

Shropshire

ISSUE 426 JULY 2022

What's On

FILM | COMEDY | THEATRE | GIGS | VISUAL ARTS | EVENTS | FOOD shropshirewhatson.co.uk





SHROPSHIRE PETAL FIELDS



Stroll amongst an array of flowers
in this **BRAND NEW** visitor attraction
in Newport, Shropshire

Booking now at shropshireflowerfield.co.uk

inside:

THE CHER SHOW

new musical visits the Midlands
feature inside...



FUN AND GAMES...

Commonwealth Festival Sites
pop up across the Midlands



PASSING IT ON...

the Queen's Baton makes its
way across the region...



OPEN
UNTIL
10PM

**EAT
-
DRINK
-
SHOP**

Selection of retail stalls
open until 7pm



STREET FOOD
WITH FLAVOURS
FROM AROUND
THE WORLD,
BARS,
SHOPPING
& MORE!

**25TH
JUNE**

**23RD
JULY**

**3RD
SEPT**

**29TH
OCT**

**3RD
DEC**

f @markethallshrewsbury i @markethallshrewsbury t @markethallshrew



Forthcoming
Shows 2022



01952 382382
www.theplacetelford.com



TWC GP 01459

comedy



**CHRIS MCGLADE:
FORGIVENESS**
Wed 13 July @ 8pm

music



TINA LIVE
Fri 15 Jul @ 7.30pm

comedy



**MARK WATSON:
THIS CAN'T BE IT**
Thurs 21 Jul @ 7.30pm

special



**THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SERIAL
KILLERS WITH JENNIFER REES**
Fri 22 Jul @ 7.30pm

family



THE QUEEN'S KNICKERS
Sat 30 Jul @ 2pm & 6pm

comedy



HOUSEWIVES ON HOLIDAY
Sun 31 Jul @ 7.30pm

family



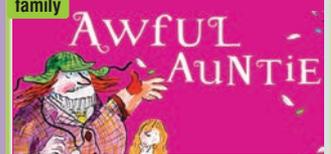
**MINISTRY OF SCIENCE LIVE:
SCIENCE SAVED THE WORLD**
Wed 3 Aug @ 6.30pm

music

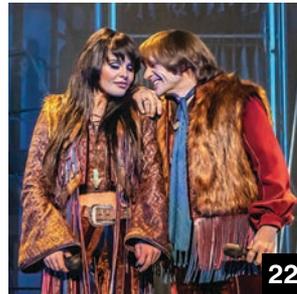


IRELAND THE SHOW
Thurs 11 Aug @ 7.30pm

family



**AWFUL AUNTIE
AT BOWRING PARK**
Sat 3 Sept @ 2.30pm



INSIDE:

First Word	4
Food	13
Gigs	15
Festivals	19
Theatre	24
Dance	30
Film	36
Visual Arts	40
Events	45

Follow us at:



whatsonshropshire
staffordshirewhatson
whatsonwolverhampton



@whatsonshops
@whatsonstaffs
@whatsonwolves



@whatsonshropshire
@whatsonstaffs
@whatsonwolves

What's On

MEDIA GROUP

Managing Director: **Davina Evans** davina@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281708
Sales & Marketing: **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

Subscriptions: subscriptions@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281714 Contributors: Graham Bostock, Lauren Cole, Katherine Ewing, Steve Taylor, Ellie Hutchings, Patsy Moss, Sue Jones, Diane Parkes, Steve Adams, Sue Hull
Publisher and CEO: **Martin Monahan** Accounts Administrator: **Julia Perry** julia@21stdc.com 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.





Return of The Bodyguard

Blockbuster musical The Bodyguard is returning to the Midlands in 2023. The hit show, which is based on the same-titled 1990s Hollywood movie starring Kevin Costner and Whitney Houston, comes complete with classic numbers One Moment In Time, I Wanna Dance With Somebody and the legendary I Will Always Love You. The stage adaptation received mixed reviews when it opened in 2012 but has since gone on to become a worldwide hit. The production stops off at the Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, from Monday 27 February to Saturday 4 March, and then plays the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday 9 to Saturday 13 May.

Acorns Bubble Rush returns in Sandwell

'The world's foamiest fun run' is making a welcome return this month - and organisers are calling on people to get involved in the popular fundraiser.

The Acorns Bubble Rush, which takes place at Sandwell Valley Country Park on Sunday 17 July, will see hundreds of participants wade through a colourful sea of suds to raise much-needed funds for Acorns Children's Hospice and its vital care for local children and families.

To sign up for the event, visit the website at acorns.org.uk/bubblerrush



Time to escape from it all at Shrewsbury prison

Ten brand-new state-of-the-art escape rooms are opening at Shrewsbury Prison on Saturday 9 July.

The rooms, which are built into real prison cells, represent a £65,000 investment in the venue, which has been operating as a heritage-led tourist attraction since 2015. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit shrewsburyprison.com

Paint The Day challenge at Newhampton Arts Centre

Newhampton Arts Centre's art & photography initiative, Paint The Day, returns this month (on Saturday 16 July). Now in its eighth year, Paint The Day aims to bring together the people of Wolverhampton by challenging them to create their very own artistic masterpiece in just eight hours. All entries will be displayed in a free public exhibition, where the competition judges will choose winners and award prizes.

For more information about Paint The Day, visit newhamptonarts.co.uk

Are you batty about bats?

A science project, which aims to discover more about how and why bats are using churches, is on the lookout for Shropshire volunteers.

Commenting on the nationwide Bats In Churches initiative, its training & surveys officer, Claire Boothby, said: "If you have an interest in churches, bats, or both, I'd encourage you to get involved. The surveys are something that everyone can do, even if you're new to the world of bat surveys!"

For more information and to take part, visit batsinchurches.org.uk

Bringing the house down in a Shropshire town

Shrewsbury International Comedy Festival makes a welcome return this month (Thursday 14 - Sunday 17 July), complete with a special flagship gala show at the town's Theatre Severn venue on the final night. The gala show's line-up features Steve Royle, Gary Delaney, Seann Walsh, Paul Sinha and

comedy duo Flo & Joan (pictured). To find out what else is happening, and where, during the festival, visit sicfest.co.uk



Battle of Britain Proms at RAF Museum Midlands

The RAF Museum Midlands in Cosford is next month hosting the Battle of Britain Proms. Taking place on Saturday 13 August against a backdrop of aircraft and historic hangars, the event will present six hours of music and entertainment.

Highlights will include a spectacular flying display from the iconic Supermarine Spitfire, to celebrate and commemorate those who fought in the Battle of Britain.

For more information about the Proms, visit rafmuseum.org.uk/midlands



Behind The Lens with Paul Young

Paul Young will bring his Behind The Lens tour to the Midlands next year. The *Wherever I Lay My Hat* star will play *The Place*, Telford on Wed 12 April; Walsall Arena, Sat 15 April; Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock, Fri 21 April; Tamworth Assembly Rooms, Thurs 11 May; Victoria Hall, Hanley on Fri 3 and Brierley Hill Civic Hall on Thurs 9 November. To book tickets, visit: paul-young.com

Midlands dates for Robbie Williams

Potteries icon Robbie Williams will be stopping off at Resorts World Birmingham in the autumn (15 & 16 October) as part of a UK arena tour.

The Stoke-on-Trent-born singer will visit the venue in support of new album *XXV* - set to be released on 9 September - and to celebrate 25 years as a solo artist.



Andre Rieu on the big screen

An open-air summer concert by Dutch pop classical artist André Rieu is to be screened in over 500 cinemas around the UK across the weekend of Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 August.

Rieu will be performing his new show, *Happy Days Are Here Again*, against the backdrop of Vrijthof Square in his home town of Maastricht... To find out which West Midlands cinemas will be screening the concert, visit andreincinemas.com



Lovely! My Fair Lady coming to the Midlands in 2023

New York's Lincoln Center Theater's critically acclaimed and multi-award-winning production of Lerner & Loewe's hit musical, *My Fair Lady*, will show at Birmingham Hippodrome next spring (Wednesday 8 - Sunday 26 March) as part of a UK & Ireland tour.

The show is directed by Bartlett Sher, who

commented: "Getting a chance to revisit George Bernard Shaw's extraordinary story of class and privilege in a new age is a rare and special event, and I'm thrilled to be able to take this epic musical on tour for audiences up and down the country to enjoy." For more information, visit birminghamhippodrome.com

BBC Proms in Birmingham



For the first time ever, the BBC Proms is taking its successful chamber music series across the UK - and Birmingham is one of the places it will be visiting. Mezzo-soprano Claire Barnett-Jones (pictured) will give a song recital at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire's Bradshaw Hall on Monday 29 August...

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit bcu.ac.uk/concerts

Peaky Blinders Nights set to return to the Black Country Living Museum

Grab your flatcap, don your finest threads and step into the smoky underworld of the 1920s when *Peaky Blinders Nights* return to the Black Country Living Museum later this year. The special evenings provide visitors with the chance to explore one of the smash-hit BBC drama's most important sets. *Peaky Blinders Nights* will run on Friday 16, Saturday 17, Friday 23 & Saturday 24 September, and on Friday 18 & Saturday 19 November, from 7pm until 10.30pm.



Midlands towns become giant game zones

The Midlands towns of Dudley and Shrewsbury have been turned into giant game zones courtesy of a free initiative called Beat The Street.

The idea of the game is for its participants to see how far they can walk, cycle, run, scoot and roll in just six weeks.

There are challenges to meet and prizes up for grabs.

Beat The Street runs until Wednesday 10 August. To find out more about how to participate, visit beatthestreet.me

Ikon festival celebrates contributions made by migrants and refugees

Birmingham art gallery Ikon this month presents the fourth annual Migrant Festival - a four-day programme mixing visual art, music, film and performance.

Celebrating the contribution made by refugees and migrants to Birmingham and the UK, the festival highlights the migrant stories of artists in Ikon's programme, including Abdulrazaq Awofeso and Osman Yousefzada... For more information, visit ikon-gallery.org



Inspired movement at the Electric Cinema

Eight short films showing how gymnastic movements can inspire jazz improvisation and composition are this month being premiered at Birmingham cinema The Electric. The films, which bring together gymnasts and musicians from across the West Midlands, will be shown at the venue on Wednesday 20 July. Free tickets are available from iconictv.co.uk



Titanic The Musical sailing into The Potteries in 2023

The Tony Award-winning Titanic The Musical will sail into the region in spring next year. The hit show, which tells the story of the legendary ship's ill-fated maiden voyage from Southampton to New York in 1912, drops anchor at the Regent Theatre, Stoke-

on-Trent, from Monday 24 to Saturday 29 April. The production visits the Potteries having previously stopped off at Birmingham Hippodrome (Tuesday 18 - Saturday 22 April). For more information about the show, visit its official website: titanicthemusical.co.uk

RSC to offer socially distanced seating for selected performances

The Royal Shakespeare Company will provide socially distanced seating at selected performances of its main-theatre productions of Richard III, All's Well That Ends Well and A Christmas Carol. Commenting on the news, RSC Executive Director Catherine Mallyon said: "We hope that this offer will mean that those who might otherwise feel unable to attend live theatre have the opportunity to do so confidently."

For more information about the scheme and the selected performances, visit rsc.org.uk



Drayton Manor unveils brand-new Vikings area



Families looking to try something new this school summer holiday should make a beeline for Drayton Manor Resort.

The popular Staffordshire venue has recently opened its long-awaited Vikings-themed area.

The new attraction comes complete with 'exhilarating' rides inspired by legendary gods - and there's even the chance for youngsters to learn how to ride an ancient mythical horse!

To find out more about what's on offer, visit draytonmanor.co.uk/vikings

B:Music

 @bmusicltd  @BMusic_Ltd  bmusic_ltd
 bmusic.co.uk  youtube.com/c/bmusic_ltd

There's something for everyone at **Symphony Hall** and **Town Hall**



Housewarming Sessions:
Rosie Frater-Taylor
Fri 15 July
Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space

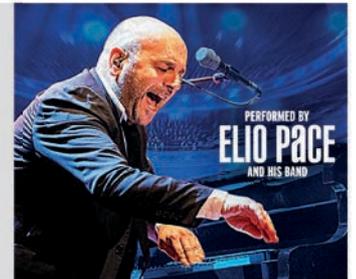


Kim Wilde: Greatest Hits Tour Plus Special Guests China Crisis
Fri 16 Sep
Symphony Hall

On Record: In Conversation with Bobby Friction
Sat 16 Jul
Justham Family Room & Jane How Room



The Billy Joel Songbook
Sun 18 Sep
Town Hall



Jamaica 60th Cultural Extravaganza: A Salute to the Commonwealth Games
Sat 23 Jul
Town Hall

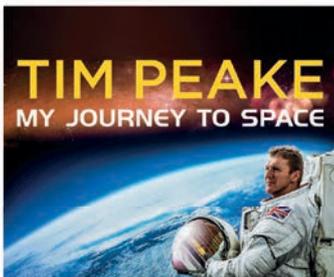


Anastacia: I'm Outta Lockdown – The 22nd Anniversary
Tue 1 Nov
Symphony Hall

Peppa Pig: My First Concert
28–29 Jul
Town Hall



An Evening with Noel Fitzpatrick
Tue 29 Nov
Town Hall



TIM PEAKE: My Journey to Space
Wed 7 Sep
Symphony Hall



Christmas with Aled and Russell
Fri 2 Dec
Symphony Hall

Book Online: **bmusic.co.uk**

WORLD CLASS ENTERTAINMENT



JOE PASQUALE STARS AS THE LOVABLE FRANK SPENCER IN...
SOME MOTHERS DO 'AVE 'EM

TUE 26 – SAT 30 JUL
REGENT THEATRE



THE MUSICAL THAT CELEBRATES AN ICON:
THE CHER SHOW

TUE 30 AUG – SAT 3 SEP
REGENT THEATRE



PACKED FULL OF SONGS, GAMES AND LAUGHTER!
PEPPA PIG'S BEST DAY EVER!

WED 7 & THU 8 SEP
REGENT THEATRE



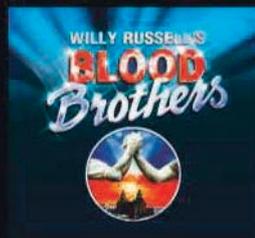
BACK FOR A FABULOUS NIGHT OF MUSIC AND LAUGHTER
JANE McDONALD

SAT 10 SEP
REGENT THEATRE



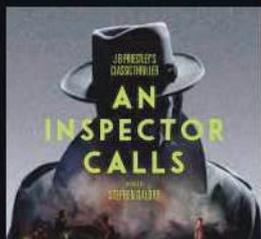
STARRING SOME OF THE WORLD'S FINEST PRINCIPAL DANCERS
ENGLISH YOUTH BALLET'S SWAN LAKE

FRI 23 & SAT 24 SEP
REGENT THEATRE



THE MULTI AWARD-WINNING PRODUCTION RETURNS!
BLOOD BROTHERS

TUE 27 SEP – SAT 1 OCT
REGENT THEATRE



THE NATIONAL THEATRE'S PRODUCTION OF THE CLASSIC THRILLER RETURNS
AN INSPECTOR CALLS

TUE 4 – SAT 8 OCT
REGENT THEATRE



FOR ANY PINK FLOYD FAN, THIS SHOW IS A MUST-SEE
THE AUSTRALIAN PINK FLOYD SHOW

SUN 23 OCT
REGENT THEATRE



DIVORCED. BEHEADED. LIVE!
SIX

TUE 15 – SUN 20 NOV
REGENT THEATRE



THIS CHRISTMAS SET SAIL ON A BRAND NEW ADVENTURE
THE PANTOMIME ADVENTURES OF PETER PAN

FRI 9 – SAT 31 DEC
REGENT THEATRE

UK FOO FIGHTERS
SAT 9 JUL **VH**

LOST IN MUSIC - ONE NIGHT AT THE DISCO
SAT 17 SEP **VH**

80s LIVE
THU 22 SEP **VH**

RUSSELL KANE: THE ESSEX VARIANT!
FRI 23 SEP **VH**

TIM PEAKE: MY JOURNEY TO SPACE
THU 29 SEP **VH**

10CC
WED 12 OCT **VH**

THE SENSATIONAL 60S EXPERIENCE
THU 13 OCT **VH**

BOYZLIFE
SUN 16 OCT **VH**

RV REGENT THEATRE
VICTORIA HALL
STOKE-ON-TRENT

ATG TICKETS BOX OFFICE 0844 871 7615*
ATGTICKETS.COM/Stoke*

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

Shrewsbury arts trail aims to inspire...

'Be inspired' is the theme for the second Shrewsbury Arts Trail, which takes place across the Shropshire town throughout July and August. The initiative provides a platform for local artists to exhibit their work alongside some well-known (yet to be announced) names. A sculpture trail by acclaimed artist Andrew Logan also features, as does an extensive programme of associated events. For further information, visit: shrewsburyartstrail.com

UK's largest inflatable obstacle course heading to Tamworth Castle

The UK's largest inflatable obstacle course is heading for Tamworth this summer. At 1,000ft, the Labyrinth Challenge is said to be one of the most spectacular inflatable obstacle courses in the world, jam-packed full of jump-offs, hurdles, biff'n'bash sections, balance beams, giant balls, corkscrews and more. A mini version, perfect for smaller children, will also feature. The courses will be set up in Tamworth Castle Grounds throughout Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 August. Slots can be booked online at tamworthartsandevents.co.uk



Speak Up: local theatre in schools initiative team-up

The Wolverhampton Grand has teamed up with the National Theatre (NT) to help deliver a creative programme to local schools. Speak Up is the NT's national initiative for young people who have been most affected by the pandemic. The scheme will see participants collaborating with local artists and teachers to co-create artistic responses to issues about which they feel strongly. The project will take place across three years in five secondary schools in Wolverhampton, Walsall and Telford.



Dance festival continues to entertain for FREE

Birmingham International Dance Festival 2022 draws to a close early this month with a weekend of free entertainment in the city's Handsworth Park (Saturday 2 & Sunday 3 July). A packed programme of dance work includes performances by some of the Midlands' best-known ensembles. These include Sonia Sabri Company, who'll be presenting Mughal Miniatures, a show which uses dance, live music, theatre, puppetry, intricate costuming and set design to create living versions of Indian miniature paintings.

The award-winning 2Faced Dance Company are making a contribution to the weekend too, presenting a world premiere of Where All Paths Lead. A thought-provoking dance-theatre work, the piece sees seven male performers embrace the powerful possibilities of different journeys, as they navigate their way across a series of pathways. To check out the whole line-up of free-to-attend shows in Handsworth Park, visit bidf.co.uk

Still time to catch Steve McQueen short film

There's still time to check out acclaimed filmmaker Steve McQueen's short film, Running Thunder, at Wolverhampton Art Gallery. The 2007 film was recently added to the city's permanent collection. Offering 'a moment for meditation', it presents a silent, static shot of a black horse lying in a sunlit meadow. Only the blades of grass, swaying softly in the breeze, and the circling flies, break the apparent tranquility. Running Thunder is a free exhibition and can be viewed until Sunday 17 July. For more information on this and other exhibitions & events at the gallery, visit wolverhamptonart.org.uk

Severn Valley Railway wins top tourism award

The Severn Valley Railway (SVR) has won the VisitEngland bronze award for Resilience & Innovation, beating off tough competition

from hundreds of visitor attractions across England. Commenting on the success, SVR Managing Director Helen Smith said: "Since those first days of lockdown, we've faced countless difficulties in getting the railway through the devastating impacts of the Covid pandemic. We've proved ourselves capable of more than we'd ever thought, and this award acknowledges that achievement."

Marvellous! Hit show to return at the New Vic

The New Vic's smash-hit production of Marvellous - telling the heartwarming story of the life and times of local hero Neil 'Nello' Baldwin - will return by popular demand in the autumn. Directed by the Newcastle-under-Lyme-based theatre's artistic director, Theresa Heskins - and reuniting the cast who first performed the show back in the spring - Marvellous will run at the New Vic from Saturday 17 September to Saturday 8 October. Visit newvictheatre.org.uk for more information.



A MUSICAL BY THE COMMUNITY, FOR THE COMMUNITY



This year's Lichfield Garrick community musical is an ambitious new adaptation of Robin Hood. A 'dynamic, feelgood, escapist adventure' for all the family to enjoy, the show is arriving just when it's needed the most, according to Associate Director Jonny McClean...

Since making its debut in 2016, the Lichfield Garrick's annual community musical has become a major event in the theatre's calendar, with a cast of around 50 local performers working alongside professionals to create increasingly ambitious productions.

This year's show, *Robin Hood - The Musical*, follows in those traditions. And according to the theatre's associate director, Jonny McClean, the show is the largest scale and most ambitious community project since the Covid outbreak, with the enforced time off having made the company "more excited and determined to make it the best community musical yet".

That determination is backed by genuine enthusiasm for the project, not least because the local community chose the tale of the heroic Midlands outlaw in response to a poll asking which legends, myths or historical stories they wanted to see adapted for the stage.

"Robin Hood came top of the poll, and so the people's voice was heard and we got started!" laughs Jonny. "It was a fantastic way to kick off the project, involving the community from the very start.

"I've always loved the character of Robin Hood, and his unique brand of fun and swagger, yet a serious commitment to do what's right always seems to shine through. It's a character I looked up to as a child, and I think a character that speaks to so many of us. I wanted to be a part of the Merry Men - to be honest, I think I still do! - and that's an aspect we've woven throughout the show, inviting the audience to feel like they're a part of the world."

The production, which also features a live band, is helmed by Jonny as playwright and Joel Hall as composer & lyricist, but the former is quick to point out that the show is very much a group effort.

"We've been as much facilitators as writers and composers. The writing process has been in collaboration with an amazing team of community writers, who can be incredibly proud of the show they've been a part of

creating. They worked hard at it, with Joel and I, for nearly eight months, to shape the story, give feedback on dialogue and music, and eventually be part of a final read-through of a fully-fledged musical. It's written *by* the community, *for* the community."

The community cast comes from all walks of life, ranges in age from nine to 70, and embraces not only people who are forging their career in the arts, but also individuals dipping their toes into the experience for the very first time.

It's evident that Jonny loves working alongside such a large and enthusiastic group: "What is consistent across all of them, apart from their talent, is their warmth, generosity with each other and us - the creatives - and their dedication to creating a fantastic show together. The sheer energy in the room is infectious and creates such a melting pot of creativity that you can't help but enjoy yourself."

Some cast members have taken part in the Garrick's acclaimed Artist Development and Community Engagement programmes - schemes that Jonny believes have become more important than ever in the wake of the pandemic.

"The opportunity that theatre offers, both by attending or taking part, to put down daily worries for a while is vital. Both for young people facing some of the most pressured years of education we've ever seen, and for adults who are having to manage an ever-increasing list of worries."

Robin Hood's mantra to rob the rich and feed the poor also seems especially relevant at a time when people are facing economic woe while billionaire businessmen play with space rockets, and oligarchs, oil and energy companies continue to make obscene profits.

"You're telling me! While writing the story, we became very conscious of its relevance to today. But equally, Joel, I and the community-musical writing team were all absolutely captivated by the sheer sense of escapism that the story offers. It can be a real tonic to the soul to hear a good story that's full of

adventure, romance and family love. We felt that a show that captured the experience of being a part of the community musical, and its chance for weekly escapism, a new-found family and a sense of adventure, was the perfect thing for today."

Working on the show also gave the creators an excuse to watch some of the classic movie versions of the tale, from Errol Flynn's memorable portrayal of the lead character in *The Adventures Of Robin Hood*, to Alan Rickman's extravagant Sheriff of Nottingham in *Robin Hood: Prince Of Thieves*, to the fabulous cartoon animal ensemble in your correspondent's favourite adaptation by Walt Disney.

"The various versions are certainly something we kept ourselves aware of, and it was a lovely excuse to rewatch them all. I think equally, however, that we took inspiration from the tones of iconic children's adventure stories such as *The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe* and *The Hobbit* - stories with a real sense of joy and fun, but also with very real stakes and danger!

"That said, I think a certain amount of Disney's roguish fox has made its way into our actor's performance!"

Admitting he's "phenomenally excited" by the new show, Jonny says he "can't wait for audiences to come and join us in Sherwood Forest". He rounded off our chat by giving me the sort of summary that can only be described as the perfect sales pitch.

"I think audiences can expect to be blown away by new songs, feel touched by some beautiful scenes of camaraderie and romance with characters for all ages to look to, a bit of spectacle as always - it wouldn't be a Lichfield Garrick show without - and will not want to leave behind our version of Nottingham by the end!"

Robin Hood - The Musical shows at the Lichfield Garrick from Tuesday 19 to Saturday 23 July.



PIE NIGHT

EVERY THURSDAY FROM 5PM



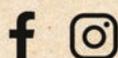
FROM £10 PER PERSON



VEGAN AND VEGGIE OPTION TOO!



The
Peach
Tree



CALL 01743 355055 OR BOOK ONLINE THE PEACHTREE.CO.UK

Food news from across the region...

Wolverhampton date for foodie favourite

Celebrating 10 years of popular food events, Digbeth Dining Club (DDC) is popping up at 15 sites around the Midlands this summer, including Wolverhampton's Bantock Park on 23 July.

As well as award-winning street food from the likes of Spaghetti Junction, Phata Phat, Patty Freaks, Fat Snags and Cleopatra's Kitchen, to name but a few, DDC will also be serving up a range of specialist gin, prosecco, cocktails and craft beers. Resident DJs, live music and children's entertainment also features.

Secret garden reopens for the summer

Shrewsbury's secret garden, blueBAR, has reopened for the summer.

Located inside the town's Wyle Blue World and open from midday to 6pm Friday to Sunday, the venue offers visitors the chance to relax with a Neopolitan-style pizza from Ready Steady Dough or a charcuterie board. Beer, wine, cocktails and soft drinks are also available.



If you love cheese...

If you're a cheese junkie, then you're in for a real treat early this month, as one of the UK's largest cheese, food and drink festivals is taking place right here in the Midlands, at Staffordshire County Show Ground on Friday 1 & Saturday 2 July.

Love Cheese Live features shopping, tasting, live cooking demonstrations by a 'fantastic line-up of chefs', the finest dairy brands and some of the UK's most highly regarded independent producers of food, drink and culinary products.



Restaurant chain set to expand with Shrewsbury opening

Well known for bold flavours, exotic ingredients and dishes with personality, Thai restaurant chain Giggling Squid is set to open in Shrewsbury's old Edinburgh Woollen Mill space. The eatery's launch date is yet to be announced.

From crowd-pleasing lunchtime tapas to delicious curries, stir-fries, rice and noodles, Giggling Squid's menu lends itself to the

distinct sharing culture of Thailand, making it an ideal choice for a family occasion.

Starters include chicken satay, phuket mussels, duck spring rolls, salt & pepper squid, pork dumplings and Samui zingy prawns.

Main dishes include hake feast bowl, turmeric sea bass parcel, giant butterfly king prawn pad thai, Thai melting beef, lamb shank massaman curry and duck confit.

Brand-new cafe & eatery to open inside Symphony Hall

B:Eats, a daytime cafe & eatery created by B:Music - the charity responsible for Birmingham's Symphony Hall and Town Hall - is due to open this month.

Serving food & drink from inside the transformed spaces at Symphony Hall, B:Eats' menu features, among other delights, eggs benedict, southwest chorizo hash, buttermilk fried chicken wings, sticky maple fried chicken and Middle Eastern lamb tagine.

The eatery will open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 5pm, with food service from 11am each day and coffees & pastries served from 10am to 11am.



SUMMER

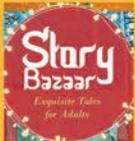
AT NEWHAMPTON
ARTS CENTRE
AND THE

**NEW
HORIZONS**
stage



FOLK FESTIVAL

Feat. Eddi Reader, Midnight Skyracer & more
SAT 25 JUNE



STORY BAZAAR

Henna with Gorg Chand & Peter Chand
FRI 1 JULY



COMMUNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Feat. Alex Ohm, Bryony Williams & more
SAT 2 JULY



CAMRA SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BEER AND CIDER

THU 7 - SAT 9 JULY



PAINT THE DAY

Wolverhampton's favourite art competition
SAT 16 JULY



JAZZ FESTIVAL

Feat. Dennis Rollins, Laura Jurd & more
SAT 23 JULY



ANTICS FAMILY THEATRE FESTIVAL

A FREE festival of performance & fun
for families
SUN 14 AUGUST



TRUE ROMANCE FILM NIGHT

Classic Film on big screen & dining experience
FRI 16 SEPTEMBER

NEWHAMPTONARTS.CO.UK 01902 572 090

NEWHAMPTON ARTS CENTRE, DUNKLEY ST,
WOLVERHAMPTON WV1 4AN



ENTERTAINMENT CANNOCK CHASE

at the PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE

AUGUST

FIREMAN SAM

Saturday 6 August • 10.30am & 1pm • £16.50



LIONEL - THE MUSIC OF LIONEL RICHIE

Friday 26 August • 7.30pm • £23.00



DINOSAUR ADVENTURE LIVE

Sunday 28 August • 2pm & 4.30pm • £14.00



SEPTEMBER

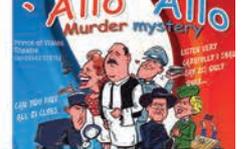
THE DRIFTERS

Friday 9 September • 7.30pm • £28.00



ALLO ALLO - MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

Saturday 10 September • 7.30pm • £20.00



OCTOBER

T-REXTASY

Saturday 1 October • 7.30pm • £26.50



NATHAN CARTER

Thursday 6 October • 7.30pm • £34.00



BUDDY HOLLY AND THE CRICKETERS

Friday 7 October • 7.30pm • £22.00



GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM

Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 October •
7.30pm • £14.00



Box Office
01543 578 762
tickets.princeofwales.live

Live music from across the region...

Tom Grennan

Telford QEII Arena, Sat 2 July

Having quit professional football to pursue his love of music, Tom Grennan found fame in 2016 as the guest vocalist on Chase & Status' *All Goes Wrong*.

Evering Road is the Bedford-born performer's first chart-topping effort and features singles *This Is The Place* and *Little Bit Of Love*. The deluxe edition also includes the single, *Let's Go Home Together*, with Ella Henderson, who's supporting Tom at this open-air show. *Tears For Fears* (Fri the 1st) and *Bryan Adams* (Sun the 3rd) also play at the same venue, as part of three consecutive Orchard Live shows.



Dennis Rollins' Funky-Funk

Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, Sat 23 July

Funky trombone maestro Dennis Rollins here debuts his all-new groove outfit Funky-Funk. An award-winning player at the forefront of the jazz scene, Dennis - along with his electrifying band - will showcase infectious grooves and sumptuous melodies as part of Newhampton Arts Centre's summertime Jazz Festival.

Laura Jurd (and her jazz quartet, *Dinosaur*), leading jazz vocalist Sara Dowling and four highly rated young improvisers known as *Howl Quartet* also feature in the line-up.



Credit: Darren Cowley



Madness

The Quarry, Shrewsbury, Fri 15 July

Madness are one of the most prominent and best-loved UK bands of the last 50 years. Formed in Camden Town in 1976, their journey since has taken them from ska-band

upstarts to globally acclaimed superstars. Fresh off the back of their popular *Ladykillers* tour, Suggs and the boys will be bringing their *House of Fun* to Shrewsbury mid-month for what promises to be a riotously entertaining headline set to remember.

Doghouse Derelicts

Albert's Shed Southwater, Telford, Sat 9 July

Long-serving members of *Dub Pistols*, Tim Hutton and Dave Budgen, have toured, written and played with a host of major artists, including *Prodigy*, *Groove Armada*, *Ian Brown* and *Amy Winehouse*. Reflecting their love of Americana, hip-hop, funk and rock music, they've been steadily producing material for the last five years and playing live (when permitted) for the last three.

Stiff Little Fingers

KK's Steel Mill, Wolverhampton, Thurs 14 July

Formed in Belfast in 1977, *Stiff Little Fingers* were among the pioneers of punk rock. Joining ranks with the likes of *The Clash*, *Sex Pistols*, *The Damned*, *Buzzcocks* and *Undertones*, they brought in a brand-new era of music - and they're still keeping its spirit alive almost half a century later. See them in Wolverhampton this month for what promises to be an energetic and memorable show.

Hayseed Dixie

The Robin, Bilston, Thurs 7 July

Although they've produced some pretty unforgettable and comically crude songs - including *I'm Keeping Your Poop In A Jar* and *She Was Skinny When I Met Her* - *Hayseed Dixie* are probably best known for their rollicking rockgrass covers. Co-founder, guitarist and frontman *John Wheeler* names *Motorhead's Ace Of Spades* as his favourite track, but it's the music of *AC/DC* with which the boys are most closely associated. *Kiss*, *Led Zeppelin*, *The Beatles* and *Queen* are others to have received the *Hayseed Dixie* treatment.



Lichfield Garrick Production Company presents
Lichfield Garrick Community Musical 2022

ROBIN HOOD

A BRAND NEW MUSICAL ADVENTURE

TUESDAY 19 – SATURDAY 23 JULY 2022
TICKETS FROM £14.50
BOX OFFICE | 01543 412121
BOOK ONLINE | LICHFIELDGARRICK.COM

LICHFIELD
GARRICK
THEATRE & STUDIO



SUPPORTED BY:
The co-operative
Central England Co-operative

FESTIVAL FUN & FROLICS

A bumper programme of performances as Lichfield Festival celebrates its 40th birthday

A month after Her Majesty The Queen marked 70 glorious years on the throne, another great British institution is celebrating an anniversary of its very own.

One of the Midlands' most popular multi-arts events - the Lichfield Festival - turns 40 in 2022, and organisers have been pulling out all the stops to make the 11-day get-together an occasion to remember...

Included in a typically eclectic programme are contributions from Tony Hadley, Brodsky Quartet, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Ayanna Witter-Johnson, The Longest Johns, Rachel Podger, Ballet Cymru and the National Youth Jazz Orchestra.

Commenting on this year's line-up, Lichfield Festival Director Damian Thantrey said: "Since the first event in 1982, Lichfield Festival has brought artists and musicians of the highest calibre, and audiences local and national, to this beautiful city. Alongside fabulous

established and up-and-coming artists, our 40th anniversary will feature works from the first festival, new commissions, bespoke 1980s-themed shows, music honouring the 150th anniversary of the composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, and the inaugural Midlands Choir of the Year.

"We're thrilled that Tony Hadley has agreed to launch the celebrations for us, and delighted also to welcome new principal festival sponsor McArthurGlen.

"As always, there will be dance, drama, comedy, family fun, fireworks and free events - all the hallmarks that have made Lichfield Festival a cultural beacon for the last 40 years."

The festival runs at various venues from Thursday 7 to Sunday 17 July. For more information, visit lichfieldfestival.org

LICHFIELD FESTIVAL'S 40th ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS - BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!



BALLET CYMRU: DREAM

Lichfield Cathedral, Fri 8 July

Boasting a reputation for presenting innovative, challenging and original productions, Ballet Cymru here present a brand-new full-length show based on Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Described as 'a magical, gender-bending world of fairies, lovers and bewitching enchantment', the production comes complete with a score by Olivier Award-winning composer Frank Moon...



NATIONAL YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Lichfield Cathedral, Tues 12 July

Bespoke arrangements of classic American Songbook melodies are the name of the game when the National Youth Jazz Orchestra (NYJO) present their Heritage programme, *Basie And Beyond*. A celebration of the incomparable William James 'Count' Basie, the concert also sees NYJO explore the impact on popular music made by 20th-century Black American artists including Frank Foster, Dizzy Gillespie and Quincy Jones.



AYANNA WITTER-JOHNSON

Lichfield Cathedral, Wed 13 July

Multi-talented singer, songwriter, composer and cellist Ayanna Witter-Johnson is a born-in-Britain second-generation Jamaican whose body of work represents, celebrates and pays homage to her ancestral heritage, culture and identity. Seamlessly crossing the boundaries of classical, jazz, reggae, soul and R&B, Ayanna has collaborated with artists including Anoushka Shankar, Nitin Sawhney, Andrea Bocelli and Jools Holland.



THE LONGEST JOHNS

Lichfield Cathedral, Thurs 14 July

This month making their first-ever appearance at the Lichfield Festival, trailblazing Bristol quartet The Longest Johns have enjoyed a meteoric rise to fame over the last few years. Starting out as sea-shanty-singing pals plying their trade in local pubs, the boys have gone on to enjoy roof-raising success at Latitude, score a major hit with TikTok phenomenon *Wellerman*, and garner a staggering 250 million streams online.



BACK TO THE EIGHTIES...

The Hub at St Mary's, Sat 16 July

The 1980s. The decade of Glasnost, yuppies, Miami Vice, mullet hair-dos and giant shoulder pads. The Iron Lady crushed the invading Argentinians and striking miners. Bob Geldof inspired Live Aid... And the Lichfield Festival was born... Associate artist Jessica Walker here sings her own stylish interpretations of hit 1980s numbers by Kate Bush, Dolly Parton, Annie Lennox, Barbra Streisand and many more.



STEVEN ISSERLIS

Lichfield Cathedral, Sun 17 July

The 40th anniversary festival closes with what's certain to be a superb recital by renowned British cellist Steven Isserlis. Steven first appeared at the festival in 1988, playing a solo recital featuring two of the Bach Cello Suites, and returned in 1989 to play the Elgar Cello Concerto with the CBSO. This year sees him performing Moscheles Cello Sonata, Op121, and Beethoven Cello Sonata No3 in A major, Op69.



LET'S GO OUT HEALING GARDENS OF BAB

BIRMINGHAM2022.COM/FESTIVAL
#B2022FESTIVAL

27 JUNE - 17 JULY
LOCATIONS ACROSS
BIRMINGHAM

PRODUCED BY FIERCE


**BIRMINGHAM 2022
FESTIVAL**
commonwealth
games

IMAGE CREDIT: CORNYU OF VENUS



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



Made possible with
**Heritage
Fund**

fierce

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY


 **COMMUNITY
FUND**



Canada Council
for the Arts
Conseil des arts
du Canada

ARTS COUNCIL
NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTIAROA
creative12

Canada

Festivals coming to the region in July...



Mostly Jazz Funk & Soul

Moseley Park, Birmingham, Fri 8 - Sun 10 July

Created by the Midlands masterminds behind Moseley Folk & Arts Festival, Mostly Jazz Funk & Soul sees world-class artists coming together with leading lights of the local jazz community for a laidback family-friendly event designed to celebrate Birmingham's musical heritage. The festival is located in the picturesque surroundings of Moseley Park, a stunning woodland glade tucked away behind busy Birmingham streets, making it the ideal retreat for music-loving city dwellers.

2022 line-up includes: The Specials, Earth Wind & Fire Experience ft. Al McKay (pictured), Cameo, Fatback Band, Nightmares On Wax, The Wailers, Children of Zeus and Oh My God! It's The Church

Upton Blues Festival

Upton-upon-Severn, Fri 15 - Sun 17 July

Set in the beautiful riverside town of Upton-upon-Severn, Upton Blues started in 2001 as a small event taking place in just a couple of pubs.

The festival now features a full weekend of live, free-to-experience music across three main stages, pubs, boats and clubs. And this year for the first time, the campsite will open on the Wednesday before the festival. Tickets cost £15 for the weekend.

2022 line-up includes: The Folly Brothers, Kara Grainger (pictured), Mumbo Jumbo, Northsyde, The Big Ginge Blues Band, Greg Coulson, Born Healer, Dusk Brothers and Keith Thompson Band



Solihull Summer Fest

Tudor Grange Park, Sat 23 & Sun 24 July

Celebrating its sixth year, Solihull Summer Fest is fast becoming one of the most popular music get-togethers on the Midlands events calendar.

The festival features more than 10 hours of live music across two days, a selection of street food and a variety of bars serving everything from real ale to prosecco, cocktails and Pimm's.

This year there are two events taking place before the main festival: an open-air cinema screening of Rocketman - plus an Elton John tribute - on 21 July, and Ibiza Proms In The Park, featuring the Secret Symphony 50-piece orchestra, on the 22nd.

2022 line-up includes: Shaggy, Billy Ocean, Sister Sledge (pictured), Kool & The Gang, Boyzlife, Belinda Carlisle, Bad Manners, Shalamar, Artful Dodger, Lemar, Duke, The Real Thing, Doctor & The Medics



Simmer Down Festival

Handsworth Park, Birmingham, Sunday 17 July



Simmer Down has become one of Birmingham's most popular and diverse festivals. Featuring music, dance, spoken word, visual arts, commissioned work, workshops & participation activities and outreach & young people's programmes, the family-friendly event celebrates the city's rich cultural diversity with a line-up of internationally acclaimed artists and homegrown talent. Rooted in North Birmingham, the festival pays tribute to the centrality of reggae and other musical genres that have contributed to Birmingham's growing reputation as an international city of culture.

2022 line-up includes: Third World (pictured), Odyssey, Iqulah Rastafari, Havana Meets Kingston, Dub Qalandar, Big Ship Alliance, Reggaeators and Winston Fergus

Bromsgrove Folk Festival

The Bowling Green, Thurs 7 - Sun 10 July

Now in its 31st year, Bromsgrove Folk Festival offers patrons the chance to enjoy intimate concerts by UK-based folk, roots & acoustic performers.

Taking place at the town's Bowling Green Inn, the festival spreads across two marquees, with sessions and singarounds taking place inside the pub.

2022 line-up includes: Artisan, The Jigantics, Anthony John Clarke, Union Jill (pictured), Quicksilver, Mad Jocks & Englishmen, Mair Thomas, Joe Bayliss, Pete Abbott, Dave Gibb, Silvington, Fairfield, Stitherum and Tosh Ewins



Life in the old dogs yet

**Coventry 2-Tone stars The Specials are still going strong and
this month headline the Mostly Jazz Funk And Soul Festival in
Moseley Park, Birmingham**



The Specials' bass player Horace Panter chats to What's On ahead of the band's eagerly anticipated appearance at this month's Mostly Jazz Funk And Soul Festival...

After scoring their first number-one album with *Encore* in 2019, Coventry's The Specials were busily preparing to make a follow-up when Covid-19 hit.

"We were going to write an album of original material," explains The Specials' bass player, Horace Panter. "We'd started to get that organised and then the Covid thing came along. Lynval [Golding] went back to Seattle, Terry [Hall] was stuck in his house in London and never went out, and it just put that whole creative process on hold. That was dreadful!

"So what were we going to do?... Well, when bands run out of ideas, they do an album of cover versions, don't they? But we decided to do an album of protest songs, because 2020 was the year of protest, and it felt relevant."

Fuelled by the Black Lives Matter movement and other social injustices, Panter, Golding and Hall's *Protest Songs 1924-2012* was released in the autumn of 2021, hitting number two in the LP charts. The collection included spirituals, blues' comments on racism and a song written with prison inmates, by way of tracks originally recorded by Bob Marley and Talking Heads.

"Protest songs aren't new - that's something we wanted to say," explains Horace. "People have been writing songs about social issues since the dawn of time - there were minstrels in the time of King Richard, Blondel and all that stuff. So that's where that all came from."

Despite the challenges of working during Covid - with Horace in Warwickshire, Lynval in Seattle and Terry in London - the record came together easily, with the trio passing lists of suggestions back and forth.

"Choosing material was probably the hardest part of the exercise."

After spearheading what became known as the 2-Tone explosion in the late 1970s - a movement that also included Coventry's The Selecter, Birmingham's The Beat and London's Madness (all of whom released tracks on the band's own 2-Tone label) - The Specials began to split in 1981, right after

Ghost Town hit number one, with Terry, Lynval and Neville Staple forming Fun Boy Three. The original line-up (minus keyboard maestro Jerry Dammers) reformed in 2008, and although Staple and guitarist Roddy Radiation soon left, with drummer John Bradley tragically dying in 2015, Horace, Terry and Lynval have continued to keep The Specials' legacy alive to this day.

"There's life in the old dogs yet," laughs Horace. "It's amazing."

Away from The Specials, Horace has forged a successful career as an artist, producing pop-art-style prints and artworks. Among his most successful works has been a series of images of cassette tapes. When he first created the prints, cassette tapes were thought to have had their day, but in more recent times they've enjoyed a surprise revival.

"It's weird, isn't it? I think it's a fashion thing maybe; things sort of cycle around, don't they? Vinyl, too! I'm buying 12-inch albums all the time; I've got far more now than I had 30 years ago."

Recalling the genesis of the cassette series, he says: "I painted some Walkmans. I didn't have one, so I bought three of them off eBay. One of them still worked, which was great, so I've still got a Walkman - which I can plug into my stereo, if I want to.

"I was a great DJ back in the day - I've got a couple of compilation tapes I made that are fantastic, really good, from 1982/'83 or something.

"The cassette was such a groundbreaking piece of technology, and not just the Walkman, which liberated you - you could walk around with the music stuck in your head. In the music industry, it was a tool - it was what you put your demos on; it was what you walked away from recording sessions with. It had a social function as well, but it was also an integral part of being in a pop group in the late 1970s, the '80s, and into the early '90s."

When not in his art studio or touring and recording with The Specials, Horace can

often be spotted in small venues around Warwickshire and the Midlands playing rhythm & blues with Leamington Spa guitarist Steve Walwyn in The Dirt Road Band.

"Steve was the guitar player with Doctor Feelgood - for 32 years, I think - and he's started this side project. It's great fun - ever so noisy. We play smallish places and my ears hurt! They're the only gigs I do where my ears hurt! You've got to feel that 'buzzzzzzzz' the next day - it reminds you what you've been doing.

"Steve's favourite guitar player is Rory Gallagher, so he goes with that template. It's the nearest I get to playing heavy metal. It's great fun. It's played in smaller venues, where you can see the whites of the eyes of the audience - or rather the blood-shot eyes of the audience."

As The Specials prepare to headline this month's Mostly Jazz Funk And Soul Festival in Birmingham's Moseley Park, Horace's immediate future is taken up with live shows and, if all goes according to plan, the new album of original material they'd started working on when Covid hit.

"We've a dozen shows this summer, and then the plan is to see how we're doing with these new songs and then record them. But we're taking stock of where we are at present - Lynval turned 70 last year and I'm not too far behind, you know? It's a little bit old to be jumping off drum risers - so there's that to contend with. It's what we always do - just take one year at a time. But Terry's been writing, so pretty soon we'll be together to talk about sharps and flats and diminished chords and things like that - muso stuff."

Mostly Jazz Funk And Soul Festival takes place in Moseley Park, Birmingham, from Friday 8 to Sunday 10 July.
To find out more, visit mostlyjazz.co.uk

**FREE
TO ENTER**

assembly
FESTIVAL GARDEN

2022
21 COVENTRY
UK CITY
OF CULTURE

**COMEDY, MUSIC, CIRCUS, THEATRE,
STREET FOOD, BEER GARDEN, AND MORE
RIGHT IN COVENTRY'S HEART**



ASSEMBLY * * *
FESTIVAL GARDEN
♥ WHAT'S ON
FRIENDSICAL
6:30 pm
THE CHOIR
OF MAN
8:30 pm * * *

**BOOK ONLINE AT
ASSEMBLYFESTIVALGARDEN.COM**

@ASSEMBLYGARDENS | @COVENTRY2021 | COVENTRY2021.CO.UK

ASSEMBLY FESTIVAL GARDEN, LITTLE PARK STREET, COVENTRY, CV1 2UR

Comedy previews from across the region...

Tez Ilyas

The Old Rep, Birmingham, Sat 16 July

Silly, smart and subversive humour is the name of Tez Ilyas' comedy game. And as the rapid growth of his fanbase ably illustrates, he's extremely good at what he does. Tez's political stand-up has been likened to candyfloss with a razorblade hidden inside, while his television work has brought him to the attention of a whole new audience. The fact that he's been able to hit the right notes with so many people doesn't come as a surprise to the man himself, though: "It doesn't matter what walk of life we're from, I think we're all united by the British sense of humour. Whatever creed, colour, sexual orientation or gender type we are, we have a connection based around a mutual appreciation of that sort of comedy."



Milo Edwards

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester, Fri 22 July

Milo is en route to the Edinburgh Festival and stops off in Worcester to give his work-in-progress show, Voicemail - in which he examines life, death, politics and the answering machine - a swift 50-minute run-out.

The London-based podcaster has taken an unusual path towards comedy greatness since his days in the Cambridge Footlights, spending three years in Moscow appearing on TNT network shows Open Microphone and StandUp.

He moved back to the UK in 2018 and made his Edinburgh debut a year later with Pindos: An Adventure In Modern Russia, in which he explored the question 'what happens when a country is run by a shirtless man on a horse'...

Milo will be sharing the Huntingdon Hall spotlight on Friday the 22nd with fellow funnyman Hal Cruttenden, whose 50-minute show, It's Best You Hear It From Me, is also a work in progress.



Sarah Millican

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Thurs 28 - Sat 30 July;
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Wed 3 - Fri 5 August

One of the brightest comedians around, Sarah Millican enjoyed a sell-out success with her very first tour, with bums on all available seats on no fewer than 120 laughter-filled nights. It almost goes without saying that she's not looked back since. Sarah is returning to the Midlands this

month with her sixth touring show, Bobby Dazzler, during which she promises you'll learn about what happens when your mouth seals shut, how to throw poo over a wall, trying to lose weight but only losing the tip of your finger, a surprisingly funny smear test, and how truly awful a floatation tank can actually be.

Jimmy Carr

Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa,
Mon 11 July; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent,
Wed 23 - Thurs 24 November; Symphony Hall,
Birmingham, Fri 25 November

Jimmy Carr's comedy is all about quickfire, deadpan one-liners - and so many of them, in fact, that he's not sure whether their content actually matters all that much: "People don't really remember the individual jokes I tell because I tell such a lot of them. What they *do* remember is how those jokes make them feel."

Jimmy is a comedian for whom no subject is off limits: "I'll talk about anything as long as I feel the joke justifies it. Sure, it may cause controversy - but then controversy is an easy story on a slow-news day. And I never apologise for jokes. After all, I'm not making a serious political statement, I'm just trying to make somebody laugh."

Jimmy visits the region with Terribly Funny 2.0, a show which he warns contains 'jokes about all kinds of terrible things'.



Mark Watson

The Place, Telford, Thurs 21 July; The Edge
Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire,
Sun 20 November

Well-established on the UK comedy circuit, Mark Watson was born in Bristol to Welsh parents and initially delivered his act with a Welsh accent, claiming he felt "more comfortable talking in a voice that I didn't quite recognise as my own".

A regular contributor to the Edinburgh Fringe, Mark has the curious distinction of having performed standup shows which have lasted for a period in excess of 24 hours.

"Comedy is certainly a time-consuming element of my life," he admits, "but then while I'm out touring and on stage, there are people at home doing far less glamorous things. There have certainly been times when I've been very happy to say, 'Of course I'd like to stay and help out with that plumbing crisis, but the Midlands awaits!'"

Mark's latest visit to the region sees him presenting This Can't Be It, a show which will reflect on 'a couple of years of pathological overthinking'.



Cher and Cher alike



West End star Danielle Steers talks about what it's like to be playing one of music's biggest icons - and what audiences can expect when new musical *The Cher Show* comes to town...

"Pretty terrifying," is how Danielle Steers describes taking on the role of the icon that is Cher. "I don't think anyone can ever come close to her, but it's nice to put our own flavour in and try to capture her essence.

"We're actresses at the end of the day, so we're not trying to be a caricature, we're just honouring the legend."

Born in Yorkshire, Danielle is known to West End audiences for originating the role of Zahara in *Bat Out Of Hell: The Musical* and, more recently, for her portrayal of Catherine Parr in award-winning musical *SIX*.

Now she's turning back time as she takes on the role of Cher in the first UK tour of *The Cher Show*, a high-energy celebration of the life and times of the Goddess of Pop.

Premiering in Chicago in 2018, the hit musical tells the story of Cher's meteoric rise to fame - from meeting Sonny Bono and the breakdown of their marriage, to her many musical comebacks and Hollywood successes - all of which is recounted with a generous side-order of glitter, glamour and wit.

But Danielle isn't the only Cher in the show. Fellow West End performers Millie O'Connell and Debbie Kurup play 'Babe' and 'Star' respectively. Babe is young Cher; Star, the fully formed icon. Danielle's version - 'Lady' - is Cher of the 1970s, the decade which saw her enjoy US number-one hits with *Gypsies, Tramps & Thieves*, *Half-Breed* and *Dark Lady*.

"Lady starts with Cher's big rise to fame and ends with her divorce from Sonny, so I get quite a meaty part of the show with lots of emotion, which is great to work with."

Behind the scenes, *The Cher Show* is blessed with some top-notch creative talent. The musical is written by Tony Award-winning Rick Elice - who also penned *Jersey Boys* - and is directed and choreographed by former *Strictly* stars Arlene Phillips and Oti Mabuse respectively.

Award-winning costume designer Gabriella Slade - who, like Danielle, worked on *SIX* - has also brought her talent to the show.

"Gabriella's incredible. She's taken the basis of those iconic Bob Mackie costumes and put her own spin on them. They weigh a ton because they're all hand-beaded, but they're a joy to wear, and the detailing on them is just stunning."

Fashion designer Bob Mackie first dressed Cher in 1967 and still works with her to this day. His extravagant looks have helped turn her into a fashion icon.

As well as the costumes, there's also, of course, a long list of Cher smash hits to enjoy - 35 to be precise - including *If I Could Turn Back Time*, *Strong Enough*, *I Got You Babe* and *Believe*.

And though she admits it's hard to choose, Danielle does have a favourite number.

"It comes at the end of act one, when the three Chers sing *Song For The Lonely*. It's a more recent song of hers, but it's a really special moment for me, where I always think how lucky I am to get to do this show every night."

With that being said, the role isn't without its challenges.

"There's a fine line between honouring Cher and becoming a caricature. There are moments when we can be a little over the top, but there are also a lot of serious moments that pull it back ever so slightly.

"I think the beautiful thing about the three of us is that we all present different aspects of Cher, whether it be the voice, the acting, the way she walks. If you had three people who were doing an outright impersonation, it would distract from the story, and we really want the story to shine through."

And Cher's story is certainly a remarkable one, from dropping out of school and leaving

home at 16, through the dark days of financial struggle and facing up to being a woman in a man's world, to her eventual arrival in the spotlight of superstardom.

But *The Cher Show* reveals aspects of its subject's life that might surprise the audience.

"She's been through some real highs and lows, but I think the most surprising thing is how vulnerable she is. People see her as this megastar on stage, but actually she's painfully shy."

Cher's vulnerability is something to which Danielle can definitely relate.

"I'm a bit of an introvert too, so I do see myself in her. People find that hard to believe because I act, sing and dance, but actually, when I'm not on stage, all I want is to be at home reading a book.

"But I think we can all relate to Cher at some point, because she's been through so much."

Danielle promises the show will have audiences dancing in the aisles at the end, courtesy of a certain-call megamix of Cher's greatest hits.

"I hope the audience feels joyful and uplifted. And I hope they can feel the 'girl power' and know that they can go out there, face the world and do things they were previously too scared to do.

"Ultimately, we just want everyone to have an amazing time and take a little bit of fearlessness away with them."

.....

The Cher Show plays Birmingham Hippodrome, 2 to 6 August, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, 30 August to 3 September, and Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from 18 to 22 October.





Footloose Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Mon 4 - Sat 9 July

Hit Broadway and West End musical Footloose tells the story of city boy Ren's arrival in Bomont, and the impact which his dancing has on a town held back by the memory of a tragedy. Featuring classic numbers such as Holding Out For A Hero, Almost

Paradise, Let's Hear It For The Boy, and of course the title track itself, the show stars Dancing On Ice winner Jake Quickenden and West End veteran Darren Day.

We Will Rock You

Birmingham Hippodrome, Mon 4 - Sat 30 July

A joyous homage to the music of Queen, We Will Rock You is short on storyline but boasts bags of energy and just about as brilliant a soundtrack as any musical's ever likely to feature. 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...



Bugsy Malone

The Rep, Birmingham, Wed 27 July - Sun 14 August; Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Tues 13 - Sun 18 September



Gangsters rule the roost in this tongue-in-cheek tribute to the 1920s mobster flick, best known from the 1976 film version written & directed by Alan Parker and starring newcomers Jodie Foster and Scott Baio. Fat Sam is feeling the pressure. His crooked business rackets are under attack from arch rival Dandy Dan, whose new weapon, the splurge gun, has given his hoodlums the edge. With a St Valentine's Day massacre on the cards, Sam needs to even the odds - and fast. But is baby-faced Bugsy Malone really the answer to his prayers?... A madcap mobster musical that's always worth a look, this Lyric Hammersmith production is a revival of the stage adaptation written by Alan Parker himself back in the early 1980s.

Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em

The Alexandra, Birmingham, Tues 19 - Sat 23 July; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Tues 26 - Sat 30 July

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.



OTI MARIUS

I AM HERE

Sun 3 Jul

WE WILL ROCK YOU

THE MUSICAL BY QUEEN AND Ben Elton

'A KIND OF MAGIC. SPECTACULAR. MAGNIFICO!'

The Sun

Mon 4 - Sat 30 Jul

MAWA THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

MONOLOGUE SLAM

Sat 9 Jul

Jumprov!

Sat 16 Jul

The CHER Show

A NEW MUSICAL

Tue 2 - Sat 6 Aug

Les Misérables

Tue 9 - Sat 27 Aug

BIRMINGHAM 2022 FESTIVAL PRESENTS

A CHINA PLATE AND BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME PRODUCTION

TO THE STREETS!

PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH WARWICK ARTS CENTRE AND DISC

#B2022FESTIVAL

Fri 19 - Sun 28 Aug

WASWASA?

AN IMMERSIVE PERFORMANCE BY MOHAMMED ALI

SOUL CITY ARTS

Thu 25 Aug - Sat 3 Sep

Beautiful

The Carole King Musical

Tue 30 Aug - Sat 3 Sep

OH THE COLOR PURPLE

THE MUSICAL

Tue 13 - Sat 17 Sep

Amina Khayyam Dance Company

Kantha Katha-K

Tue 20 & Wed 21 Sep

RAMBERT DANCE

PEAKY BLINDERS

THE REDEMPTION OF THOMAS SHELBY

Tue 27 Sep - Sun 2 Oct



The Silent Treatment

Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham, Fri 22 July

Award-winning performer Sarah-Louise Young - whose previous shows, *An Evening Without Kate Bush* and *Julie Madly Deeply*, proved to be big critical hits - makes a welcome return with a true story about a singer who loses her voice and embarks on an unexpected journey of self-revelation. Combining storytelling, physical theatre and song to explore how the body remembers what the mind forgets, the show is being presented at the Old Joint Stock prior to playing the Edinburgh Fringe next month.

Richard III

Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, until Sat 8 October

The hunch-backed, crooked, wicked, murderous and machiavellian Duke of Gloucester, better known - once he's ascended the throne, of course - as Richard III, is perhaps the most powerful and evil of all theatre villains.

Shakespeare's brutal play follows Gloucester's blood-soaked trail as he uses all his skills as a lover, a liar, a trickster and a tyrant to seize power and become the King of England.

Arthur Hughes, who played Gloucester to great critical acclaim in the RSC's springtime production of *Henry VI Part Three* - retitled *Wars Of The Roses* - continues in the role. The actor, who identifies as 'limb different', was born with a condition known as radial dysplasia, which affects one in 30,000 people. He has no thumb or radius bone on his right arm, and his right wrist is disfigured.

His delight at playing Gloucester is tempered by a recognition of the ongoing battle faced by disabled actors. "I'm thrilled not only to be playing this title role at the RSC, but also that a major production of the play is putting disability centre stage. It's sadly rare in many plays to find a leading disabled character, and with this production I hope we prove that disabled talent deserves to be in the spotlight."



Romeo + Juliet

Stafford Castle, until Sat 9 July



Widely regarded as Shakespeare's fifth tragedy, *Romeo & Juliet* tells a tale of forbidden and secret love. And although it tends to fair less well critically than the rest of the playwright's high-profile works, its timeless themes ensure its continuing popularity. Indeed, it's expected that up to 11,000 people will attend performances of this latest version, presented against the magnificent backdrop of historic Stafford Castle.

Local actress Gill Jordan takes on the role of the Nurse. Gill is best known as her comic creation, *Lazy Cow Syndrome* sufferer and *Queen of the Black Country* Doreen Tipton. Hapless benefits scrounger Doreen, who was co-created by Gill and comedy writer David Tristram, became an online sensation back in 2012, since which time she's evolved into one of the UK's best-loved comic characters. "I've always brought history into my work," says Gill, who's been treading the boards for nearly 40 years. "So to be able to immerse myself into this great period of British history - through the costume and castle backdrop - is all part of the excitement for me.

"It's the perfect role for me as a character actress, and it's one of the best roles in the play. Hopefully I'm going to portray her

beautifully! And that's a perfect word for it really, because the character is so lovely. She's one that people can relate to - the down-to-earth one."

Tom, Dick & Harry

New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme, until Sat 9 July

Tom, Dick & Harry is an ambitious reimagining of a daring escape attempt at a prisoner-of-war camp during World War Two. The story was memorably filmed as *The Great Escape* in the early 1960s.

This all-new theatrical version benefits from previously classified war-archive information that wasn't available when the movie was made.

"There was so much to work from," explains actor Michael Hugo, who not only stars in the play but also co-wrote it. "It was an absolute gift and almost too epic to pick one element. "We sometimes hear about the entertainment division of the army entertaining the troops, but usually in their own camps, not in a prison. For example, they had a theatre there, inside the prison. And this theatre was used to entertain the German staff as well - the guards used to really look forward to the shows. They even worked together to help secure the lighting, props and costumes, all on the promise that none of it would be used for any naughty business like trying to escape or anything daft like that!"



WHAT WILL YOU SEE NEXT?



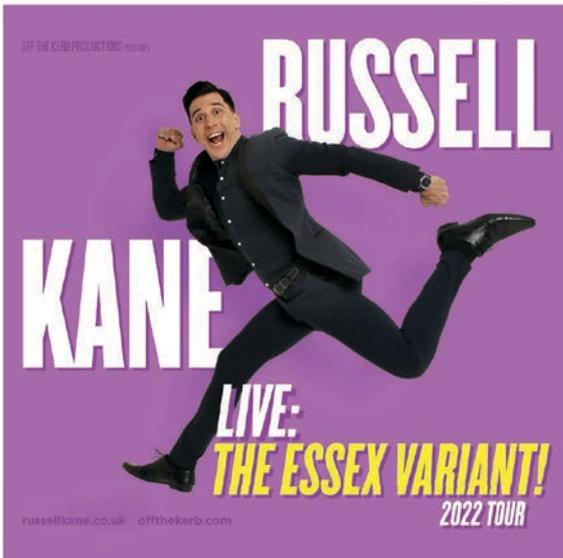
SUN 18 SEP

JACK DEE - OFF THE TELLY



MON 19 SEP

MICHAEL STARRING BEN



WED 21 SEP

RUSSELL KANE -
THE ESSEX VARIANT



FRI 23 SEP

BACK INTO HELL

Image is of a previous Illyria production. Credit: Gordon Scammell - gordscam@yahoo.com



Peter Pan

Stoneleigh Abbey, Tues 26 July; Hanbury Hall, Droitwich, Fri 29 July; Moseley Old Hall, Wolverhampton, Tues 16 Aug; Attingham Park, Shrewsbury, Wed 24 August; Bolton Gate Farm, Stoke-on-Trent, Fri 2 September

'Second star to the right and straight on till morning' may be Peter Pan's final destination, but this summer he's first of all stopping off at numerous Midlands venues to excite and delight family audiences. With its fantastic fairy, marvellous mermaids, wonderful Wendy and down-on-their-luck lost boys to recommend it - not to mention the ever-so-wicked Captain Hook and a very hungry crocodile who goes tick-tock (he swallowed a clock) - JM Barrie's classic story about the boy who never grows up is here being presented by the ever-popular Illyria Theatre, who are promising the show will include 'real flying'.

Lady Windermere's Fan

Castle Bromwich Gardens, Birmingham, Sun 3 July; Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Wed 6 July; Blakesley Hall, Birmingham, Sat 9 & Sun 10 July; Selly Manor, Birmingham, Wed 13 & Thurs 14 July; Harvington Hall, Kidderminster, Sat 16 & Sun 17 July

Boasting plenty of Oscar Wilde's trademark satirical humour, Lady Windermere's Fan explores the way in which marriage and social status can mask the dark secrets hidden away in people's past lives. Wilde's first major move into the genre of comedy writing, the play is here performed by Birmingham's Crescent Theatre.



The Gunpowder Plot

Shrewsbury Castle, Tues 26 July; Coventry Cathedral, Thurs 4 August; Charlecote Park, Warwickshire, Fri 5 & Sat 6 August; Coventry Cathedral, Thurs 8 September

Described as 'an explosive evening of short fuses', this outdoor production is presented by the highly rated and never-too-serious Three Inch Fools. The ensemble are stepping outside their usual Shakespeare comfort zone to tell the highly flammable true-life tale of Guy Fawkes' failed attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament. Along their storytelling way, the five-actor company are promising uproarious intrigue, endless costume changes, and many, many false moustaches...

As You Like It

The Close, Lichfield, Mon 11 July; Coughton Court, Alcester, Fri 15 July; Shrewsbury Castle, Tues 2 Aug; Alderford Lake, Whitchurch, North Shropshire, Tues 16 Aug; Haden Hill House, Cradley Heath, Sat 20 Aug; Shrewsbury Castle, Thurs 25 Aug; Bantock House & Gardens, Fri 26 Aug

All-male theatre company The Lord Chamberlain's Men are the ensemble behind this new version of Shakespeare's highly likable comedy. The storyline revolves around the character of Rosalind, banished by her usurping uncle to the Forest Of Arden, where her exiled father is already living. Revelling in the naturalness of their surroundings, Rosalind and her companions - cousin Celia and Touchstone the fool - find a happiness they hadn't known existed..

Hamlet The Comedy

Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Sat 9 & Sun 10 July; Victoria Gardens, Tewkesbury, Sun 17 July; Mary Arden's Farm, Stratford-upon-Avon, Fri 22 & Sat 23 July; Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove, Sun 24 July

Zany funsters Oddssocks make a welcome return with another sizzling summertime special. On this occasion, they're turning their attention to Shakespeare's best-known tragedy to create yet another of their much-loved laughter fests. "Our inclusive approach means that varied communities across the UK are able to



engage with theatre," say the company's founders and husband-and-wife team, Andy Barrow and Elli Mackenzie. "We aim to tell good stories in a fun, informative way, gently challenging people's perceptions and the way in which they react to theatre."

Jane Eyre

Silvester Horne Institute, Church Stretton, Shropshire, Wed 27 July; Packwood House, Solihull, Fri 29 July; Hanbury Hall, Worcestershire, Sat 13 Aug; Warley Woods, Smethwick, Thurs 18 Aug; Hill Close Gardens, Coventry, Tues 23 Aug; Coventry Cathedral Ruins, Thurs 25 Aug

Outdoor-theatre stalwarts Heartbreak Productions give Charlotte Bronte's famous novel the beneath-the-summertime-stars treatment. For those not up to speed with the story, it follows the orphaned Jane as she's sent by her cruel Aunt Reed to the bleak Lowood School. Later, on securing a position as governess at Thornfield Hall, Jane finds herself falling for the charms of the enigmatic Edward Rochester, unaware that the new object of her affection harbours a dark and terrible secret... Heartbreak are setting their adaptation against the backdrop of a carnival, so expect 'astounding acrobats and jaw-dropping jugglers', not to mention the experience of watching escape artist Jane wriggle her way out of five very different tight corners...



Credit: David Fawbert photography.

'MIGHTY MIZ IS STILL
REVOLUTIONARY'

DAILY MAIL

M. Les Misérables



H BIRMINGHAM TUE 9 - SAT 27 AUGUST
HIPPODROME birminghamhippodrome.com



HEAR THE PEOPLE SING!



Cameron Mackintosh's epic production of Schönberg & Boublil's legendary musical, Les Miserables, returns to Birmingham Hippodrome next month. What's On recently caught up with Dean Chisnall, who takes the part of Jean Valjean, and Nic Greenshields (Javert) to find out what it's like to play such iconic roles...

What's it like playing Jean Valjean and Javert - two of musical theatre's most iconic roles?

Dean Chisnall: I say it to everybody - this is the dream role for anyone in musical theatre. It's the pinnacle for any male performer, and I just feel very lucky to do it, and to have done it for as long as I have. I've now played over 500 performances as Jean Valjean, and it still feels as magical as it did the first time I stepped on the stage. I pinch myself every day.

Nic Greenshields: It's a great privilege to play Javert. I first saw the show when I was in my teens, and to be doing it 25 years later is a huge honour. I try to bring out a different side to Javert, giving him multiple dimensions and making him more than just the baddie; showing a more emotional side to him.

Were you both fans of the show before being part of it? Do you remember your first experience of Les Mis?

DC: I do remember the first time I saw it. I've always been a fan, long before I even dreamt of having a career in theatre. I was in London on my own, at about the age of 18, and pootled off to get myself a single ticket to see it at the Palace Theatre. I sat there and completely fell in love with the show.

NG: I remember buying a cassette, when I was about 11 years old, of people singing songs from Les Mis. I remember listening to it and trying to imagine what the show would be like. Eventually I begged my mum to take me and we queued for returns. I was just blown away. The show really resonated with me, and I thought, "I want to be part of this. This is what I want to do."

You've both played these roles for a long time. Have you found that your understanding of your character has changed over time?

NG: Most definitely. I've changed since I first covered the role. I'm a dad now; I'm older and more mature and have experienced life a

bit more. I'm now able to identify a lot more layers to Javert. It's a great role, and there's no other part in the show I would rather play. I always like to discover more about him as I continue to play him.

DC: I say to people that we always try to strive for perfection, which is not attainable, which means you never stop trying to achieve it. With someone like Jean Valjean, he is very complex in many ways but very simple in others. It's always a challenge to work him out, and I love that about him. I think I've probably played him a little bit differently every performance. There's always something new you can find in him, and he's a wonderful person to play.

What are your favourite moments in the show?

DC: I love Bring Him Home. I know it's a song that I sing on my own, but it's always felt like a 'whole company' moment. The rest of the cast are asleep on the barricades, so it always feels quite magical. I also love the absolutely iconic One Day More, with the whole company there. To be honest, the whole show is two-and-a-half hours of pure magic.

NG: I absolutely agree. One Day More is such an iconic moment for everyone. There's no better way to end the first act of a show! I always enjoy listening to Fantine sing I Dreamed A Dream. It's a great number. I defy anyone to come and see Les Mis and not love that moment. The moments I have with Dean are wonderfully dramatic. I love the opening with the prisoners, and the moment that moves me is the finale with Valjean and Cosette. It's musically so beautiful, and the lyrics are stunning as well.

Does playing the roles require a lot of stamina, and what helps you to perform each night?

NG: I took up running during lockdown! I felt I needed to do something, and just before we started rehearsals, I ran a half marathon, which was a big achievement. All the roles are demanding. To keep delivering at the

level we want to, it's tough work. You do have to look after yourself. Dean and I try and take care of our voices and energy to ensure that we're performing well eight shows a week.

DC: Preparation is key - trying to stay healthy and getting some sleep. I love my job, so it's not a chore, and I don't think of it as being exhausting. It is tiring, but I have to say probably more mentally exhausting than it is physically, because of who Jean Valjean is and what a marathon journey he goes on. We're here to give the audience some sort of escape. And, of course, as actors, we like to escape into a role as well. I undoubtedly feel that I'm 'somewhere else' during those two-and-a-half hours. You have to live and breathe these characters. You can't fake Les Mis.

Why do you think audiences still love the show so much?

DC: The messages of Les Mis are still so relevant. Everyone has something that they can relate to in the show, something that they've experienced in their lives. The show now is as fresh as it ever was. It's a wonderful company that we've got here, and we're delighted to be sharing it with people. There's no show that has a reaction quite like this one. It's the greatest show on earth.

NG: The music is definitely a huge part of it. The score is stunning and has really broken through into popular culture, bringing it to a new audience. Ultimately, I think Les Mis has remained so popular because of the themes. It's a show about redemption and the human condition and everything that still resonates with us all today. We connect with the characters and become engrossed in the story, and the beautiful music pulls everything together. It's clearly a magical formula.

Les Miserables shows at Birmingham Hippodrome from Tues 9 to Sat 27 August

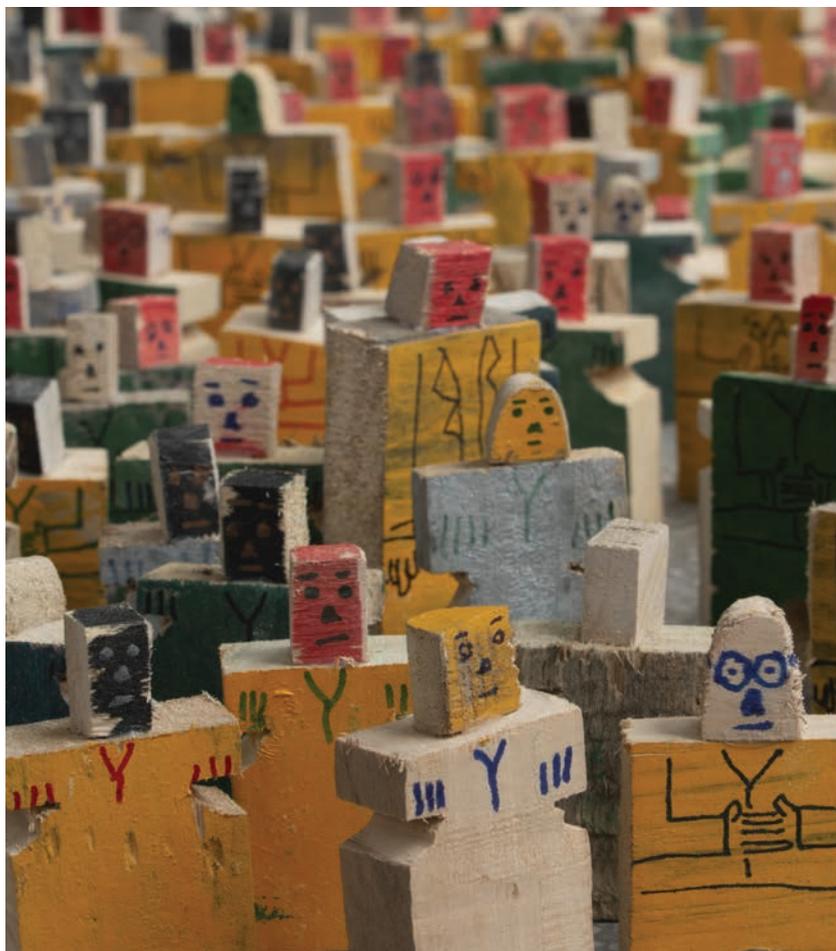


Mailles by Compagnie Kadidi

Birmingham Hippodrome, Fri 1 & Sat 2 July

Choreographer, singer & author Dorothée Munyaneza here presents a UK premiere of a dance & vocal performance featuring six female artists who are either African or of African descent. British-Rwandan Dorothée's aim with the piece is to have the dancers use their voices and bodies to boldly and freely manifest an intimate and collective memory. In so doing, she aims to tell a unique story of 'journey, commitment and strength'.

Weaving the stories together to create 'a symphony of voices', the choreographer has produced the work in collaboration with artist & designer Stéphanie Coudert. Stéphanie's contribution sees costume and fabric not only providing a common on-stage thread but also interrogating femininity and freedom of the body. Dorothée's previous works include Samedi Détente and Unwanted, two performance pieces which confront the subject of the Rwandan genocide, a period of around 100 days in 1994 which saw hundreds of thousands of people lose their lives. It was during the genocide that 12-year-old Dorothée moved with her family from Rwanda to London. This latest work is presented as part of Birmingham International Dance Festival 2022.



The Migrant Festival

14 - 17 July 2022

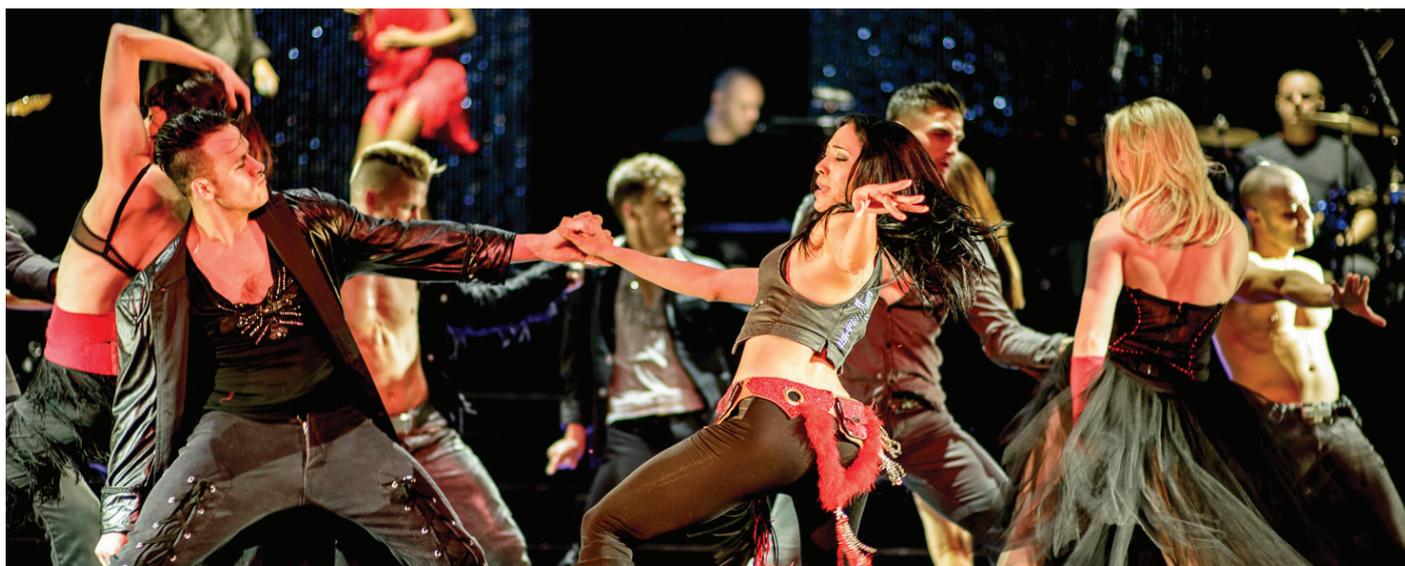
A four day festival fusing visual art, music, film and performance.

ikon-gallery.org

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [k](#) [o](#) [n](#) [g](#) [a](#) [l](#) [l](#) [e](#) [r](#) [y](#)

IKON

Photo: Abdulrazaq Awofeso



Burn The Floor Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Tues 12 - Wed 13 July; Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Fri 22 July

“Burn The Floor is the show that ignited a spark in me and changed me forever as a performer,” says Kevin Clifton, who stars in the hit production. “Through Broadway, West End and touring all over the world, this show has ripped apart the rule book, revolutionised our genre and inspired and shaped me as the dancer I am today. In 2022, I’m delighted to say that I’m coming ‘home’ to Burn The Floor.”

Kevin is joined on this latest tour - a celebration of the show’s 25th anniversary - by his sister Joanne, Aljaž Škorjanec, Janette Manrara, Karen Hauer, Dianne Buswell, Luba Mushtuk, Kai Widdrington and Robin Windsor, all of whom have previously appeared in Burn The Floor. Further performers will be announced in the run-up to the tour, which kicks off in Shrewsbury and finishes in Birmingham 11 days later.

Rhythm Of The Dance

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sat 16 July;
Lichfield Garrick, Fri 29 July

Audiences are promised an evening of flailing fiddles, flutes, and inspiring dances when popular touring show Rhythm Of The Dance stops off in the Midlands this month.

Taking its fans on a two-hour trip through hundreds of years of Irish dance and music, the hit show boasts 22 award-winning world and Irish dance champions, no fewer than 25 costume changes, performances by talented vocalists and an Irish traditional band of multi-instrumentalist musicians, and a state-of-the-art light & sound presentation.

Rhythm Of The Dance will be celebrating a quarter-century of touring next year, and has so far visited four continents and been seen by more than seven million people in over 50 countries.

If you’ve not yet checked it out, this month’s Midlands performances provide a perfect opportunity to catch up with one of the most popular Irish step dance shows in the world.



Anton & Giovanni: Him & Me

The Alexandra, Birmingham, Sat 9 July

Are you in urgent need of a Strictly Come Dancing booster-jab while waiting for the return of the show in the autumn? If so, then this is most definitely the production for you. Two of the hit BBC TV series’ biggest and all-time best-loved professional dancers, Anton Du Beke and Giovanni Pernice - Anton has now become one of the judges - here join forces to present a show that’s being described as a true dance extravaganza. A ‘world-class cast of dancers and singers’ further add to the magic.

Oti Mabuse: I Am Here

Birmingham Hippodrome, Sun 3 July

“The show starts here in the UK with everything I have today and focuses on the experiences I have been through - all the amazing dance shows that I’ve been lucky enough to be a part of.”

Former Strictly favourite Oti Mabuse is talking about her touring show, I Am Here. “Then we go back in time to Germany, to see where the training-crazy Oti came from. We then take it all the way back to South Africa, to where I was born and to the history of South Africa itself - telling love stories as we go. “It has been a long wait to present this show, as the tour was supposed to happen two years ago. It’s something I feel really passionate about, as there has never been a female-led solo dance tour ever, ever, ever... I feel really lucky to be the first one to go out there and tell my story.”





FUN AND GAMES

The Commonwealth Games comes to Birmingham this month - and in celebration of this momentous occasion, a number of festival sites will be popping up across the West Midlands to offer a 'front room' in which to watch the 11-day event. Entertainment, installations, workshops, screenings and food offerings form part of the package at two city-centre sites, neighbouring venues throughout Birmingham and host sites across the wider region. Here, we take a look at what's been announced so far...

BIRMINGHAM CITY CENTRE



Victoria Square Site

Wed 27 July - Mon 8 August

This city centre location will be transformed by Connections - a new, temporary artistic commission by Birmingham-based designer Anjuli McKenna.

Reflecting how Birmingham's diverse communities encounter and connect with each other across the city, this hub of activity will showcase more than 150 of the region's best artists and musicians. Daily sunrise stretch sessions and a disco with Perry, the Birmingham 2022 mascot, also feature.

The site will also host a series of special events, including watch parties for the opening (28 July) and closing (8 August) ceremonies, and a celebration to mark the

60th anniversary of Jamaican Independence, complete with music and cultural acts. Victoria Square will also be the location for the finish of the marathon on Saturday 30 July.

Smithfield Site

Fri 29 July - Sun 7 August

The Smithfield site (previously the location for Birmingham's wholesale markets) will host a festival of festivals. A different cultural partner will take to the specially commissioned three-sided Beacon Stage every single day, with DJs, live performances and dance moments.

Collaborating with the National Trust to bring nature to unexpected places, the Smithfield Festival Site will also feature 70 young trees, colourful benches and hammocks, allowing people to relax whilst soaking up the atmosphere... The trees will be planted in gardens and community spaces around Birmingham after the Games.

Party moments at Smithfield will include takeovers from Simmerdown music & arts festival, showcased on Friday 29 July, while

ACE Dance & Music will host Illuminate, an explosion of colour, dance and movement creating a carnival vibe, on Saturday 30 July.

Birmingham Mela takes centre stage on Sunday 31 July with the best in South Asian talent, while performances celebrating identity and individuality come from Break Mission's QueerSide - an inclusive event featuring drag performers, waacking demonstrations, house troupes, beatboxers and more.

Festival fun continues in August with Swingamajig, DJs from BBC Asian Network and Selexporthood, who champion and empower women and gender minority DJs. The fun and entertainment culminates with a closing dance party on 7 August.

In addition to live entertainment, Smithfield will also offer a range of have-a-go sporting events, games and activities from sponsors, as well as the chance to watch elite basketball players warm up on the practice court before competitions begin.

As with any festival, there will be an extensive food & drink offer to enable visitors to refuel.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SITES

Located in parks and other spaces across Birmingham, these sites will combine sport, culture, food and drink.

A programme of live performances by artists and community groups will feature alongside screenings of key sporting moments on the big screen.

The festival sites are the creation of talented local producers who either live in or have strong links to a particular neighbourhood. They are free to attend and located in the following places:

Castle Vale Festival Site Farnborough Fields (Thurs 28 - Fri 29 July)

Sparkhill Festival Site Sparkhill Park (Sat 30 - Sun 31 July)



Edgbaston Festival Site Edgbaston Reservoir (Mon 1 - Tues 2 Aug)

Oaklands Festival Site Oaklands Recreation Ground, Yardley (Wed 3 - Thurs 4 Aug)

• **Handsworth Festival Site** located in Handsworth Park (Fri 5 - Sat 6 Aug)

• **Ward End Festival Site** Ward End Park (Sun 7 - Mon 8 Aug)

HOST SITES

Towns and cities across the West Midlands region and beyond will also host Festival Sites to celebrate the Commonwealth Games. The sites are being produced and managed by local authorities in areas where competition venues are also located. These include Coventry, Solihull, Warwick, Leamington Spa, Sandwell, Dudley and Wolverhampton.

Tamworth and Telford are set to join in the celebrations with Festival Sites of their own. Sites across the region include:

WARWICKSHIRE

Coventry Festival Site

Thurs 28 July - Mon 8 August
Assembly Festival Garden, Little Park St,
Coventry CV1 2LU

Solihull Festival Site

Fri 29 July - Fri 5 August
Mell Square, Solihull, B91 3AY
Theatre Square, Touchwood Solihull,
B91 3RG

Warwickshire Festival Site

Thurs 28 July - Mon 8 August
Pump Room Gardens, Leamington Spa
CV32 4AA

Warwick Festival Site

Thurs 28 July - Mon 8 August
Market Place, Warwick, CV34 4SA



WOLVERHAMPTON

Thurs 4 August–
Market Square, Wolverhampton,
WV30NL

The Commonwealth Games Cycling Time Trial race will be zooming through Market Square, with all the Games' action also available to watch on the big screen.

Wolverhampton will also feature live entertainment and commentary from sporting legends, have-a-go cycling activities, information stands, a selection of food & drink, face painting, children's rides and more.

BLACK COUNTRY

Sandwell Festival Site

Mon 25 July - Mon 8 August
Sandwell Valley Showground, Salter's Ln,
West Bromwich B71 4BG

Dudley Festival Site

Mon 1 August
Huntingtree Park, Halesowen,
B63 4HY
Tues 2 August
Silver Jubilee Park, Coseley,
WV14 9SZ
Wed 3 August
Mary Stevens Park, Heath Lane,
DY8 2AA

Fri 5 August
The Dell Stadium, Brierley Hill,
DY5 4NE

Sat 6 August
Netherton Park, Netherton,
DY2 9EX

Sun 7 August
Stevens Park, Quarry Bank,
DY5 2JU

RELAXED FESTIVAL SITE

located at Sense Touchbase Pears, Selly Oak (Fri 29 & Sat 30 July)

Alongside the screening of sport, the relaxed festival site features specially adapted programming - including quiet spaces and activities - for those who don't want or aren't able to be in louder, more intense spaces.

The site will look to celebrate deaf and disabled people and help to champion those who support them... It also aims to help people learn to play sports in a way that is inclusive for all, offering new opportunities to those who identify as disabled, neurodivergent or have specific access needs.

TAMWORTH

Thurs 28 July - Mon 8 August
Castle Gardens, Market St,
Tamworth B79 7LR

A selection of sporting events, and the opening and closing ceremonies, will be shown on the big screen throughout the 11-day competition. Coverage of the Games and many of the daytime activities will be free of charge.

To extend the celebrations even further, Tamworth Borough Council's arts & events team are working on a yet-to-be-announced 'bumper programme of fun and games, sports and entertainment'.

SHROPSHIRE

Telford Festival Site

Thurs 28 July - Mon 8 August
Southwater One Telford St Quentin Gate,
Telford TF3 4EJ

For the latest information on
Commonwealth Games Festival Sites,
visit: birmingham2022.com/festival/sites

Games Without Frontiers

The 22nd Commonwealth Games kicks off in Birmingham this month, with the opening ceremony set to be one of the biggest and most ambitious shows in the city's history. Despite being a huge international event, it's also 'a local show for local people', with thousands of volunteers taking part and a creative team that hails from the city. What's On talks to the opening ceremony's artistic director, Iqbal Khan, to find out more...

Featuring theatre, music, dance and a massive array of performers - including a volunteer cast of 3,000 - the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games is set to be one of the biggest and most spectacular events in Birmingham's history.

It's also set to turn the spotlight on the city and its people, as well as highlight West Midlands talent and diversity, in a way that's never been done before.

Oh, and the ceremony will not only be performed in front of 35,000 spectators at the Alexander Stadium (28 July), but also a global television audience of around one billion.

No small undertaking, then, for the creative team leading the event, which includes Executive Producer (and *Peaky Blinders* creator) Steven Knight, writer Maeve Clarke, Musical Director Joshua 'RTKal' Holness, Chief Choreographer Corey Baker and Artistic Director Iqbal Khan.

In a recent TV interview, Corey said the

opening ceremony would be unlike any other stadium show, not least because "we've gone really Birmingham". It's a sentiment echoed by Iqbal when we chat about the event, and about what the Commonwealth Games - and the Commonwealth itself - means in 2022.

"There's a big story to tell about Birmingham, and we're really gonna go for it," he says enthusiastically. "It's a theatrical, imaginative, really bold show, and very immersive. It's a big story about the West Midlands and Birmingham, and the pioneering spirit and generosity of this place. It's an incredible, surprising history."

The event is also a chance to convey messages about and beyond sport, he explains, as well as an opportunity to showcase Birmingham to a global audience.

"I think opening ceremonies for the Olympics or the Commonwealth Games are an opportunity for the world to collect and celebrate the best of itself. It's human endeavour, it's human dreams and wonderful

human stories that we follow, and that goes beyond sport.

"International sports people are always incredibly competitive and always motivated by excellence, but there's more of a collegiate feel to the Commonwealth Games that's always made them more fun, playful and humane, and that feels like a good fit for Birmingham.

"Opening ceremonies are also welcomes and statements of intent, and a moment to really introduce the world to us, to the hosts."

Iqbal was first contacted by the Games' chief creative officer, Martin Green, two years ago, to discuss what he assumed would potentially be a minor contribution. So it came as something of a shock to be asked to helm the entire show - but it's a challenge he's clearly relishing.

"[The surprise] wasn't just me thinking I'm not good enough to do something like this, it's that the industry doesn't normally recommend people like me for the frontline





executive role - so that was a wonderful surprise.

“Of course, this is a show on a scale that I’ve never done before, but in the theatre industry, I’ve worked at every single level and am very confident in what I can do. But it was a very wonderful and refreshing surprise that they were looking to someone like me to run the whole thing.”

Initial discussions centred on the Commonwealth and what it means in 2022, rather than any specifics about the Games and the opening ceremony. Issues surrounding legacies of the British Empire, the slave trade - and the removal of monuments to those connected with it - and even the death of George Floyd all played a part.

“Questions of the legacies of empire are very, very problematic. The idea that we can unproblematically get together and celebrate the Commonwealth Games and the Commonwealth came up, and we talked about that.

“But now is a time, more than ever, when it feels very important to celebrate international alliances and to find some sort of equality and parity between nations. And that’s the idea of the Commonwealth - maybe it hasn’t been the reality of it historically, and it certainly wasn’t borne out of that notion, but that is its ambition and what it’s about, and that is something I can absolutely celebrate.

“The empire connections are wholeheartedly not positive, but ‘common wealth’ is a



beautiful idea. And if that’s the aspiration, then that’s something that all peoples would sign up to and I know that I share. It’s been at the centre of everything I do.”

Iqbal is keen to ensure “everyone is generously invited and there’s everything for everyone” at the event, and also that it provides a chance to embrace commonality between participating nations.

“Birmingham is a fantastic product of the children of the Commonwealth - there are so many communities here that have their roots around the world and around the Commonwealth. Here and Kingston, Jamaica, are probably the premier Commonwealth cities in the world, and that’s definitely something to celebrate.”

Local involvement is also a key element of the event. The creative team all originally hail from Birmingham, and as well as the 3,000 local volunteers who appear in the show, there are around 700 production volunteers, covering everything from costume and props departments to operations and technical teams.

“It’s an amazing collection of volunteers who are the backbone and spirit of the show - we make this show around them,” says Iqbal, who believes the Games will create lifelong memories for the people involved, and legacies that go beyond sporting facilities and improved transport infrastructure.

“What you hope is that there will be a systematic legacy of engagement across the city in terms of artists and communities working in collaboration. It’s the cultural



legacy, which is more than just artefacts; it’s the stories people share, it’s the fact that communities are sharing their experiences with each other - that’s absolutely critical.

“I have the sense that more than anything now, people want to return to rooms with each other, and rather than staying in their silos firing off virtual abuse, they want to be in the room having conversations, learning about other people’s experiences, sharing their insights and engaging with others. That’s what culture does; it allows you to connect, to build bridges, to collect and share stories. Being in each other’s company is so important.”

Despite acknowledging the importance of watching cultural events live and as a shared experience, Iqbal makes bold claims that the opening ceremony will be one of the greatest shows ever seen on screen too - for local people who couldn’t get tickets as well as a worldwide TV audience.

“The ambition with this show is that, yes, it’s going to be an extraordinary live experience, but I also hope that the excellence of the broadcast will be unrivalled. We’re hoping that you’ll never have seen a show like this before, filmed to this degree of imagination and ingenuity. We’re very ambitious!”

.....
Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games take place at various locations across the Midlands from 28 July to 8 August. For further information, visit birmingham2022.com



Minions: The Rise Of Gru

CERT U (90 mins)

With the voices of **Steve Carell, Pierre Coffin, Taraji P Henson, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Michelle Yeoh, Dolph Lundgren**
Directed by **Kyle Balda, Brad Ableson and Jonathan del Val**

The fifth installment in the Despicable Me franchise, *The Rise Of Gru* follows on from 2015 spin-off prequel *Minions* and brings together a star-studded cast of voice actors.

The 1970s-set plot sees 12-year-old Gru hoping to join a supervillain group known as the Vicious 6. But things go badly awry, and when Gru steals a precious object from the 6 with the help of Kevin, Stuart, Bob, Otto and the other Minions, he suddenly finds himself the mortal enemy of the apex of evil...

Released Fri 1 July



Mr Malcolm's List

CERT tbc

Starring **Freida Pinto, Sopé Dirísù, Oliver Jackson-Cohen, Ashley Park, Zawe Ashton, Theo James** Directed by **Emma Holly Jones**

If you love a romantic period drama and hungrily devoured each and every episode of *Bridgerton*, you're advised to make a beeline to the cinema to catch this debut feature-length film from Emma Holly Jones. Based on a 2009 novel by Suzanne Allain, the film's story follows the escapades of wealthy bachelor Jeremiah - the Mr Malcolm of the title - as he sinks his teeth into the challenge of finding himself a wife. Society lady Julia thinks she may well be the woman for him. But then it becomes evident that Mr M has a ludicrously demanding 'list' of qualities he requires in his future spouse, and that Julia has tragically failed to tick all of the necessary boxes. Suffering the pain of rejection, what's a coldly cast-aside girl to do in such circumstances but call on the assistance of best friend Selina to exact a wicked revenge - by giving the arrogant Mr Malcolm a taste of his own bitter medicine...

Released Fri 1 July



Brian And Charles

CERT tbc (90 mins)

Starring **David Earl, Chris Hayward, Louise Brealey, Jamie Michie, Nina Sosanya, Lynn Hunter** Directed by **Jim Archer**

Build yourself a robot to stave off loneliness *at your peril*, is surely the takeaway message from this brand-new British comedy film starring David Earl, an actor best known from Ricky Gervais TV series *Derek*, *Extras* and *After Life*.

Earl plays Brian Gittins, an inventor who, leading a solitary existence in rural Wales, decides it's high time he acquired a companion. Three days, a washing machine and various spare parts later, Brian has invented Charles, an artificially intelligent robot who learns English from a dictionary and has an obsession with cabbages. But there's even more to Charles than meets the eye, as Brian soon finds out. Before too long, the robot has the timid inventor facing up to his most profoundly felt fears. But will Brian have what it takes to come out on top?... *Brian And Charles* last month bagged the London Sundance Film Festival's highly coveted Audience Favourite award.

Released Fri 8 July



The Railway Children Return

CERT tbc

Starring **Jenny Agutter, John Bradley, Sheridan Smith, Tom Courtenay, Jessica Baglow, Beau Gadsdon**
Directed by **Morgan Matthews**

Everybody loves *The Railway Children* (don't they?). So what's not to like about the prospect of catching up with one of the principal characters from the famous 1970 film, as well as getting to meet a whole new cast into the bargain?

Jenny Agutter once again takes on the role of Bobbie Waterbury. One of the three children in the original film, Bobbie found herself moving from London to a Yorkshire village (along with her mother and two siblings) when the family suddenly became impoverished.

Fast forward several decades and Bobbie now has a grown-up daughter of her own (played by Sheridan Smith) and has lived her adult life in Yorkshire.

When Hitler's bombs see children being evacuated from built-up areas to the countryside, a whole new adventure is soon under way... Released Fri 15 July





Thor: Love And Thunder CERT tbc

Starring **Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Christian Bale, Taika Waititi, Pom Klementieff, Karen Gillan** Directed by **Taika Waititi**

Everybody's favourite hammer-wielding Norse god is back in the Marvel saddle for another out-of-this-world adventure. And according to the film's director, Taika Waititi, it's going to be an even bigger blast than the last Thor movie - 2017's Ragnarok.

"If you take Ragnarok, which I feel was a very big, outlandish, bombastic film," Waititi told Entertainment Tonight, "we're trying to double down on everything we did with that and create something that's even more crazy and more fun." Chris Hemsworth returns, for the umpteenth time, as Thor. Famous supporting-cast members include former Batman star Christian Bale - who's playing Gorr, the God Butcher - and Russell Crowe, who will no doubt be threatening to discharge many a mighty bolt of lightning as father-of-all-gods Zeus. Natalie Portman reprises the role of Thor's astrophysicist girlfriend, Jane Foster, for whom Love And Thunder will prove to be a seriously big adventure...

Released Thurs 7 July

Where The Crawdads Sing

CERT tbc (97 mins)

Starring **Daisy Edgar-Jones, Harris Dickinson, Garret Dillahunt, Taylor John Smith, Davia Strathairn, Joe Chrest**
Directed by **Olivia Newman**



Adapted from Delia Owens' same-titled 2018 bestselling novel, Where The Crawdads Sing is set in the mid-20th century American South and tells the story of Kya, a girl abandoned by her family who has raised herself to adulthood in the dangerous marshlands of North Carolina.

For years, rumours of 'the marsh girl' have haunted Barkley Cove, isolating the sharp and resilient Kya from her community. Drawn to two young men from town, Kya opens herself up to a new and startling world. But when one of the men is found dead, she soon finds herself being suspected of murder...

Released Fri 22 July

Nope CERT tbc

Starring **Daniel Kaluuya, Keke Palmer, Steven Yeun, Michael Wincott, Brandon Perea, Barbie Ferreira** Directed by **Jordan Peele**

Fans of actor/comedian Jordan Peele's previous two outings as director - the horror films Get Out and Us - have been waiting with bated breath for the arrival of his latest movie. In keeping with the approach he took to both of those aforementioned films, the one-time Comedy Central star has been keeping his cards pretty close to his chest when it comes to Nope, but the movie's basic storyline is this: a pair of ranch-owning siblings team up with a tech salesman and a documentarian to try and capture video evidence of an unidentified flying object.

Peele's directorial debut - Get Out - earned four Oscar nominations, with the man himself bagging the Academy Award for best screenplay. Even though Us didn't enjoy similar success in the awards stakes, it garnered plenty of praise from critics and moviegoers alike. It's hardly surprising, then, that Nope is currently being touted as one of the biggest summer releases of 2022.

Released Fri 22 July



DC League Of Super-Pets

CERT PG (100 mins)

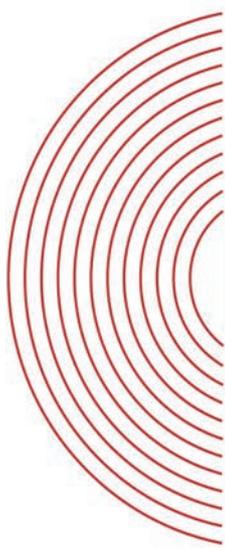
With the voices of **Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, Vanessa Bayer, Natasha Lyonne, Diego Luna, John Krasinski**
Directed by **Jared Stern and Sam Levine**



Krypto the Super-Dog and Superman are inseparable best friends, sharing the same superpowers and fighting crime together in the sprawling city of Metropolis. When Superman and the other Justice League members are kidnapped, Krypto must convince a rag-tag shelter pack - Ace the hound, PB the potbellied pig, Merton the turtle and Chip the squirrel - to master their own newfound powers and help him rescue the missing superheroes...

Dwayne Johnson voices Krypto, with Kevin Hart providing the vocals for Batman's faithful friend, Ace the Bat-Hound. The Dark Knight himself, meanwhile, is voiced by none other than Keanu Reeves.

Released Fri 29 July



BLACK COUNTRY BEATS

Black Country Beats
Sat 7 May - Sun 4 Sep 2022
Wolverhampton Art Gallery

Celebrating popular music in
the Black Country between the
1970s and 2000s.

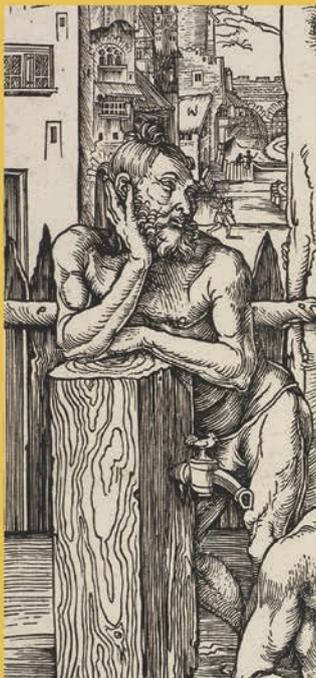
Free admission

Slade • Aisha • Robert Plant • **Goldie**
Beverley Knight • **Babylon Zoo**
Macka B • **Capital Letters** • Azaad
Ned's Atomic Dustbin
Weapon of Peace • **Skippa and Lippy**
Cornershop • **The Wonder Stuff**
Pop Will Eat Itself • The Sahotas
The Mighty Lemon Drops
and others

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL



Supported through public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



DÜRER

THE MAKING OF A
RENAISSANCE MASTER

17 JUNE — 25 SEPTEMBER

In association with



Royal Collection Trust / © Her Majesty
Queen Elizabeth II, 2022

PAYING RESPECTS

8 July 2022
— 25 June 2023



MONEY &
MORTALITY

THE
BARBER
INSTITUTE OF
FINE ARTS

FREE ADMISSION
Tuesday – Sunday,
10am – 5pm (closed Monday)



@BarberInstitute
barber.org.uk

Visit by train: University station



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



Adeela Suleman, Untitled (detail), 2021-22. Appliqué with hand embroidery on Jamawar and Banarsi silk. Courtesy the artist.

Allegory Of War

Midlands Arts Centre hosts Adeela Suleman's most comprehensive solo exhibition in a UK public gallery

Film projections, metal repoussé work, ceramic plates, intricate applique and installation all feature in Adeela Suleman's most comprehensive solo exhibition in a UK public gallery.

On display at MAC Birmingham, her show, *Allegory Of War*, is awash with recurring motifs - an important feature of the Karachi-based artist's work. The motifs - organic subjects such as birds and flowers - reference the decorative traditions of the Mughal style and form detailed, repetitive patterns replete with symbolic meaning.

Adeela is known for the social and political commentary underlying her sculptures. She particularly focuses on the links between

historic and contemporary violence experienced in Karachi, where up to 12 people per day are murdered in gang-related or political attacks. Her work acts not only as a memorial to the victims, but also as an interrogation of the juxtapositions of creativity and destruction.

"Violence is the most destructive activity known to humanity," says Adeela. "In order to understand it, artists have, throughout history, merged colours, textures and patterns to depict wartime beliefs and ideologies, practices, symbols and values. Their work investigates not only artistic responses to terror but the meaning of violence itself."

As well as examples of her past work, the exhibition will also feature a new commission created by Adeela with a group of Birmingham artists and makers who specialise in stitch and appliqué artwork. The project is inspired by traditions practised by women in the Sindh province of Pakistan, who come together to create textiles while sharing skills and stories as part of the making process.

Adeela Suleman: *Allegory Of War* shows at Midlands Arts Centre from Saturday 16 July to Sunday 9 October.



Grown Up In Britain: 100 Years Of Teenage Kicks

The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, Fri 1 July - Sun 12 February

The everyday experiences and cultural impact of young people is celebrated in this brand-new exhibition.

Featuring photographs, objects and stories, Grown Up In Britain has been curated by and drawn from the extensive photographic collections of the Museum of Youth Culture, an emerging organisation dedicated to the styles, sounds and social movements innovated by young people over the last 100 years.

The Museum has been gathering together photographs of youth and subculture movements for more than 25 years. Its impressive collection includes everything 'from the bomb-site bicycle racers in post-war 1940s London, to the Acid House ravers of 1980s northern England'.

Bristol Archives: Empire Through The Lens

Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, Sat 9 July - Sun 11 September

With the Commonwealth Games kicking off in Birmingham at the end of the month, Empire Through The Lens aims both to foster debate about decolonisation of culture and reflect on the UK's relationships with the rest of the world.

Featuring objects from Bristol Archives' Legacies of Empire Collection, the exhibition includes a unique selection of still and moving images - presented alongside new contemporary commissions - which aim to explore the impact of the former British Empire and the Commonwealth. The exhibition also showcases new sculptural works by Birmingham-based artists Carla Busuttill, Faisal Hussain and Mahtab Hussain.



David Batchelor: Colour Is

Compton Verney, until Sun 2 October

Sculpture, installation, drawing, painting, photography and animation all feature in this first large-scale survey exhibition of work by Scottish artist & writer David Batchelor.

Although incorporating pre-colour works from the 1980s, the exhibition mainly celebrates Batchelor's preoccupation with colour, his enthusiasm for which is impressively evidenced in numerous experimental works from the 1990s, vivid multimedia installations from the early 21st century and more-recent pieces, including a glowing animation. A number of the works on show come directly from the artist's studio and are here going on display to the public for the very first time.

Your Shakespeare, Your Culture

The Gallery, Library of Birmingham, Fri 22 July - Sat 5 November

The People's Shakespeare Library at Library of Birmingham is home to more than 40,000 volumes, 17,000 production photographs, 2,000 music scores, hundreds of British and international production posters, 15,000 performance programmes and 10,000 playbills. And courtesy of this Royal Shakespeare Company-curated exhibition, visitors will be able to immerse themselves in the unique story of the library and all things Shakespeare.

But that's not all... The exhibition also includes Shakespeare's first folio, a specially commissioned short film, a brand-new spoken-word piece by Birmingham Poet Laureate Casey Bailey, and interactive exhibits encouraging visitors 'to share their culture, make their mark and create their own version of a library'.





Where Is Home?

Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Sun 10 July - Mon 29 August;
MAC Birmingham, Sat 19 - Tues 22 August

“Where is home?” asks Alnoor Mitha - Senior Research Fellow at Manchester School of Art, Manchester Metropolitan University - who has curated this touring exhibition. “For many Asian communities, this is a simple question with a complicated answer. I was born in Uganda but have made my home here in the UK. My children were born and have always lived here but still face racism from those who do not see them as British.

“Through this exhibition, we examine the idea of home, asking what it really means. We bring in the complex history of Britain and the South Asian diaspora, and hear

the voices of artists and everyday South Asian people.”

Presented both in Wolverhampton and Birmingham as part of the Birmingham 2022 Festival, the exhibition marks the 75th anniversary of Indian partition and the 50th anniversary of the expulsion of South Asians from Uganda.

Both events prompted mass global migration.

A Q&A with author Neema Shah accompanies the Wolverhampton exhibition, while in Birmingham the show will have the added attraction of live performances by Sampad Arts.

Dürer: The Making Of A Renaissance Master

The Barber Institute Of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham, until Sun 25 September

This fifth exhibition in an annual collaborative series with Royal Collection Trust explores how Albrecht Dürer earned a lasting reputation as the Renaissance’s most important and influential northern European artist.

As well as presenting the German painter & printmaker’s finest works from the Royal Collection - in the form of rare drawings, iconic prints, and one of only two of his paintings which currently reside in the UK - the display also examines the 16th-century artist’s not-inconsiderable skill as an entrepreneur; Dürer’s shrewd eye for making a splash with his art saw him exploring subjects and issues which struck a chord not only with the general public but also with numerous high-ranking patrons - including the Holy Roman Emperor, Maximilian I.



Out And About... Exhibits to look out for across Birmingham and Sandwell

One Giant Leap For Humankind

Birmingham New Street Station’s Eastern Plaza is providing a temporary home for a Commonwealth Games-inspired sculpture of a powerful and dynamic athlete.

Jacob Chandler’s One Giant Leap For Humankind is linked to the Commonwealth with a toposcope denoting the direction and distance to each Commonwealth country.

A QR code and webpage allows interaction with augmented-reality artefacts.

Foreign Exchange

Birmingham’s city-centre sculpture of Queen Victoria has been reimagined by acclaimed Guyanese-British artist Hew Locke for the Birmingham 2022 Festival.

Originally unveiled in 1901, Sir Thomas Brock’s marble figure of Queen Victoria was then recast in bronze by William Bloye and members of Birmingham School of Art in 1951.

Locke’s reimagining of the sculpture, which has been commissioned by Ikon, is available to view in Victoria Square for a limited period.

Generations

A large-scale photographic portraiture exhibition, Generations is aiming to celebrate ‘families, individuals, diversity and the people of Birmingham and the West Midlands’. The thought-provoking exhibition sees photographer Julian Germain use a large-format camera to work collaboratively with families of four and five generations from across the region.

The photos remain on display at various locations across Birmingham and Sandwell until Fri 30 September.

Fluito

Immersive sound and underwater reality experience Fluito invites viewers to enter two large sculptural cubes, placed one inside the other. The resulting ‘world within a world’ reflects the escapist and meditative experience of swimming, whilst also showcasing the incredible speed and agility of elite swimmers.

This brand-new outdoor public art installation will be on display at Sandwell Valley Country Park from Sat 23 July to Mon 8 August.



FLOWER POWER

Shrewsbury Flower Show next month makes a welcome return following a pandemic-enforced hiatus. In addition to the usual magnificent floral displays, celebrity appearances and spectacular fireworks, the 2022 edition of the show has a few exciting new additions to further recommend it. We take a look at what visitors can expect...

HERE TO ENTERTAIN



ALICE IN WONDERLAND - A VERY MAD ROYAL TEA PARTY promises all of the chaos associated with Lewis Carroll's much-loved tale. Expect mayhem aplenty as the Mad Hatter decides to throw a tea party and leaves the White Rabbit in charge of delivering an invite to the Queen of England.



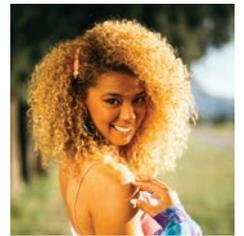
THE RONNIES are a local group inspired by The Andrews Sisters and Bing Crosby. Expect to be transported back in time as they perform popular classics from the 1940s (on the main arena stage on both evenings).

PHIL VICKERY The former This Morning star is this year's celebrity chef, showcasing his extensive culinary skills with demonstrations on both days.



Some readers may already be familiar with the delightful Fleurs de Villes, who have made a name for themselves popping up in cities around the world. Their most recent creation, FEMMES, features floral works of art inspired by remarkable women, including Audrey Hepburn (pictured above). In celebration of Her Majesty's platinum jubilee, this year's show will feature the iconic, fresh floral mannequin of the Coronation Robes en Fleurs in the Dingle Marquee. The stunning Queen Elizabeth II mannequin will be inspired by the official portrait of Her Majesty's Coronation Day in 1953. It will comprise natural materials to recreate her cloak, crown, sceptre and jewels 'en fleurs', including pussy willow, berries, assorted foliage and orchids.

AMY JONES will headline the main arena on Saturday evening. The South African singer-songwriter's hits include Dance On My Own and I Think I'm In Love.



LEVANTES DANCE THEATRE make their debut at this year's show with High Tea (With A Twist). Adorned in floral attire with matching headgear, a pair of performers fuse dance and acrobatics while positioned atop a tastefully laid table. