inside:

thelist
Your 16-page week by week listings guide

WALL STREET WOLF
bad-boy banker Ray Quinn gets mean in The Wedding Singer

MILKSHAKE! LIVE
hit children’s show takes to the stage in Wolverhampton

GIN EMPORIUM
masterclasses and nibbles at Wolverhampton’s Grain Store
STAFFORDSHIRE’S BIGGEST GAstronomic Gathering

STONE FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL
6, 7, & 8 OCT 2017
www.stonefooddrink.org.uk

Halloween Nights
Wed 25 - Sat 28 Oct 2017
6.30pm - 10pm
BLACK COUNTRY LIVING MUSEUM
www.bclm.com

AN EVENING WITH AN IMMIGRANT
FUEL Theatre
Tayo Aluko + Friends
Jazz at the Arena
ÖRJAN HULTÉN ORION
Tickets: £12 / £10 Conc.

Jazz at the Arena
ÖRJAN HULTÉN ORION
Tickets: £12 / £10 Conc.

FUEL Theatre
AN EVENING WITH AN IMMIGRANT
Tickets: £12 / £10 Conc.

Tayo Aluko + Friends
JUST AN ORDINARY LAWYER
Tickets: £12 / £10 Conc.
The Wedding Singer - Ray Quinn talks about touring with the smash-hit musical interview page 8

Fridolijn
new Dutch talent plays Henry Tudor House in Shrewsbury page 15

John Bishop
Liverpool comedian Winging It in the Potteries page 20

Ludlow Food Festival
gastronomical delights galore at annual South Shropshire event page 47

the list
Your 16-page week-by-week listings guide page 53

inside:


@whatsonwolves Wolverhampton What’s On Magazine
@whatsonstaffs Staffordshire What’s On Magazine
@whatsonshrops Shropshire What’s On Magazine

Managing Director: Davina Evans davina@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281708
Sales & Marketing: Lei Woodhouse lei@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281703 Chris Horton chris@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281704
Yvonne Kentfield yvonne@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281706 Editorial: Lauren Foster lauren@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281707
Brian O’Faolain brian@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281701 Sue Jones sue@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281705
Abi Whitehouse abi@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281716 Eily Yates-Roberts eily@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281733
Ryan Humphreys ryan@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281722 Adrian Parker adrian.parker@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281714
Contributors: Graham Bostock, James Cameron-Wilson, Heather Kincaid, Katherine Ewing, Lauren Cox, Lauren Cole, Jack Rolfe
Publisher and CEO: Martin Monahan Accounts Administrator: Julia Perry julia@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281717

This publication is printed on paper from a sustainable source and is produced without the use of elemental chlorine.

We endorse the recycling of our magazine and would encourage you to pass it on to others to read when you have finished with it.

All works appearing in the publication are copyright. It is to be assumed that the copyright for material rests with the magazine unless otherwise stated. No part of this publication may be reproduced, or stored in an electronic system, transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recording or otherwise, without the prior knowledge and consent of the publishers.
Entertainment news from around the region

Wizard Of Oz hopeful set to star as music legend

A West End performer best known from a television talent contest will take the title role when Beautiful - The Carole King Musical visits the Midlands. Broné Barbé competed in the BBC One series Somewhere Over The Rainbow, a 2010 competition to find an undiscovered musical theatre performer to play the role of Dorothy Gale in Andrew Lloyd Webber's stage production of The Wizard Of Oz. Broné has since made a name for herself in numerous hit shows, including Hairspay. Beautiful - The Carole King Musical visits Birmingham Hippodrome from 7 to 11 November. It returns to the Midlands next year, at the Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, from 24 to 28 April, and then at the Wolverhampton Grand from 12 to 16 June.

Blood Brothers returning to Wolverhampton Grand

Willy Russell’s highly acclaimed Blood Brothers is making a welcome return to the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre. The story of twins separated at birth who’re brought up in different social circumstances but remain inextricably linked, the ever-popular show isn’t so much a musical as a play with music. Highlights include memorable songs A Bright New Day, Marilyn Monroe and the emotionally charged Tell Me It’s Not True. Casting for the show is yet to be announced. Blood Brothers runs at the Grand from Monday 16 to Saturday 21 April. For more information about this and other recently announced productions at the venue, visit grandtheatre.co.uk.

Ventriloquist Paul Zerdin is All Mouth in Lichfield

London-born America’s Got Talent winner Paul Zerdin is making a welcome return to the Midlands this month with brand new show All Mouth and two new characters. “As a ventriloquist, I can get away with jokes that other comedians can’t,” says Paul, who appears at the Lichfield Garrick on Wednesday 20 September. “I’ve got the luxury of taking the piss out of myself, but through the characters, rather than me just being relentlessly self-deprecating, I can get away with having a go at the audience much more too; you get to be cheekier. Mocking the front row is a trademark of my characters, but I’m evolving my audience interaction beyond that.”

Contemporary craft on show in touring exhibition

The eighth edition of the ongoing Midlands craft exhibition Made In The Middle is stopping off at The Brewhouse in Burton-upon-Trent this month. Held every three years, the show features the best contemporary craft and applied art from across the region, in the process promoting all disciplines of craft-making. The show opens at the Brewhouse on Saturday 30 September. For more information, visit brewhouse.co.uk

A bundle of laughs at top Shrewsbury venue

Patrons of Shrewsbury’s Henry Tudor House will have plenty to laugh about during the coming months, with the venue’s entertainment programme featuring a line-up of highly rated comedians. Rib-ticklers taking to the stage over the next few weeks include Phil Nichol, Michael Fab bri and Dan Nightingale on Wednesday 27 September, Jan Ravens (Thursday 19 October), Ed Gamble (pictured, Thursday 26 October) and Matt Richardson (Sunday 26 November). For more information about these and other acts performing at the venue, visit henrytudorhouse.com
Open day marks hit movie’s 10th anniversary

Shropshire’s Stokesay Court is holding a special open afternoon (3 September) to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the making of the movie Atonement, many scenes of which were filmed at the venue.

The film, based on the best-selling book by Ian McEwan and starring Keira Knightley and James McAvoy, was nominated for seven Oscars and won the BAFTA Best Film Award.

The open day offers visitors the chance to visit Stokesay’s numerous Atonement locations, including the lake, river, grotto, fountain, lawns and Great Hall, the latter of which will house a selection of exhibits from the movie.

Wolverhampton’s Light House lit up

Wolverhampton’s Light House Media Centre now has lit signage on the outside of the building.

The venue has been without external signage since a storm in 2013. Money to pay for the new signage was raised via a Crowdfunding project.

“Our loyal customers have raised over £5,000 to make this happen,” says the Light House’s CEO, Kelly Jeffs. “They see the importance of the cinema, gallery and bar and what it offers the region. The past few years have been very difficult for our venue, and our future has been so uncertain. To have our customers invest in such a vital marketing tool for us, helping us reach the new audiences we need to survive, is so encouraging.”

Music at the gallop with ’80s stars The Human League

Midlands fans of ’80s pop sensations The Human League are in for a treat this month when the group make an appearance at Wolverhampton Racecourse. Best known for the chart-topping Don’t You Want Me, the Sheffield band will be performing after the day’s racing as part of The SunBets Music Live 2017 event. For more information about the Saturday 9 September raceday and gig, visit wolverhampton-racecourse.co.uk

Shropshire town to host ginger and spice fest

Having been known as the home of gingerbread bakers for more than 200 years, Market Drayton is this month hosting a brand new festival dedicated to ginger and spice.

The connection between gingerbread and the Shropshire town dates back to 1793, the year in which the first making of the popular treat was recorded.

The inaugural festival takes place from Wednesday 27 to Saturday 30 September.

The Underworld awaits in Shrewsbury...

Mexico’s legendary Day Of The Dead event is coming to Shrewsbury.

The famous festival, which sees the deceased being prayed for by their family and friends, is well known for its colourful, celebratory tone - and Shrewsbury’s version certainly intends to follow suit.

Contributors to the event include live percussionists, a host of international DJs, highly skilled acrobats, theatrical circus performers and professional Latin dancers. Europe’s largest confetti cannons and CO2 guns also feature, while professional film makeup artists will be running a candy skull face-painting station.

Day Of The Dead takes place at The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury, on 10 November. For more information, visit thebuttermarket.co.uk
A spinetingling spookfest at the Black Country Living Museum...

Black Country Living Museum in Dudley is planning a hair-raising spookfest for Halloween visitors next month (Wednesday 25 to Saturday 28 October).

The popular venue’s line-up of spinetingling attractions includes the chance to trick-or-treat along the gaslit cobbled streets, brave a creepy crawlies display, say hello to all manner of eerie characters and descend on foot ‘into the thick’ of the museum’s ‘spookified’ minebrace. Circus performers, fire-jugglers and magicians also feature. Some ‘devilishly good Halloween fare’ will ensure that visitors are suitably fuelled should they find themselves needing to run for their lives...

For more information and to book tickets, visit bclm.com

Corporate games return to Staffordshire

A major sports festival is returning to Staffordshire next year. The UK Corporate Games, previously held in the county in 2015, sees amateur athletes from businesses across the country taking part in 24 sports, including hockey, cricket, badminton, netball, football and dragon-boat racing.

Commenting on the return of the event to Staffordshire, Councillor Anthony Munday, cabinet member for greener city, development & leisure at Stoke-on-Trent City Council, said: "More than 3,000 competitors took part when we hosted the event in 2015, and we’re hoping to see even more involved next year, especially businesses based here in the city."

The UK Corporate Games 2018 event takes place at various venues from 21 to 23 June. Businesses interested in taking part are invited to a launch event on 4 October at Keele Hall from 6.30pm. Companies can register or find out more at corporate-games.com or by calling 01733 380888.

Ten days of laughter in the Midlands

Birmingham Comedy Festival is back for a 16th year next month. The 2017 edition of the event features performances by, among others, Greg Davies, Matt Lucas, Birmingham-born Joe Lycett, Dirty White Boys (pictured) and German Comedy Ambassador Henning Wehn. Other highlights include Monty Python’s Spamalot!, an afternoon of Laurel & Hardy films, a revival of 1960s BBC radio series Round The Horne and a recreation of Woody Allen’s early stage routines.

The festival runs at various city venues from Friday 6 to Sunday 15 October. For full details, visit bhamcomfest.co.uk

Wolverhampton by the sea...

An event in Wolverhampton’s Queen Square is bringing the seaside to the landlocked Midlands this month (Saturday 2 September).

Taking place from 10am to 4pm, Seaside In The City features a beach, a giant deckchair providing ‘the perfect photo opportunity’ and, for the first 400 visitors, free ice cream and candy floss.

Visitors can also enjoy an array of free family activities, including the chance to play Giant Kerplunk, Jenga, Snakes & Ladders and Twister in a special games area. There’s Hook A Duck and a coconut shy too, and Punch & Judy shows taking place throughout the day.

A circus skills workshop and face-painting also feature.

took place this month (Ludlow Rugby Club, Sunday 17 September).

The event features three separate cycle rides - with participants able to select the one that suits them best - and a selection of family-friendly entertainment.

Gender and identity explored in new exhibition

A touring exhibition marking the 50th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of male homosexual acts in England and Wales is stopping off at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. Coming Out: Sexuality, Gender And Identity comprises over 80 modern and contemporary works by internationally renowned artists.

Pieces from The Arts Council Collection, National Museums Liverpool and Birmingham’s own collection are all included. The exhibition shows in the city from 2 December to 15 April.

Gender and identity explored in new exhibition

A touring exhibition marking the 50th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of male homosexual acts in England and Wales is stopping off at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. Coming Out: Sexuality, Gender And Identity comprises over 80 modern and contemporary works by internationally renowned artists.

Pieces from The Arts Council Collection, National Museums Liverpool and Birmingham’s own collection are all included. The exhibition shows in the city from 2 December to 15 April.

First Word

A spinetingling spookfest at the Black Country Living Museum...

Black Country Living Museum in Dudley is planning a hair-raising spookfest for Halloween visitors next month (Wednesday 25 to Saturday 28 October).

The popular venue’s line-up of spinetingling attractions includes the chance to trick-or-treat along the gaslit cobbled streets, brave a creepy crawlies display, say hello to all manner of eerie characters and descend on foot ‘into the thick’ of the museum’s ‘spookified’ minebrace. Circus performers, fire-jugglers and magicians also feature. Some ‘devilishly good Halloween fare’ will ensure that visitors are suitably fuelled should they find themselves needing to run for their lives...

For more information and to book tickets, visit bclm.com

Corporate games return to Staffordshire

A major sports festival is returning to Staffordshire next year. The UK Corporate Games, previously held in the county in 2015, sees amateur athletes from businesses across the country taking part in 24 sports, including hockey, cricket, badminton, netball, football and dragon-boat racing.

Commenting on the return of the event to Staffordshire, Councillor Anthony Munday, cabinet member for greener city, development & leisure at Stoke-on-Trent City Council, said: "More than 3,000 competitors took part when we hosted the event in 2015, and we’re hoping to see even more involved next year, especially businesses based here in the city."

The UK Corporate Games 2018 event takes place at various venues from 21 to 23 June. Businesses interested in taking part are invited to a launch event on 4 October at Keele Hall from 6.30pm. Companies can register or find out more at corporate-games.com or by calling 01733 380888.

Ten days of laughter in the Midlands

Birmingham Comedy Festival is back for a 16th year next month. The 2017 edition of the event features performances by, among others, Greg Davies, Matt Lucas, Birmingham-born Joe Lycett, Dirty White Boys (pictured) and German Comedy Ambassador Henning Wehn. Other highlights include Monty Python’s Spamalot!, an afternoon of Laurel & Hardy films, a revival of 1960s BBC radio series Round The Horne and a recreation of Woody Allen’s early stage routines.

The festival runs at various city venues from Friday 6 to Sunday 15 October. For full details, visit bhamcomfest.co.uk

Wolverhampton by the sea...

An event in Wolverhampton’s Queen Square is bringing the seaside to the landlocked Midlands this month (Saturday 2 September).

Taking place from 10am to 4pm, Seaside In The City features a beach, a giant deckchair providing ‘the perfect photo opportunity’ and, for the first 400 visitors, free ice cream and candy floss.

Visitors can also enjoy an array of free family activities, including the chance to play Giant Kerplunk, Jenga, Snakes & Ladders and Twister in a special games area. There’s Hook A Duck and a coconut shy too, and Punch & Judy shows taking place throughout the day.

A circus skills workshop and face-painting also feature.

Gender and identity explored in new exhibition

A touring exhibition marking the 50th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of male homosexual acts in England and Wales is stopping off at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. Coming Out: Sexuality, Gender And Identity comprises over 80 modern and contemporary works by internationally renowned artists.

Pieces from The Arts Council Collection, National Museums Liverpool and Birmingham’s own collection are all included. The exhibition shows in the city from 2 December to 15 April.

First Word

A spinetingling spookfest at the Black Country Living Museum...

Black Country Living Museum in Dudley is planning a hair-raising spookfest for Halloween visitors next month (Wednesday 25 to Saturday 28 October).

The popular venue’s line-up of spinetingling attractions includes the chance to trick-or-treat along the gaslit cobbled streets, brave a creepy crawlies display, say hello to all manner of eerie characters and descend on foot ‘into the thick’ of the museum’s ‘spookified’ minebrace. Circus performers, fire-jugglers and magicians also feature. Some ‘devilishly good Halloween fare’ will ensure that visitors are suitably fuelled should they find themselves needing to run for their lives...

For more information and to book tickets, visit bclm.com

Corporate games return to Staffordshire

A major sports festival is returning to Staffordshire next year. The UK Corporate Games, previously held in the county in 2015, sees amateur athletes from businesses across the country taking part in 24 sports, including hockey, cricket, badminton, netball, football and dragon-boat racing.

Commenting on the return of the event to Staffordshire, Councillor Anthony Munday, cabinet member for greener city, development & leisure at Stoke-on-Trent City Council, said: "More than 3,000 competitors took part when we hosted the event in 2015, and we’re hoping to see even more involved next year, especially businesses based here in the city."

The UK Corporate Games 2018 event takes place at various venues from 21 to 23 June. Businesses interested in taking part are invited to a launch event on 4 October at Keele Hall from 6.30pm. Companies can register or find out more at corporate-games.com or by calling 01733 380888.

Ten days of laughter in the Midlands

Birmingham Comedy Festival is back for a 16th year next month. The 2017 edition of the event features performances by, among others, Greg Davies, Matt Lucas, Birmingham-born Joe Lycett, Dirty White Boys (pictured) and German Comedy Ambassador Henning Wehn. Other highlights include Monty Python’s Spamalot!, an afternoon of Laurel & Hardy films, a revival of 1960s BBC radio series Round The Horne and a recreation of Woody Allen’s early stage routines.

The festival runs at various city venues from Friday 6 to Sunday 15 October. For full details, visit bhamcomfest.co.uk

Wolverhampton by the sea...

An event in Wolverhampton’s Queen Square is bringing the seaside to the landlocked Midlands this month (Saturday 2 September).

Taking place from 10am to 4pm, Seaside In The City features a beach, a giant deckchair providing ‘the perfect photo opportunity’ and, for the first 400 visitors, free ice cream and candy floss.

Visitors can also enjoy an array of free family activities, including the chance to play Giant Kerplunk, Jenga, Snakes & Ladders and Twister in a special games area. There’s Hook A Duck and a coconut shy too, and Punch & Judy shows taking place throughout the day.

A circus skills workshop and face-painting also feature.
TIME FOR TEA...

We all love a spot of quintessentially British afternoon tea - so with that in mind, we’ve put together a list of some of the most exciting places in which to get your high-tea fix.

1. **Vintage Tea Emporium**
   A vintage tea shop situated in the heart of Uttoxeter, the emporium sells high-quality loose leaf teas, coffees and home-made cakes. All of its afternoon teas are presented on vintage bone china triple-tiered cake stands. Freshly cut triangle sandwiches, warm baked scones and a variety of sweets make up the ‘classic’ offering, with vegetarian and gluten-free options also available. If you’re fancying something different, why not try the Rise & Shine Breakfast afternoon tea, which includes mini bacon rolls and homemade breakfast muffins. Oh, and if you’re feeling extra fancy, you can add a glass of sparkling Prosecco.
   Selected dates available, visit himleyhallandpark.co.uk for more details, from £19.95pp

2. **Lion & Pheasant**
   Located on Wyle Cop in the centre of Shrewsbury and originally built in the 16th century, this AA three-star hotel’s combination of historic and contemporary decor makes it the perfect setting in which to sit back and relax with an afternoon tea. Grab yourself a spot next to the hotel’s inglenook and enjoy a variety of traditional finger sandwiches, scones, a selection of cakes and a choice of freshly brewed coffee and English breakfast tea.
   1 - 4.30pm Mon - Sat, £16pp
   49-50 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, SY1 1XJ

3. **Gluttons For Nourishment**
   Runner-up in this year’s What’s On Readers’ Awards Best Independent Café/Coffee Shop category, Gluttons For Nourishment is well known for its afternoon teas - so much so, in fact, that its weekend slots often need to be booked in advance. The venue has recently introduced its VIP Afternoon Tea, which features a glass of Prosecco, a board of canapé-style starters, extra savouries and cake, all presented on a table featuring a bouquet of flowers. Any food you don’t manage to finish will be boxed up for you to take home. Talk about a win-win situation!
   9am - 5pm daily, Standard Afternoon Tea £15pp and VIP £25pp
   The Arcade, High St, Wolverhampton WV6 8QS

4. **Himley Hall and Park**
   Indulge yourself with a classic combination of ribbon sandwiches, scones with fruit conserve and cream, sweet pastries and tea. And while you’re there, why not take advantage of Himley Hall’s free admission and have a look around the venue and grounds.
   Selected dates available, visit himleyhallandpark.co.uk for more details, from £19.95pp
   Himley Hall & Park, Himley, Dudley, West Midlands DY3 4DF

5. **World of Wedgwood**
   What better place to enjoy an afternoon tea than in a tea room which presents your food on china that’s been made under the same roof? Visitors will be spoilt for choice here, with over 50 of Wedgwood’s finest teas from which to choose - including an exclusive Chinese Oolong from Master Xu.
   The venue also offers the option of an Afternoon Tea Experience For Two, which not only includes (as you’d expect) afternoon tea, but also entry into the Wedgwood Museum and a factory tour, all for the price of £49.
   12 - 5pm Daily, from £25pp
   Wedgwood Drive, Barlaston, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST12 9ER

6. **Fishmore Hall**
   Considered to be one of the best in Shropshire, Fishmore Hall’s afternoon tea features a selection of home-made cakes, finger sandwiches and scones accompanied by clotted cream and home-made berry compote. The boutique country house hotel also offers a choice of Champagne cocktails to accompany your afternoon tea.
   3-5pm daily, £22pp
   Fishmore Road, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 3DP
Lauren Cole talks to former X Factor finalist Ray Quinn about his role in the smash-hit musical, which returns to the Midlands this month...

THE WEDDING SINGER

The stage musical version of hit rom-com movie The Wedding Singer is already part way through its UK tour and is proving to be a soaring success, receiving widespread praise and countless standing ovations.

Set in 1985, when greed is rife throughout the ranks of wannabe big-shot bankers on Wall Street, a young man named Robbie Hart gets jilted at the altar. Unfortunately for Robbie, he’s a wedding singer, and faced with watching couple after couple happily tie the knot, he manages to make every wedding he attends as big a car crash as his own.

Robbie thinks his luck has changed when he falls for kind-hearted Julia. There’s just one problem, though – he’s booked to sing at her wedding to bad boy Wall Street banker Glen. Playing the role of Glen in this awkward love triangle is Ray Quinn, who’s perhaps best known for finishing runner-up in the 2006 series of The X Factor. Quinn quickly became a national favourite on the back of his success in the show, with debut album Doing It My Way (2007) storming to number one in the UK charts. All in all, it sold over 330,000 copies and went platinum within a week, making Quinn the youngest British male solo artist to have a number one album before even releasing a single.

Not that the young man from Merseyside was new to fame. Prior to The X Factor and from the tender age of 12, he’d starred as Anthony Murray in long-running Channel Four soap opera Brookside. His storyline, revolving around bullying and murder, had been met with critical acclaim.

It’s hardly surprising, then, that Quinn returned to acting when his music career ground to a halt in the years after The X Fac-
He puts his break from the industry down to his inexperience. It was eight years before he returned to the recording studio.

“I was very young at the time and even younger in terms of the music business - I didn’t understand it. For anyone out there trying to become an artist in their own right, rather than just a singer, you have to understand the industry a bit more than I did. The team around you has to believe in the artist you portray yourself as. It’s a very cutthroat business. You have to have a clear-cut plan of what you want to do, and I think I’ve learnt this slowly. So eight years after my first album, I was doing a bit more music and writing again because I’d finally found myself as the artist I wanted to be.”

Quinn focused almost entirely on musical theatre for the eight years he was away from the recording studio. He’s returned to the genre in the two years since the release of second album Dare To Dream.

“All along I knew I had something I could fall back on, and that was starring in musicals. I’d been trained in musical theatre all my life, so going into musicals wasn’t even a fallback in that sense - it was a natural progression. For me, it was something huge that I could sink my teeth into. Getting West End productions under my belt and going forward with that career was always a dream of mine.”

The Wedding Singer is proving to be a thoroughly enjoyable experience for Quinn, especially since he’s a huge fan of the ‘80s music that features so heavily in the show.

“You could say it’s my guilty pleasure! There’s a huge band of brass, guitars, drums, pianos; you name it and we’ve got it - even a triangle! There are references to the era throughout the show, some original scores, and references to strong characters we remember from the decade, which is really key. Nick Winston, our creative director, knew exactly what he was doing; he’s pulled together a marvellous team and a fantastic production.

It’s different to the Broadway show - it stands alone. I’m so proud of it and definitely a keen ‘80s fan!”

Despite clearly loving the role he’s playing, and the musical as a whole, Quinn doesn’t relate to the antics of his character, Glen, as much as he does the ‘80s vibe.

“Glen is ‘the wolf of Wall Street’. He’s the greedy, cocky rat, so playing that role is fun for me because he’s the bad boy, which is not necessarily the road I chose for myself. It’s a very different role for me to play, and one that I’m really enjoying. Glen knows what he wants, and he intends to get it, no matter who he hurts in the process. That’s typical of 1980s’ city greed - that need to make money and have a great lifestyle no matter what.”

Although hoping to continue with his musical theatre career, Quinn also has more music releases in the pipeline.

“I’ve done straight plays and they’re not really for me. I would consider it, depending on the role, but I like musicals. I like being physical, dancing, moving, sweating. I like to feel like I’m earning my money! The future for me is definitely more musicals and more music. I’m working on some at the moment, so trying to get that out there is another priority of mine.”

For the time being, though, nothing will distract him from the job in hand.

“I’d draw parallels between The Wedding Singer and the likes of Dirty Dancing and Grease; it’s just the best night out when you come down to see the show! There’s fun, colour, ‘80s references, great music, a great cast - you name it! There’s nothing much that’s missing as far as musicals go. There are so many classic musicals out there that pretty much everyone’s either seen or knows very well. So why not take the chance to see something where you can be more open minded, and perhaps not entirely sure what you’re going to see? We’re really proud of the show and the cast, so it’s bound to be a great time. Plus, I’m in it, so why wouldn’t you come and see it?”

Ray Quinn stars alongside Cassie Compton, Ruth Madoc and Jon Robyns in The Wedding Singer at Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, from Tuesday 12 to Saturday 16 September, and then at Wolverhampton’s Grand Theatre from Tuesday 3 to Saturday 7 October.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A BRAND NEW DINO-MITE ADVENTURE</td>
<td>THU 31 AUG - FRI 1 SEP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DINOSAUR WORLD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE</td>
<td>MON 2 OCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE ELO EXPERIENCE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TV FUNNY MAN</td>
<td>WED 13 SEP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN BISHOP - WINGING IT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIGHTS, FIGHTS AND FRIENDSHIP</td>
<td>WED 4 - SAT 7 OCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWFUL AUNTIE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOIN US FOR</td>
<td>FRI 22 SEP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AN AUDIENCE WITH KATIE PRICE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOUGHING NEW MUSICAL</td>
<td>TUE 13 - SAT 14 OCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON OF A PREACHER MAN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANCE LIKE YOU’VE NEVER DANCED BEFORE</td>
<td>MON 25 - SAT 30 SEP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLASHDANCE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOIN ELSA AND FRIENDS FOR SING-A-LONG-A FROZEN</td>
<td>SUN 1 OCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SING-A-LONG-A FROZEN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JON RICHARDSON: OLD MAN</td>
<td>FRI 22 SEP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIGHTS ON BROADWAY: THE BEE GEES STORY</td>
<td>THU 28 SEP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THAT’LL BE THE DAY</td>
<td>SAT 30 SEP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOE LONGTHORNE</td>
<td>TUE 3 OCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AN EVENING OF DIRTY DANCING</td>
<td>SAT 7 OCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILTON JONES</td>
<td>SAT 14 OCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KING OF POP - THE LEGEND CONTINUES</td>
<td>MON 16 OCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN MAYALL IN CONCERT</td>
<td>THU 19 OCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REGENT THEATRE & VICTORIA HALL
STOKE-ON-TRENT

ATG TICKETS 0844 871 7649
www.atgtickets.com/stoke

* Booking fees apply. Calls cost 7p per minute plus your phone company’s access charge.
Popular restaurant chain Côte is just one of many recent additions to Shropshire’s ever-growing list of high-quality eateries.

Inspired by the brasseries of Paris and championing relaxed all-day dining and authentic French classics made from fresh, great-quality ingredients, Côte is located in Shrewsbury’s historic Square and opened its doors to the public in May this year.

To kick off proceedings and whilst sipping from a glass of Kir Royale and perusing the menu, we ordered a reblochon cheese, thyme and caramelised onion pissaladière.

I went for the prawn gratinée to start. It was a toss-up between that and the traditional rockfish and langoustine soup with croutons, gruyère cheese and rouille. The prawns were meaty, tasted lovely and fresh and were served in a white wine, garlic, chilli and tomato sauce with toasted garlic and parsley croutons. The sauce was strong and flavoursome and the portion size reasonable. I would’ve liked a couple more prawns to justify the £7.75 price tag, however.

My partner, sticking well and truly to the French theme, opted for the charcuterie board, which comprised jambon de savoie, smoked duck breast, saucisson sec and duck rillette, served with a baby gem salad and chargrilled pain de Champagne, at a cost of £6.95. The smoked duck breast was divine, as was the perfectly seasoned duck rillette. The ham and the sausage were tasty, the salad and French sourdough pleasant additions.

Moving on to the main course, I chose the rump of lamb from the specials menu at a cost of £14.95. The beautifully cooked and downright delicious meat, lying on a bed of potato, fennel and olive oil puree, was served with roasted fennel and a black olive and garlic jus. Showcasing a syrup-like consistency, the thick, rich jus was bursting with complementary tastes. The fennel added a welcome hint of additional flavour without being too overpowering. The potato was soft and creamy and acted as a perfect contrast to the salty olives. A really tasty dish.

My partner chose the half-char-grilled Breton chicken, corn-fed and reared in the heart of rural Brittany. Priced at £11.50, the chicken was served with frites and a side of mushroom sauce comprising wild mushroom, crème fraîche and thyme. A perfect dish for the not-so-adventurous diner, it was relatively plain but extremely well executed. The chicken was cooked well and boasted a nice flavour; the creamy mushroom sauce was the perfect accompaniment.

To round off an enjoyable evening, we shared the Côte speciality - the crème caramel (£5.75) - and the chocolate & praline crêpe served with caramelised bananas and crème Chantilly (£6.25). Both were super naughty but super tasty - absolutely perfect choices for anyone with a sweet tooth. The crème caramel was one of the nicest I’ve tasted, the caramelised bananas done to perfection.

Our first ever experience of a Côte brasserie was a thoroughly enjoyable one. The quality of ingredients was second to none, the service friendly and faultless and the restaurant boasted a chilled-out atmosphere. I’ll certainly be returning in the future to sample more of what they have to offer. Lauren Foster
3 OF SHREWSBURY'S BEST RESTAURANTS!

“makes the world a better place”

Peach Tree and Momo-No-Ki, Shrewsbury: restaurant review | Jay Rayner

A warm welcome awaits you in all of our venues, whether you’re enjoying a pre-dinner drink in Havana Republic – our Cuban inspired bar, dining in one of our three excellent restaurants, or partying the night away in C:21 Bar and club.

18–21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury. SY2 6AE. Tel: 01743 355055
All located opposite the historic and beautiful Shrewsbury Abbey!
Celebrity vlogger Nisha Katona to open Indian street food restaurant

A new Indian street food restaurant owned by celebrity YouTube vlogger Nisha Katona is opening in Birmingham.

Having already launched two restaurants in Liverpool and one in Manchester, Nisha is set to open the Grand Central-located Mowgli this month. The menu features everything from curries and meats to tiffin boxes and street chats. Vegan, gluten-free and children’s menus are also available.

Shrewsbury’s secret supper to raise funds for African charity

Selected Shrewsbury restaurants are helping to raise thousands of pounds for an African charity by taking part in a secret dining event.

Shrewsbury-based Self Help Africa is hosting its first-ever autumn edition of Secret Supper on Tuesday 17 October. Commenting on the event, Fundraising Officer Steph Smith said: “To mark World Food Day, this special dining experience takes you to three ‘secret’ restaurants, where you’ll be treated to a fabulous starter, main course and dessert. The locations of the restaurants and the dishes you’ll be eating will be revealed on the night!”

Tickets for the Shrewsbury Secret Supper cost £32.50 and include a welcome drink at Tanners Wines. To book your place, visit selfhelpafrica.org

New African-themed restaurant is launched in the Midlands

African-themed Nakira Bar & Grill (formerly Lobster Peninsula) has opened in Birmingham following a £100,000 investment.

The restaurant is fully kitted out with a braai - a large South African barbecue grill - and will serve a range of African cuisine, offering a selection of game meats, springbok steak, ostrich rump, alpaca and crocodile burgers and much more.

Shropshire market hall to become regular Saturday night food and drink venue - by popular demand!

Shrewsbury Market Hall is to become a regular Saturday night food & drink venue following the huge success of two recent late-evening openings.

The market hall is home to numerous bars and eateries, including The Bird’s Nest Café, Saint Pierre Seafood Bar, Spanish tapas restaurant AleOli, Thai street food restaurant House of Yum, Chinese dumpling specialist Moli Teahouse, curry venue Indian Street Food, Gindifferent Bar and the family-run Market Buffet.

It will now stay open until 10pm on the first Saturday of every month. Commenting on the news, Facilities Manager Kate Gittins said: “We’re proud to be home to so many popular and creative food and drink businesses. Members of the public have been telling us for a long time that they’d love to be able to enjoy them during the evenings too.”

Family-friendly restaurant group opens new Stafford venue

West Country-based restaurant/café/bar group The Lounges has opened a brand new venue in Stafford.

The Lounges has spent £475,000 transforming Verso Lounge into ‘a family-friendly retro-inspired cosy retreat’.

An all-day menu features everything from their famous authentic tapas and Hero Burger to Tin Pan Louie’s beef chilli, packed wraps and mac and cheese.

A selection of games, books, colouring pencils and pads are available to keep the kids entertained, as well as a full children’s menu, high chairs and baby-change facilities.

The Lounges’ Operations Manager, Pete Dinsdale, said: “We’re really looking forward to throwing open the doors at Verso Lounge, showing the locals how to lounge in style and becoming part of the community. We will support local groups and initiatives wherever possible.”
Lichfield Arts
INSPIRING, INVOLVING, ENTERTAINING

LICHFIELD FESTIVAL OF FOLK
Fri 13 - Sun 15 Oct 2017
Lichfield Guildhall

JON BODEN (BELLOWHEAD)
at Lichfield Cathedral

FAUSTUS • SHEELANAGIG
SEAN LAKEMAN & KATHERINE ROBERTS
PHILIP HENRY & HANNAH MARTIN
ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE • MERRY HELL ACOUSTIC
JULIE FELIX • THE JAMES BROTHERS
and many others...
PLUS Arts & Heritage Procession,
Morris dancers, workshops,
café & much more!

DETAILS/TICKETS:
01543 262223 WWW.L2F.CO.UK

lichfieldarts.org.uk Box office: 01543 262223
Denegal House, Rose Street, Lichfield Staffordshire WS13 6LU info@lichfieldarts.org.uk

BARRACKS PASSAGE
SHREWSBURY
SY1 IXA
01743 361666

FOR MORE DETAILS OF ALL LIVE EVENTS GO TO
WWW.HENRYTUDORHOUSE.COM

SUNDAY 17th SEPTEMBER
FRIDOLIJN

WEDNESDAY 4th OCTOBER

FENNE LILY
PAUL THOMAS SAUNDERS, SIVU & SIV JAKOBSEN

SUNDAY 8th OCTOBER

FAUSTUS

THURSDAY 12th OCTOBER

MILES HUNT & ERICA NOCKALLS
OF THE WONDER STUFF

THE AWARD WINNING
MUSIC & COMEDY
VENUE
IN SHROPSHIRE

lichfieldarts.org.uk Box office: 01543 262223
Denegal House, Rose Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire WS13 6LU info@lichfieldarts.org.uk

14 whatsonlive.co.uk
John Legend

Arena Birmingham, Wed 20 September

Legend by name and a legend in his own lifetime, this multi-platinum-selling Oscar, Golden Globe and 10-time Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter has collaborated with some of the biggest names in modern music, including Jay Z, Kanye West, Alicia Keys and Lauryn Hill.

He visits the Midlands to promote fifth studio album Darkness And Light.

Kiran Leonard

Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, Tues 19 September

Twenty-one-year-old musician and songwriter Kiran Leonard came to prominence at the age of 17, following the release of his debut double album, Bowler Hat Soup. Both that and his follow-up offering, Grapefruit - released last year - have featured as Album Of The Day on 6Music.

Often compared to the likes of Jeff Buckley and Rufus Wainwright, he performs in Wolverhampton accompanied by a string trio.

The Strypes

The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Sat 9 September

After a whirlwind four years of non-stop touring, rock’n’roll band The Strypes visit Staffordshire following the release of third album Spitting Image.

“Everybody was saying we were gonna be the biggest band in the world on our first record, which is stupid,” says guitarist Josh.

“We’ve never known what it’s like to go to college, so this is our college. It’s all we know, and it feels like we’ve come out the other end relatively okay.”

Suzanne Vega

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Tues 26 September

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the release of Suzanne Vega’s Solitude Standing, and the 25th birthday of her ground-breaking album, 99.9F. Widely regarded as one of the most brilliant songwriters of her generation, and with more than seven million album sales to her name, Vega visits Symphony Hall to perform both albums in their entirety.

Fridolijn

Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury, Sun 17 September

Hailing from Amsterdam, new talent Fridolijn blurs the boundaries between cinematic folk, jazz, electronica and broken beats. The debut album of the previous band she led, Finn Silver, reached top chart positions in Holland and Japan, while the opening song from her debut solo album, Catch Currents, has gained close to one million Spotify plays.

Quartet Montparnasse

The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 29 September

Parisian singer Céline Dommart brings her unique blend of French chanson, Spanish tango and American jazz to Shropshire. She performs in a quartet alongside award-winning acoustic guitarist Cris Tolley, double bass legend Paul Smith and drum wizard Robin Payne. Expect to hear songs made famous by Edith Piaf, Charles Aznavour and George Brassens, along with well-known tunes performed with alternative French or Spanish lyrics.
LAS VEGAS, NEW YORK AND NOW BIRMINGHAM.

THE ONLY SHOW AS COLOURFUL AS LIFE.

BLUE MAN GROUP

PRESENTED BY

THSH

IN THE ICC HALL 1

28 DEC 2017–6 JAN 2018

BOOK NOW AT
WWW.THSH.CO.UK/BLUEMANGROUP
0121 780 3333

WORLD TOUR: UK EXCLUSIVE
G4
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Thurs 28 September
After scoring a hit on X Factor in 2004, G4 became one of the country’s biggest crossover classical groups. Their debut album went straight to number one and sold more than 245,000 copies, making it the fastest-selling record of that year. Although they disbanded three years and three albums later - citing as the reason their need to pursue individual interests - they reunited in 2014 for their 10th anniversary.
They’re this month visiting Shropshire to present a concert blending old favourites with material from their new album, G4 Love Songs.
The boys are joined by, among others, soprano Mary-Jess Leaverland, the winner of the Chinese X Factor and singer of the Downton Abbey theme.

Russell Watson
The Courtyard, Hereford, Tues 19 September;
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, Wed 27 September
Four-time Brit Classical Award winner Russell Watson has sold more than seven million albums worldwide, performed for Her Majesty The Queen, the Pope and a couple of American presidents, and has been described by the New York Times as a man who sings like Pavarotti and entertains like Sinatra. Often referred to as ‘the people’s tenor’, he released his debut album, The Voice, in 2001, making history by becoming the first British artist to hold both the US and UK classical number one slots.
Working in the genres of classical, pop rock and operatic pop, Watson’s soaring voice has garnered him an army of fans. Those who’re less impressed often criticise him for sitting on the fence musically.
This latest tour sees him performing songs from recent album True Stories, together with ‘a selection of hits from his illustrious career’.

Chineke! Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Sat 16 September
Chineke! are challenging the status quo - and it’s certainly in need of some serious challenging.
On a continent in which the majority of symphony orchestras are mainly made up of white and white-Asian players, this two-year-old ensemble - the brainchild of double-bassist Chi-chi Nwanoku - are Europe’s first professional orchestra comprising black and minority ethnic musicians.
This is their first outing at Symphony Hall and sees them presenting an imaginative programme that features: Samuel Coleridge-Taylor’s Ballade for Orchestra in A minor Op 33, 13”; Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto in E minor Op 64, 26”; and Elgar’s Enigma Variations, 29”.
Roderick Cox conducts, Tai Murray is the solo violinist.

All The King’s Men
Alington Hall, Shrewsbury School, Fri 29 September
Having sold out the venue a couple of years back, it’s hardly surprising that award-winning a cappella group All The King’s Men are making a return visit to Shrewsbury School. And given their recent phenomenal success on BBC TV talent show Pitch Battle, it’s fair to assume that all seats will be taken for their latest Shropshire concert too.
The slick nine-piece, based at King’s College London and formed eight years ago, combine tight vocal harmonies with mesmerising choreography and a selection of must-experience covers from Bowie to Beyoncé.
The group currently features two Old Salopians - George Fowler and Alfred Mitchell - and was founded by a third, Henry Southern.

Thomas Bowes
Plays JS Bach
St Giles Church, Downton-on-the-Rock, South Shropshire, Sat 16 September
The idyllic setting of St Giles provides the backdrop for this celebration of the music of JS Bach. The hugely talented Thomas Bowes is the man taking on the challenge of performing three of the composer’s most highly rated pieces for solo violin: Sonata No.1 in G minor, BWV1001; Partita No.1 in B minor, BWV1002; and Sonata No.3 in C major, BWV1005.
WATER MUSIC

Birmingham Contemporary Music Group celebrates its 30th birthday with a musical cruise along the city’s famous canal network...
As Stephan Meier comes to the end of his first year as artistic director of Birmingham Contemporary Music Group (BCMG), the ensemble prepares to celebrate a much bigger anniversary. Thirty years after it emerged from within the CBSO in 1987, its latest leader marks his first commission with a special celebratory concert open to everyone, completely free of charge.

On Sunday 10 September, the work of three acclaimed composers will embark on a musical cruise along the city’s famous canal network, with visitors invited to watch and listen from its towpaths. Spread across three separate narrowboats, BCMG musicians will perform the new works as they glide between Brindleyplace, Arena Birmingham (formerly the Barclaycard Arena) and the National Sea Life Centre before uniting at the meeting point of the Birmingham Main Line, Fazeley and Worcester Canals.

“BCMG is all about the new,” says Meier, “and for me, the most delicate and challenging part of my task here is to identify what will be new to this group. But I didn’t want to just do something new for the sake of it; it had to be something interesting and fun, not only for our musicians but also for our audiences and Sound Investors, all of whom contribute to the history of musicmaking here.”

With an eye-catching set-up that’s unique to the Birmingham landscape (as locals will proudly tell you, Brum boasts more canals than Venice), his first commission here, titled Canal Serenade, certainly ticks those boxes. With an eye-catching set-up that’s unique to the Birmingham landscape (as locals will proudly tell you, Brum boasts more canals than Venice), his first commission here, titled Canal Serenade, certainly ticks those boxes.

With an eye-catching set-up that’s unique to the Birmingham landscape (as locals will proudly tell you, Brum boasts more canals than Venice), his first commission here, titled Canal Serenade, certainly ticks those boxes.

The canals were something I noticed very soon after I first came to Birmingham. But although I had an idea for something around the canals, there’s no way I could have foreseen the form that it would take, especially since this is such an unusual way of working for the composers.

“When creating new pieces, composers like to do their homework and then go into their own space and spend time inside themselves working through ideas. In this case, I had to convince them all to come and meet here and get to know each other and see the place before they started, to help them with the sharing and exchanging of ideas later. So when they all came here in March, we had a walk together around the canals to identify the best areas for the boats to travel and meet.

“After our walk, we spent a couple of hours discussing it again, and what’s really nice is that they all liked the idea of dividing their musicians across the three boats. So it’s not like, on one boat, ‘These are my musicians playing my music and approaching from this side’. It’s all very joined together from the beginning. I couldn’t have predicted that, but I think it’s brilliant!”

This ‘spirit of sharing’ gets to the heart of what Meier is hoping to achieve with this innovative and ambitious public project, which will be free to attend both during its Sunday afternoon premiere and later repeat performance as part of the Birmingham Weekender festival (itself a massive celebration of shared heritage, culture and creativity). Kids are also invited to join the fun, with activities taking place from 1.30pm at the CBSO Centre ahead of the main event.

“What they do will depend on them, but it’s all about having ideas that you can take out in the open - perhaps in the form of a parade, for example.”

The anniversary will then culminate in a big indoor concert back at the CBSO Centre - also free, although ticketed due to limited space, and donations towards the group’s work are encouraged.

“It will be very lively, very special and simply a unique opportunity to experience something that you might not have encountered before. We hope that when we share our work outside, people will enjoy it and afterwards perhaps say, ‘Okay, well I’ve never been to the CBSO Centre before, but it’s not far away - let’s have a look!’”

In addition to the Birmingham celebrations, BCMG will also be performing at the Barbican and Wilton’s Music Hall in London this month. Further ahead, as he prepares to lead the group into a new chapter of its story, Meier hopes to continue in the vein in which he’s started, combining BCMG’s existing strengths with a broader, international outlook and stronger presence on the world stage.

“This is simply a starting point, but I think it shows the way forwards in terms of widening the focus and the repertoire with work from around the world, while still connecting very closely with BCMG’s history and allowing the group to follow its own path.”

**Canal Serenade premieres at 4pm on Sunday 10 September and is followed by a concert at the CBSO Centre at 6pm.**

It’s repeated at 2pm on Saturday 23 September as part of the Birmingham Weekender festival.
Moseley Folk Festival
Moseley Park, Birmingham, Fri 1 - Sat 3 September

Tucked away behind Birmingham’s busy streets, the beautiful Moseley Park is one of the city’s hidden gems, transformed each year into an enchanting escape by one of the Midlands’ best-loved music festivals. Traditional folk & low-fi acoustic sets blend seamlessly with dreamy electropop, psychedelia and indie favourites against a magical backdrop of bright hippie colours, lush foliage and a beautiful lake. The perfect way to see out the summer.

Line-up includes: Laura Marling (pictured below), Amy MacDonald, Jose Gonzalez, Fairport Convention, Seth Lakeman, Kate Rusby, The Magic Numbers, Roddy Woomble, Shovels & Rope and Josienne Clark & Ben Walker

Kenilworth Arts Festival
Various venues, Kenilworth, Sunday 17 - Saturday 23 September

Back for 2017 after last year’s warmly received debut, Kenilworth Arts Festival returns with a week-long celebration of music, literature, performance and visual art. Bringing together local talent with nationally acclaimed writers and artists, this vibrant and growing event offers something for everyone, from its free family-friendly fiesta to eye-opening readings and talks.

Line-up includes: Kit de Waal (pictured), Sarah Moss, Gwilym Simcock, John Smith, Alys Fowler, Brian Briggs, Paul Henry, Tree-top Flyers, Low Chimes, Motionhouse, Will Ashon, Galope and Amadeus Long

Bromyard Folk Festival
Delahay Meadow, Bromyard, Worcestershire, Fri 8 - Sunday 10 September

Marking its 50th event in 2017, Bromyard’s much-loved celebration of traditional music is now a well-established tradition in and of itself. This year’s event promises over 170 hours of entertainment, with some of the finest national and international folk musicians headlining a programme that also includes workshops, sing-arounds, ceilidhs, dance displays and a traditional craft market.

Line-up includes: Le Vent du Nord, Jamie Smith’s Mabon, The Mighty Doonans, Rusty Shackles, Imar, Crows, Daoiri Farrell, Kitty Macfarlane, Granny’s Attic (pictured below) and Northern Company

Beyond The Tracks
Eastside City Park, Birmingham, Fri 15 - Sun 17 September

Brand new for 2017, Beyond The Tracks has already created a massive buzz on Birmingham’s music scene thanks to its incredible inaugural line-up. Taking place in the recently developed Eastside City Park, it unites some of the biggest names in UK music, from electronic pioneers on the Friday to an all-out indie assault on the Saturday. Conveniently located for transport links and boasting a fantastic afterparty at the O2 Institute, this is a festival firmly focused on bringing quality music to the city.

Line-up includes: Orbital, Leftfield, Faithless (DJ set), Jagwar Ma, Ocean Colour Scene, Maxïmo Park, The Coral, The Twang, Editors, The Jesus & Mary Chain & Wild Beasts
**Rob Brydon**

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Thurs 28 September

One of Britain's best-loved and most high-profile comedians, Rob Brydon has a beautifully understated style of comedy and an impressively creative imagination. His big break came with hit TV series Marion And Geoff way back in the year 2000, since which time he's established himself as a major player via all manner of TV chat shows, panel games, radio programmes and movies.

New touring show I Am Standing Up,..., which he brings to the region this month, is his first for eight years, with tickets going like proverbial hotcakes.

Highly rated jokes include: “My wife said ‘Rob, I’d love to have children.’ Now I’ll be honest - I wasn’t sure. Did I want to go through it all again? The lifting, the carrying, the mopping up of the spillages? And that’s just when you’re making love trying to have the child.”

**John Bishop**

Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Wed 13 September

If you're an admirer of men who like to fly by the seat of their pants, you should check out John Bishop.

John not so long ago left the comfort and security of a lucrative marketing job to work full-time on forging a career in comedy. A brave decision indeed, but one that’s certainly paid dividends - his shows have become guaranteed sell-outs, including this latest Potteries performance.

“I’m very much looking forward to getting back on the road,” says John. “There really is nothing like performing standup in front of a live audience. I’ve called the new show Winging It because in some respects, having come to comedy relatively late, it sometimes feels like that’s what I’m doing in life! But I’m enjoying every minute of it.”

John's jokes include: “There are some muscles I don’t think I need my personal trainer to find, as I won’t be using them at my age anyway,” and “Edinburgh is the only place you can be sunburned and get trench foot on the same day.”

**The Indians Are Coming**

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Mon 11 September

This touring show features four of India’s most accomplished comedians. Headlining the gig is Inder Manocha, an Oxford graduate who worked in international relations and as a therapist before deciding to turn his hand to comedy. He’s joined by Hyde Panaser, Sukh Kaur Ojla and Mickey Sharma, the latter of whom is a familiar name on the Midlands standup scene. A one-time cricketer whose ambition to play for India was scuppered by a nasty head injury, Mickey swapped his cricket bat for a microphone and gag book five years ago. He’s been busily making a name for himself on the UK comedy circuit ever since.

**Nick Helm**

mac, Birmingham, Wed 27 September; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Fri 27 October

“This show is a call to arms to anyone who feels hard done by and short-changed by this ugly new world,” explains Nick Helm. “Stop fearing the worst. It’s already happened. So instead of crying about it, why not crawl out of your homemade nuclear fallout shelters and bear witness to some home truths about life, love and how not to be a dick.”

This is British Comedy Award winner Nick’s first national tour and showcases his unique blend of high-octane standup, music and poetry. His jokes include: “I needed a password eight characters long, so I picked Snow White And The Seven Dwarves”. The gag won the Edinburgh Fringe award for best joke back in 2011.
Stewart Lee
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Fri 22 September
Shropshire-born Stewart Lee makes a welcome return to the Midlands with critically acclaimed touring show Content Provider. Stewart first shot to fame courtesy of his partnership with Richard Herring, and then later scored a massive international hit with the musical, Jerry Springer The Opera. His style of comedy won’t make for the most comfortable ride, but he’s thought-provoking, funny and memorable, so suffering the odd moment that makes you feel awkward is a small price to pay for a great night out. He’s married to fellow comedian Bridget Christie, a woman whose career is very much in the ascendant. So is there an uncomfortable competitiveness in evidence between them, one wonders? “I was doing well before I even met Bridget,” he insists, “when she was still dressing up as cheese rolls and bees and things. I don’t know where you’re getting these offensive questions from, to be honest...”

Scummy Mummies
Artrix, Bromsgrove, Tues 19 September
“Our speciality is comedy for less-than-perfect parents, so that means all parents!” says Ellie Gibson about Scummy Mummies, her popular double act with Helen Thorn. “We have a fortnightly podcast, a weekly blog and live comedy shows like this one, which cover a wide range of parenting topics - from pelvic floors and play-dates to farting and fish fingers. Expect songs, sketches, standup and very scummy stories!”

Danny Bhoy
The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, Wed 6 September; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Thurs 7 September; Core Theatre, Solihull, Fri 29 September; The Old Rep, Birmingham, Sat 30 September; Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Tues 17 October; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 28 October
There can surely be no greater pressure for a Scottish comedian than to be considered one of the country’s brightest hopes since Billy Connolly. Such is the cross which Danny Bhoy is currently having to bear. So it’s just as well that he’s an incredibly talented guy, blending ironic wit, observational humour and an appealingly laid-back style to excellent effect. Whether he’s got what it takes to enjoy a career as long as the legendary Mr Connolly’s, only time will tell, but there’s little doubt that he’s become one of the most sought-after comedians on the circuit. He visits the Midlands this month and next with his latest show, Make Something Great Again For Stronger Better Future Tomorrow Together.

Tony Law
Lichfield Garrick, Fri 15 September
Zany alternative comedy is Canadian funnyman Tony Law’s stock-in-trade, a fact which means his audience is guaranteed an evening of truly off-the-wall, boundary-defying standup. So if you like your comedians to be touched with genius while at the same time prone to meander off-topic with gag-laden dialogues, Tony is definitely the guy for you. He visits the Midlands this month with his brand new touring show, Tony Law: Absurdity For The Common People.
"I will be myself"

Nadia Clifford stars in the acclaimed National Theatre production of Jane Eyre, which visits the Birmingham REP this month...

There’s a moment in the National Theatre’s touring production of Jane Eyre with such earth-shattering intensity that even the most devoted Brontë scholar is liable to find the breath knocked clean out of her. What makes the freshness and immediacy of this scene all the more remarkable is that it hinges on one of the single most famous quotations from the novel, when a tormented Jane finally snaps after weeks of mind games from Mr Rochester.

“I am no bird; and no net ensnares me,” she says, furiously. “I am a free human being with an independent will; which I now exert to leave you.”

The explosive rage of actor Nadia Clifford in this scene sets it apart from any previous adaptation, and reflects director Sally Cookson’s decision to present the story as an impassioned bid for freedom, independence and equal rights.

“It’s interesting because that was actually the scene I did for my audition, and I think Sally’s attitude was very much, ‘go big or go home’,” laughs Clifford. “Whenever I’d seen it done before in other adaptations, I’d always felt like the way it had been performed had never really rung true with the words that were being said. What we’re seeing is the novel, when a tormented Jane finally knocks clean out the breath.

Nadia Clifford stars in the acclaimed National Theatre production of Jane Eyre, which visits the Birmingham REP this month...

In the show, Jane’s complex inner life is represented through conversations with herself, played out literally with other members of the cast standing in as her conflicting thoughts and feelings.

“There’s a scene when Jane’s at school where her friend Helen tells her that as long as she listens to the voice of her conscience, she’ll never be truly alone, and it’s from then onwards that she starts having these internal conversations. There are a lot of long, internal monologues in the book, so I think it’s quite a clever way of approaching those, and because I’m on stage the whole time, it was great for me to have that support around me.”

Nor is it only Jane whose rights and freedom the production passionately advocates for. Together with mezzo-soprano Melanie Marshall, whose sublime singing is woven through the play, Cookson also shines a spotlight on Rochester’s “lunatic” first wife, Bertha Mason.

“She’s a much bigger presence in the play because we wanted to give her some dignity. She’s a really nice moment where Bertha gives Jane back her wedding dress, and I think we’ve given that a bit more tenderness and just held it a bit longer than in the original National Theatre production.”

Striking parallels are drawn between Bertha and Jane throughout the show. Not only do they interact directly, but as the principal vocalist, Marshall is always present, shadowing Jane on her journey and often voicing her feelings and frustrations through a combination of traditional, original and contemporary music. It’s particularly moving in a deeply unsettling version of a familiar song that accompanies an account of the fire at Thornfield from housekeeper Mrs Fairfax.

“Sally and I both felt strongly about the similarities between Jane and Bertha - both of them stand outside the accepted norms for women in society at that time, but also in terms of how that’s dealt with. When Jane is a child, she gets locked up in the Red Room for not being able to control her emotions, and even though Bertha is obviously mentally unwell, that’s very similar to what happens to her - she’s sexual and violent and nobody really knows how to deal with that, so she’s locked away. For me, that’s the main reason why Jane refuses to live with Rochester as his wife while Bertha is alive. She feels very strongly that Bertha is his rightful bride and doesn’t want to take that away from her, or be a part of the way she’s being treated.”

Marshall is the one original cast member who has stayed on for the tour, and so was part of the development of its script. A leading director of devised theatre, Sally Cookson typically starts rehearsals with only the germ of an idea, which cast and creative team then work together to transform into a show. Though the touring cast began with a pre-written script, it’s clear to see they’ve made the show their own.

“We were definitely encouraged to play around with things. We all went back to the original novel, and I know there were ideas that myself and the current cast had that Sally hadn’t thought about before. It’s been quite unlike anything I’ve done previously.”

Jane Eyre runs at the Birmingham REP from Monday 4 to Saturday 16 September.
Miss Saigon

Birmingham Hippodrome, until Sat 23 September

On 30 April 1975, American soldiers fled Saigon, leaving the city to be reclaimed by opposing native forces. But while thousands of Vietnamese celebrated the end of US occupation and the reunification of their country under communist leadership, city dwellers who'd lived among the Westerners felt devastated, left behind to face the harsh consequences of having been on the wrong side of the war. It’s against this fraught and politically complex backdrop that Les Miserables creators Alain Boublil and Claude Schönberg set their second most famous musical, Miss Saigon.

Inspired by the plot of classic Puccini opera Madame Butterfly, it tells the moving tale of a doomed romance between American GI Chris and Vietnamese barmaid Kim, young lovers who are cruelly divided by the enforced evacuation...

Cameron Mackintosh’s latest touring version of the hit musical makes for a truly thrilling night of theatre. To its eternal credit, it also resonates truthfully and sensitively with the barely imaginable horrors of the Vietnam War and its aftermath. Yet as serious and often tragic as both the real and fictional elements are, there’s also plenty in the show that offers straightforward, wholehearted and utterly astounding entertainment - from the sharp sense of humour and wide-ranging musical styles, to the exceptional performances and dazzling design.

A staggeringly superb smash-hit spectacle, a feast for the eyes, a heartwarming heartbreaker of a love story - Miss Saigon is all of the above and plenty more. If you’ve seen it before, see it again. If you’ve not yet had the pleasure, book yourself a ticket now. Reviewed by Peter Joshua
Sope Dirisu talks about taking the starring role in the action-packed finale to the RSC’s Rome season...
As the RSC concludes its epic Rome season by going back to the beginning of the saga in Coriolanus, we spoke to Sope Dirisu, who plays the production’s titular hero - or perhaps in this case, another term might be more fitting?

“He’s not a hero,” says Dirisu. “I would even call a character like Macbeth a hero, for example, because although things don’t turn out great for him, it’s easy to understand his motivation and why what happens to him happens. But Coriolanus is different. He’s not sympathetic, which is possibly one of the reasons why the play isn’t put on all that often.”

It’s 10 years since Coriolanus was last staged by the RSC - this despite its political potency and gripping plot. The play is action-packed right from the off, with an opening scene featuring plebeian rebels marching on the Capitol to demand a fair share of the grain being kept there. As the smooth-talking, popular Menenius attempts to defuse the situation, military top dog Caius Martius (later dubbed Coriolanus in honour of his victory at Corioli) returns from battle, making no attempt to disguise his complete contempt for the protesters. As cold and merciless in the city as he is on the battlefield, Martius is equally despised by the people. Yet though his bluntness, lack of compassion and smug superiority are ultimately his ruin, there are some qualities in him, thinks Dirisu, that deserve to be emulated.

“Politically, it’s a bit of a firestarter. In rehearsals, we’ve been referring back to that slip that Gordon Brown made when he called someone a ‘bigoted woman’. And I mean, he wasn’t lying. But unfortunately, politics has turned into a popularity contest, rather than a contest of principles or ideologies, and I think that’s exactly what Coriolanus stands up to. He knows who he is and doesn’t see any reason to deflect from that for the benefit of anybody else.

“On the other hand, I suppose Menenius is a better representative of the politicians we have who will tell us what we want to hear while doing something completely different in the background. I think maybe in an ideal world you would have more Coriolanus - people who were honest about their views so you could elect them accordingly. But in order for that to happen, everyone needs to be a lot more engaged in politics than they currently are.”

Things have taken a turn for the apocalyptic in the Rome depicted by director Angus Jackson and designer Robert Innes Hopkins, in what promises to be a thrilling season finale. It might seem odd to finish with the first chapter of Shakespeare’s Roman story, but there’s a method in their madness.

“The idea is that it’s a bit further on from Titus, which was basically set in the present day. We’re looking at a future where war has ravaged the earth to the point where we’ve reduced sovereignty to city-states rather than countries, in much the same way as it was around 500 BC. It’s going to be a lot barer than the previous productions - I think Rob is really excited to use the cavernous space of the stage, and we’ll be using a lot of height with different levels to help the audience feel the size of the play and the arguments it puts forward.”

It’s a novel way of approaching the narrative that calls attention to the cyclical nature of history, reinforcing the parallels between the Classical world and our own time. It’s also interesting to consider what might survive of a culture after the civilisation that produced it has crumbled.

“Rather than going for something that looks like post-nuclear fallout, we’re going to maintain the class divide. The difference between those who are privileged and those who aren’t will be clearly coded into the costumes.”

It’s not just the design that will provide a through-link across the season. As with previous shows, audiences can expect a level of involvement in the conversations taking place on stage.

“As a performer on a thrust stage, you have to have a lot of spatial awareness, making sure everyone can see your face and hear your voice, but the joy of it is that the audience is your audience in the story, rather than using a crowd of actors on stage. For the speeches in the Senate, we have this idea of the Scottish Parliament or the UN, where everyone’s sat in a semicircle, in a similar formation to Roman amphitheatres, or the RST auditorium.”

Returning to Stratford after starring in Pericles as part of the RSC’s Open Stages project in 2013, Dirisu has seen his career blossom over the last four years, encompassing roles in Channel Four’s Utopia and Humans. Having studied Economics at the University of Birmingham, he went through college still uncertain about his future, until his RSC role finally convinced him that acting might be worth pursuing. It was, in his own words “the beginning of a journey”, on which Coriolanus is yet another step. But though he still has friends in the area who he’ll be visiting from time to time, his plan for now is to make the most of the opportunity he’s been given.

“I think it was Judi Dench who described Stratford as a bubble. It feels so far away from the outside world, which means you can come here and focus on your craft and on Shakespeare and the company. For as long as I’ve wanted to be an actor at the RSC, that sense of company and community has been really important to me, so I’m going to treasure every moment of it.”

Coriolanus shows at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, from Friday 15 September to Saturday 14 October.

“Rather than going for something that looks like post-nuclear fallout, we’re going to maintain the class divide. The difference between those who are privileged and those who aren’t will be clearly coded into the costumes.”
The Whip Hand
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, Fri 22 September - Sat 7 October
Douglas Maxwell’s new play, premiered to great acclaim in Edinburgh last month, is a co-production by Birmingham Rep and Traverse Theatre Company in association with the National Theatre of Scotland.
Tackling the themes of power, privilege, blood ties and the impact of an inescapable past, it focuses on Dougie, a man whose 50th birthday sees him dropping a bombshell that has profound repercussions for his family...
“This is a brilliant play,” enthuses its director, Tessa Walker. “I love that it starts in a place so far from where it ends up, that it manages simultaneously to be about the fractures in a family and about the state of a country, and that it’s as funny and as heartfelt as it is moving and unsettling.
“To be working with three such wonderful theatre companies to bring this play to life is a real privilege.”

Beauty For Ashes
The Old Rep, Birmingham, 16 September
Jason’s mother believes in the power of prayer and the impact it can have on the shaping of a person’s destiny. Jason, for his part, is not so convinced. At a crossroads in his life, he knows there are decisions he needs to make - decisions that will have a far-reaching effect on those around him...
A contemplation on the difficulties that can exist between a mother and son, Beauty For Ashes is presented by Creative Mouthpiece, a company committed to the use of theatre for the purpose of ‘education and empowerment’.

The Great Gatsby
Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, Sat 9 - Sat 16 September
F Scott Fitzgerald’s literary masterpiece, set in the American Jazz Age of the Roaring 20s, focuses on the quixotic passion of mysterious millionaire Jay Gatsby for the beautiful former debutante, Daisy Buchanan. In the process of recounting the tale - told through the eyes of Gatsby’s Long Island neighbour, Nick Carraway - Fitzgerald presents not only the story of a delightfully decadent decade but also a cautionary tale about the American Dream...

A Midsummer Night’s Dream
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Thurs 7 - Sat 9 September
Accessible language, likeable characters, romantic liaisons, magical creatures and a series of comical caperings with an ass are her combined to excellent effect in one of Shakespeare’s most popular works.
Lysander and Demetrius both fancy Hermia, Helena’s sitting on the shelf, Titania and Oberon are up to no good and Puck’s got his finger in more pies than Mr Kipling. Add into the mix a group of rude mechanicals and the recipe for success is pretty much complete. Presented by the critically acclaimed Pan-taloons Theatre Company.

Finding Joy
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Wed 20 September; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Fri 22 September; Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Wed 25 October; Lichfield Garrick, Thurs 26 & Fri 27 October; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Fri 3 November; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Fri 17 & Sat 18 November
A work of full mask theatre based on true stories, Finding Joy has been described as a funny and fearless piece that’s positively brimming with visual inventiveness.
When Danny decides to become his grandmother Joy’s carer, their newly developed connection will eventually lead them...
GREAT SHOWS COMING UP AT WOLVERHAMPTON GRAND THEATRE

SUN 24 SEPT
THE WHITNEY HOUSTON SHOW
THE GREATEST LOVE OF ALL
THE WHITNEY HOUSTON SHOW

FRI 29 - SAT 30 SEPT
ENGLISH YOUTH BALLET
English Youth Ballet
Ballet Études & Nutcracker Suite

SUN 1 OCT
A BLACK COUNTRY NIGHT OUT

TUE 3 – SAT 7 OCT
THE WEDDING SINGER
THE SMASH HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL

TUE 10 – SAT 14 OCT
SOUTH STAFFS MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY PRESENT SPAMALOT

SAT 28 OCT
HAIRY MACLAY AND FRIENDS

SUN 29 OCT
LULU
ALL ABOUT THE MUSIC

MON 30 OCT
RICK WAKEMAN
PIANO PORTRAITS

SAT 9 DEC 2017 – SUN 14 JAN 2018
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

BOOK ONLINE grandtheatre.co.uk • BOX OFFICE 01902 42 92 12
**Flashdance**  
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent,  
Mon 25 - Sat 30 September; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Mon 4 - Fri 9 December  
Based on the popular ‘80s movie of the same name, Flashdance features hit numbers Maniac, Manhunt, Gloria, I Love Rock And Roll and the Academy Award-winning What A Feeling. The show tells the story of 18-year-old Alex, a welder by day and ‘flashdancer’ by night, who dreams of winning a place at the prestigious Shipley Dance Academy. But will she get to achieve her ambition against all the odds?... Strictly Come Dancing champion Joanne Clifton (pictured) and A1 heartthrob Ben Adams star.

**Mr Darcy Loses The Plot**  
Lichfield Garrick, Sat 23 September  
The well-established Lip Service - aka Maggie Fox and Sue Ryding - return to the region with their latest comic offering. Maggie and Sue have been working together for more than three decades now, presenting shows like Withering Looks - 'an authentic insight into the lives and works of those three Bronte sisters' - and Inspector Norse - 'a self-assembly Swedish crime thriller'. This time out, they're marking the 200th anniversary of Jane Austen’s death by spinning a yarn in which the novelist is interrupted as she’s busying herself dreaming up the character of Mr Darcy. Unexpectedly left to his own devises, Darcy embroiders his storyline while his creator stitches her quilt...

**Nocturnes**  
Bridge House Theatre, Warwick,  
Wed 27 September; mac, Birmingham, Sat 30 September  
“Nocturnes asks important questions about truth, free will and how we understand what’s real in this post-truth era,” explain Imitating The Dog, the company behind the production. A multimedia twist on a 1950s spy thriller, the show is set at the height of the Cold War and focuses on the disintegrating relationship between two operatives holed up in a Berlin apartment while awaiting instructions... Imitating The Dog have been creating and touring original performance work for just short of 20 years, testing theatrical conventions in productions that showcase high-end design and both technical and thematic ambition. This latest production has been selected as part of the British Council Showcase 2017.

**Reasons To Be Cheerful**  
Belgrade Theatre, Coventry,  
Fri 8 - Sat 9 September  
Years after Ian Dury’s death, groundbreaking performance company Graeae pays loving tribute to him with a show inspired by his music. Set in 1979 at the height of Ian Dury & The Blockheads’ fame, Reasons To Be Cheerful follows the attempts of teenager Billy and his best mate Colm to get Billy’s terminally ill dad to a Blockheads gig for “a final, fantastic night out”. Along the way, there’s romance, music and mishaps galore, as Billy’s crush Janine joins the crew, the car breaks down en route, and the characters perform their own riotous renditions of Blockheads hits.

**Son Of A Preacher Man**  
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Tues 12 - Sat 16 September; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Tues 10 - Sat 14 October; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Tues 13 - Sat 17 February; Malvern Theatre, Tues 20 - Sat 24 February; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Tues 13 - Sat 17 March  
Former X Factor favourite Diana Vickers stars alongside Ian Reddington and Debra Stephenson in a show that features the Swinging ‘60s music of Dusty Springfield. “I understand a lot about Dusty,” says Diana. “She was described as ‘the great white lady of pop’, and I knew about her success and her music. In my audition, I felt like I was naturally channelling her when I sang her music.” Named after Springfield’s 1968 chart hit and directed by Strictly’s Craig Revel Horwood, the show follows the story of three lovesick individuals from different generations. The trio seek solace at the original site of Soho’s legendary Preacher Man hang-out - a once-happening joint where youngsters would dance until they dropped. “It’s a show that takes you back to the Swinging ‘60s,” explains Diana, “so if you love the music of the era and are a bit of a sucker for love, it’s the perfect place to go.”
More theatre previews from around the region

**Dido, Queen Of Carthage**
Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Fri 15 September - Sat 28 October

This is the work with which Shakespeare contemporary Christopher Marlowe kicked-started a playwriting career that would see him produce Tamburlaine The Great, The Jew Of Malta, Doctor Faustus and Edward II. Short in length and rarely performed in modern times, it tells the story of Trojan hero Aeneas and his efforts to find a new life and identity in Europe following the defeat of his city. Dido, Queen of Carthage, offers help but the waters are soon muddied when she finds herself consumed by an uncontrollable passion for Aeneas...

Kimberley Sykes takes the helm, having worked as associate director on the RSC’s recent production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream.

**Freeman**
Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, 27 - 30 September; Birmingham Repertory Theatre, Mon 9 - Tues 10 October

Birmingham-based Strictly Arts Theatre Company’s follow-up to highly acclaimed debut offering Solids & Liquids, Freeman is inspired by the true story of a black slave who was put on trial in 19th century New York, and whose case was the first in which ‘insanity’ was raised as a defence.

“Our aim is to turn conventional theatre on its head,” explain Strictly Arts. “creating and revisiting theatre that inspires all races, creeds and cultures to explore and embrace our differences or similarities. Infused by our training at Birmingham School of Acting, predominantly Afro-Caribbean and with vastly different upbringings, we are the epitome of the arts unifying people from different backgrounds.”

**Milkshake! Live**
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Sat 23 September; Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Thurs 26 October

Here taking youngsters on a journey through the world’s favourite fairytales is, among others, Bob the Builder, Little Princess, Noddy, Fireman Sam and Shimmer & Shine. If you’ve watched the TV series and/or been to a previous live production, you’ll already know what to expect. If not, get ready for an event that promises lots of laughter, bucket-loads of family fun, bags of audience participation and plenty of singing and dancing.

**The Sooty Show**
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Sat 2 September; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Sun 29 October

One of the 20th century’s best-loved children’s characters makes a welcome return. A simple glove puppet created by Harry Corbett almost 70 years ago, Sooty continues to go down a storm with generation after generation of youngsters, impressively bucking the trend for far more sophisticated, high-tech entertainment. Richard Cadell’s the fella now operating Sooty and his longtime companions, Sweep and Soo, and is here joined by ‘special guest stars’ Butch and Ramsbottom. Expect magic, music, mayhem and audience participation.

**Our House**
Malvern Theatre, Mon 11 - Sat 16 September; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Wed 8 - Sat 11 November

A Laurence Olivier Award winner in the category of best new musical, Tim Firth’s Our House is a raucous comedy inspired by and featuring the music of Madness. Set in Camden Town in the mid-1980s, it tells the story of Joe Casey and his less-than-legal attempts to treat his girlfriend Sarah to an evening in a brand new luxury apartment. But when the police turn up, Joe has to decide whether to go on the run or face the music... And speaking of music, expect all the big Madness hits, including Baggy Trousers, Driving In My Car, The Wings Of A Dove and all-time classic It Must Be Love.

**Theatre previews for younger audiences**

**Big Howard’s LOL-tastic Yukfest**
The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Sat 23 September

Although regularly seen in the company of animated CBBC pal Little Howard, Howard Read (aka Big Howard) does sometimes like to venture out on his own. He’s doing just that this very month, hitting the road with this hugely accessible hour’s-worth of mirth. Suitable for youngsters aged five-plus, the show brings together standup comedy, interactive digital animation, sound effects and jokes.

whatsonlive.co.uk 29
**TOSCA**

**Russian State Opera**

**Puccini**

Sun 17 Sept
Wed 27 Sept
Fri 13 Oct

Malvern Theatres
01684 892 277

Shrewsbury, Theatre Severn
01743 281 281

Stafford, Gatehouse Theatre
01785 619 080

**For tickets and information, please go to www.russian-state-opera.co.uk**

---

**SWAN LAKE**

The Nutcracker

Sat 14 Oct
Sun 15 Oct
Mon 23 Oct
Tue 24 Oct
Wed 25 Oct
Thur 2 Nov
Sun 5 Nov

Shrewsbury, Theatre Severn
01743 281 281
Shrewsbury, Theatre Severn
01743 281 281
Coventry, The Belgrade
024 7655 3055
Coventry, The Belgrade
024 7655 3055
Coventry, The Belgrade
024 7655 3055
Stafford, Gatehouse Theatre
01785 619 080
Malvern Theatres
01684 892 277

---

**CHERISH**

The long-awaited new show

**Motionhouse**

**CHARGE**

Electrifying dance-circus

WORLD PREMIERE
Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
4 - 7 October 2017
7.30pm
024 7652 4524 warwickartscentre.co.uk
Dance previews from around the region

Tap Factory
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Fri 29 September; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Sun 15 October

A rhythm-based production described as ‘Tap Dogs meets Stomp’, Tap Factory has enjoyed huge success across Europe and in South America. The show sees an array of internationally renowned dancers, gymnasts and acrobats creating live music and choreography from all manner of ordinary objects, including oil barrels, trash bins and wood mallets. The production first toured the UK in 2014 and returns to the Midlands by popular demand.

Joli Vyann: Imbalance
mac, Birmingham, Thurs 14 September

Former stunt man and circus artist Jan Patzke and ex-gymnast and dancer Olivia Quayle form Joli Vyann, a company whose new fusion style blurs the boundaries between dance and circus skills. Real-life couple Jan and Olivia here present the story of a relationship made dysfunctional by the impact of digital-age technology. In the process they contemplate what people’s obsessive dependence on their smart phones may be costing them in terms of human interaction.

Rip It Up: Dancing Through The 50s
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Tues 19 September; William Aston Hall, Wrexham, Thurs 21 September; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Fri 22 September

Strictly champions Jay McGuiness and Louis Smith are here joined by one of the show’s pros, Natalie Lowe (and BBC Radio 2’s Leo Green) for a production that pays loving tribute to the music and dance styles of the 1950s. Swing, bop, jitterbug, lindy hop, jive and ballroom all feature as the trio of stars make their way through some of the decade’s greatest songs, from the crooning magic of Nat King Cole’s Unforgettable to the rock’n’roll energy of Elvis’s Hound Dog.

BRB: Penguin Café Mixed Programme
Birmingham Hippodrome, Wed 27 - Sat 30 September

This Birmingham Royal Ballet (BRB) triple bill brings together three highly rated works from across the decades. Kenneth MacMillan’s Concerto, created in 1966, exudes youthful energy, boasts vigorous choreography and is set to Shostakovich’s Second Piano Concerto. Eight years later, the choreographer created Elite Syncopations, a piece combining comedic flair, riotous colour and Scott Joplin’s iconic ragtime music. Last but certainly not least is ‘Still Life’ At The Penguin Cafe (1988), a colourful production from BRB director David Bintley which takes a poignant look at man’s impact on the world. Focusing on a host of endangered animals seeking refuge from a storm, it features a morris-dancing flea, a ballroom-dancing ram, a sleepy rat and a woolly monkey!
IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO

Strictly stars Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace talk about bringing their Tango Moderno tour to the Midlands...
You’re bringing your Tango Moderno tour to Birmingham’s New Alexandra Theatre this autumn. Can you tell us a little bit about what to expect?

F: This is our fourth show, and every time we put a show together we want the audience to see something not expected, not the same thing that we’ve done before. It was very hard this time, as so much choreography, so many stories and so many ideas have already been done, but we decided to go down the modern route, hence the title Tango Moderno. We thought we’d be a bit more up to date, have a bit more modern music that people will recognise from the radio and so on. We’ve set it in a city that can be anywhere in the world, so it’s up to the audience to visualise where they want that to be. The different thing with it is that normally we’re characters within the story, but this time we thought we’d take a step away from that and actually narrate the story. We have an urban poet who’s also going to be our singer, and together with him, we’re going to help narrate. It’s not really one story, it’s going to be lots of small stories that start in Act One and are finished off in Act Two.

Your previous production, The Last Tango, was due to be your last. What made you decide to produce and tour a brand new show?

V: Our shows are big shows that literally take months to put together. Every time we’re about to attack a new one, we always say, ‘This is the last one, no more!’ because it’s so much hard work. The pressure increases year by year because people have seen it and people love it, so when the producer comes along - and of course we do love what we do, don’t get me wrong - and says, ‘I think you should do a new show’, we’re thinking, ‘Oh my gosh, we need to think of something else to do that we haven’t done so far’. We never said we were going to retire, but this time we thought we’d take a step away from that and actually narrate the story. We have an urban poet who’s also going to be our singer, and together with him, we’re going to help narrate. It’s not really one story, it’s going to be lots of small stories that start in Act One and are finished off in Act Two.

Years. Do you have a favourite dance style?

V: I won Rear Of The Year as well. And so did Flavia.

F: That came as a complete surprise! For the last couple of years we would be the Argentine tango. As you get older, it’s an increasingly comfortable style for the body. Latin and ballroom are great. Latin goes with being quite young and bubble - slimy outfits, holidays, time and so on. Ballroom is beautiful and elegant, very classical, so I still enjoy doing that, but with the tango, there’s an element of it which is incredibly natural - so now, for me, that is the most pleasurable style to do. It’s less created, less ‘put together’ - you can dance it anywhere, wear what you want; it’s less orchestrated.

You’ve been dance partners for over two decades now. How did that come about?

F: You should have stayed!

V: I should have stayed, you’re right! My mum and dad were always there for me. Every week they were driving five hours to take me to see dance teachers for lessons and then driving five hours back. They did that for so many years, and then my long-term dance partner decided she didn’t want to carry on anymore. The best country in the world to do ballroom and Latin dancing is England - in London - so my parents advised me to go to London. They do love me, don’t get me wrong, but it made sense. Where I’m from in South Italy, there weren’t any good dance partners, so I would have had to train one, and to do that from the start would’ve taken too long. When I moved here, I tried with three different partners, and then I found Flavia. We’re both Italian, the dark look, the same height. I remember the faces of our teachers when we did a trial. They were mesmerised and said it was like a partnership made in heaven. So that’s it, that’s how it started. For many years when it was about getting better and better and competing in competition after competition. That’s how it all began.

With touring comes a lot of travelling, as well as the mental and physical strain on your body. What coping mechanisms do you put in place to ensure you’re fit to dance night after night?

F: I think it’s easy to say when we’re in rehearsal and preparation for a show that we’re not going to do it again because there’s so much pressure and you just want to do a good job. The more shows you do, the more you worry that the next one isn’t going to be as good, so you have to ask whether you want to put yourself through that again or move on to other things.

V: We push ourselves to the limit and perform every show and if it’s our last. It’s not easy - we’re very hard on ourselves.

You were UK Professional Ten Dance champions from 2002 to 2006, World Argentine Tango Show champions in 2005 and 2006 and UK Ballroom champions for several years. Do you have a favourite dance style?

F: Yeah, you need some mental therapy.

V: Knowing that we have to perform, you can’t really go crazy. Sometimes, even if a performance is at 7.30pm, we’ll meet there at 3pm because we have nothing else to do. We just spend the afternoon in the theatre, just getting in the mood.

F: I don’t think they’d take us back! It’s been a while now and they’ve got all these beautiful young dancers.

F: They have asked us back - every year they’ve asked us back, which has been really lovely. I don’t ever believe in going backwards, though. It was something that we did so solidly for seven years. It was kind of our life and that was it - I don’t see the positive in going back. It’s like going back to an old job or something - it’s probably never going to be as good. The dancers are different, it’s still a great show, and I’m not saying that they’re any better or any worse, but for us, it’s not the time that we were there, so I don’t think it would be the same experience. There are so many other things we want to do and achieve, and there wouldn’t be any benefit. We’ve always felt very lucky that they ask us back.

What would your dream project be?

V: A film! Making a movie. We’re trying our hardest to make it happen. It would be the cherry on the cake. It would be a nice way to move into something new. We’ve done TV, we’ve done theatre, now we want to do film. Not necessarily as performers or actors, but just to be involved in some shape or form, as choreographers or directors or so on.

You were dancers on BBC 1’s Strictly Come Dancing for seven years. Would you ever consider going back?

V: I don’t think they’d take us back! It’s been a while now and they’ve got all these beautiful young dancers.

F: They have asked us back - every year they’ve asked us back, which has been really lovely. I don’t ever believe in going backwards, though. It was something that we did so solidly for seven years. It was kind of our life and that was it - I don’t see the positive in going back. It’s like going back to an old job or something - it’s probably never going to be as good. The dancers are different, it’s still a great show, and I’m not saying that they’re any better or any worse, but for us, it’s not the time that we were there, so I don’t think it would be the same experience. There are so many other things we want to do and achieve, and there wouldn’t be any benefit. We’ve always felt very lucky that they ask us back.

Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace star in Tango Moderno at the New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, from Tuesday 19 to Saturday 23 September.
Join us for a festival in a weekend!
www.birminghamweekender.com
#BIRMINGHAMWEEKENDER
As a Festival Director, I'm delighted to oversee the return of Birmingham Weekender, an ever-popular family-friendly festival celebrating the city’s diversity, its communities and its artists.

The three-day event also welcomes international performers from around the world to Birmingham, and plays a role within Utsav, Birmingham’s Year of South Asian Culture. Two years ago, David Cameron met with the Indian prime minister and named 2017 as the India-UK Year of Culture. This is now being celebrated throughout the country. But because we have such a diverse South Asian population here in Birmingham, we decided to broaden it out further.

Together with Graham Callister from Birmingham Hippodrome, I’ve been programming and curating the festival - but there are lots of other people working with us too. These include Aaron from Fierce Festival, Tim Hodgson - an independent producer who’s turning the market into a village fête - and lots more besides, including the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Moseley Folk, Birmingham Hippodrome, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, BRB and Birmingham Opera Company. It really is a joint effort.

There are all kinds of things happening, and one of the most exciting is that Victoria Square will be transformed into a dance square, with dance at all times from Friday afternoon until Sunday evening. The idea is to create a big, participatory family event, where professional dancers will help you to learn routines in all different styles: bhangra, hip-hop, contemporary, ballet, Bollywood and more. Hopefully the event will introduce you to some new genres too, like the Indian classical style, Kathakali. We’re also joined by big-name DJs Craig Charles, David Rodigan and Don Letts, who perform free gigs that are open to everyone.

Sampad is leading on the Rangeeli Colours Of Birmingham Parade, in which more than 400 participants will walk down High Street and New Street before finishing in Victoria Square. There will be lots of dancers and musicians, and people from the community are joining in with kites and banners they’ve been making in workshops running ahead of the event. We’ve also got a beautiful, mechanical Indian elephant called Harminder. Harminder has visited many different carnivals and parades throughout the country, but this will be her first time in Birmingham.

Because Birmingham is a very lively, vibrant city, there are all sorts of cultural offerings for people to choose from, and in the same way as with fashion and food, there are a lot of artists from different backgrounds who are taking on and sharing influences with each other. Things are much less monocultural and more multilingual now, and it’s exciting to see how those influences are shaping the creation of new work, whether it’s in dance, music, theatre or visual arts. We hope that exploring that variety will be as much fun for audiences as it has been for artists and creators in the city. Enjoy!

Piali Ray OBE, Birmingham Weekender Festival Director
Highlights

**Birmingham Weekender in association with Moseley Folk present**

**Square Dance**

Friday 22 - Sunday 24
Victoria Square
FREE

Enjoy three days of music and dance in the heart of the city. Weekender organisers have built a giant wooden dancefloor in front of the Council House to get the people of Birmingham dancing together. In the daytime bring your friends and family and join in the dance classes and performances in the Square. Each evening live music and high-profile DJs keep the crowds entertained. Refreshments include gourmet street food, Purity ales and lagers, fine wines and fizz, artisan gin and rum punch.

**Birmingham Museums Trust in collaboration with Artangel present**

**The Influence Machine by Tony Oursler**

Friday 22 & Saturday 23 - 8-10pm
St Philip’s Cathedral, Colmore Row
FREE

Presenting a psycho-landscape of ethereal figures projected onto the cathedral, trees, walls and clouds of smoke, American artist Tony Oursler’s thought-provoking work tells stories of technological leaps in telecommunication, delving deep into the history of media.

The Influence Machine is from The Artangel Collection. It’s here presented as part of Arts Council Collection National Partners Programme supported by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, The Foyle Foundation, Arts Council England, Birmingham Museums Trust and Colmore Business District.
Sampad and Birmingham Weekender present
Rangeeli - Colours Of Birmingham Parade

Saturday 23 - 11am
Parade begins at High Street, moving down New Street to Victoria Square - FREE
All the colours of Birmingham come to life in this spectacular parade.
In the Rio Carnival tradition of storytelling, Rangeeli presents the story of the city. Co-designed with the citizens of Birmingham, the parade explores, celebrates and shares the heritage of the city with a South Asian twist - Utsav (festival) style!
Participants make their way through the city centre from New Street with vibrant flags, hand-held puppets, masks, costumes and a colourful kaleidoscope of South Asian kites (called Patang).
They are accompanied by Harminder, an amazing life-size mechanical elephant born from reclaimed bicycle parts, metal and other recycled materials.
The Colours Of Birmingham Parade culminates at Square Dance on Victoria Square with a crescendo of sound - including dhol and Brazilian beats - and a display of exhilarating dance styles in the form of kathakali, Bollywood, bhangra, bharatanatyam and African and contemporary moves.

Birmingham Hippodrome presents
Les Commandos Percu (France) and Deabru Beltzak (Spain)
Clash Of Drums

Saturday 23 - 8.30pm - warm-up acts from 7.30pm
Eastside Green at Eastside City Park
Book your FREE tickets at www.birminghamhippodrome.com/clash
Out of nowhere, drummers with colourful faces and twirling drumsticks march towards each other, preparing for a confrontation of rhythm and light...
The wild parade leads to the stage with a clash of drums.
Light and fireworks fill the skies as the explosion of sound brings everyone together in an exciting spectacle!
A highlight of Birmingham Weekender, Clash Of Drums promises an unforgettable evening of sound, fireworks and performance.
Birmingham Repertory Theatre presents an
Outbox Theatre production
As A Tiger In The Jungle
Friday 22 - 7.45pm
Saturday 23 - 2.45pm & 7.45pm
The REP, Centenary Square
Tickets from £15 via www.birmingham-rep.co.uk
A unique theatrical circus experience comes to The REP as part of Birmingham Weekender. Using circus ceremony and spoken word, Renu Ghalan, Aman Tamang and Loan TP Hoang tell the story of how, against all odds, they survived childhood and created their own destiny. An inspiring, authentic and heartwarming performance about life and circus. Recommended for ages 12+

Birmingham Weekender and Fierce present
Tram-a-lama-ding-dong! Cabaret on the Metro!
Saturday 23
Pop-up performances on board the trams, 3-9pm
Network Midland Metro between New Street and the Jewellery Quarter
Tram ticket required; purchase on board
All aboard Brum’s exciting new mode of travel, the Network West Midland Metro! Today, for your on-board entertainment, a trio of cabaret delights... Armed with her Casio keyboard, songstress Lorraine Bowen of The Crumble Song and Britain’s Got Talent fame seduces her audience with her catchy pop hooks. Marvel at the entrancing, synchronised dance routines of the strange-but-true Figs In Wigs and laugh along with Birmingham’s ‘First Lady of Comedy’, Mrs Barbara Nice (pic below), as she rolls out gags faster than the speed of a tram. All you need to partake is a ticket to ride!

Find full performance timetable at www.birminghamweekender.com
Southside Producers in partnership with The Old Rep Theatre present

Culture Catwalk

Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 - 11am-5pm
Bullring, next to the bull statue
FREE

Culture Catwalk shines a light on our community’s finest creative talent, capturing the vibrancy and diversity that makes Birmingham unique. Artists from across the city take to the red carpet to sing, dance, glide, slide and perform.

Back at Birmingham Weekender by popular demand, Culture Catwalk is a celebration of everything that makes us Brummie! Follow @SSProducers in the run-up to Weekender and tell us what #BeingABrummie means to you!

If you’d like to take to the Culture Catwalk stage, visit www.birminghamweekender.com to find out how to apply.

Town Hall Symphony Hall present

The Multi-Story Orchestra
Beethoven’s Fifth

Friday 22 - 7pm & Saturday 23 - 5pm

North Car Park Level 1, Arena Birmingham (formerly Barclaycard Arena). Use pedestrian entrance on the corner of St Vincent St and King Edwards Rd
Tickets £5, via www.thsh.co.uk or call 0121 780 3333

Come and be part of a dynamic take on one of Beethoven’s towering masterpieces, as The Multi-Story Orchestra make their Birmingham debut - in the unusual setting of a city-centre car park. Led by Christopher Stark, their approach to presenting live classical music in unexpected venues has been widely celebrated (“the response was ecstatic, and it deserved to be” - The New York Times). This performance includes one of their unique Living Programme Notes, where the whole Multi-Story Orchestra celebrate and explore the symphony with the audience.
Trevor Pitt presents
Fluid Festival at Minerva Works
Saturday 23 - 3 - 11.30pm
Minerva Works, Fazeley Street
Early Bird £15, On the door £20.
Book via www.fluidfestival.org
This festival of new Queer sound and music features an extraordinary line-up of composers and experimental electronic musicians. Highlights include the rarely performed piece Gay Guerilla by Julius Eastman, led by Rolf Hind and Siwan Rhys, plus sets from Robin Buckley, CN Lester, Henry McPherson & Inkeri Kallio, Repeator, Daniel vs The World, Mx World, Rebekah Ubuntu, Michael Wolters & Paul Norman and Yfat Soul Zisso.
Tickets & info at www.fluidfestival.org

Birmingham Royal Ballet present
Ballet in the Bullring
Saturday 23 - 1pm, 2.15pm, 3pm
Bullring Shopping Centre, by main entrance to Debenhams
FREE
Birmingham Royal Ballet brings world-class dance to the Bullring with three performances of a classic pas de deux from The Nutcracker, one of the Company’s most popular and iconic productions. During the weekend, the Company also leads a ballet flashmob, including dancers from local dance schools and the community. To find out more and take part in the flashmob, sign up at brb.org.uk/weekender
Town Hall Symphony Hall in association with Sampad Arts presents

Hans Raj Hans - Birmingham Weekender Closing Concert

Sunday 24 - 7.30pm

Town Hall
Tickets £13 via www.thsh.co.uk or call 0121 780 3333


Hans Raj is known for his charismatic performances, which have established him as a national treasure in his home country of India and endeared him to millions of fans throughout the world.

One of the finest modern-day performers of Sufi songs, he’s renowned as a folk-revivalist and passionate ambassador for Sufi music.

An exceptionally versatile and soulful vocalist, Hans Raj also possesses a fluent ability to span a wealth of musical styles, including popular Punjabi songs as well as folk, devotional, gurbani, ghazals, Bollywood and classical.

He has collaborated with music legends such as Lata Mangeshkar and the late Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, as well as distinguished composer AR Rahman.

Join Hans Raj and his line-up of gifted musicians for this joyful and memorable finale to Birmingham Weekender.

Home Live Art and Birmingham Weekender present

Alternative Village Fete

Sunday 24 - 11am-4pm Bullring Open Market
FREE

The Bullring has been at the heart of Birmingham city centre for more than 900 years, a focus for shopping, socialising and culture.

For Weekender, the open market and rag market become The Alternative Village Fete - a one-off day filled with interactive performances, installations and quirky stalls, embracing the best bits of a traditional village fete but adding an alternative Brummie twist!

Birmingham Hippodrome presents

Seeta Patel
Something Then, Something Now

Sunday 24 - 5pm

The Patrick Centre at Birmingham Hippodrome
Tickets £12 (£8 conc) via www.birminghamhippodrome.com/seeta or call 0844 338 5000 (calls cost 4.5p per min plus access charge)

Born and raised in the UK, Seeta Patel has been championing the Indian classical dance style of bharatanatyam for many years, under the guidance of Artistic Director Mavin Khoo.

After two sell-out performances at Sadler’s Wells in 2014, the highly rated dance artist now brings her critically acclaimed solo work to Birmingham. She is joined for the performance by an orchestra of Carnatic musicians.
**Victoria And Abdul**  
**CERT PG** (112 mins)  
Starring Judi Dench, Ali Fazal, Eddie Izzard, Adeel Akhtar, Tim Pigott-Smith, Simon Callow, Olivia Williams, Michael Gambon  
Directed by Stephen Frears (UK/USA)  
Judi Dench’s film career really kicked off when she played Queen Victoria in John Madden’s Mrs Brown in 1997, for which she received her first Oscar nomination (of seven). Here, she plays an older version of the monarch, who takes an exceptional interest in her young Indian servant Abdul Karim (Fazal). The screenplay is by Lee Hall, who scripted Billy Elliot, much of Pride And Prejudice and War Horse. The Oscar buzz is already buzzing.  
**Released Fri 15 September**

**The Limehouse Golem**  
**CERT 15** (109 mins)  
Starring Bill Nighy, Olivia Cooke, Douglas Booth, Daniel Mays, Sam Reid, Eddie Marsan  
Directed by Juan Carlos Medina (UK)  
A Victorian murder-mystery based on Peter Ackroyd’s 1994 novel Dan Leno And The Limehouse Golem, this is obviously tapping into the same fear generated by both The Woman In Black and the BBC’s Ripper Street. The former was scripted by Jane Goldman, who returns here to add a bit of class to proceedings.  
**Released Fri 1 September**

**Patti Cake$**  
**CERT 15** (109 mins)  
Starring Danielle Macdonald, McCaul Lombardi, Siddharth Dhananjay, Cathy Moriarty  
Directed by Geremy Jasper (USA)  
A call-to-arms for the downtrodden, disadvantaged and overweight, this low-budget drama was a huge success at this year’s Sundance festival. The Australian actress Danielle Macdonald plays Patricia ‘Dumbo’ Dumbrowski, a New Jersey nobody who decides to reinvent herself as a rapper called Patti Cake$. Expect some pretty strong language.  
**Released Fri 1 September**

**It**  
**CERT 15** (135 mins)  
Starring Bill Skarsgård, Jaeden Lieberher, Jeremy Ray Taylor, Sophia Lillis, Finn Wolfhard  
Directed by Andrés Muschietti (USA)  
Stephen King’s 1986 novel was previously turned into a 1990 miniseries starring Tim Curry, but now gets its first big-screen treatment. As anybody who suffers from coulrophobia will testify, clowns can be pretty scary. Here, seven kids combine forces to tackle the evil clown ‘Pennywise’ (Skarsgård), who’s been killing the children of Derry in Maine.  
**Released Fri 8 September**

**Wind River**  
**CERT 15** (107 mins)  
Starring Jeremy Renner, Elizabeth Olsen, Gil Birmingham, Jon Bernthal, Julia Jones  
Directed by Taylor Sheridan (USA)  
An original thriller from Taylor Sheridan, the writer of Sicario and Hell Or High Water, Wind River is set in the wilds of Wyoming and follows a US Fish & Wildlife Service agent (Renner) as he investigates a murder on a Native American reservation. Expect some pretty strong violence.  
**Released Fri 8 September**

40 whatsonlive.co.uk
**Goodbye Christopher Robin**

**CERT PG (107 mins)**

**Starring** Domhnall Gleeson, Margot Robbie, Kelly Macdonald, Alex Lawther, Stephen Campbell Moore  
**Directed by** Simon Curtis (UK)

Older readers might well be familiar with the name Christopher Robin, not to mention Winnie the Pooh, Eeyore, Piglet and the whole gang.

Here, this terribly English film traces the creation and then the success of the famous characters brought to life by AA Milne, based on the stuffed animals of his son, Christopher Robin.

The director Simon Curtis previously brought us the much-loved *My Week With Marilyn* (2011) and *Woman In Gold* (2015).

**Released Fri 29 September**

---

**Mother!**

**CERT tbc**

**Starring** Jennifer Lawrence, Javier Bardem, Ed Harris, Michelle Pfeiffer, Kristen Wiig, Domhnall Gleeson  
**Directed by** Darren Aronofsky (USA)

You never know with Darren Aronofsky. He’s directed some real duds (*The Fountain, Noah*), but has more often delivered the goods (*Requiem For A Dream, The Wrestler, Black Swan*). Here his psychological thriller focuses on a couple living in an idyllic country retreat whose relationship is tested with the arrival of uninvited guests.

**Released Fri 15 September**

---

**American Assassin**

**CERT 18 (112 mins)**

**Starring** Dylan O’Brien, Michael Keaton, Sanaa Lathan, Shiva Negar, Taylor Kitsch, David Suchet  
**Directed by** Michael Cuesta (USA)

CIA Black Ops recruit Mitch Rapp (Dylan O’Brien, from *The Maze Runner*) gets a taste of radicalism first-hand when his girlfriend is killed in a terrorist attack. He’s then taken under the wing of Cold War veteran Stan Hurley (Keaton) to help hunt down and apprehend the perpetrators. Based on the 2010 novel by Vince Flynn.

**Released Fri 15 September**

---

**Flatliners**

**CERT tbc**

**Starring** Ellen Page, Diego Luna, Nina Dobrev, James Norton, Kiersey Clemons, Kiefer Sutherland  
**Directed by** Niels Arden Oplev (USA)

Although this shares the name of the 1990 thriller that starred Kiefer Sutherland and Julia Roberts, it’s actually a sequel, which is odd. Once again we have a group of medical students experimenting with near-death experiences, leading to an unhealthy pact with the afterlife. The director helmed the original *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*.

**Released Fri 29 September**

---

**Kingsman: The Golden Circle**

**CERT tbc**

**Starring** Colin Firth, Julianne Moore, Taron Egerton, Mark Strong, Halle Berry, Elton John, Channing Tatum, Jeff Bridges  
**Directed by** Matthew Vaughn (UK/USA)

The Special Relationship between the UK and the US comes in handy when the Kingsman headquarters is destroyed by a global foe calling itself ‘The Golden Circle.’ So the agents of Kingsman join forces with the agents of Statesman, its American counterpart. Word has it that Elton John is playing a camp, flamboyant rock star.

**Released Wed 20 September**
“Snap, crackle, Op. Compton Verney’s dazzling exhibition is how all shows should be done.”
– SUNDAY TIMES CULTURE

SEURAT TO RILEY
THE ART OF PERCEPTION

8 JULY – 1 OCTOBER
One of the first exhibitions of its kind in the UK, bringing together over 90 stunning works by 23 artists

BOOK NOW | Members go free
comptonverney.org.uk

IKON Gallery
Take a fresh look at art

Oozells Square, Brindleyplace
Birmingham B1 2HS

Open Tuesday – Sunday
11am–5pm, free entry

www.ikon-gallery.org
0121 248 0708

Ikun is supported using public funding by
Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council.
Registered charity no. 528892.

Compton Verney
ART GALLERY & PARK
Warwickshire CV35 9HZ
t. 01926 645500
**Picasso: Linocuts From The British Museum**  
Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, Sat 9 September - Sun 3 December

Age certainly didn't compromise Pablo Picasso's prolific output - he continued to produce stunning works of art into his 90s. Among them were the linocuts included in this exhibition, created when the artist was in his late 70s and early 80s. The works were acquired by the British Museum in 2014 and perfectly exemplify not only Picasso's vivid imagination but also his desire to use expressive and experimental techniques. Featured pieces include Still Life Under The Lamp, Jacqueline Reading and Nude Woman At The Spring. Alongside the examples of linocut, the exhibition also features a selection of ceramics on loan from Leicester Arts & Museums Service.

**The Fence And The Shadow**  
mac, Birmingham, Sat 23 September - Sun 26 November

“This new series of paintings,” explains artist Sally Payen in talking about her latest exhibition, “is the conjunction of how painting can meet Greenham Common as a place - and in particular the women’s peace camp and protests from the 1980s. It’s not a legacy project or an archival project; it’s a project about how that contested landscape touched my life back then.

“No longer was it clean, neatly made-up women, including housewives, mothers and grandmothers, all safely at home. Some had escaped with very loud voices. They were unwashed, hairy, living rough, all ages and classes and making a new mass movement.” Sally’s exhibition is the inspiration for a mac season of events, visual arts and workshops exploring the theme of ‘women & protest’.

**Wolverhampton Society Of Artists Exhibition 2017**  
Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Sat 23 September - Sunday 19 November

This annual show has a history stretching back to the Victorian era and is a popular fixture on the gallery’s exhibitions calendar. Championing homegrown talent, it showcases a diverse range of styles, media and subject matter, with much of the work available to purchase. An accompanying programme of activities and demonstrations, including an open studio weekend, artists’ talks and drawing sessions, take place on Saturdays during the exhibition’s run. Visit wsa-artists.com for further details about the Society.

**Pleasure Is A Weapon**  
Grand Union, Birmingham, Fri 1 September - Saturday 18 November

Artist Susie Green’s first UK solo exhibition celebrates the body as a site for pleasure and politics, imaginatively reflecting her preoccupation with fetish and form. The installation brings together sound, objects and painted works to ‘probe at feelings and recollections surrounding both immediate and remote sexual intimacy’.

A public programme of performances, screenings and conversations accompanies the exhibition.

**Portrait Of The Artist: Käthe Kollwitz**  
Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, Wed 13 September - Sun 26 November

Best known for their depiction of the effects of poverty and war on the working class, Käthe Kollwitz’s works continue to resonate with art lovers across the world. As the German artist evolved her style, she shifted away from realism and embraced Expressionism, and it’s with this modernist movement that she’s nowadays most closely associated. Showcasing around 40 pieces from the British Museum, as well as material from other UK public collections, the exhibition highlights the importance of Kollwitz’s work, in the process ably illustrating why she was considered one of the leading artists of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
Join Us for Spooktober!

Take part in spooky story walks, creepy arts and crafts, freaky face painting and more at Birmingham Botanical Gardens this October half term.

23 – 27 October
11am – 3pm

Discover more at birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk

Miniatura
Take a closer look at the world of miniatures

30th September & 1st October 2017
National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, UK

Advance ticket prices
Saturday - Limited numbers, advance booking essential - £11.00
Sunday - Advance tickets - £5.50 (door prices on website)
Concessions available. A single £5.50 processing fee for each transaction.
No charge for parking - Doors open 10.00am both days.

Ticket Hotline - 0844 5811291
www.miniatura.co.uk General enquiries - 0121 783 9922

A Place in the Sun Live 2017
BIRMINGHAM
22-24 September • NEC

A world of overseas property under one roof

ADVANCED TICKET OFFER

2 TICKETS FOR £15

To book tickets visit aplaceinthesun.com/exhibitions

EXPERT ADVICE & PROPERTY FOR SALE IN:
SPAIN • FRANCE • PORTUGAL • FLORIDA • ITALY
TURKEY • MALTA • GREECE • CYPRUS... AND MORE

BOOK TODAY!
Trucking Live Shropshire
Oswestry Showground, Sat 23 - Sun 24 September

Widely considered to be the ‘friendliest’ event of its kind in the UK, Trucking Live Shropshire features a line-up of main arena entertainment that includes stunt shows and truck parades. There’s also a display of hundreds of trucks to enjoy, as well as the region’s largest showcase of truck accessories and a number of fairground attractions. A personal appearance by Red Dwarf and Coronation Street star Craig Charles further adds to the fun.

A Place In The Sun Live
NEC, Birmingham, Fri 22 - Sun 24 September

The official exhibition show of Channel Four’s popular overseas travel series returns to the Midlands.
Programme presenters Amanda Lamb, Jasmine Harman, Jonnie Irwin and Laura Hamilton will all be on hand to share their experience and offer advice on buying a property abroad. Whether it’s the idea of finding somewhere in Spain, in France, in Portugal or even maybe further afield that’s floating your boat, A Place In The Sun is the perfect event from which to launch an exciting new travel adventure.

Midland Game Fair
Weston Park, Shropshire, Sat 16 - Sun 17 September

If traditional country pursuits are your passion, the well-established Midland Game Fair will make for a rewarding weekend. The premier event of its kind in the country, the show features a wide range of rural attractions, from world-class clay pigeon shooting to game and coarse fishing demonstrations.
Gun dog competitions, falconry displays, ferret racing, fine arts and rural crafts also feature, as do hundreds of trade stands catering for a wide range of countryside shopping needs. The fair welcomes the return of the hugely popular Folk Roots Festival too, with performing artists including Mambo Jambo, Occasional Orchestra and Doughboy Three.

Telfood Feastival
QEII Arena, Telford Town Park, Shropshire, Sat 2 - Sun 3 September

Telfood Feastival makes a welcome return following the success of last summer’s inaugural event.
Featuring over 100 food, drink and craft exhibitors, the family-friendly show offers youngsters the chance to get mucky in a hands-on cookery area, learn circus skills in a big top, handle creatures large and small in an ‘exotic zoo’ and have a go at go-karting and, er, bug eating!
Wed 13 September – Sun 26 November

WOMEN & PROTEST

Season supported by The Saintbury Trust

Take Part In

Events | Visual Arts | Screenings | Workshops

mac
Midlands Arts Centre

macbirmingham.co.uk
0121 533 4554
Midlands Arts Centre
Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9QH

Registered Company no. 718349 | Registered Charity no. 528979
The Cycle Show
NEC, Birmingham, Fri 22 - Sun 24 September

With cycling’s profile in the UK at an all-time high and the Velo Birmingham event taking place during the same weekend, there’s every reason to imagine The Cycle Show will beat its 2016 attendance figure of 29,000. Highlights include more than 250 bike companies showcasing their latest kit, a dedicated women’s area, an Elite Cyclocross race around the NEC’s surrounding woodlands and MTB/BMX competitions.

Extreme Chilli Festival
Brindleyplace, Birmingham, Fri 15 - Sat 16 September

Temperatures are set to rise in Brindleyplace with the welcome return of this popular festival. The event is now in its seventh year and features numerous food stalls selling a wide range of chilli-influenced street food. Live music and street performances add to what should hopefully be a sizzlin’ly hot atmosphere!

The Glamping Show
Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 September

A more luxurious form of camping, glamping has become increasingly popular during the last few years and is now a prominent part of the leisure industry. This annual show presents a wide selection of pop-up, temporary and pre-pitched accommodation solutions, including yurts, tipi and safari tents. It also features contributions from experts, design demonstrations and, new for this year, glamping business workshops with guru Kate Morel. “I’ve seen the glamping industry develop beyond all recognition over the years,” says Kate, “and as more glampsites start up each year, it’s obvious to me which will survive and which will not. I’ll be asking questions that potential owners might not have considered and running through the set-up process, focusing on subjects that will be explored by the show as well as takeaways that can be applied in an ongoing way.”

Events previews from around the region

Ludlow Food Festival
Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire, Fri 8 - Sun 10 September

A feast for the senses awaits visitors to this popular event in Shropshire’s renowned gastro-nomic hotspot. Now in its 15th year, the Ludlow Food Festival features more than 180 artisan food producers, a host of top chefs and an abundance of demonstrations and activities catering for visitors of all ages. Numerous regular attractions, including a kids’ area with cookery lessons, are presented within the castle grounds, while the show’s always-popular food trails take place out in the wider town.

Birmingham Cruise Show
NEC, Birmingham, Sat 16 - Sun 17 September

Europe’s biggest travel exhibition dedicated to cruising, the Cruise Show features an impressive array of destinations and cruise styles. So whether you’re an experienced ocean traveller, a lover of laidback river cruises or completely new to the pleasures of cruising, there’s every chance you’ll come away from the show with some intriguing ideas for a new adventure. The event offers visitors the chance to meet with all of the major and specialist cruise lines, gather impartial advice that won’t be found in the brochures, and save thousands of pounds on exclusive show-only offers.

The Classic & Retro Show
Himley Hall, nr Dudley, Sat 3 September

Static displays of saloons, sports, American, commercial and military vehicles, as well as classic motorcy-cles, are part and parcel of this popular show, which also features numerous trade and autojumble stands. Entertainment at this year’s get-together is provided by locally based vintage vocal harmony trio The Bluebird Belles.
The Wedding Fair
Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire
21-22 October
The Ultimate West Midlands Wedding Planning Day Out
Over 120 Hand-picked Exhibitors

Two tickets for £15
quote WHATSON at
theweddingfairs.com

Catwalk Shows | Prosecco Bar
Inspired Bakes Gallery
VIP Lounge
Entertainment Stage

All savings relate to the door price of £15 and £25 for VIP.
Offer code is valid until Midnight 18th October.
Children under 5 go free. Show content subject to change.
Photography credits: Louise Bjoring Photography.

Disney on Ice
Passport to Adventure
Produced by Feld Entertainment

Disney on Ice
Barclaycard Arena
Birmingham
18th – 29th Oct 2017
0844 338 8000 or 0844 847 2255
www.disneyonice.co.uk

48 whatsonlive.co.uk
Events previews from around the region

Leamington Food & Drink Festival
Royal Pump Room Gardens, Leamington Spa, Sat 9 - Sun 10 September
Given that 25,000 foodies visit and over 150 producers and retailers exhibit, it’s hardly surprising that Leamington’s Food & Drink Festival is the biggest event on the town’s calendar.
“People travel from far and wide to the festival, and its reputation grows every year,” says Stephanie Kerr, Executive Director of the event’s organisers, BID Leamington. “The diverse range of local food and drink is a big attraction, along with a packed programme of cooking demonstrations, tastings and live entertainment.”

Middle Earth Festival
Sarehole Mill, Birmingham, Sat 9 - Sun 10 September
If you’re a fan of The Lord Of The Rings and The Hobbit but haven’t yet checked out this family-friendly festival, then it’s fair to say you’re missing a Gandalf-sized trick.
First taking place in 1998, when it was called Fun At The Mill, the event has proved enormously popular with Tolkien enthusiasts both young and old.
Attractions at this year’s get-together include living history camps, medieval traders, food stalls, weapon displays, children’s activities and a costume pageant - not to mention the chance to encounter all manner of characters from the famous fantasy novels, including hobbits, elves and orcs...

1940s Supper And Song Evening
Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire, Fri 29 September
Blists Hill really is offering a ‘taste’ of the 1940s with this supper & song event - as part of the evening, participants get to sample a two-course meal featuring spam hash, carrots, potato mash and pear crumble! The venue is inviting visitors to dress in their vintage best to enjoy the festivities, which also include a host of popular songs from the era.

Middle Earth Festival
Sarehole Mill, Birmingham, Sat 9 - Sun 10 September
If you’re a fan of The Lord Of The Rings and The Hobbit but haven’t yet checked out this family-friendly festival, then it’s fair to say you’re missing a Gandalf-sized trick.
First taking place in 1998, when it was called Fun At The Mill, the event has proved enormously popular with Tolkien enthusiasts both young and old.
Attractions at this year’s get-together include living history camps, medieval traders, food stalls, weapon displays, children’s activities and a costume pageant - not to mention the chance to encounter all manner of characters from the famous fantasy novels, including hobbits, elves and orcs...

Leamington Food & Drink Festival
Royal Pump Room Gardens, Leamington Spa, Sat 9 - Sun 10 September
Given that 25,000 foodies visit and over 150 producers and retailers exhibit, it’s hardly surprising that Leamington’s Food & Drink Festival is the biggest event on the town’s calendar.
“People travel from far and wide to the festival, and its reputation grows every year,” says Stephanie Kerr, Executive Director of the event’s organisers, BID Leamington. “The diverse range of local food and drink is a big attraction, along with a packed programme of cooking demonstrations, tastings and live entertainment.”

Middle Earth Festival
Sarehole Mill, Birmingham, Sat 9 - Sun 10 September
If you’re a fan of The Lord Of The Rings and The Hobbit but haven’t yet checked out this family-friendly festival, then it’s fair to say you’re missing a Gandalf-sized trick.
First taking place in 1998, when it was called Fun At The Mill, the event has proved enormously popular with Tolkien enthusiasts both young and old.
Attractions at this year’s get-together include living history camps, medieval traders, food stalls, weapon displays, children’s activities and a costume pageant - not to mention the chance to encounter all manner of characters from the famous fantasy novels, including hobbits, elves and orcs...

1940s Supper And Song Evening
Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire, Fri 29 September
Blists Hill really is offering a ‘taste’ of the 1940s with this supper & song event - as part of the evening, participants get to sample a two-course meal featuring spam hash, carrots, potato mash and pear crumble! The venue is inviting visitors to dress in their vintage best to enjoy the festivities, which also include a host of popular songs from the era.
THE CONSERVATOIRE OF THE FUTURE

We’re investing £57 million into a world-class teaching and performance facility, the first of its kind in the digital age.

- 9000 sq m of purpose-designed performance, teaching and rehearsal space
- 500 seat concert hall
- 150 seat recital hall
- Birmingham’s only dedicated jazz club
- Intimate black-box venue


bcu.ac.uk/new-conservatoire
Your week-by-week listings guide
September 2017

Music  I  Comedy  I  Theatre  I  Dance  I  Film  I  Events  I  Visual Arts  I  and more!

What’s On

Fri 1 to Sun 10 September
Tamworth Food Gusto Festival at Tamworth Castle
Sat 9 - Sun 10 September

Mon 11 to Sun 17 September
Peaky Blinders Night at the Black Country Living Museum
Fri 15 - Sat 16 September

Mon 18 to Sun 24 September
An Audience With Katie Price at Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent
Fri 22 September

Mon 25 to Sat 30 September
Ginger & Spice Festival in Market Drayton, Shropshire
Wed 27 - Sat 30 September
The List NEW Wolves/Shrops New 1-10 September.qxp_Layout 1  25/08/2017  15:08  Page 1

Friday 1 - Sunday 10 September

**Visual Arts**

**Bilston Craft Gallery**

**NEW FOSSIL FUELLED** Exhibition featuring objects from many of the town’s industries, including cut steel jewellry, bicycles and the world famous Bilston Enamels, Sat 9 Sep - Sun 31 Dec

**New Art Gallery - Walsall**

**RACHEL GOODYEAR** Rachel is renowned for her drawing-based practice, which hints at the world of the unconscious mind, until Sun 3 Sep

**Soheila SOKHANVARI** Soheila is an Iranian-born artist whose multidisciplinary work weaves layers of political histories with bizarre, humorous and mysterious narratives that are then left to the viewer’s own sensitivity to complete, until Sun 3 Sep

**Potteries Museum & Art Gallery - Stoke-On-Trent**

**NEW EMILIE TAYLOR - EDGELANDS** Touring exhibition, featuring the work of contemporary ceramics artist Emilie Taylor, that explores the lives of young women who exist on the edge of society and womanhood, Sat 23 Sep - Sun 19 Nov

**Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery**

**ANTARCTICA: LIFE IN A HOSTILE LAND** Insight into our relationship with the most hostile continent on Earth, until Sun 17 Sep

**Wolverhampton Art Gallery**

**REMEMBER ME: CHARLOTTE HODES** Visually powerful new work which consists of 120 individual, wall-mounted ceramic pieces, arranged to create a single image that combines elegant historic patterns with contemporary and digital imagery, until Sun 3 Sep

**WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2017** Famous exhibition showcasing the world’s very best nature photography, until Sun 1 Oct

**NEW THE IMMORTALS** – **CHINESE OBJECTS FROM THE COLLECTION** Reveered by the Taoist religion, the Eight Immortals - a group of legendary xian in Chinese mythology - are frequently represented in the country’s decorative arts. This exhibition brings together a fascinating range of objects from the gallery’s own collection to explore the subject, Mon 4 Sep - Sun 26 Nov

**NEW THE OTHER MOUNTAIN** Closely associated with China, jade is here celebrated via a collection of innovative work by contemporary Chinese jewellers, Sat 16 Sep - Sun 26 Nov

**NEW RECENT ACQUISITIONS** Exhibition featuring: A series of colourfull college portraits by Towards Boyce who explore the politics of black hair and black identity, Silver Self Portrait by US artist Glenn Ligon, made from coal dust, and Go West Young Man by Keidinger. Sat 16 Sep - Sun 19 Nov

**NEW WOLVERHAMPTON SOCIETY OF ARTISTS EXHIBITION 2017** Annual exhibition of work featuring a diverse range of styles, media and subject matter, Sat 23 Sep - Sun 19 Nov

**Other VISUAL ARTS INSPIRATIONS IN COLOUR** Stourbridge Art Group share their love of colour, tone and form in a variety of subjects and media, until Sun 3 Sep, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley

**Hungarian Ceramists** Celebrating the 35th anniversary of Wall Heath Ceramica Club and featuring landscapes, portraits and wildlife images, until Sun 3 Sep, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley

**Coming Home - Tim Croton** Shropshire-based photographer Tim explores the subject of industrial heritage, working in both colour and monochrome to evoke a sense of atmosphere and nostalgia, until Fri 8 Sep, The Hive, Shrewsbury

**Art of the Community Exhibition** Exhibiting forming part of a celebration to mark the Trust’s 50th anniversary, until Tues 2 Jan, Coalbrookdale Gallery, Ironbridge

**NEW H-ART** Exhibition by artist Maggie Davis, Sat 9 - Sat 16 Sep, Lingen Nursery and Garden Centre, Nr Bucknell, Shropshire

**NEW MATISSE: DRAWING WITH SCISSORS** Exhibition of 36 lithographic reproductions of the famous cut-outs produced in the last four years of Matisse’s life, when he was confined to bed. Sat 30 Sep - Sun 29 Oct, Ouseley Gallery, Oswestry

**NEW MADE IN THE MIDDLE** Recurring touring exhibition showcasing some of the Midlands’ best contemporary craft and applied art, Sat 30 Sep - Sat 22 Nov, The B rewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

**The ELO Encounter** Fri 1 Sep, The Roadhouse, Birmingham

**The Clause** Fri 1 Sep, O2 Institute, B’ham

**The Marley Experience** Fri 1 Sep, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

**Purple Rain** A live celebration of the music, life and legacy of Prince, Fri 1 Sep, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**The Cast, Pana Waves & Gunk** Fri 1 Sep, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

**The Ultimate Eagles** Fri 1 Sep, The Robin, Bilston

**This Life & the Jersey** Fri 1 Sep, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**The Red Lemons** Fri 1 - Sat 2 Sep, The Jam House, Birmingham

**The Dreamers** And Every Brothers Tribute, Sat 2 Sep, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**Alibi** Sat 2 Sep, O2 Academy, Bristol Street, Birmingham

**Spice** Sat 2 Sep, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**The 1990’s** Sat 2 Sep, The Roadhouse, Birmingham

**Mainly Madness** Sat 2 Sep, The Robin, Bilston

**Sabotage & The Sykkid Dollz** Sat 2 Sep, Route 44, B’ham

**Fallen** Sat 2 Sep, Eleven, Stoke on Trent

**A Foreigners Journey** Sun 3 Sep, The Robin, Bilston

**Beach Fossils** Sun 3 Sep, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**Funke and the Two Tone Baby** Sun 3 Sep, The Roadhouse, Cannock

**Always** Sun 3 Sep, O2 Institute, B’ham

**And Finally... Phil Collins** Sun 3 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

**Montrose, Better Days, the Overcast & Safeguard** Sun 3 Sep, The Flapper, B’ham

**Tender & Split Milk Society** Mon 4 Sep, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

**The Psychedelic Furs** Tues 5 Sep, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**The Glass Child, Emma Buckley & Esther Turner** Tues 5 Sep, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

**The Babe Rainbow** Tues 5 Sep, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**The Simon and Garfunkel Stories** Tues 5 Sep, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**Mifires** Wed 6 Sep, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**Richard Ignace the Golden Anniversary Tour** Wed 6 Sep, The Robin, Bilston

**Shuggie Otis** Thurs 7 Sep, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**Will Heard** Thurs 7 Sep, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**Micky Moody and Ali Maas Band** Thurs 7 Sep, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**The World Famous Elvis Show with Chris Connor** Thurs 7 Sep, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

**Beyond the Barricade** Thurs 7 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

**Wolverton 2017** Thurs 7 Sep, The Slade Rooms, W hampton

**Macca, the Concert** Fri 8 Sep, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**Marco Benevento and The Sultans** Fri 8 Sep, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**The Glass Child, Emma Buckley & Esther Turner** Sun 10 Sep, Eleven, Stoke on Trent

**The Birth Again Beatles** Sun 10 Sep, Lichfield Guildhall

**The Searchers in Concert** Sun 10 Sep, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

**Lowkey** Sun 10 Sep, O2 Institute, B’ham
**Classical Music**

**RUPERT MARSHALL-LUCK** Programme comprises Bach’s complete Sonatas & Partitas for Solo Violin, Sat 2 Sep, Abbey Church, Shrewsbury

**WURLITZER THEATRE ORGAN CONCERTS** Fri 8 Sep, The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury

---

**Comedy**

**JOE PASQUALE** Fri 1 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

---

**Theatre**

**DINOSAUR WORLD** A brand new, interactive show taking audiences into unchartered territories to discover a pre-historic world, until Fri 1 Sep, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**MOTHER’S RUIN: A CABARET ABOUT GIN** Hour-long theatrical cabaret featuring music originally performed by Amy Winehouse, Nina Simone, Martha Wainwright, The Popes, The Pretenders and more... until Sun 3 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**SALOME** Oscar Wilde’s lyrical drama, written in French and originally banned in England, recounts in a single act the biblical story of Herod Antipas’ daughter, Salome, until Wed 6 Sep, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**GOODNIGHT MR TOM** Staging of Michelle Magorium’s uplifting wartime tale, until Sat 9 Sep, Sutton Arts Centre, Sutton Coldfield

**MISS SAIGON** Cameron Mackintosh’s acclaimed new production of Boublil & Schönberg’s legendary musical, whose relationship spans 30 dramatic years, Tues 5 - Sat 9 Sep, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**THE WHIP HAND** Explosive new play about power, privilege, blood ties and ‘our inescapable past’... Tues 5 - Sat 9 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**DI AND VIV AND ROSE** Funny, moving and surprising story of three friends whose relationship spans 30 dramatic years, Tues 5 - Sat 9 Sep, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**THE DREAMBOYS** The UK’s top male strip show, Wed 6 Sep, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM** Shakespeare’s timeless comic tale in their distinctively anarchic style, Thurs 7 - Sat 9 Sep, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE GREAT GATSBY** Amateur staging of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s novel, which delves into a world of breathtaking glamour and decadent excess, Sat 9 - Sat 16 Sep, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**SALOMÉ** Explosive new play about power, privilege, blood ties and ‘our inescapable past’... Tues 5 - Sat 9 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**JEFFREY HOLLAND: JAY RAYNER: THE TEN (FOOD) COMMANDMENTS** Songs and stories of midlife angst alongside tales of ineptitude and encounters with some of music’s most famous names, Sun 3 Sep, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek

**MARK RADCLIFFE: SHOULD YOU BE INTERESTED** Songs and stories of middle-aged angst alongside tales of ineptitude and encounters with some of music’s most famous names, Sun 3 Sep, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek

**BACK IN TIME** Kath Reynolds presents a series of talks about people and social history, Tues 5 Sep, Middleport Pottery, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent
Wellbeing Festival
NEC Birmingham
3 - 5 November 2017

LIVE MUSIC - SPA - YOGA - MEDITATION - NUTRITION - HEALTH
150+ EXHIBITORS - 27 WORKSHOPS - 100 HOURS OF FREE CONTENT!

It's much more than a feeling, it's a way of being!

www.mindbodyspirit.co.uk

Tickets now on sale
**Film**

**INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:**

**BRIDESMAIDS** (12a) Comedy/Romance. Starring Kristen Wiig, Rose Byrne. Outdoor screening, mac, Birmingham, Fri 1 - Sat 2 Sep

**CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS: THE FIRST EPIC MOVIE** (U) Animation/Comedy. With the voices of Kevin Hart, Thomas Middleditch. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 1 Sep; Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Fri 1 - Sat 2 Sep

**THE RED TURTLE** (PG) Drama. Starring Lily Collins, Finn Wolfhard. Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Fri 8 - Thurs 14 Sep

**THE BIG SICK** (15) Comedy/Romance. Starring Kumail Nanjiani, Zoe Kazan. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 1 - Sun 3 Sep

**MAUDIE** (12a) Biography/Drama. Starring Sally Hawkins, Ethan Hawke. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 1, Mon 4 & Thurs 7 Sep

**THE LIMEHOUSE GOLEM** (15) Drama/History. Starring Ed Speleers, Mia Wasikowska. Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Fri 1 - Sun 3 Sep

**GOODS OWN COUNTRY** (15) Biography/Comedy. Starring Josh O’Connor, Alec Secareanu. Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Fri 1 - Thurs 7 Sep

**LAND OF MINE** (12) Drama/History. Starring Marthe Keller, Tilmann Haschek. Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Sat 2 - Thurs 7 Sep

**GOOD MORNING VIETNAM** (15) Biography/Comedy. Starring Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon. Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Fri 1 - Sun 3 Sep


**MAMMA MIA** (PG) Comedy/Romance. Starring Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan, Amanda Seyfried. Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Tues 5 - Wed 6 Sep

**THE LAST WORD** (15) Comedy/Drama. Starring Shirley MacLaine, Amanda Seyfried. Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Tues 5 & Thurs 7 Sep

**FEAR & LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS** (18) Adventure/Comedy. Starring Johnny Depp, Benicio Del Toro. Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Thurs 7 Sep

**FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE WITH DOCUMENTARY SCREENING** (15) Documentary/Music. Starring Fleetwood Mac. The Mockingbird Cinema, Birmingham, Fri 8 Sep

**WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT?** (PG) Animation/Adventure. Starring Bob Hoskins, Christopher Lloyd. Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Sun 10 Sep

**NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE:**

- Released from Fri 1 Sep, showing at selected cinemas
- **GOODS OWN COUNTRY** (15)
- **MOON DOGS** (15)
- **PATTI CAKES** (15)
- **STRATTON** (15)
- **THE LIMEHOUSE GOLEM** (15)
- **UNA** (15)
- **INSYRIATED** (15)
- **WIND RIVER** (15)
- **THE VAULT** (15)

**Events**

**FIRE, FURNACE & STEAM** Celebrate the power and innovation behind the Industrial Revolution with a variety of events, workshops and fun trails across the museums, until Sun 3 Sep, Blists Hill, Ironbridge

**LET’S GET SPORTY!** Race, jump and skip your way through traditional sports, until Sun 3 Sep, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**MOULD & MAKE WORKSHOPS** Discover more about how furnaces, fire and steam were used in the Industrial Revolution through a variety of hands-on activities, until Sun 3 Sep, Enginuity Museum, Ironbridge

**CERAMIC SUMMER WORKSHOPS** Get creative by using the tube lining technique to produce your very own tile to take home, until Sun 3 Sep, Coalport China Museum, Ironbridge

**MISS ELIZABETH’S BOAT TRIPS** Take a gentle cruise along the ‘Capability’ Brown-designed lake aboard the Miss Elizabeth, until Mon 4 Sep, Trentham Estate, Stoke-on-Trent

**WOLVES IN WOLVES** Discover the largest public art display ever to take place in the city, until Sun 24 Sep, Wolverhampton City Centre

**MAISY’S AMAZING MAIZE MAZE** Until Sat 30 Sep, Park Hall Farm, Oswestry

**WULL’S QUEST 2017** Travel back in time to the fifth century, where King Wulf needs help saving the Kingdom of Mercia from the tyranny of Thurst 31 Aug - Fri 1 Sep, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Hanley

**TILE DECORATING WORKSHOPS** Drop-in workshops where visitors can use the tube lining technique to decorate a tile, Fri 1 Sep, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge

**GIN FESTIVAL** Fri 1 - Sun 3 Sep, The Custard Factory, Digbeth, B’ham

**TELFORD FOOD FESTIVAL** Featuring over 100 local exhibitors showcasing the best the region has to offer, Sat 2 - Sun 3 Sep, Telford Town Park

**WORLD WAR WEEKEND** Featuring music & comedy, trade stalls, themed activities and re-enactments, Sat 2 - Sun 3 Sep, Bantock House & Park, Wolverhampton

**SPITFIRE 10K COSFORD** The Spitfire 10k returns, to help raise funds for the museum, Sun 3 Sep, RAF Cosford, Shifnal

**UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS’ BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR** Chance to explore parts of the house not usually accessible to the public, Sun 3 Sep, Weston Park, Nr Shifnal

**CLASSIC MOTOR SHOW** Featuring over 800 vehicles and trade and autojumble stands, Sun 3 Sep, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley

**SUMMER NIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL** Watch a movie beneath the stars. Films to be announced, Fri 8 Sep, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**PEAKY BLINDERS NIGHT** Step inside the murky underworld of the Peaky Blinders as you discover their dark history, Fri 8 - Sat 9 Sep, Black Country Liv- ing Museum, Dudley

**LUDLOW FOOD FESTIVAL** Award-winning foodies event featuring famous ale & sausage trails, cookery demonstrations, hands-on workshops and much more... Fri 8 - Sun 10 Sep, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**PROMS & PROSECCO IN THE PARK** Sat 9 Sep, Chetwynd Park, Newport

**TAMWORTH FOOD GUSTO FESTIVAL** A taste of something different from the region’s finest producers, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Sep, Tamworth Castle

**MIDDLE EARTH FESTIVAL** See the Victorian mill in full working order with the volunteer millers, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Sep, Sadore Mill, Hall Green, B’ham

**THE Labyrinth Challenge** The ‘world’s longest, continuous inflatable obstacle course’, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Sep, Uttoxeter Racecourse, Staffordshire

**ANTIQUE FAIR** Sun 10 Sep, Bantock House & Park, Wolverhampton

**Festivals**

**MOSELEY FOLK FESTIVAL** Line-up includes Laura Marling, Amy Macdonald, Seth Lakeman, Fairport Convention, Kate Rusby, The Magic Numbers & Jose Gonzalez, Fri 1 - Sun 3 Sep, Moseley Park, B’ham

**OFF THE TRACKS SUMMER FESTIVAL** Line-up includes Peatbog Faeries, Dub Pistols, Arthur Brown, Misty In Roots & more... Fri 1 - Sun 3 Sep, Doonington Park Farmhouse, Castle Donington, Derbyshire
SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHOW TITLE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THE RAT PACK VEGAS SPECTACULAR</td>
<td>9 SEP</td>
<td>£25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AN EVENING OF DIRTY DANCING: THE TRIBUTE SHOW</td>
<td>13 SEP</td>
<td>£22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAUL ZERDIN: ALL MOUTH</td>
<td>20 SEP</td>
<td>£19.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MR DARCY LOSES THE PLOT</td>
<td>3 - 7 OCT</td>
<td>£20 - £22.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LETTERS TO EMMA</td>
<td>10 - 16 OCT</td>
<td>£17.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAIT UNTIL DARK</td>
<td>24 OCT</td>
<td>£23.50 - £27.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIRTY DUSTING</td>
<td>10 - 14 OCT</td>
<td>£25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BLUE ORANGE THEATRE
118 Great Hampton Street, Birmingham, B18 6AD
www.blueorangetheatre.co.uk

THE SAXONS ARE COMING!

Saturday 9th &
Sunday 10th September
11am-5pm
The Raudr Vagr Saxons are setting up camp at Arley Arboretum, re-creating the lifestyle of the Anglo-Saxon people.
Come and experience life in an Anglo-Saxon camp in this impressive Living History enactment. Raudr Vagr members will be in authentic period costume, demonstrating a variety of Saxons crafts, skills and pastimes.

FREE with General Admission*

*TCs apply. Normal entry fees apply. Some events on select days only. Some features are an additional cost. Please check website for more information. BBQ, The Roger and Douglas Turner Charitable Trust. Reg No 11354687

BOX OFFICE: 01543 412 121
www.lichfieldgarrick.com
LICHFIELD GARRICK, CASTLE DYE, LICHFIELD, STAFFS, WS13 6HR

56 whatsonlive.co.uk
Monday 11 - Sunday 17 September

**Classical Music**

**CHINEKE! ORCHESTRA** Featuring Roderrick Cox (conductor) & Tai Murray (violin). Programme includes works by Coleridge-Taylor, Mendelssohn & Elgar, Sat 16 Sep, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**THOMAS BOWES PLAYS JS BACH** Programme comprises Bach Violin Solos, Sonata No1 in G minor BMV 1001, Partita No1 in B minor BMV 1002 & Sonata No3 in C major BMV 1005, Sat 16 Sep, St Giles Church, Downington on the Rock, Shropshire

**ORGAN PROMS** Sat 16 Sep, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

**Theatre**

**BLITEH SPIRIT** The Nonentities present an amateur staging of Noel Coward's supernatural comedy, Mon 11 - Sat 16 Sep, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

**THE WEDDING SINGER** Ray Quinn. Cassie Compton, Roxanne Pallett and Ruth Madoc star in a new production of the popular musical based on the hit film of the same name, Tues 12 - Sat 17 Sep, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**SON OF A PREACHER MAN** Diana Vickers, Debra Stephenson & Ian Reddington star in a touching new musical featuring the greatest hits of Dusty Springfield, Tues 12 - Sat 16 Sep, New Alexandra Theatre, B'ham

**MADE IN DAGENHAM** The Mellow Dramatics present an amateur version of the stage show based on the award-winning film of the same name, telling the story of the real-life 1986 sewing machinist strike at the Ford Factory in Dagenham, Tues 12 - Sat 16 Sep, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-on-Trent

**THE CLASS PROJECT** Rebecca Atkinson-Lord presents a show about belonging, tribes, families and 'the place you belong because you were born there', Wed 13 Sep, mac, Birmingham

**A MONK’S TALE** Historical comedy described as ‘Horrible Histories meets Monty Python’, Wed 13 Sep, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**AFTERNOON VARIETY SHOW** Featuring comedian Doug Parker and vocalist John Daniels, Thurs 14 Sep, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

**JUST SO** Staged Right Youth Theatre present a performance for younger audiences based on Rudyard Kipling’s Just So Stories, Fri 15 - Sat 16 Sep, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**THE PITMIN PAINTERS** Feelgood play based on the true story of a group of coal miners who begin evening classes with a Master of Painting from Kings College Newcastle, Fri 15 Sep - Sat 7 Oct, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**COROLIANUS** Angus Jackson directs Shakespeare’s full-throttle war play, taking audiences back to the emergence of the republic of Rome, Fri 15 Sep - Sat 14 Oct, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**DIDO, QUEEN OF CARTHAGE** Kimberley Sykes delves into Christopher Marlowe’s darkly humorous tale of politics, identity and happiness... Fri 15 Sep - Sat 28 Oct, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**CULT FIGURE: KENNETH WILLIAMS** Celebration of the late Carry On star featuring some of the most hilarious
Autumn Highlights

DANNY BHOY
Sat 30 September

PHILL JUPITUS
Sat 7 October

BARBARA NICE
Sun 8 October

STEPHEN K AMOS
Sat 4 November

LOADED
Thu 5 & Fri 6 October

PRIVATE PEACEFUL
Tue 10 - Sat 14 October

64 Zoo Lane
Wed 25 - Sun 29 October

Alice In Wonderland
Mon 20 November - Sat 30 December

@TheOldRep  TheOldRepTheatre  TheOldRepTheatre
and poignant stories and anecdotes he shared throughout his life, Sat 16 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

BEAUTY FOR ASHES Creative Mouth-piece play about a difficult mother/son relationship, Sat 16 Sep, The Old Rep, Birmingham

THE GAME’S AFOOT TRY THE FISH (AND THE MAN WITH THE TWISTED HIP) Acclaimed Edinburgh Festival show featuring Wodehousean witticisms, farce and highly quotable one-liners, Sat 16 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

HIGH SCHOOL ROCKS High-energy, interactive production featuring the very biggest hits from all the High School Musicals. School Of Rock and Glee, Sat 16 Sep, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

AN EVENING OF DIRTY DANCING Fully choreographed, highly interactive celebration of the music from the iconic movie, Wed 13 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

BRB - STUDIO TO STAGE Hour-long, in-depth introduction to the world of ballet, demystifying the language, the artistry and the practicalities of all the leaps and lifts! With ballet master Dominic Antonucci, Wed 13 - Thurs 14 Sep, Birmingham Hippodrome

NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE:
- Released from Fri 15 Sep, showing at selected cinemas

INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

DANCE

AN EVENING OF DIRTY DANCING Fully choreographed, highly interactive celebration of the music from the iconic movie, Wed 13 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

BRB - STUDIO TO STAGE Hour-long, in-depth introduction to the world of ballet, demystifying the language, the artistry and the practicalities of all the leaps and lifts! With ballet master Dominic Antonucci, Wed 13 - Thurs 14 Sep, Birmingham Hippodrome

AN EVENING OF DIRTY DANCING Fully choreographed, highly interactive celebration of the music from the iconic movie, Wed 13 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

BRB - STUDIO TO STAGE Hour-long, in-depth introduction to the world of ballet, demystifying the language, the artistry and the practicalities of all the leaps and lifts! With ballet master Dominic Antonucci, Wed 13 - Thurs 14 Sep, Birmingham Hippodrome

FILM

INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

DENT SKINNER: NATURE OF THE BEAST (tbc) Documentary/Biography. The Mockingbird Cinema, Birmingham, Mon 11 Sep

THE BIG SICK (15) Comedy/Romance. Starring Kumail Nanjiani, Zoe Kazan. Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, Mon 11 Sep

LA LA LAND (15) Comedy/Music. Starring Ryan Gosling, Emma Stone. Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire, Mon 11 Sep

KEDI (U) Documentary. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Mon 11 & Wed 13 Sep

MOONLIGHT (15) Drama. Starring Mahershala Ali, ShariffEarp. Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Tues 12 Sep

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS (U) Drama/Musical. Starring Gene Kelly, Leslie Caron. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Tues 12 Sep

THE DEATH OF LOUIS XIV (12A) Biography/Drama. Starring Jean-Pierre Leaud, Patrick d’Assumçao. Foreign language, subtitled. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Tues 12 & Thurs 14 Sep

TOMMY’S HONOUR (PG) Biography/Drama. Starring Jack Lowden, Peter Mullan. Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Tues 12 & Thurs 14 Sep


VALERIAN AND THE CITY OF A THOUSAND PLANETS (12A) Adventure/Fantasy. Starring Dane DeHaan, Cara Delevingne. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 15 Sep

DUNKIRK (12a) Drama/History. Starring Fionn Whitehead, Damien Bonnard. Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Fri 15 Sep


ADELE TRIBUTE WITH DOCUMENTARY Screening (tbc) Documentary/Music. The Mockingbird Cinema, Birmingham, Sat 16 Sep

FULL METAL JACKET (12a) Drama/War. Starring Matthew Modine, R. Lee Ermey. Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Sun 17 Sep

NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE:
- Released from Fri 15 Sep, showing at selected cinemas

AMERICAN ASSASSIN (18)

MOTHER (tbc)

THE JUNGLE BUNCH (U)

THE VILLAINESS (tbc)

VICTORIA AND ABDUL (PG)

EVENTS

WELLINGTON WALKING FESTIVAL Mon 11 - Sun 17 Sep, Various Locations Around Shropshire

THE PRE-RAPHAELITES - SEX, DRUGS AND POETRY Tongue-in-cheek evening tour with a definite adult slant. Over 18s only, Thurs 14 Sep. Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton

OPEN COCKPITS EVENING Chance to view a wide range of aircraft and enjoy after-hours access to the museum, Fri 15 Sep, RAF Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire

THE LIFE AND WORKS OF SIMON SOLOMON A detailed viewing of the exclusive collection of Solomon’s paintings, Sat 16 Sep, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton

Gin Tasting Gin masterclass including a perfectly made G&T, a talk through the history of gin and a tutored tasting of six gins from small independent producers, Sat 16 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

THE SHROPSHIRE WEDDING FAYRE Sun 17 Sep, Brook Cottage & Camping, Church Stretton

MIDLAND GAME FAIR Premier event of its kind for anyone interested in traditional country pursuits, Sat 16 - Sun 17 Sep, Weston Park, Nr Shifnal

BIRMINGHAM CRUISE SHOW Sat 16 - Sun 17 Sep, NEC, Birmingham

FOLK WORKSHOP BY SQUEEZING SHROPSHIRE Workshop for people wanting to expand their folk session repertoire and play tunes in ‘sets’, Sun 17 Sep, Various Locations Around Shropshire

THE SHROPSHIRE WEDDING FAYRE Sun 17 Sep, Brook Cottage & Camping, Church Stretton

EXTREME CHILLI FESTIVAL Live music, street performances and plenty of chilli-inspired food, drink and gifts, Fri 15 - Sat 16 Sep, Brindleyplace, Birmingham

MIDLAND GAME FAIR HOUSE PARTY PACKAGE Fri 15 - Sun 17 Sep, Weston Park, Nr Shifnal

OPEN COCKPITS EVENING Chance to view a wide range of aircraft and enjoy after-hours access to the museum, Sat 16 Sep, RAF Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire

BIG BBQ & BEER FESTIVAL Sat 16 Sep, Starworks Warehouse, W’hampton

THE LIFE AND WORKS OF SIMON SOLOMON A detailed viewing of the exclusive collection of Solomon’s paintings, Sat 16 Sep, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton

GIN TASTING Gin masterclass including a perfectly made G&T, a talk through the history of gin and a tutored tasting of six gins from small independent producers, Sat 16 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

OPEN COCKPITS EVENING Chance to view a wide range of aircraft and enjoy after-hours access to the museum, Fri 15 Sep, RAF Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire

THE LIFE AND WORKS OF SIMON SOLOMON A detailed viewing of the exclusive collection of Solomon’s paintings, Sat 16 Sep, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton

GIN TASTING Gin masterclass including a perfectly made G&T, a talk through the history of gin and a tutored tasting of six gins from small independent producers, Sat 16 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

OPEN COCKPITS EVENING Chance to view a wide range of aircraft and enjoy after-hours access to the museum, Fri 15 Sep, RAF Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire

THE LIFE AND WORKS OF SIMON SOLOMON A detailed viewing of the exclusive collection of Solomon’s paintings, Sat 16 Sep, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton

GIN TASTING Gin masterclass including a perfectly made G&T, a talk through the history of gin and a tutored tasting of six gins from small independent producers, Sat 16 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham
**What’s on…**

**Friday 15th September, 7.30pm**

**GENESIS CONNECTED**

**Friday 22nd September, 7.30pm**

**BEE GEES FEVER**

**Saturday 23rd September, 2.00pm**

**BIG HOWARD’S LOL-TASTIC YUKFEST**

**Tuesday 3rd October 7.30pm**

**THE STARS OF IRISH COUNTRY SHOW**

**Saturday 7th October 7.30pm**

**SUPREME QUEEN**

**Friday 13th October, 7.30pm,**

**LET’S HANG ON**

**Saturday 14th October, 7.30pm**

**THE ROY ORBISON STORY**

**Thursday 26th October, 11am & 2pm**

**THE CHRIS & PUI SHOW**

**Friday 27th October, 7.30pm**

**THE UPBEAT BEATLES**

**FRI 1 SEPT 7PM**

**JOE SEAGAR**

**SAT 2 SEPT 7PM**

**HANNAH & BRIAN**

**SAT 9 SEPT 7PM**

**CHRIS QUINN**

**FRI 15 SEPT 7PM**

**ANDY MILLS**

**SAT 16 SEPT 7PM**

**DAN PAGE**

**FRI 22 SEPT 7PM**

**CAMERON FORREST**

**SAT 23 SEPT 7PM**

**DAVE BUSBY**

**SAT 29 SEPT 7PM**

**ANDY O’BRIEN**

**SAT 30 SEPT 7PM**

**JOE SEAGAR**

**Box office:** 01283 508100

**BOOK ONLINE AT**

www.brewhouse.co.uk

Brewhouse Arts Centre
Union Street, Burton-upon-Trent
Staffordshire DE14 1AA

**COMING SOON…**

12th - 16th Sept, 7.30pm

Made in Dagenham

Tickets: £12, £10

21st Sept, 7.30pm

Viva Neil Diamond

Tickets: £15

29th Sept, 8pm

Apple Of My Eye

Tickets: £12, £10 adv

30th Sept - 25th Nov

Made in the Middle: Contemporary Craft from the Midlands

Exhibition Opening Night

30th Sept, 7pm Free

6th Oct, 8pm

Rich Hall’s Hoedown

Tickets: £17

11th Oct, 7pm

Cat Weatherill

The King of Denmark’s Son & other tales

Tickets: £8, £6 adv

14th Oct, 12pm

Apple Of My Eye

Tickets: £5

16th Oct, 12pm

GEM Recitals

English Folk Songs

Tickets: £5

19th Oct, 8pm

Phil Jupitus: Juplicity

Tickets: £15

26th Oct, 4pm

Pangotic Circus Theatre: Ping On!

Tickets: £6, £20 (family of 4)

29th Sept, 8pm

Phil Jupitus: Juplicity

Tickets: £15

14th Oct, 12pm

GEM Recitals

English Folk Songs

Tickets: £5
Monday 18 - Sunday 24 September

The list

Classical Music

RHYSIAN, RICHARD AND ADAM Wed 20 Sep, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Shropshire
CBSO: HAYDN THE CREATION Featuring Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla (conductor), Lydia Teuscher (soprano), Thomas Hobbs (tenor), Matthew Brook (bass) & the CBSO Chorus, Thurs 21- 23 Sep, Symphony Hall, Birmingham
PORPORÀ'S L'AGRIPPINA Nicola Porpora’s 1706 opera is here revived for the first time since its premiere. The production features Daisy Evans & Andrew Kirkman (directors) & the Baroque Orchestra - Musical & Amicable Society, Thurs 21 - Sun 24 Sep, The Barber Institute, Birmingham
THE MULTI-STORY ORCHESTRA - BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH Featuring Christopher Stark (conductor), Fri 22 - Sat 23 Sep, No, Car Park, Level 1, Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham (part of Birmingham Weekender).
LA LA LAND LIVE IN CONCERT Sun 24 Sep, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

Comedy

TOADALLY FREE COMEDY! Mon 18 Sep, The Blue Orange Theatre, B’ham
PAUL ZERDIN Wed 20 Sep, Lichfield Garrick
TOM STADE Wed 20 Sep, The Glee Club, Birmingham
CARLY SMALLMAN, SIMON LOMAS & ANDY WHITE Thurs 21 Sep, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham
ROBERT NEWMAN Fri 22 Sep, mac, Birmingham
BARBARA NICE Fri 22 Sep, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
MARK NELSON, KEVIN MCCARTHY, GEORGE EGG & CAREY MARX Fri 22 Sep, The Glee Club, Birmingham
RHYS JAMES, STEPHEN GRANT FEATURING TUDOR OWEN & COMIC TBC (FRI), TUDOR OWEN & JEFF INNOCENT (SAT) Fri 22 - Sat 23 Sep, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham
DANNY DEEGAN, OLA Sat 23 Sep, Jongoers Comedy Club, Birmingham
COMEDY IN THE MET Sat 23 Sep, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
ROPFI COMEDY CLUB Sat 23 Sep, The Old Post Office, Burton-on-Trent
JON RICHARDSON Sun 24 Sep, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

Mozart vs Machine A high-octane mash-up of Mozart opera, electronic sound and video, bringing some of history’s most iconic artists together in a theatrical sci-fi-gameshow encounter, Tues 19 Sep, mac, B’ham
DAD’S ARMY: A VARIETY SHOW SPECIAL A salute to the 1940s, recreating in sound and vision the stars who kept the nation entertained during WWII... Tues 19 Sep, Dudley Town Hall

Frankenstein 1899 Reworking of Mary Shelley’s Gothic tale, Tues 19 Sep, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
A PANDEMONIUM OF POE Evening of eerie entertainment featuring an original theatrical anthology of a selection of Edgar Allan Poe’s ‘finest feats of fear-f fuelled fiction’, Wed 20 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

PAUL ZERDIN: ALL MOUTH Brand new show featuring the ventriloquist’s army of (in)famous puppets, Wed 20 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

Edith in the Dark A retelling of the ghost stories of Edith Nesbit, author of The Railway Children, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Sep, The Little Theatre, Donnington, Telford

A DANGEROUS WOMAN Brand new show telling the story of one woman’s struggle to carve her own path in a family of six females, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Sep, The REP, B’ham

Your Bard One-man show, written and performed by Nicholas Collett, in which Shakespeare reveals all about his family, touring and his glory days at the Globe, Fri 22 Sep, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

Gigs

AS LIONS Mon 18 Sep, The Flapper, B’ham
MOZART VS MACHINE Tues 19 Sep, mac, Birmingham
OMNI Tues 19 Sep, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
RAINBOW GIRLS Tues 19 Sep, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham
KIRAN LEONARD Tues 19 Sep, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton
HENRIK FREISCHLADER Wed 20 Sep, The Robin, Bilston
RYAN MCMULLAN Wed 20 Sep, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
STACEY KENT Wed 20 Sep, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme
VOODOO SIX Wed 20 Sep, The Slade Rooms, W’hampton
MIRANDA STYKES Wed 20 Sep, The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham
JOHN LEGEND Wed 20 Sep, Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham
MASHMATIKS & YOUTH KILLED IT Wed 20 Sep, The Flapper, B’ham
VEGA Thurs 21 Sep, The Robin, Bilston
VIVA NEIL DIAMOND Thurs 21 Sep, The Breviwose Arts Centre, Burton-on-Trent
BABY STRANGE Thurs 21 Sep, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham
SIDHAN WILSON & ALICE DILLON Thurs 21 Sep, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham
BUSH Fri 22 Sep, O2 Institute, Birmingham
TURNER Fri 22 Sep, O2 Institute, Birmingham
JIVE TALKIN’ Fri 22 Sep, Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire
MACHINE GUN KELLY Fri 22 Sep, O2 Academy, Birmingham
ANDREW NEILL Fri 22 Sep, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
UK BJORN Fri 22 Sep, Eleven, Sandyford, Stoke on Trent
ARRIVAL - THE HITS OF ABAH Fri 22 Sep, Lichfield Garrick
BIG COUNTRY Fri 22 Sep, The Robin, Bilston
BEE GEES FEVER Fri 22 Sep, The Place, Oakengates Telford, Shropshire
MIKE SKINNER & MURKAGE PRESENT TONGA Fri 22 Sep, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
THE REEL HOT CELTICH PEPPERS Fri 22 Sep, Lichfield Guildhall
DEBORAH BONHAM Fri 22 Sep, The Slade Rooms, W’hampton
MIKE SKINNER & MURKAGE PRESENT TONGA Fri 22 Sep, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

Whatsonlive.co.uk 61
BIRMINGHAM IS FUNNY: ROB KEMP IN THE ELVIS DEAD Cult classic horror movie Evil Dead 2 reinterpreted through the songs of Elvis, Fri 22 Sep, mac, Birmingham

A TIGER IN THE JUNGLE Theatrical experience fusing circus, ceremony and spoken word... Fri 22 - Sat 23 Sep, The REP, Birmingham

DUET FOR ONE Intensely moving look at what happens when unexpected events lead people to revalue their lives. Jemma Redgrave and Oliver Cotton star in this revival of Tom Kempinski's award-winning play. Fri 22 Sep - Sat 7 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

MR Darcy LOSES THE PLOT Jane Austen is busy dreaming up Darcy - a proud, lip-curling, handsome creation in very tight pants... Sat 23 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

STADIUM: THE MOVIE Free, live capture of The REP's recent production, Stadium, in which the thrill of football is told through the drama of theatre, Sat 23 Sep, Electric Cinema, Birmingham

BIG HOWARD'S LOL-TASTIC YUKFEST Featuring stand-up, interactive digital animation, sound effects, jokes and nonsense for younger audiences, Sat 23 Sep, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

FIRST STAGES: NO KIDDING atre, Telford

STADIUM: THE MOVIE Free, live capture of The REP's recent production, Stadium, in which the thrill of football is told through the drama of theatre, Sat 23 Sep, Electric Cinema, Birmingham

BORG VS MCENROE (tbc)

AN EXPERIENCE WITH ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER Thurs 21 Sep, Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel, Birmingham

***THE CYCLE SHOW*** The UK's largest cycling exhibition with the very latest bikes & accessories under one roof, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, NEC, Birmingham

A PLACE IN THE SUN LIVE Featuring over 150 exhibitors from all over the world, this exhibition of the Channel4 TV show of the same name offers plenty of inspiration to help guide you through the buying process and finding your ideal property abroad, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, NEC, Birmingham

BOWMAN ANTIQUES Featuring up to 400 stalls, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, Staffordshire County Showground

BIRMINGHAM WEEKENDER Birmingham's biggest arts festival. See pages 32 - 39 for more details, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, Various locations throughout Birmingham

BOWMAN ANTIQUES 15,000 cyclists will line up to start their unforgettable 100 mile route on completely closed roads, taking them through the picturesque Worcestershire and Herefordshire countryside before returning to Birmingham, Sun 23 Sep, starting from Birmingham City Centre

TRUCKING LIVE SHROPSHIRE Featuring a line-up of main arena entertainment that includes appearances by quad-bike-riding stuntman the Kangaroo Kid, Sat 23 - Sun 24 Sep, Oswestry Showground

WOLVERHAMPTON VINTAGE KILO SALE Sun 24 Sep, Starworks Warehouse, Wolverhampton

THE CYCLE SHOW The UK’s largest cycling exhibition with the very latest bikes & accessories under one roof, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, NEC, Birmingham

A PLACE IN THE SUN LIVE Featuring over 150 exhibitors from all over the world, this exhibition of the Channel4 TV show of the same name offers plenty of inspiration to help guide you through the buying process and finding your ideal property abroad, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, NEC, Birmingham

BOWMAN ANTIQUES Featuring up to 400 stalls, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, Staffordshire County Showground

BIRMINGHAM WEEKENDER Birmingham’s biggest arts festival. See pages 32 - 39 for more details, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, Various locations throughout Birmingham

BOWMAN ANTIQUES 15,000 cyclists will line up to start their unforgettable 100 mile route on completely closed roads, taking them through the picturesque Worcestershire and Herefordshire countryside before returning to Birmingham, Sun 23 Sep, starting from Birmingham City Centre

TRUCKING LIVE SHROPSHIRE Featuring a line-up of main arena entertainment that includes appearances by quad-bike-riding stuntman the Kangaroo Kid, Sat 23 - Sun 24 Sep, Oswestry Showground

WOLVERHAMPTON VINTAGE KILO SALE Sun 24 Sep, Starworks Warehouse, Wolverhampton

Sun 24 Sep, Starworks Warehouse, Wolverhampton

THE CYCLE SHOW The UK’s largest cycling exhibition with the very latest bikes & accessories under one roof, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, NEC, Birmingham

A PLACE IN THE SUN LIVE Featuring over 150 exhibitors from all over the world, this exhibition of the Channel4 TV show of the same name offers plenty of inspiration to help guide you through the buying process and finding your ideal property abroad, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, NEC, Birmingham

BOWMAN ANTIQUES Featuring up to 400 stalls, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, Staffordshire County Showground

BIRMINGHAM WEEKENDER Birmingham’s biggest arts festival. See pages 32 - 39 for more details, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Sep, Various locations throughout Birmingham

BOWMAN ANTIQUES 15,000 cyclists will line up to start their unforgettable 100 mile route on completely closed roads, taking them through the picturesque Worcestershire and Herefordshire countryside before returning to Birmingham, Sun 23 Sep, starting from Birmingham City Centre

TRUCKING LIVE SHROPSHIRE Featuring a line-up of main arena entertainment that includes appearances by quad-bike-riding stuntman the Kangaroo Kid, Sat 23 - Sun 24 Sep, Oswestry Showground

WOLVERHAMPTON VINTAGE KILO SALE Sun 24 Sep, Starworks Warehouse, Wolverhampton
Daksha Sheth Dance Company Presents:

SARI

Sat 23 - Sun 24 September / 8pm & 3pm

mac
Midlands Arts Centre

macbirmingham.co.uk
0121 533 4554
Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9SH
Registered Company no. 7183481 Registered Charity no. 528979

In Partnership with Teamwork Arts, The British Council and Sampad

NEW VIC

The Pitmen Painters
By Lee Hall
Directed by Gwenda Hughes

Fri 15 September - Sat 7 October

Box Office 01782 717962 newvictheatre.org.uk

64 whatsonlive.co.uk
**Monday 25 - Saturday 30 September**

**Classical Music**

**LUNCHEON ORGAN CONCERT WITH THOMAS TROTTER** Programme includes works by T. Susato (arr. Trotter), Locklair, CPE Bach, Mendelssohn & Stanford, Mon 25 Sep, Birmingham Town Hall

**A BLACK COUNTRY NIGHT OUT** Revisit the songs and the story of forces sweetheart Vera Lynn, the vocalist who stole the hearts of the nation in wartime Britain, Thurs 28 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre

**THE CARPENTERS STORY** Featuring the music of the iconic 70s band, Fri 29 Sep, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**AMERICAN SONGBOOK: SINCERELY YOURS: THE VERA LYNN STORY** Featuring some of the most hilarious and poignant stories and anecdotes he shared throughout his life, Thurs 28 Sep, Cloth Club, Birmingham

**THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR** Presented by a local amateur group, Thu 27 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

**ROB BRYDON** Thurs 28 Sep, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**TOM ALLEN** Fri 29 Sep, Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire

**MILTON JONES** Fri 29 Sep, Dudley Town Hall

**JONNY AWSUM, IMRAN YUSUF, CARL HUTCHINSON & PAUL TAYLOR** Fri 29 Sep, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**JOE BROWN, DADAI CHANDRA, ROBERT WHITE & FUNMMI OMOYATO** Fri 29 - Sat 30 Sep, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

**DANNY BOY** Sat 30 Sep, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**JONNY AWSUM, IMRAN YUSUF, CARL HUTCHINSON & PAUL TAYLOR** Sat 30 Sep, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**JOJO SUTHERLAND, KEVIN GILEDA, DAVID LONGLEY** Sat 30 Sep, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**ROFLI COMEDY CLUB** Sat 30 Sep, The Old Post Office, Burton-on-Trent

**FLASHDANCE** Strictly champion Joan Clifton and Alfie Deyes star in a new staging of the much-acclaimed musical, Mon 25 - Sat 30 Sep, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**MAN TO MAN** Manfred Karge’s story of Ella, a woman forced to adopt the identity of her dead husband in order to survive in Nazi Germany, Tues 26 - Sat 30 Sep, The REP, Birmingham

**ROCK OF AGES** Lichfield Garrick Youth Theatre present an amateur staging of the hilarious musical featuring songs from the 1980s, Tues 26 - Sat 30 Sep, Lichfield Garrick

**CULT FIGURE** KENNETH WILLIAMS Celebrate of the late Carry On star featuring some of the most hilarious and poignant stories and anecdotes he shared throughout his life, Tues 26 - Wed 27 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**SINCERELY YOURS: THE VERA LYNN STORY** Revisit the songs and the story of forces sweetheart Vera Lynn, the vocalist who stole the hearts of the nation in wartime Britain, Thurs 28 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**GRATIANO Quo** To The Merchant Of Venice exploring the politics of prejudice in the 20th century, Fri 29 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**ABSORDLY FABULOUS** The Improvised Episode Feature-length show inspired by the hit ‘90s sitcom, Fri 29 Sep, mac, Birmingham

**A BLACK COUNTRY NIGHT OUT** Music, mirth and merriment with comedy legend Ian ‘Sludge’ Lees, raconteur, musician & comedian Bev Pegg and

---

**Gigs**

**MR JUKES** Mon 25 Sep, O2 Institute, B’ham

**STACIE COLLINS** Mon 25 Sep, The Robin, Bilston

**MICAH HINSON AND THE HOLY STRANGERS** Mon 25 Sep, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**DIPPER MALKIN** Mon 25 Sep, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

**DR JOHN COOPER CLARKE** Mon 25 Sep, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**LUCY SPRAGGAN** Mon 25 Sep, The Sugarmail, Stoke-on-Trent

**WALSALL JAZZ ORCHESTRA** Mon 25 Sep, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

**THE BLACK ANGELS** Tues 26 Sep, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**FREDDO** Tues 26 Sep, O2 Institute, B’ham

**THE BREW** Tues 26 Sep, The Robin, Bilston

**SUZANNE VEGA** Tues 26 Sep, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**AQUILO** Tues 26 Sep, O2 Academy, B’ham

**A LEGEND OF WALES** Wed 27 Sep, mac, Birmingham

**LIVING COLOUR** Wed 27 Sep, Robin, Bilston

**TOM HICKOX** Wed 27 Sep, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**4SQUARE** Wed 27 Sep, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

---

**the list**

---

**FLYTE** Wed 27 Sep, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**WALEBONE** Fri 29 Sep, The Edge, Birmingham

**BAY CITY ROLLERS STARRING LES MCKEOWN** Fri 29 Sep, William Aston Hall, Wrexham

**SOULED OUT 2 FUNK** Fri 29 Sep, The Roadhouse, Birmingham

**PETER AND THE TEST TUBE BABIES** Fri 29 Sep, Eleven, Sandyford, Stoke on Trent

**APPLE OF MY EYE** Fri 29 Sep, Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

**FOOSIGHTERS** Sat 30 Sep, Eleven, Sandyford, Stoke on Trent

**ALL THEM WITCHES** Sat 30 Sep, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**DJ SHADOW** Sat 30 Sep, O2 Institute, B’ham

**THE CARPENTERS STORY** Sat 30 Sep, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**JOHN OWYAN & THE BIG BAND** Sat 30 Sep, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**WITHOUT GRACE** Sat 30 Sep, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**JACQUES MCEHEE’S PEN-TANGLE** Sat 30 Sep, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Shrewsbury

**THE AUSTRALIAN PINK FLOYD SHOW** Sat 30 Sep, Barcadaycard Arena, Birmingham

**WORLD LOTTA DC** Sat 30 Sep, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

**MEADOWLARK, SHANNON ST CLARE & AMY LOUISE ELLIS** Sat 30 Sep, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

**ACOUSTICA FESTIVAL 2017** Sat 30 Sep, The Robin, Bilston

**LUKE DANIELS** Sat 30 Sep, mac, Birmingham

**NEW FOUND GLORY** Sat 30 Sep, O2 Academy, Bristol Street, B’ham

**CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIEW** Sat 30 Sep, The Roadhouse, B’ham

**LITTLE BARRIE** Sat 30 Sep, The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

---

**whatsonlive.co.uk 65**
emerging vocalist Jess Silk, Fri 29 Sep, Theatre On The Steps, Bridgnorth, South Shropshire

I KNEW YOU Lorna Laidlaw (Doctors) stars in the highly anticipated second play from Birmingham-born writer and performer, Steven Camden, aka Polarbear, Fri 29 Sep - Sat 7 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

SKYLIGHT David Hare’s witty, poignant and deeply political play sees a struggling but committed schoolteacher in London’s East End being unexpectedly visited in her cold and shabby flat by two figures from her past, Sat 30 Sep - Sat 7 Oct, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

JOHN CHALLIS: ONLY Fools & BOYCE An intimate evening with one of the nation’s favourite comedy actors, Sat 30 Sep, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

NOCTURNES Imitating The Dog put a multimedia twist on a 1950s Cold War spy thriller, Sat 30 Sep, mac, Birmingham

THAT’LL BE THE DAY Sat 30 Sep, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

MR DARWIN’S TREE Riding Lights Theatre Company present a one-man play about Charles Darwin, Sat 30 Sep, Alington Hall, Shrewsbury School

Dance

GROOVE ON DOWN THE ROAD Leading UK hip-hop dance company ZooNation present a new adaptation of their critically acclaimed production, Wed 27 - Fri 29 Sep, Birmingham Hippodrome

BRB: PENGUIN CAFE MIXED PROGRAMME Birmingham Royal Ballet present a triple bill of works featuring joyous dancing, ragtime music and animals sheltering from a storm, Wed 27 - Sat 30 Sep, Birmingham Hippodrome

OUTLANDS 2Faced Dance present a triple bill of contemporary work by India and the UK’s ‘most up-and-coming female choreographers’, Fri 29 Sep, mac, Birmingham

THE NUTCRACKER SUITE & BALLET ETUDES English Youth Ballet present a double bill of classics, Fri 29 - Sat 30 Sep, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

Talks

DR JOHN COOPER CLARKE Mix of classic verse, new material, ponderings on modern life, gags, riffs and chat, Mon 25 Sep, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

MARTIN HUGHES - GAMES & IOLO WILLIAMS Informative and amusing ‘wildlife show packed with ‘fascinating facts and fun’, Wed 27 Sep, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

ZDEN K VALKOUN-WALKER An afternoon with the BBC Radio Gardening Show expert, who’ll be talking about all things spicy, Sat 30 Sep, Festival Theatre, Market Drayton, Shropshire

FLICKERING STORIES: THE ART OF STORYTELLING & CINEMA Traditional storyteller Maria Whatton explores how the ancient art of storytelling ‘has settled in modern life, gags, riffs and chat, Fri 29 Sep, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

VICEROY’S HOUSE (PG) Biography/Drama. Starring Gillian Anderson, Michael Gambon, Hugh Bonneville, Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire, Mon 25 Sep

A GHOST STORY (12a) Drama/Fantasy. Starring Casey Affleck, Rooney Mara. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Mon 25 Sep

ELLE (12a) Drama/Thriller. Starring Isabelle Huppert, Laurent Lafitte. Foreign language, subtitled. Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Tues 26 Sep

AN INCONVENIENT SEQUEL: TRUTH TO POWER (PG) Documentary. Starring Ai Gore, Hilary Ashford-Ng. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Tued 26 - Wed 27 Sep

THE ODYSSEY (PG) Adventure/Biography. Starring Lambert Wilson, Pierre Niney. Foreign language, subtitled. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Tues 26 - Thurs 28 Sep

HOWARDS END (PG) Drama/Romance. Starring Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson. Wern Town Hall, North Shropshire, Tues 26 & Thurs 28 Sep


THE DARK TOWER (12A) Adventure. Starring Idris Elba, Matthew McConaughey. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 29 Sep


PHOENIX NIGHTS APPRECIATION NIGHT (1b) Comedy. Starring Peter Kay, Dave Spikey. The Mockingbird Cinema, Birmingham, Sat 30 Sep

NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE: Released from Fri 29 Sep, showing at selected cinemas

GOODBYE CHRISTOPHER ROBIN (PG) FLATLINERS (Ibc)

Events

1940S SUPPER & SONG EVENING First in a series of nostalgic music hall evenings, Fri 29 Sep, Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire

THE NATIONAL WEDDING SHOW The ultimate event to get you started with your wedding planning, from bridal boutiques & florists to jewellers & photographers... Fri 29 Sep - Sun 1 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

WARTIME HANGAR DANCE Dance the night away in the company of Paul Drakeley and his All Stars Band. Guests are encouraged to don wartime costumes for the evening, Sat 30 Sep, RAF Cosford, Shifnal

GIN TASTING Gin masterclass including a perfectly made G&T, a talk through the history of gin and a tutored tasting of six gins from small independent producers, Sat 30 Sep, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

GINGER AND SPICE FESTIVAL Food festival celebrating the heritage of ginger & spice in Market Drayton, Sat 30 Sep - Sun 1 Oct, various venues, Market Drayton, North Shropshire
WEST MIDLANDS VEGAN FESTIVAL
28th & 29th October 2017
10am-6pm
Wolves Civic & Art Gallery
Wolverhampton WV1 1RQ

150+ stalls and caterers | Talks and workshops | Cookery demos
Live entertainment | Vegan bar | Kids activities | Alternative therapy

ENTRY ONLY £1 Under 8s FREE

For further info, stall bookings etc. info@vegemidlands.org.uk | 01527 418395

A Great Family Day Out

EVERYONE'S WELCOME AT THE
WHITTINGTON COUNTRY
AND CRAFT FAIR

BIT END FIELD, WHITTINGTON, WS14 5LD
SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER
10.00AM - 4.30PM

COME AND ENJOY: JET AVERY'S STUNT SHOW, SHETLAND PONIES, CHAIN SAW CARVING
AND RICHARD WINTERTON'S ANTIQUES SALES

as well as old favourites: Climbing Wall, Punch and Judy,
the Dog and Duck Show, a huge Craft Tent and Local Food Market, vintage cars,
tractor rides, dog shows and so much more. Plus many new Demonstrators, huge Craft Tent
and Local Food Market, flower, cake and produce competitions, and over 50 Classic cars.

Family Ticket (2 adults + 2 Children) £12, Adults £5, Concessions £3
FREE PARKING

Shropshire Oktoberfest
THE BIGGEST PUB IN THE PARK
QUARRY PARK, SHREWSBURY
FRI 6 - SUN 8 OCTOBER
www.shropshireoktoberfest.co.uk

150 REAL ALES | LIVE MUSIC | COMEDY CLUB | GIN DEN | BAR GAMES | LAGER BAR | RUM SHACK | MASTERCLASSES & TASTINGS | PROSECCO PARLOUR
Discover Birmingham Museums

Birmingham has the best museum collection of any city in England, all housed in nine wonderful locations. Beautiful, scientifically important, exotic, humdrum, quirky or bizarre, they all have one thing in common — they tell stories about Birmingham.

Thinktank, Birmingham Science Museum
Explore the Planetarium, outdoor Science Garden and NEW Spitfire Gallery.

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery FREE ENTRY
From Renaissance masterpieces, to the largest find of Anglo-Saxon gold ever discovered - the Staffordshire Hoard; uncover fascinating glimpses into Birmingham’s vibrant past.

Sarehole Mill
One of the only two surviving watermills in Birmingham. Discover the idyllic childhood haunt of J.R.R. Tolkien.

Soho House
Elegant Georgian home of industrialist Matthew Boulton, and meeting place of the Lunar Society.

Blakesley Hall
Visit one of Birmingham’s finest timber-framed Tudor houses.

Aston Hall
Experience the splendour of this magnificent 17th-Century Jacobean mansion and relive its role in the English Civil War.

Museum of the Jewellery Quarter
Step back in time to a perfectly preserved jewellery workshop.

Every treasure tells a story

birminghammuseums.org.uk

Funded by

Birmingham City Council
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
Lotto Fund
Millennium Point
Birmingham Museums