

ISSUE 412 APRIL 2020

# What's On

FILM | COMEDY | THEATRE | GIGS | VISUAL ARTS | EVENTS | FOOD [shropshirewhatson.co.uk](http://shropshirewhatson.co.uk)







BIRMINGHAM  
ROYAL BALLET



BIRMINGHAM  
HIPPODROME

SIR PETER WRIGHT'S

# THE NUTCRACKER

30TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Media partner

**The Telegraph**

CHOREOGRAPHY **PETER WRIGHT,**  
**LEV IVANOV & VINCENT REDMON**  
MUSIC **PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY**  
DESIGNS **JOHN F. MACFARLANE**  
LIGHTING **DAVID A. FINN**  
LIVE MUSIC **ROYAL BALLET SINFONIA**

**20 NOV – 12 DEC**  
[brb.org.uk/nutcracker](http://brb.org.uk/nutcracker)



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



# WHAT'S ON MEDIA GROUP COVID-19 STATEMENT

The last few days have seen unprecedented measures being taken by the government in a bid to curtail the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Theatres, music venues, arts centres, museums, libraries, restaurants etc have all closed their doors to the general public for the time being.

Different venues are projecting different time scales for the closures, with further announcements being made daily. Some have announced that they're hoping to re-open at the end of April. At the time of its publication, all information contained within our April issue was correct to the best of our knowledge.

For the foreseeable future, we will use our social media channels to update our readers on further announcements, rescheduled dates and news of any forthcoming shows or events.

This is an extremely difficult time for everyone, including those working in the arts and event management, many of whom are self-employed. We're all in this together, and once this is over we hope we can once again come together to support the fantastic arts & entertainment offer that we have here in the UK.

In the meantime, physical and mental wellbeing takes top priority - so stay safe, be kind and keep your distance.

*Best wishes from the What's On team x*

Extend

Improve

Renovate

Self-Build



# Homebuilding & Renovating Show

9 -12 July 2020  
NEC, Birmingham

OFFICIAL SPONSOR



## SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 Theatres - Home Improvement, Masterclass and Self-Build
- 500+ Exhibitors
- The Advice Centre
- The Land Hub
- The Magazine Stand
- Tricks of the Trade Stage

For more information visit

[homebuildingshow.co.uk/national](http://homebuildingshow.co.uk/national)



Celebrating 30 years helping 10,000s of people like you create their dream home.

To get **2 FOR 1 TICKETS** to the National Homebuilding & Renovating Show, saving you £18\* visit **[homebuildingshow.co.uk/nectickets](http://homebuildingshow.co.uk/nectickets)** or call **0844 854 0503\*\*** and enter code **MIDLANDS**

\*Offer expires 3pm 25 March 2020. Saving based on one day door price ticket. A £1.75 transaction fee applies. Children 16 and under go free. \*\*Calls cost 7p per minute plus network extras.





**The Kite Runner...** Khaled Hosseini's best selling novel brought to life at the Grand - feature page 8

## Calan



breathing new life into old traditions at Newhampton Arts  
page 17

## Tom Rosenthal



talks about Manhood at Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
feature page 20

## Some Mothers...



Joe Pasquale makes a return as accident-prone Frank Spencer  
page 26

## the list



Your 16-page week-by-week listings guide  
page 43

## inside:

4. First Word

11. Food

17. Gigs

20. Comedy

24. Theatre

32. Film

34. Visual Arts

37. Events



@whatsonwolverhampton  
Wolverhampton What's On

@staffordshirewhatson  
Staffordshire What's On

@whatsonshropshire  
Shropshire What's On

**What's On**

MEDIA GROUP



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  
Editorial: **Lauren Foster** lauren@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281707 **Brian O'Faolain** brian@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281701  
**Abi Whitehouse** abi@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281716 **Lauren Cole** lauren.cole@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281733  
Subscriptions: **Adrian Parker** adrian.parker@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281714  
Contributors: Graham Bostock, James Cameron-Wilson, Katherine Ewing, Jenny Ell, Nanci Davies, Patsy Moss, Sue Jones  
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 this 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.





## New date for popular home renovating show

The National Homebuilding & Renovating Show, which, along with vast numbers of other events, has been postponed due to the coronavirus outbreak, has been rescheduled for July.

Commenting on the news, Nick Noble, commercial & events director for the show's organisers, Future plc, said: "We plan to hold the event in four months' time when we believe the situation in the UK will be much clearer and we can continue to maximise the opportunities and investment made by all our exhibitors. We would like to thank everyone for their support at this time and will continue to update the market over the next few weeks."

## Classic Ibiza event raising funds at Weston Park



An event featuring some of dance music's most iconic tracks - performed live in the grounds of Weston Park - will this year lend its support to a local charity that helps Staffordshire children who have life-limiting illnesses.

Taking place on Saturday 18 July, Classic Ibiza will be raising funds for the Donna Louise Hospice For Children & Young People. For more information about the event and how you can contribute to raising cash for a good cause, visit [classicibiza.co.uk](http://classicibiza.co.uk)

## Snow White to visit Stafford this Christmas

Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs will be visiting Stafford Gatehouse Theatre this Christmas.

The venue's festive-season show will see the evil queen's stepdaughter hiding out in the woods with her vertically challenged pals from 11 December to 3 January. Prime

Pantomimes, the dedicated panto production company presenting the show, promise an 'extravaganza' that's 'bursting at the seams with audience participation, lavish sets, spectacular choreography, and a host of groan-worthy jokes and routines'. Tickets for the show are now on sale at [staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk](http://staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk)

## Sir Matthew Bourne's Nutcracker! back in Brum

Star choreographer Matthew Bourne is bringing hit ballet Nutcracker! to Birmingham Hippodrome next year. Making a welcome return nine years after it last toured, the show stops off in the second city from Tuesday 9 to Saturday 13 February. Influenced by the lavish Hollywood musicals of the 1930s, Nutcracker! follows Clara's bittersweet journey to the candy kingdom of Sweetieland and features Tchaikovsky's critically acclaimed score. To book tickets, visit [birminghamhippodrome.com](http://birminghamhippodrome.com)



## Comic Con rescheduled

MCM Comic Con Birmingham has been rescheduled due to the coronavirus outbreak. The show will now take place at the NEC across the weekend of 27 & 28 June.

A spokesperson for the event said: "To all our fans, your tickets will be valid for the new MCM Comic Con Birmingham dates and no further action is needed on your part. More information on our guest line-up in June will be communicated as soon as we have it."

## A Beauty of a show for the festive season

A 'spectacular' retelling of Beauty And The Beast will take centre-stage at the New Vic Theatre in Newcastle-under-Lyme this Christmas. The venue's Artistic Director, Theresa Heskins, will return to the original version of the popular fairytale for her adaptation.

"Bringing new life to these classic stories is absolutely what we're about at the New Vic," says Theresa. "I enjoyed discovering the original version of Beauty And The Beast to create this new version for our in-the-round stage. It's a story about kindness, about love, about not judging people based on outward appearances - themes that feel apt for this time. And it's about magic, which is exciting to me as a director."

Beauty And The Beast runs from Saturday 21 November to Saturday 30 January.

For more details and to book seats, visit [newvictheatre.org.uk](http://newvictheatre.org.uk)



## Gareth Gates Footloose in Stoke-on-Trent!

Pop Idol star Gareth Gates will head the cast of Footloose The Musical when the hit show tours to the Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, from Monday 9 to Saturday 14 November. Commenting on taking the role of Willard in the show, Gareth said: "I was born in 1984, the year Footloose the movie was first released. I used to watch the film lots as a kid, not knowing that some years later I'd be playing the 'cowboy who can't dance' on stages up and down the country. I'm a terrible dancer, so it's pretty much a case of life imitating art!"



## Shropshire's first ever dog park...

Shropshire's first ever indoor dog park has opened in the town of Whitchurch. The idea of The Dogz Squad is to allow dogs 'to exercise their brains and explore new things'. The business's Whitchurch-based owner, Rebecca, is qualified in pet first-aid and has a diploma in pet psychology. She keeps up to date with research regarding 'canine enrichment' and would like to help local dogs exercise beyond just running around a field. At the moment, The Dogz Squad takes place at Whitchurch Civic Centre Sports Hall on Fridays from 6pm to 7pm. The business is in the process of sorting other sessions. To find out more, visit [thedogzsquad.com](http://thedogzsquad.com)



## Saturday Kitchen chef Glynn at Shrewsbury Food Festival

Celebrity chef Glynn Purnell will bring a taste of TV's Saturday Kitchen to Shrewsbury Food Festival when he headlines the annual event at the town's Quarry Park on 27 & 28 June. Glynn will be joined at the popular get-together by some of the West Midlands' best chefs and around 200 producers. Commenting on news of his involvement, Glynn

said: "I worked in Shropshire for a brilliant spell when Hibiscus in Ludlow won two Michelin stars. It was a great time and I've always had a close association with the county. There are some brilliant producers, brilliant chefs and first-class restaurants, so I'm delighted to have been asked to headline the event."

## Strictly Ballroom for Kevin Clifton

Former Strictly Come Dancing champion Kevin Clifton is to star in Baz Luhrmann's smash-hit production of Strictly Ballroom The Musical when it visits Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Monday 5 to Saturday 10 October. After seven years on the hit BBC TV series, Kevin recently announced his departure from the show and is now looking forward to treading the boards in Strictly Ballroom. "When I was 10 years old, I first watched the movie that would become my favourite film of all time," says Kevin. "This is my dream role. Plus I get to work with Craig Revel Horwood again!" For more information, visit [grandtheatre.co.uk](http://grandtheatre.co.uk)



## Sheridan Smith to star as Cilla Black

Bafta-winning TV star Sheridan Smith is to play the late Cilla Black when Cilla The Musical visits Birmingham's The Alexandra in the autumn. The Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps favourite first played the much-loved singer in a 2014 television miniseries. Cilla The Musical debuted in 2017 and comes complete with the singer's Swinging '60s hits, including Anyone Who Had A Heart, Alfie, Step Inside Love and Something Tells Me. The show stops off in Birmingham from Monday 2 to Saturday 7 November. Tickets can be purchased at [atgtickets.com](http://atgtickets.com)





## From Soweto to Wolves

The Grammy award-winning Soweto Gospel Choir will make their Wolverhampton Grand Theatre debut on Sunday 25 October.

The world-renowned performers picked up the 2019 'best world music album' Grammy for their record, Freedom.

The choir's Wolverhampton stop-off will see them performing a rousing selection of songs celebrating the life of Nelson Mandela. Their programme will also feature a number of international gospel classics - including a spine-tingling take on Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah and an extraordinary rendition of Amazing Grace, which has been viewed more than 15 million times on YouTube.

For more information about the concert and to book tickets, visit [grandtheatre.co.uk](http://grandtheatre.co.uk)

## Safari Park begins work on new luxury lodges

West Midland Safari Park is upgrading its animal facilities and building on-site accommodation.

Eight luxury Safari Lodges will be integrated into newly updated habitats for the venue's African elephants and cheetahs, providing guests with up-close & personal overnight wildlife experiences.

Commenting on the project, the Safari Park's Accommodation & Venues Director, Chris Kelly, said: "Conservation is at the forefront of our minds when designing and building the lodges, so as part of this project, our net biodiversity gain will increase by 30%, creating more habitats such as woodlands and wildflower meadows, encouraging native wildlife."



[whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk)

## Iconic show returns to the Midlands



Chichester Festival Theatre's Olivier Award-nominated production of *Singin' In The Rain* will be, er, storming into Birmingham Hippodrome next year (Tuesday 6 - Saturday 10 April 2021). The hit show has so far played to more than 750,000 people and features classic songs including *Make 'em Laugh*, *Good Morning*, *Moses Supposes* and, of course, the iconic title track itself. For more information and to book tickets, visit [birminghamhippodrome.com](http://birminghamhippodrome.com)

## Hedgehog rescue centre seeks funds

A volunteer-run Shropshire hedgehog rescue centre is looking to raise funds through the launch of its first calendar.

Pricklebums Hedgehog Rescue in Ludlow is planning to release a 2021 fundraising calendar featuring pictures and images of hedgehogs painted by local artists.

To help cover the costs of producing the calendar, the rescue centre is looking for sponsorship from local businesses. A spokesperson said: "We're hoping that local businesses might sponsor us to help cover some costs in exchange for advertising. We're hoping to get one company for each page."

## Festival invites young folk to apply for funding

A trust that aims to support and help develop the careers of young folk performers is inviting applications for its 2020 round of funding.

Up to four awards of up to £1,000 each will be made to emerging musicians, dancers or singers by the Alan Surtees Trust, which was established in memory of the co-founder and director of Shrewsbury Folk Festival.

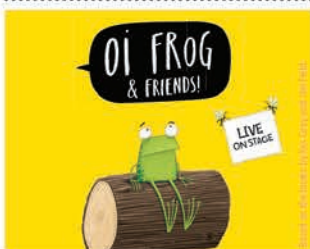
The closing date for applications is 30 April. Only successful candidates will be contacted and the recipients will be announced in June.

For more information and to apply for a grant, go to: [alansurteestrust.org.uk](http://alansurteestrust.org.uk).

Follow the trust on Twitter @ASurteesTrust or on Facebook @AlanSurteesTrust







**OI FROG & FRIENDS!**  
 FRI 10 – MON 13 APRIL  
 TIMES VARY  
**TOWN HALL**



**THE HOLLIES**  
 SAT 9 MAY  
 7:30PM  
**SYMPHONY HALL**



**KIDZ BOP WORLD TOUR**  
 SAT 11 APRIL  
 6PM  
**SYMPHONY HALL**



**STRICTLY COME DANCING:  
THE PROFESSIONALS 2020**  
 SUN 17 MAY  
 2:30PM & 7:30PM  
**SYMPHONY HALL**



**RUMOURS OF FLEETWOOD MAC**  
 SAT 2 MAY  
 8PM  
**SYMPHONY HALL**



**DEAD RINGERS LIVE**  
 TUE 19 MAY  
 7:30PM  
**TOWN HALL**



**THE SHIRES**  
 MON 4 MAY  
 7:30PM  
**SYMPHONY HALL**



**BLACK VOICES THE SHOW**  
 FRI 22 MAY  
 7:30PM  
**TOWN HALL**



**THE SHOW - A TRIBUTE TO ABBA**  
 ACCOMPANIED BY: LONDON SYMPHONIC ROCK ORCHESTRA  
 FRI 8 MAY, 7:30PM  
**SYMPHONY HALL**



**LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO**  
 SUN 7 JUNE  
 7:30PM  
**SYMPHONY HALL**

BOOK ONLINE **thsh.co.uk**



# THE PATH TO REDEMPTION





## Set against the tumultuous events that led to the fall of Afghanistan's monarchy and the rise of the Taliban, Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner* is one of the 21st century's bestselling novels - and the stage adaptation of the story is coming to Wolverhampton this month...

Khaled Hosseini's story of trauma, guilt and redemption follows central character Amir from his childhood into manhood.

It is Amir's relationship with his father, and his close but strained friendship with Hassan, that guides *The Kite Runner*'s narrative, which in turn is influenced by ethnically charged violence and the need to seek asylum.

"The Kite Runner is a journey that pretty much spans Amir's entire life up until his present day in 2002," explains David Ahmad, who plays the character. "Amir recounts his life and the choices he made that got him to that point. One choice from his childhood in particular he feels incredibly guilty for, and so *The Kite Runner* becomes the story of his path to redemption. It's definitely an epic journey. Essentially, he's a child who makes a mistake, and I think that's something which most people can relate to. A lot of people, especially at the end of act one, really don't like Amir. As a child, he's not a particularly likeable character. But the more I've lived with Amir, the more forgiveness I have for his actions, as I feel like I've been with him for so long - since the play was first staged in 2013, to be exact. He's a coward, sure, but at the end of the day he's a child who makes some poor choices. He certainly tries to work through them in the end."

This particular adaptation of *The Kite Runner* sticks as closely as possible to Hosseini's groundbreaking novel.

"I have to say that the play is such a faithful

adaptation of the book. Matthew Spangler did a wonderful job of really distilling the story into its key moments. Obviously there were lots of parts of the book that we simply couldn't fit in, but Matthew very cleverly picked out those essential moments to create the narrative arc of the play. People who've read the book don't often notice that we've left much out. It's a very successful adaptation - and very different to the film adaptation. I don't think the film worked particularly well. The play works much better because we've been able to keep the narrator character, where Amir relives parts of his life in front of the audience. That really helps create a better connection to the audience, as they go on the journey with Amir. It helps them feel part of the story."

Almost two decades after it was published, *The Kite Runner*'s deep exploration of human relationships, and the wider political statements that the novel makes, continue to resonate.

"The Kite Runner is just as important today as when it was written. There are so many facets to the story, and that's why it's so well-loved. There's part of the story that everyone can relate to, in terms of the characters' own personal emotions and experiences and wider politics. The story definitely still resonates with the current situation in the Middle East - and with the refugee crisis in Syria, in particular. A lot of *The Kite Runner* is about being an immigrant; about adapting to leaving so much behind and being faced with a whole new culture; about which characters embrace the

'new ways' and which ones feel a little left behind, clinging to the old. Sadly, these are all very real dilemmas for some civilians in the Middle East, and they don't look like they're going away any time soon.

"Interestingly, on the first day of rehearsals, we all sat down as a cast and told our stories - and while not being exactly the same experiences as Amir and his father had, they certainly had some similarities. For example, my father came to the UK from Pakistan in the 1960s. We all live with those experiences of feeling slightly different. Having that understanding of what life was like for my father trying to make his way in a very alien country makes me relate to the story on a personal level also.

"But this isn't just a political story; it's a story about people finding love, about regret, about the betrayal of a friend and a father-son relationship. There are so many aspects for the audience to connect with, and that's what *The Kite Runner* does so well. The story is such a rollercoaster, and Hosseini certainly fits a lot of gut-punches in there! It's so emotional. Certainly, the immediate reaction to the show is often one of silence, while the audience digests what's just happened. The main thing, though, is that there's still hope!"

.....

**The Kite Runner shows at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday 21 to Saturday 25 April.**





# WORLD CLASS ENTERTAINMENT



THE HYSTERICAL SEQUEL  
TO THE HIT SHOW  
**MENOPAUSE THE  
MUSICAL 2**

WED 25 MAR  
REGENT THEATRE



DIRECT FROM THE WEST-END  
**THRILLER LIVE**

THU 26 MAR - SAT 28 MAR  
REGENT THEATRE



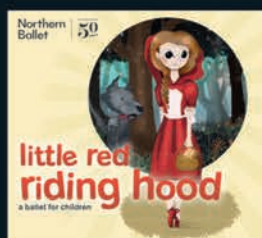
THE SMASH HIT FRESH OFF THE  
WEST END  
**CABARET**

TUE 31 MAR - SAT 4 APR  
REGENT THEATRE



JOE PASQUALE IS FRANK  
SPENCER IN  
**SOME MOTHERS DO  
'AVE 'EM**

TUE 14 APR - SAT 18 APR  
REGENT THEATRE



NORTHERN BALLET'S  
**LITTLE RED RIDING  
HOOD**

SUN 3 MAY  
REGENT THEATRE



THE MUSICAL PARODY  
**FRIENDS!**

TUE 5 MAY  
REGENT THEATRE



KEVIN AND JOANNE CLIFTON  
FACE OFF IN  
**BURN THE FLOOR**

WED 6 MAY  
REGENT THEATRE



WALK RIGHT BACK  
THE EVERLY  
BROTHERS STORY

THU 7 MAY  
REGENT THEATRE



THE NEW 25TH  
ANNIVERSARY SHOW  
**RIVERDANCE**

FRI 8 MAY - SUN 10 MAY  
REGENT THEATRE



THE MUSICAL BY QUEEN  
AND BEN ELTON  
**WE WILL ROCK YOU**

MON 25 MAY - SAT 30 MAY  
REGENT THEATRE

**RUMOURS OF FLEETWOOD MAC 2020**  
SAT 28 MAR **VH**

**THE STORY OF GUITAR HEROES**  
FRI 3 APR **VH**

**THE SHIRES**  
WED 29 APR **VH**

**THE SENSATIONAL 60S EXPERIENCE**  
FRI 1 MAY **VH**

**THE ELVIS TRIBUTE ARTIST WORLD TOUR**  
THU 7 MAY **VH**

**IN THE AIR TONIGHT**  
FRI 22 MAY **VH**

**CRAIG REVEL HORWOOD**  
THE ALL BALLS AND GLITTER TOUR  
SUN 31 MAY **VH**

**BACK TO BACHARACH**  
THU 4 JUN **VH**

**RV** **REGENT THEATRE**  
**VICTORIA HALL**  
STOKE-ON-TRENT

**ATG TICKETS** **BOX OFFICE 0844 871 7649\***  
**ATGTICKETS.COM/Stoke\***

\*Fees apply. Calls cost up to 7p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.





## REVIEW: INFINITII

### Sheer perfection at Staffordshire gem

Prestigious Indian street food eatery INFINITII is one of those restaurants that you'll find yourself still talking about months after paying a visit.

Located in the Staffordshire town of Abbots Bromley, INFINITII provides a modern twist on the textures and flavours of India, combining and celebrating diverse cooking techniques from multiple regions across the country.

The kitchen is fronted by award-winning chef Mamrej Khan, whose CV includes stints at the five-star Taj Hotels in Chennai, The Rose Garden in the Maldives and the Deluxe Palace Hotel in Bahrain.

On the evening my partner and I visited INFINITII, we sampled the five-course tasting menu - a chef's surprise. The restaurant showcases a unique concept whereby the menu is catered to the customer. Diners are asked three questions: do you have allergens or dietary requirements? Is there anything that you don't like? Is there anything on the menu which is a must-have for you? Your must-have choice(s) will be included within your specially designed menu.

We started off with a pint of Kingfisher and an INFINITII G&T Sweet Gin Cocktail, comprising Nelson's Rose & Raspberry Gin, juniper berries, cardamom and Fever Tree Aromatic Tonic.

INFINITII is in partnership with Nelson's, a Staffordshire-based distillery, so we felt it was only fitting to sample their creations. I'm not actually a big gin fan (bucking the trend, I know), but my selected drink was both refreshing and tasty. It may even have converted me, which is something I thought would never happen.

Our first course, light and crispy vadams - a modern but less oily alternative to poppadoms - were served with a homemade spiced tomato salsa and a fresh onion green salad.

They were swiftly followed by course number two - aloo brie tikki and kaffir lime lemon sole. A vegetarian dish (which can be made vegan by swapping the brie for a vegan cheese), the aloo brie tikki comprised spiced mashed potato cakes stuffed with gooey, melted brie and coated with cashew nut-flavoured breadcrumbs. The three potato cakes were served atop a sweet tamarind sauce alongside decorative swipes of vibrant rhubarb and honey and mustard sauces. The flavour combinations were simply stunning!

