUNE

125 - 160

Theatre



9 To 5: The Musical

Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 13 - Sat 18 May

"I'm so excited that 9 To 5 The Musical has come to the stage," says Dolly Parton of the new theatrical version of the hit movie and TV series from the early 1980s. "I'm hoping you have as much fun watching it as I had writing the music for it. 9 To 5 The Musical is perfect for anyone who's ever wanted to string up their boss, which is almost all of us. So come join the fun!" As with the movie and the spin-off TV series, the stage version centres around the story of three office

workers who turn the tables on their sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot of a boss. The show features eighteen original Dolly Parton numbers, including, from her last two albums, Backwoods Barbie, Shine Like The Sun, Get Out And Stay Out and Let Love Grow. Ben Richards, Jackie Clune, Natalie Casey and Amy Lennox star.

Read the interview with Natalie Casey at www.whatsonlive.co.uk



Hairspray

Birmingham Hippodrome, Tues 21 May - Sat 1 June

Set in 1962 and boasting a jukebox-worth of '60s-style dance music and 'downtown' rhythm and blues, Hairspray tells the story of a big-hearted teenager who enjoys an overnight rise to stardom when she earns the chance to appear on a local TV dance show... This touring version of the hit West End features Mark Benton of Waterloo Road fame as Edna Turnblad, former Eastenders actress Lucy Benjamin as scheming TV executive Velma Von Tussle, X Factor finalist Marcus Collins as Seaweed Stubbs and newcomer Freya Sutton as big-haired teen heroine Tracy Turnblad.

The Pitman Painters

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Tues 21 - Sat 25 May

Reflecting opinions on art, the class system and the politics of its day, The Pitman Painters is set in 1934 and focuses on a group of Ashington pit-workers who hire a professor to teach an art appreciation evening class. Before long, however, appreciating art has given way to actually producing it, and the miners' work is soon being acquired by some of the most prestigious collections around...



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**RAY
QUINN**

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Yes, Prime Minister

The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Tues 7 - Sat 11 May

Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn, the writers of the original 1970s/80s BBC TV series, are the creative force behind this stage version, which sees Prime Minister Jim Hacker, his Cabinet Secretary Sir Humphrey Appleby and Private Secretary Bernard Woolley relocated to the modern era of spin, Blackberrys and 'sexed-up' dossiers. Michael Fenton Stevens, Crispin Redman and Bernard Matus star.



Miss Julie

Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Tues 7 May

August Strindberg's 1888 play explores issues such as class, love, lust and the battle of the sexes, and is widely regarded to be the author's greatest work. It's set on Midsummer's Eve on the estate of a Count in Sweden where, during a party, the aristocratic Miss Julie finds herself drawn to the kitchen - and to her father's socially ambitious valet, Jean. But harmless flirtation soon turns into something more, and a ferocious power struggle ensues.



Death And The Maiden

Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, Sat 11 - Sat 18 May

When a man named Dr Miranda stops to assist Gerardo Escobar with his car's flat tyre, the latter's wife Paulina realises that she has encountered the physician before. Years earlier, during her time as a political prisoner in a Latin American country, the sadistic doctor and his cohorts had cruelly raped her, playing out the ordeal against the background music of Schubert's composition Death And The Maiden. When Dr Miranda turns up at Paulina's door, she realises that she's been presented with a once-in-a-life-time opportunity to extract a confession from her one-time assailant...



WIN TICKETS
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to enter

The Rise And Fall Of Little Voice

Crewe Lyceum, Mon 20 - Sat 25 May; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Tues 28 May - Sat 1 June

Featuring songs from some of the world's most iconic divas, including Marilyn Monroe, Shirley Bassey and Judy Garland, Jim Cartwright's Olivier Award-winning musical tells the story of a shy young girl with an incredible talent for vocal impersonations who suddenly finds herself catapulted into the limelight by a local talent scout. Jess Robinson, Beverley Callard, Ray Quinn and Joe McGann star. *Read the interview with Beverley Callard on page 8*

Four Farces

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sat 4 May; The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Thurs 9 May

Billed as 'a sublime evening of mayhem and merriment', this collection of one-act plays from the Victorian era features 'more than a hint of Monty Python and The Goons', and presents all manner of uproarious shenanigans involving duelling pistols, cross-dressing, thwarted lovers, double-crossing, romance and intoxication. European Arts Company is the ensemble staging this veritable feast of farce.

The Woman In Black

Malvern Theatre, Mon 13 - Sat 18 May

The Woman In Black, adapted by Stephen Mallatrat from the Susan Hill novel, is a classic ghost story first performed in 1989. It's since become one of the West End's most successful plays, and was made into a film starring Daniel Radcliffe in 2012. Solicitor Arthur Kipp believes that his family have somehow been cursed by a mysterious woman in black. In an attempt to tell his story, and to exorcise the evil curse which he's convinced hangs over him, he hires a young actor to assist him in recounting his experiences...



Titus Andronicus

The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Thurs 16 May - Sat 26 October

Shakespeare's early revenge tragedy is well known for its high level of bloodshed, so if you're of a fainthearted disposition, you'd probably be better off waiting for a nice version of A Midsummer Night's Dream to come along. A brutal ten-year war has cost Roman general Titus Andronicus his two sons. To honour their deaths, he executes the eldest child of his enemies' queen - an action which precipitates further blood-letting, as the city of Rome is engulfed by acts of violence, murder and retribution.



Samson And De Liar

The Drum, Birmingham, Sat 11 May

Samson and Ears Ring are two homeless men who're living rough on the unforgiving streets of Kingston, Jamaica. One's a jack of all trades and con artist; the other, a proud and honest man who puts his pride before his need for a square meal. When the two men are brought together by fate, their ensuing liaison changes both of their lives forever... This brand new comedy stars Tony Hendriks and Ricky Rowe.

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SAT 4 MAY

OMID DJALILI

THU 30 MAY

Midnight Tango

TUE 7 - SAT 11 MAY

LEE NELSON
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FRI 31 MAY

THE CHUCKLE BROTHERS
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SUN 12 MAY

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INFAMOUS

MON 13 - SAT 25 MAY

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GO BACK FOR MURDER
TUE 28 MAY - SAT 1 JUN



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PRISCILLA
QUEEN OF THE DESERT
MON 10 - SAT 15 JUN



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SOUL SISTER
MON 8 - SAT 13 JUL



'PURRFECT - NOT TO BE MISSED'
METRO
CATS
MON 28 OCT - SAT 2 NOV



THE INTERNATIONAL SELL-OUT HIT
WEST SIDE STORY
TUE 12 - SAT 16 NOV



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L'ELISIR D'AMORE
WED 11 - SAT 14 DEC



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www.atgtickets.com/stoke (fees apply)

The Mousetrap

The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton,
Mon 27 May - Sat 1 June

Not only has everyone heard of The Mousetrap, everyone's seen it too - haven't they? Okay, maybe not, but as the play last year celebrated its sixtieth year in the West End, it's fair to say its capacity to put bums on seats is absolutely beyond question. The world's longest running show, Agatha Christie's famous work has been performed almost twenty-five thousand times.



Vampires Rock

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Tues 21 May;
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham,
Fri 15 November

Steve Steinman's cult rock show is set in New York City in 2030, and focuses on the exceedingly evil doings of the undead creature of the night that is Baron Von Rockula, malevolent owner of the Live And Let Die club. In search of a new bride, the Baron must convince the unsuspecting Pandora, who auditions for the club's vacant singing position, to cross over to the dark side and live forever in rock'n'roll hell. How could a girl possibly refuse?...

End To End

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham,
Tues 14 May

The trials and tribulations of three women on a daring and unusual journey from one end of Great Britain to the other are recounted in this brand new show from The Gramophones. The women undertook the journey in April 2012, travelling eight hundred-and-seventy-four miles from Land's End to John O'Groats via as many forms of transport as possible. Their appearance here in the Midlands comes as part of a second such road trip across the country, this time for the purpose of touring their highly praised show.



The Rocky Horror Show

Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 20 - Sat 25 May

Hook up your fishnets, tighten your corsets and prepare to Do The Time Warp Again - The Rocky Horror Show's returning to the Midlands! Premiering in 1973 at the Royal Court, Richard O'Brien's cult production tells the tale of the straight-laced Brad and the deliciously corruptible Janet, who arrive at the castle of the alien transvestite Frank N Furter and witness the birth of the monster, Rocky. In the meantime they take the audience through a selection of love-them-or-loathe-them musical numbers, including Sweet Transvestite, Damn It Janet and The Time Warp. Great fun's a guarantee - particularly if you get in the spirit of things and attend the show dressed in your very best stockings and suspenders (as many patrons do!)! This fortieth anniversary production features West End favourite Oliver Thornton as Frank N Furter, Dani Harmer as Janet and Sam Attwater as Brad.

Dr Frankenstein's Travelling Freak Show

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Thurs 2 May;
Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham, Wed
22 - Thurs 23 May

Given its somewhat intriguing title, it comes as no surprise to find that this refreshingly imaginative production features an alluring blend of the bizarre, the grotesque and the downright comical. The show's publicity offers audiences the chance to 'take their seat and observe, as a lobster mindreader, a bearded lady and a chimpanzee retell Mary Shelly's Frankenstein through the debauched and twisted eyes of one cynical raconteur'. Enough said, we reckon...

We Need Bees

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Tues 28 May;
The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 1 June

Lovable, spirited characters and a beautiful original score lie at the heart of this well-imagined offering from children's theatre company Theatr na n'Og. The story focuses on the adventures of the daydreaming Bertie Bee, who pollinates boring old apples but would like nothing better than to pollinate lovely wild flowers out in the countryside. Little wonder, then, that one day he decides to follow his dream. Problem is, Bertie's desperate attempts to live the life that he yearns for comes at a terrible cost to both his hive and his best friend. Fingers crossed, then, that the little bee has got what it takes to save the day!

Breaking The Floorboards

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry,
Tues 21 - Sat 25 May

With no jobs to be had and the chicken shops taking over his home town, is it any wonder that a young man's fancy turns to... dancing! Presented by the producers of the 2011 musical Britain's Got Bangra, Bollywood and Street dance drama Breaking The Floorboards follows Zain's desperate attempts to make his dreams come true - despite the less-than-helpful attentions of his family and a group of local fascists. Oh, and he's not greatly assisted by the fact that he's got two left feet either!

Educating Rita

Lichfield Garrick, Fri 31 May - Sat 22 June

A modern comedy classic, Willy Russell's Educating Rita has been a regular choice with theatre companies ever since it was first produced by the RSC. Voted Best Comedy of 1980, the story of a working-class Liverpool woman's hunger for education, and her relationship with her unhappy, dipsomaniac professor, is best known from its 1983 film adaptation starring Michael Caine and Julie Walters. A typical Russell comedy, it manages to be both thought-provoking and funny. Tupele Dorgu and Tom Roberts star. *Read the interview with Tupele at www.whatsonlive.co.uk*



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MAY

Fri 3rd May, 7.30pm

GAGA

a host of massive Queen songs played like they were meant to be.



Sat 11th May, 7.30pm

AN EVENING WITH STARS FROM STRICTLY COME DANCING

STARRING PASHA KOVALEV & K
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Sat 25th May, 8.00pm

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JUNE

Wed 5th June, 7.30pm

TONY STOCKWELL PSYCHIC MEDIUM



Fri 7th June, 7.30pm

C'MON EVERYBODY

Voted No.1 Rock 'N' Roll Show.
All the greatest musical stars of the 50's and 60's come amazingly alive in this spectacular show.



Sat 8th June, 7.30pm

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The ultimate celebration of the sweet sound of Motown is back by popular demand!



Sat 15th June, 7.30pm

LET'S HANG ON

Let's Hang On takes you on a musical journey through the prolific career of one of the most successful bands of all time "Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons".



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GIMME! GIMME! GIMME! NIGHT FEVER

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JULY

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May 25 **Alan Barnes & his Liquorice Allsorts** Jazz maestro & talented friends. £10

May 29 **My Brother the Robot** Half term fun, Two great live family shows. 4+ £6

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Jun 7 **Pre Edinburgh Festival Comedy show** feat. Tom Rosenthal & Pat Cahill. 16+ £10

Jun 14 **Dennis Locorriere** Voice of Dr Hook. £20

Jun 21 **Pre Edinburgh Festival Comedy show** feat. Dave Morgan & Joe Lycett. 16+ £10

Jun 28 **Pre Edinburgh Festival Comedy show** Dog Eared Collective & Paul Sweeney. 16+ £10

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Company 1

Theatre LISTINGS

For full listing information on theatre productions including times and dates visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

From
WED 1 MAY

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's much-acclaimed musical. Casting includes Earl Carpenter as Phantom and Katie Hall as Christine, until Sat 4 May, Birmingham Hippodrome

SONS WITHOUT FATHERS The Belgrade Theatre, Arcola Theatre & KP Productions present a new version of Platonov - Anton Chekhov's rarely performed first play, until Sat 4 May, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

THE EMPRESS Emma Rice, Artistic Director of Kneehigh Theatre, directs Tanika Gupta's new play, until Sat 4 May, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

THE HERBAL BED James Freeman directs Peter Whelan's period drama, until Sat 4 May, Stoke Repertory Theatre

SWEENEY TODD Amateur production performed by Solihull On Stage, until Sat 4 May, Solihull Arts Complex

SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME Brand new rock'n'roll musical that sees Dreamboats & Petticoats meet Dirty Dancing, until Sat 4 May, Malvern Theatres

THE BLUES BROTHERS... APPROVED The boys are joined on their mission to bring soul and blues back into your heart by the fabulous Blueettes - three sassy ladies with attitude and voices to knock you off your perch... until Sat 4 May, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's musical, set in his native Liverpool, which features Maureen Nolan as Mrs Johnstone, until Sat 4 May, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS Stage play adapted from the novel by Jules Verne, until Sat 11 May, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

HAMLET David Farr directs Jonathan Slinger in Shakespeare's tragedy of justice and revenge, until Sat 28 September, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

AS YOU LIKE IT Maria Aberg directs following her riotous production of King John in the

Swan Theatre as part of the World Shakespeare Festival, until Sat 28 September, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

NEW JERSEY NIGHTS A musical journey celebrating the greatest hits of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, Wed 1 May, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

LOSING THE PLOT New comedy written & directed by John Godber, Wed 1 May, Crewe Lyceum

ME AND ME DAD Reform Theatre Company present a bittersweet comedy about a dysfunctional father/son relationship, Wed 1 May, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

RENT 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT Thurs 2 May, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

DR FRANKENSTEIN'S TRAVELLING FREAK SHOW Tin Shed Theatre present a darkly comical and sickly twisted show which delicately

treads the line between hilarity and morality, Thurs 2 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

ARE YOU BEING SERVED? Amateur stage adaptation of the popular TV show by Jeremy Lloyd & David Croft, Thurs 2 - Sat 4 May, The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich

KISS ME KATE Amateur production from Mad Cow Productions, Thurs 2 - Sat 4 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

STILL LIFE Award-winning play which centres on Henrietta Moraes - the hedonistic model and muse to Francis Bacon and Lucian Freud, Fri 3 - Sat 4 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

TRILOGY Mary Rochford & Co present a triple-bill of works including *The Dancer Is The Dance*, *Breaking Free & All's Fair*, Fri 3 - Sat 4 May, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

SWINGING AT THE COTTON CLUB Action-packed show celebrating the music, dance and songs of the Cotton Club - New York City's famous nightclub of the 1920s and '30s, Fri 3 May, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

DAN CRUICKSHANK An evening with the TV presenter, author and architectural historian, Fri 3 May, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

AN EVENING OF THE WIT AND SONGS OF NOEL

COWARD Pianist and entertainer Peter Gill presents a tribute to the wit and songwriting skill of that most English of Englishmen, Noel Coward, Fri 3 May, Palace Theatre, Redditch

VINTAGE HITCHCOCK: A LIVE RADIO PLAY Majikal Theatre present Joe Landry's thrilling drama which brings all of the suspense of Hitchcock's early works to life, Fri 3 - Sat 4 May, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

MURDER WITHOUT A CLUE'DO Join a cast of classic characters in the Lyceum Restaurant for a traditional English 1930s comic murder-mystery, Sat 4 May, Crewe Lyceum

THE REDEEMED Consummate stage show featuring live music, dance and movement, Sat 4 May, The Drum, Birmingham

GODD MORNING MR PUNCH An amateur production presented by STAC, Sat 4 May, The Swan Theatre, Worcester

FOUR FARCES Duelling pistols and thwarted lovers feature in European Arts Company's evening of four one-act plays, Sat 4 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

MADE IN BRUM Star comedian and local legend Jasper Carrott comes together with his best mate Bev Bevan in a brand new one-night concert show, Sun 5 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

YES, PRIME MINISTER UK tour direct from London's West End, Tue 7 - Sat 11 May, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's musical set in his native Liverpool, Tue 7 - Sat 11 May, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

MR PUNCH Adult production presented by Worcester Repertory Company, Tue 7 - Sat 11 May, The Swan Theatre, Worcester

GEORGE ORWELL'S 1984 Sell A Door Theatre Company present an adaptation of George Orwell's classic dystopian novel, Wed 8 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

MEMORY LANE Timeless Theatre Company present a colourful roller-coaster ride of nostalgia... Wed 8 May, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

COSI FAN TUTE Presented by English Touring Opera, Tues 7 May - Thu 9 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

HIAWATHA Michael Bogdanov's stage adaptation of Longfellow's classic poem sees a cast of forty actors use physical theatre and the authentic chants of the Native American Indian tradition to retell the story of their hero Hiawatha, Wed 8 - Fri 10 May, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

THE OFFICE Stage premiere of the popular TV show, Wed 8 May - Sat 11 May, Netherton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

THE WIZARD OF OZ Amateur production presented by Newbridge Preparatory School, Thurs 9 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

MADE IN BRUM Comedy legend Jasper Carrott comes together with his best mate Bev Bevan in a brand new one-night concert show, Thurs 9 May, Lichfield Garrick

TEACHERS Blackeyed Theatre Company present John Godber's classic classroom comedy, Thurs 9 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa



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YOUTH THEATRE VARIETY SHOW The Norbury Youth Theatre present a home-crafted variety show inspired by the Golden Jubilee of The Norbury Theatre, Thurs 9 - Sat 11 May, The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich

TONS OF MONEY! Presented by The Ullenhall Players and directed by Arthur Kohn, Thurs 9 - Sat 11 May, Palace Theatre, Redditch

SIMON BOCCANEGRA English Touring Opera present a new addition to their acclaimed repertoire. Sung in Italian with English surtitles, Fri 10 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

BANGIN' THE DRUM Comedy show featuring local rising stars Rem Conway, Tynie Superstar and Richi Fingerz, Fri 10 May, The Drum, Birmingham

INDIAN TAKEAWAY WITH HARDEEP SINGH KOHLI Broadcaster, writer and Celebrity Masterchef finalist Hardeep Singh Kohli is on a mission to find the best Indian takeaway... Fri 10 May, The Swan Theatre, Worcester

TOM CREAM - ANTARCTIC EXPLORER Written and performed by Aidan Dooley, Fri 10 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

A FLY IN THE OINTMENT The Limelight Players present Derek Benfield's farce concerning Government ministers, ex mistresses, virtuous wives, a devious pizza delivery boy and frustra-

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CREWE LYCEUM THEATRE

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SUN 5 MAY, 7.30PM

DR FEELGOOD

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THURS 9 MAY, 7.30PM

REFLECTIONS OF A ROCK 'N' ROLL TOUR

Tickets £16.50



SUN 12 MAY, 7.30PM

MARTY WILDE & THE WILDCATS

Tickets £20.00



MON 13 MAY, 7.30PM

CHINESE STATE CIRCUS

Tickets £20.00 - £23.00 / concs
Family Tickets Available



THU 16 MAY, 7.30PM

STARS FROM STRICTLY COME DANCING

Tickets £23.00



FRI 17 MAY, 7.30PM

HORMONAL HOUSEWIVES

Tickets £21.00



SAT 18 MAY, 7.30PM

THINK FLOYD

Tickets £20.00



MON 20 - SAT 25 MAY, 7.30PM
WED & SAT MAT 2.30PM

THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE

Tickets £12.00 - £27.00



SUN 26 MAY, 1.30PM

SID'S SHOW

Tickets £10.00 / Under 16's £8.00



TUE 28 MAY, 8PM

ANDY PARSONS

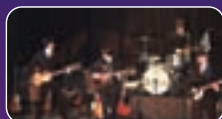
Tickets £16.00



THU 30 MAY, 7.30PM

THE UPBEAT BEATLES

Tickets £17.50 / £15.00 concs



FRI 31 MAY, 1.30PM

SING-A-LONG-A-GREASE

Tickets £15.00



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{ABRIDGED} {REVISED}



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ROBIN INCE

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& SCIENCE ENTHUSIAST



Friday 24th May
TIMOTHY WEST &
THE PAVAO QUARTET
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CELEBRATING COMPOSER
JANACEK



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Rebellion (15) // Repulsion (15) // A Late Quartet (15)
The Croods (U) // I'm So Excited (U)



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Theatre LISTINGS

For full listing information on theatre productions, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

trated policewoman, Fri 10 May - Sat 11 May, Dovehouse Theatre, Solihull

THE OLD WOMAN, THE BUFFALO AND THE LION OF MANDING Adverse Camber present an inspiring tale which reaches across the centuries, Sat 11 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

A NIGHT IN THE WEST END Presented by the Curtain Call Productions, Sat 11 May, Crewe Lyceum

THE KNITTING CIRCLE Vital Xposure present a chilling glimpse into the secret world of asylums which closed in the 1980s, Sat 11 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

BANE PART 3 A one-man show supported by a live guitar soundtrack and heavily inspired by film and graphic novels, Sat 11 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

SAMSON & DE LIAR New comedy set in Jamaica and starring Tony Hendriks and Ricky Rowe, Sat 11 May, The Drum, Birmingham

VARIETY SHOW IN AID OF MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT Sat 11 May, The Swan Theatre, Worcester

BEN & HOLLY'S LITTLE KINGDOM Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, Malvern Theatres

CURTAIN UP ON MURDER Bettine Manktellow's thriller concerning the amateur dramatic society of a small seaside town, Sat 11 - Sat 18 May, Oldbury Rep - Barlow Theatre

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN The Crescent Theatre Company present Ariel Dorfman's acclaimed drama which centres on a political activist convinced her guest is a man who once tortured her for the government, Sat 11 - Sat 18 May, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

THE CHUCKLE BROTHERS MEET THE PHANTOM SONGS, slapstick, magic, puppets and fun for all the family feature in this latest offering from the popular TV and stage duo, Sun 12 May, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

Week Commencing MON 13 MAY

TEECHERS Blackeyed Theatre Company present John Godber's classic classroom comedy, Mon 13 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

THE CHINESE STATE CIRCUS Featuring an action-packed programme of contortion, acrobatics and juggling, Mon 13 May, Crewe Lyceum

AN AUDIENCE WITH SALLY MORGAN 'PSYCHIC TO THE

STARS' Mon 13 May, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

9 TO 5: THE MUSICAL Musical comedy based on the multi-award-winning movie starring Dolly Parton, Mon 13 - Sat 18 May, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

THE WOMAN IN BLACK Stage adaptation of Susan Hill's bestselling thriller, Mon 13 - Sat 18 May, Malvern Theatres

DERREN BROWN The acknowledged master of psychological illusion returns to the Midlands fresh from the hugely successful two-year run of his 2012 Olivier Award-winning show, Derren Brown: Svengali, Mon 13 May - Sat 25 May, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

THE DREAMBOYS: FIT AND FAMOUS TOUR Action-packed night out featuring music, muscle, magic and mayhem... Tue 14 May, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

END TO END The heart-warming story of three women's journey from Land's End to John O'Groats, Tues 14 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

DORA THE EXPLORER LIVE Musical adventure which sees children's favourite Dora embark on a mission to retrieve her lost teddy bear Osito from the City of Lost Toys, Tue 14 - Thurs 16 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

HIGH SOCIETY A new production of Cole Porter's timeless classic, Tue 14 - Sat 18 May, Birmingham Hippodrome

CALAMITY JANE Solihull Theatre Company present their version of the much-loved Wild West musical, Tue 14 - Sat 18 May, Solihull Arts Complex

PROOF The Stafford Players present an amateur production of David Auburn's multi-award-winning play which explores themes of mental health, gender bias and the bond between a father and daughter, Tue 14 - Sat 18 May, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

FUNNY MONEY Amateur production of Ray Cooney's farce, Tue 14 - Sat 18 May, The Swan Theatre, Worcester

OLIVER! Presented by Brownhills Musical Theatre Company, Tue 14 - Sat 18 May, Lichfield Garrick

STORYTELLING CAFE Featuring Mr Sandmann: Bringer of Dreams and Nightmares - Ben Haggerty, Wed 15 May, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

MADE IN BRUM Star comedian and local legend

Jasper Carrott comes together with his best mate Bev Bevan in a brand new one-night concert show, Wed 15 May, Palace Theatre, Redditch

THE MUSIC MAN CWAAGMS present the musical tale of Harold Hill - a travelling salesman, con artist and heartbreaker, Wed 15 May - Sat 18 May, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

MISS SAIGON Amateur production presented by Birmingham Youth Theatre, Wed 15 - Sat 18 May, Old Rep, Birmingham

THIS HOUSE National Theatre Live broadcast of James Graham's critically-acclaimed new play, Thurs 16 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry; Artrix, Bromsgrove; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury & Malvern Theatre

EVENING OF MEDIUMSHIP WITH ANDREW DEE Thurs 16 May, Lichfield Garrick

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) The Reduced Shakespeare Company present a fast-paced romp through the best of The Bard's works, Thurs 16 May, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

THE SNOW QUEEN Presented by Junior School Boys, Thurs 16 - Fri 17 May, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

WE ARE THREE SISTERS Blake Morrison's period tale which sees Chekhov's Three Sisters transposed to the moorland home of the Bronte's, Thurs 16 - Sat 18 May, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

TITUS ANDRONICUS Michael Fentiman makes his RSC debut directing Shakespeare's early revenge tragedy, Thurs 16 May - Sat 26 October, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

BLONDE BOMBSHELLS OF 1943 Alan Plater's stage version of his BAFTA-winning film, Thurs 16 May - Sat 8 Jun, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

THAT'LL BE THE DAY Rock-'n'-Roll spectacular combining music from the '50s, '60s & '70s with wacky comedy routines, Fri 17 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE Tread The Boards Theatre Company present an abridged version of the Bard's plays in just ninety minutes, Fri 17 May, Artrix, Bromsgrove

SHAOLIN WARRIORS Fri 17 May, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

PLATERO: TRAVELS WITH A DONKEY Spend a year in the sunshine of Southern Spain with a poet and his constant companion, a little silver donkey called Platero, Fri 17 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

HORMONAL HOUSEWIVES

Lighthearted entertainment that addresses the challenges of being a twenty-first century girl. Toyah Willcox stars... Fri 17 May, Crewe Lyceum

SOMETHING FISHY A comical performance which should strike a chord with anyone in touch with teenagers. A charity performance in aid of Chernobyl Children's Project Solihull, Fri 17 May, Solihull Arts Complex

WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF? Edward Albee's acclaimed drama, Fri 17 - Sat 25 May, Hall Green Little Theatre, Birmingham

THAT'LL BE THE DAY Rock-'n'-Roll spectacular combining music from the '50s, '60s & '70s with wacky comedy routines, Sat 18 May, Birmingham Town Hall

UNCLE BEN GRAFT Entertainment return with a farcical drama which centres around a family get-together hosted by Uncle Ben, Sat 18 May, The Drum, Birmingham

SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH OVER ME Nomads Theatre Company present Frank McGuinness' gripping contemporary drama, Sat 18 May, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs

MADE IN BRUM Star comedian and local legend Jasper Carrott comes together with his best mate Bev Bevan in a brand new one-night concert show, Sat 18 May, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

JOHN CHALLIS: AN EVENING WITH BOYCIE An intimate evening with John Challis, best known for his role as Boycie in BBC One's Only Fools And Horses, Sat 18 May, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

FINDING JOY A comic, anarchic, touching and heroic full mask adventure from Worcester-based theatre company Vamos, Sat 18 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

DAZZLE Amateur production presented by Central Youth Theatre, Sat 18 May, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

Week Commencing MON 20 MAY

SHAOLIN WARRIORS Mon 20 May, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

DRACULA The Nonentities present their adaptation of this classic horror story, Mon 20 May - Sat 25 May, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW Fortieth anniversary production of Richard O'Brien's cult musical extravaganza, Mon 20 May - Sat 25 May, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE Olivier Award-winning comedy written and directed by Jim Cartwright. Beverley

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

DAN CRUICKSHANK
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

Fri 3 May

TV presenter, author and architectural historian Dan Cruickshank is more than a seasoned traveller. He has explored places that most of us can only dream of. Dan's travels explored the origins, constructions and mysteries of some of the most extraordinary monuments known to man and their connections to the great civilisations of the world.

7.30pm, £16 / £14.50 concs

MARTIN CARTHY
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

Thurs 16 May

For more than 40 years Martin Carthy has been one of folk music's greatest innovators. Awarded Folk Singer of the Year in 2005 by the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, his skill, stage presence and natural charm have won him many admirers, not only from the folk scene but far beyond it.

8pm, £15, £13 concs

VOICE OF THE HEART: KAREN CARPENTER
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

Sat 18 May

This stunning two hour show will recreate and celebrate the music of The Carpenters. The evening is guaranteed to lead Carpenters fans everywhere through a magical memory. With superb vocals from Carol Gordon and outstanding talent from the brilliant Blue Jeans Band and Singers it will be a sparkling night to remember.

8pm, £19, £18 concs

JACKIE OATES
THE MET STUDIO

Sat 25 May

Jackie Oates is a phenomenon in the exploding folk-pop scene in the UK today. She has carved out an astonishing career which has made her a name to conjure with in folk music circles, in demand for work with other artists, collaborative projects and even the subject of pop-art.

8pm & 8pm, £15 / £13 concs

WE NEED BEES
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

Tues 28 May

This wonderfully imagined story is presented by Theatre na nOg and is suitable for ages 3+. Bertie Bee dreams of pollinating the wild flowers in the countryside and one day flies away from his hive only to put the whole hive and his best friend in danger! Can Bertie make things right and save his colony? This story is full of lovable, spirited characters with a beautiful original score.

2.30pm & 8pm, £7.50 / £6 concs / £24 Family

BUDDY HOLLY: A LEGEND REBORN
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

Fri 31 May

The UK's number one Buddy, Marc Robinson, revives classic hits like Peggy Sue, That'll Be The Day and Oh Boy. Backed by a band reminiscent of the Crickets in their Fifties heyday, this show is an authentic slice of rock 'n' roll nostalgia.

8pm, £18.50 / £17.50 concs

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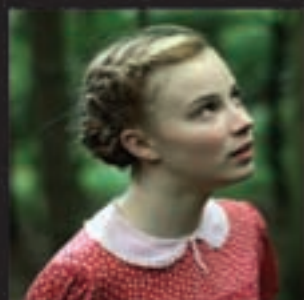
What's On In May



Showborough
Open from Thurs 2 May



Four Farces
Thurs 9 May 7.30pm



Lore (15)
Mon 13 & Tues 14 May



Spiers And Boden
Fri 17 May 7.30pm



Moonfleet
Wed 22 May 7.30pm



**Ballet Cymru:
Romeo & Juliet**
Fri 24 May 7.30pm



A Late Quartet (15)
Wed 29 & Thurs 30 May



**The Super Sonic
70s Show**
Fri 31 May 7.30pm



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Theatre LISTINGS

For full listing information on theatre productions, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

Callard, Ray Quinn, Joe McGann and Jess Robinson star, Mon 20 May - Sat 25 May, Crewe Lyceum
THE ADVENTURES OF SANCHO PANZA Hijinx Theatre present a contemporary adaptation of Cervantes' classic tale Don Quixote, retold through the eyes of Quixote's companion Sancho Panza, Tue 21 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton
VAMPIRES ROCK Musical comedy, Tue 21 May, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry
BREAK THE FLOORBOARDS Brand new Bollywood & Street drama from the producers behind the acclaimed 2011 musical Britain's Got Bhanga, Tue 21 - Sat 25 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
THE PITMAN PAINTERS Bill Kenwright presents Lee Hall's critically acclaimed play that centres on art, class and politics, Tue 21 - Sat 25 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
MY BOY JACK Presented

by the Lichfield Players, Tue 21 - Sat 25 May, Lichfield Garrick
HAIRSPRAY Return of the ultimate feelgood musical comedy. Mark Benton (Waterloo Rd, Early Doors), Marcus Collins and Lucy Benjamin star, Tue 21 May - Sat 1 June, Birmingham Hippodrome
THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) The Reduced Shakespeare Company present a fast-paced romp through the best of The Bard's works, Wed 22 May, Solihull Arts Complex
MOONFLEET A new literary adaptation of high adventure and drama from Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, Wed 22 May, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
HORMONAL HOUSEWIVES Lighthearted entertainment that addresses the challenges of being a twenty-first century girl. Toyah Willcox stars... Wed 22 May, The Place, Oakengates Theatre

BEN & HOLLY'S LITTLE KINGDOM Wed 22 - Thurs 23 May, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton
DR FRANKENSTEIN'S TRAVELLING FREAK SHOW Tin Shed Theatre present a darkly comical and sickly twisted show which delicately treads a fine line between hilarity and morality, Wed 22 May - Thu 23 May, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham
EXTRAORDINARY David Toole and Lucy Hind embark on a journey of self-discovery in what's described as a 'funny, moving and poignant' production, Thurs 23 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton
THAT IS ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW Idle Motion fuses personal testimony, inventive staging and multimedia projection to explore the lives and stories surrounding the secretive worlds of the cold huts of 'Station X' at Bletchley Park, Thurs 23 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
THE GOOD ENOUGH MUMS CLUB A poignant and humorous toddle through the highs, lows and sleep deprivation of mummyhood, Thurs 23 - Fri 24 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

SEASONS OF LOVE Presented by Redditch Operatic Society, Thurs 23 - Sat 25 May, Palace Theatre, Redditch
AN INSPECTOR CALLS Amateur production of JB Priestley's classic drama, presented by Shropshire Drama Company, Thurs 23 - Sat 25 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
AN AUDIENCE WITH SALLY MORGAN 'PSYCHIC TO THE STARS' Fri 24 May Civic Hall, Wolverhampton
AN EVENING OF BURLESQUE Britain's biggest burlesque spectacular returns with a brand new show for 2013. Fri 24 May, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton
TEECHERS Blackeyed Theatre Company present John Godber's classic classroom comedy, Fri 24 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton
THE INFERNO KID A dark new comedy written by and starring Alex Brockie, Fri 24 May, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham
MADE IN BRUM Star comedian and local legend Jasper Carrott comes together with his best mate Bev Bevan in a brand new one-night concert

show, Fri 24 May, Bedworth Civic Hall
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Amateur production presented by Swan Youth Theatre, Fri 24 - Sat 25 May, The Swan Theatre, Worcester
QUADROPHENIA New adaptation of the iconic film, brought to the stage by The Who's Pete Townshend, Fri 24 - Sat 25 May, Tamworth Assembly Rooms
TOTAL FOOTBALL Ridiculusmus present David Woods and Jon Hayes' exploration of our cultural identity, as told through the lens of our most popular sport, Fri 24 - Sat 25 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
JOHN CHALLIS: AN EVENING WITH BOYCIE Enjoy an intimate evening with John Challis, best known for his role as Boycie in BBC One's Only Fools And Horses, Sat 25 May, Ludlow Assembly Rooms
MADE IN BRUM Star comedian and local legend Jasper Carrott comes together with his best mate Bev Bevan in a brand new one-night concert show, Sat 25 May, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton
HORMONAL HOUSEWIVES

Lighthearted entertainment that addresses the challenges of being a twenty-first century girl. Toyah Willcox stars... Sat 25 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
CARAVANIA The Bone Ensemble present what's described as 'a unique and participatory experience for family audiences', Sat 25 - Sun 26 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM Stephen Sondheim's musical which tells the tale of Pseudolus - the laziest slave in Rome - and his attempt to win freedom by helping his master woo the girl next door, Sat 25 May - Sat 1 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham
SID'S SHOW Join Sid from Cbeebies live on stage in a fun-filled adventure that promises to 'knock your socks off!', Sun 26 May, Crewe Lyceum
THE SECRET LIFE OF SISSY TANGCOCK Terri Salmon, Allison Mason and Wayne 'Dibbi' Rollins star in the true story of a black woman's courage in the face of relentless adversity, Sun 26 May, The Drum, Birmingham

Coming up this May at Arena Theatre

Wednesday 8 May, 7.30pm

SELL A DOOR THEATRE PRESENTS

1984

BY GEORGE ORWELL

An adaptation of George Orwell's classic dystopian novel. Will Winston Smith renounce everything, accept the Party's reality and learn to love Big Brother?



Tickets: £9 full price and £7 concs.

Friday 17 May, 8pm

MIKE MARAN PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Platero

Travels with a Donkey



Based on the stories of Spain's best loved writer, Juan Ramon Jimenez, Platero - Travels with a Donkey paints an affectionate picture of a gentle town in rural Spain at the start of the twentieth century.

Tickets: £9 full price and £7 concs.

Thursday 23 May, 7.30pm

EXTRAORDINARY

DAVID TOOLE & LUCY HIND



David Toole, fresh from his starring role in the London 2012 Paralympic Opening Ceremony and acclaimed for his work as an actor and dancer on stage and screen, partners his biggest fan in an extraordinary dance duet.

Tickets: £9 full price and £7 concs.

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SATURDAY 18 MAY



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SUNDAY 19 MAY

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What's on...



Fri 10th May
THE ULTIMATE EAGLES

7.30pm. Tickets: £18.50, £17.50 concs



Fri 17th May
**ANDY PARSONS:
I'VE GOT A SHED**

8pm. Tickets: £15



Wed 29th - Fri 31st May
TADLOP PRESENTS
THE SECRET GARDEN

Eves 7.30pm, Fri Mat 2.30pm
Tickets: Stalls £12, Tier £14



Sat 1st June
SWINGING AT THE COTTON CLUB

7.30pm. Tickets: £18, £16 concs



Thurs 6th June
THE MUSIC OF THE HOLLIES

7.30pm. Tickets: £15 / £13 concs



Fri 14th June
THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE

7.30pm. Tickets: £16.50 / £15.50 concs



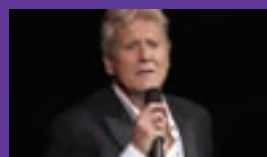
Sun 16th June
CHRIS & PUI ROADSHOW

11am & 2pm. Tickets: £12 / £10 Child



Fri 21st June
ROY ORBISON AND FRIENDS

7.30pm. Tickets: £17



Thurs 27th June
AN INTIMATE EVENING WITH JOE LONGTHORNE

7.30pm. Tickets: £19.50, £18 concs

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Theatre LISTINGS

For full listing information on theatre productions, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

**Week Commencing
MON 27 MAY**

THE MOUSETRAP Touring production of Agatha Christie's famous thriller - the longest running show in the history of British theatre, Mon 27 May - Sat 1 June, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton
WE NEED BEES Theatre na n 'Og' bring an imaginative children's tale to life, Tue 28 May, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
THE WAVING CAT OF JAPAN The Crazy Kat Theatre Company present a Bunraku puppet-style theatrical fantasy for children which incorporates traditional Japanese images, Tue 28 May, The Hive, Shrewsbury
STAR Children's theatre concerning a green-fingered gardener and a tidy tailor, Tues 28 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

FLOWN New international circus with a twist - fusing comedy and chaos with bold physicality and eclectic live music, Tues 28 - Thurs 30 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
GO BACK FOR MURDER The official Agatha Christie Theatre Company present a new adaptation of a classic whodunnit, Tue 28 May - Sat 1 June, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent
THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE Olivier Award-winning comedy written and directed by Jim Cartwright. Beverley Callard, Ray Quinn, Joe McGann and Jess Robinson star, Tue 28 May - Sat 1 June, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry
MY BROTHER THE ROBOT Tall Stories combine humour, music and storytelling in two performances for children aged four-plus, Wed 29 May, Solihull Arts Complex
LA BOHEME OperaUp-Close present their Olivier Award-winning production of Puccini's

masterpiece, Wed 29 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
IN A DEEP DARK WOOD Gobbledegook present a fun interactive show for children about a little girl who bravely ventures into a dark and mysterious wood, Wed 29 - Thurs 30 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton
SPOT THE DOG Children's show consisting of music, songs, games and stories, Wed 29 - Thurs 30 May, Birmingham Town Hall
THE SECRET GARDEN Presented by Tadlop, Wed 29 May - Fri 31 May, The Place, Oaken-gates Theatre, Telford
BRUCE FORSYTH An evening of comedy and music accompanied by a host of talented musicians, Thurs 30 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham
THE GIRL WITH THE IRON CLAWS The Wrong Crowd present a dark fairytale about a wayward girl who dares to follow her longing, Thurs 30 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
FOGHORN IMPROV: WE'LL MEET AGAIN Monthly event which sees the Old Joint Stock's resident improv group tackle a new theme..., Thurs 30 May, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

ham
THE ELEPHANT BRIDESMAID Children's musical about weddings, wombats and the loveliest elephant the world has ever known... Thurs 30 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
MISS SAIGON Amateur production presented by The Viv Kelly Youth Theatre, Thurs 30 May - Sat 1 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
UNCLE BEN: THE WEDDING GRAFT Entertainment present Rem Conway's Jamaican comedy, Thurs 30 May - Sat 1 June, The Drum, Birmingham
WAVING CAT OF JAPAN The Crazy Kat Theatre Company present a Bunraku puppet-style theatrical fantasy for children which incorporates traditional Japanese images, Fri 31 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton
PURCELL'S KING ARTHUR Celebrating the triumph of good over evil in Arthur's enchanted island realm, Merlin the magician tells a gripping tale of love, battles and betrayal, Fri 31 May, Birmingham Town Hall
SING-A-LONG-A GREASE A brand new singalong version of the classic film starring Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta, Fri 31 May, Crewe



Star - Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

Lyceum
AN EVENING OF BURLESQUE Britain's biggest burlesque spectacular returns with a brand new show for 2013. Fri 31 May Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa
PUPPETRY OF THE PENIS Non-sexual show that features full-frontal male nudity. Suitable for adults only., Fri 31 May, Lichfield Garrick
WELCOME TO THE WEST

END Amateur production of drama and dance by Stage 2 Performing Arts Academy, Fri 31 May - Sun 2 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
EDUCATING RITA Tupele Dorgu and Tom Roberts star in a new version of Willy Russell's award-winning play, Fri 31 May - Thurs 6 June, Lichfield Garrick

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Theatre REVIEWS

Here are a few of our favourite theatre productions we reviewed from last month. For further theatre reviews, visit, www.whatsonlive.co.uk

Driving Miss Daisy

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,

This heartwarming play by Alfred Uhry has won many friends during its UK tour. Although it's set in Atlanta, Georgia, when civil rights and prejudice were major talking points, the story is not a lesson in racial equality, even though the central figures are a white Jewish widow and her poor African American chauffeur.

Running for ninety minutes and presented without interval, the story tells of the relationship between the wealthy seventy-two-year-old Daisy Werthan and the veteran driver Hoke Coleburn, who's charged with the task of chauffeuring her when her son decides she's become a liability behind the wheel. Gwen Taylor is a delight as the prickly Miss Daisy. Although not prejudiced, she nonetheless gives Hoke a hard time at first. Later, as their relationship develops across more than twenty years, there's a touching scene in which she pats him gently on the hand and admits that he's become her best friend. A superb performance, too, comes from Don Warrington (Philip Smith in *Rising Damp*), who's splendidly convincing in the role of the kindly Hoke, ably fighting his own corner in his relationship with the irascible Miss Daisy.

The set is simple but effective, with the car represented by a wooden bench on a revolving section of the stage. There's a single chair for the driver, and a steering wheel and column, with moving film of the areas the couple drive through being projected at the rear. *Paul Marston* ■■■■■



The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time

Apollo Theatre, London

This dramatisation of Mark Haddon's award-winning novel is sensational. It tells the story of fifteen-year-old Christopher, who has a talent for mathematics and, in his own words, "behavioural difficulties". At the start he decides to find out who's killed the neighbour's dog. But this is no murder-mystery. Instead, Christopher's detective work reveals the devastating lies surrounding the break-up of his parents' marriage. On stage pretty much throughout, Luke Treadaway gives a breathtaking performance as Christopher, supported by a strong ensemble cast. The other key to the production's success is its highly theatrical and physical staging. Played out on a set that resembles big pieces of graph paper, loud noises and high-tech projections often bombard the audience. This gives us a real sense of what life is like for someone like Christopher, who experiences the world in a very different way to most people. *Curious Incident* is another hit from the National Theatre and director Marianne Elliott, who gave us the equally impressive *War Horse*. Don't miss it.

Jack Rolfe ■■■■■



Hamlet

Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

David Farr's *Hamlet*, starring Jonathan Slinger as a vigorous Prince of Denmark, is a polished version of a masterpiece. The play is located in a village hall used for fencing, in what could well be the early 1960s. Fencing masks are used to good effect, particularly by the ghost of Hamlet's father, played in this production by Greg Hicks, who also performs the role of Claudius.

There are, however, certain concerns about this interpretation. The performance uses the whole of Shakespeare's script. This should be a good thing, but there are times when the drive of the narrative is slightly lost. Almost four hours of storytelling needs a strong momentum. At the beginning of the play, there has to be conviction that Hamlet and Ophelia are in love, in order that the rest of the plot can achieve the necessary impact. Also, for her betrayal to feel complete, we need to know that Gertrude has a strong sexual bond with Claudius. In this particular production, these pivotal relationships seem unnecessarily tentative.

A key moment in *Hamlet* is when Claudius watches the players enact a murder and realises what he's done by killing his own brother. On this occasion, however, both Claudius and Gertrude are facing away from the audience, and the moment is captured on a polaroid camera. What a lost opportunity for the audience to witness the disintegration of the murderer king. *Jan Watts* ■■■■■

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Tickets on sale for new Tim Rice musical

Tim Rice's first stage musical in over ten years comes to the West End this autumn. The much-anticipated musical theatre version of James Jones' classic novel *From Here To Eternity* shows at London's Shaftesbury Theatre from 30 September, with tickets now on sale. Although final casting is yet to be confirmed, the stellar team behind the production is director Tamara Harvey, set designer Soutra Gilmour and choreographer Javier de Frutos.

Renee Zellweger to star in the West End?

Rumours are rife that Bridget Jones star Renee Zellweger is to make her West End debut later this year, appearing in a stage version of the Paul Newman/Jackie Gleason film classic, *The Hustler*. Zellweger has reportedly been cast as Sarah Packard, a role played by Piper Laurie in the 1961 movie.



New burlesque musical to stop off in Leicester Square

A new musical brimming with sex and scandal is to make its debut in the West End this summer. Set in a war-torn London in the 1940s, *Miss Nightingale: The Burlesque Story* tells the tale of northern songbird Maggie Brown, a woman with a big voice and even bigger ambitions who moves to the

capital with songwriter George to fulfill her dreams. Packed with original songs performed by a troupe of actor musicians, the Matthew Bugg musical features 'burlesque bombshell' Amber Topez in the title role. It shows at Leicester Square Theatre from 2 to 7 July as part of a UK-wide tour.

WEST END LISTINGS:

MUSICALS

BILLY ELLIOT – THE MUSICAL

Victoria Palace Theatre, booking until 21 Dec 2013

BODYGUARD Adelphi Theatre, booking until 28 Sept 2013

BOOK OF MORMON Prince Of Wales Theatre, booking until 11 Jan 2014

BURN THE FLOOR Shaftesbury Theatre, booking until 1 Sept 2013

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY - THE MUSICAL Drury Lane Royal, 17 May - 30 Nov 2013

CHORUS LINE London Palladium Theatre, booking until 18 Jan 2014

GOLDEN VOICEE Arts Theatre, 12 Jun - 31 Aug 2013

JERSEY BOYS Prince Edward Theatre, booking until 16 Feb 2014

LES MISÉRABLES Queen's Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014

LET IT BE Savoy Theatre, booking until 5 Oct 2013

LION KING Lyceum Theatre, booking until 29 Sept 2013

MAMMA MIA! Novello Theatre, booking until 5 Apr 2014

MATILDA THE MUSICAL Cambridge Theatre, booking until 22 Dec 2013

ONCE Phoenix Theatre, booking until 30 Nov 2013

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Her Majesty's Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014

ROCK OF AGES Garrick Theatre, booking until 2 Nov 2013

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN Palace Theatre, booking until 8 Jun 2013

STOMP Ambassadors Theatre, booking until 22 Dec 2013

THRILLER LIVE Lyric Theatre, booking until 15 Sept 2013

TOP HAT Aldwych Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014

VIVA FOREVER! Piccadilly Theatre, booking until 14 Feb 2014

WE WILL ROCK YOU Dominion Theatre, booking until 26 Oct 2013

WICKED Apollo Victoria Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014.

DRAMA

AMEN CORNER Olivier National Theatre, 4 Jun - 14 Aug 2013

AUDIENCE Gielgud Theatre, booking until 15 June 2013

BEAUTIFUL THING Arts Theatre, booking until 25 May 2013

CHILDREN OF THE SUN Lyttelton National Theatre, booking until 14 Jul 2013

CHIMERICA Almeida Theatre, 20 May - 29 Jun 2013

CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME Apollo Theatre, booking until 4 Jan 2014

FENCES Duchess Theatre, 19 Jun - 14 Sept 2013

MOUSETRAP St Martins Theatre, booking until 21 Dec 2013

PETER AND ALICE Noel Coward Theatre, booking until 1 June 2013

PUBLIC ENEMY Young Vic Theatre, booking until 8 June 2013

WAR HORSE New London Theatre, booking until 15 Feb 2014

WINSLOW BOY Old Vic Theatre, booking until 25 May 2013

WOMAN IN BLACK Fortune Theatre, booking until 14 Dec 2013

COMEDY

39 STEPS Criterion Theatre, booking until 19 Oct 2013

BARKING IN ESSEX Wyndham's Theatre, 6 Sept

2013 - 4 Jan 2014
DERREN BROWN : INFAMOUS Palace Theatre, 24 Jun - 17 Aug 2013
LADYKILLERS Vaudeville Theatre, 29 Jun - 26 Oct 2013

ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS Haymarket Theatre Royal, booking until 31 Aug 2013
PASSION PLAY Duke Of York Theatre, booking until 3 Aug 2013



Phantom Of The Opera, Her Majesty's Theatre

Dance



Sutra Birmingham Hippodrome, Tues 7 - Wed 8 May

When Sutra was last performed in Birmingham - in 2010 as part of the International Dance Festival - it enjoyed phenomenal success. Now the production, which has been seen by one hundred-and-sixty thousand people in fifty-five cities across twenty-seven countries, is making a very welcome return to the city. An 'East meets West' collaboration, the show is the vision of award-winning choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui. It features seventeen Buddhist monks, from the Shaolin Temple in China, presenting a unique performance of gravity-defying acrobatic stunts. Turner Prize-winner and Angel Of The North sculptor Antony Gormley's ever-changing set comprises twenty-one wooden boxes that shift into an evolving environment for the performers. Polish composer Szymon Brzoska's specially commissioned score for piano, percussion and strings accompanies the performance, which has been described as 'a spectacle like nothing you've seen before'.



Richard Alston Dance Company

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Wed 8 - Thurs 9 May

At the forefront of contemporary dance in the UK, Richard Alston takes inspiration directly from the music he uses. This month sees Alston's company return to the region with a triple-bill from its acclaimed repertoire. Featured pieces include the quietly moving *Lachrymae*, which is set to a live performance of Benjamin Britten's compassionate and tender music for viola and piano. A specially revived version of *The Devil In The Detail* also features. Inspired by the ragtime music of Scott Joplin, the piece has been described as 'oozing swagger'. Martin Lawrence's new and original *Madcap* completes the programme.

Random Dance: Far

Warwick Arts Centre,
Coventry,
Mon 13 - Tues 14 May

Inspired by Roy Porter's controversial *Flesh In The Age Of Reason* - an exploration of the scientific and philosophical relationship between body and mind - Wayne McGregor's latest work is considered to be one of his finest.

Featuring ten scantily-clad dancers, a set comprising a computerised pinboard of three thousand-plus LED lights, and haunting background music from critically acclaimed composer Ben Frost, *Far* uses intense dialogues to shift between relationships which are in turn tender, passionate and cruel. In all, an innovative piece of choreography from an artist who, according to *The Times*, 'has defined the decade'.



Dance LISTINGS

For full listing information on dance, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

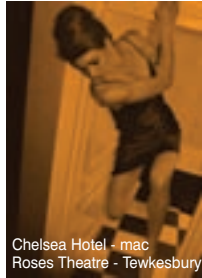
CHELSEA HOTEL Earthfall present a series of stories, some true and some false, which interplay through radical dance, live music and film, taking the audience on a voyeuristic journey through New York, Wed 1 May, Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Presented by Midlands Theatre Ballet, Thurs 2 - Sat 4 May, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

ALICE IN WONDERLAND Ballet Theatre UK present what promises to be a captivating ballet based on Lewis Carroll's famous stories Alice's Adventures In Wonderland and Through The Looking Glass, Fri 3 May, Bedworth Civic Hall

CHELSEA HOTEL Earthfall present a series of stories, some true and some false, which interplay through radical dance, live music and film, taking the audience on a voyeuristic journey through New York', Fri 3 May, mac,

Midlands Arts Centre, B'ham



Chelsea Hotel - mac
Roses Theatre - Tewkesbury

ALICE IN WONDERLAND Presented by Ballet Theatre UK, Sat 4 May, The Swan Theatre, Worcester

MOKO MIX A double-bill of works from Moko Dance, comprising The Suitcase Story and The Rock, Sat 4 - Sun 5 May, DanceXchange, The Patrick Centre, Birmingham

Hippodrome

IN A DEEP DARK WOOD & DEEP IN THE WOODS Gobbledegook present a double-bill for young children and their families which takes inspiration from fairytales, Mon 6 - Tues 7 May,

DanceXchange, The Patrick Centre, Birmingham

SUTRA Unique physical performance featuring seventeen practising Buddhist monks from the Shaolin Temple in China, Tue 7 May - Wed 8 May, Birmingham Hippodrome

MIDNIGHT TANGO Featuring Strictly Come Dancing stars Vincent Simone & Flavia Cacace, Tue 7 - Sat 11 May, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

RICHARD ALSTON DANCE COMPANY Wed 8 - Thurs 9 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

LEGACY DANCE SHOW More than four hundred young people aged between five and twenty-one showcase a variety of routines, including street/hop-hip, contemporary, disco, ballet and modern... Wed 8 - Fri 10 May, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

MICHELANGELO: DRAWING BOARD An integrated piece of work inspired by Michelangelo's sketchbooks, sonnets and figure studies, Thurs 9 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

STRICTLY COME DANCING Featuring BBC TV's Strictly Come Dancing

stars Katya Virshilas and Pasha Kovalev, Sat 11 May, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

FAR Random Dance present Wayne McGregor's latest piece, which is inspired by the controversial Age Of Enlightenment, Mon 13 - Tues 14 May, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

PHOENIX DANCE THEATRE The world premiere of four exciting, diverse pieces of choreography, Tue 14 May, Malvern Theatres

FOOTSTORM Brand new dance show presented by Prodigij - winner of Got To Dance 2012, Tue 14 May, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

TRIPTYCH A showcase of works from the University of Wolverhampton Dance Department Graduating Class of 2013, Thurs 16 May, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

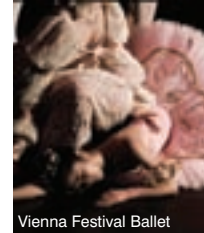
STRICTLY COME DANCING Featuring BBC TV's Strictly Come Dancing stars Katya Virshilas and Pasha Kovalev, Thurs 16 May, Crewe Lyceum

OURS WAS THE FEN COUNTRY Dan Canham and Still House present what's described as 'an ethereal piece of documentary dance-theatre', Thurs 16 - Fri 17 May,

DanceXchange, The Patrick Centre, B'ham

SLEEPING BEAUTY Vienna Festival Ballet celebrates its thirty-third anniversary with a UK tour of Tchaikovsky's classic, Fri 17 May, Evesham Arts Centre

SLEEPING BEAUTY Presented by Vienna Festival Ballet, Sat 18 May, Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire



Vienna Festival Ballet

STRICTLY COME DANCING Featuring BBC TV's Strictly Come Dancing stars Katya Virshilas and Pasha Kovalev, Tue 21 May, Solihull Arts Complex

ROMEO AND JULIET Presented by Ballet Cymru, Fri 24 May, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

QUEEN OF THE DANCE Featuring solos from ex-Riverdance, All Ireland and World Champion exponents of Irish dance, Sat 25 May, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

Dance Box Office

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CANCER
BATS

THE
SKINTS

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NOVEMBER

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years

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MEMORIES
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TOMORROW

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CLUB

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THE SUMMER SET MAN*OVERBOARD [sponge] iTKH WOE, IS ME

FIREWORKS TRANSIT THE STORY SO FAR ■ Heights ■ WORD ALIVE BLITZKIDS

MCLARS MEVS HERO Hands and Hooves CHURCH OF NOISE OUR LAST NIGHT *HANDGUNS

GNARWOLVES THE AMERICAN SCENE HERDES ■ HEARTRE ■ HOUSE OF HURRICANE Heart & Hand

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CHAS PALMER-WILLIAMS | CLASS OF '92 | SOPHOMORE | MARC HALLS

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*20 MINUTE TRAIN FROM KINGS CROSS, FREE SHUTTLE BUS FROM HATFIELD STATION

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KEEP A BREAST ♡ UPRAWP

Festivals

Acoustic Festival Of Britain

Uttoxeter Racecourse, Fri 31 May - Sun 2 June

Now scheduled to take place over May's second bank holiday weekend, this annual festival has announced its intention to attract more families with the introduction of a big top tent featuring children's entertainment and workshops. The main event does, however, still centre around an eclectic mix of top quality music. Festival headliners The Proclaimers and the legendary Hollies are joined by Gareth Gates, Rory McLeod, The Christians and infamous rock star John Otway. Rubber-faced comedian Phil Cool promises to bring plenty of laughter to proceedings when he performs in the main marquee, whilst dance troupes, magicians, walkabout artists and buskers will also be making a contribution across the three days.



The Proclaimers

Lichfield Summer Beer And Wine Festival

The Guildhall, Lichfield, Fri 31 May - Sat 1 June

Returning after a twenty-year absence, this summertime festival provides a perfect excuse to indulge in some of the region's tastiest food and finest real ales, while also enjoying a mixed bag of great music. If you like the sounds of the Kings of Leon, The Jam, Oasis and Kaiser Chiefs, then pop along and listen to covers of their most popular songs, courtesy of Punch The Air - a band who received plenty of plaudits when they performed at Lichfield's Winter Festival last year.

Cheltenham Jazz Festival

Various locations in and around Cheltenham, Wed 1 - Mon 6 May

Every year, Cheltenham Jazz Festival brings together the cream of the UK jazz scene, presenting a great selection of international artists within an impressively diverse programme. The five-time Grammy Award-winning Dionne Warwick opens the 2013 event with an appearance in the big top, where she'll be performing songs from her extensive back-catalogue of hits. Other notable acts at this year's festival include girl-of-the-moment Laura Mvula, Swedish songstress Emilia Martensson, the acclaimed Noisettes - performing a stripped-back session - and English folk/soul singer and multi-instrumentalist Lianne La Havas.



Dionne Warwick



JLS

Osfest: Break For The Border

Oswestry Showground, North Shropshire, Fri 24 - Mon 27 May

Determined not to let Britain's inclement weather dampen the spirits of festival-goers, organisers of this year's Osfest have installed a massive big top tent for the weekend's Main Stage acts - although a second stage remains outside, so you'll still need to ensure you're prepared for all conditions. JLS and The Pigeon Detectives headline, with support coming from, amongst others, AME, The Enemy, Lawson, King Charles, Wiley and Lewis Watson. X Factor winner James Arthur also features on the bill, as does fellow contestant Lucy Spraggon.



All Time Low

Slam Dunk Festival

Wolverhampton Civic Hall, Mon 27 May

Now in its eighth year, Slam Dunk is a touring festival which celebrates the best of Pop Punk, Ska and Emo. This year sees the festival extending its reach, with Wolverhampton added to dates at both North Leeds and South Herts universities. American band All Time Low make a welcome return to the UK to headline the festival, while three of Australia's biggest names also make an appearance - Kerrang favourites Tonight Alive, house trio VSHurricane and - making their UK debut - Heroes For Hire. Also confirmed to appear are Kids In Glass Houses, Cancer Bats, Bury Tomorrow, Heights, Heart In Hand, Chunk! No, Captain Chunk!, [Spunge], Blitz Kids, Gnarwolves and The American Scene..

WORCESTER
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MOTOR FESTIVAL

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BREAK FOR OS FEST THE BORDER

May 25 - 26th
Bank Holiday Weekend

Oswestry Showground, Shropshire

www.osfest.co.uk

Osfest, Shropshire's biggest music festival returns for its 4th year as Break for the Border 2013! This year hosting some of the biggest acts in the industry including...

JLS
The Enemy

The Pigeon Detectives

WILEY LAWSON
Lucy Spraggan

JAMES ARTHUR

KING CHARLES

AME

TiCH

CHARLIE BROWN

plus many more...

This year's festival is under a huge big top tent so don't worry about the weather, but please be aware that **only 5000 tickets are available** and are selling fast. **AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT - BOOK NOW**

Tickets from just £29.50
UNDER 10S FREE!

01691-680468

Osfest is conveniently located one hour from Manchester, Liverpool and Birmingham in Oswestry, Shropshire.
Closest train station - Gobowen

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- PROMOTING THE CITY**
BASS FM will promote Birmingham's vibrant music scene, showcasing local talent and providing a platform for emerging artists.
- NEW 24H ON THE AIR**
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- NEW LOCAL PRODUCERS**
BASS FM will feature a range of local producers and DJs, providing a platform for emerging talent and showcasing the best of Birmingham's music scene.

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5K

A COMMITMENT TO CHANGE

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BASS FM is landing on 2nd June 2013
Full details TBA very soon

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JOSH OSHO // SHEZAR // SHEA
KOF // MS D // CALL ME UNIQUE
JAMIE JOSEPH // KALEEM TAYLOR

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Friday 7th June
LIVERPOOL - HOUSE
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Sunday 9th June
LONDON - JAZZ CAFE
0207 461 8834

Tuesday 11th June
BIRMINGHAM - GLEZ CLUB
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Wednesday 12th June
CARDIFF - GLEZ CLUB
0871 472 0400

Friday 14th June
NOTTINGHAM - GLEZ CLUB
0871 472 0400

Sunday 16th June
MANCHESTER - DEAF INSTITUTE
0161 274 9350

For more info on the tour
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Festivals Listings

For full listing information on festivals, including dates and line-up, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

MAY

CHELTHENHAM JAZZ FESTIVAL

Featuring Dionne Warwick, Laura Mvula, Lianne La Havas & Ravi Coltrane, Wed 1 - Mon 6 May, various locations in Cheltenham

UPTON FOLK FESTIVAL

Line-up features The Young'uns, Bella Hardy & Anna Massie, Fri 3 - Mon 6 May, Upton Waterside, Worcestershire

LEAMINGTON MUSIC FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Highlights include Sacconi Quartet, David Campbell & Coull Quartet, Fri 3 - Tue 7 May, Royal Pump Rooms, Royal Leamington Spa

CLUN GREEN MAN FESTIVAL

Featuring Instant Wit, The Clun Mummings & Morris Dancing, Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Various locations throughout Clun, South Shropshire

SWINGAMAJIG

One-day urban festival featuring The Correspondents & Electric Swing Circus, Sun 5 May, Digbeth, Birmingham

BEARDED THEORY

2013 line-up includes Reverend and The Makers, The Levellers and Asian Dub Foundation, Fri 17 - Sun 19 May, Kedleston Hall, Derby

STOURBRIDGE BLUES FESTIVAL

One-day festival featuring Jack Blackman, the Turners & Blues Boy Dan, Sat 18 May, Stourbridge Rugby Club, Stourbridge

REGGAE CITY 2013

Featuring The Selector & Hollie Cook, Sat 18 May, The Rainbow, Digbeth, Birmingham

HOWTHELIGHTGETSIN-FESTIVAL

Six stages of music, comedy and film including King Charles, Utah Saints & Man Like Me, Thurs 23 May - Sun 2 June, Dairy Meadows, Hay on Wye

OSFEST

Featuring JLS, Lawson & Wiley, Fri 24 - Mon 27 May, Park Hall, Oswestry, North Shropshire

OFF THE TRACKS SPRING FESTIVAL

An eclectic mix including Alabama 3, The Popes & The Paperboys, Fri 24 - Sun 26 May, Donington Park Farmhouse, Castle Donington, Derbyshire

CHESTER FOLK FESTIVAL

Line-up features Ritchie Parrish, Jez Lowe & The Bad Pennies and many more... Fri 24 -

Mon 27 May, Kelsall Village, Nr Chester

HANDMADE FESTIVAL

Featuring Rolo Tomassi, Nine Black Alps and Sam Duckworth, Fri 24 - Sun 26 May, Old Town Quarter, Leicester

GLASTONBUDGET

All the tribute acts you could wish for, including Oasish, Mercury, One Step Behind and many more... Fri 24 - Sun 26 May, Turnpost Farm, Wymeswold, Leicestershire

NOW WE ARE WEEKENDER

Indie-pop festival featuring Allo Darlin', Darren Hayman & Johnny Foreigner, Sat 25 - Sun 26 May, The Public, West Bromwich, Birmingham

DOT TO DOT FESTIVAL

One-day music festival including Dry The River, Benjamin Francis Leftwich & Lucy Rose, Sat 25 May, various locations, Nottingham

FOLK AND BLUES FESTIVAL

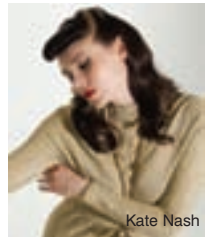
One-day festival featuring performances from Paul Parker & All The Right Friends, The Endings and Jack Marshall, Sat 25 May, The Picnic Area, Market Drayton, Shropshire

ROCK AND BOWL FESTIVAL

2013 line-up includes U2UK, Hipster and SuperSkas, Sun 26 - Mon 27 May, The Picnic Area, Market Drayton, Shropshire

WYCHWOOD FESTIVAL

2013 line-up includes The Wedding Present, Lucy Rose, The Human League, Kate Nash, Dreadzone & Bill Bailey, Fri 31 May - Sun 2 Jun, Cheltenham Racecourse



Kate Nash

THE ACOUSTIC FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN

Highlights include The Hollies, The Proclaimers and The Christians, Fri 31 May - Sun 2 June, Uttoxeter Race Course, Staffordshire

LICHFIELD SUMMER BEER AND WINE FESTIVAL

Featuring real ales, ciders, perrys, beers and wine, Lichfield Guildhall, Staffordshire, Fri 31 May - Sat 1 June, The Guildhall, Lichfield

JUNE

BASS FESTIVAL

The UK's only annual black music festival, Sat 1 - Sun 30 Jun, various locations, Birmingham

ASPARAFEST

A new festival billed as an 'extreme village fete', expect lots of music and fresh food, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Jun, Ashdown Farm, Badsey, Worcestershire

CHELTHENHAM SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Featuring Dara O'Briain, Jocelyn Bell & Maurice Saatchi, Tues 4 - Sun 9 June, various locations in Cheltenham

DOWNLOAD FESTIVAL

Metalfest featuring Slipknot, Iron Maiden & Rammstein, Fri 14 - Sun 16 Jun, Donington Park, Derby

BACK WITH MOODS

Scooter rally and Ska festival with live acts including The Selector & Bad Manners, Fri 14 - Sun 16 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway, Wellingborough, Northants

LEAMINGTON PEACE FESTIVAL

Free festival featuring two entertainment areas and over one hundred stalls, Sat 15 - Sun 16 Jun, The Royal Pump Rooms Gardens, Leamington Spa

CHESTER ROCKS

Headliners include The Wanted and Jessie J, Sat 15 - Sun 16 Jun, Chester Racecourse, Chester

GREGYNOG FESTIVAL

The oldest classical music festival in Wales with performances from Andrew Kennedy, Timothy Brown and Harmonie Universelle, Thurs 20 - Sun 30 Jun, Gregynog Hall, Tregynon, Powys

LICHFIELD FOLK FESTIVAL

Featuring Anits Anderson & Paul Hutchinson; Chris & Julie Dewhurst, Fri 21 - Sun 23, various locations, Lichfield

LUDLOW ARTS FESTIVAL

A brand-new ten-day arts festival featuring Paul Merton, Reginald D Hunter and Jools Holland, Fri 21 - Sun 30 Jun, Ludlow Castle, Ludlow, North Shropshire

STAFFORD FESTIVAL

Featuring an outdoor production of A Midsummer Night's Dream, Thurs 27 Jun - Sat 13 Jul, Stafford Castle, Stafford

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Featuring The Fallows, The Jelly Heads and Laurence Jones, Fri 28 - Sat 29 Jun, Napton on the Hill, Warwickshire



King Charles - 2000Trees Festival & Howthelighgetsin Festival

JULY

CHELTHENHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL

Featuring Nicola Benedetti, The Swingle Sisters & Schubert's String Quartet, Wed 3 - Sun 14 July, various locations in Cheltenham



Nicola Benedetti

LICHFIELD FESTIVAL

Line-up includes Laura Mvula, The Philharmonia Orchestra, Chris Addison, Zoe Rahman, Spiers & Boden & The Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain, Thurs 4 Jul - Sun 14 Jul, various locations around Lichfield

GODIVA FESTIVAL

Fri 5 - Sun 7 Jul, War Memorial Park, Coventry

BLUES AT THE FOLD

2013 line-up includes Ricky Cool & his All Star Band and Wille & The Bandits, Fri 5 - Sat 6 July, The Fold, Bransford, Worcestershire

BUXTON FESTIVAL

A fusion of opera, music and literary performances including The Sacconi Quartet, Melvyn Bragg, La Voix Humaine and many more... Fri 5 - Sun 21

July, Buxton opera House, Buxton, Derbyshire

THE MOSTLY JAZZ, FUNK AND SOUL FESTIVAL

2013 line-up includes Bonobo and Chic featuring Nile Rodgers, Fri 5 - Sun 7 Jul, Moseley Park, Birmingham

CAMPER JAM

Family friendly festival aimed at the owners and lovers of the VW Bus, 5 - Sun 7 Jul, Weston Park, Shifnal, Shropshire

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON RIVER FESTIVAL

River-based entertainment and activities, Sat 6 - Sun 7 Jul, various locations in Stratford-Upon-Avon

2000TREES FESTIVAL

Line-up includes; Mystery Jets, King Charles and Stagecoach, Thurs 11 - Sat 13 Jul, Upcote Farm, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

BROMSGROVE FOLK FESTIVAL

Performances from Anthony John Clarke, Martyn Joseph Whapweasel and many more... Fri 12 Jul - Sun 14 Jul, The Bowling Green, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire

WORKHOUSE FESTIVAL

A small eclectic festival featuring String The Marionette, Cherrie Fosphate and many more... Fri 12 - Sun 14 Jul, The Workhouse, Llanfyllin, Powys

HOLE IN THE WALL FESTIVAL

2013 line-up features The Counterfeit Stones, Bon Giovi and Bootleg Blondie, Sat 13 - Sun 14 Jul, Hopton Court, Kidderminster,

Worcestershire

SIMMER DOWN FESTIVAL

2013 line-up yet to be announced., Sun 14 Jul (tbc), Handsworth Park, Birmingham

L FEST

Comedy, cinema and much more features at this weekend lesbian festival, Uttoxeter Racecourse, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire

SPLENDOUR FESTIVAL

Featuring Jake Bugg, Squeeze, KT Tunstall and many more... Sat 20 Jul, Wollaton Park, Nottingham

WARWICK FOLK FESTIVAL

Featuring The Lock In, Le Vent du Nord and Jim Moray, amongst others, Thurs 25 - Sun 28 Jul, various venues around Warwick, Warwickshire

GLOBAL GATHERING

Featuring Plan B, Example and Katie B, Fri 26 - Sat 27 Jul, Long Marston Airfield, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire

NOZSTOCK FESTIVAL

Line-up includes Chas & Dave, Dub Pistols and many more... Fri 26 - Sun 28 Jul, Bromyard, Worcestershire

LOUNGE ON THE FARM FESTIVAL

Featuring Aswad, Seasick Steve and Lucy Rose, Fri 26 - sun 28 Jul, Merton Farm, Barkby, Nr Leicester

INDIETRACKS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Heritage trains and indiepop in the Derbyshire countryside. Line-up includes The Pastels and Still Corners, Fri 26 - Sun 28 Jul, Butterley Station, Ripley, Derbyshire

28TH INTERNATIONAL
OLIVER CROMWELL

Upton-upon-Severn Jazz Festival



FRI 28TH/SAT 29TH/SUN 30TH
JUNE 2013



Please note all music venues will be in the town
this year with the Camping/Caravan site and FREE
PARKING for TICKETHOLDERS on Fish Meadow

SATURDAY 11.30am Festival Parade
SUNDAY 11am Festival Church Service

Mix of jazz styles including Traditional, Swing, New Orleans, Hot Club,
Mainstream, Boogie, Comedy with over forty bands appearing during
the weekend inc.

Lamarotte (Holland) • Bourbon Street Stompers (Germany) • 'Sir' Alan's Hot
Groovers with Pete Allen & Ben Holder • Barbara & All That Jazz • Ben Holder
Band • Rich Bennett Band • Bev Pegg & His Good Time Jazz Gang • Bill Bailey
All Stars • Bill Bailey Jam Session • Bob Kerr & His Whoopee Band •
Brownfield/Byrne Quintet • Carl Sinclair Boogie Band • Craig Milverton
Quartet plus Enrico Tomasso 'Tribute to Louis Armstrong' • Craig Milverton
Quartet 'Tribute to Oscar Peterson' • Craig Milverton Trio plus Alan Barnes
'The Art Trip - Tribute to Art Pepper' • Dave Brennan's Jubilee Jazz Band •
Dave Moorwood's Rascals of Rhythm • Energy Dancers • Frog Island Jazz
Band • Harry Strutters Hot Rhythm Orchestra • John Everett's Red Dragon
Jazzmen with Ruth Frith • John Maddocks Jazzmen • Martin Bennett's Old
Green River Band • Mellow Baku Quartet • Millennium Eagle Jazz Band •
New Georgia Jazz Band • New Orleans Heat • Perdido Street Jazz Band • Phil
Wall's Jazz Cardinals • Red Stripe Band • Remi Harris Quartet • Ross Jive
Swing • Sticky Wicket's Swing Orchestra • Swing Commanders • Tad
Newton's Jazz Friends • The Bevin Boys Swing Band • The Three Belles •
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Plus more to be confirmed

Booking Leaflet with Daily Band Listings and Tickets available from
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TEL/FAX: 01684 593254

EMAIL: info@uptonjazz.co.uk OR VISIT www.uptonjazz.co.uk

Credit Card Bookings available at Festival Office

For advance bookings (price from 2nd May in brackets) Weekend £60 (£70), Friday £20
(£25), Saturday £30 (£35), Sunday £25 (£30), Camping/Caravans £28 per person (£30)

N.B. ADVANCE BOOKINGS AVAILABLE TO 1st MAY 2013

Evening only ticket £15 on the day from 6pm subject to availability
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Guy Johnston • Harmonie Universelle • Iestyn Davies
Mahan Esfahani • The Mellstock Band • Nicholas Daniel
Ricercar Consort • The Tallis Scholars
Tenebrae • Thomas Dunford



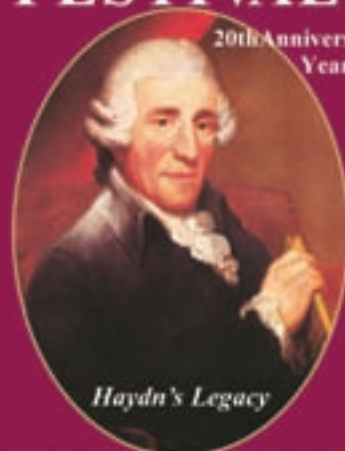
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Anthony Halstead

Soloists:

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violin

Crispian Steele-
Perkins
trumpet

Christophe Coin
violin/cello

Yoko Kaneko
fortepiano

The Chiaroscuro
String Quartet

The English
Haydn Ensemble

The Salomon
String Quartet

The Christophe
Coin Trio

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Beethoven, Hummel,
Pleyel, Viotti, Kraft,
J. C. Bach, Wolff

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phone the box office on 01952 814734

Festivals Listings

For full listing information on festivals, including dates and line-up, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

CHURCH STRETTON ARTS FESTIVAL A two-week celebration of music and the visual arts. The Cardinal's Musick and Paul Mcroft featuring amongst the many performers, Sat 27 July - Sun 11 Aug, Church Stretton, Shropshire

AUGUST

BLOODSTOCK OPEN AIR Metal fest featuring King Diamond, Lamb of God, Slayer and many more... Thurs 8 - Sun 11 Aug, Catton hall, Walton-on-Trent, Derbyshire

FARMER PHIL'S FESTIVAL Line-up includes The Red Hot Chillii Pipers and Shooglenifty, Fri 9 - Sun 11 Aug, Ratlinghope, Shrewsbury, North Shropshire

LAKEFEST Featuring Ocean Colour Scene, Levellers and The Beat, Fri 9 - Sun 11 Aug, Croft Farm Waterpark, Tewkesbury

STRAWBERRY FIELDS

FESTIVAL The Enemy, Jaguar Skills and The Cuban Brothers all feature at this year's festival, Fri 9 - Sun 11 Aug, Catto Farm, Heather, Leicestershire

JUNCTION 16 Featuring Status Quo as headline act, Fri 9 - Sun 11 Aug, Betley Court Farm, Crewe, Cheshire

LICHFIELD FAKE FESTIVAL Featuring tributes to Kasabian, Blondie and The Stone Roses, Sat 10 Aug, Beacon Park, Lichfield, Staffordshire

THE GREEN MAN FESTIVAL Four-day event featuring Kings Of Convenience, Ben Howard and Band Of Horses, Thurs 15 - Sun 18 Aug, Glanusk Park, Usk Valley, Powys

THE JUST SO FESTIVAL Festival of creativity aimed at families, Fri 16 - Sun 18 Aug, Rode Hall Parkland, Scholar Green, Cheshire

V FESTIVAL Beyonce, Kings of Leon and Stereophonics are amongst this years line-up, Sat 17 - Sun 18

Aug, Weston Park, Staffordshire

CREAMFIELDS Featuring The prodigy, Avicci and Paul Oakenfold, Fri 23 - Sun 25 Aug, Daresbury Estate, Halton, Cheshire

BEERMAGEDDON Britain's newest metal festival featuring performances from Beholder, Fallen Fate and Annihilated, Fri 23 - Sun 25 Aug, Stoke Prior Country Club, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire

UPTON MUSIC FESTIVAL Featuring Alexander O'Neal, Slade and Toyah Wilcox, Fri 23 - Sun 25 Aug, Upton-upon-Severn, Worcestershire

SHREWSBURY FOLK FESTIVAL The 2013 line-up features Afro Celt Sound System, Carolina Chocolate Drops and Capercaille, Fri 23 - Mon 26 Aug, West Midland Show Ground, Shrewsbury, North Shropshire

OFF THE TRACKS SUMMER FESTIVAL Featuring Dreadzone, Simon Friend's Seismic Survey and Ozric Tentacles, Fri 30 - Sat 31 Aug, Castle Donington, Derbyshire

MOSELEY FOLK FESTIVAL Featuring The Leisure Society, British Sea Power and The Dublin



Jessie J - Fusion Festival & Chester Rocks

Legends (formerly The Dubliners), Fri 30 Aug - Sun 1 Sep, Moseley Park, Birmingham

WORCESTER MUSIC FESTIVAL Featuring Two Dollar Salad, Sarah Oreggio and Northern Sky, Fri 30 Aug - Sun 1 Sep, various locations in and around Worcester

FUSION FESTIVAL Featuring Ne-yo, Jessie J, JLS and many more... Sat 31 Aug - Sun 1 Sep, Cofton Park, Longbridge, Birmingham

SEPTEMBER

FESTIVAL NO.6 2013 line-up includes The Manic Street Preachers, James Blake and Everything Everything, Fri 13 - Sun 15 Sept, Portmeirion, Penrhyndeudraeth, North Wales

ROCK & METAL CIRCUS FESTIVAL A brand-new festival which provides a platform for up-and-coming bands, Fri 20 - Sun 22 Sep, Stoke Prior Country Club,

Bromsgrove, Worcestershire

OCTOBER

DERBY FOLK FESTIVAL Featuring Lau, The Mighty Doonans and Dervish, Fri 4 - Sun 6 Oct, Derby Assembly Rooms

THE LICHFIELD LITERATURE FESTIVAL Sun 27 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, various locations in and around Lichfield

JAZZ & BLUES

MAY 24-27

PERFORMANCES AT VENUES ACROSS TOWN

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From
**THUR 9
MAY**

Star Trek Into Darkness CERT tbc

Starring **Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Benedict Cumberbatch, Karl Urban, John Cho, Zoe Saldana, Alice Eve, Anton Yelchin, Simon Pegg** Directed by **J.J. Abrams (USA)**

You just can't keep a good franchise down. Like Dr Who and James Bond, the crew of the USS Enterprise keep on re-inventing themselves and discovering constantly changing worlds and nemeses. Amazingly, this is the twelfth big-screen edition of the TV phenomenon. And like Casino Royale, JJ Abrams' Star Trek (2009) returned to the series' roots, showed the birth of James Tiberius Kirk, the childhood of Spock and managed to be visually superior to all the other films, not to mention being a totally thrilling, funny, pacy and wildly imaginative ride. Here, Abrams is again at the helm - and Chris Pine (Kirk) at the helm of the Enterprise - and the crew forced to confront an indomitable force of evil within their own organisation. Benedict Cumberbatch is the mandatory British villain. In 3D.



From
**THUR
16 MAY**

The Great Gatsby CERT 12a (140mins)

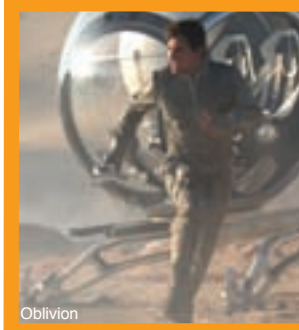
Starring **Leonardo DiCaprio, Tobey Maguire, Carey Mulligan, Joel Edgerton, Isla Fisher, Jason Clarke, Adelaide Clemens** Directed by **Baz Luhrmann (USA/Australia)**

Hard to believe that this is only Baz Luhrmann's fifth film. Yet any project from the Australian filmmaker is an event (even though his last film, Australia, was a flop). Long in pre-production, The Great Gatsby endured a tortuous journey to the screen, with Scarlett Johansson in talks to play Daisy Buchanan and Ben Affleck lined up to play her husband, Tom. In the event, Carey Mulligan won the former part and Joel Edgerton the latter. Although set at the height of the 'Roaring Twenties', the film features an eclectic modern soundtrack, including numbers from Jay-Z, will.i.am. Florence + The Machine and Emeli Sandé. But then look what Luhrmann did to Shakespeare's Romeo And Juliet. In 3D.

TOP 5

FILM BOX OFFICE

- 1** Oblivion (12a)
- 2** The Place Beyond The Pines (15)
- 3** Scary Movie 5 (15)
- 4** The Croods (U)
- 5** GI Joe: Retaliation (12a)



Oblivion

Released from Fri 3 May

I'm So Excited CERT 15 (90mins)

Starring **Cecilia Roth, Lola Dueñas, Javier Cámara, Blanca Suárez**
Directed by **Pedro Almodóvar (Spain)**

We have barely recovered from the aeronautic aerobics of Denzel Washington in *Flight* when along comes another troubled aircraft. A diverse group of Spanish passengers on their way to Mexico City find themselves in dire straits, but this time the tone is strictly comedic (you know how funny these things can be). Expect cameos from Paz Vega, Penélope Cruz and Antonio Banderas.



21 And Over CERT 15 (93mins)

Starring **Justin Chon, Miles Teller, Skylar Astin, Sarah Wright** Directed by **Jon Lucas and Scott Moore (USA)**

We know how the Americans like to celebrate (think *The Hangover*). Here, straight-A student **Jeff Chang (Justin Chon)** celebrates his twenty-first birthday the night before a crucial medical exam. Silly boy. Expect debauchery, humiliation, a huge amount of alcohol and some rather important life lessons.

Chimpanzee CERT U (78mins)

Directed by **Alastair Fothergill and Mark Linfield (USA)**

Following the success of their films *Earth* and *African Cats*, the 'DisneyNature' label now focuses on an anthropoid ape called **Oscar**. After his mother is killed following a raid by rival chimpanzees, young **Oscar** finds himself on his own and so sets out to find another parent... Filmed over four years in **Tai National Park** in the **Ivory Coast**.

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Released from Fri 10 May

Our Children

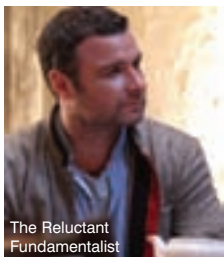
CERT 15 (111mins)
Starring **Niels Arestrup, Tahar Rahim, Emilie Dequenne** Directed by **Joachim Lafosse** (Belgium/France/Luxembourg/Switzerland)
When a young Belgian teacher (Dequenne) and a young Moroccan man (Rahim) decide to marry, the latter's mentor comes to the rescue. A respected and affluent doctor, André Pinget (Arestrup) gives the young man a job and the couple a place to live. It's an arrangement of symbiosis, if an unconventional one as the doctor lives with the couple as both benefactor and babysitter. But does charity and benevolence come with a price? Our Children ostensibly deals with the pressures of raising a family in a confined space and, to a lesser degree, the conflicts of cross-cultural relationships. But the real elephant in the room is the burden of emotional debt and the reality that nothing in life is free. If the tragedy is telegraphed a little too early, this is an absorbing and intelligent drama that resonates with a foreboding sense of truth. Indeed, it is based on real events. Incidentally, Dequenne was bestowed with the Un Certain Regard best actress award at last year's Cannes festival.



Our Children

The Reluctant Fundamentalist

CERT 15 (119mins)
Starring **Riz Ahmed, Kate Hudson, Liev Schreiber, Kiefer Sutherland, Om Puri, Shabana Azmi** Directed by **Mira Nair** (USA/UK/Qatar)
Another take on the machinations of Wall Street, this time from the perspective of a young Pakistani. As Changez (Ahmed, from Four Lions and Trishna) chases the American dream, his aspirations are confounded by his Asian roots - and a hostage crisis. Adapted from the 2007 novel of the same name by Mohsin Hamid.



The Reluctant Fundamentalist

Deadfall

CERT 15 (95mins)
Starring **Eric Bana, Olivia Wilde, Charlie Hunnam, Kris Kristofferson, Sissy Spacek, Kate Mara, Treat Williams** Directed by **Stefan Ruzowitzky** (USA)
Not to be confused with the Michael Caine film of the same name - or the virtually un-seen Deadfall with Nicolas Cage - this is an original crime thriller. Two families - both with members in trouble with the law - find themselves inextricably linked during the holiday season of Thanksgiving. The Austrian director Stefan Ruzowitzky previously helmed The Counterfeiters (2007), which won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film.



From FRI 3 MAY

Mud

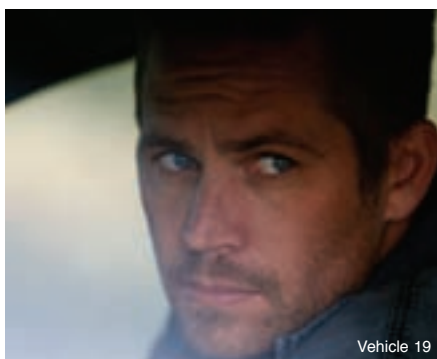
CERT 12a (130mins)
Starring **Matthew McConaughey, Tye Sheridan, Sam Shepard, Reese Witherspoon, Jacob Lofland, Michael Shannon, Joe Don Baker** Directed by **Jeff Nichols** (USA)
You just can't escape Matthew McConaughey these days, and this time he plays the title character, a fugitive on the run in Arkansas. Like the Christ figure in the British classic Whistle Down The Wind, this refugee is befriended by two children who help him evade the authorities - while also reuniting him with his true love (Witherspoon). Young Sheridan previously played Brad Pitt's son in The Tree Of Life.



Mud

Vehicle 19

CERT 12a (83mins)
Starring **Paul Walker, Naima McLean, Gys de Villiers, Leyla Haidarian** Directed by **Mukunda Michael Dewil** (USA)
Paul Walker likes his cars. Here, in South Africa, he picks up a rental and finds himself involved with a raft of corrupt police. And some hair-raising, high-speed chases. What he didn't do was look in the boot...



Vehicle 19

The Eye Of The Storm

CERT 15 (119mins)
Starring **Geoffrey Rush, Charlotte Rampling, Judy Davis, Robyn Nevin, Helen Morse, Colin Friels, Alexandra Schepisi** Directed by **Fred Schepisi** (Australia)
Patrick White is the only Australian to have received the Nobel Prize for Literature. So, considering the enormity of his literary output it's perhaps surprising that this is the very first adaptation of a Patrick White novel. Or not. Set in 1972, it focuses on the dying matriarch Elizabeth Hunter (Rampling), whose memory is slipping in between bouts of lucid acerbity as her grown-up children hover about her. Much money is at stake and the womanising rake Basil (Rush) and vaguely dotty Dorothy (Davis) are determined to be remembered in their mother's will. Rush, who is six years younger than Rampling, is an odd choice for Basil, but tweaks all his character's clichés with aplomb. Davis's Dorothy is a more interesting figure, although her complexities are never fully resolved. In fact, the whole film lacks a dramatic focus, shifting between potential black comedy and a nostalgic bathos. The characters are also decidedly unsympathetic, prompting a desire for a shock of dark humour or at least a recognisable note of empathy. We get neither.

Released from Fri 17 May

The Liability

CERT 15 (115mins)
Starring **Tim Roth, Jack O'Connell, Peter Mullan, Talulah Riley, Kierston Wareing** Directed by **Craig Viveiros** (UK)
Few English actors do better at nasty than Tim Roth. Here he plays an ageing hitman who involves a nineteen-year-old (O'Connell) in the joys of revenge, murder and sex trafficking.



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Released from Fri 23 May

Fast And Furious 6 CERT tbc

Starring Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson, Michelle Rodriguez, Jordana Brewster, Tyrese Gibson, Gina Carano
Directed by Justin Lin (USA)

Considering that Fast Five grossed a staggering \$626 million, it's no surprise that the franchise continues apace. This time round the fugitive speed freaks are offered a deal by DSS agent Luke Hobbs (Johnson): if they help him track down and apprehend a criminal mastermind, he will pardon them their past sins. Filmed in London, Liverpool, Scotland and the Canary Islands.



Fast And Furious 6

Released from Fri 24 May

The Hangover Part III CERT tbc

Starring Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms, Zach Galifianakis, Justin Bartha, Ken Jeong, Heather Graham, John Goodman
Directed by Todd Phillips (USA)

The last Hangover has become the highest-grossing 'R-rated' film of all time, so of course Phil, Stu, Alan and Doug are back for more misadventures. This time the incorrigible quartet get involved in a kidnapping, the criminal underworld and Vegas. And what happens in Vegas... The director assures us that the new edition will not only be the last in the 'trilogy' but will be totally different from the first two. Still, you should bring along your Paracetamol. You should bring along your Paracetamol.



The Hangover Part III

Everybody Has A Plan

CERT 15 (118mins)

Starring Viggo Mortensen, Soledad Villamil, Daniel Fanego, Javier Godino
Directed by Ana Piterberg (Argentina)

When his twin dies, Agustín (Mortensen) decides to finally leave Buenos Aires behind and take on the identity of his brother. However, in the rural backwater of Paraná Delta, Agustín must also contend with the criminal trappings of his late brother's life. Expect some pretty brutal violence.



Easy Money CERT 15 (125mins)

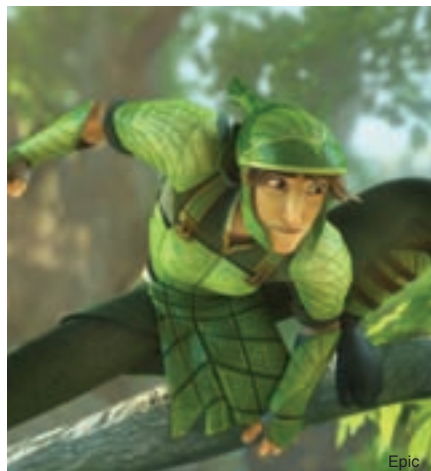
Starring Joel Kinnaman, Matias Padin Varela, Dragomir Mrcic, Lisa Henni
Directed by Daniél Espinosa (Sweden)

As Sweden continues to dominate television and literature, along comes the Swedish novelist and defence lawyer Jens Lapidus with his so-called 'Stockholm Noir trilogy.' The first installment, Snabba Cash (2006), has now been turned into Easy Money and follows the downhill trajectory of an enterprising student who finds a lucrative way of scoring 'easy money': selling cocaine. Zac Efron is already penciled in to star in the American remake.

Epic CERT tbc

Featuring the voices of Amanda Seyfried, Josh Hutcherson, Colin Farrell, Beyoncé Knowles, Christoph Waltz, Jason Sudeikis
Directed by Chris Wedge (USA)

Based on William Joyce's children's book The Leaf Men And The Brave Good Bugs, Epic is the latest animated adventure from the people who brought us Ice Age and Rio. Set in a magical deep wood, it tells the story of a teenage girl (Seyfried) who is shrunken to a fraction of her size. She is then compelled to collaborate with a warrior race known as The Leaf Men in order to fight the evil forces of the Boggans. Against the better wishes of its director, the 'toon has been compared to Avatar and FernGully: The Last Rainforest. In 3D.



Epic

The Big Wedding CERT 15 (89mins)

Starring Robert De Niro, Katherine Heigl, Diane Keaton, Amanda Seyfried, Topher Grace, Susan Sarandon, Robin Williams
Directed by Justin Zackham (USA)

Weddings naturally lend themselves to comedy and few nuptial farces have boasted such a stellar line-up. Still, it does all sound rather familiar. Anyway, Robert De Niro and Diane Keaton play a long-divorced couple who are forced to pretend they are still happily married at their adopted son's big ceremony. It's based on the 2006 French comedy Mon frère se marie.

Released from Fri 31 May

Byzantium CERT 15 (118mins)

Starring Gemma Arterton, Saoirse Ronan, Sam Riley, Jonny Lee Miller, Tom Hollander, Daniel Mays
Directed by Neil Jordan (UK/Ireland/USA)

Gemma Arterton seems a little young to be playing the mother of Saoirse Ronan, but then they are both vampires. More vampires! Still, it will be interesting to see what director Neil Jordan (The Crying Game) does with the genre. He hasn't directed one of these since he cast Tom Cruise as a 234-year-old bloodsucker in Interview With the Vampire (in 1994).

The Purge CERT tbc

Starring Ethan Hawke, Lena Headey, Max Burkholder, Edwin Hodge
Directed by James DeMonaco (USA)

In the near future, the USA has become a utopian state. This is because, extraordinary as it may seem, one night of every year everybody can commit any crime they like - with impunity. That way, a sort of 'national cleansing' sorts out all the amoral rage for the remaining twelve months. If you can survive the night...



The Purge

Film A-Z LISTINGS

All films are currently on general release unless otherwise stated. For full listing information, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

Arbitrage 15

Richard Gere plays a businessman who wants everything a little too much and unexpectedly finds both his business and marriage under threat. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, until Sun 5 May*

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel 12a

For a disparate group of English pensioners, retirement takes an unconventional turn when they abandon their homeland for a seemingly luxurious sanctuary in Jaipur, India. *Showing at Wem Town Hall, Weds 15 May*

Beyond The Hills 12a

Romanian film about two young women who grew up together in the same orphanage; one has since found refuge but refuses to leave with her friend who has made a life for herself in Germany. *Showing at Light House Media Centre, W'hampton, until Thurs 2 May; mac, Birmingham, Weds 1 - Thurs 2 May*

The Big Wedding 15

Read the preview on page 57

Breath Of The Gods u

Modern yoga originated in the early twentieth century, a creation of Indian savant T Krishnamacharya - this documentary explores his life and teaching. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sun 26 & Mon 27 May*

Broken 15

Eleven-year-old Skunk doesn't have a perfect life, but when she witnesses an inexplicable act of violence, things start to go very wrong indeed. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Tues 21 & Thurs 23 May*

The Cabinet Of Dr. Caligari u

Werner Krauss plays the title character, a sinister hypnotist who travels the

carnival circuit displaying a somnambulist named Cesare. *Showing at Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Sun 5 May*

Chimpanzee u

Read the preview on page 54

Cloud Atlas 15

An exploration of the actions of individuals and their impact on each other in the past, present and future. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 4 - Fri 10 May; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Tues 7 - Weds 8 May*

Market Drayton, Tues 28 & Thurs 30 May

Doctor Who - The Orphaned Episodes u

Three episodes from the 1960s - The Celestial Toymaker, The Evil Of The Daleks and The Abominable Snowman, featuring William Hartnell and Patrick Troughton. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Sat 18 May*

First Position u

A documentary following six young dancers from around the world as they prepare for a gruelling international ballet competition. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Mon 13 - Thurs 16 May*

Gangs Of Wasseypur Part 2 18

The second instalment of the Gangs of Wasseypur series, centring around the power struggles, politics and vengeance between three crime families. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Tues 7 May*

Good Vibrations 15

At first a sort of High Fidelity with an Irish accent, Good Vibrations moves up a gear when Terri Hooley's inexhaustible ambition turns him into a mover and shaker in the music business. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 9 May*

The Great Gatsby tbc

Read the preview on page 53

The Hangover Pt 3 tbc

Read the preview on page 57

A Hijacking 15

After hijacking a Danish cargo ship, Somali pirates start to engage in escalating negotiations with authorities in Copenhagen. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 24 - Tues 28 May*

Hitchcock 12a

Anthony Hopkins portrays the master of suspense in Sacha Gervasi's account of the personal partnership between the director and his wife - played by Helen Mirren. *Showing at Wem Town Hall, until Weds 1 May; Artrix, Birmingham, until Fri 3 May*

Home 12a

A downhearted architect returns to the village of his childhood to recuperate from his high-pressure life in Istanbul - a perfect opportunity to go back to his roots and hopefully find the origins of his existential funk. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 10 - Sun 12 May*

I Give It A Year 15

This romcom focuses on the stresses a couple face in their first year of marriage. With their first anniversary approaching, can Josh and Nat combat their differences? Stephen Merchant and Minnie Driver are among a first rate cast. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Fri 3 - Tues 7 May*

I'm So Excited 15

Read the preview on page 54

In The Fog 12a

This Russian film is set on the western frontiers of the USSR during World War Two. The region is under the control of the Germans, and a man, wrongly accused of collaborating, is faced with an unenviable moral choice. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 28 May*

In The House 15

A social satire that explores the boundaries of the teacher-student relationship when a talented student hands in essays detailing the private life of a school friend. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 17 - Sat 18 May; OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 17 - Thurs 23 May*

Iron Man 3 12a

Counting his turn in Avengers Assemble, this is the fourth time Robert Downey Jr has played the glib billionaire with the steely alter-ego. Ben Kingsley also stars. *Showing at The Electric, Birmingham, until Thurs 9 May*

It's Complicated 12

During her son's college graduation, Jane hooks up with ex-husband Jake, who's married to a younger woman. To complicate matters, she also finds herself drawn to Adam, a smitten architect. *Showing at Forest Arts*

Centre, Walsall, Thurs 30 May

I Wish PG

Film by acclaimed Japanese director Hirokazu Koreeda which looks at the lives of two young brothers who try to reunite their family as, after their parents' divorce, they are forced to live in separate cities. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Weds 8 May; Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 21 May*

Labyrinth u

When Sarah wishes her little brother would disappear, she doesn't expect her wish to come true. Horrified by the loss, she sets out to find him and begins the adventure of a lifetime. David Bowie stars. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 4 May*

A Late Quartet 15

The Fugue String Quartet play Beethoven, Bach and Hayden, but their future is threatened when one of them may or may not have Parkinson's. Stars Philip Seymour Hoffman and Christopher Walken. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Weds 1 May; Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 10 - Sat 11 May; Artrix, Birmingham, Mon 20 - Tue 21 May; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Weds 29 - Thurs 30 May*

Les Miserables 12a

Tom Hooper's much-acclaimed cinematic version of Victor Hugo's epic tale. Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe and Anne Hathaway star. *Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 3 May - Thurs 9 May*

The Liability 15

Read the preview on page 55

The Look Of Love 18

This is the Paul Raymond story - a surprisingly sedate, conventional biopic for a man who owned large chunks of Soho and had a penchant for strip shows and racy periodicals (like Men Only). Steve Coogan stars. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 10 - Thurs 16 May; Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 31 May - Sat 1 Jun*

Lore 15

Lore and her siblings are left to fend for themselves when their Nazi parents are taken into Allied custody. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Weds 1 May; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Mon 13 - Tues 14 May*

Love Is All You Need 15

At a wedding on the coast of Sorrento, hairdresser and mother of the bride is suffering both from cancer and an unfaithful husband. But it's not until she (literally) crashes into Pierce Brosnan that her problems really start. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 3 - Thurs 9 May*

Miami Connection 18

A martial arts rock band goes up against a band of motorcycle ninjas involved in Florida's drug trade. *Showing at The Electric, Birmingham, Fri 3 May*

Mud 12a

Read the preview on page 55

No 15

'No' is the sentiment of Garcia Bernal's adman, working in Chile in 1988, who's asked to come up with a campaign to end Pinochet's fourteen-year reign of corruption. *Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Weds 29 - Thurs 30 May*

The Odd Life Of Timothy Green u

A childless couple bury a box in their backyard containing all their wishes for an infant. Soon, a child materialises, though Timothy Green is not all he appears. *Showing at Light House Media Centre, W'hampton, until Tues 2 May; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Weds 29 - Thurs 30 May*

Our Children 15

Read the preview on page 55

Oz The Great And Powerful PG

Before Dorothy and Toto toddled down the Yellow Brick Road, The Wizard (played by James Franco) had to find his own feet in the Land Of Oz. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sun 5 May; Festival Drayton*



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	LIGHT HOUSE MEDIA CENTRE, WOLVERHAMPTON						

For full venue and listing information, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

Centre, Market Drayton, Fri 24 & Sat 25 May; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Mon 27 - Weds 29 May

Papadopoulos And Sons 15

Harry Papadopoulos has been elected Entrepreneur of the Year, just as the credit crunch arrives and forces him to downscale. A low-key, sweet and strangely life-affirming comedy. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Fri 10 - Tues 14 May; Wern Town Hall, Weds 22 - Thurs 23 May*

The Pied Piper Of Hamelin & Cinderella u

A special double-bill brought to life with stop-motion animation. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Sat 25 May*

The Place Beyond The Pines 15

Ryan Gosling plays a stunt biker who turns to crime to provide for his girlfriend and newborn son. However, Bradley Cooper, as an ambitious cop, has got his number. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 3 - Thurs 9 May; Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 24 - Sat 25 May*

Post Tenebras Lux 18

A wealthy industrialist has chosen to live with his family in the Mexican

countryside, away from the trappings of wealth and the city. Yet the isolation they craved has brought little peace to their world. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 14 May*

Promised Land 15

Matt Damon plays a slick agent for an energy company. When he arrives at a small farming community to facilitate the process of hydraulic gas drilling, events conspire to transform his whole outlook on life. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 17 - Thurs 23 May*

Reality 15

Luciano is a Neapolitan fishmonger who, together with his wife Maria, pulls off little scams to bolster their income. But their lives change when he's persuaded to try out for a reality show. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Weds 1 - Thurs 2 May; Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 3 May*

Rebellion 15

A true story set in 1968 in the Pacific French territory of New Caledonia, focusing on the capture of a police station in which four gendarmes were killed and twenty hostages taken. *Showing at Artrix, Birmingham, Mon 6 & Mon 13 May*

Repulsion 15

A young French girl living in '60s London is repelled yet fascinated by men. Her radiant beauty attracts the opposite sex, but she shrinks away from their advances. Starring Catherine Deneuve. *Showing at Artrix, Birmingham, Sat 18 May*

Robot And Frank 12a

Frank Langella is Frank, an old jewel thief who's given a domestic robot by his son. Frank soon realises it could help re-boot his old career. *Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, until Thurs 2 May; mac, Birmingham, Fri 3 May; Wern Town Hall, Weds 8 - Thurs 9 May; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Fri 10 & Mon 13 May; Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 25 - Tues 28 May*

Rock Of Ages 12

The story of a small town girl and a city boy who meet on Sunset Strip while chasing their Hollywood dreams. Tom Cruise stars. *Showing at Forest Arts Centre, Walsall, Fri 10 May*

Side Effects 15

Emily Taylor has enough on her plate, waiting for the release of her husband from jail. But the side effects from a drug prescribed by her psychi-

atrist lead to murder... Jude Law and Catherine Zeta-Jones star. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Sat 18 & Mon 20 May; Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 2 May*

The Spirit Of '45 u

Ken Loach returns to documentary for the first time since 2005. The title refers to the last year of World War Two, when Britain's Labour government rallied the nation to rebuild its battered economy. *Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Mon 27 - Tues 28 May*

Starbuck 15

A hapless forty-two-year-old gets the shock of his life when he finds out he's fathered hundreds of children through a sperm donation programme - and one hundred-and-forty-two of them want to know his identity. *Showing at Wern Town Hall, Weds 1 - Thurs 2 May*

Star Trek: Into Darkness tbc

Read the preview on page 53

Theorem 15

An enigmatic visitor to a wealthy family in Milan seduces them all before leaving a few days later. After he's gone, each person is profoundly and distinctly changed in this classic Italian film from

the director Pier Paolo Pasolini. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Weds 29 - Thurs 30 May*

Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy PG

George Smiley, recently retired MI6 agent, is doing his best to adjust to a life outside the secret service, but when a disgraced agent reappears with some new information, he's drawn back into the murky field of espionage. *Showing at Norbury Theatre, Droitwich Spa, Weds 15 May*

To The Wonder 12a

Ben Affleck and Olga Kurylenko feature as a couple who have a passionate affair in Paris, but whose relationship starts to falter back in the US when Affleck's stolid engineer is reintroduced to a childhood friend, played by Rachel McAdams. *Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Mon 6 - Thurs 9 May; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Tues 14 - Weds 15 May*

Trance 15

James McAvoy plays an auctioneer who gets involved with a criminal gang and has to resort to hypnosis to recover a stolen painting. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 3 - Sat 4 May; OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 10 - Thurs 16 May; Festival Drayton*

Centre, Market Drayton, Fri 17 & Mon 20 May; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Fri 24 & Tues 28 May;

Untouchables 15

After a paragliding accident in which he's paralysed, a millionaire hires a poor black man from the ghetto as his carer. *Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Mon 13 May*

Vehicle 19 12a

Read the preview on page 55

Vinyl 15

A comedy in which an ageing rock group use a fresh-faced punk band to front their new release; in so doing, fooling the music industry. Based on a true story. Stars Phil Daniels and Keith Allen. *Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 24 - Sun 26 May*

21 And Over 15

Read the preview on page 54

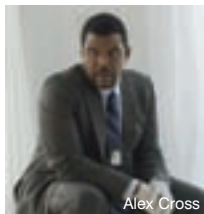
42 tbc

Presented by KUSH Promotions, this is the biographical story of baseball legend Jackie Robinson, who was the first black man to break the colour-line and sign for a baseball team in the major leagues. *Showing at The Drum, Birmingham, Fri 17 May*

DVD NEW RELEASES

Alex Cross 12a

Tyler Perry plays a young Alex Cross. The detective-cum-psychologist finds himself up against a serial killer who seems to be able to predict his every move. Matthew Fox also stars. **Released 06 May**



Alex Cross

Quartet 12a

Dustin Hoffman directs Maggie Smith, Michael Gambon, Billy Connolly and Tom Courtenay in a gentle comedy-drama set in a retirement home for opera singers and musicians, where the occupants are facing more than one kind of music. **Released 06 May**



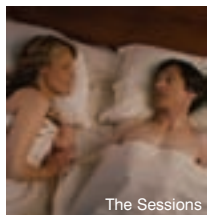
Quartet

Hors Satan 15

A French film from the director Bruno Dumont which stars David Dewaele as a stranger in a village on the French Opal Coast. Prone to irrational outbursts of violence - and yet not without a spiritual connection - he develops a relationship with a young woman from the village. **Released 13 May**

The Sessions 15

A film about intimacy and disability. The true story of a disabled poet who engages the services of a sex therapist. John Hawkes and Helen Hunt star. **Released 20 May**



The Sessions

Playing For Keeps 15

Gerard Butler plays a coach for his son's soccer team who is constantly distracted by the mothers of the other young players. Jessica Biel and Uma Thurman also star. **Released 20 May**



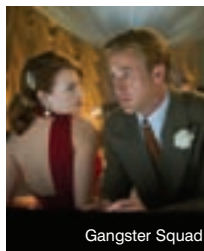
Django Unchained 18

Quentin Tarantino tackles the Western genre and Jamie Foxx plays a slave who teams up with a German bounty hunter to track down some unsavoury killers. Samuel L. Jackson also stars. **Released 20 May**

Gangster Squad 15

Based on a series of articles in the LA Times, this film focuses on the efforts of the LAPD in

the 1940s and '50s to rid the city of East Coast hoodlums. Josh Brolin and Ryan Gosling star. **Released 27 May**



Gangster Squad

Parental Guidance u

Times have changed and Billy Crystal and Bette Midler are now playing grandparents. Here, they land up babysitting their grandchildren and having to pick their way through the modern technology the children take for granted. Still, Crystal has a few tried and tested tricks up his sleeve. New school meets old school in this comedy. **Released 27 May**

The Last Stand 15

Arnold Schwarzenegger plays a former narcotics cop who's now sheriff in a sleepy border town. Things liven up when a drug czar pays a visit. **Released 27 May**



The Last Stand

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ABOUT FACE

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Galleries Night
Thursday 16 May, 5–9pm



Art Bus celebrates its tenth birthday as part of
Museums at Night 2013. Six Birmingham art galleries
are open late with free entry. Enjoy the free Art Bus
between venues plus free guided tours. Download a
timetable from gallery websites.

www.ikon-gallery.co.uk / 0121 248 0708

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18 MAY - 14 JULY

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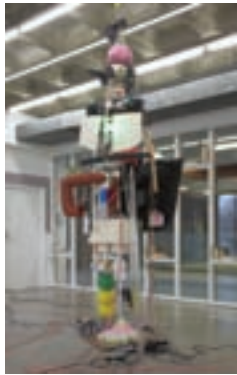
Staffordshire
County Council

Visual Arts

This This Monster This Things

Ikon Gallery, Birmingham,
Wed 1 May - Sun 14 July

Described as 'an exquisite corpse made from objects produced by fifty-one artist friends and acquaintances', it's fair to say that Giorgio Sadotti's This This Monster This Things is a truly unique work of art. A Frankensteinian self-portrait created from the contributions of people who've become familiar with Sadotti and his work over a twenty-five-year period, the display sees the various elements of the artist's figure being fitted onto a precisely engineered aluminium skeleton. The resulting presentation is of a character constructed from assorted media, including sculpture, paintings and photographs, neon, a rose frozen in a block of ice and audio-visual body parts.



Storytelling: Once Upon A Time In The West Midlands

Bilston Craft Gallery, Sat 25 May - Sat 24 August

Craftworks which have been created in response to urban myth and folklore form the basis of this major exhibition at Bilston Craft Gallery. Featuring artists inspired by narrative and character, and using a broad range of objects to illustrate much-loved tales from the region, Storytelling is inspired by tales of Anglo-Saxon King Wild Edric, who sleeps beneath the Stiperstones in Shropshire with his army, ready to ride out to protect Britain should danger threaten the nation. The polar bears that escaped Dudley Zoo and now roam the limestone caverns beneath Dudley Castle provide a further source of inspiration!



Staffordshire Open Art

Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford,
Sat 18 May - Sun 14 July

One of Shire Hall Gallery's most popular exhibitions, Staffordshire Open Art provides an annual platform for the county's creative talent to showcase their work in a variety of media, including painting, drawing, print, photography, sculpture, 3D mixed media and film animation. The competition is open to local artists of any age and carries a top prize of £750.



Paul Cézanne, Self Portrait, c.1880-81. ©The National Gallery, London.

About Face

The Barber Institute, Birmingham, Fri 17 May - Sun 1 September

A collaboration with London's National Portrait Gallery, About Face features an eclectic array of works which examine both the function of and the variety of approaches to twentieth century portraiture. Presenting a selection of formal commissions and intimate sketches, the exhibition includes images of Henry Moore, Ted Hughes and Stephen Hawking, and features works by artists such as Sylvia Plath, Percy Wyndham-Lewis and Oskar Kokoschka. The portraits are complemented by original and related material from The Barber's Cadbury Research Library.

Katie Paterson: In Another Time

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Thurs 2 May - Sat 22 June

This attempt to connect humanity and intangible natural phenomena sees all manner of everyday technologies, from doorbells to record players, being used to explore the origins of time and space. The largest, most comprehensive exhibition to date from Glasgow-born Katie Paterson, In Another Time features letters of condolence for the death of stars, an archive of darkness from throughout the universe, and light bulbs specially created to simulate moonlight.



Ongoing exhibitions

Big Bear Exhibition

Solihull Arts Complex,
Mon 20 May - Mon 10 June

Birmingham-based Big Bear Music reaches its forty-fifth birthday in October, and plans are well under way to celebrate the occasion with a series of events and projects. A prominent element of the celebration is the Photography Heritage Project, which aims to scan and restore an archive of music photographs dating from the 1960s, many of which have never before been seen. This exhibition at Solihull Art Gallery

includes the first selection of negatives to have been digitalised for display. Images of The Rolling Stones, Little Richard, FollyRoy Forbes and the first ever photographs of The Move and The Moody Blues all feature.



FollyRoy Forbes

A Factory As It Might Be

International Project Space, Birmingham
Institute of Art and Design, until Sat 11 May

Having first manifested as a series of performances, talks and screenings, A Factory As It Might Be is an exhibition and ongoing active research project conceived by artist Patrick Staff. Taking as its starting points William Morris' eponymous 1884 text on the re-imagining of the factory, and Colin Ward's response in The Factory We Never Had one hundred-and-ten years later, the project reflexively examines contemporary sites of production, education and social space - one of which is Bournville's art school and factory.

Quaker Tapestry Exhibition

Ironbridge Gorge Museum,
Wed 22 May - Wed 5 June

Providing an insight into events of key importance to the Quaker fraternity, this major exhibition celebrates the notions of the religious movement and depicts subjects as wide-ranging as trade, welfare, the Irish potato famine, railways, the slave trade and prison reform. Recognised as a masterpiece of storytelling, the textiled panels were embroidered by four thousand men, women and children, aged between four and ninety, over a fifteen-year period, from 1981 to 1996.



For full listing information on Visual Art exhibitions, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

UNFOLDING THE ARYAN PAPERS Film installation created following research into the Stanley Kubrick archive, until Thurs 2 May, Herbert Museum & Art Gallery, Coventry

35 YEARS OF WATCHING PAINT DRY An exploration of the fascinating world of artist and writer Geoff Tristram, until Sat 4 May, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

THE ART OF CLAY EXHIBITION Four 'Young Curators 2012/13' students illustrate the breadth of ceramic practice in the UK with an exhibition of useable vessels and abstract sculptural works, made using a range of techniques and styles, until Sat 4 May, RBSA, Birmingham

OPEN ALL HOURS An historic look at the shops and eating places of Wolverhampton, until Sun 5 May, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

MONET'S VIEW Michelle White is the artist behind this intriguing presentation, which uses as its inspiration the windswept trees in the foreground of Monet's painting The Church At Varengeville, until Sun 5 May, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

THE MOST PERFECT EXAMPLE OF HIS WORK A display which explores Robert Atkinson and the building of The Barber Institute, until Sun 5 May, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

CLOSE TO THE HEART Featuring seventeenth to nineteenth century British miniatures from UK collections, until Sun 5 May, The Barber

Institute, Birmingham

THE MYSTERY OF AJW BY BARNEY SNOW Exhibition featuring artworks from the Black Country's very own Banksy - a ghost-writer known as AJM who's been baffling locals by leaving sketches of 1940s star Mario Lanza across the region for the past fifty years, until Mon 6 May, The Public, West Bromwich

A MOST PECULIAR PLACE BY BRENDAN JACKSON A huge map revealing the things that are odd, curious, unique, particular or just plain peculiar about the Black Country, until Mon 6 May, The Public, West Bromwich

ZULU DAWN Photographic exhibition which celebrates the birth of UK hip-hop, featuring famous names in early West Midlands deejaying, breakdancing, rapping and graffiti art, including Goldie, until Mon 6 May, The Public, West Bromwich

BLACK COUNTRY LEGENDS Exhibition which celebrates the charm, quirkiness and characters of the Black Country, until Mon 6 May, The Public, West Bromwich

SOLIHULL ARTS SOCIETIES' COMBINED SPRING EXHIBITION 2013 Featuring works from Drawbridge Art Group, Millpool Art Group & Solihull Society of Arts, until Sun 11 May, Solihull Arts Complex

MADE IN THE MIDDLE An exhibition of new contemporary craft from a wealth of talented makers from across the Midlands, until Sat 11 May, Bilston Craft Gallery

W. MICHAEL BROWN RBSA Ranging from naturalist

to semi-abstract works, this solo show includes paintings in various media exploring aspects of composition with inanimate objects, until Sat 11 May, Royal Birmingham Society Of Artists, Birmingham

MAD DOGS AND ENGLISHMEN A humorous exhibition exploring the relationship between man and his four-legged friend, until Sun 12 May, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

PAUL CROOK - TRIANGLE HOUSE Exhibition questioning the way in which we understand and engage with various aspects of the urban landscape, until Sun 12 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

FAUX GEORGIAN Featuring new work by automata maker John Grayson, until Sun 12 May, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

POP HIGHLIGHTS Chance to see key works from the gallery's pop art collection, including pieces by Peter Blake, Richard Hamilton, Jann Haworth, Allen Jones and Andy Warhol, until Wed 15 May, W'hampton Art Gallery

WILLIAM MORRIS AND THE KELMSCOTT PRESS Fine examples of books from the Kelmscott Press, founded by William Morris in 1891, are here showcased in an exhibition from the Cadbury Research Library, until Fri 17 May, Bramhall Building, University of B'ham

ME TIME: MIXED MEDIA An exhibition featuring a diverse range of work using textiles, printmaking, drawing and painting, until Fri 17 May, The Place, Oakengates, Telford

THE ART COLLECTION Discover the history behind the gallery's collection and see the earliest and most recently collected paintings, until Sat 18 May, Worcester

City Art Gallery
PUPPET SHOW Part of a series of group exhibitions and productions within Eastside Projects that examines modes of display and the construction of a public sphere, until Sat 18 May, Eastside Projects, Birmingham

JOHN FALLON EXHIBITION: PICTURE HOUSES Exhibition which documents the facades and interior spaces of former picture houses in and around Birmingham and the Black Country, until Sun 19 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

NEW ART WEST MIDLANDS Showcasing the works of more than twenty recent visual arts graduates from the region's five university 'art schools', until Sun 19 May, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

BLACK COUNTRY SEEN Exhibition of local Black Country heritage with a particular focus on the canal network, until Sun 26 May, Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge

STREAM - LUCE CHOULES An exhibition of work exploring the monuments and landscapes of the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site, until Fri 31 May

DAVID HANCOCK: COSPLAY Exploration of the world of youth sub-cultures, until Sat 1 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

A UNIVERSAL ARCHIVE: WILLIAM KENTRIDGE AS PRINTMAKER Major exhibition featuring one hundred prints in all media dating from 1988 to the present day, until Sun 2 June, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

ZED NELSON: LOVE ME Photographic exhibition which reflects on the cultural and commercial forces that drive the global obsession with

Museums & Art Galleries

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BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY 0121 303 2834

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Black Country

BANTOCK HOUSE WOLVERHAMPTON
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BILSTON CRAFT GALLERY
01902 552507

BROADFIELD HOUSE GLASS MUSEUM, DUDLEY
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DUDLEY MUSEUM & ART GALLERY
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LIGHT HOUSE MEDIA CENTRE WOLVERHAMPTON
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THE NEW ART GALLERY

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RED HOUSE GLASS CONE
01384 812750

WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY 01902 552055

Shropshire

BEAR STEPS GALLERY, SHREWSBURY
01743 344994

TWENTY TWENTY GALLERY, MUCH WENLOCK
01952 727952

THE WILLOW GALLERY, OSWESTRY
01691 657575

Staffordshire

THE POTTERIES MUSEUM &

ART GALLERY 01782 232323

SHIRE HALL GALLERY STAFFORD 01785 278345

STAFFORDSHIRE MUSEUM, SHUGBOROUGH
01889 881388

Warwickshire

COMPTON VERNEY GALLERY
01926 645500

HERBERT ART GALLERY COVENTRY 02476 832386

MEAD GALLERY WARWICK
02476 524524

ROYAL PUMP ROOMS
01926 742700

Worcestershire

WORCESTER CITY ART GALLERY 01905 25371

Visit whatsonlive.co.uk for venue website details

VisualArts LISTINGS

For full listing information on Visual Art exhibitions, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

youth and beauty, until Sat 8 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery & Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

JUNE RIDGEWAY RBSA A collection of burnished ceramics inspired by the patina of age on weathered surfaces, until Sat 8 June, RBSA, Birmingham

TREASURE ME: WORCESTER'S ART COLLECTION Celebration of Worcester's magnificent art collection, until Sat 8 June, Worcester City Art Gallery

THE PERFECTION OF ASPIRATION Exhibition by Alice Jones, until Sat 8 June, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

WASTED Exhibition of work by Gina Czarnecki which explores the life-giving potential of 'discarded' body parts and their relationship to myths, history, cutting-edge stem cell research and notions of what constitutes informed consent, until Sun 9 June, Herbert Art

Gallery & Museum, Coventry

SPRING SHOWCASE Featuring a selection of specially commissioned homewares, jewellery and textiles, until Tues 18 Jun, Bilston Craft Gallery

MICHAEL SALT ARBSA A solo show of landscapes and seascapes exploring the atmospheric effects of water, until Sat 22 June, RBSA, B'ham

BELLINI, BOTTICELLI, TITAN Major exhibition comprising forty of Glasgow's greatest Italian paintings - the finest and most comprehensive civic collection in the UK, until Sun 23 June, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

THE NATURE OF THE BEAST Exhibition which brings together works by a diverse range of artists, all of whom confront and challenge attitudes to the natural world, until Sun 30 June, New Art Gallery, Walsall

DRINK AND BE MERRY Featuring a wide array of drinking vessels from the seventeenth to the twenty-first century, all of which have been carefully selected from the museum's collection, until Sun 30 June, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

MR WATT: GRUMPY MAN OF METAL An exhibition by blacksmith artist Jon Mills featuring fun and whimsical sculptures showing the many adventures of Mr Watts, until Sat 31 Aug, Ingenuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD: DARK AGE DISCOVERY Featuring more than two hundred pieces from the Anglo-Saxon Hoard, until Sun 1 Sep, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

CRAFTSENSE Exhibition featuring over one hundred of the world-renowned Bilston enamels, until Sun 1 Sep, Bilston Craft Gallery

MORRIS THE MAN Exhibition which takes a look at the early life of the man behind the William Morris car making empire, until Sun 1 Sep, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire

MEMENTO MORI A new

display which examines changing approaches towards death, burial and commemoration, until Sun 1 Sep, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

ARTIST ROOM A year-long exhibition featuring sculptures, paintings and prints. The display is accompanied by a series of inspired satellite exhibitions, events and activities through the course of the year, until Sat 27 Oct, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

JACOB EPSTEIN AND DAMIEN HURST Exhibition of works spanning the two ends of the twentieth century, until Sun 27 Oct, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

OUTSIDE IN: CENTRAL Regional arm of a national art programme focusing on marginalised and outsider art, until Sun 15 Dec, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

MARX-LAMBERT COLLECTION REDISPLAY Exhibition of works by one of Britain's foremost designers, Enid Marx, together with more than four hundred items of folk and popular art collected with her lifelong companion, historian Margaret Lambert (1906-95), until Sun 15 Dec, Compton Verney,

Warwickshire
SHOWBOROUGH Sculpture exhibition, Thurs 2 - Thurs 16 May, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

ARTISTS' PLANS FOR SUSTAINABILITY Featured artists include Joseph Beuys, Carole Collet, N55, Nils Norman, Lucy and Jorge Orta & Marjetica Potrc, Thurs 2 May - Sat 22 June, Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre

OPEN 2013 Biennial open exhibition featuring selected works by artists based in the West Midlands, Thurs 2 May - Sun 14 July, Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum

ALL LOCKED UP Exhibition featuring locks and keys from the city's collection, Thurs 9 May - Sun 11 Aug, Bantock House, Wolverhampton

DAVID ROWAN: PACHA KUTI TEN Exploration of the hidden, unknown and often forgotten underground environments that exist beneath Birmingham and the Black Country, Fri 10 May - Sun 21 July, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

BRUSH STROKES Exhibition which commemorates the centenary of the death of the

painter Alfred East, Sat 11 May - Sat 22 June

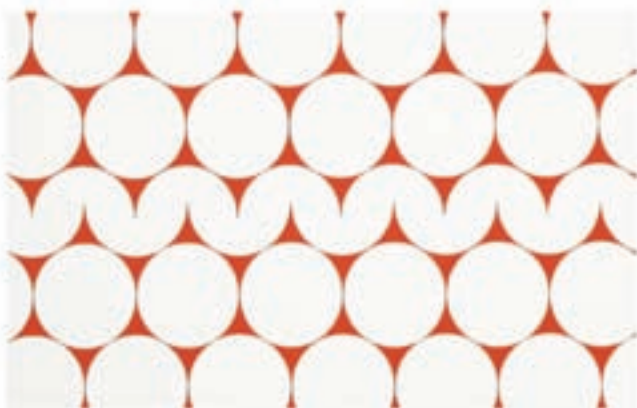
STEPHANIE REDFERN RBSA Painted, collaged and stitched textiles which respond to weather, form, colour & light, Mon 13 May - Sat 22 June, RBSA, Birmingham

FIVE PHOTOGRAPHERS Exhibition of work by Teresa Bailey, Paul Coles, Paul Mercer and Alan Organ, Tues 14 - Mon 20 May, Solihull Arts Complex

SUSTAINING THE PERSON WITHIN Exhibition led by artists Kathryn Pettit & Jan Gay which looks at how the rich experiences of the elderly can be forgotten once living in a care home, Mon 20 May - Sat 6 July, Solihull Arts Complex

STREET STORIES BY DAVID FINCHETT An exhibition of urban photography taken in Wolverhampton, Sat 25 May - Sat 22 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS A showcase of work (jewellery, printmaking and abstract painting) produced by professional artists who recently took part in a course run by the Adult Education Service, Sat 25 May - Sat 22 June, Bilston Craft Gallery



François Morellet

1 May - 14 July 2013

Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HS
Open Tuesday - Sunday, 11am - 6pm, free entry
0121 248 0708 / www.ikon-gallery.co.uk

Exhibition supported by Institut Français Royaume-Uni.
Ikon is supported using public funding by Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council. Ikon Gallery Limited trading as Ikon. Registered charity no. 528892.

IKON INSTITUT FRANÇAIS ROYAUME-UNI

Join the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum for

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I Protest! FREE

Saturday 18 May, 2.00pm - 8.00pm

FREE ADMISSION

Exploring the themes from Caught in the Crossfire, this large scale event welcomes everyone as part of the national Museums at Night event. Be the first to see new acquisitions, talk to artists, and enjoy live music and a street art drawing battle! Whether you fancy trying your hand at something new, or simply watching one of the stunning displays, there's sure to be something to delight and inspire everyone.

Look out for our new website launching soon!

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COLLECTOMANIA: WEST MEETS EAST

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BLACK COUNTRY SEEN

UNTIL 26 MAY

Paintings, prints and sculptures on a Black Country theme, focusing on the canal network. Work by Royal Birmingham Society of Artists members Brian Fletcher, Paul Hipkiss, Peter Shread and Tom Millard.



SPRING CRAFT MARKET **FREE**

SATURDAY 18 &
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Our made@thecone tenants will be running their popular Have-a-Go day; try your hand at a new craft. Prices from £5.

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Visit the website for a full programme.
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Saturday 18 May: 1pm – 3.30pm @ Cone
Come along and have fun and we tidy up!

SPRING TRAIL **FREE**

25 MAY – 2 JUNE
Look for the clues at the Cone and Broadfield



ADULT CRAFT CLASSES @ BROADFIELD

10 May: Rag Rugging, try your hand at summer bunting: 10.30am – 12.30pm: £5.25

YOUTH CRAFT CLUB

11 May: 1.30 – 3.30

Things with Wings: leave your child with us in our new craft workshop and have fun with a new craft each month. Ages 8 – 14, £5.25

12 May: 1.30-3.30

Youth glass craft – drop in session (small charges applies)

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Events



The Baby Show

NEC, Birmingham, Fri 17 - Sun 19 May

The UK's most popular parenting event returns to the NEC this month, providing a perfect opportunity for new parents, parents-to-be and grandparents to shop for the latest maternity and baby products. With more than two hundred-and-fifty top brands available - including Mamas & Papas, Britax, Fisher-Price, Tommee Tippee, Vtech and

Philips Avent - visitors can 'try before they buy', with great savings to be made on many items. And, for those looking for an opportunity to show off their little cherubs, the show is hosting a Face Of The Baby Show competition, with professional photographers on hand to find a special face for next year's Baby Show marketing campaign.

Art Bus

Birmingham City Centre, Thurs 16 May

Birmingham's Art Bus is back on the road this month, transporting art lovers between the city's various galleries. The Art Bus is ten years old in 2013, an anniversary which is marked by two linking routes, with Ikon as a hub. The city centre route links Ikon, RBSA, BMAG and Eastside Projects, while the southern loop links Ikon with mac and the Barber. Free guided tours are available at most venues too. Timetables can be picked up from participating galleries, tourist information centres and public libraries, or can be downloaded from the galleries' websites.



Ikon Gallery



Donington Historic Festival

Donington Park, Fri 3 - Sun 5 May

Since its debut in 2011, the Donington Historic Festival has become a major fixture on the international racing calendar. Showcasing hundreds of world-class historic racing cars, the three-day event this year pays tribute to Ayrton Senna - one of motorsport's greatest legends - with static displays in the paddock and on-track demonstrations of cars which played a major role in the career of the late, great triple-World Champion. One of the cars featured is Senna's McLaren MP4/8 test car, in which he won the European Grand Prix at Donington Park in 1993. Other highlights during the weekend include flypasts by the Royal Air Force Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, various challenges in the paddock area, and a packed on-track programme of races featuring in excess of four hundred iconic racing cars.



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12-16 June 2013



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UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Shrewsbury Bookfest

Various locations in and around Shrewsbury, Fri 3 - Mon 6 May

This popular annual event provides an opportunity for youngsters to meet their favourite authors and indulge in a wealth of literature-inspired activities. Authors for 2013 include War Horse creator Michael Morpurgo, who'll be talking about latest novel *A Medal For Leroy*, BBC Radio Two presenter Simon Mayo, who'll share his inspiration for his science-based adventures, and Ian Whybrow, who returns by popular demand with *Harry And His Bucketful Of Dinosaurs*. Other related activities during the four-day Bookfest include *The Wimpy Kid Show*, hosted by Alastair Watson, and numerous free drop-in activities which will see the town's square transformed into *Never Never Land*.



Simon Mayo

Tudor Jousting Tournament

Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove, Sat 18 - Sun 19 May

Death-defying demonstrations featuring fully-armoured knights on horseback are sure to provide plenty of excitement at this popular weekend festival. Packed with Tudor entertainment, the two-day event provides a perfect opportunity for visitors to discover what life was like during medieval times. Younger visitors who really wish to get into the spirit of things are invited to go along to the joust dressed as Mike the Knight...



Middle Earth Weekend

Sarehole Mill, Birmingham, Sat 11 - Sun 12 May

This annual two-day event provides plenty of interest for fans of orcs, elves and goblins - and in particular for those who love the fantasy books of JR Tolkien. Middle Earth Weekend features a wide range of activities, including archery, barrel-racing, re-enactments, guided walks, storytelling and *Here Be Dragons*-themed attractions. This year's event celebrates milling and baking within the newly refurbished Sarehole Mill, a feature which forms the basis for Tolkien's mill in *The Hobbit* and *The Lord Of The Rings*.



The Pirates! An Adventure With Scientists

Thinktank, Birmingham, from 25 May

A swashbuckling adventure awaits visitors to Birmingham's science museum this summer, as characters and sets from the Sony Pictures Animation and Aardman Animations Award-nominated blockbuster *The Pirates!* are brought to life. As well as taking part in a variety of crafts - from model-making to animation - visitors are invited to dress up in pirate finery and become part of *The Pirate Captain's* crew, courtesy of the latest blue-screen technology. Referencing *Polly* - the dodo that thinks it's a parrot - a famed Dodo reconstruction, on loan from Oxford University, is being housed at Thinktank for the duration of the exhibition, linking the film with the world of natural history.

National Kit Car Show

Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, Sun 5 - Mon 6 May

More than four thousand cars - from the unusual to the exotic - are expected to feature at this unique Bank Holiday event in Warwickshire's Stoneleigh Park. In addition to spectacular stunt displays from Moto Stunts International, the two-day celebration of the kit car offers the chance for visitors to take a trip around the site's massive off-road course in an impressive Dakar 4x4, or try out a passenger ride with a wicked Westfield test driver on the Drift circuit.



Meccanuity

Enginuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire, Sat 4 - Mon 6 May

The popular event, facilitated by the Telford and Ironbridge Meccano Society, features an impressive array of large and small models for enthusiasts young and old. Alongside displays of giant cranes, steam engines and astronomical models, visitors will be able to

construct their own wonders using the abundance of Meccano parts available. The three-day event also hosts a competition where modellers are challenged to produce something out of the ordinary, with organisers requesting that this year's creations be inspired by Britain's recent cycling successes.

Birmingham Caribbean Festival

Victoria Square, Birmingham, Thurs 16 - Sat 18 May

An event to lift the spirits and bring a bit of colour to Victoria Square, this three-day festival celebrates Caribbean culture via music, food, drink, arts and crafts. Last year's event was sponsored by *Dragon's Den* entrepreneur Levi Roots, and attracted more than two hundred thousand visitors. It's hoped that this year's festivities will prove to be even more successful, with basket and jewellery-making workshops, competitions, drumming workshops and dancing all taking their place on the 2013 agenda.



THE SHUGBOROUGH FOOD & CRAFT FAIR

at the
Shugborough Estate
Milford Staffordshire ST17 0XB
**Saturday 18 &
Sunday 19 May**

**Jean-Christophe Novelli Sophie Grigson
and the Nigel Brown Cookery School**

admission: £5 concessions: £4 children age 5-16: £2
children younger than 5: FREE
family/group (2 adults + 2 children): £12
discounts are available at oakleighfairs.co.uk/shugborough

open between 10am - 5pm each day

A cracking celebration of all that is good to eat from across the counties and further afield. As well as Cookery demonstrations from Jean-Christophe Novelli on Saturday; dubbed 'The Nation's Favourite French Chef' Jean-Christophe is a 5 AA Rosette and multi Michelin Star award winning chef and on Sunday we have Sophie Grigson. Synonymous with great food and with a natural ability to teach cookery in an informal and fun way Sophie is a keen champion of eating well and eminently practical domestic cookery. There's a variety of other chefs including Nigel Brown's Cookery School and champions of healthy eating who will also be on hand to demonstrate their culinary skills and offering hands-on cookery workshops to our visitors. And with wine and beer tasting sessions too this is a really good weekend for everyone, whatever your taste. Plus there's a chance to meet the members of the Shugborough Gardening Team who will be on hand to answer all of your Gardening queries during a Q and A session.



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Sat 25th May to Sun 2nd June - Whitsun Half Term Activities

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Coventry
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KEEPING THE STORY ALIVE

Easter Events

Staffordshire Crafts And Food Fair

Shugborough Historic Estate, Staffordshire, Sat 18 - Sun 19 May

Michelin-starred chef Christophe Novelli and acclaimed food writer and TV cook Sophie Grigson are both on hand to share their expertise at this weekend event celebrating Staffordshire's culinary delights. As well as supporting British Food Fortnight, the fair features hands-on cookery workshops, trade, gift and craft stands, wine and beer-tasting sessions, and a chance to meet the Shugborough Gardening Team, who're available to answer visitors' gardening-related queries via a question-and-answer session.



Christophe Novelli

Worcester Motor Festival

Worcester city centre, Sat 18 May

This month's seventh Worcester Motor Festival not only provides visitors with the chance to compare and contrast various modern-day vehicles but also to wander around sixty-odd classic and vintage cars from the 1920s through to the 1970s, including rare entries from Rolls Royce, Daimler, Ford, Austin, Morris, Jensen and Buick. Live music, dance performances, face-painting, British vintage racing drivers on stilts and the rather tall Vintage Dapper Chaps on their cycles ensures the one-day event offers plenty of entertainment for the family as well as for the motor enthusiast.



Open Cockpits Evening

RAF Museum, Cosford, Sat 18 May

This annual event allows visitors the chance to get up close and personal to the workings of a wide range of the museum's aircraft. Enthusiasts young and old will be able to get a feel for what it was like to fly these much-loved machines, as well as gain out-of-hours access to the museum.



Shropshire Truck Show

West Midland Showground, Shrewsbury, Sat 11 - Sun 12 May

Having outgrown its old venue in Oswestry, the Shropshire Truck Show this month makes its debut at its new home in Shrewsbury. Promising to be both bigger and better, this year's event offers a wealth of family entertainment, and features some of the best new and classic trucks from the UK, American 'Big Rigs' and plenty of Monster Trucks. As well as stunt shows, the two-day event hosts a funfair and trade village. It also features celebrity guest appearances from BBC Radio Two's Sally Traffic and Red Dwarf and Coronation Street star Craig Charles.

Museums At Night: I Protest!

Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry, Sat 18 May

Forming part of the UK-wide Museums At Night initiative, a celebration of arts, history and heritage, this unique event is linked to the Herbert's Caught In The Crossfire exhibition. Starting at 2pm and running through till 8pm, I Protest! features a wide range of hands-on family activities, talks and screenings. Highlights of the session include break-dance battles, stitching and weaving workshops, street art competitions and an appearance from the artist known as War Boutique, who'll be displaying and discussing his brand new work, The Striking Outfit. For further details, visit www.the-herbert.org.

Tudor Wedding Celebration

Mary Arden's Farm, Stratford-upon-Avon, Sat 25 - Mon 27 May

This annual event affords those visiting the home of Shakespeare's mother an opportunity to see the Tudors preparing the bride and groom for a hand fasting ceremony, before taking part themselves. Visitors are invited to join in with post-wedding festivities such as have-a-go archery, make-and-take activities, dancing and singing. A spectacular falconry display also features on the day's agenda.



Ludlow Spring Festival

Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire, Sat 11 & Sun 12 May

Ludlow is one of the country's most reputable foodie towns, and this year's Spring Festival looks set to offer visitors a real taste of gourmet heaven. Last year's event attracted more than four thousand visitors, and early indications are that figures will be much higher for 2013. More than one hundred-and-eighty beers from across the region feature alongside an array of food stalls, with vendors offering everything from artisan flours to charcuterie, award-winning cakes, gourmet sausage rolls and local cheeses. In addition to demonstrations, a cookery school and other food-related events, the festival presents a wealth of local music, with comedy skiffle trio Asparagus and the Kilburn Habit amongst the acts booked to appear this year. And if all that isn't enough to keep you entertained, The Marches Transport Festival, with its displays of classic cars and vintage vehicles, provides an added attraction.



Ironbridge Gorge Walking Festival

Various locations in and around Ironbridge, Shropshire, Sat 4 - Sun 12 May

Now in its eighth year, this annual spring festival features more than forty guided scenic walks, offering participants the chance to enjoy the many and varied delights of Shropshire's beautiful countryside. Challenging full-day outings for hardy walkers are offered alongside family adventures, historic trails and wildlife walks, in an event which caters for a range of abilities. Check out the walks available at www.visitironbridge.co.uk/walkingfestival.

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Events LISTINGS

For full listing information on Events, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

from WED 1 MAY

CHILDREN'S MARVELOUS MEDICINE TRAIL

Find out which plants help with travel sickness and which plant can be turned into cough medicine, until Fri 31 May, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

EMPTY NEST BY HILARY JACK

Hilary Jack's work of art nestled in a tree transforms a visit to the grounds at Compton Verney into an extraordinary art experience. Visitors can climb up and step inside this human-scale nest, for a unique bird's-eye view of the grounds, until Sun 15 December, Compton Verney Gallery, Warwickshire

FIRST AID CONSERVATION COURSE

A one-day course which aims to provide practical guidelines and hands-on experience for the care and conservation of a wide range of materials and objects, Wed 1 May, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

NATIONAL TRUST TALK

From reality to the myths and legends of the Bermuda Triangle - all will be explained by Captain William Wells, Wed 1 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

MAYPOLES AND MERRIMENT

Family fun to celebrate May Day, Wed 1 May, Mary Arden's Farm, Stratford-upon-Avon

LAVENDER MONTHS

See Blakesley's spectacular lavender at its best and discover uses of lavender through all ages. Garden trail, lavender-themed treats and gifts to purchase, Wed 1 May - Sun 30 June, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

AN EVENING WITH JOHNNY HERBERT

The motoring legend takes to the stage to discuss all things motor racing, Thurs 2 May, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

DAN CRUICKSHANK A talk presented by the popular architectural historian, Fri 3 May, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

THE HILLMAN IMP AT 50! An anniversary celebration of classic British supermini, the Hillman Imp, Fri 3 May - Sat 4 May, Coventry

Transport Museum SHREWSBURY BOOKFEST

Popular annual event where youngsters can meet their favourite authors and get involved in a wealth of literature-inspired activities... Fri 3 - Mon 6 May, Various Locations around Shrewsbury

VINTAGE & HANDMADE FAIR

Find fabulous vintage goodies and beautifully handcrafted treasures, Sat 4 May, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Creative writing workshop for adults in which participants write and develop stories inspired by one of the museum's collections, Sat 4 May, Birmingham Museum And Art Gallery

CHARITY GARDEN FETE

Featuring live entertainment, traditional games, refreshments and stalls selling a range of jewellery and crafts, Sat 4 May, Acorns Children's Hospice, Birmingham

RUN WHAT YA BRUNG

An event which provides an opportunity to take your car or motorcycle out on the famous quarter-mile dragstrip and test its performance limits in a safe and legal environment, Sat 4 - Sun 5 May, Santa Pod Raceway

MIND BODY SPIRIT EVENT

Sat 4 - Sun 5 May, Whitchurch Civic Centre, North Shropshire

MAY DAY RE-ENACTMENT CAMP

Be transported into the very heart of Medieval England as the castle grounds are transformed into an historic encampment, Sat 4 May - Mon 6 May, Warwick Castle

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

Travel back in time to discover skills and tricks of the trade from characters of the past, Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Witley Court & Gardens, Worcestershire

PIRATE WEEKEND

Three days of seafaring fun, Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Cadbury World, Birmingham

HISTORIA NORMANNIS

MEDIEVAL RE-ENACTMENT Three-day living history event, Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Whittington Castle, North Shropshire

TUDOR LIFE AND TIMES

Journey back in time and immerse yourself in the lives of different kinds of people from the Tudor period, Sat 4

- Mon 6 May, Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire

MECCANOITY

Meccano show created by Telford and Ironbridge Meccano Society, Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Enginuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

CELEBRATION OF MEDIEVAL LIVING HISTORY

Find out what it was like to live in a medieval castle and watch the household prepare for visitors under the watchful eye of Lady Freville. Try your hand at medieval writing and get involved in other hands-on activities, Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Tamworth Castle

DIESEL WEEKEND

Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Severn Valley Railway

NEWCOMEN ENGINE

The only full-sized working replica of the world's first steam engine billows into life! Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Black Country Living Museum, Birmingham

X FEST

Extreme Sports Festival, with contests for BMX, scooters, in-line skate and mountain bikes, Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

MAY DAY WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Marking the official opening of the site's new garden, Sat 4 - Mon 6 May, Emma Bridgewater Factory, Stoke-on-Trent

IRONBRIDGE GORGE WALKING FESTIVAL

Unique festival featuring over forty guided walks and some challenging full-day outings in and around the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site, Sat 4 - Sun 12 May, Ironbridge Gorge Museum

DAWN CHORUS GUIDED TOUR

An ornithological guided tour of the park, with full English breakfast afterwards at the hotel. Pre-booking essential! Sun 5 May, Hawkstone Park & Follies, Newcastle-under-Redcastle, North Shropshire

BLUEBELL WALKS

Join Head Gardener Martin Gee for a three-and-a-half mile walk through carpets of bluebells, avenues of azaleas and Capability Brown's Pleasure Grounds, Sun 5 May, Weston Park, Staffordshire/Shropshire border

BANK HOLIDAY LOCAL FOOD AND GARDEN MARKET

Be inspired for the summer - browse local producers selling great products from the heart of England and buy great plants for the garden from local nurseries, Sun 5 - Mon 6 May, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

COUNTRY CRAFT WEEKEND

Featuring a Feather Perfect Hawk display and works of art created from trees,

Sun 5 - Mon 6 May, Hawkstone Park & Follies, Newcastle-under-Redcastle, North Shropshire

SPRING PLANT FAIR

A must-attend event for plantaholics and novices alike, with many experts on hand to offer advice and tips on selecting the right types of plants for the time of year, Sun 5 - Mon 6 May, Weston Park, Staffordshire / Shropshire border

SPRING PLANT FAIR

Get your garden blooming with a range of high quality available-to-buy plants, all grown in peat-free compost by volunteers. There's also a chance to get trade tips from the experts... Sun 5 - Mon 6 May, Attingham Park, Nr Shrewsbury

NATIONAL KIT CAR SHOW

The world's largest kit car show, featuring over four thousand kit cars, four hundred trade stands, five exhibition halls, live action and displays, Sun 5 - Mon 6 May, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

TOY COLLECTORS' FAIR

Britain's biggest toy collector's fair, featuring six hundred stalls of toys, trains and models, Mon 6 May, NEC, Birmingham

TRADITIONAL MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS

Featuring Maypole dancing, live music and country crafts, Mon 6 May, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

MAY BANK HOLIDAY FUN DAY

Featuring guided tours (11am, 1.30pm & 4pm) and Living History (10am - 4pm), Mon 6 May, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

COMMUNITY STREET FESTIVAL

Mon 6 May, The Hive, Shrewsbury

RUN WHAT YA BRUNG

An event which provides an opportunity to take your car or motorcycle out on the famous quarter-mile dragstrip and test its performance limits in a safe and legal environment, Mon 6 May, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

SHEEP AND GOAT GRAND NATIONALS

Watch the goats as they race over the site's rustic course, which features the famous Table Top Drop & Puissance Wall, Mon 6 May, Hoo Farm Animal Kingdom, Telford, Shropshire

PIG WASH DAY

Chance to see a fifty-stone porker get scrubbed up and massaged, Mon 6 May, Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire

MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS

Professional dancers demonstrate an age-old tradition, accompanied by live music, Mon 6 May, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

day organised by the Friends of Bantock House Museum, with Punch and Judy, donkeys, music, stalls and activities, Mon 6 May, Bantock House Museum

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY RACING DAY

Alternative fuel and zero-emission drag racing showcase, Mon 6 May, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

from TUE 7 MAY

LUNCHTIME TALK: SHOPPING AROUND

Illustrated talk by Billy Howe about old shops and eating places in Wolverhampton, Tues 7 May, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

COLOURS: LIVE FLOWER DEMO BY TAN STRONG

Informative evening about flowers and how to display them, Wed 8 May, Solihull Arts Complex

UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL TEXTILES COURSE

A Heritage Skills Course with Alison Lister ACR. Pre-booking essential! Thurs 9 May, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

AN EVENING WITH NODDY HOLDER

In Conversation with Mark Radcliffe, Thurs 9 May, The Place, Oakenegates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

ARTIST'S TALK: JANE AND LOUISE WILSON

Join Turner Prize-nominated artists Jane and Louise Wilson for a screening and discussion of their work, Thurs 9 May, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

JAMBUSTERS

Talk with Julie Summers, author of the story of the Women's Institute in WWII, Thurs 9 May, The Gateway, Shrewsbury

SNOOKER LEGENDS CUP 2013

Eight of the world's greatest snooker stars compete in two teams - England & Northern Ireland versus the Rest of the World... Fri 10 - Sun 12 May, Bedworth Civic Hall

CANAL ART FOR BEGINNERS

Learn about the traditions of folk canal art with one of the UK's leading canal artists, Julie Tonkin. Pre-booking essential! Sat 11 May, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

SAVE THE CHILDREN SPRING FAIR

Featuring a wide range of crafts and gifts, including jewellery, skin care products, cards and stationery, children's books and toys, chutneys, jams and preserves, confectionery, knitwear, vintage china, bedding plants and

perennials, Sat 11 May, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

VARIETY SHOW

The ever-popular Barry North heads a talented cast for an evening of entertainment to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support, Sat 11 May, The Swan, Theatre Worcester

BEGINNERS WILLOW BASKET WEAVING

Learn about the techniques and traditions of willow weaving and create your own unique willow basket with experts Kalven & Helen Stanley. Pre-booking essential! Sat 11 May, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

An evening of tongue-in-cheek suspense and drama which sees a murder-mystery unfold with each course, Sat 11 May, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Staffordshire

LDN WRESTLING

Featuring British heavyweight champion Alan Lee Travis, wrestling politician Richard Parliament, the masked man of mystery the Dark Lord and many more... Sat 11 May, Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire

ADULT JEWELLERY WORKSHOPS

With designer-maker Louise Mary, Sat 11 May, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

STREET NATIONALS RUN

What Ya Brung competition to find the fastest street car, Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

NATIONAL PRAM COLLECTOR'S WEEKEND

Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, Wedgewood Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

MILLS WEEKEND

A special day to celebrate the Forge Mill Needle Museum - the world's only remaining needle scouring mill, Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, Forge Mill Needle Museum, Redditch

MIDDLE-EARTH WEEKEND

Sat 11 May - Sun 12 May, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

LUDLOW SPRING FESTIVAL

Featuring over one hundred-and-eighty real ales, artisan foods from local producers, displays of vintage vehicles, talks, demos and live music, Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

SHREWSBURY REGATTA

Two days of family fun on the River Severn, Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, Pengwern Boat Club, Shrewsbury

FAMILY FUN WEEKEND

Enjoy a steam train ride on the Severn Valley Railway from Kidderminster to

Events LISTINGS

For full listing information on Events, including times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

Bridgnorth and get to meet characters from hit children's show *The Octonauts*, Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster

NATIONAL MILLS WEEK-END With breadmaking in the Toll House, children can see the food chain of grain to flour to bread, Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

SHROPSHIRE TRUCK SHOW One of the region's largest family entertainment events, featuring hundreds of trucks, a monster truck showdown, an action arena, a wall of death and crash rescue displays, Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, West Midlands Showground, Shrewsbury

DANCE WEEKEND Sat 11 - Sun 12 May, Cadbury World, Birmingham

NATIONAL VINTAGE COMMUNICATIONS FAIR An antiques-type collectors' fair specialising in early technology, Sun 12 May, Warwickshire Exhibition Centre

SPECIALIST GLASS FAIR Featuring a wide choice of glassware, from 18th century drinking glasses through to contemporary studio glass, Sun 12 May, National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRY CRAFT FAIR Chance to observe traditional country craft demonstrations and activities, Sun 12 May, Stafford Castle & Visitor Centre

THE VINTAGE MOTOR SCOOTER CLUB Featuring a display of up to twenty-five vintage motor scooters on Millennium Place, Sun 12 May, Coventry Transport Museum

MEDIEVAL BIRMINGHAM Sarah Hayes provides an insight into medieval Birmingham, Sun 12 May, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

THE WASP, THE OAK APPLE AND THE BOTTLE OF INK Family-friendly workshop led by artist Jo Naden. Booking essential!, Sun 12 May, Royal Birmingham Society Of Artists, Birmingham

WEDDING FAIR Sun 12 May, Gregynog, Nr Newtown, Powys

Week Commencing
MON 13 MAY

FILM & TV QUIZ Put your film knowledge to the test with the

Lighthouse's monthly quiz, Mon 13 May, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

GARDEN DESIGN WORKSHOP With award-winning designer Clive Mollart, Mon 13 May, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent

KNIT-NIGHT AT LOCKWORKS Evening of knitting, crochet and chat, Tue 14 May, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

PATCHWORK CUSHION COVERS COURSE Textile artist Ruth Singer hosts an afternoon workshop where participants can make their very own cushion cover to take home, Wed 15 May, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

STORYTELLING CAFE Mr Sandmann: Bringer of Dreams and Nightmares featuring Ben Haggerty, Wed 15 May, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

DRIFT WHAT YA BRUNG Chance to learn or practise drifting in safe and legal conditions on some of the Pod's thirty acres of open tarmac, Wed 15 May, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

ART BUS! GALLERIES NIGHT Jump aboard the Art Bus between Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Ikon, the Barber Institute, mac Birmingham and Eastside Projects, Thurs 16 May, Birmingham City Centre

RAG RUG MAKING WORKSHOP Learn about the traditional craft of rag-rug making with course leader Barbara Tyler, Thurs 16 May, Black Country Living Museum

NODDY HOLDER IN CONVERSATION WITH MARK RADCLIFFE Fri 17 May Palace Theatre, Redditch

KENILWORTH CASTLE AT NIGHT Listen to spotlight talks on different aspects of the castle, given by the site's knowledgeable staff, Fri 17 May, Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire

WITLEY COURT AT NIGHT Chance to gain a unique perspective on the remains of this palatial 19th century mansion, Fri 17 May, Witley Court & Gardens, Worcestershire

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMY SHOW Featuring up to forty specialist dealers and expert/professional speakers from the

world of astronomy, Fri 17 - Sat 18 May, Warwickshire Exhibition Centre

THE BABY SHOW Three-day event dedicated to pregnancy, birth, babies and toddlers, Fri 17 - Sun 19 May, NEC, Birmingham

BODY POWER The country's leading health, fitness and nutrition expo, Fri 17 - Sun 19 May, NEC, Birmingham

MECHANICAL HORSE WEEKEND Chance to see ten immaculately restored vehicles on display around the station, Fri 17 - Sun 19 May, Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster

THE HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY An overview of how the field of industrial archaeology has developed, with historical archaeologist Paul Belford. Pre-booking essential! Sat 18 May, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

FAMILY CRAFT Sat 18 May, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

MUSEUMS AT NIGHT FESTIVAL Help artist Julian Wild create a brand new piece of work in the famous Engine Shop, Sat 18 May, Ingenuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

BEADS DAY Bead-making demonstrations by members of Glass Beadmakers UK. There will also be a wide range of beads for sale. Sat 18 May Broadfield House Glass Museum, Stourbridge

A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM Enjoy an evening of traditional entertainment as the museum throws open its doors after hours. This event is part of the European 'Nuit des Musees' celebrations, Sat 18 May, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

RUN WHAT YA BRUNG A chance to take your car or motorcycle out on the famous quarter-mile dragstrip and test its performance limits in a safe and legal environment, Sat 18 May, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

MISS STAFFORDSHIRE COMPETITION Sat 18 May, Uttoxeter Racecourse, Staffs

SHROPSHIRE COUNTY HORSE SHOW Featuring numerous affiliated and unaffiliated horse competitions, as well as a variety of stalls and entertainment, Sat 18 May, West Mid Showground, Shrewsbury

OPEN COCKPITS EVENING Featuring a wide range of aircraft for closer viewing, including transport aircraft, jet fighters and unique research airframes, Sat

18 May, RAF Cosford, Wolverhampton

I PROTEST! Be the first to see new acquisitions, talk to artists, enjoy live music and take part in a street art drawing battle!, Sat 18 May, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

WHAT'S THE STORY? A series of creative writing workshops for adults, Sat 18 May, Birmingham Museum And Art Gallery

TALK AND WALK Discover all about Weoley Castle Ruins, Sat 18 May, Weoley Castle, Birmingham

GUIDED WALK AROUND THE FOLLIES A guided walk around the park to discover places not normally seen by visitors. Pre-booking advisable, Sat 18 - Sun 19 May, Hawkstone Park & Follies, Weston-under-Redcastle, North Shropshire

SOOTY'S BIRTHDAY BAKE OFF Join Sooty, Sweep and Soo as they bake a cake for Sooty's birthday, Sat 18 - Sun 19 May, Cadbury World, Birmingham

SPRING CRAFT MARKET A range of stalls featuring work by local designers and artists, plus children's craft activities, glassmaking demonstrations and open studios, Sat 18 - Sun 19 May, Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge

TUDOR JOUSTING TOURNAMENT Sat 18 - Sun 19 May, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

STAFFORDSHIRE CRAFTS & FOOD FAIR Sat 18 - Sun 19 May, Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire

BONSAI DEMONSTRATION Sun 19 May, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

RHODODENDRON WALK Join Head Gardener Martin Gee as he talks about the history of the rhododendron and its importance to the Weston Park Estate, Sun 19 May, Weston Park, Staffordshire/Shropshire border

GINETTA OWNERS CLUB Featuring twelve Ginettas, Sun 19 May, Coventry Transport Museum

CYSTIC FIBROSIS CHARITY WALK Sun 19 May, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

HERB BOX MAKING Family learning activity, Sun 19 May, Forge Mill Needle Museum, Redditch

PEAK PERFORMANCE TEST & TUNE DAY RWYB with maximum track time and a fully prepped track for serious enthusiasts, Sun 19 May Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

HOUSE OF THE BLACK-STAR ENCAMPMENT Plus re-enactment and stalls, Sun 19 May,

Whittington Castle, North Shropshire

JOSIE WALTER'S EARTH-ENWARE POTTERY DEMONSTRATION Sun 19 May, Banners Gate Community Hall, Sutton Coldfield

Week Commencing
MON 20 MAY

IRON AGE COVENTRY Discover what the area was like before the Romans invaded, Tue 21 May, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

PRO RACER TEST & TUNE DAY Thurs 23 May, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

VALUATION DAY: FINE ARTS & ANTIQUES Thurs 23 May, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

FIA CHAMPIONSHIPS Santa Pod's flagship championship event, which attracts over two hundred-and-fifty of Europe's top drag racing teams, Fri 24 - Mon 27 May, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

BIRMINGHAM ARCHITECTURE FESTIVAL 2013 Featuring a series of events designed to inspire the public, creative communities, construction professionals and architects alike to engage with the city in fun, inventive and thought-provoking ways, Fri 24 - Mon 27 May, various locations in & around Birmingham

AN ADVENTURE WITH PIRATES Dress up in pirate finery and steer a galleon, amongst other activities, Sat 25 May Thionate at Millennium Point, Birmingham

PHOTOGRAPHY - KEEPING IT SIMPLE One-day course where you can learn to use a digital camera, Sat 25 May, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

TEAMGYM BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013 Sat 25 May, Fenton Manor Sports Complex, Stoke-on-Trent

SHROPSHIRE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SHOW Annual show celebrating Shropshire's rural community, Sat 25 May, West Mid Showground, Shrewsbury

KNIT CLUB Free drop-in adult workshop, Sat 25 May, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

SPRING GALA WEEKEND This first event in the Electric Railway Museum's weekend provides a perfect opportunity to explore its rich collection of iconic transport, Sat 25 - Sun 26 May, Electric Railway Museum, Baginton, Coventry

NEWCOMEN ENGINE Chance to see the only full-sized working repli-

ca of the world's first steam engine, Sat 25 - Mon 27 May, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

QUEEN VICTORIA'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS Join the residents of Blists Hill as they celebrate the birthday of their much-loved Queen Victoria with style, pomp and pageantry, Sat 25 - Mon 27 May, Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge, Shropshire

SONNETS AND SWORDS: ELIZABETH AT KENILWORTH Meet Queen Elizabeth as she visits the home of her great admirer, Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, Sat 25 - Mon 27 May, Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire

TUDOR WEDDING CELEBRATION Watch the Tudors prepare the bride and groom for a hand fasting ceremony and take part yourself!, Sat 25 - Mon 27 May, Mary Arden's Farm, Stratford-upon-Avon

LEMUR WEEK A week of themed talks and activities to highlight the Park's lemur conservation work, Sat 25 - Fri 31 May Cotswold Wildlife Park

NATIONAL MARQUETRY EXHIBITION Sat 25 - Fri 31 May, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

MONSTER TRAIL Follow the trail around the site and find out what's lurking beneath Avoncroft's buildings, Sat 25 May - Sun 2 Jun, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

SHAKESPEARE NOW Hands-on event where children can use their imagination to write profiles of and stories about Shakespeare's famous characters, bringing them up to date and ready for the 21st century, Sat 25 May - Sun 2 Jun, Nash's House & New Place, Stratford-upon-Avon

FLOAT A BOAT WORKSHOP Design and make a sailing boat, then test it on the Ingenuity pool, Sat 25 May - Sun 2 Jun, Ingenuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

BUTTERFLY TRAIL Follow the colourful trail for the Whitsun holidays, Sat 25 May - Sun 2 Jun, Anne Hathaway's Cottage & Gardens, Stratford-upon-Avon

KINGS AND QUEENS TRAIL Find the hidden clues in the grounds to reveal the royal connection, Sat 25 May - Sun 2 Jun, Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire

SPRINGTIME FAMILY FUN TRAIL Track down all the clues hidden around the grounds, solve the riddle and claim your chocolate prize! Sat 25 May - Sun

2 Jun, Witley Court & Gardens, Worcester
HOLIDAY TRAILS Sat 25 May - Sun 2 Jun, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury
MIDLANDS ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS FAIR Sun 26 May, National Motorcycle Museum
CACTUS SHOW Sun 26 May, Birmingham Botanical Gardens
CRAFT & VINTAGE FAIR Featuring exhibitors selling cards, hand-made crafts, jewellery, pottery, prints, handbags, vintage clothing and much more... Sun 26 May, Tamworth Assembly Rooms
WILLOW GARDEN SCULPTURE WORKSHOP Create a piece of willow sculpture to take pride of place in your garden, or centre-stage in your living room, Sun 26 May, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
ANIMAL MANIA A chance to meet Animal Mania's cute and furry animals, Sun 26 May, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham
MAC FOOD MARKET Indulge yourself with tasty treats and specialist goods at mac's monthly food market, Sun 26 May, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham
BANK HOLIDAY LIVING HISTORY WEEKEND Daytime fun for all the family as you meet a

host of medieval characters, including the armourer, steward and other household servants, Sun 26 - Mon 27 May Tamworth Castle
HALF-TERM TREASURE HUNT Follow the clues around the park to solve the latest Follies quest, Sun 26 - Sun 2 June, Hawkstone Park & Follies, Weston-under-Redcastle, North Shropshire
MONSTROUS MONARCH Experience how Henry VIII lived, plus other related activities, Sun 26 - Mon 27 May, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

**Week Commencing
 MON 27 MAY**

GREEN FAIR Mon 27 May, Whittington Castle, North Shropshire
FURRY TAILS DAY Meet Hoo Farm's furry animals and listen as they bring their tales to life. Other events during the day include a fancy dress competition, fairy cake decorating, spinning demonstrations and sheep racing, Mon 27 May, Hoo Farm Animal Kingdom, Telford, Shropshire
MAY BANK HOLIDAY FUN DAY Featuring guided tours (11am, 1.30pm &

4pm), Living History (10am - 4pm) Mon 27 May Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire
PLAY IN 2 DAYS: MERLIN Create a play (based on the themes of the BBC's hit series Merlin) to perform for friends and family. Suitable for children aged seven to eleven, Mon 27 - Tue 28 May, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury
MEDIEVAL WEEKEND Featuring themed family entertainment, including have-a-go archery and knight training, Mon 27 - Tue 28 May, Hawkstone Park & Follies, Weston-under-Redcastle, North Shropshire
SPRING CERAMIC WORKSHOP Activities vary day to day, with some carrying an additional charge, Mon 27 - Fri 31 May, Coalport China Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire
JACK OF THE GREEN PUPPETS Find out about Jack of the Green and have a go at making your own puppet, Mon 27 - Fri 31 May, Wedgewood Museum, Stoke-on-Trent
ART FUN INVENTOR LAB Join the team and help invent digital, mechanical and interactive works of art, Mon 27 - Tues 28 & Fri 31 May, The Public, West Brom
FUN FACTORY ART ZONE

Family-friendly play space with parachutes, sensory toys and giant building blocks, Mon 27, Wed 29 & Fri 31 May, The Public, West Bromwich
WILD ABOUT BLAKESLEY CRAFT ACTIVITY Make a fish mobile, Tue 28 May, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham
POETRY BITES WITH DAVID CALCUTT AND NADIA KINGSLEY Tue 28 May Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham
ONCE UPON A TIME... Storytelling followed by craft activities, Tues 28 May, Bantock House & Park, Wolverhampton
POP-UP BOOK WORKSHOP Design your own pop-up storybook, using drawings and stencils, with illustrator Ruth Radcliffe, Tues 28 May, Bilston Craft Gallery
MOBILE FUN FACTORY Chance to create art in, on, and around The Public's very own Fun Factory, Tues 28 & Thurs 30 May, The Public, West Bromwich
MARVELLOUS MONSTER ACTIVITY DAYS Workshops where children can make their very own monster masks and horrible hairy feet, Tues 28 - Thurs 30 May, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove
LEARN PLAY FOUNDATION

GAMING DAYS Gaming workshops, designed, developed and delivered by a team of local apprentices, Tues 28 & Thurs 30 May, The Public, West Bromwich
CYLINDER CITY #2 Help decorate structures that rebuild the city of Dresden and which, at the same time, sensitively address themes of peace and reconciliation, Tue 28 - Fri 31 May, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry
TILE DECORATING WORKSHOP Use the tube-lining technique to produce your very own 6x6inch tile featuring your own design and choice of colours, Tues 28 - Fri 31 May, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire
HAVE-A-GO ARCHERY Drop-in sessions where visitors can try their hand at shooting a few arrows, Wed 29 May Forge Mill Needle Museum
FEMTINOS ADVENTURE TO CHINA Join in the fun creating decorative fans, lanterns and Chinese dragons, Wed 29 May, The Public, West Bromwich
HALF TERM POND DIP & MINI BEAST HUNT Join the rangers for an afternoon of holiday fun, Wed 29 May, Severn Valley Country Park, Akeley, Shropshire

SHOEBOX THEATRE Create a miniature stage with props to perform your own play. Booking required, Wed 29 May, Bilston Craft Gallery
ROCK AND FOSSIL IDENTIFICATION Take along your rock and fossil finds and have them identified by resident experts, Wed 29 May, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery
HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES Fun craft event for children, Wed 29 May, Staffordshire Regimental Museum
WILD ABOUT BLAKESLEY CRAFT ACTIVITY Make an owl food chain mobile. Wed 29 May, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham
PUPPET WORKSHOP Bring your favourite book characters to life in puppet form, Thurs 30 May, Bilston Craft Gallery
FAMILY SLEEPOVERS Take your family along for a unique nighttime event. Start the night with a tour of the castle, followed by a warming evening meal and spooky stories in the Gatehouse, Fri 31 May, Kenilworth Castle
GARDEN DESIGN WORKSHOP With award-winning designer Clive Mollart, Fri 31 May, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent

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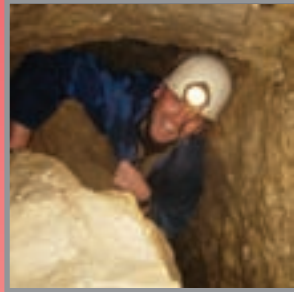
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So what will you be doing tomorrow?



“It's an opportunity to get to do lots of things you wouldn't otherwise do

What our members are up to in **May 2013**

Wednesday 1st May

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton For Fun - Wolverhampton
- Badminton at NIA
- Forhill Evening Ramble
- Jogging Evening in Solihull
- Tamworth and Lichfield Pub Night -

Thursday 2nd May

- Circus Skills Workshop
- Halesowen and Quinton Pub Night
- Jaki Graham at the Jam House
- Pizza Making and Meal at The Radisson

Friday 3rd May

- Adrenaline Cocktail Weekend
- Fine Dining Experience at Drayton Park
- Hadrian's Wall Bank Holiday Walking
- North Devon Coast and Exmoor Walking Break
- Sailing: Cross Channel Gosport-Cherbourg Peninsula
- Seven Stanes Mountain Bike Break
- Sussex Heritage Coast and Downs Walking Break
- Welsh Camping Long Weekend
- Whitby Bank Holiday Walking and Social Weekend

Saturday 4th May

- Camping and Canoeing Weekend
- Celebrate Natures Dawn Chorus
- Symonds Yat Adventure Mission
- Western Style Rifle Shooting Afternoon

Sunday 5th May

- Badminton for Fun at Bournville
- Camel Riding Experience in Warwickshire
- Colour Therapy Workshop
- Helicopter Lesson
- Llama and Wolf Experience Day - Bedford
- Spice Choir - Develop your Singing Ability
- Tanworth In Arden Easy Ramble
- Zumba for Fun

Monday 6th May

- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- Own a Horse for the Day
- Spice Book Club
- Sutton Park Discovery Walk
- Warwick VIP Race Day with Meal and Tour

Tuesday 7th May

- My life with the Corgis and other Royals!
- Ten Pin Bowling (Broadway Plaza)

Wednesday 8th May

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton For Fun - Wolverhampton
- Badminton at NIA
- Jogging Evening in Solihull
- Only Spice on Horses!
- Run in the Park
- Skateboarding for Beginners
- Sutton Pub Night
- Syriana Syrian/ Lebanese Dinner Shuffle
- The Zombies at the Jam House

Thursday 9th May

- Curry and Quiz - Wolverhampton
- Kingsbury Evening Cycle Ride
- Preview Evening (Dudley)
- Unihoc (Mixed Indoor Hockey)

Friday 10th May

- Creative Clay Weekend
- Drawing and Watercolour Weekend
- Hathersage YHA Weekend Away
- Langdales Ultimate Challenge Wend
- Sailing Weekend from Poole - Jurassic Coast and Weymouth
- Sean Lock Live

Saturday 11th May

- Abseiling for the Terrified
- Barston + Hampton Easy Ramble + Lunch
- Caving at the Symonds Yat Caves
- Dogs Home Visit (Birmingham)
- Hippodrome Back Stage Tour

- Saturday Night with Shakespeare
- Stonehenge Sunset Tour
- Tennis Weekend With Coaching - Northants
- Toboggan and Fondue Night
- Vulcan Bomber Restoration Experience
- Wing Walking Experience

Sunday 12th May

- Adventure Trekking Day
- Badminton for Fun at Bournville
- Cinema Night
- Discover Gourmet Living Food
- Forest Segway on Cannock Chase
- Go Ape in Cannock
- Golf - Learn to Play in a Day (Lea Marston)
- Jetovator
- Kayaking for Fun
- Ten in a Tutu Charity Walk (Meeting there)
- Tug of War at the Midlands Championships

Monday 13th May

- Badminton For Fun - Worcester
- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- Run in the Park

Tuesday 14th May

- Basketball and Netball Introduction
- Shenstone Evening Ramble
- Solihull Pub Night
- Wine Tasting - Classic Grapes

Wednesday 15th May

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton For Fun - Wolverhampton
- Badminton at NIA
- Gliding Evening at Needwood
- Jogging Evening in Solihull
- Karting Evening and Burger at Priory Park
- La Scala Italian Dining Experience
- Magic for Beginners

Thursday 16th May

- BBC Birmingham Behind the Scenes
- Gliding Evening at Stratford
- Knowle Beer, Skittles and Supper
- Rounders and Social Night
- Warwick / Leamington Pub Night

Friday 17th May

- Beeches Bar and Grill Dinner Shuffle
- Camping Afloat - The Droitwich Challenge!
- Spice Hits Town at the Jam House

Saturday 18th May

- Bakewell Mountain Bike Ride
- Casino + Party Night on the River Thames!
- Caving for the Terrified
- Lickey Hills to Dodford Moderate Cycle Ride
- Makeover or Boudoir Photography Session
- Owl Handling Experience
- Pole Dancing with Pure Joy
- Stock Car Racing
- Strictly James and Ola Dance Workshop

Sunday 19th May

- Alcester + the Arden Way Ramble
- Badminton for Fun at Bournville
- Bilston Walk
- Bodleian Library and Reading Room Tour
- Bridge Abseil and Ladder Climb
- Cadburys 'Bean to Bar' Talk + Cadbury World
- Calke Abbey and Staunton Easy Ramble
- Circuit Training with Mark
- Crown Green Bowling Afternoon
- Golf - Learn to Play in a Day (Warwickshire)
- Medieval Jousting
- New Members Easy Morning Ramble
- New Members Kababish Sunday Lunch Buffet

Monday 20th May

- American Pool Night and Buffet
- Badminton For Fun - Worcester
- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- Bromsgrove Pub Night

Tuesday 21st May

- Drumming Experience for Beginners
- Fire Station - Fire Experience
- Kings Heath Pub Night
- Run in the Park

Wednesday 22nd May

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton For Fun - Wolverhampton
- Badminton at NIA
- Hairspray
- Has Spice Got Talent
- Has Spice Got Talent - PERFORMERS
- Jogging Evening in Solihull
- La Banca Italian Dinner Shuffle

Thursday 23rd May

- Blacksmithing Evening
- Secrets of the Holy Grail
- Unihoc (Mixed Indoor Hockey)

Friday 24th May

- Arrochar Alps and Loch Lomond Walking Weekend
- Bill Bailey - Quamptedder
- Brighton + South Downs Walking/Social Weekend
- Ennerdale Lake District Walking Break
- Pembrokeshire Coast Walking Break
- Sailing: Cross Channel Gosport-Cherbourg Peninsula
- Salsa Dance Workshop
- Welsh 3000's - The Ultimate Mountain Challenge
- Welshpool Music Festival Walking Break
- Western and Central Cotswold Ways Walking Break

Saturday 25th May

- Bewdley Countryside Ramble
- Cupcake Decorating Workshop
- Dragon Boat Fun Afternoon
- Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Forum
- Ladybower Mountain Bike Ride
- White Water Kayaks
- White Water Rafting
- Wing Walking Experience

Sunday 26th May

- Aerobics for the Terrified
- Badminton for Fun at Bournville
- Bredon Hill Ramble
- Croquet Party
- Fort William and North West Highlands Walking Break
- Learn to Horse Ride in a Day
- Lightning Cockpit Experience and Open Day
- Sherwood Pines Improvers Mountain Bike Ride
- Studley Easy Ramble

Monday 27th May

- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- Terracotta Birmingham Walk and Afternoon Tea

Tuesday 28th May

- Indoor Climbing at Redpoint
- Run in the Park

Wednesday 29th May

- Badminton at NIA
- Jogging Evening in Solihull
- Margaret Thatcher and Supper at Tutbury Castle
- Quiz
- Reginald D Hunter - In The Midst Of Crackers

Thursday 30th May

- Crianlarich, Gateway to the Highlands Walking Break
- Dinner and Play at Genting Casino
- Sail Round The Island Yacht Race

Friday 31st May

- Private Dining with a Celebrity Chef

For future listings visit:
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SNOBS NIGHTCLUB 29 Paradise Circus, Queensway, B1 2BJ Tel: 0121 643 5551

BLACK COUNTRY

OCEANA WOLVERHAMPTON Bilston Rd, Wolverhampton Tel: 0845 402 5290

SHROPSHIRE

C:21 NIGHTCLUB 21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 271821

BUTTERMARKET Howard Street, Shrewsbury Tel: 01743 281712

VELVET 13 Castle Foregate, Shrewsbury SY1 2DJ Tel: 01743 281712

FEVER 19 - 21 Hills Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 1QU Tel: 01743 247508

THE OFFICE 27a Market Street, Oakengates TF2 6EN Tel: 01952 616536

PUSSYCATS NIGHT CLUB 17 Tan Bank, Wellington, TF2 6EJ Tel: 01952 224260

SPIRIT NIGHTCLUB 18 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 355055

STAFFORDSHIRE

COURTURE & NOIRE ET BLANC 139 Newport Rd, Stafford, ST16 2EZ Tel: 01785 244755

LIQUID Brunswick St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1DR Tel: 01782 284333

REFLEX 3-5 Brockley Square, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5LY Tel: 01782 206170

TRINITY NIGHTCLUB Spinning School Lane, Tamworth, ST1 1DR Tel: 01827 58772

WARWICKSHIRE

CAREYS NIGHTCLUB Hereford Place, Coventry CV1 3JZ Tel: 02476 227 397

EVOLVE NIGHTCLUB 2 Spencer Street, Leamington Spa, Coventry CV31 3NF Tel: 01926 881449

JJ'S Skydome Leisure Park, Croft Rd, Coventry CV1 3AZ. Tel: 02476 555913

LIQUID & ENVY Leicester Road, Nuneaton CV11 4B. Tel: 02476 344216

REFLEX Church St, Nuneaton, CV11 4BW Tel: 02476 344216

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BUSHWACKERS Trinity St, Worcester WR1 2PW Tel: 01905 26878

TRAMPS Angel Place, Worcester WR1 3QN Tel: 019905 26936

VELVET LOUNGE Angel Place, Worcester WR1 3QN. Tel: 01905 619966



Happy Birthday Gatecrasher!

Donington Park, 5 May

A massive warehouse party to celebrate Gatecrasher's twenty years at the forefront of dance music is being held at Donington Park this month. The event, which acknowledges the brand's past, present and future, takes place in a ten thousand-capacity warehouse and features some of the biggest names in the industry. House music sensation Laidback Luke, technological whizzkid and Gatecrasher favourite Eddie Halliwell and Sweden's next big thing, Mikael Weermets, are joined by Knife Party, Steve Aoki and Dutch house star Nicky Romero. The VIP room is hosted by Secret Party Project.

Gay SCENE



Amelia Lily



A.M.E

Stars announced for Pride after-party

The Nightingale Club, Birmingham, Sat 25 & Sun 26 May

Two young female stars-of-the-moment are lined up to set the Nightingale stage alight late this month. X Factor finalist Amelia Lily and acclaimed R&B artist A.M.E appear at the venue during Birmingham Pride's official aftershow parties. A.M.E is booked to perform (amongst others) her smash hit Need You 100% on the Saturday, while Amelia Lily sings songs from her debut album the following night.

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THE NIGHTINGALE Kent St, B5 6RD Tel: 0121 622 1718

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C21 18-21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury. SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 271821 (MON ONLY)

SPIRIT 22 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 355055 (MON ONLY)

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RAINBOWS Short St, Coventry CV1. Tel: 02476 551738

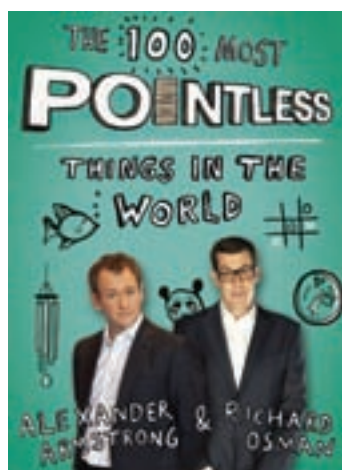
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VELVET CLUB Angel Row, Worcester, WR1 3QN Tel: 01905 20218

Ride A White Swan

By Lesley-Ann Jones

Killed in a 1977 car crash at the age of twenty-nine, Marc Bolan was so much a phenomenon of his time that it's difficult to imagine the path his career would've taken had he lived. Best known for his contribution to the early-1970s days of glam rock, when, as the frontman of T Rex, he enjoyed massive hits with Ride A White Swan, Children Of The Revolution, Get It On and Hot Love, the enigmatic Bolan has become something of an iconic figure in recent years, perhaps in part because so relatively little is known about him. Lesley-Ann Jones's biography aims to change all that, presenting a take on Bolan which has been informed and moulded by those who knew him best, including his brother Harry Feld and his partner Gloria Jones, who was driving the mini in which the rock star met his untimely end.



The 100 Most Pointless Things In The World

By Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman

Play-along quiz questions and unlikely facts combine in this new offering from the presenters of the hit BBC One series Pointless. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman take readers on a tour of some of the world's most pointless things, including rail replacement bus services, chip forks, war, windchimes, and people who put cushions on beds. So if you enjoy the obscure, the fascinating and the downright silly, this is a book that's well worth a look.

Love, Of A Kind

By Felix Dennis

Comprising fifty new poems accompanied by woodcut engravings, Felix Dennis's latest offering is a study in the experiences of pain, awkwardness and intimacy. Dennis, who can count Sir Paul McCartney, Stephen Fry and Benjamin Zephaniah amongst his admirers, has never been one to shy away from difficult subjects, and uses this latest collection of works to present not only notions of a different kind of love but also a different way of speaking about love. The book also features an audio CD, with all the poems read by Felix himself.



TOP 5 BOOKS

- 1 **Gone Girl**
Gillian Flynn
- 2 **Paul Hollywood's Bread**
Paul Hollywood
- 3 **Light-Gone**
Michael Grant
- 4 **The Kingmaker's Daughter**
Philippa Gregory
- 5 **The Mystery of Mercy Close** - Marian Keyes



Suranne Jones to appear in new comedy

A new comedy about five excitable theatre fans who'll stop at nothing to let their idols know how they feel - even if it causes a little bit of bodily harm along the way - is to air on Sky Arts late this month. Produced by Charlie Leech (Spy, Little Crackers, The Wrong Man), Stage Door Johnnies features in a series of one-off comedies and dramas commissioned by the channel to champion innovative and original writing. Showing at 9pm on 23 May, the comedy sees Scott And Bailey actress Suranne Jones starring alongside a host of well-known names, including Alex MacQueen (The Inbetweeners), Elizabeth Berrington (New Tricks) and Steve Evets (Rev).

Keeley Hawes reports for duty

Filming has begun in Belfast on a second series of Line Of Duty, one of BBC Two's biggest successes of 2012. Promising plenty of twists and turns during its six one-hour episodes, the show stars Ashes To Ashes actress Keeley Hawes as Detective Inspector Lindsay Denton, the only police officer to survive an ambush in which three of her colleagues are killed and a protected witness seriously injured. Hawes is joined in the new series by My Family veteran Robert Lindsay, Call The Midwife's Jessica Raine and acclaimed Irish actor Adrian Dunbar.



More chicken lickin' TV from C4

Following the success of a one-off Cutting Edge documentary about the goings-on in a South London chicken shop, Channel Four has commissioned a brand new three-part series to be filmed at the same premises. The C4 team will return to Rooster Spot in Clapham to 'dive deeper into the world of fried chicken, the staff who serve it and the huge variety of customers who buy it'. The new series will also follow customers home, offering viewers a completely new perspective on the people who frequent the eatery and the world they inhabit. The original Cutting Edge broadcast was the most tweeted-about Channel Four programme of that particular week, receiving a staggering fifty-three thousand tweets. The show also attracted celebrity attention from Denise Van Outen, Lily Allen, Diana Vickers, Dawn O'Porter and John Prescott.



Eating Out

New restaurant pops up in Birmingham...

The latest addition to Birmingham's culinary scene has now opened to the public. Situated on Bennett's Hill, Adam's Fine Dining is a pop-up restaurant that intends to remain at its current address for two years, after which time it will move to larger premises, where it's promised that 'food lovers will be able to dine while watching chefs prepare dishes'. The venture will bring to fruition the long-held dream of Michelin-star chef Adam Stokes and his wife Natasha. In the meantime, Adam's current eatery is a stylish twenty-four-seat venue serving innovative modern British food - pig's trotter, bacon jam and smoked eel all feature on the menu.



All-weather dining in Brindleyplace

Birmingham's Piccolino restaurant now provides a facility for diners to eat and drink alfresco, whatever the weather. The Brindleyplace venue's new forty-seater heated terrace features stylish seating and a cocktail bar, and can be enjoyed by patrons come rain or shine.



San Carlo's 'most glamorous' restaurant makes dining guide

San Carlo Group, which owns both Fumo and San Carlo in Birmingham, has had its Signor Sassi restaurant in Bangkok selected for inclusion in Thailand's definitive Best Restaurants guide for 2013. The restaurant was selected by readers of Thailand Tatler, the country's leading luxury lifestyle magazine. Signor Sassi is recognised as the Italian restaurant group's most 'glamorous' eatery, with floor-to-ceiling glass walls allowing its patrons panoramic views of the city.



Good balance at country retreat

REVIEW

Twice recommended to me before our visit, the Queens pub in Belbroughton is a country retreat twenty minutes from central Birmingham and offering quality cooking at a decent price. Chef Andy Waters opened this place after stints at Edmonds and Simpsons, both city establishments which enjoy good reputations. First and foremost, don't be fooled by the expensive vehicles in the car park - the Queens is still a village pub. Interiors are slightly faced but comfortable; the welcome, authentic.

The menu is divided into a two or three-course fixed price (£13.50/£18.50), the a la carte (£13.50 to £18.95 for a main) and pub classics (£12.50 to £17.50). We went a la carte, although questioned the choice after spying the chicken curry on the next table, complete with its massive basket of poppadoms! Vegetarians might be disappointed with only one main menu option - why, so often, are those choosing to go meat-free penalised? - but if you appreciate beef and fish,

you'll find plenty of choice. The starter of beef carpaccio with quail egg was fine, but was surpassed by a well-judged smoke mackerel mousse served with Wye Valley smoked salmon, the intense flavours pulled together with avocado salad and spiced wafers. The bread was fantastic, locally made in Kinver.

A fat chunk of hake followed, perched on top of a generous portion of spinach, and moistened with a tumble of buttery, garlicky shrimp. Simple and delicious, it didn't need the accompanying dish of vegetables.

Then out came the beef, prepared two ways - slow-braised rib alongside rare sirloin - and complemented with a sweet carrot puree and a great pepper sauce, rich with cream. A potato rosti was beautifully made, delicate and crumbly.

For dessert came agnès prunes with armagnac ice cream, a classic flavour combination extremely well executed - although the fruit would've benefitted from being chopped, to make it easier to eat.

The pistachio tiramisu was, in fact, a light mousse with

fruit and biscuit on the side, subtly flavoured and a world away from the booze-and-caffeine-laden Italian classic after which it was named.

Wine options were affordable and solid, with an excellent prosecco by the glass. We would have appreciated a local beer served on draught; with so many craft breweries around nowadays, it would surely be a worthwhile addition to the menu.

The Queens strikes a good balance. Should Andy Waters so desire, he could easily take it up a notch to join the Michelin-star elite. But as a pub offering consistently good, classic cooking, it punches well above its weight.

Expect to pay around £40 per head for three courses and a glass of what you fancy. *Helen Stallard*

Food: ■■■■■
Service: ■■■■■
Ambience: ■■■■■
Overall value: ■■■■■
OVERALL ■■■■■

The Queens
Queens Hill
Belbroughton
Nr Stourbridge
DY9 0DU
Tel: 01562 730 276

Restaurant REVIEWS

Affordable authentic food at Punjabi eatery

Conveniently located on Warwick Road, Punjabi Rasoi - which translates as Punjabi Kitchen - has recently opened on the site of Little Havana Restaurant. Walking into the restaurant, the cool, white interior, accented with azure blue, instantly stands out and is a departure from what you might expect. A modern bar at the entrance offers weary travellers a choice of refreshments, including cocktails, with which to begin the evening. At the table, we opted for the obligatory poppadoms and dips, all three of which were fresh and generously sized. With a wide selection of meat and vegetarian dishes on the menu, we opted for the Rasoi Platter. The marinated chicken of the Murgh Tikka was delicate and tender, as was the lamb seekh kebab that melted in the mouth. Standout dish Punjabi Champey featured fine lamb chops topped with a paste of warm, earthy spices. All came served on a slate with salad, adding to the contemporary feel. The Pend Di Mix kebab was unlike anything I'd ever eaten at an Indian. Bringing together chicken and lamb in a tomato and onion sauce, it was almost an Indian version of that other

national favourite, sweet and sour. Chicken biryani came out in the traditional three-dish arrangement, with a flavoursome plate of chicken, sweet, light rice and a fresh yoghurt side. The Karahi Lamb delivered a good punch, whilst the Bhindi Masala was a sweet okra infusion. I couldn't resist the Gajar Ka Halwa, a dessert of warm grated carrots, almost-caramelised cashew nuts and ice cream; an absolute delight. Dining midweek can often leave you feeling a little exposed, but a steady stream of customers demonstrated that the team have hit upon the right formula here. Don't let the contemporary interior fool you; this is still authentic, affordable Indian food. *Alev Dervish*

Food: 
 Service: 
 Ambience: 
 Overall value: 
OVERALL 

Punjabi Rasoi
 980 Warwick Rd
 Birmingham
 B27 6QG
 Tel: 0121 706 6450

Celebs favourite comes up trumps...

San Carlo is a real favourite with shiny celebrities, footballers and their WAGS. The mezzanine is bright and shiny, with tables tightly squeezed in together. After being seated, we were offered a cheeky glass of prosecco by the owner, who was charm personified. Our Italian waiter, who was equally warm and attentive, recommended a starter of Avocado Diverso - an avocado with crabmeat, prawn and a tangy marie-rose sauce - followed by a platter of bountiful mussels in a strong garlic sauce. My guest was a die-hard Aston Villa fan - which was just as well, because the club's star striker Christian Benteke waltzed in just after we'd ordered our dishes, and I didn't have a clue who he was! To say my companion was giddy with excitement was an understatement. I, on the other hand, went giddy with the arrival of our mains. The San Carlo signature dish of lobster tagliolini arrived in a huge copper skillet pan filled with oodles of soft spaghetti and a big lobster on top, claws and all. It was certainly impressive, both to look at and to feast on. The lobster was perfectly cooked and the tomato and brandy sauce was mouthwateringly tasty.

My guest somehow managed to have a seafood platter for a main as well. The seafood royale had prawn crevettes, scallops, mussels and great langoustines; plated like a mini seafood mountain. My pan-fried chicken breast came with a beautiful creamy mushroom sauce, and was accompanied by a fantastic side-dish of sliced potatoes, bacon and onions. Our dessert platter should have been called Dessert Heaven - a picture-perfect plate of chocolate desserts, pannacotta, summer fruits, ice cream and biscotti. The presentation of all the dishes was fantastic. The only downside to the evening was that there were too many dishes from which to choose! Oh well, I guess that just means I'll have to go back and try some more. *Anita Champaneri*

Food: 
 Service: 
 Ambience: 
 Overall value: 
OVERALL 

San Carlo
 4 Temple Street,
 Birmingham, B2 5BN
 Tel: 0121 633 0251

Restaurant LISTINGS

For full listing information on restaurants, including opening times and type of cuisine, visit: www.whatsonlive.co.uk

Birmingham

AALTO RESTAURANT
 Hotel La Tour, Albert Street, Birmingham B5 5JT 0121 718 8000
AL FRASH 186 Ladypool Road, Sparkbrook, B12 8JS 0121 753 3120
ASHA'S 12-22 Newhall Street, B3 3LX 0121 200 2767
AZZARI TOO
 204 Lightwoods Rd, B67 5AZ 0121 429 6621
BANK 4 Brindleyplace, B1 2JB 0121 633 4466
BAR EPERNAY 171-172 Wharfside Street, The Mailbox, B1 1RL 0121 632 1430
BAR ESTILO 10-114 Wharfside St, The Mailbox, B1 1RF 0121 643 3443
BARNT GREEN INN
 Kendal End Rd, Rednal B45 8PZ 0121 445 4949
BARAJEE 265 Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 643 6700
BELLA ITALIA 102 New St, B2 4HQ 0121 6431548
BERLIOZ Burlington Arcade, New St, B2 4JQ 0121 633 1737
BLUE MANGO Regency Wharf, Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 633 4422
BLUE GINGER 32 Poplar Road, Kings Heath, B14 7AD 0121 444 0999
BLUU Fleet St, Summer Row, B3 1JH 0121 236 9013
BRANDED BULL STEAKHOUSE 175 Broad Street, B15 1DT 0121 643 5968
BUONISSIMO 1 Albany Rd, Harborne, B17 9JX 0121 426 2444
BYZANTIUM 11 York Road, Kings Heath, B14 7SA 0121 444 5444
CAFE IKON 1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HS 0121 248 3226
CAFE ROUGE
 Brindleyplace, Broad Street, B1 2HJ 0121 643 6556
CAFE SOYA Unit 2, Upper Dean Street B5 4SG 0121 622 3888
CARLUCCIO'S The Water's Edge, Brindleyplace B1 2HP 0121 633 9262
CELEBRITY INDIAN
 44 Broad St, B1 2HP 0121 643 8969
THE CHAMELEON 1 Victoria Square, B1 1BD 0121 643 2233
CHEZ JULES 5a Ethel St, B2 4BG 0121 633 4664
CHI 61 Newhall St, B3 3RB 0121 233 3150

CHUNG YING
 16-18 Wrottersley Street, B5 4RT 0121 622 5669
CHUNG YING GARDEN 17 Thorpe St, B5 4AT 0121 666 6622
CIELO 6 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2JB 0121 632 6882
CITY CAFE GRILL Hylton Garden Inn, 1 Brunswick Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HW 0121 643 1003
COFFEE ROOM BAR & BISTRO Hurst St, B5 4TD 0121 605 4343
COTE The Mailbox, B1 1RX 0121 631 1578
CUCINA RUSTICA 24 Ludgate Hill, B3 1DX 0121 233 2277
DEL VILLAGGIO
 Unit 528, Middle Mall, The Bullring, B5 4BE 0121 643 1400
DEOLALI BAR RESTAURANT
 23A St Mary's Row, Moseley B13 8HW 0121 442 2222
DESI IMLEES
 562-564 Moseley Road Balsall Heath Birmingham B12 9AD 0121 4494495
DUET CUISINE Unit 1, Fort Dunlop, B24 9FD 0121 748 1234
EDMUNDS 6 Brindley place, B1 2JB 0121 633 4944
FLEET STREET KITCHEN
 Fleet Street, Summerrow, B3 1JH 0121 236 010
FUMO 1 Waterloo Street B2 5PG 0121 643 9979
HARJEES SPICES 512 Stratford Road, Sparkhill B11 4AH 0121 773 6130
THE HORSESHOE BAR & RESTAURANT 1214 Stratford Road, B28 9BH 0121 777 2340
ITIHAAS 18 Fleet St, B3 1JL 0121 212 3383
ITIHAAS BRASSERIE
 Selfridges Food Hall, Bullring, Birmingham B5 4BP 0121 212 3383
JAMIE'S ITALIAN Middle Mall, Bullring Shopping Centre, B5 4BE 0121 270 3610
JIMMY SPICES Regency Wharf, Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 643 2111
JUUJ'S Canal Square, B16 8EH 0121 456 3384
THE JUNCTION 212 High Street, Harborne, B17 9PT 0121 428 2635
KINNAREE THAI 22 Waterfront Walk, B1 1SN. 0121 665 6568
LA BANCA 1986 Pershore Road, Cotteridge, Kings Norton B30 3AS 0121 459 2204
LA BASTILLE 220 Corporation St, B4 6QB 0121 236 1171
LAS IGUANAS Arcadian Centre, Hurst St, B5 4TD 0121 622 4466

LA PLANCHA 113 Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8DD 0121 449 5430
LASAN 3-4 Dakota Buildings, James St, St Paul's Square, B3 1SD 0121 212 3664
THE LOFT LOUNGE
 143 Bromsgrove St, B5 6RG 0121 622 2444
THE LOST & FOUND
 8 Bennetts Hill, B2 5RS 0121 643 9293
LOVES The Glasshouse, Browning St, B16 8FL 0121 454 5151
MANIC ORGANIC
 46 Poplar Road, B14 7AG 0121 441 3802
MAHARAJA 23/25 Hurst St, B5 4AS 0121 622 2641
MECHU 47 - 59 Summer Row, B3 1JJ 0121 212 1661
METRO BAR & GRILL 73 Cornwall St B3 2DF 0121 200 1911
MILLER & CARTER 178-180 Wharfside St, The Mailbox, B1 1RN 0121 643 7738
MINT Yew Tree Retail Park, Stoney Lane Yardley, B25 8YP 0121 789 8908
MIRAGE FUSION
 Broadway Casino, Broadway Plaza Ladywood Middleway, B16 8LP 0121 456 5557
MOUNT FUJI The Bullring, B5 4BH 0121 633 9853
NUVO 11 Brindleyplace, B1 2LP 0121 631 1600
OLD JOINTSTOCK PUB 4 Temple Row, B2 5NY 0121 200 1892
NATHANIEL'S RESTAURANT 13 St Mary's Row, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 8HW, 0121 449 9618
OLD SPECKLED HEN
 Mere Green Road, Sutton Coldfield. B75 5BL 0121 308 9410
OPUS 54 Cornwall St, B3 2DE 0121 200 2323
THE ORIENTAL The Mailbox, 128-130 Wharfside St, B1 1RQ 0121 633 9988
PASTA DE PIAZZA 11 Brook Street, St Paul's Square, B3 1SA 0121 236 5858
PEACHY KEENS 1741 Coventry Road, Yardley B26 1DS 0121 764 5519
PENNY BLACKS
 The Mailbox, 132-134 Wharfside St, B1 1XL 0121 632 1460
PEPPERS 5b Broad Street, B15 1EJ 0121 633 4411
PICCOLINO
 9 Brindleyplace, B1 2HS 0121 634 3055
PITCHER & PIANO
 Brindleyplace, B1 2HP 0121 643 0214

PONTE DI LEGNO 44-44a Woodbridge Rd, Moseley, B13 8EJ 0121 449 8064
POPPY RED Arcadian Centre, Birmingham B5 4TD 0121 687 1200
PUNJABI HAVELI 1558 Stratford Rd, Hall Green, B28 9HA 0121 745 3636

PURNELL'S 55 Cornwall St, B3 2DH 0121 212 9799

PUSHKAR 245 Broad St, B1 2HQ 0121 643 7978

THE RECTORY 50-54 St Paul's Sq, B3 1QS 0121 605 1001

RED PEPPERS 117 Wharfside St, B1 1RF 0121 643 4202

ROSE MURREE 94 -96 Hagley Rd, Edgbaston, B16 8LU 0121 456 4500

SABAI SABAI 25 Woodbridge Rd, Moseley, B13 8EH 0121 4494498

SAN CARLO 4 Temple St, B2 5BN 0121 633 0251

SHAH'S Unit 16, 1160 Warwick Road, Acocks Green B27 6BP 0121 707 8297

SHIMLA PINKS 215 Broad St, B15 1AY 0121 633 0366

SHOGUN TEPPANYAKI The Mailbox, 27 - 29 Wharfside St, B1 1RD 0121 632 1253

SIMPSONS, 20 Highfield Rd, Edgbaston B13 3DU 0121 454 3434

THE SLUG AND LETTUCE, Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2HL 0121 633 3049

SPICE EXCHANGE, 1845 Pershore Rd Kings Norton, B30 3DJ 0121 451 1007

STRADA 109-111 Wharfside St, The Mailbox B1 1XL 0121 643 7279

SYRIANA 1 Constitution Hill, B19 3LG 0121 2369444

TGI FRIDAYS 180 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 9NY 0121 454 1930

THAI EDGE 7 Oozells Sq, B1 2HL 0121 643 3993

TIN TIN CANTONESE, The Waters Edge, Brindleyplace, B1 2HL 0121 633 0888

ULYSSES 42a Bristol Street, B5 7AA 0121 622 3159

THE VAULTS Newhall Place, Newhall Hill, B1 3JH 0121 212 9837

VMF - ASTON VILLA FOOTBALL CLUB Villa Park, Trinity Rd, B6 6HE 0121 326 1570

WAGAMAMA Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2HL 0121 643 7656

THE WAREHOUSE CAFE 54-57 Allison Street, Digbeth, B5 5TH 0121 633 0261

WING WAH 278 Thimblemill Lane, B7 5HD 0121 327 7879

WOKTASTIC Paradise Place, B3 3HJ 0121 236 3130

WONGS 5-11 Fleet St, B3 1JP 0121 212 1888

ZIZZI 183 High St, Harborne B17 9QE 0121 428 4228 also at

The Mailbox B1 1RL 0121 632 1333, 10 Poplar Rd, Solihull, B91 3AB 0121 704 5030

ZORBAS 359-361 Olton Boulevard, Solihull B27 7DP 0121 706 4709

Black Country

ARBOUR LIGHTS 127-128 Lichfield Street, Walsall WS1 1SY 01922 613361

BANKS BISTRO Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton WV1 4EP 01902 238433

BELLA 82 Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton. 01902 427555

BENGAL FUSION 174 High St, Lye, Stourbridge DY9 8LN. 01384 891111

BILASH 2 Cheapside, Wolverhampton, WV1 1TU 01902 427762

THE BLUE BRICK Broad Gauge Way, Wolverhampton WV1 1AA 01902 875301

BRAVACCIOUS 4 Upper Green, Wolverhampton WV6 8QQ 01902 756052

CAFE CHAMPAGNE 253-255 Bilston Road, Wolverhampton WV2 2JN 01902 458024

CASA CASITA Upper Gornal, Dudley. DY3 1UP 01902 676754

CATELLANI'S 6 School St, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LR 01902 428928

CINNAMON COURT Bentley Mill Way, Walsall WS2 0BP 0121 568 6664

THE COWSHED Clive Farm Clive Rd, Pittingham, WV6 7EN 01902 701888

THE CROOKED HOUSE Coppice Hill, Hirmley DY3 4DA 01384 238583

THE DITCH 1 Town Hill, Walsall, WS1 2EU 01922 643215

DON SALVO 25 Darlington Street, Wolverhampton WV1 4HW 01902 712819

DUNSLEY HALL Dunsley Rd, Kinver, DY7 6LU 01384 877077

THE FAIRLAWNS AT ALDRIDGE 178 Little Aston Road, Aldridge, Walsall WS9 0NU 01922 455122

FARADAYS The Waterfront, Brierley Hill, Dudley, DY5 1UR 01384 482 882

FIVE RIVERS Vicarage Place, Walsall WS1 3NA 01922 646164

FOUR STONES Adam's Hill, Clint, Stourbridge, DY9 9PS 01562 883260

FRANZLS 151 Milcote Rd, Smethwick, B67 5BN 0121 429 7920

FRENCH CONNECTION 3 Coventry St, Stourbridge DY8 1EP 01384 390940

FRENCH HEN Bromsgrove Rd, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9PY 01562 883040

GOLDEN MOMENTS 2-3 Ablewell St, Walsall WS1 2EQ 01922 640363

LE BRASSERIE 5 Lower Mill Street, Kidderminster. DY11 6UU 01562 744976

MADE IN THAI Darlington St, Wolverhampton WV1 4HW 01902 312512

PARADISE BALTI 7 Lower



Fleet Street Kitchen, Birmingham

Mill Street, Kidderminster DY11 6UU 01562 60479

THE PIE FACTORY 50 Hurst Lane, Tipton DY4 9AB 0121 557 1402

RED FORT Fold St, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LP 01902 424440

RISTORANTE ROMAGNA 4 Upper Green, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton WV6 8QQ 01902 756052

SAFFRON Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury B69 4RR 0121 552 1752

SIMON'S 520 Chester Rd, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0PU 0121 580 9293

SPICES Hollywell Rd, Wednesbury. WS10 7PA 0121 502 0720

THE SPRINGHILL Warstones Rd, Penn, Wolverhampton WV4 4LB 01902 342530

THE SUMMERHOUSE 92 Gospel End Rd, Dudley DY3 4AN 01902 676 102

THORNECROFT Bridgnorth Rd, Wolverhampton, WV6 7EQ 01902 700 253

THE WOODMAN Claverley, Wolverhampton WV5 7DG 01746 710 553

Shropshire

AFTAB 25 High St, Ironbridge TF8 7AD 01952 432055

ALBRIGHT HUSSEY Ellesmere Rd, Shrewsbury, SY4 3AF 01939 290 523

BISTRO JACQUES 77/77a Mardol, Shrewsbury SY1 1PZ 01743 272586

BUTLERS Park St, Shifnal, TF11 9BA 01952 460662

CASA NARANJO Barracks Passage, Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 01743 588165

CASA RUIZ 45 High Street, Bridgnorth, WV16 4DX 01746 218 084

CHEZ MAW Best Western Valley Hotel, Buildwas Rd, Ironbridge, TF8 7DW 01952 432247

THE COTTAGE Tern Hill, Market Drayton TF9 3PX 01630 638984

CROMWELLS 11 Dogpole, Shrewsbury SY1 1EN 01743 361440

DA VINCI'S 26 High St, Ironbridge, TF8 7AD 01952 432250

DORRINGTON OLD HALL PERSIAN CUISINE Main Road, Dorington, Shropshire SY5 7JD 01743 719100

DRAPERS 10 St Mary's St Shrewsbury, SY1 1DZ 01743 344679

THE FEATHERS Brockton, Much Wenlock TF13 6JR 01746 785202

FENNELS 8 Market Place, Shifnal TF11 9AZ 01952 463020

THE FOX INN 46 High St, Much Wenlock TF13 6AD 01952 727292

FRANK CAFE BAR 128 Frankwell, Shrewsbury SY3 8JX 01743 354422

THE GOLDEN CROSS 14 Princess St, Shrewsbury, SY1 1LP 01743 362507

GRANARY BAR & GRILL Weston Park, Weston-under-Lizard, Nr Shifnal, TF11 8LE 01952 852107

HADLEY PARK HOUSE Hadley Park, Telford TF1 6QJ 01952 677269

THE HAYWARDS at The Lion Hotel, Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1UY 01743 353107

HENRY TUDOR HOUSE Barracks Passage Shrewsbury SY1 1XA 01743 361666

HILL VALLEY HOTEL Tarporley Road, Whitchurch SY13 4HA 0844 879 9049

THE INN AT GRINSHILL The High Street, Grinshill, Shrewsbury, SY4 3BL 01939 220410

KING & THAI Avenue Rd, Broseley, Telford TF12 5DL 01952 882004

THE KNIGHTON HOTEL Broad Street, Knighton, Powys LD7 1BL 01547 520530

LA BÉCASSE 17 Corve St, Ludlow, SY8 1DA 01584 872 325

LA DOLCE VITA 35 Hills Lane, Shrewsbury SY1

1QU 01743 249126

LA LANTERNA The Old Vestry, St Julian's Church, Shrewsbury SY1 1UH 01743 233552

LION & PHEASANT 50 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1XJ 01743 770345

THE LION QUAYS Moreton, Oswestry SY11 3EN 01691 684300

LOCH FYNÉ Talbot House, Market Street, Shrewsbury SY1 1LG 01743 277140

MAD JACKS 15 St Mary's St, Shrewsbury, SY1 1EQ 01743 358870

THE MALTHOUSE The Wharfage, Ironbridge TF8 7NH 01902 433712

MORGANS 1 Bellstone, Shrewsbury SY1 1HU 01743 239114

MR UNDERHILLS Dinham Weir, Ludlow Shropshire SY8 1EH 01584 874431

THE MYTTON & MERMAID Atcham, Shrewsbury, SY5 6QG 01743 761220

THE OLD ORLETON INN Holyhead Rd, Wellington, TF1 2HA 01952 255011

THE OLD RECTORY HOTEL & RESTAURANT Lowe Hill Road, Wem, Shropshire SY4 5UA 01939 233233

THE PEACH TREE 21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE 01743 355055

THE PLUME OF FEATHERS Harley, Shrewsbury SY5 6LP 01743 727360

THE POUND AT LEEBOTWOOD Leebotwood, Nr Church Stretton SY6 6ND 01694 751477

RENAISSANCE, 29a Princess St, Shrewsbury, SY11LW 01743 354289

ROMOLO Victoria Avenue, shrewsbury SY1 1HH 01743 233244

SARACENS Shrewsbury Rd, SY4 4AG 01939 210877

SEBASTIANS 45 Willow St, Oswestry SY11 1AQ 01691 655444

SHALIMAR 23 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury SY2 6AE 01743 366658

SHERAZ 79 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1UT 01743 242321

THE SILVERTON The Old Dairy, 9-10 Frankwell, Shrewsbury SY3 8JY 01743 248000

TIN TINS Wellington Road, Telford TF2 8AJ 01952 608688

TRAITORS GATE Castle St, Water Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 2BX 01743 249152

THE WALLS Welsh Walls, Oswestry SY11 1AW 01691 670970

ZIZZI RISTORANTE 39-40 High Street, Shrewsbury SY1 1SF 01743 353232

Staffordshire

NO 5 Gaol Mews, Stafford ST16 3AN 01785 22 9900

95 HIGH GREEN Cannock. WS11 1BH 01543 573905

1709 THE BASSERIE 3-5 Lombard St, Lichfield. WS13 6DP 01543 257986

BELLA ITALIA 20 Greengate St, Stafford, ST16 2HS 01785 21 1968

CHANDLERS Corn Exchange, Conduit St, Lichfield, WS13 6JU 01543 416688

THE CORNER HOUSE Second Avenue, Burton-On-Trent DE14 2WF 01283 542321

CURRY KUTEER 31 Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2HY 01785 253279

ESSENCE OF THE ORIENT 27 Broad Eye, Stafford ST16 2QB 01785 229988

FOUR SEASONS Swinfen Hall Lichfield, WS14 9RE 01543 481494

THE GREEN ROOM Castle Dyke, Lichfield WS13 6HR 01543 412121

INDIAN VILLAGE 8 Lombard St, Lichfield. WS13 6DR 01543 253415

INDICA Virage Park, Cannock. WS11 0HN 08712 070417

Restaurant LISTINGS

JASMINE PEKING 21 High St, Eccleshall, Stafford ST21 6BW 01785 851200

LA DOLCE VITA 19 Stafford St, Stone ST15 8QW 01785 817 985

THE LODGE 24 Birmingham Road, Shenstone. WS14 0LQ 01543 483334

MALABAR 1-2 Water Street, Stafford, ST16 2AG 01785 227 500/600

MARLOES 13 London Road, Newcastle under Lyme, ST4 1LQ 01782 661983

THE MILL 1 Mill St, Stone, ST15 8BA 01785 818456

THE NAVIGATION INN Newport Road, Gnosall, Stafford ST20 0BN 01785 822327

OLD VICARAGE 2 Main St, Branston, Burton, DE14 3EX 01283 533222

PASTICHE BISTRO 1 - 2 Mill Street, Stafford, ST16 2AJ 01782 263 737

THE PEARL 18 Market St, Kidsgrove, ST7 4AB 01782 788887

THE PEAR TREE Swinfen, Nr. Lichfield, WS14 9QR 01543 481807

PORTOFINO 38-40 Marsh St Stoke-On-Trent, ST1 1JD 01782 209444

THE RED ROOM 7 Newcastle Road, Congleton CW12 4HN 01260 297871

THE SWAN HOTEL 46 Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2JA 01785 258142

THORNBURY HALL, RASOI Lockwood Rd, Kingsley Holt, Stafford ST10 2DH 01538 750831

WOLSELEY ARMS Wolseley Bridge, Stafford ST17 0XS 01889 883179

WARWICKSHIRE

7 SQUARE 7 Old Square, Warwick CV34 4RA 01926 411 755

NO. 9 CHURCH STREET Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire CV37 6HB 01789 415522

ART KITCHEN 7 Swan St, Warwick CV34 4BJ 01926 494303

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AUBERGINE 32 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HS 01926 400 086

THE ALMANACK Abbey End North, Kenilworth CV8 1QJ 01926 353637

THE BLUEBELL 93 High Street, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, B95 5AT 01564 793049

BLUE BISTRO 21 Spon St, Coventry, CV1 3BA 024 7622 9274

BROWNS Earl St, Coventry CV1 5RU 0247 622 1100

CARLUCCIOS 13 Waterside, Stratford-Upon-Avon CV37 6BA 01789 267424

CASTLES 6 Castle St, Warwick. CV34 4BP 01926 492525

CATALAN 6 Jury St, Warwick CV34 4EW 01926 498 930

THE CHURCH STREET TOWNHOUSE 16 Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HB 01789 262222

EGO 29 The Square, Kenilworth, CV8 1EF 01926 864463

THE ENCORE Bridge Street Stratford upon Avon CV37 6AB 01789 269462

FINEST CATCH B'ham Rd, Henley in Arden. B95 5QR 01564 793783

FIVE RIVERS 20-22 Victoria Terrace, Leamington Spa, CV31 3AB 01926 431999

THE FLAT CHICKEN 44 Guild Street, Stratford-upon-Avon. CV37 6QY 01789 415543

GEORGETOWN 23 Sheep St, Stratford-Upon-Avon, CV37 6EF 01789 204445

HELP OUT MILL Heather Rd, Shakerstone, Nuneaton. CV13 0BT 01530 260666

HIGH PAVEMENT 3 High Street, Warwick, CV34 4AP 01926 494725

HOGARTH'S HOTEL 4 Ashes Rd, Solihull, B93 8QE 01564 779988

HORTONS 165 High Street, Solihull B91 3ST 0121 709 3177

INDIA RED 1-2 Abbey St, Nuneaton. CV11 5BP 02476 342090

JIMMY SPICES 64-66

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Station Rd, Solihull, B91 3RX 0121 709 2111

LE BISTRO PIERRE Swans Nest, Bridgford, Stratford upon Avon. CV37 7LT 01789 264804

MATRICARDIS 97 High St, Henley in Arden. B95 5AT 01564 792735

MERCHANTS Swan Street, Warwick CV34 4BJ 01926 403833

NAYA 148 High St, Henley in Arden. B95 5BS 01564 793089

NAILCOTE HALL Nailcote Lane, Berkswell, Coventry, CV7 7DE 02476 466174

NICOLINIS 14 The Parade, Leamington Spa, CV32 4DW 01926 421620

ONE ELM 1 Guild St, Stratford-Upon-Avon, CV37 6QZ 01789 404919

OSCARS 39 Chandos St, Leamington Spa, CV32 4RL 01926 452807

PEEL'S Hampton Manor, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull, B92 0EN 01675 446080

PREZZO 1-3 High St, Warwick CV34 4AP 01926 475867

QUEANS RESTAURANT 15 Dorrer Place, Leamington Spa CV32 5AA 01926 315522

RESTAURANT 23 34 Hamilton Terrace, Holly Walk Leamington Spa, CV32 4LY 01926 422422

ROBBIES 74 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HU 01926 400470

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ROOFTOP RESTAURANT @ The RST, Waterside, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BB 01789 403449

SAFFRON GOLD Market St, Westgate House, Warwick CV34 4DE 01926 402061

THE SAXON MILL Coventry Rd, Guys Cliffe, Warwick CV34 5YN 01926 492 255

SIGNATURES @ The Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, CV1 1GS 02476 846762

TAILORS 22 Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SL 01926 410590

THAI ELEPHANT 20 Regent St, Leamington Spa, Warwick CV32 5HQ 01926 886882

THE TREVELYAN Warwick Rd, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 0NR 01789 295252

WARWICK SPICE 24 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HS 01926 491736

THE VINE INN 86 - 88 West St, Warwick CV34 6AW 07873 219005

ZIZZI 85-87 Regent Square House, Parade, Leamington Spa CV 32 4NL 01926 432532

ZORBA'S Olton Boulevard, Solihull. B27 7DP 0121 706 4709

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BROWNS 24 Quay St, Worcester WR1 2JJ 01905 262663

THE CHASE INN Chase Rd, Upper Colwall, Malvern. WR13 6DQ 01684 540276

CHESTERS 51 New St, Worcester, WR1 2DL 01905 611638

CROWN & SANDYS Main Rd, Ombersley, WR9 0EW 01905 620252

EW & LAMB Hanbury Rd, Bromsgrove. B60 4DN 01527 871929

THE FIG TREE 99 Church Street, Gt Malvern, WR14 2AE 01684 569909

FOUR SEASONS 61 Lowesmoor, Worcester WR1 2RS 01905 27026

FUSION BRASSERIE Hawbridge, Stoulton, Worcester WR7 4RJ 01905 840647

THE GARDENERS ARMS Vines Lane, Droitwich. WR9 8LU 01905 772936

THE GATE 36 Dodford Rd, Bournheath, Bromsgrove B61 9JR 01527 878169

THE INN AT STONEHALL Stonehall Common, Worcester, WR9 3QG 01905 820462

KING CHARLES II King Charles House, New St, Worcester WR1 2D 01905 22449

L'AMUSE BOUCHE 51 Graham Rd, Malvern. WR14 2HU 01684 572427

LANGTREYS 89a High St, Bromsgrove. B61 8AQ 01527 878242

LITTLE VENICE 1 - 3 St Nicholas St, Worcester WR1 1UW 01905 726126

LOTUS HOUSE 33 Ombersley St, Droitwich. WR9 8QX 01905 770079

MAEKONG THAI 12 Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove. B61 7AE 01527 578888

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MASSALLA LOUNGE 35 Broad St, Worcester WR1 3NH 01905 729955

MUG HOUSE Claines Lane, Worcester WR3 7RN 01905 456649

OLD RECTIFYING HOUSE North Parade, Worcester WR1 3NN 01905 619622

ON THE ROCKS, Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove. B61 7AE 01527 882412

PORTOFINO, 6 Worcester Rd, Droitwich. WR9 8AD 01905 794799

PORTWAY ITALIAN, Alcester Rd, Redditch. B48 7HT 01564 824794

PUCCINI'S, 12 Friar St, Worcester WR12LZ 01905 27770

RAJDOOT Cutnall Green, Droitwich. WR9 0PW 01299 851000

RILY'S The Quadrant, Redditch B98 8AE 01527 60544

ROSADOS'S 2 Finstall Rd, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. B60 2DZ 01527 889948

SAFFRON BISTRO 15 New St, Worcester WR1 2DP 01905 610505

SINGAPORE 29 Friar St, Worcester WR1 2NA 01905 613005

THAI GALLERY 26-32 Friar St, Worcester WR1 2LZ 01905 25451

THAI LOTUS 147 Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove. B61 7HN 01527 882606

THAI RAMA Walwyn Rd, Gt Malvern. WR13 6QX 01684 541563

THE WILDMOOR OAK Top Road, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove B61 0RB 0121 453 2696

THE WOOD NORTON Worcester Road Evesham Worcestershire WR11 4YB 01386 765611



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