The fish dish featured a beautifully soft and delicate shallow fried lemon sole fillet marinated with ginger, garlic, curry leaf and paprika, served with mint lime olive oil - a healthier option which didn't

compromise on flavour whatsoever.

We were seriously impressed - and beyond excited about what was to follow!

My partner's must-have choice was rabbit varuval - wild rabbit meat marinated with home-ground spices and served with green chutney. Presented on the bone, the sweet rabbit was cooked to perfection, the coating showcasing just the right amount of spice. The green chutney, bursting with mint and coriander flavours, was the perfect accompaniment.

I'm a sucker for a bit of food theatre and INFINITII's smoky lamb tikka dish provided just that. Served inside a smoke-filled dome, which was lifted at the table, sat marinated boneless morsels of cinnamon-smoked lamb fillet, grilled to perfection in the restaurant's clay oven. The smoky meat was served with roasted peppers & onion and accompanied by delicious green chutney and rhubarb sauce.

On to the main courses of duck lucknowi and machchi mango curry. The first of the two dishes featured seared barbery duck breast simmered in caramelised onion, tomato, yoghurt & cashew nut sauce. Bright orange in colour and sweet in flavour with its underlying hint of cashew, the sauce was absolutely phenomenal and definitely one of my highlights of the evening. The duck itself was cooked to absolute perfection.

The second dish featured soft pan-fried fillets of tilapia fish simmered in coconut milk, five-spice - a sweet & sour sauce of green mangoes - and served with a portion of nicely seasoned spiced potato. I adore a fish curry, and INFINITII's offering was up there with the nicest I've ever eaten. The perfectly cooked fish, the spicy, creamy sauce, and what is essentially Indian-inspired mashed potato, made

for the comfort-food dish of my dreams.

To accompany the two dishes there was a portion of saffron rice, a portion of rice flour roti (a healthier alternative to naan) and one of the richest, creamiest and downright tastiest dal makhani I'd ever eaten. I genuinely couldn't fault a thing - the food was sheer perfection.

Our final dishes of the evening were the desserts: a sweet and refreshing mango sorbet supplied by award-winning dairy farm Daltons, and a rich cinnamon dark & white chocolate mousse served with caramelised golden syrup and decorative swirls of mango sauce. Both were beautiful in taste and presentation. Indeed, the presentation at INFINITII is second to none, and in my opinion of Michelin-star quality.

My partner and I sat looking at each other in utter disbelief. How had we just enjoyed so much outstanding food for a mere £30 each?! INFINITII's tasting menu is value for money and then some! Our debut experience at the restaurant really couldn't have been any better. The food was exemplary and the flavours exceptional, with every course also showcasing excellent technical ability. The service was fantastic, the staff being both friendly and knowledgeable. Not surprisingly, I can't wait to return to sample some more of the delicious cuisine this gem of a restaurant has to offer.

*Lauren Foster*

Food:	■■■■■
Service:	■■■■■
Ambience:	■■■■■
Overall value	■■■■■
<b>OVERALL</b>	■■■■■

**INFINITII**  
**Bagot Street**  
**Abbots Bromley**  
**WS15 3DB**  
**Tel: 01283 840008**



THE PEACH TREE & HAVANA REPUBLIC PRESENTS

WINNER OF THE NATIONAL TRIBUTE AWARDS



# REVIVAL<sup>®</sup>

## ABBA TRIBUTE BAND

### SATURDAY 30 MAY

**3 COURSE DINNER & ABBA SHOW**

**Dinner & Dance** £39.95pp // **Show Tickets** £19.95pp

**HAVANA** ★ **REPUBLIC**

18 ABBEY FOREGATE, SHREWSBURY, SY2 6AE

**HAVANAREPUBLIC.CO.UK**



## Purnell's picks up Readers' Award for a fifth consecutive year

Michelin-star eatery Purnell's has won the Best Independent Restaurant In The Midlands title for a fifth year running in What's On Media Group's 2020 What's On Readers' Awards. Owned by celebrity chef Glynn Purnell, the venue is a chic and contemporary fine-dining restaurant in Birmingham city centre.

## Whitchurch Food & Drink Festival returns

Whitchurch Food & Drink Festival returns on Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 May at the town's Civic Centre. The free-entry event features an outdoor food court area comprising 60-plus stalls, a cookery-demonstration kitchen, cocktail-making classes and lots of activities for children to enjoy.

## Frozen tea party in Shrewsbury

Calling little - and big! - princes and princesses everywhere... You can this month enjoy afternoon tea with two of your favourite-ever cartoon characters! Once Upon A Party, which takes place at The Peach Tree restaurant in Shrewsbury on Saturday 25 April, will see the ever-popular Snow Sisters providing entertainment and photo opportunities aplenty. To book, call the Peach Tree on 01743 355055.



## Chocolate-themed fun run returns to Sandwell Valley

A fun run with a tasty twist is coming to the Black Country on Saturday 18 April. The region's chocolate lovers are in for a sweet treat as Birmingham St Mary's Hospice's Chocolate 5k & 10k run returns to Sandwell Valley Country Park. The popular event will see participants picking up goodies from numerous chocolate stations as they make their way around the course. All funds raised from the run will go towards

the hospice, which provides vital care and support to people living with life-limiting illnesses across Sandwell and Birmingham. Laura Nash, events manager at Birmingham St Mary's Hospice, said: "Whether you're into running or you just love chocolate, the Chocolate 5k & 10k is a great family-friendly event which allows you to enjoy tasty treats whilst you burn off the calories."

## Dishoom Birmingham launch delayed due to coronavirus

Dishoom Birmingham was intending to open its doors this month but is delaying doing so due to the coronavirus outbreak. Paying loving homage to the old Irani cafés that were once part of the fabric of life in Bombay, Dishoom brings together food cooked in Hindu, Muslim, Irani and Parsi traditions. The restaurant is located at the heart of Birmingham, at One Chamberlain Square, and can accommodate 330 guests. For more details, visit the website [dishoom.com](http://dishoom.com)





# COMING SOON TO THE ALEXANDRA



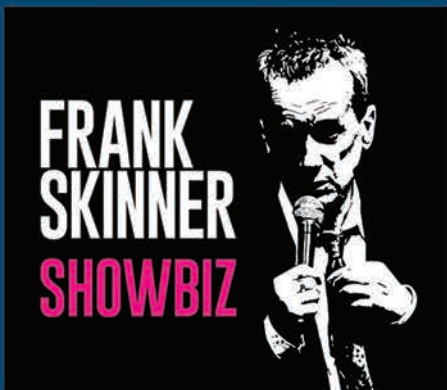
TUE 14 APR 7.30PM



MON 20 – SAT 25 APR  
CAP WED 22 APR 7.30PM



MON 4 – SAT 9 MAY  
6g THU 7 MAY 7.30PM



SUN 10 & MON 11 MAY



TUE 19 – SAT 23 MAY  
AD WED 20 MAY 2.30PM



MON 1 – SAT 6 JUN  
6g WED 3 JUN 7.30PM  
AD EVERY PERFORMANCE



TUE 9 – SAT 13 JUN  
6g WED 10 JUN 7.30PM



THU 18 JUN 7.30PM



TUE 30 JUN 7.30PM

AD AUDIO DESCRIBED | CAP CAPTIONED | R RELAXED | 6g SIGNED

THE  
**ALEXANDRA**  
EST. SINCE 1901

**ATG TICKETS** BOX OFFICE 0844 871 3011\*  
**ATGTICKETS.COM/Birmingham**

\*Calls cost up to 7p per minute, plus your phone company's access charge.





## Opera Boys Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sun 5 April

Crossover artists have been big business for much of the 21st century, so there's little wonder that The Opera Boys continue to enjoy such a successful career. Their classically trained voices combine in a powerhouse of vocal harmony to deliver a winning blend of opera, pop and everything

in between.

They visit Shrewsbury to perform a concert of songs from the shows - from timeless classics like *Les Miserables*, *Phantom Of The Opera* and *West Side Story*, to modern smash-hits such as *Jersey Boys*, *We Will Rock You* and *The Greatest Showman*

## Carducci Quartet

STOP. Cafe Bar, Shrewsbury Museum, Thurs 23 April

Performing more than 90 international concerts each year, Carducci are regarded as one of the most successful string quartets in the business. Their Shrewsbury 'chill-out concert' comprises an informal programme of relaxing 20th & 21st century works by composers including Philip Glass, Peter Gregson, Joby Talbot and Arvo Part.



## Sakari Oramo & Royal Stockholm Philharmonic

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Sat 25 April



A one-time music director of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Sakari Oramo returns to his old stomping ground with the orchestra for whom he's been chief conductor since leaving the CBSO in 2008. The Royal Stockholm Philharmonic last performed in Birmingham some 29 years ago. They are joined for this long-overdue return to the city by violinist Nicola Benedetti.

The evening's programme features Victoria Borisova-Ollas' *Open Ground*, Benedetti performing Prokofiev's second concerto, and Sibelius's *Symphony No. 2*.

## Russell Watson

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Sun 5 April

Often referred to as 'the people's tenor', Russell Watson's soaring voice has garnered him a vast global army of appreciative fans.

The 53-year-old's debut album, *The Voice*, topped the classical charts and saw him become the first British artist to hold both the US and UK classical number-one slots. He plays Wolverhampton in celebration of the album's 20th anniversary.

Featured songs include Caruso, *O Sole Mio*, *Il Gladiatore*, *Nessun Dorma*, *You Are So Beautiful*, *Someone To Remember Me* and *Where My Heart Will Take Me*.



## Ex Cathedra: St John Passion

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Fri 10 April

A favourite at Eastertide, Bach's moving retelling of Christ's betrayal and death is one of classical music's most profound experiences. Sung in German with English surtitles, *St John Passion* is here performed by the Ex Cathedra Choir under the direction of its founder and conductor, Jeffrey Skidmore (pictured).





Thursday 16th April at 7.30pm



Friday 17th April at 7.30pm



Saturday 18th April at 11am, 2pm & 4pm



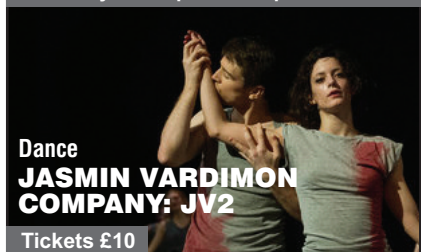
Thursday 23rd April at 7.30pm



Saturday 25th April at 7.30pm



Thursday 30th April at 7.30pm



**THE LITTLE VENUE WITH BIG IDEAS** Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE

 Follow @Arena\_Theatre on Twitter  [www.facebook.com/arenatheatre](http://www.facebook.com/arenatheatre)

For full programme, visit: [arena.wlv.ac.uk](http://arena.wlv.ac.uk)

**HTH**  
HENRY  
TUDOR  
HOUSE  
RESTAURANT  
BAR AND  
VENUE

# LIVE SHOWS 2020

AWARD WINNING BAR, RESTAURANT & LIVE VENUE



**SARAH JANE MORRIS**

Sunday 19th April 2020  
Tickets: £17



**DEAN FRIEDMAN**

Thursday 23rd April 2020  
Tickets: £25



**JIGJAM**

Sunday 10th May 2020  
Tickets: £13



**DANNI NICHOLLS**

Sunday 17th May 2020  
Tickets: £13



**JACK LUKEMAN**

Tuesday 19th May 2020  
Tickets: £15



**FAUSTUS**

Sunday 11th October 2020  
Tickets: £16

TICKETS AT: [WWW.HENRYTUDORHOUSE.COM](http://WWW.HENRYTUDORHOUSE.COM) OR CALL THE BOX OFFICE: 01743 361666  
HENRY TUDOR HOUSE, BARRACKS PASSAGE, SHREWSBURY SY1 1XA



## Beardyman

Albert's Shed Southwater, Telford,  
Thurs 30 April

Championed by the likes of Tim Minchin and Jack Black, Darren Alexander Foreman - or Beardyman, as he's better known - is an award-winning multi-instrumentalist, a groundbreaking live looping pioneer, a musical comedic talent and one of the world's best beatboxers. He's also a man who's collaborated with Fatboy Slim and Calvin Harris to produce a global phenomenon - the song Eat Sleep Rave Repeat - and whose popularity at festivals has seen him spend much of the last decade touring the world. He visits Telford with his Sheer Volume: The Initial Phase tour.



## The Academic

The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Wed 22 April

Ireland's newest indie-rock sensations have come a long way since performing Battle of the Bands competitions at their local school. Comprising Craig Fitzgerald, Dean Gavin and brothers Matt and Stephen Murtagh, The Academic have accumulated a long list of sold-out headline shows, appeared at some of Europe's most high-profile festivals and performed opening slots for acts including The Strokes, Twenty One Pilots and Catfish And The Bottlemen. The future looks bright.



## Calan

Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton,  
Sat 25 April

Calan have certainly found their musical niche, showcasing a unique instrumental blend of accordion, fiddle, guitar, Welsh pipes, Welsh harp and the percussive sound

of the Welsh clogs. Taking a contemporary approach by breathing new life into old traditions, they were voted best band at the inaugural Wales Folk Awards in 2019 and best international band at France's Lorient Festival. Expect a fast-paced and uplifting show from this fresh and vibrant five-piece.

## Tankus The Henge

The Robin, Bilston, Thur 2 April

Tankus The Henge have been described as 'a psychedelic rock & roll octopus... only with four more legs.' Widely admired both for their songwriting and their live performances, the cult band's wildly eclectic funk-fuelled repertoire ranges from New Orleans-inspired swing to heavy rock riffs.

## Dean Friedman

Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury,  
Thurs 23 April

Back by popular demand after his last sell-out show, Dean Friedman here presents another evening of infectious pop songs. The American singer-songwriter first came to prominence thanks to the chart success of hit single Ariel, a quirkily irresistible song about a free-spirited, pot-smoking, vegetarian Jewish girl in a peasant blouse who lived, as the lyric goes, "...way on the other side of the Hudson".

## Wilko Johnson

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sat 25 April

Following a remarkable recovery from a diagnosis of terminal cancer, original Dr Feelgood guitarist Wilko Johnson has recently released *Blow Your Mind*, his first album of new material in decades. Famed for his blistering chop-chord strumming action, the 72-year-old formed the Wilko Johnson Band with Blockheads bassist Norman Watt-Roy, following a stint with Ian Dury & The Blockheads in the 1980s. Featuring former Blockhead Dylan Howe on drums, the trio is considered to be one of the most exciting R&B bands in the world today.





# What's On Readers' Awards

## WINNERS announced...

With over 68,000 votes cast in the **What's On Readers' Awards 2020**, we are delighted to announce your winners...

### Best Midlands Large Theatre



**WINNER** Birmingham Hippodrome  
**RUNNER-UP** Wolverhampton Grand

### Best Touring Musical

**WINNER** Les Misérables  
**RUNNER-UP** The Rocky Horror Show

### Best Touring Play

**WINNER** The Girl On The Train  
**RUNNER-UP** An Inspector Calls

### Best Home-Produced Show In The Midlands

**WINNER** The Boy In The Dress - RSC  
**RUNNER-UP** The Snow Queen - The Old Rep, Birmingham

### Best Pantomime In The Midlands 2019/20

**WINNER** Snow White - Birmingham Hippodrome  
**RUNNER-UP** Aladdin - Theatre Severn

### Best Pantomime Dame In The Midlands 2019/20

**WINNER** Andrew Ryan in Snow White at Birmingham Hippodrome  
**RUNNER-UP** Brad Fitt in Aladdin at Theatre Severn

### Best Amateur Production

**WINNER** The Sound Of Music - Get Your Wigle On  
**RUNNER-UP** Shrek The Musical - Coventry Musical Theatre

### Best Kids Show



**WINNER** Birmingham Stage Company's Horrible Histories - touring  
**RUNNER-UP** The Tiger Who Came To Tea - touring

### Best Classical Production inc Opera



**WINNER** Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra: Movie Music  
**RUNNER-UP** Royal Philharmonic Orchestra: The Planets

### Best Orchestra/Choir

**WINNER** Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra  
**RUNNER-UP** CBSO

### Best Dance Production

**WINNER** Birmingham Royal Ballet's The Nutcracker  
**RUNNER-UP** Birmingham Royal Ballet's Beauty And The Beast

### Best Midlands Arts/Cultural Festival



**WINNER** Birmingham Comedy Festival  
**RUNNER-UP** Shrewsbury International Comedy Festival

### Best Exhibition

**WINNER** Natural History Museum's Wildlife Photographer of the Year - Herbert Art Gallery & Museum and Wolverhampton Museum & Art Gallery  
**RUNNER-UP** Leonardo da Vinci: A Life In Drawing - Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

### Best Midlands Live Music Venue

**WINNER** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**RUNNER-UP** O2 Academy, Birmingham



### Best Midlands Music Festival



**WINNER** Shrewsbury Folk Festival  
**RUNNER-UP** Birmingham Pride

### Best Midlands Street Food Vendor

**WINNER** Urban Cheesecake  
**RUNNER-UP** Dick's Smokehouse

### Best Midlands Comedy Night

**WINNER** Comedy Carousel at The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**RUNNER-UP** Laugh Out Loud Comedy Club

### Best Midlands Food Festival

**WINNER** Shrewsbury Food Festival  
**RUNNER-UP** Ludlow Food Festival

### Best Market in the Midlands

**WINNER** The Market Hall, Shrewsbury  
**RUNNER-UP** Bullring Indoor Market, Birmingham



## and the winners in your region...

### Wolverhampton

#### Best Arts/Theatre Venue

**WINNER** Wolverhampton Grand Theatre  
**RUNNER-UP** Dudley Town Hall

#### Best Live Music Venue

**WINNER** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**RUNNER-UP** Dudley Town Hall

#### Best Visitor Attraction

**WINNER** Black Country Living Museum  
**RUNNER-UP** Dudley Zoo & Castle

#### Best Event

**WINNER** Peaky Blinders Nights at Black Country Living Museum  
**RUNNER-UP** Cosford Air Show

#### Best Gallery/Exhibition Venue

**WINNER** Wolverhampton Museum & Art Gallery  
**RUNNER-UP** Dudley Museum at The Archives

#### Best Independent Restaurant

**WINNER** The Old Glasshouse, Dudley  
**RUNNER-UP** The Summerhouse, Sedgley

### Staffordshire

#### Best Arts/Theatre Venue

**WINNER** Lichfield Garrick Theatre  
**RUNNER-UP** New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

#### Best Live Music Venue

**WINNER** Lichfield Guildhall  
**RUNNER-UP** Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

#### Best Music Festival

**WINNER** Staffs Fest  
**RUNNER-UP** Lichfield Festival

#### Best Arts Festival

**WINNER** Lichfield Festival  
**RUNNER-UP** The Big Feast, Stoke-on-Trent

#### Best Food Festival

**WINNER** Lichfield Food Festival  
**RUNNER-UP** Stone Food & Drink Festival

#### Best Visitor Attraction

**WINNER** Lichfield Cathedral  
**RUNNER-UP** Alton Towers

#### Best Event

**WINNER** The Cathedral Illuminated at Lichfield Cathedral  
**RUNNER-UP** Scarefest at Alton Towers

#### Best Independent Restaurant

**WINNER** The Boat Inn, Lichfield  
**RUNNER-UP** 1709 The Brasserie, Lichfield

### Shropshire

#### Best Arts/Theatre Venue

**WINNER** Theatre Severn  
**RUNNER-UP** The Place, Telford

#### Best Live Music Venue

**WINNER** Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury  
**RUNNER-UP** Henry Tudor House, S'bury

#### Best Visitor Attraction

**WINNER** Ironbridge Museums  
**RUNNER-UP** Attingham Park

#### Best Event

**WINNER** Shrewsbury Flower Show  
**RUNNER-UP** Shrewsbury Wacky Races

#### Best Food Festival

**WINNER** Shrewsbury Food Festival  
**RUNNER-UP** Ludlow Food Festival

#### Best Arts Festival

**WINNER** Shrewsbury Festival of Literature  
**RUNNER-UP** Ludlow Fringe Festival

#### Best Music Festival

**WINNER** Shrewsbury Folk Festival  
**RUNNER-UP** Let's Rock Shrewsbury

#### Best Gallery/Exhibition Venue

**WINNER** Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery  
**RUNNER-UP** Coalbrookdale Gallery, Ironbridge

#### Best Independent Restaurant

**WINNER** Dough & Oil, Shrewsbury  
**RUNNER-UP** Hundred House, Telford

#### Best Independent Coffee Shop

**WINNER** House Coffee Co, Shrewsbury  
**RUNNER-UP** The Bird's Nest, Shrewsbury



## Comedy previews from around the region

---



### Tom Rosenthal

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Mon 6 April; Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Wed 8 April

An Edinburgh Fringe hit last summer, Tom Rosenthal's *Manhood* (the show, that is, not his penis) provides opportunities enough to enjoy a chuckle - providing you're okay with the subject of circumcision and enjoy a good dick joke or several.

Plebs and Friday Night Dinner star Tom was circumcised as an infant and clearly isn't happy about it. Sure, it's a tradition in

many cultures, he acknowledges, but then so was witch-burning and slavery. Sports fans in the audience may be interested to know that Tom is the son of television presenter Jim Rosenthal, one of the broadcasters on whom Steve Coogan's Alan Partridge character was originally based.

### John Shuttleworth

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester, Sat 18 April; Stratford Playhouse, Stratford-upon-Avon, Fri 24 April; New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Sat 25 April

Midlands-based lovers of light comedy here get the chance to enjoy another laughter-filled evening in the company of Sheffield's raconteur par excellence.

The creation of actor Graham Fellows - a one-time chartbuster with 1970s' hit, *Jilted John* - Shuttleworth has been making his presence felt on the UK comedy circuit for more than 30 years.

This latest show finds John a pale shadow of his former self. Years of strenuous DIY - not to mention playing his organ while perched on a multi-pack of Diet Sprite with no lumber support - has taken its toll...

Expect classic songs, new stories, and the unmistakably pungent whiff of Deep Heat ointment...

### Andrew Maxwell

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Thurs 30 April; The Old Rep, Fri 22 May

Dublin-born funnyman and I'm A Celebrity star Andrew Maxwell has garnered a reputation for writing quality material at breakneck speed, to ensure he's always across the most topical and talked-about issues.

"I'll re-use material as long as it's still relevant," says Andrew, "but you have to keep challenging yourself."

And Andrew certainly does that. Previous gigs have included a maximum security prison in Dublin, the UDA on Shankill Road, the IRA on the Falls Road, and an illegal gay rave in the Middle East.

"If my first reaction to the prospect of doing a show is one of raw terror, I know I'm on the right path. I'm always open to a new experience, however scary!"

### Jack Barry

Birmingham Rep, Sat 25 April

Having previously provided tour support for James Acaster and Joe Lycett, Jack Barry here steps out on his own for a show that sees him addressing the fact that he doesn't think you've been laughing enough.

No surprise there, says Jack, what with the world having turned to s\*\*\*.

Jack's show is called *Alien* - by which he means the immigrant kind - and being a pot-smoking old hippie at heart, he'd be happy to do away with borders altogether. His timely message about acceptance will no doubt resonate with many in The Rep's audience, his line in humour with even more.

### Joel Dommett

Palace Theatre, Redditch, Wed 8 April; William Aston Hall, Wrexham, Sat 18 April; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sun 19 April; Evesham Arts Centre, Sat 2 May; Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Thurs 28 May

"I absolutely love performing in small, intimate spaces," says The Masked Singer presenter Joel Dommett, a man who was once the face of MTV - until he was sacked at the age of 27 for being 'too old'. "I'd far rather do a small gig in front of 50 people, but be doing new stuff, than do old stuff in front of 5,000 people."

Joel is extremely committed to the business of keeping his act fresh. "I'm working on material pretty much all the time," explains the one-time Justin Bieber warm-up act. "In fact, I try to put in something new every time I go on stage. If there's something new in there, it brightens up the whole set and gives it more energy and excitement."





## Seann Walsh

Rose Theatre, Tewkesbury, Fri 3 April;  
Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham, Fri 24 April

Seann Walsh is such a popular comic he could even give Real Madrid a run for their money when it comes to the acquisition of silverware. An award-winning star of television shows such as *Mock The Week*, the somewhat dishevelled comedian has been likened to the legendary Billy Connolly in terms of his gift for storytelling (although others have labelled him the new Dylan Moran, so take your pick).

His jokes aren't bad either, with two examples being as follows: "I don't understand swimming. You don't see fish going for a walk," and "Are city-centre beat officers police who rap?"

## Sukh Ojla

The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, Sat 25 April; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Sat 9 May; The Glee Club, Birmingham, Thurs 25 June



"Life Sukhs is about moving back in with your parents at a time when all your mates are buying houses and having babies," explains Sukh Ojla, in talking about her currently touring show. "It's about finding yourself crying into a cheese & onion pasty at Rochester train station on a Tuesday afternoon, living a double life, mental health and identity. In short, it's a searingly honest look at what happens when life doesn't go to plan."

An actor whose CV includes Judi Dench movie *Victoria* and Abdul, dystopian TV series *Black Mirror* and BBC soap opera *EastEnders*, Sukh is comparatively new to stand-up, presenting her first full-length show at the Edinburgh Fringe last summer.



## Chris Ramsey

Dudley Town Hall, Fri 3 April; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sat 4 April; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Sun 5 April; The Alexandra, Birmingham, Fri 17 April; Dudley Town Hall, Sat 17 October; Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Sun 22 November

As well as being a highly rated stand-up, Geordie boy Chris has developed an impressive telly career, appearing on shows including *8 Out Of 10 Cats* and *Strictly Come Dancing* (reaching the semi-finals in 2019). He's scored a big hit in the podcast world, too; he and his wife, singer & actress Rosie

Winter, co-host *Sh\*ggged. Married. Annoyed*. Chris' gags include: "My venue for the Edinburgh Festival is a portacabin; it's literally a portacabin! I'm a Geordie, in a portacabin. I was going to call the show *Auf Wiedersehen Pet Live*."

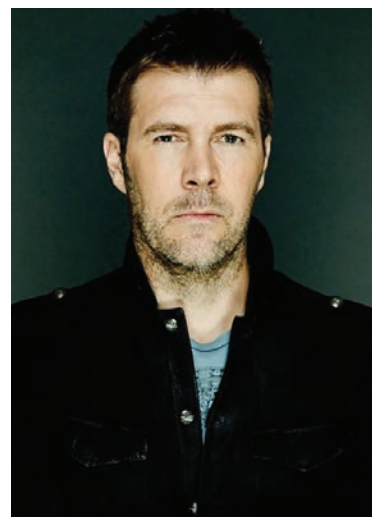
## Rhod Gilbert

Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Sat 4 April; Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Mon 6 April; Warwick Arts Centre, Sat 6 June; William Aston Hall, Wrexham, Fri 19 June

Welsh funnyman Rhod Gilbert has acquired a huge and still-growing following thanks to a high-energy brand of grumpiness that marks him out as one of the top comedians of his generation.

With several sell-out UK tours to his name, the multi-award winner is this month returning to the Midlands with brand new show *The Book Of John* - seven long years after he last went on tour.

Rhod's best-loved gags include: "In the Bible, God made it rain for 40 days and 40 nights. That's a pretty good summer for Wales," and "A spa hotel? It's like a normal hotel, only in reception there's a picture of a pebble."





# A MESSAGE OF HOPE





## Message In A Bottle is a new dance-theatre storytelling spectacular about refugees, humanity and hope. The production takes to the stage in Birmingham this month...

Determined and daring, three siblings parted by violence step out on their own extraordinary adventures...

Directed and choreographed by triple Olivier Award nominee and Birmingham Hippodrome Associate Kate Prince, Message In A Bottle has been astounding audiences in the West End. The piece is inspired by the iconic hits of 17-time Grammy Award-winning artist Sting.

"The production follows a family in a village as they're displaced due to war," explains associate choreographer and star of the show Lukas McFarlane. "It specifically focuses on three siblings in the family and their unique journeys and experiences of being refugees. It documents their attempts to find family, love and hope again in a new home."

Included among the Sting hits featured in Message In A Bottle are Roxanne, Every Breath You Take, Walking On The Moon, Fields Of Gold, Englishman In New York and Shape Of My Heart.

"What Sting speaks about in his music - subjects like politics and the world climate - is still really relevant today, even when you listen to his earlier works," says Lukas. "So many of his songs still ring true! Being a massive fan of his, Kate felt like his songs and lyrics would lay really beautifully on a story about refugees."

"Message In A Bottle is definitely more like a ballet in terms of the fact that there's no dialogue - the story is told through dance, movement and music alone. Dance is a universal language - the emotion and energy behind it can be understood across all languages and cultures - so that's really interesting when you compare it to a story about people who are forced to leave their home and adjust to a new environment."

Having won Sky One's hit TV show, Got To Dance, at just 19 years of age, Lukas is fast becoming a well-known and widely respected artist.

He has worked as a creative and choreographer on The X-Factor, The Voice and Strictly Come Dancing, and with artists including Taylor Swift and Celine Dion.

"In Message In A Bottle, I play the eldest brother. You get to see his attempts to find his version of family love after his own family is divided. Then, as associate choreographer, I worked with Kate on creating the dance. It's a wonderful hybrid of breaking and hip-hop styles, as well as contemporary. Kate has a massive background in hip-hop styles, but not necessarily contemporary, so I came in to make a contribution with that. I've helped Kate create this story through that hybrid movement."

"Working with her has been a gift - and that's putting it mildly! I've been such a massive fan of hers for so long, so when she reached out to me and said she was also a fan of mine, it was so humbling. I couldn't have asked for a better person to learn from in this realm, especially as I come from a TV commercial background, working with artists and in the music industry but with my training being in theatre."

"I'm so, so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with someone who is not only amazing at what she does, but who is also so kind and who cares so much about the stories she's telling and the company of dancers telling it. Kate is a very compassionate director and choreographer, and I feel very lucky to have worked with her."

"The biggest thing I've learnt from her is the power of storytelling; how even the tiniest, most minimalistic movement can contribute so much to an emotion or narrative. The beauty of theatre is that you're creating something which the audience can feel so palpably because it's right in front of them. That's very different to what I'm used to doing, with an audience watching something captured via a lens."

"Theatre is just so much more alive, and

feeling the audience's energy back from you is an incredible feeling."

"I'm the director of my own company - UnTitled Dance - and have self-produced three shows of my own, but to have worked in the West End is such a dream. Hopefully, with the knowledge I've gained and the experience of working with people like Kate, Sadler's Wells and Universal Music UK, doors will be opened for me to produce my own work on a larger scale. I'm a creative first and foremost - that's what I love doing."

Message In A Bottle will tug on your heartstrings, says Lukas: "The biggest thing we've tried to get across in the show is that hope and love prevail over everything else. While it's a really emotional story, we hope the audience is left with a sense of hope - a feeling that a sense of belonging can be created anywhere, and not necessarily just by blood either. Acceptance of who you are, no matter what your background is, can definitely be found."

"I'm obviously a little biased, but I honestly believe there's nothing else that's similar to what we've created. Message In A Bottle is so unique in that it is, essentially, a ballet, but from a more commercial narrative, about dance being the language of youth. It also tells such an emotional story. I promise that you will be left with lasting memories if you come to see it, whether what sticks in your mind is the incredible physicality of the dancers, the lighting, set & costume design, Sting's amazing music, or the actual story itself."

.....  
**Message In A Bottle shows at Birmingham Hippodrome on Wednesday 8 & Thursday 9 April.**



## We Will Rock You

**Birmingham Hippodrome, Mon 20 April - Sat 2 May; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 25 - Sat 30 May**

A pulsating homage to the music of Queen, *We Will Rock You* may be short on storyline, but it's got bags of energy - and just about as brilliant a soundtrack as any musical's ever likely to have. The show's frontline performers give it their all to excellent effect, while the sets and choreography ensure a visual spectacle to remember. For those who care about the plot, the story is set in a future where originality has been quashed, musical instruments banned, and a hero is needed to bring back rock music...

Yes, it's all a bit contrived, but how else are you going to glue together all of Queen's greatest hits in a single show?

A fantastic evening's entertainment for fans of Freddie & Co, so catch it while you can...



## Dial M For Murder

**The Alexandra, Birmingham, Mon 20 - Sat 25 April; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Tues 9 - Sat 13 June; Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Tues 14 - Sat 18 July**



Samantha Womack and Tom Chambers star in Frederick Knott's erotic tale of betrayal, passion and murder - best known, of course, from its 1954 Alfred Hitchcock-directed film version starring Ray Milland and Grace Kelly. When Tony becomes convinced that wife Margot is having an affair, he devises a means of having her murdered while at the same time ensuring he has a watertight alibi. But not everything goes according to plan...

## Oliver Twist

**The REP, Birmingham, 29 April - 9 May**

This brand new version of the classic Charles Dickens story has been adapted for the stage by Bryony Lavery, the creative force behind previous Birmingham Rep favourites *Treasure Island*, *The Lovely Bones* and *Frozen*.

Telling the terrific tale of a young boy whose escape from the workhouse kickstarts a dangerous adventure in the twisted streets of old London town, the production is presented by Ramps On The Moon - a consortium of seven major theatres committed to putting D/deaf and disabled artists and audiences at the centre of its work.



## Priscilla Queen Of The Desert

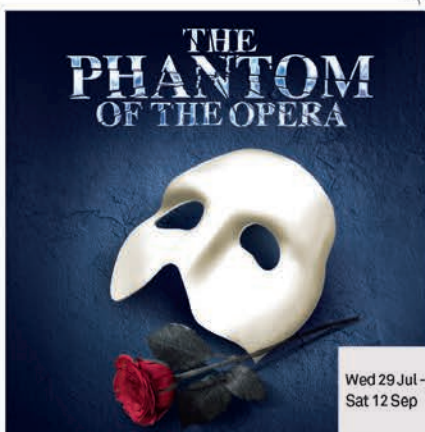
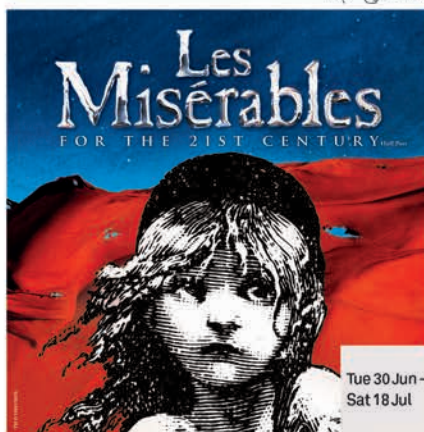
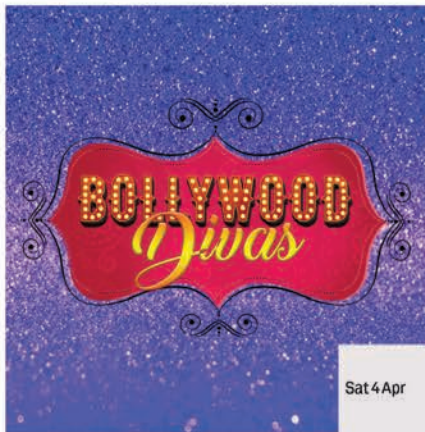
**Birmingham Hippodrome, Mon 13 - Sat 18 April**



Based on the movie of the same name, *Priscilla the stage show* has wowed both West End and Broadway audiences, picking up a coveted Olivier and an equally prestigious Tony Award along the accolade-strewn way. At its heart is an uplifting story of the friendship shared by three pals, who hop aboard a battered old bus and head off across Australia in search of love and romance.

The hit show comes complete with a dazzling array of costumes and a glorious selection of dancefloor favourites. Former *Strictly* winner Joe McFadden takes the lead role of Tick.









## Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em

Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Tues 14 - Sat 18 April; The Alexandra, Birmingham, Tues 19 - Sat 23 May

Joe Pasquale makes a welcome return to the stage as the accident-prone Frank Spencer, the character created and made famous by Michael Crawford in the classic 1970s' sitcom bearing the same title. "I don't do it as Michael's Frank Spencer, though," says Joe. "That would be an insult to Michael. I'm putting my own personality into it. "Frank isn't childish; he believes in what he's doing. The relationship between him and his wife, Betty, is a love story. He might always mess up, but she loves him anyway. For it to work, she has to; otherwise he'd just be an idiot."

Joe is joined by Sarah Earnshaw as the long-suffering Betty and Susie Blake as Frank's disapproving mother-in-law, Mrs Fisher.

## Confessions Of A Cockney Temple Dancer

The REP, Birmingham, Tues 21 - Sat 25 April



Taking a journey from the temple rituals of India to the bad-boy streets of London, Shane Shambhu's bilingual solo work is a contemplation on both his own life and the experience of performing Indian dance in the UK. "I draw on my experience from differing artistic roles and practices," explains Shane. "In doing so, I unearth new creative pathways that challenge perceptions of performance and cultural identities."

## Up Pompeii

Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock, Wed 22 & Thurs 23 April

Following a vote by Ambient Nights' dedicated audience, Up Pompeii was selected as the show with which to celebrate the theatre company's 10th anniversary. For those not in the know, the production is based on a late-1960s BBC sitcom in which comedian Frankie Howerd starred as a slave in pre-eruption Pompeii - a place, it turns out, where risqué gags and double entendres were very much the order of the day...

## Jew...ish

The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham, Fri 3 & Sat 4 April

Starting out as a TV pilot, Jew...ish is described by its two stars as 'a pitch-black romantic comedy'. While it's questionable whether the show ever manages to get all that dark, let alone 'pitch-black', it definitely does hit the mark as a romcom. Focusing on the on-off intercultural relationship of TJ and Max, the story plays out against the colourful backdrop of Jewish family life and the trials & tribulations of the millennial generation.



## Chaplin: Birth Of A Tramp

The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham, Wed 15 April

Charlie Chaplin's stellar Hollywood career was all the more remarkable given that his childhood had been spent in abject poverty. The son of an alcoholic father and a mother who would eventually succumb to psychosis, he was brought up in a late-19th



century London slum and twice sent to the workhouse before the age of nine...

The critically acclaimed Arrows & Traps are the company behind this psychological exploration of the silent-movie eras's biggest, brightest and perhaps most surprising star.

## The Delightful Sausage: Ginster's Paradise

Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Thurs 23 April

Surreal northern double-act Amy Gledhill and Christopher-Louise Cantrill are the top talent behind this production, a show which the pair describe as 'a comedy nightmare that'll tear your soul apart'...

No ordinary night out at the theatre, then! The show finds the duo working as new 'salmon coats' at holiday camp Ginsters, a venue that offers hard-grafting Yorkshire folk the opportunity to kick back, relax and forget about the stresses and strains of everyday life. But can Amy and Chris keep their campers entertained, obedient and medicated?...





# Experience the VIP TREATMENT *at* WOLVERHAMPTON GRAND THEATRE

Add a touch of glamour to your theatre visit with one of our private hire VIP booths. Choose from the **Beverley Knight, CJ Phipps, Churchill, Steve Bull MBE** and **Dietrich** booth.



OF THE GRAND  
SPONSORED BY Arthur Price

## THE EXPERIENCES

### PLATINUM

**£60† per booth for up to six people includes:**

- Bottle of Prosecco
- Chocolates
- Nibbles
- House Programme
- Waiter service
- Complimentary Cloakroom

### GOLD:

**£50† per booth for up to six people includes:**

- Bottle Of Wine
- Nibbles
- House Programme
- Waiter service
- Complimentary Cloakroom

### SILVER

**£40† per booth for up to six people includes:**

- Hot or soft drink
- Nibbles
- House Programme
- Waiter service
- Complimentary Cloakroom

*Sit back and enjoy the show!*

LET LUXURY  
TAKE CENTRE  
STAGE &  
INDULGE IN A

## HIGH TEA



**Add one of our High Teas to your booth experience!**

### PREMIUM HIGH TEA

**£45† For 6 people**

To include a selection of fresh sandwiches, quiche, cakes and a platter of canapés.\*

### HIGH TEA

**£30† For 6 people**

To include a selection of fresh sandwiches, quiche and cakes.\*

\*Vegetarian option available upon request but prices may vary.  
Sandwich fillings subject to change. Information on allergens available upon request.  
Booths must be booked five days in advance of performances.

**†A £3 booking fee applies to all purchases**

WOLVERHAMPTON  
**GRAND**  
THEATRE

**BOOK ONLINE AT [GRANDTHEATRE.CO.UK](http://GRANDTHEATRE.CO.UK) OR  
CALL THE BOX OFFICE ON 01902 42 92 12**





## Volpone

**Belgrade Theatre, Coventry,  
Thurs 16 - Sat 18 April**

One of the greatest of all Jacobean plays, *Volpone* is a stylish example of playwright Ben Johnson at his very best.

Although the titular character seems to be on his last legs, he is, in truth, setting a trap for those about him who covet his fortune, not least among whom is his 'faithful' manservant Mosca...

African Caribbean ensemble Tangle present this centuries-old satire, a work of theatre which ably illustrates that some things, including man's propensity for avaricious and lustful behaviour, will never change.

## Friends! The Musical Parody

**Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Tues 14 April;  
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Tue 5 May;  
Prince Of Wales Theatre, Cannock, Thurs 24  
September; Swan Theatre, Worcester, Fri 16  
October**

If it's not broken, don't turn it into a stage musical, would surely have been the advice that millions of *Friends* fans would've given the creative team who set out to make this show. So it's probably a good thing that those millions of fans were never actually canvassed for their opinion, because by all accounts *Friends! The Musical Parody* makes for a thoroughly enjoyable night out at the theatre.

Lovingly lampooning the hit TV sitcom from the 1990s, the show is a good-hearted romp through the series' most memorable moments, but with the addition of some high-energy song & dance routines. What's not to like?...

## Amsterdam

**Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Mon 27 - Wed  
29 April; The REP, Birmingham, Tues 12 - Sat  
16 May**

Maya Arad Yasur's play begins in the modern day, when a nine-months-pregnant Jewish violinist living in a plush Amsterdam apartment finds an unpaid gas bill for 1,700 euros pushed under her door. Not only is the bill not owed by her, it is also dated 1944 - decades before the violinist was even born and a year during which Amsterdam was still

under Nazi occupation...

Billed as a 'strikingly original, audacious thriller', *Amsterdam* explores issues around the topical subjects of collective identity, foreignness and alienation, reconstructing horrific stories of the Holocaust in an admirably heartfelt attempt to make some sense of present-day political discourse.



## Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons

**Albany Theatre, Coventry,  
Wed 29 & Thurs 30 April**

When the government passes a law allowing each individual to speak a maximum of only 140 words per day, Bernadette and Oliver find themselves battling hard to negotiate the choppy waters of their relationship... Sam Steiner's dystopian drama has met with mixed reviews since debuting a couple of years back, but there's no denying it has plenty to say about the modern world and the importance of language. As Steiner himself observes: "Freedom of speech is all well and good, but it doesn't matter if we're not listening to each other."

## By The Waters Of Liverpool

**Malvern Theatres, Tues 14 & Wed 15 April**

Helen Forrester's autobiographical play, from her same-titled bestselling book, is set in the 1930s and finds the teenage Helen fighting a bitter battle with her parents for the right to educate herself and go out to work.

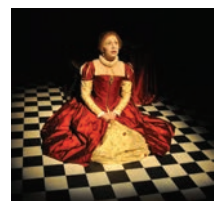
Life, however, has a habit of getting in the way of even the best-laid plans - and so it proves for Helen...

Following her family's fall from grace, she finds herself taken from school to work as an 'unpaid slave' looking after her siblings. But with Britain on the brink of war, the arrival in her life of a tall, strong seaman provides Helen with the chink of light for which she's been desperately searching...

## I, Elizabeth

**Bridge House Theatre, Warwick, Thurs 2 April;  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Thurs 7 & Fri 8  
May**

Dyad Productions, who are also touring *The Unremarkable Death Of Marilyn Monroe* to Midlands venues this spring, are the company behind this revealing study of the Virgin Queen. Written and performed by Rebecca Vaughan, the show is directed by Guy Masterson, whose homage to comedian Eric Morecambe won the Olivier Award for Best Entertainment in 2010.







## Blood Brothers

Lichfield Garrick, Tues 7 - Sat 11 April

If you're one of the comparatively few theatre-goers who hasn't yet caught up with Willy Russell's hit show, *Blood Brothers*, then here's a perfect opportunity to do so.

The story of twins separated at birth who're brought up in different social circumstances but remain inextricably linked, *Blood Brothers* isn't so much a musical as a play with music.

Former *New Seeker* Lyn Paul takes the lead role of Mrs Johnstone, with highlights including memorable songs *A Bright New Day*, *Marilyn Monroe* and the emotionally charged *Tell Me It's Not True*.

## Beach Body Ready

Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Sat 25 April;  
Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent,  
Thurs 11 June



Hull-based theatre company The Roaring Girls have built their reputation around creating work that is fierce, feminist and fun - and latest offering *Beach Body Ready* is no exception. Created in the ensemble's semi-improvised style, the show 'sticks two fingers up' at everything the media says about how women should look.

"Summer has rocked up and coerced us all into thinking about how awful our bodies are," say the Girls. "Expect an evening of impassioned rants, cheesy fitness routines, informal chats and a beach trip on film, accompanied by a banging soundtrack."

## The Comedy Of Errors

Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Sat 25 April - Sat 3 October

Comedian Miles Jupp stars as Antipholus of Syracuse in this brand new Royal Shakespeare Company production of one of the bard's most popular offerings.

Shakespeare's forerunner to modern farce, *Comedy* is a superbly crafted catalogue of mistaken identity, adulterous liaisons and slapstick humour.

Two sets of identical twins are separated during infancy. When their paths cross again later in life, all manner of confusions ensue. Matters are then further complicated by the involvement of an irate courtesan, an insistent jeweller and a mad exorcist!



## Quality Street

New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme,  
Tues 28 April - Sat 9 May



JM Barrie is best known, of course, as the creator of Peter Pan, but years before he ventured to *Neverland*, he penned a farce so popular that it gave its name to one of the UK's most famous brands of chocolate. When Captain Valentine returns from fighting Napoleon, he's disappointed to find Phoebe Throssel somewhat less glamorous than he remembers her. But Phoebe has a

plan to rekindle his interest, courtesy of her younger alter-ego, the wild and sparkling Miss Livvy... Presented by the ever-impressive Northern Broadsides.

## Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Fri 10 & Sat 11 April;  
Brierley Hill Civic Hall, Wed 22 April;  
Lichfield Garrick, Sun 24 May; Malvern Theatres, Thurs 28 May; The Albany, Coventry, Thurs 11 June; The Place, Telford, Fri 12 June

Linda Nolan and X-Factor finalist Niki Evans are two of the four women enjoying an evening of fun and frivolity in this brand new musical comedy.

Described as a no-holds-barred romp through everything life throws at a modern-day woman, the show is unlikely to pull up any trees when it comes to originality. That said, having previously helmed *Hormonal Housewives*, its producers absolutely know the market they're playing to and are old hands at giving their audience a fantastic night out.

So if you fancy channelling your inner diva for a couple of hours, you know what you need to do...





## Horrible Histories: The Worst Of Barmy Britain

Palace Theatre, Redditch, Sat 11 April; Stratford Playhouse, Stratford-upon-Avon, Sun 26 April; Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Wed 27 May

If you love the Horrible Histories series - and why the heck wouldn't you?! - then Barmy Britain is a show well worth catching. Alongside providing answers to such searching questions as 'what would happen if a Viking moved in next door?' and 'will you see eye to eye with Admiral Nelson?', the show also invites audiences to roar with laughter with Richard the Lionheart, light up their life with the great fire of London and find out if the Duke of Wellington gets the boot. In short, and as its publicity says, it's 'a truly horrible history of Britain - with all the nasty bits left in!'



## Shark In The Park!

Worcester Swan Theatre, Sun 5 April; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Mon 6 April; Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham, Tues 14 April; Rose Theatre, Tewkesbury, Wed 15 April

Nick Sharratt has illustrated over 250 books, around one-fifth of which have been by Tracy Beaker author Jacqueline Wilson. One of Nick's own is the hugely



successful Shark In The Park!, a children's story about a young lad named Timothy who goes to his local park to try out his new telescope. While there, he thinks he spots a shark - and not just on one occasion either, but several times in several places! The popularity of the book prompted Sharratt to write and illustrate two follow-ups - Shark In The Dark! and Shark In The Park On A Windy Day!. All three stories are featured in this highly rated stage show.

## Oi Frog & Friends!

Birmingham Town Hall, Fri 10 - Mon 13 April; Lichfield Garrick, Sat 13 - Sun 14 June

Fifty-five minutes of frog-focused fun is the name of the game when this lively stage adaptation of Kes Gray and Jim Field's bestselling series of picture books stops off in Birmingham. Expect 'songs, puppets, laughs and more rhymes than you can shake a chime at', as a new day at Sittingbottom school dawns...

## The Tiger Who Came To Tea

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Thurs 9 - Sun 12 April; Lichfield Garrick, Tues 21 & Wed 22 April

Following on from a hugely successful West End season, the tea-guzzling tiger once again drops in on Sophie and her mum just as they're settling down for an afternoon cuppa...

Adapted by David Wood from the late Judith Kerr's 1968 book, this 55-minute show comes without an interval, features singalong songs and boasts plenty of magic - not to mention a big stripy tiger, of course!



## Peppa Pig's Best Day Ever

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Tues 7 - Thurs 9 April; Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Sat 18 & Sun 19 April; Palace Theatre, Redditch, Wed 24 & Thurs 25 June; The Place, Telford, Wed 16 & Thurs 17 September

If you've taken your little ones to any of the previous Peppa Pig stage shows - and enjoyed the experience of watching them having a fantastic time - you'll already know

that this latest production is well worth catching. Peppa Pig is heading out on a road trip with George, Mummy Pig and Daddy Pig, and there are plenty of adventures waiting to be had - including ones that involve dragons, dinosaurs, ice-creams and muddy puddles...



## Billionaire Boy

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Wed 22 - Sat 25 April; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury Thurs 14 - Sun 17 May; Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Wed 23 - Sun 27 September

Birmingham Stage Company has impressive form when it comes to adaptations of David Walliams' work, so anybody wondering whether or not to check out this show should definitely grasp the nettle.

For those unfamiliar with the book, it tells the tale of how Mr Spud made and lost his billions, and how his son, Joe, became the richest boy in the world.





## Balletboyz: Deluxe

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Thurs 9 April;  
Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 13 May

Fresh and inventive, the all-male Balletboyz company combine muscle with grace to present a distinctive style which fuses energetic dance with music and film.

This year celebrating their 20th anniversary, the company has performed their work more than 400 times around the UK and in 13 countries across the world, with more than 350,000 people having seen at least one of their productions.

The ensemble this month return to the Midlands with a brand new show that features work by some of the world's most innovative choreographers.

"Deluxe is going to be a night of entertaining and thought-provoking theatre that's been 20 years in the making," say Balletboyz Artistic Directors Michael Nunn and William Trevitt. "The beauty of our job has always been about finding and pursuing extraordinary talent and sharing that with as many people as we can. It really is that simple."



## Lewys Holt: Phrases & Footnotes

Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Thurs 23 April

"While focusing on and loving dance," says Lewys Holt, "my practice also tends to include things that look more like stand-up comedy, storytelling or acting. The two shows I'm performing in Wolverhampton, Phrases and Footnotes, are solo contemporary dance works that fuse text, humour and improvisation. They are a subtle exploration of our innate need for connection and fear of loneliness."



## BalletLorent: The Lost Happy Endings

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 24 & Sat 25 April

Joanna Lumley narrates this family-friendly show, performed by award-winning dance-theatre ensemble BalletLorent.

A story by the former Poet Laureate, Dame Carol Ann Duffy, The Lost Happy Endings tells the tale of a forest-dwelling girl who, charged with guarding the happy endings to stories and fairytales, finds herself having to rewrite them after they're stolen by a wicked witch...

The Lost Happy Endings is the latest in BalletLorent's line of innovative family shows featuring diverse casts.

The Newcastle-upon-Tyne company was set up 27 years ago by choreographer Liv Lorent.

"I liked the magic, the mystery and the fairytale aspects of classical ballet very much," says Liv, "but what I wasn't so keen on was the amount of men in tights and crowns, or the strange mime gestures that were used to communicate narrative. "What I wanted more than anything was to perform work that would mean audiences came out of the theatre feeling differently to when they'd gone in. Like when you go to see a great movie."

## Bollywood Divas Birmingham Hippodrome, Sat 4 April

The leading ladies of Indian cinema - or Bollywood, as it's otherwise known - are the subject of this special tribute show by trend-setting choreographer, designer and singer Shiamak Davar - a man whose CV includes choreographing the dance sequences for the 2011 Tom Cruise movie, Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol. Shiamak has scored hits with previous shows Spirit Of India and Spirit Of Bollywood, so is well-versed in mounting

glitzy productions boasting stunning visuals and breathtaking choreography. "The stage has always felt like home," says Shiamak, who is known as 'the guru of contemporary dance' in India. "Getting an instant response from a live audience is a real rush - a completely different feeling from cinema. There's something magical about creating movements using the entire stage, using sets and props. As such, the stage will always be my first love."



## The New Mutants

CERT 12a

Starring **Maisie Williams, Anya Taylor-Joy, Charlie Heaton, Alice Braga, Blu Hunt**  
Directed by **Josh Boone (USA)**

After the Endgame... the new mutants. These young super-beings are locked up in a secret facility and, having discovered their nascent powers, they want out... Based on the Marvel comic.

**Released Wed 8 April**



## The Assistant

CERT 15 (87 mins)

Starring **Julia Garner, Matthew Macfadyen, Kristine Froseth, Makenzie Leigh, Noah Robbins, Dagmara Domińczyk**  
Directed by **Kitty Green (USA)**

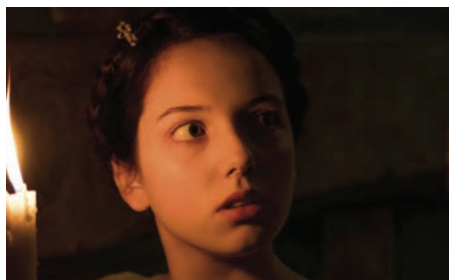
Probably the first of many new dramas investigating abuse in the workplace, this one focuses on a junior assistant working for a film production mogul. Coincidentally, the film's exteriors were shot outside the Tribeca building in Manhattan where one Harvey Weinstein used to work...

**Released Fri 3 April**

## Carmilla

CERT 15 (94 mins)

Starring **Jessica Raine, Hannah Rae, Devrim Lingnau, Tobias Menzies, Greg Wise**  
Directed by **Emily Harris (UK)**



Based on the 1871 Gothic novella by Sheridan Le Fanu, *Carmilla* tells the story of a sexually curious teenage girl (Hannah Rae) whose life is turned upside down with the arrival of a young woman recovering from a roadside accident.

**Released Fri 3 April**

[whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk)



## Four Kids And It

CERT PG (110 mins)

Starring **Paula Patton, Russell Brand, Matthew Goode, Cheryl**, and the voice of **Michael Caine**  
Directed by **Andy De Emmony (UK)**

Based on the novel by Jacqueline Wilson, this family fantasy centres on a quartet of children on holiday in Cornwall who

come across a grumpy sand fairy (voiced by Michael Caine) that can bestow them with one wish a day. Lovers of children's literature will know that Ms Wilson, in turn, based her novel on E Nesbit's *Five Children And It*. Cheryl, formerly of *Girls Aloud*, apparently has a cameo.

**Released Fri 10 April**



## The Secret Garden

CERT PG

Starring **Colin Firth, Julie Walters, Dixie Egerickx, Edan Hayhurst**  
Directed by **Marc Munden (UK)**

Sent to live with her strict uncle, young Mary Lennox (Egerickx) discovers a magical garden on his Yorkshire estate. Based on the 1911 novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, the story has been filmed three times before and on several occasions for the small screen.

**Released Fri 10 April**



## Antlers CERT 15 (99 mins)

Starring Keri Russell, Jesse Plemons, Jeremy T Thomas, Graham Greene, Scott Haze, Rory Cochrane, Amy Madigan Directed by Scott Cooper (USA/Mexico/Canada)



The premise of a young boy harbouring a supernatural creature in a small Oregon town doesn't sound promising. However, the director has an impressive track record, including the Oscar-winning *Crazy Heart*, *Out Of The Furnace* and the criminally underrated *Hostiles*.

Released Fri 17 April

## Dream Horse CERT PG (113 mins)

Starring Toni Collette, Damian Lewis, Owen Teale, Joanna Page  
Directed by Euros Lyn (UK/USA)



A Welsh bartender (Collette) decides to breed a race horse, with financial aid from her fellow villagers. Based on a true story.

Released Fri 17 April

## Promising Young Woman CERT PG (113 mins)

CERT PG (113 mins)

Starring Carey Mulligan, Bo Burnham, Alison Brie, Clancy Brown  
Directed by Emerald Fennell (USA)

Cassie used to be promising, and then something happened. Time, then, for her to exact her revenge...

Released Fri 17 April



KIDS PICK

## Trolls World Tour CERT PG

With the voices of Anna Kendrick, Justin Timberlake, James Corden, Ozzy Osbourne, Rachel Bloom, Kelly Clarkson, Sam Rockwell Directed by Walt Dohrn (USA)

DreamWorks' animated musical resurrection of the gonk troll fad was not as bad as people feared. In fact, it was

quite subversive and entertaining. Now comes the sequel in which Poppy and Branch discover there are other Troll tribes, all with their own specific taste in music. Could their love of bubble-gum pop be threatened?

Released Wed 13 April

## Finding The Way Back CERT 15 (108 mins)

CERT 15 (108 mins)

Starring Ben Affleck, Al Madrigal, Michaela Watkins, Janina Gavankar  
Directed by Gavin O'Connor (USA)



A former basketball player plagued by alcoholism is asked to coach his alma mater - and something extraordinary happens...

Released Fri 24 April

## Our Ladies CERT 15 (105 mins)

Starring Eve Austin, Tallulah Greive, Abigail Lawrie, Sally Messham, Rona Morison, Marli Siu

Directed by Michael Caton-Jones (UK)

When a gaggle of Catholic school girls is invited to Edinburgh to enrol in a choir competition, they see it as a chance to paint the town red...

Released Fri 24 April







## Yhonnie Scarce

Ikon Gallery, Birmingham,  
Thurs 9 April - Sun 3 May

"Some people don't like my work; they find it too confronting," says Australian Aboriginal glassblowing artist Yhonnie Scarce. "But if you don't want to engage in this conversation, then the solution is simple - don't look at my art. But that doesn't mean it will go away."

Yhonnie, whose work explores the political nature and aesthetic qualities of glass, is undertaking a five-week residency at Ikon before presenting a new work in the venue's Tower Room.

"To define the strength of our culture, it may seem strange to use glass," she says, "but it's not as fragile as most people would think. Glass can be very strong, and in that way it reflects the resilience of our people. It is a creation that has been witness to our journey, and one that still continues today."

***"The must see major Art Exhibition of 2020"***

**AOW magazine**



# International Watercolour Masters

5th May - 15th May 2020

Lilleshall Hall Shropshire TF10 9AT

Tickets on sale now  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)







## Victoria & Albert: Our Lives In Watercolour

Wolverhampton Art Gallery, until Sunday 31 May

Capturing the pomp and spectacle of the British court, the exploration and shaping of a modern nation, and a sense of the close-knit family at the centre of it all, *Victoria & Albert: Our Lives In Watercolour* is a touring exhibition from the Royal Collection. Throughout their marriage, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were enthusiastic patrons and practitioners of

the art of watercolour painting. They built up a collection of thousands of artworks and often spent happy evenings together organising their acquisitions into albums...

The exhibition is touring to mark the bicentenary of the births of both Victoria and Albert.

## Cranach: Artist And Innovator

Compton Verney Art Gallery, Worcestershire, until Sun 4 June

Lucas Cranach the Elder may be best known in modern times for his seductive paintings of the female nude, but back in his day - some 500 years ago - it was his paintings of German nobility and the leaders of the Protestant Reformation for which he was most admired.

This exhibition of work by one of the most successful German artists of all time features paintings and illustrations on loan from the National Gallery, the Royal Collection, the British Museum and Waddesdon Manor.

The show also reflects on the enduring appeal of Cranach, whose work has been admired by a range of modern and contemporary artists, including Pablo Picasso.



## Cornwall As Crucible

Barber Institute, University of Birmingham, until Sun 17 May

This hugely popular exhibition takes as its inspiration the Barber's recently acquired Constructivist sculpture - Russian artist Naum Gabo's *Linear Construction In Space No1*. *Cornwall As Crucible* considers the relationships and networks that existed between artists who lived and worked in the county (and most particularly in St Ives) during the mid-20th century.

Featuring works by, among others, Barbara Hepworth, Ben Nicholson, Peter Lanyon and Sandra Blow, the installation examines the artists' development of a visual language that explored the boundary between representation and abstraction.

The show also investigates the impact which the distinctive Cornish landscape had on the work of the artists residing in the region.



## Made At MAC: Painting

Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Sat 25 April - Mon 31 August

Professional artist-tutor Helen Tarr's autumn 2019 project, *The Scottish Colourists; Creating Impact With Colour*, provided the inspiration for the paintings on display in this exhibition. Helen teaches Practical Visual Enquiry & Art In Context at Midlands Arts Centre, using her lessons to demystify the technical skills of painting and drawing.

Her *Scottish Colourists* project has seen her students immersing themselves in an artistic exploration of colour, line and form across the genres of landscape, portrait and still-life.



National  
**SEA★LIFE**  
Birmingham

**NEW  
2020**

# Meet the UK's first and only sea otters

Come face-to-face with our cuddly pair, Ozzy and Ola



**LEGOLAND**  
DISCOVERY CENTRE  
BIRMINGHAM  
ARENA BIRMINGHAM

## CELEBRATE A TROLL-TASTIC ADVENTURE

14th March - 10th May  
At the ultimate indoor  
LEGO® playground

**BOOK NOW**  
[LEGOLANDDiscoveryCentre.com](http://LEGOLANDDiscoveryCentre.com)



LEGO, the LEGO logo, the Brick and Knob configurations, the minifigure and LEGOLAND are trademarks of the LEGO Group. ©2020 The LEGO Group. All Rights Reserved.





## Zog & The Quest For The Golden Star

Warwick Castle, Sat 4 - Sun 19 April

Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler's much-loved book about an accident-prone young dragon named Zog provides the inspiration for

a 3D activity trail being launched at Warwick Castle this month.

Visitors can explore the trail around the castle and its grounds, meet Sir Gadabout, learn all the skills needed to become a fully fledged dragon, and enjoy a special meet-and-greet with Zog himself.



## Animal Easter Trail

RAF Museum, Cosford,  
Sat 4 - Sun 19 April

Back for a second year, RAF Museum Cosford's Animal Trail encourages families to make their way around the venue's hangars in search of animal friends. Once the fun task has been completed, participants can hand over their trail sheets in exchange for a much-deserved chocolate prize.

## Destination Space

Thinktank Science Museum, Birmingham,  
Mon 6 - Fri 17 April

Thinktank is celebrating all things 'out of this world' this Easter.

Fun activities include weekday family theatre shows and the chance to learn all about satellites - how to spot them, what their uses are, and how they're likely to be deployed in the future.



## Alice in Easter Wonderland

Dudley Canal & Tunnel Trust,  
Sat 4 - Sun 19 April

The caverns of Dudley Canal Trust are set to become a magically decorated Easter wonderland this month.

The Easter Bunny has teamed up with Alice, The Queen of Hearts and even The Mad Hatter to hide some giant eggs. Climb on board a boat and travel underground to find them, along the way enjoying Alice In Wonderland-themed scenes and sound & light shows. There's the chance to win a ton of chocolate, too!

Once you've finished your trip to Wonderland, enjoy a Tea Party with The Mad Hatter himself.



## The Great Easter Dragon Egg Hunt

Ludlow Castle, Shropshire,  
Sat 4 - Mon 13 April

A pesky dragon has hidden its eggs in the grounds of Ludlow Castle, and the venue is asking budding knights and princesses to try and find them before they hatch and cause havoc!

There's a trail map available to help with searching the castle's nooks and crannies, and a special prize to enjoy at the end of it all.







# COME & JOIN US

AT THE NEC BIRMINGHAM FOR THE BIGGEST MAKERS EVENT OF THE YEAR  
**SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> - SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2020**

MAKERS CENTRAL IS BACK FOR ITS THIRD YEAR AND IS SET TO BE THE BIGGEST AND BEST YET! THERE WILL BE HUNDREDS OF EXHIBITORS OFFERING A WIDE RANGE OF DEMONSTRATIONS & WORKSHOPS INCLUDING: 3D PRINTING, WOODTURNING, CNC DEMOS, RESIN DEMONSTRATIONS, ROBOTICS, METAL WORKING, FORGING, PYROGRAPHY, ICE SCULPTING, WOOD CARVING AND MUCH MORE!



**JIMMY DIRESTA**



**BOBBY DUKE ARTS**



**CHARIS WILLIAMS**



**ILIKETOMAKESTUFF**

DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO MEET THE STARS OF  
TV'S ROBOT WARS INCLUDING THE CHAMPION 'APOLLO'  
AS THEY BATTLE IT OUT IN AN IMPRESSIVE  
LIVE ACTION ARENA!



**LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE. GET YOURS TODAY AT [WWW.MAKERSCENTRAL.CO.UK](http://WWW.MAKERSCENTRAL.CO.UK)**

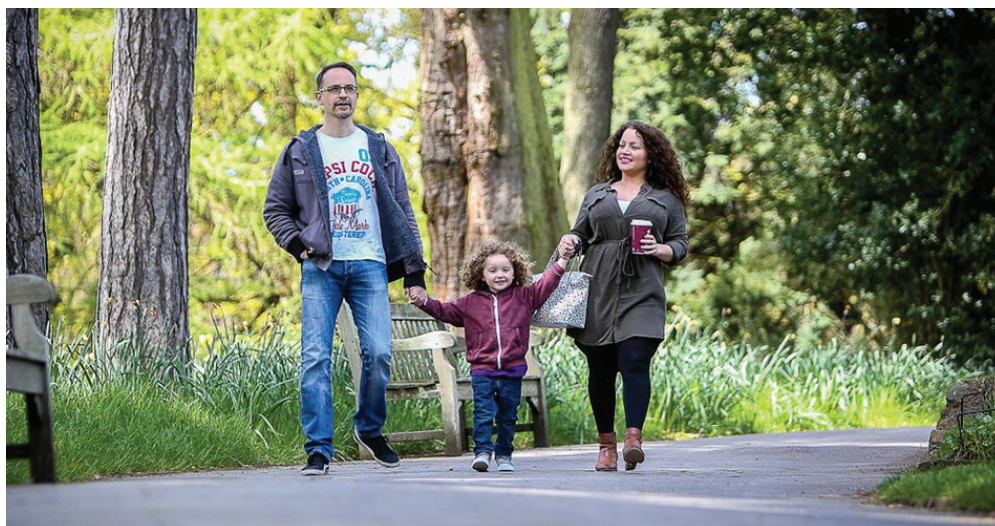
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN EXHIBITING AT THIS EVENT PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE  
FOR MORE DETAILS ON HOW TO BOOK OR CALL US ON 01794 339 899

SPONSORED BY:

**AXMINSTER**  
Tools & Machinery







## Easter Holiday Activities

Birmingham Botanical Gardens,  
Mon 13 - Fri 17 April

Birmingham Botanical Gardens is hosting daily activities for families to enjoy this Easter. As well as providing youngsters with the opportunity to sample a wide range of pursuits -

including bird watching and orienteering - the venue will also be welcoming Peter Rabbit on Wednesday the 15th for some special storytelling sessions. Bibbledy Bob, the garden's resident entertainer, will be in attendance a couple of days beforehand, on Easter Monday, providing plenty of fun and laughter down on the main lawn.



## Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt

various National Trust properties throughout  
the West Midlands

The mischief-making Easter bunny has been at it again, hiding clues for a special Easter Egg hunt at National Trust locations throughout the

Midlands.

Explore muddy woodlands, colourful gardens and interesting nature trails at numerous NT sites, with a chocolatey Cadbury treat as a special reward to enjoy at the end of your adventure.

## Easter Adventure Quest

Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire;  
Stokesay Castle, Shropshire and  
Witley Court, Worcestershire,  
Sat 4 - Sun 19 April



English Heritage is inviting children to take part in a 'legendary quest' at its Midlands properties this month. Intrepid adventurers and their families will need to crack a host of clues to track down dragon eggs hidden across the sites - after which they'll be rewarded with a certificate and some yummy treats from Hotel Chocolat.

## Easter Holidays at Compton Verney

Compton Verney Art Gallery &  
Park, Warwickshire, Tues 7 - Sun  
19 April

There are family-friendly activities aplenty to enjoy at Compton Verney this month. Visitors to the popular venue can take on the Egg Drop Challenge, track down all the escaped animals from the Folk Art Collection in the Easter trail, get creative with a range of crafty activities, enjoy storytelling, play musical instruments and sample games inspired by nature in the Forest School.







**Easter Fun at Ironbridge**  
Family activities 4-19 April  
[IRONBRIDGE.ORG.UK](http://IRONBRIDGE.ORG.UK)

**Ironbridge**  
BIRTHPLACE OF INDUSTRY



**Shrewsbury  
Flower Show**



Shropshire Horticultural Society  
Charity Number 501564

**Friday 14th & Saturday  
15th August 2020**

**So Much More  
than a Flower Show**

Visit [www.shrewsburyflowershow.org.uk](http://www.shrewsburyflowershow.org.uk)

**Call 01743 234058**

**133<sup>rd</sup> Show**





## Easter Holiday Activities

British Motor Museum, Gaydon,  
Sat 4 - Sun 26 April

British Motor Museum is set to go 'Mini mad' this Easter, courtesy of a host of Mini-themed activities.

Families can explore the venue with the Fix It family trail or join Mini factory characters Victor or Patsy for a daily tour.

Other attractions include the chance to design and make Minis in air drying clay workshops, and a traditional Easter egg hunt over the Easter weekend - complete with a 'Mini twist'!



## Easter at Shakespeare Birthplace Trust

Shakespeare's Family Homes, Stratford-upon-Avon, Sat 4 - Sun 19 April

There's plenty for youngsters to enjoy at Shakespeare's Family Homes this Easter. Attractions include a family marquee at Anne Hathaway's Cottage - complete with a selection of crafts based on some of Shakespeare's most popular plays - and an outdoor Sprites' Camp at the Shakespeare's Birthplace site (hosted by Puck from A Midsummer Night's Dream and Ariel from The Tempest!).

## Easter Extravaganza

Cadbury World, Bournville,  
Sat 4 - Sun 19 April

What better way to celebrate Easter than by visiting Cadbury World?

Popular Cadbury characters Freddo and Caramel Bunny present their new live stage show every day during the holiday - while over the Easter weekend itself, children can check out the Easter egg trail or try their hand at making an Easter bonnet. Or both!



## Medieval St George's Day

Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, Sat 18 - Sun 19 April

Avoncroft is set to delve into the legend of St George this month, as the War of the Roses Federation re-enactors take over the site for a whole weekend and bring history to life.

As well as action-packed reenactments, the two-day event features storytelling, archery competitions, the chance to dress up as a knight or a 15th century soldier, a St George Mumming play, living-history camps and medieval drills & combat experiences.



## Easter Holidays at Severn Valley Railway

Severn Valley Railway,  
Sat 4 - Sun 19 April

Severn Valley Railway brings the golden age of steam to life this Easter holiday - including the reintroduction of trains from Kidderminster.

On Saturday the 4th, to celebrate the grand reopening of the Loop Line from Kidderminster to Bewdley, visitors are invited to head back to the Victorian era courtesy of a host of activities along the line.

Other attractions include a brand new exhibition at The Engine House - telling the story of the railway between the 1870s and 1950s - and the chance to participate in a special Easter egg trail.



ROOK  
and  
BONE

# original british contemporary art & instant downloads



Etsy & 

[HTTPS://WWW.ETSY.COM/UK/SHOP/ROOKANDBONE](https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/ROOKANDBONE)



Your week-  
by-week  
listings guide  
**April 2020**

# the list



Sarah McQuaid at Stafford Gatehouse Theatre - Sun 19 April

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

## What's On

Wed 1 - Sun 12 April



Your Toys at The Brewhouse  
Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent  
**Sat 11 April**

Mon 13 to Sun 19 April



Mischief and Mystery in  
Moominvalley at Arena Theatre  
**Sat 18 April**

Mon 20 to Sun 26 April



St George's Day Celebrations  
at Tamworth Castle  
**Sat 25 April**

Mon 27 to Thurs 30 April



Sari Schorr at  
The Robin, Bilston  
**Wed 29 April**



## THROUGHOUT APR

### Bantock House Museum

#### NEW: THE HOGARTH PUPPETS

Exhibition looking at Britain's best-known puppet company, most famous for its 1950s' children's TV star, Muffin the Mule, Tues 7 Apr - Sun 28 June

### Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

#### WHITWORTH WALLIS ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: LEANNE O'CONNOR

Leanne's work responds to the stained-glass and metalwork collection held within the Industrial gallery, the Museum Collections Centre and Community History & Archives Service in Smethwick, until Mon 1 June

**DRESSED TO THE NINES** Exhibition about dressing up and going out, from around 1850 to the present day, until Fri 4 Sept

**BIRMINGHAM REVOLUTIONS - POWER TO THE PEOPLE** Display exploring Birmingham's vibrant and varied history of protest and activism, until Fri 4 Sept

**WEBSTER AND HORSFALL: 300 YEARS OF INNOVATION** Archive material, watercolour paintings and objects from the museum's Science & Industry collection are here combined to tell the story of Webster & Horsfall, until Sun 4 Oct

### New Art Gallery - Walsall

**TOO RICH A SOIL** Exhibition by three photographers presenting new work focused around portraiture, culture and female identity, until Sun 19 Apr

**SARAH TAYLOR SILVERWOOD - KATHLEEN AND SALLY SERIES** Body of drawings based on text and images abstracted from photographs, letters and documents relating to the two creators and donors of the Garman Ryan Collection, Kathleen Epstein (née Garman) and Sally Ryan, until Sun 7 June

**NEW: 20 FOR 2020** Exhibition of work by 20 artists, one to represent each year since The New Art Gallery opened, until Sun 5 July

### Himley Hall & Park, Dudley

**NEW: BIRMINGHAM WATERCOLOUR: ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBITION** Exhibition of work using water-based media, Sat 4 Apr - Sun 28 June

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

**PDSA DICKIN MEDAL: EXTRAORDINARY ANIMALS IN ACTION** Celebration of the animal heroes who displayed outstanding devotion and heroism in

whatsonlive.co.uk

times of difficulty and conflict, until Sun 19 Apr

**KAPOW!** Exhibition exploring the influence on art and design of cartoon and comic-book superheroes, super heroines and super villains, until Sun 27 Sep

### Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms

**NEW: KIRSTY GIBBS - LOCAL LANDSCAPES AND FLORA** Mixed-media exhibition of work inspired by the county of Shropshire, until Tues 21 Apr

**NEW: MATT JENNESON** Exhibition of work focusing mainly on the texture and colour of our surroundings, with the intention of achieving a level of abstraction, until Tues 21 Apr

### Twenty Twenty Gallery, Ludlow

**NEW: ZOË TAYLOR & SHARON GRIFFIN** Exhibition featuring Zoë's painted landscapes and Sharon's ceramic sculptures, Sat 11 Apr - Sat 9 May

### Weston Park

**NEW: THE SOCIETY OF EQUESTRIAN ARTISTS EXHIBITION** Mixed media show featuring 100-plus artworks covering most equestrian sports and subjects, Thurs 2 - Tues 28 Apr

### Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**MEERA SYAL: COMING HOME** Meera Syal by photographer Jason Bell - on loan from the National Portrait Gallery, London, until Sun 5 Apr

**WOLVERHAMPTON AND ME** Installation using the story of the Mayor of Wolverhampton's family history to reflect on the wider history of the city and its people, until Sun 5 Apr

**NEW: PHOEBE CUMMINGS: THIS WAS NOW** Phoebe contemplates ceramics as a time-based medium, until Sun 31 May

### Other VISUAL ARTS

**PAINTING WITH WORDS 2020** Open exhibition celebrating the influence and inspiration of literature and language on the visual arts, until Sat 2 May, The Willow Gallery, Oswestry

**NEW: YVETTE APPLEBY** Diverse exhibition of work using found objects to create magical scenes, Tues 14 Apr - Fri 22 May, Gallery3, Shrewsbury

**NEW: IMPETUS** Exhibition of work by The Society of Staffordshire Artists, Wed 29 Apr - Fri 29 May, Keele University, Staffordshire

## Gigs

**DIGDAT** Wed 1 Apr, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**IRISH SESSION** Wed 1 Apr, Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**THE ROSELLYS PLUS FRAGILE HEARTS** Wed 1 Apr, The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham

**SEED ENSEMBLE** Wed 1 Apr, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**BARS AND MELODY** Thurs 2 Apr, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**TANKUS THE HENGE** Thurs 2 Apr, The Robin, Bilston

**BAD TOUCH** Thurs 2 Apr, KK Steele Mill, Wolverhampton

**THE SOUND OF SPRINGSTEIN** Thurs 2 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**ORCHARDS** Thurs 2 Apr, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**BIG HEATH** Fri 3 Apr, O2 Institute, B'ham

**DIRTY VERTEBRAE** Fri 3 Apr, Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**SUFFER** Fri 3 Apr, KK Steele Mill, Wolverhampton

**TEENAGE WEREWOLVES - NUTABT MOVEMENT** Fri 3 Apr, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

**TEKNO DISCO X VOYAGE: HARE & HOUNDS TAKEOVER** Fri 3 Apr, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**LOVE DISTRACTION** Fri 3 Apr, The Robin, Bilston

**NIRVANA UK** Fri 3 Apr, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**MICHAEL STARRING BEN** Fri 3 Apr, The Place, Telford

**ELO ENCOUNTER** Fri 3 Apr, Eleven, Sandyford, Stoke-on-Trent

**MERSEY BEATLES** Fri 3 Apr, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

**YOU WIN AGAIN - THE BEE GEES TRIBUTE** Fri 3 Apr, Lichfield Garrick

**SOUNDS OF THE SIRENS + SAMANTICS** Fri 3 Apr, Dead Wax, Birmingham



Roachford - O2 Academy, Birmingham

**SEAN GAFFNEY BAND** Fri 3 Apr, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

**BIG O' AND THE TRAVELLING WILBURYS** Fri 3 Apr, Brierley Hill Civic Hall

**EMO DISCO - THE BLACK PARADE** Fri 3 Apr, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**THE LOTTERY WINNERS** Fri 3 Apr, The Castle & Falcon, Birmingham

**THE ELO TRIBUTE SHOW** Fri 3 Apr, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**THE HARA + SPECIAL GUESTS** Fri 3 Apr, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

**SIMON JAMES, EMILIA QUINN, DONNA MARIE AND EMMA MOORE** Fri 3 Apr, Ludlow Brewery Company, Shropshire

**RYAN JARVIS + BEHIND THE MOON** Fri 3 Apr, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

**ELTON JOHN - 50 YEARS OF YOUR SONG** Fri 3 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**SUBMOTION ORCHESTRA** Fri 3 Apr, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**ROACHFORD** Sat 4 Apr, O2 Academy, B'ham

**THE RAT PACK IS BACK** Sat 4 Apr, Theatre On The Steps, Bridgnorth

**THE SKA45S** Sat 4 Apr, The Robin, Bilston

**PROPHE C** Sat 4 Apr, O2 Institute, B'ham

**ROCKFEST 2020** Sat 4 Apr, KK Steele Mill, Wolverhampton

**JOE BROWN IN CONCERT - 60TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR** Sat 4 Apr, Birmingham Town Hall

**HATS OFF TO LED ZEPPELIN** Sat 4 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**SUPREME QUEEN** Sat 4 Apr, Walsall Arena & Arts Centre

**WHITESNAKES JOURNEY** Sat 4 Apr, Eleven, Sandyford, Stoke-on-Trent

**CUSTARD CONNECTION** Sat 4 Apr, Albert's Shed, Southwater

**THE BAR-STEWARD SONS OF VAL DOONICAN** Sat 4 Apr, The Hive, Shrewsbury

**SWEAT** Sat 4 Apr, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**HOUSEJAMMERZ** Sat 4 Apr, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

**JEFFREY FOUCALT** Sat 4 Apr, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Staffordshire

**AND FINALLY... PHIL COLLINS** Sat 4 Apr, Lichfield Garrick

**CARIBOU** Sun 5 Apr, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**HENGE** Sun 5 Apr, Albert's Shed, Southwater

**GUTTERSNIPE** Sun 5 Apr, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

**GILBERT O'SULLIVAN** Sun 5 Apr, Birmingham Town Hall

**YES PLEASE - AN EVENING OF CLASSIC YES** Sun 5 Apr, The Robin, Bilston



## Classical & Easy Listening

**KATHY CHOW IN RECITAL** Programme includes works by Beethoven, Schumann, Debussy, Chopin & Prokofiev, Wed 1 Apr, Birmingham Town Hall

**CBSO: STRAVINSKY'S PULCINELLA** Featuring Kazuki Yamada (conductor), Alban Gerhardt (cello), Marta Fontanals-Simmons (mezzo soprano), James Way (tenor) & Antoin Herrera-Lopez Kessel (bass). Programme includes works by Fauré, Julian Anderson & Stravinsky, Thurs 2 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**SENIOR CITIZENS ORCHESTRA CONCERT** Thurs 2 Apr, Walsall Arena

**FOSTER AND ALLEN** Thurs 2 Apr, Prince of Wales Centre, Cannock

**CBSO STRING QUINTET** Programme includes works by Monti, Bach, Strauss & Sousa, Thurs 2 Apr, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

**TOBY SPENCE IN RECITAL** Also featuring Michael Trainor (violin) & Iain Burnside (piano). Programme includes works by Tippett, Finzi, Britten & Philip Lancaster, Fri 3 Apr, St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire

**BIRMINGHAM BACH CHOIR EASTER CONCERT** Featuring Paul Spicer (conductor). Programme includes works by Vaughan Williams, Leighton, Walton & Britten, Sat 4 Apr, St Philips Cathedral, Birmingham

**SHREWSBURY SCHOOL COMMUNITY CHOIR: ST JOHN PASSION** Featuring John Moore (conductor). Programme comprises JS Bach's The St John Passion, Sat 4 Apr, Shrewsbury Abbey

**PIATTI QUARTET** Featuring Nathaniel Anderson-Frank (violin), Michael Trainor (violin), Tetsuomi Nagata (viola) & Jessie Ann Richardson (cello). Programme includes works by Purcell, Turnage & Elgar, Sat 4 Apr, St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire

**HALESOWEN ORCHESTRA: JOAQUÍN RODRIGO FANTASIA FOR GUITAR** Featuring Christopher Hogarth (conductor). Programme includes works by Mendelssohn, McCunn, Rodrigo & Beethoven, Sat 4 Apr, Halesowen Cornbow Hall

**THE MOON AND I** World premiere of Rhian Samuel's new composition featuring Nardus Williams (soprano), Claire-Barnett-Jones (mezzo soprano), Tetsuomi Nagata (viola) & Gamal Khamis (piano). Programme includes works by Howells, Bridge, Lee Holby, Rhian Samuel & Liza Lehmann, Sat 4 Apr, St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire

**BIRMINGHAM PHILHARMONIC**

**ORCHESTRA CHAMBER ENSEMBLE** Featuring Keith Slade (conductor). Programme includes works by Mozart, Stravinsky, Schoenberg & Copland, Sun 5 Apr, University of Birmingham

**RUSSELL WATSON** Sun 5 Apr, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**THE OPERA BOYS** Sun 5 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**A BRAHMS & SCHUMANN EXPERIENCE** Featuring Richard Jenkinson (cello) & Benjamin Frith (piano), Sun 5 Apr, The Gateway, Shrewsbury

**RODERICK WILLIAMS IN RECITAL** Also featuring Iain Burnside (piano). Programme includes works by Butterworth, Rhian Samuel, John Ireland & Roderick Williams, Sun 5 Apr, St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire

**BACH @ BART'S 6** Featuring Gary Cole (organ), Sun 5 Apr, St Bartholomew's Church, Penn, Wolverhampton

## Comedy

**RUSSELL KANE** Wed 1 Apr, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**HENNING WEHN** Thurs 2 Apr, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**ROMESH RANGANATHAN** Thurs 2 Apr, Birmingham Hippodrome



**BRENDAN RILEY, KATY TREV, JON PEARSON & DAN SMITH** Thurs 2 Apr, Stourbridge Town Hall

**BEN NORRIS, GARY DELANEY, JOSH PUGH & LUCY FREDERICK** Thurs 2 Apr, The George Hotel, Lichfield

**DANA ALEXANDER, GARY LITTLE & COMEDY CAROUSEL WITH ANDY ROBINSON** Thurs 2, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**CHRIS RAMSEY** Fri 3 Apr, Dudley Town Hall

**PETE FIRMAN & THE AMAZING TBC** Fri 3 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**BILL BAILEY, MIKE COX, SIMON LOMAS & WAYNE BEESE** Fri 3 Apr, Sutton Coldfield Town Hall

**TAT VISION II** Fri 3 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**DANA ALEXANDER, GARY LITTLE, JOHN LYNN & TOM LUCY** Fri 3 - Sat 4 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**CHRIS RAMSEY** Sat 4 Apr, Theatre



## Tartuffe

The REP, Birmingham, Fri 20 March - Sat 4 Apr

Transferring the action of Moliere's famous comedy from the 17th century to 21st-century Birmingham, Anil Gupta and Richard Pinto - the writing team who've updated the play - have made the title character a Muslim cleric and turned the full glare of their spotlight on the contemporary British Muslim experience. Consistently funny and blessed with a vitality that wouldn't have been possible without the modern-day makeover, Tartuffe is alive with contemporary references, hugely and joyously accessible, cleverly punctuated by humorous interaction with the audience and chock-a-block with engaging performances.

Severn, Shrewsbury

**BILL BAILEY, MIKE COX, SIMON LOMAS & WAYNE BEESE** Sat 4 Apr, Brierley Hill Civic Hall, Dudley

**JONNY AWSUM, MATT GREEN, DARIUS DAVIES & JAMES ALDERSON** Sat 4 Apr, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

**SIMON BRODKIN** Sun 5 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**LADYKILLER** Blood-soaked morality tale about victimhood... Tues 31 Mar - Thurs 2 Apr, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**CABARET** Award-winning production of Kander & Ebb's landmark musical. John Partridge, Kara Lily Hayworth & Anita Harris star, Tues 31 Mar - Sat 4 Apr, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**HANGMEN** Stoke Rep Players present an amateur staging of Martin McDonagh's dark drama, Tues 31 Mar - Sat 4 Apr, Stoke Repertory Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**CURTAINS** Jason Manford stars in a whodunnit featuring 'catchy songs, unforgettable characters and plot twists', Tues 31 Mar - Sat 4 Apr, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**THE WOMAN IN BLACK** Stage adaptation of one of the world's most chilling tales, Tues 31 Mar - Sat 4 Apr, The Alexandra, Birmingham

**CHICAGO** Amateur production of the award-winning musical, presented by Tab Operatic Society, Tues 31 Mar - Sat 4 Apr, Stourbridge Town Hall

**MURDER, MARGARET AND ME** 'Humour, thrills, sleuthing and pathos' combine, Tues 31 Mar - Sat 4 Apr, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**THE MERCHANT OF VENICE**

## Theatre

**TARTUFFE** Brummie comedy about faith, family & #fakingit, until Sat 4 Apr, The REP, Birmingham

**THE HIGH TABLE** Temi Wilkey's debut play - 'a heartbreaking family drama played out between the heavens and earth', until Thurs 9 Apr, The REP, Birmingham

**THE WINTER'S TALE** New production which imagines 'a world where the ghosts of fascist Europe collide with the horrors of The Handmaid's Tale, before washing up on a joyful seashore', until Fri 2 Oct, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**HEROES** The Nonentities present Gerald Sibleyras' French comedy, Mon 30 Mar - Sat 4 Apr, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster



# ENTERTAINMENT

## CANNOCK CHASE

at the PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE

### APRIL

#### HERMAN'S HERMITS

Saturday 4 April  
7.30pm • £24



#### WIZARD OF OZ

Saturday 11 April  
3.00pm & 7.00pm  
£16.50 • Conc £14.50  
Family £58



#### UP POMPEII

Wednesday 22 &  
Thursday 23 April • 7.30pm  
£13



#### BON JOVI EXPERIENCE

Friday 24 April  
7.30pm • £22



#### LISA STANLEY

Saturday 25 April  
7.30pm • £20



### MAY

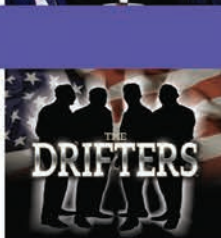
#### ROSE ROYCE

Saturday 23 May  
7.30pm • £32



#### SWING TOWN

Sunday 24 May  
7.30pm • £22



### JUNE

#### THE DRIFTERS

Friday 5 June  
7.30pm • £27

Inspiring  
healthy  
lifestyles



Box Office  
**01543 578 762**  
tickets.princeofwales.live

whatsonlive.co.uk



April  
2020

THE MIDLANDS PREMIERE 700 CAPACITY VENUE

ALL SEATED SHOW

# PSYCHOLOGY OF SERIAL KILLERS

WITH JENNIFER REES

**WED 8 APR 2020**

SAT 4 APR 2020  
THE SKA45s

FRI 10 APR 2020  
ULTIMATE 40

SAT 11 APR 2020  
BLACK COUNTRY BEATLES

SUN 12 APR 2020



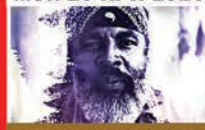
A BAND CALLED MALICE

MON 13 APR 2020



THE METEORS

MON 20 APR 2020



ALVIN YOUNGBLOOD HART

FEATURING ORIGINAL MEMBER  
THE GODFATHER OF PUNK  
**CHARLIE HARPER**

**UK SUBS**

SUPPORTS  
DISHY TANGENT THE SCUMBAGS

**THU 23 APR 2020** UK SUBS + SUPPORTS DISHY TANGENT + THE SCUMBAGS

**THE RHYTHM KINGS UK**

**SUN 26 APR 2020**

**SARI SCHORR**

**WED 29 APR 2020**

SARI SCHORR - THE FIRST LADY OF ROCK/BLUES

FOR THE FULL APRIL SHOW LIST, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.therobin.co.uk | 01902 401 211

f therobin2 i therobin2 t Robin2Music



Collaboration between Nottingham Playhouse & Nottingham Lakeside Arts, Wed 1 Apr, Midlands Arts Centre, B'ham

**FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD A** Shropshire Youth Theatre production, Wed 1 - Thurs 2 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**ANGRY BIRDS** Young Rep Seniors present a new punk musical, Fri 3 - Sat 4 Apr, The REP, Birmingham

**JEW...ISH** Twisted millennial romcom which poses the question that should never be answered: is it ever okay to get back with your ex? Fri 3 - Sat 4 Apr, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**ERIC'S FULL MONTY** The latest installment in the life of Eric, complete with '60s music, Fri 3 - Sat 18 Apr, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**MRS KAPOOR'S DAUGHTER'S WEDDING** Bollywood-style show, complete with dancing, singing and comedy, Sun 5 Apr, The Alexandra, Birmingham

## Kids Shows

**SARAH & DUCK'S BIG TOP BIRTHDAY** Puppetry, storytelling & music combine in a production based on the BAFTA-winning CBeebies show, Sat 4 - Mon 6 Apr, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD** Hiccup Theatre fuse puppetry & storytelling in a brand new version of the classic children's tale, Sun 5 Apr, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

## Cabaret

**A BLACK COUNTRY NIGHT OUT** Variety show featuring vocal & comedy duo Dandy, comedian Ollie Spencer and musician Joe Thomas. Original Fizzog Emma Rollason pays tribute to Black Country comedienne Dolly Allen, Thurs 2 Apr, Lichfield Garrick

**JAMES PHELAN - MINDBLOWN!** James presents a unique magical prank show, Sat 4 Apr, Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire

**BOX OF FROGS IMPROV COMEDY** Evening of high-octane improvised comedy, Sat 4 Apr, SpArC Theatre, Bishops Castle, Shropshire

**AN EVENING OF PSYCHIC CONNECTIONS: PART 3** With medium Karen Archer, Sat 4 Apr, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

## Dance

**GISELLE** Ballet Theatre UK presents its

version of one of the greatest ballets of all time, Wed 1 Apr, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

**HAVANA NIGHTS** A mix of Latin dances, with individual performances from Strictly's Graziano Di Prima, Fri 3 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**BOLLYWOOD DIVAS** Show paying tribute to the leading ladies of Bollywood - the world's largest film industry, India, Sat 4 Apr, Birmingham Hippodrome

**HAVANA NIGHTS** A mix of Latin dances, with individual performances from Strictly's Graziano Di Prima, Sun 5 Apr, Lichfield Garrick

## Film

### INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

**TRUE HISTORY OF THE KELLY GANG (18)** Biography/Crime. Starring George MacKay, Essie Davis. Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 27 Mar - Thurs 2 Apr; Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 3 - Sat 4 Apr

**RADIOACTIVE (12a)** Biography/Drama. Starring Anya Taylor-Joy, Rosamund Pike. Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 27 Mar - Thurs 2 Apr; Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 27 Mar - Thurs 2 Apr

**THE ELEPHANT MAN (PG)** Biography/Drama. Starring John Hurt, Anthony Hopkins. Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Sun 29 Mar

**THE GOOD LIAR (15)** Crime/Drama. Starring Helen Mirren, Ian McKellen. Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, North Shropshire, Mon 30 Mar

**PARASITE (15)** Drama. Starring Kang-ho Song, Yeo-jeong Jo. Foreign language, subtitled. Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire, Mon 30 Mar

**PORTRAIT OF A LADY ON FIRE (15)** Drama/Romance. Starring Noémie Merlant, Adèle Haenel. Foreign language, subtitled. Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 2 Apr; Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 3 - Tues 7 Apr

**EMMA (U)** Comedy/Drama. Starring Anya Taylor-Joy, Johnny Flynn. Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire, Fri 3 & Mon 6 Apr

**HAPPY AS LAZARRO (15)** Drama/Fantasy. Starring Adriano Tardiolo, Agnese Graziani. Foreign language, subtitled. The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 3 Apr

### NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE:

Released from Fri 3 Apr, showing at selected cinemas

**THE ASSISTANT (15)**

**CARMILLA (15)**

**THE UNCERTAIN KINGDOM (15)**

**THE SECRET GARDEN (PG)**

**THE NEW MUTANTS (12a)**

## Events

**TROLL-TASTIC ADVENTURE** Get ready for Trolls World Tour!, until Sun 10 May, Legoland Discovery Centre, Birmingham

**JAWSOME SHARKS** The National Sea Life Centre is looking for brave adventurers for a brand new quest with the venue's Professor Finn... until Sun 10 May, National Sea Life Centre, Birmingham

**THE BODENHAM EASTER TRAIL** Hunt for the Easter Bunny's carrots before collecting a treat from the Visitor Centre, Wed 1 - Sun 19 Apr, Bodenheim Arboretum, Kidderminster

**ALICE IN EASTER WONDERLAND** Travel underground through the magically decorated Easter Wonderland, Wed 1 - Sun 19 Apr, Dudley Canal and Tunnel Trust

**ENGUINITY EXPLORERS** Explore the contents of Mr Darby's Magical Box of Science Secrets, Fri 3 Apr, Enginuity Museum, Ironbridge

**THE GREAT EASTER DRAGON EGG HUNT** Egg hunters at the ready for a fun search... Sat 4 - Mon 13 Apr, Ludlow Castle, Shropshire

**EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA** Easter fun on the farm, including animal egg treasure hunt, the Easter Eggspress and the Easter bunny, Sat 4 - Fri 17 Apr, National Forest Adventure Farm, Burton-upon-Trent

**EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA** The Easter Bunny comes to the farm, Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, Park Hall Farm, Oswestry, North Shropshire

**DINOSAUR EGG HUNT** Search the farm for magical eggs - but beware the

dinosaur... Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, Park Hall Farm, Oswestry

**CRACKING EASTER** Follow the activity trail around the historic village, Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**ANIMAL EASTER TRAIL** Venture around the museum hangars and help find the venue's animal friends, Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, RAF Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire

**EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES** Take a journey back to 1945, Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire

**EASTER HOLIDAYS** Work out the Easter Bunny's riddles to find the missing Easter eggs, Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, Severn Valley Railway, Bewdley, Nr Kidderminster

**EGG HUNT** Help Ruby the Castle Dragon and her brother find the hidden eggs, Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, Tamworth Castle

**EASTER HALF TERM** Enjoy cargo nets, zip wires, log swings and ground-level trampolines, Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, Weston Park, Nr Shifnal

**EASTER ADVENTURE QUEST** Crack the clues as you and your family follow the trail, Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, Stokesay Castle, Nr Craven Arms, Shropshire

**EASTER HOLIDAY FUN** Featuring fun, creative activities, factory tours, half-price children's meals and nature trails, Sat 4 - Sun 19 Apr, World of Wedgwood, Stoke-on-Trent

**EASTER LADYBIRD TRAIL** Hunt high and low for the Ladybirds who've made Powis their home this Easter, Sat 4 - Mon 20 Apr, Powis Castle and Garden, Welshpool

**FAIRY-TALE CRAFT: JACK AND THE BEANSTALK** Craft your own beanstalk pot and grow it to the castle in the sky, Sun 5 Apr, Soho House, B'ham



Easter Adventure Quest - Stokesay Castle, Craven Arms, Shropshire



# LUDLOW SPRING FESTIVAL

FRI 15<sup>TH</sup> (EVENING ONLY)  
SAT 16<sup>TH</sup> SUN 17<sup>TH</sup>  
MAY 2020

BARRELS OF FUN, FEASTING,  
LIVE MUSIC AND MOTORS

[LUDLOWSPRINGFESTIVAL.CO.UK](http://LUDLOWSPRINGFESTIVAL.CO.UK)

# LUDLOW MAGNALONGA

SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup>  
AUGUST 2020

A RAMBLE & FEAST IN THE MARCHES  
COUNTRYSIDE [MAGNALONGA.CO.UK](http://MAGNALONGA.CO.UK)

# LUDLOW FOOD FESTIVAL

FRI 11<sup>TH</sup>  
SAT 12<sup>TH</sup>  
SUN 13<sup>TH</sup>  
SEPT 2020



THE ORIGINAL FESTIVAL FOR  
FOOD & DRINK LOVERS

[LUDLOWFOODFESTIVAL.CO.UK](http://LUDLOWFOODFESTIVAL.CO.UK)

**HAVANA  
REPUBLIC**

HAVANAREPUBLIC1  
HAVANAREPUBLIC

18-21 ABBEY FOREGATE,  
SHREWSBURY,  
SHROPSHIRE. SY2 6AE  
[WWW.HAVANAREPUBLIC.CO.UK](http://WWW.HAVANAREPUBLIC.CO.UK)

**LIVE  
MUSIC**

**80s  
90s**

WITH GUEST DJS  
2 FOR £10 SELECTED COCKTAILS  
2 FOR £5 BOTTLED BEERS  
11 DOUBLE UP HOUSE SPIRITS

EVERY SATURDAY

**THE  
RONALDOS**

CUBAN / SKIFFLE / pOp

SAT 11 APRIL 20

**R&V**

ABBA TRIBUTE BAND

SAT 30 MAY 20

the  
**brewhouse**  
arts centre & café bar

**COMING SOON**

5 April, 11.30am & 1.30pm  
**Hiccup Theatre with  
Derby Theatre:  
Little Red Riding Hood**  
Tickets: £10/£36 family

6 April, 1.30pm  
**Ditto Theatre:  
The Unexpected Adventures  
of Darwin the Chim**  
Tickets: £8

8 April, 2pm  
**Land of Hope & Glory**  
Over two hours of timeless nostalgia  
Tickets: £12/£10

11 April, 1.30pm  
**Slot Machine Theatre:  
Your Toys**  
£10/£36 family

14 - 18 April, 7.30pm  
Saturday matinee 2.30pm  
**Little Theatre Company:  
Rent**  
Tickets: £12/£11

22 April, 7.30pm  
**Dougie Mackay -  
Supernatural: Mythic  
Tales from Scotland**  
Tickets: £7.50

29 April, 7pm  
**Vienna Festival Ballet:  
Swan Lake**  
Tickets: £18.50/£16.50

12 - 16 May, 7.30pm  
Saturday matinee 2.30pm  
**Mellow Dramatics:  
The Fully Monty**  
Tickets: £13/£11

22 May, 7.30pm  
**Fairport Convention**  
Tickets: £26

Box office:  
**01283 508100**

**BOOK ONLINE AT**  
[www.brewhouse.co.uk](http://www.brewhouse.co.uk)

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

[Brewhouse Arts Centre](#) [Brewhouse Arts](#) [@Brewhousecentre](#)

Honorary Patron **Steven Isserlis CBE**  
Artistic Director **James Barralet**  
Venue **Whittington Church Oswestry**

**Muzsikás**  
**Donald Grant**

Whittington International  
Chamber Music Festival  
CIO No 1158989

**FOLKLASSICAL**  
where classical and folk music meet

**12-17 May 2020** **8-25s FREE!**

6 Concerts 30 international musicians

[whittingtonmusicfestival.org.uk](http://whittingtonmusicfestival.org.uk)

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND  
Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



### Gigs

**SKENGDO X AM** Mon 6 April, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**LLOYD COLE** Mon 6 April, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**TRIPPIE REDD - LOVE ME MORE TOUR** Tues 7 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**LISTENING SESSIONS: APRIL SHOWCASE** Tues 7 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**EVERYONE YOU KNOW / MASTER PEACE** Tues 7 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**LIONEL - A TRIBUTE TO LIONEL RICHIE** Tues 7 April, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**JAMALI MADDIX** Tues 7 April, Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

**EASTER SPECIAL FT. SASASAS** Wed 8 April, O2 Institute, B'ham

**PUSSYCAT DOLLS** Wed 8 April, Arena Birmingham

**RUMOURS OF FLEETWOOD MAC** Wed 8 April, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**OYSTER 3** Wed 8 April, Birchmeadow Centre, Broseley

**NEW HOPE CLUB** Thurs 9 April, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**GEORGE MICHAEL - RANDALL BUTLER** Thurs 9 April, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**FRED ZEPPELIN** Thurs 9 April, The Robin, Bilston

**WOMAN LIKE ME, THE LITTLE MIX SHOW** Thurs 9 April, Brierley Hill Civic Hall

**RICK ASTLEY** Thurs 9 April, Arena Birmingham

**FANTASTIC 80S PARTY: EASTER THURSDAY SPECIAL** Thurs 9 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**THE COVASETTES + OUTLINE + LOWER LOVEDAY** Thurs 9 April, The Sunflower, Birmingham

**ALTOSTRATUS / IQ** Fri 10 April, O2 Academy,



Pussycat Dolls - Arena Birmingham

Birmingham

**ULTIMATE 40** Fri 10 April, The Robin, Bilston

**SUTTON SOUL CLUB** Fri 10 April, Sutton Coldfield Town Hall

**RED RUM CLUB** Fri 10 April, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN** Fri 10 April, The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury

**GENE GENIE & THE LEMON SQUEEZERS** Fri 10 April, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**DREADZONE** Fri 10 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**CARIBBEAN ROCKS** Fri 10 April, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**THE REGGULITES** Fri 10 April, The Night Owl, Birmingham

**BEAR V VIPERS + PANDA LASAGNE** Fri 10 April, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

**DEEP LOVE FOUNDATION** Fri 10 April, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

**LUST FOR LIFE** Fri 10 April, Albert's Shed, Southwater

**HAND OF DIMES + SUPPORT** Fri 10 April, Eleven, Sandford, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE SENSATIONAL 60S EXPERIENCE** Fri 10 April, The Alexandra, Birmingham

**LIKE A STORM** Sat 11 April, KK Steele Mill, Wolverhampton

**CUT GLASS KINGS** Sat

11 April, Dead Wax, Birmingham

**BLACK COUNTRY BEATLES** Sat 11 April, The Robin, Bilston

**WALK RIGHT BACK - THE STORY OF THE EVERLY BROTHERS** Sat 11 April, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**WEEKENDERS** Sat 11 April, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

**DIE DAS DER PRESENT EASTER CLATTER-DAY** Sat 11 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**BORN IN THE 80S** Sat 11 April, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**THE UNDERCOVER HIPPY** Sat 11 April, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

**THE RADIATORS** Sat 11 April, Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**THE RONALDOS** Sat 11 April, Havana Republic, Shrewsbury

**DOMINO SUGAR** Sat 11 April, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

**PRINCE OF JOBURG** Sat 11 April, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

**THE UB40 EXPERIENCE** Sat 11 April, Eleven, Sandford, Stoke-on-Trent

**WORLD CLASH: THE END** Sun 12 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**ABBA - SWEDE DREAMZ** Sun 12 April, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**90'S SILENT DISCO** Sun 12 April, The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

### Classical & Easy Listening

**LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERT: MUSIC FOR EASTER** Featuring Thomas Trotter (organ). Programme includes works by J.S Bach, Handel, Brahms, J.Dattas, R. Downes & Dupré, Mon 6 Apr, Birmingham Town Hall

**AGNES OBEL IN CONCERT** Mon 6 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**LESLEY GARRETT** Tues 7 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**EX CATHEDRA: GOOD FRIDAY ST JOHN PASSION** Featuring Jeffrey Skidmore (conductor), Fri 10 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

### Comedy

**TOM ROSENTHAL** Mon 6 Apr, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**SUSAN MURRAY, HARRIET DRYER & CHRIS ARNOLD** Mon 6 Apr, Albert's Shed Bar, Shrewsbury

**JAMALI MADDIX** Tues 7 Apr, Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

**DOM JOLY** Wed 8 Apr, Stourbridge Town Hall

**TOM ROSENTHAL** Wed 8 Apr, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**THE MIGHTY KIDS BEATBOX COMEDY SHOW** Wed 8 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**DOM JOLY** Thurs 9 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**RACHEL FAIRBURN, MIKE WILMOT & COMEDY CAROUSEL WITH ANDY ROBINSON** Thurs 9 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**RACHEL FAIRBURN, MIKE WILMOT, MICKY P KERR & ANDY ROBINSON** Fri 10 - Sat 11 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**STEVE HARRIS, NICK DOODY, THOMAS GREEN & DAVE LONGLEY** Sat 11 Apr, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

**GUZ KHAN, DALISO CHAPONDA, JOHN SIMMIT, SHABBA & JAY DROCH** Sun 12 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

### Theatre

**THE UNEXPECTED ADVENTURES OF DARWIN THE CHIMP** Ditto Theatre Company fuse storytelling, puppetry & movement to tell an original tale of friendship, family, and what it means to be home, Mon 6 Apr, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

**GUSH!** Interactive pop-culture extravaganza, Tues 7 Apr, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**BLOOD BROTHERS** Willy Russell's

iconic musical returns, Tues 7 - Sat 11 Apr, Lichfield Garrick

**LAND OF HOPE & GLORY** Old-style variety show to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, Wed 8 Apr, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

**HOW TO SAVE A LIFE** 'Hilarious and heart-wrenching story' of one woman, one party and a cancer diagnosis, Wed 8 - Sat 11 Apr, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**HOWERD'S END** New play about comedian Frankie Howerd, Wed 8 - Sun 12 Apr, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**PARTNERS IN RHYME...** Join Central Youth Theatre as they take inspiration from much-loved children's authors to create rhyming poems and songs, Thurs 9 Apr, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**EUROPEANA** New production which compresses 100 years of European history into a fast-paced narrative, Thurs 9 Apr - Sat 25 July, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**CARMEN** Russian State Opera present Bizet's tale of passion, jealousy & violence. Sung in French with English surtitles, Fri 10 Apr, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**GREASE** Presented by award-winning theatre group Get Your Wiggle On, Fri 10 - Sat 11 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN** New show described as being 'like an episode of Loose Women but with a lot more singing and dancing', Fri 10 - Sat 11 Apr, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**MADAMA BUTTERFLY** Russian State Ballet presents its version of one of the world's most exotic operas, Sat 11 Apr, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**WILDVIXEN'S BURLESQUE LEGEND'S EXTRAVAGANZA** Featuring headlines from across the globe, Sat 11 Apr, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

### Kids Theatre

**ALICE IN WONDERLAND JR** Get Your Wiggle On take audiences on a magical journey through the rabbit hole, Mon 6 - Wed 8 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**RAPUNZEL: A TANGLED MUSICAL TALE** Immersion Theatre present a brand new musical version of the classic family tale, Tues 7 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**THERE WAS AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY** The People's Theatre Company bring one of the



BROWNHILLS MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY

# THOROUGHLY MODERN millie

A New Musical

Book by RICHARD MORRIS and DICK SCANLON

New Music by JEANINE TESORI

Original story and Screenplay by RICHARD MORRIS

New Lyrics by DICK SCANLAN

Tuesday 5th to Saturday 9th May 2020

Lichfield Garrick Theatre

Box Office: 01543 412121

LICHFIELD GARRICK THEATRE & STUDIO

Voted by What's On Readers Awards as  
THE BEST STAFFORDSHIRE MUSIC FESTIVAL IN 2019 & 2020 and  
Special Recognition Award for FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR 2019  
by The Mark (Pub news and live music guide)

Three days of fantastic music, workshops,  
demonstrations and entertainment for all the family

# STAFFS FEST 2020

Live Music

22nd 23rd 24th MAY

Main Marquee - Friday Rock Night. Saturday - Star for Staffs Competition.  
Sat/Sun - Rock, Soul, Blues, Folk, Pop, Glam Rock

Millie Bea Marquee - Friday Back to School Disco. Saturday Soul All Dayer  
Sunday Erndor50 Introducing Stage and Jam Session

Beats & Feats Marquee - Ska, Reggae, Blue Beat, 2 Tone, Gospel, Soca.  
Headlining: The Beat Goes Bang and Musical Youth

La Masion du Vin World Music, plus demonstrations, workshops, kids entertainment

LOWER DRAYTON FARM Penkridge Nr Stafford ST19 5RE  
Junction 13 on the M6

Tickets from £15

[www.staffsfest.co.uk](http://www.staffsfest.co.uk)

La Masion du Vin Erndor50 beats & feats PARTNERSHIP EVENTS Tower Studios

## The award-winning Shrewsbury Market Hall

*The place, the people, the passion*

DELICIOUS FOOD & DRINK • CREATIVES • QUALITY HOMEWARES & GIFTS



[www.markethallshrewsbury.co.uk](http://www.markethallshrewsbury.co.uk)  
 @markethallshrewsbury @markethallshrew  
 Claremont Street, Shrewsbury, SY1 1HQ  
 Find us underneath the town's clocktower



world's best-loved nursery rhymes to life, Tues 7 - Wed 8 Apr, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**MILKSHAKE LIVE!** Starring Fireman Sam, Noddy, Shimmer & Shine, Digby Dragon, Wissper, Nella the Princess Knight, the Floogals and two Milkshake presenters, Thurs 9 Apr, Prince of Wales Centre, Cannock

**ONCE UPON A PANTO** Journey to a land far, far away with The Voice finalist Lydia Lucy and Britain's Got Talent semi-finalist Ricky K, Fri 10 - Sat 11 Apr, The Place, Telford

**OI FROG & FRIENDS!** Theatre for younger audiences combining songs, puppetry, laughter 'and more rhymes than you can shake a chime at', Fri 10 - Mon 13 Apr, Birmingham Town Hall

**THE WIZARD OF OZ** Join Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man and the cowardly Lion as they journey through Oz to meet the legendary Wizard, Sat 11 Apr, Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock

**KIDZ BOP WORLD TOUR** Interactive family-friendly concert experience, Sat 11 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**YOUR TOYS** Slot Machine Theatre present a heartwarming story about friends pulling together, Sat 11 Apr, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent



## Dance

**MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE** Kate Prince's new dance-theatre show fuses 'exhilarating dance styles, dazzling footwork and breathtaking athleticism' - all set to the music of Sting, Wed 8 - Thurs 9 Apr, Birmingham Hippodrome

## Talks

**SOUNDS OF THE 70S WITH JOHNNIE WALKER** Johnnie Walker takes his long-running BBC Radio Two show out on the road, Wed 8 Apr, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SERIAL KILLERS** Join expert forensics lecturer Jennifer Rees to explore one of forensic psychology's most troubling topics,

Wed 8 Apr, The Robin, Bilston

**AN AUDIENCE WITH HARRY REDKNAPP** Join the I'm a Celebrity 2018 winner as he shares stories from his football and TV career, Thurs 9 Apr, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

## Film

### INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

**SINGIN' IN THE RAIN (U)** Comedy/Musical. Starring Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor. Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 6 Apr

**THE GOLDFINCH (15)** Drama. Starring Ansel Elgort, Nicole Kidman. Stourbridge Town Hall, Mon 6 Apr

**EASTER PARADE (U)** Musical/Romance. Starring Judy Garland, Fred Astaire. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Mon 6 Apr

**FROZEN II (U)** Animation/Adventure. With the voices of Kristen Bell, Idina Menzel. Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms, South Shropshire, Mon 6 Apr

**DOLITTLE (PG)** Adventure/Comedy. Starring Robert Downey Jr., Antonio Banderas. Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Mon 6 - Tues 7 & Thurs 9 Apr; Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire, Mon 6 Apr

**SUNSHINE ON LEITH (PG)** Comedy/Musical. Starring Paul Brannigan, George MacKay. Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Mon 6 & Fri 10 Apr

**THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2 (U)** Animation/Adventure. With the voices of Patton Oswalt, Kevin Hart. Walsall Arena, Tues 7 Apr

**DARK WATERS (12a)** Biography/Drama. Starring Mark Ruffalo, Anne Hathaway. Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 7 Apr

**EOS: EASTER IN ART (12a)** Documentary. Directed by Phil Grabsky. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Tues 7 Apr

**WOMAN AT WAR (12)** Adventure/Comedy. Starring Halldóra Geirharðsdóttir, Jóhann Sigurðarson. Foreign language, subtitled. Walsall Arena, Wed 8 Apr

**TOY STORY 4 (U)** Animation/Adventure. With the voices of Tom Hanks, Tim Allen. Walsall Arena, Wed 8 Apr

**THE GREAT BUSTER - A CELEBRATION (U)** Documentary/Biography. Starring Buster Keaton, Peter Bogdanovich. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Wed 8 - Thurs 9 Apr

**THE LION KING (PG)** Animation/Adventure. With the voices of Donald Glover, Beyoncé. Walsall Arena, Thurs 9 Apr

**ONWARD (PG)** Animation/Adventure. With the voices of Tom Holland, Chris Pratt. Wem Town Hall, North

Shropshire, Fri 10 - Sat 11 & Wed 15 Apr

**BACURAU (18)** Action/Adventure. Starring Bárbara Colen, Thomas Aquino. Foreign language, subtitled. Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 9 Apr

**THE SECRET GARDEN (tbc)** Drama/Family. Starring Dixie Egerickx, Colin Firth. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 10 - Thurs 23 Apr

**HERO (12a)** War/Drama. Starring Jet Li, Maggie Cheung. Foreign language, subtitled. Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Sat 11 Apr

**OFFICIAL SECRETS (15)** Biography/Crime. Starring Keira Knightley, Matt Smith. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Sat 11 Apr

**DOWNHILL (12a)** Comedy/Drama. Starring Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Will Ferrell. Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Sat 11, Mon 13 & Wed 15 Apr

**DAUGHTERS OF THE DUST (12a)** Drama/History. Starring Cora Lee Day, Alva Rogers. Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Sun 12 Apr

**MILITARY WIVES (12a)** Comedy/Drama. Starring Kristin Scott Thomas, Sharon Horgan. Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 10 - Sat 11 & Tues 14 Apr; Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Fri 10, Tues 14 & Thurs 16 Apr

## Events

**EASTER HOLIDAYS - POND DIPPING** Explore an underwater world as you dip oxbow ponds for mini beasts to identify, Mon 6 - Fri 10 Apr, Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms, South Shropshire

**DESTINATION SPACE - EASTER HOLIDAYS** Blast off into space this Easter with the latest Destination Space activities, Mon 6 - Fri 17 Apr, Thinktank Science Museum, Birmingham

**SPOTLIGHT TOURS FOR ALL** Talks on a range of themes designed to bring Aston Hall to life, Tues 7 Apr, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**EASTER BUNNY GROTTO** Eggsplode the Easter woodland to find all of the hidden eggs before meeting the bunny himself in his burrow, Tues 7 - Fri 10 Apr, The British Ironwork Centre, Oswestry, North Shropshire

**EASTER POTTERY PAINTING** Choose from flowers, mini bottle ovens and special Easter-themed pieces made on site, Tues 7 - Sat 11 Apr, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

**LITTLE SKIPPER - ALICE IN WONDERLAND** Take on the playing card hunt, make yourself some white rabbit ears and concoct a magical potion, Wed 8 - Thurs 9 Apr, Dudley Canal and Tunnel Trust

**DRAGON EGG HUNT** Can you find the giant eggs hidden around the grounds? Wed 8 - Sun 12 Apr, Sarehole Mill, Hall Green, Birmingham

**EASTER EGG BASKET CRAFT ACTIVITY** Make and decorate your own Easter basket, Thurs 9 Apr, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

**UNICORN DAY** Featuring a unicorn makeover, a willow-weaving workshop and a mythical trail, Thurs 9 Apr, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**TALL TALES: JACK AND THE BEANSTALK FAMILY STORYTELLING TOUR** Interactive telling of 'a brand new tall tale', Fri 10 Apr, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**EASTER HOLIDAYS - EASTER COOKING** Make delicious Easter treats, such as deviled chicks, cotton tail biscuits and hot cross buns, Fri 10 Apr, Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms, South Shropshire

**CADBURY EASTER EGG HUNT** Fill your Easter with family fun, delicious Cadbury treats, and eggciting egg hunts, Fri 10 - Mon 13 Apr, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury; Carding Mill Valley & The Shropshire Hills, Church Stretton, Nr Shrewsbury; Benthall Hall, Broseley, Shropshire; Sunnycroft, Wellington, Shropshire; Chirk Castle, Wrexham; Erddig Hall, Wrexham; Powis Castle and Garden, Welshpool, Powys; Dudmaston Estate, Bridgnorth; Moseley Old Hall, Wolverhampton; Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton

**EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA** Featuring bonnet competitions, an Easter egg trail and the brand new Freddo & Caramel Bunny live stage show, Fri 10 - Mon 13 Apr, Cadbury World, Birmingham

**CREATURE CREATIONS** Design your own creepy crawlies in the craft tent, Fri 10 - Mon 13 Apr, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford

**HAVE-A-GO ARCHERY** Try your hand at archery with a qualified instructor, Fri 10 - Mon 13 Apr, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford

**THE GREAT EASTER EGG HUNT** The Easter bunny has been to Weoley Castle! Can you find all of the hidden eggs? Sat 11 Apr, Weoley Castle Ruins, Birmingham

**LITTLE SKIPPER - ALICE IN WONDERLAND** Take on the playing card hunt, make yourself some white rabbit ears and concoct a magical potion, Sat 11 Apr, Dudley Canal and Tunnel Trust

**ASTON IN WONDERLAND: A FAIRY TALE TAKEOVER** Visit Aston Hall and meet some of your favourite storybook characters, Sun 12 Apr, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**EASTER SUNDAY FUN** Sun 12 Apr, Birmingham Botanical Gardens



## Gigs

**THE METEORS** Mon 13 April, The Robin, Bilston

**KING KING** Tues 14 April, Birmingham Town Hall

**MR BEN & THE BENS** Tues 14 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**SET IT OFF** Wed 15 April, O2 Institute, B'ham

**HARRY STYLES** Wed 15 April, Arena B'ham

**HOW SWEET IT IS** Wed 15 April, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**BOOMTOWN RATS** Wed 15 April, Birmingham Town Hall

**SEVEN DRUNKEN NIGHTS- THE STORY OF THE DUBLINERS** Wed 15 April, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**SEA GIRLS** Thurs 16 April, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**SNOOP DOG** Thurs 16 April, Arena B'ham

**THE LOST WORDS: SPELL SONGS** Thurs 16 April, Birmingham Town Hall

**THE SIMON & GARFUNKEL STORY** Thurs 16 April, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**HARDLINE + SUPPORT** Thurs 16 April, Eleven, Sandford, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE GUITAR LEGENDS** Thurs 16 April, The Robin, Bilston

**TRISH CLOWES** Thurs 16 April, The Gateway, Shrewsbury

**MICHAEL SCHENKER FEST** Thurs 16 April, KK Steele Mill, Wolverhampton

**THE NIGHT CAFE** Fri 17 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**THE DEAD FINKS & OCTOGOTH DOUBLE HEADLINER** Fri 17 April, Route 44, Birmingham

**THE FIZZ** Fri 17 April, Lichfield Garrick

**WHITE TYGER** Fri 17 April, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**FLEETWOOD BAC** Fri 17 April, The Robin, Bilston



Sarah McQuaid - Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**SMOOVE & TURRELL: STRATOS BLEU TOUR** Fri 17 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**THE DOORS ALIVE** Fri 17 April, Eleven, Sandford, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE OXLEY-MEIER GUITAR PROJECT** Fri 17 April, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**HEAVY BEAT BRASS BAND** Fri 17 April, Albert's Shed, Southwater

**MAGIC OF MOTOWN** Fri 17 April, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**BOXSTOCK FEATURING HOLLOWBELLY** Fri 17 April, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

**PRINCE PARTY** Fri 17 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**PIGS PIGS PIGS PIGS PIGS PIGS** Fri 17 April, The Mill Digbeth

**PHIL BEER BAND** Fri 17 April, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**JESS SILK ALBUM LAUNCH** Fri 17 April, Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**ONE NIGHT IN DUBLIN** Fri 17 April, Walsall Arena & Arts Centre

**SOMEONE LIKE YOU (THE ADELE SONGBOOK)** Fri 17 April, The Place, Telford

**MARK LOCKHEART** Fri 17 April, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**DEFINITELY MIGHTBE VS CHANGING MAN** Fri 17 April, Sutton Coldfield Town Hall

**RAK-SU** Sat 18 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**THROUGH THE DECADES** Sat 18 April, Brierley

Hill Civic Hall

**PROBABLY ROY** Sat 18 April, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

**THE MANFREDS** Sat 18 April, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**SUN RECORDS** Sat 18 April, Lichfield Garrick

**SONS OF CLOGGER** Sat 18 April, Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**LIFE I KNOW** Sat 18 April, The Hive, Shrewsbury

**ELECTRICK LIVE ORCHESTRA** Sat 18 April, The Robin, Bilston

**UNREALBLOOD** Sat 18 April, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

**BOXSTOCK FEATURING THE DUSK BROTHERS** Sat 18 April, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

**THE LANCASHIRE HOTPOTS BEERHEMIAN RHAPSODY TOUR** Sat 18 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**JP COOPER** Sat 18 April, O2 Academy, B'ham

**NICK HELM - PHOENIX FROM THE FLAMES** Sat 18 April, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

**SOUNDS OF WALES** Sat 18 April, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**A BEAUTIFUL NOISE** Sun 19 April, Lichfield Garrick

**KARNATAKA** Sun 19 April, The Robin, Bilston

**REBECCA LOEBE AND EMILY MAE WINTERS** Sun 19 April, The Hive, Shrewsbury

**SARAH MCQUAID** Sun 19 April, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

## Classical & Easy Listening

**ELGAR'S PIANO QUINTET** Featuring Jonathan Martindale & Stefano Mengoli (violins), Christopher Yates (viola). Kate Setterfield (cello) & Robert Markham (piano), Thurs 16 Apr, CBO Centre, Birmingham

**RUSSELL WATSON** Thurs 16 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**CBSO: ELGAR'S THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS** Featuring Edward Gardner (conductor), Anna Stéphanie (mezzo soprano), Robert Murray (tenor) & James Platt (bass), Thurs 16 - Sat 18 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**SIBERIAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Featuring Dmitry Vasiliev (conductor), Freddy Kempf (piano). Programme includes works by Olga Viktorova, Rachmaninoff & Tchaikovsky, Fri 17 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**THE SOUTH WALES MALE CHOIR: SOUNDS OF WALES** Also featuring local singer/songwriter Emma Linney & renowned poet Michael Carding, Sat 18 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## Comedy

**JOE LYCETT** Mon 13 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**SIMON BRODKIN** Tues 14 Apr, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**PREACHER LAWSON** Wed 15 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**RUSSELL KANE** Fri 17 Apr, Dudley Town Hall

**CHRIS RAMSEY** Fri 17 Apr, The Alexandra, Birmingham

**KATIE ARNSTEIN** Fri 17 Apr, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**GARY DELANEY, STEVE HARRIS, LINDSEY DAVIES & RYAN GOUGH** Fri 17 Apr, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**DAN NIGHTINGALE, CATHERINE BOHART, KANE BROWN & NOEL JAMES** Fri 17 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**JOEL DOMMETT** Sat 18 Apr, William Aston Hall, Wrexham

**ROSS NOBLE** Sat 18 Apr, The Place, Telford, Shropshire

**EDDY BRIMSON, KATIE TRACEY, OMID SINGH & DAMION LARKIN** Sat 18 Apr, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**STEPHEN BAILEY, ELLIOT STEEL, STEVE SHANYASKI & PETE OTWAY** Sat 18 Apr, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

**LOL COMEDY NIGHT** Sat 18 Apr, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**DAN NIGHTINGALE, CATHERINE BOHART, NOEL JAMES & COMIC TBC** Sat 18 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**JOEL DOMMETT** Sun 19 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**TOMMY SANDHU, HYDE PANASER, SLIM & EMILY LLOYD-SAINI** Sun 19 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

## Theatre

**PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT** Strictly winner Joe McFadden, stars in a new production of the smash-hit musical, Mon 13 - Sat 18 Apr, Birmingham Hippodrome

**LA BOHÉME** Brand new production of Puccini's romantic opera. Sung in Italian with English surtitles, Tues 14 Apr, The Alexandra, Birmingham

**FRIENDS! THE MUSICAL PARODY** Hit musical that lovingly lampoons the popular TV sitcom, Tues 14 Apr, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**AIDA** Russian State Opera present Verdi's timeless & emotional opera. Sung in Italian with English surtitles, Tues 14 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**FROZEN** Psychological thriller about retribution, remorse and redemption, Tues 14 - Sat 18 Apr, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**SOME MOTHERS DO 'AVE 'EM** Joe Pasquale stars as the accident-prone Frank Spencer, Tues 14 - Sat 18 Apr, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**RENT** Amateur staging of Jonathan Larson's iconic musical, Tues 14 - Sat 18 Apr, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

**CHAPLIN: BIRTH OF A TRAMP** Arrows & Traps explore how one of the world's most remarkable performers spun personal tragedy into universal comedy, Wed 15 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**SPONTANEOUS POTTER** Entirely improvised Harry Potter comedy play, Wed 15 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**ME AND MY DOLL** Romantic comedy exploring the challenges, joys and pitfalls of allowing yourself to be vulnerable... Thurs 16 Apr, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**MIDSUMMER** Reform Theatre Company present a story of two thirtysomethings sitting in a bar waiting for something to turn up... Thurs 16 Apr, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**THE WIZARD OF OZ** Spring Pantomime adaptation of L Frank Baum's classic story, Thurs 16 - Fri 17 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham



**THE TEMPEST** Amateur staging presented by the Garrick Young REP Acting group, Thurs 16 - Sat 18 Apr, Lichfield Garrick

**ROMEO & JULIET** Shakespeare's iconic story of romantic woe is transported from Verona to Birmingham, Thurs 16 - Sat 25 Apr, The REP, Birmingham

**SEXY LAMP** Original songs and storytelling combine to shed light on how ridiculous the showbusiness industry can be..., Fri 17 Apr, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**THE NOISE NEXT DOOR IN CHARGE** 'Side-splitting, jaw-dropping, time-travelling adventure that's fun for literally everyone', Fri 17 Apr, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**FLOWER CUTTERS** Coming-of-age thriller about friendship and betrayal, Fri 17 - Sat 18 Apr, Patrick Studio, Birmingham Hippodrome

**BLAKE: MOVIE & MUSICALS** Sat 18 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL 2: CRUISING THROUGH MENOPAUSE!** Sequel to the smash-hit show, Menopause The Musical, Sun 19 Apr, The Alexandra, Birmingham

## Kids Shows

**SHARK IN THE PARK** Family musical based on Nick Sharratt's popular books, Tues 14 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**MR MEN & LITTLE MISS STAGE SHOW** Happyland bursts to life in a series of colourful and timeless stories told through puppetry and music, Tues 14 Apr, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**MISCHIEF AND MYSTERY IN MOONINVALEY** Based on the much-loved Moominland novels by Tove Jansson, Sat 18 Apr, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton



**PEPPA PIG'S BEST DAY EVER** Brand new show for younger audiences, Sat 18 - Sun 19 Apr, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

## Cabaret

**THE LADYBOYS OF BANGKOK: FLIGHT OF FANTASY** Glamorous showgirls recreate magical movie moments, Tues 14 Apr, The Place, Telford

**TRES TRES CABARET** Featuring performers from the international

cabaret scene, Fri 17 Apr, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**DITA VON TEESE: GLAMONATRIX** 'Uber-glamorous' burlesque show, Sat 18 Apr, The Alexandra, Birmingham

## Dance

**GISELLE** Ballet Theatre UK presents its version of one of the greatest ballets of all time, Thurs 16 Apr, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**REMEMBERING THE OSCARS** Aljaz and Janette return with a brand new show, Fri 17 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## Film

### INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

**BAIT (15)** Drama. Starring Edward Rowe, Mary Woodvine. Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Tues 14 Apr

**SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (PG)** Action/Adventure. Starring Ben Schwartz, James Marsden. Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire, Tues 14 Apr

**FUNNY FACE (U)** Comedy/Musical. Starring Audrey Hepburn, Fred Astaire. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Tues 14 Apr

**THE CALL OF THE WILD (PG)** Adventure/Drama. Starring Harrison Ford, Omar Sy. Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire, Tues 14 Apr

**CALM WITH HORSES (15)** Drama. Starring Ned Dennehy, Barry Keoghan. Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 16 Apr

**DAVID ATTENBOROUGH: A LIFE ON OUR PLANET (PG)** Documentary. Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Thurs 16 Apr; Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Thurs 16 Apr

**UNDER THE TREE (15)** Comedy/Drama. Starring Steinþór Hróar Steinþórsson, Edda Björgvinsdóttir. Foreign language, subtitled. The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 17 Apr

**MISBEHAVIOUR (12a)** Drama/History. Starring Keira Knightley, Gugu Mbatha-Raw. Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 17 - Sat 18 & Tues 21 Apr

**THE TRUTH (PG)** Drama. Starring Catherine Deneuve, Juliette Binoche. Foreign language, subtitled. Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Fri 17, Mon 20 & Thurs 23 Apr

**1917 (15)** Drama/War. Starring George MacKay, Benedict Cumberbatch. Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Fri 17 - Thurs 23 Apr

**MILITARY WIVES (12a)** Comedy/Drama. Starring Kristin Scott Thomas, Sharon Horgan. Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire, Sat 18 Apr

**THE GOOD LIAR (15)** Crime/Drama. Starring Helen Mirren, Ian McKellen. Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Sat 18 Apr

**AND THEN WE DANCED (15)** Drama. Starring Levan Gelbakhiani, Bachi Valishvili. Foreign language, subtitled. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sun 19 Apr

## Events

**BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY** Explore the home of one of the world's most revolutionary metal manufacturers, Mon 13 Apr, Soho House, Birmingham

**DINOSAUR FAMILY FUN RACEDAY** Meet Zeus (Europe's largest T-Rex), Triceratops, T-Rex and Raptor, chat to Cory the talking dinosaur, train to be a ranger and cuddle the baby dinosaurs, Mon 13 Apr, Wolverhampton Racecourse

**EASTER POTTERY PAINTING** Choose from flowers, mini bottle ovens and special Easter-themed pieces made on site, Mon 13 Apr, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

**EASTER HOLIDAYS - POND DIPPING** Explore a fascinating underwater world as you dip oxbow ponds for mini beasts to identify, Mon 13 - Fri 17 Apr, Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms, South Shropshire

**SPOTLIGHT TALKS FOR ALL** Delve deeper into the history of the grand old mansion, Tues 14 Apr, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**POTTING SHED CRAFT ACTIVITY** Create your own plant pot using a range of craft materials, Tues 14 Apr, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

**MAKER'S CLUB** Holiday club for kids aged nine to 15, Tues 14 Apr, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**EASTER BUNNY GROTTTO** Eggsplode the Easter Woodland to find all of the hidden eggs before meeting the bunny himself in his burrow, Tues 14 - Wed 15 Apr, The British Ironwork Centre, Oswestry

**BUILD YOUR OWN SCARECROW** Help the Walled Garden team scare away the birds in time for summer planting by recycling your old clothes into a scarecrow, Wed 15 Apr, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**PETER RABBIT STORY TIME** Hop along to see Peter Rabbit, Wed 15 Apr, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

**CRAFTY WEDNESDAY - EASTER** Drop-in Easter themed craft activities, Wed 15 Apr, Sarehole Mill, Hall Green, B'ham

**MINI BEAST'S MANSION MAKING** Make a natural mansion for the mini beasts around your home and garden, Wed 15 Apr, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford

**GRIMM FAIRYTALES AT SOHO** Immersive storytelling tour, Wed 15 - Thurs 16 Apr, Soho House, Birmingham

**FAIRY-TALE CRAFT: LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD** Help Little Red Riding Hood make a basket to take to her grandma's, Wed 15 - Thurs 16 Apr, Soho House, Birmingham

**LITTLE SKIPPERS - ALICE IN WONDERLAND** Take on the playing card hunt, make yourself some white rabbit ears and concoct a magical potion, Wed 15 - Thurs 16 Apr, Dudley Canal and Tunnel Trust

**MADE IN BIRMINGHAM: BANNER MAKING WORKSHOP** Join Birmingham Repertory Theatre's adult art group in creating banners for their Made In Birmingham performance over the Easter Holidays, Thurs 16 Apr, Birmingham Museum And Art Gallery

**CARNIVAL MASKS AND WINDMILLS CRAFT ACTIVITY** Create a fabulous carnival mask and windmill, inspired by the colours in the garden, Thurs 16 Apr, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

**KIDS JEWELLERY WORKSHOP** Design and create a bracelet or pendant, Thurs 16 Apr, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

**FAMILY RAG RUG ANIMALS** Learn traditional techniques of rag rug making, but with a modern twist, Thurs 16 Apr, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**SPRING STEAM GALA** From the distant clank of a goods train, to autotrains puffing back and forth, prepare to venture back in time, Thurs 16 - Sun 19 Apr, Severn Valley Railway, Bewdley, Nr Kidderminster

**TALL TALES: JACK AND THE BEANSTALK FAMILY STORYTELLING TOUR** 'Interactive telling of a brand new tall tale', Fri 17 Apr, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**CRAFTY FRIDAY: UNICORN RACING** Design and create your own unicorn horns, attach them to hobby horses and race them through the Weoley Castle moat, Fri 17 Apr, Weoley Castle Ruins, Birmingham

**SHOW THE LOVE DAY** Local climate and nature-focused organisations show how you can help make a difference, Sat 18 Apr, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**BUMBLEBEE SAFARI** Discover what the buzz is all about in the Walled Garden, where a guide will show you how to catch and identify the resident bumblebees, Sat 18 - Sun 19 Apr, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford





## Gigs

**ASHLEY HENRY** Mon 20 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**ALVIN YOUNGBLOOD HART** Mon 20 April, The Robin, Bilston

**BRENDAN SCHAUB: 50 SHADES OF BROWN** Tues 21 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**WILL AND THE PEOPLE** Wed 22 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**BLACK PEAKS** Wed 22 April, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**THE ACADEMIC + LAURAN HIBBERD** Wed 22 April, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE DARIUS BRUBECK QUARTET** Thurs 23 April, New Vic Theatre, Staffordshire

**JOSEF** Thurs 23 April, O2 Institute, B'ham

**DEAN FRIEDMAN** Thurs 23 April, Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

**BAXTER DURY** Thurs 23 April, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**HEATHER PEACE** Thurs 23 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**RUSH, A JOYOUS JAMAICAN JOURNEY** Thurs 23 April, Brierley Hill Civic Hall

**FROM THE JAM** Thurs 23 April, The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury

**NOBLE JACKS** Thurs 23 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**UK SUBS** Thurs 23 April, The Robin, Bilston

**BRAINSTORM** Fri 24 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**SPLIT MILK SOCIETY + SUPPORT** Fri 24 April, Newhampton Arts Centre, W'hampton

**VERTIGO BAND** Fri 24 April, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

**DUB PISTOLS** Fri 24 April, Albert's Shed, Southwater

**THE WEST COAST EAGLES** Fri 24 April, Lichfield Guildhall



*Faustus - Ludlow Brewery Company, South Shropshire*

**BON GIOVI** Fri 24 April, The Robin, Bilston

**SIMPLE MINDS - 40 YEARS OF HITS** Fri 24 April, Resorts World Arena, Birmingham

**THE TINA TURNER EXPERIENCE** Fri 24 April, The Place, Telford

**CANTERBURY TALES** Fri 24 April, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**LAMB OF GOD** Fri 24 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**RALPH MCTELL** Fri 24 April, New Vic Theatre, Staffordshire

**THE PUPPINI SISTERS** Fri 24 April, Birmingham Town Hall

**BON JOVI EXPERIENCE** Fri 24 April, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

**OASIS** Fri 24 April, Eleven, Sandyford, Stoke-on-Trent

**PAUL HEATON & JACQUI ABBOTT** Fri 24 April, Arena Birmingham

**THE HARA** Sat 25 April, O2 Academy, B'ham

**GODS OF RAP II** Sat 25 April, Arena B'ham

**T.REXTASY - 'GET IT ON'** Sat 25 April, The Robin, Bilston

**LISA STANLEY** Sat 25 April, Prince Of Wales Theatre, Cannock

**CALAN** Sat 25 April, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**WALK RIGHT BACK** Sat 25 April, Lichfield Garrick

**THE ULTIMATE COMMITMENTS & BLUES BROTHERS** Sat 25 April, Evesham Arts Centre

**TAKE THAT - SHINE** Sat 25 April, The River

Rooms, Stourbridge

**TOYAH & HAZEL**

**O'CONNOR** Sat 25 April, Birmingham Town Hall

**SUKH OJLA: LIFE SUKHS** Sat 25 April, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

**THE JAM'D** Sat 25 April, Eleven, Sandyford, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE INDIGO MACHINE** Sat 25 April, Albert's Shed, Southwater

**REGIME** Sat 25 April, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

**WILKO JOHNSON** Sat 25 April, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**MYSTERY JETS (RESCHEDULED)** Sat 25 April, The Mill Digbeth

**BARRY STEELE IN THE ROY ORBISON STORY** Sat 25 April, The Place, Telford

**BEXEY** Sun 26 April, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**SKINNY LIVING** Sun 26 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**GHETTO FUNKULAR** Sun 26 April, Albert's Shed, Southwater

**LUKE EVANS** Sun 26 April, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**FAUSTUS** Sun 26 April, Ludlow Brewery Company, Ludlow, South Shropshire

**KATIE'S CABARET** Sun 26 April, Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**HOLY FUCK** Sun 26 April, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham



## Classical & Easy Listening

**LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERT WITH THOMAS TROTTER** Programme includes works by Mendelssohn, Reger & W. Alcock, Mon 20 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**TAIWAN PHILHARMONIC: TCHAIKOVSKY NO. 6** Featuring Shao-Chia Lü (conductor) & Kit Armstrong (piano). Programme includes works by Yuan-Chen-Li, Saint-Saëns & Tchaikovsky, Mon 20 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CBSO & OSMO VÄNSKÄ** Also featuring Ning Feng (violin). Programme includes works by Sibelius & Beethoven, Wed 22 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**ASSASSIN'S CREED SYMPHONY A** multimedia symphony performance enabling audiences to experience the rich musical history of the franchise live in concert, Thurs 23 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CARDUCCI STRING QUARTET** Programme includes works by Philip Glass, Peter Gregson, Joby Talbot & Arvo Part, Thurs 23 Apr, STOP. Cafe Bar, Shrewsbury Museum

**THE STAFFORDSHIRE BAND: ST GEORGE'S DAY CONCERT** Fri 24 Apr, Walsall Arena

**Q THE MUSIC SHOW: THE JAMES BOND CONCERT SPECTACULAR** Fri 24 Apr, Lichfield Garrick

**THE STAFFORDSHIRE BAND AND GUESTS: ST GEORGE'S DAY CONCERT** Featuring guest choirs Voices In Harmony & Viva Musica, Sat 25 Apr, Dudley Town Hall

**DI XIAO: TO SPRING** Programme includes works by Christian Sinding, John Ireland, arr. Kris Lennox, Yiqiang Sun, Mendelssohn, William Mason, Tchaikovsky, Medtner, Grieg & Debussy, Sat 25 Apr, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**SAKARI ORAMO & ROYAL STOCKHOLM PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Also featuring Nicola Benedetti (violin). Programme includes works by Victoria Borisova-Ollas, Prokofiev & Sibelius, Sat 25 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

## Comedy

**ROSS NOBLE** Mon 20 - Tues 21 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**PETE FIRMAN & THE AMAZING TBC** Tues 21 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, B'ham

**JOE LYCETT** Tues 21 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**ARABELLA WEIR** Wed 22 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**MATT FORDE** Thurs 23 Apr, Theatre

Severn, Shrewsbury

**MARK STEEL** Thurs 23 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**ANDREW RYAN, FIN TAYLOR & COMEDY CAROUSEL WITH ANDY ROBINSON** Thurs 23 Apr, The Glee Club, B'ham

**SEANN WALSH** Fri 24 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**ROBIN MORGAN** Fri 24 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**ANDREW RYAN, FIN TAYLOR, PAUL THORNE, ADAM STAUNTON & CELYA AB** Fri 24 Apr, The Glee Club, B'ham

**JACK BARRY** Sat 25 Apr, The REP, Birmingham

**FREDDY QUINNE, ROBIN MORGAN, GAVIN WEBSTER & ANDREW ROBINSON** Sat 25 Apr, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

**ANDREW RYAN, FIN TAYLOR, PAUL THORNE & LINDSEY SANTORO** Sat 25 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**DAVID BADDIEL** Sun 26 Apr, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

## Theatre

**DIAL M FOR MURDER** Tom Chambers and Samantha Womack star, Mon 20 - Sat 25 Apr, The Alexandra, Birmingham

**WE WILL ROCK YOU** Smash-hit musical by Queen & Ben Elton, Mon 20 Apr - Sat 2 May, Birmingham Hippodrome

**THE KITE RUNNER** Based on Khaled Hosseini's international bestselling novel, Tues 21 - Sat 25 Apr, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

**CONFESSIONS OF A COCKNEY TEMPLE DANCER** Join Shane Shambhu as he rips up ideas of race, language and culture via a mix of theatre, dance and film, Tues 21 - Sat 25 Apr, The REP, Birmingham

**GREASE** Amateur staging performed by Stoke Youth Theatre Group, Tues 21 - Sat 25 Apr, Stoke Repertory Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE WEDDING SINGER** Amateur staging presented by Bournville Musical Theatre Company, Tues 21 - Sat 25 Apr, The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**MADE IN DAGENHAM - THE MUSICAL** Amateur staging presented by Tamworth Musical Theatre Company, Tues 21 - Sat 25 Apr, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**UP POMPEII** Ambient Nights present a romp through ancient Pompeii, Wed 22 - Thurs 23 Apr, Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock

**SCREAM PHONE** Scream meets Clueless in a spoof horror musical, Wed 22 - Sat 25 Apr, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**THE DELIGHTFUL SAUSAGE: GINSTER'S**



**PARADISE** 'Surreal sketch comedy nightmare that will tear your soul apart', Thurs 23 Apr, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**JULIET & ROMEO** Dance, comedy & theatre combine as Lost Dog imagine what life would have been like for the world's best-known lovers, if they have lived... Thurs 23 Apr, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**SILENT UPROAR: THANK YOU FOR DOING NOTHING** Production about the climate emergency and the men who profit from it, Thurs 23 Apr, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES** Amateur staging presented by Stourbridge Theatre Company, Thurs 23 - Sat 25 Apr, Stourbridge Town Hall

**INSPECTOR DRAKE AND THE BLACK WIDOW** Amateur staging of David Tristram's comic play, Thurs 23 - Sat 25 Apr, The Belfrey Theatre, Wellington, Shropshire

**THE 39 STEPS** A cast of four deliver recreate 150 zany characters in John Buchan's fast-paced whodunnit, Thurs 23 Apr - Sat 2 May, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL 2: CRUISING THROUGH MENOPAUSE!** Sequel to the smash-hit show, Menopause the Musical, Fri 24 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE HARD WAY** One-woman show by musician and composer Louise Jordan, Fri 24 Apr, Clungunford Parish Hall, Nr Craven Arms, South Shropshire

**THE CANTERBURY TALES** 'Riotous and rollicking' retelling of Chaucer's medieval masterpiece, Fri 24 Apr, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**BEACH BODY READY** The Roaring Girls smash their way through ingrained fears, food insecurities and toxic advertising, Sat 25 Apr, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**JULIET & ROMEO** Dance, comedy & theatre combine as Lost Dog imagine what life would have been like for the world's best-known lovers, if they had lived... Sat 25 Apr, Meole Brace Peace Memorial Hall, Shrewsbury

**SHEILA'S MENTAL HEALTH SHOW 7** One-woman show exploring anxiety and its effects on our beliefs, behaviours and relationships, Sat 25 Apr, Lichfield Garrick

**THE FATHER** The story of an elderly man with dementia, and his daughter, who is struggling to maintain a life of her own as she cares for him, Sat 25 Apr - Sat 2 May, The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**A NIGHT AT THE OPERA** An evening of opera scenes and extracts performed by pupils of Shrewsbury School, Sun 26 Apr, Maidment Auditorium, Shrewsbury School

## Kids Shows

**THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA** Family show packed with 'oodles of magic, sing-along-songs and clumsy chaos', Tues 21 - Wed 22 Apr, Lichfield Garrick

## Dance

**LEWYS HOLT: PHRASES AND FOOTNOTES** Double bill of work fusing dance and text with a sprinkling of comedy, Thurs 23 Apr, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## Talks

**DAVID HARPER UNEXPECTED TALES!** Improvised show 'packed with tales of embarrassing moments, funny celebrities, historical stories, journeys through time, world records, disastrous TV appearances and more'... Mon 20 Apr, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

## Film

### INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

**KNIVES OUT (12a)** Crime/Comedy. Starring Daniel Craig, Chris Evans. Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 20 Apr; Sparc Theatre, Bishop's Castle, South Shropshire

**THE CURRENT WAR (U)** Biography/Drama. Starring Benedict Cumberbatch, Oliver Powell. Stourbridge Town Hall, Mon 20 Apr

**MRS LOWRY AND SON (PG)** Biography/Drama. Starring Vanessa Redgrave, Timothy Spall. Sparc Theatre, Bishop's Castle, South Shropshire, Tues 21 Apr

**PARASITE (15)** Drama. Starring Kang-ho Song, Yeo-jeong Jo. Foreign language, subtitled. Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Tues 21 Apr

**ELVIS: THAT'S THE WAY IT IS (U)** Documentary/Music. Starring Elvis Presley, James Burton. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Wed 22 Apr

**SYSTEM CRASHER (15)** Drama. Starring Helena Zengel, Albrecht Schuch. Foreign language, subtitled. Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 23 Apr

### NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE:

Released from Fri 24 Apr, showing at selected cinemas

**FINDING THE WAY BACK (15)**

**OUR LADIES (15)**

**ANTLERS (15)**



Lost Dog's Juliet & Romeo - various venues

## Events

**THE MURDER OF ALBERT BECKER** Enjoy Court 15 in a new and unique way. Interrogate suspects, follow clues and help the police solve the mystery of Albert Becker's death, Fri 24 Apr, Birmingham Back to Backs

**BEER FESTIVAL 2020** Featuring even more beer, a selection of locally sourced food and some great live music, Fri 24 - Sat 25 Apr, Middleport Pottery, Burslem, Staffordshire

**BIG FISH LITTLE FISH** The award-winning family rave returns with a Pirates & Mermaids theme, Sat 25 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**AUTISM EARLY BIRD** Special early opening for families with children who would enjoy the museum at a quieter time. This would particularly suit those with ASD or other sensory processing differences, Sat 25 Apr, Enginuity Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**ST. GEORGE'S DAY** Medieval living history in the castle and reenactments in the castle grounds, Sat 25 Apr, Tamworth Castle

**EPICO THE DRAGON** Join Sir Aurelious Jones, the pirate knight, and Epico the Dragon for an interactive adventure, Sat 25 Apr, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**WALES COMIC CON: TELFORD TAKEOVER** Celebrate the best of comics, cosplay, media and more, Sat 25 - Sun 26 Apr, Telford International Centre, Shropshire

**THE 40TH CAROLE NASH INTERNATIONAL CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE SHOW** The show is back with a special 1940s edition to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day, Sat 25 - Sun 26 Apr, Staffordshire County Showground, Stafford

**ST GEORGE'S DAY 2020** Featuring medieval reenactment, children's entertainers, face painting, crafts, and a walkabout with Smoked! the Dragon, Sun 26 Apr, Dudley Zoological Gardens

**DAWN CHORUS WALK** Wake up with the feathered friends of Shugborough at first light, Sun 26 Apr, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford



St George's Day Celebrations - Tamworth Castle





Sari Schorr - The Robin, Bilston

## Gigs

**JIMOTHY LACOSTE** Mon 27 Apr, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**BON IVER** Mon 27 Apr, Arena Birmingham

**BLUES CARAVAN** Mon 27 Apr, The Robin, Bilston

**NATHANIEL RATELIFF** Tues 28 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**OUR HOLLOW, OUR HOME** Wed 29 Apr, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**THE FRATELLIS** Wed 29 Apr, O2 Institute, Birmingham

**CHON** Wed 29 Apr, The Asylum, Birmingham

**THE SHIRES** Wed 29 Apr, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

**SARI SCHORR** Wed 29 Apr, The Robin, Bilston

**FEBUEDER + SPECIAL GUESTS** Wed 29 Apr,

The Sunflower, Birmingham

**BONFIRE RADICALS** Wed 29 Apr, The Red Lion Folk Club, B'ham

**WHITECHAPEL + DYSCARNATE + VEXED** Wed 29 Apr, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

**BELINDA O'HOOLEY - INVERSIONS** Wed 29 Apr, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**JORDAN MACKAMPA** Wed 29 Apr, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**GUUNA B** Thurs 30 Apr, O2 Academy, Birmingham

**PROTOJE, LILA IKE & SEVANA** Thurs 30 Apr, O2 Institute, B'ham

**BEARDYMAN** Thurs 30 Apr, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

**ARTHUR BOCANEANU** Thurs 30 Apr, The Gateway, Shrewsbury

**WE'LL MEET AGAIN** Thurs 30 Apr, Walsall

Arena & Arts Centre

**EMILY BURNS** Thurs 30 Apr, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**JARROD DICKENSON & DAVID FORD** Thurs 30 Apr, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

**PETE AND BAS** Thurs 30 Apr, The Mill Digbeth

**ANDY RICHARDS BAND** Thurs 30 Apr, Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**GWEN DICKEY - THE VOICE OF ROSE ROYCE** Thurs 30 Apr, Birmingham Town Hall

**THOSE SNAKES & BATTALIONS PLUS SUPPORT** Thurs 30 Apr, Scruffy Murphys, Birmingham

**IN FLAMES** Thurs 30 Apr, KK Steele Mill, Wolverhampton

**SHAMBOLICS** Thurs 30 Apr, Dead Wax, Birmingham



In Flames - KK Steel Mill, Wolverhampton

## Classical & Easy Listening

**CBSO: BEETHOVEN'S EROICA** Featuring Julian Rachlin (conductor/violin) & Sarah McElravy (viola). Programme includes works by Rossini, Mozart & Beethoven, Wed 29 - Thurs 30 Apr, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**WE'LL MEET AGAIN** Vintage Trio The Bluebird Belles celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day with the sounds of Vera Lynn, Anne Shelton, Gracie Fields & many more... Thurs 30 Apr, Walsall Arena

**JUAN PÉREZ FLORISTÁN PIANO RECITAL** Programme includes works by Gershwin, Bartók, Ginastera, Beethoven & Schubert, Thurs 30 Apr, Stoke Repertory Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**ONLY FOOLS AND BOYCIE** Intimate evening with Only Fools And Horses actor John Challis, Wed 29 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**OLIVER TWIST** Bryony Lavery adaptation of Dickens' iconic tale, Wed 29 Apr - Sat 9 May, The REP, B'ham

**MADE IN DAGENHAM THE MUSICAL** Amateur staging presented by Musical Theatre Stafford, Wed 29 Apr - Sat 2 May, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**ONE SIDE LIES THE SEA** Pentabus Theatre Company explore 'the brilliant communities that inhabit our coastline'. Thurs 30 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**BORED OFF MY TITS** Provocative account of one woman's journey back to herself via music, thrills and chat lines, Thurs 30 Apr - Fri 1 May, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**KIPPS** Mad Cow present an amateur staging of the iconic British musical, Thurs 30 Apr - Sat 2 May, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**CHICAGO THE MUSICAL** Backstreet Theatre Company present an amateur staging of Kander & Ebb's landmark musical, Thurs 30 Apr - Sat 2 May, Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock

## Comedy

**SIOBHAN PHILLIPS** Tues 28 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**RUSSELL KANE** Wed 29 Apr, The Place, Telford

**KERRY GODLIMAN** Wed 29 Apr, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**IAIN STIRLING** Thurs 30 Apr, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

**SCOTT AGNEW, JENNY COLLIER & COMEDY CAROUSEL WITH ANDY ROBINSON** Thurs 30 Apr, The Glee Club, B'ham

## Theatre

**SISTER ACT** Amateur staging presented by Curtain Call Theatre Company Shrewsbury, Tues 28 - Wed 29 Apr, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**NIKIPEDIA** Shared histories presented as a fusion of stand-up, theatre and stories down the pub, Tues 28 - Wed 29 Apr, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**LAVA** Story about friendship and human connection in the face of the inexplicable, Tues 28 Apr - Sat 2 May, The REP, Birmingham

**FLASHDANCE** New staging of the iconic film of the same name, Tues 28 Apr - Sat 2 May, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

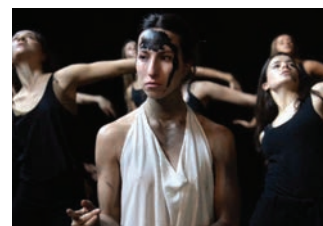
**AN INSPECTOR CALLS** Stephen Daldry's award-winning production of JB Priestley's classic thriller, Tues 28 Apr - Sat 2 May, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**QUALITY STREET** JM Barrie farce, written years before he penned Peter Pan, Tues 28 Apr - Sat 9 May, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

## Dance

**SWAN LAKE** Vienna Festival Ballet presents its version of one of ballet's best-loved stories, Wed 29 Apr, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

**JV2** Triple bill including a new work by Jasmin Vardimon, Thurs 30 Apr, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton



## Film

### INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

**THE GOOD LIAR (15)** Crime/Drama. Starring Helen Mirren, Ian McKellen. Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 27 Apr

**APOLLO 13 (PG)** Drama/History. Starring Tom Hanks, Bill Paxton. Walsall Arena, Tues 28 Apr

**SOME LIKE IT HOT (12)** Comedy/Music. Starring Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis. Mitchell Arts Centre, Stoke-on-Trent, Tues 28 Apr



# Salop Music Centre

*Musical Instrument Store Est. 1975*



A WIDE RANGE OF GUITARS • AMPLIFICATION • GUITAR ACCESSORIES • DIGITAL PIANOS  
KEYBOARDS • DRUMS • ELECTRICAL DRUMS • P.A. • HOME RECORDING • P.A. HIRE

## VISIT OUR NEW STORE

**294 MONKMOOR ROAD, SHREWSBURY SY2 5TF**

**WWW.SALOPMUSIC.COM**



**SALOP MUSIC CENTRE**



**CALL US ON 01743 364111**



**EMAIL US AT SALOPSALES@GMAIL.COM**



# FREE PARTY HIRE

**PERFECT SPACES FOR INTIMATE  
PARTIES OF 30 OR MORE!**



**WE SPECIALISE IN**  
**BIRTHDAYS • WEDDINGS**  
**CHRISTENINGS • GRADUATIONS**  
**WORK PARTIES • WAKES**  
**CHRISTMAS PARTIES & MORE**

**GET IN TOUCH**  
**CALL 01743 281751 OR EMAIL**  
**GRANT@THEBUTTERMARKE.CO.UK**  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

THE BUTTERMARKE  
SHREWSBURY

**WWW.THEBUTTERMARKE.CO.UK**

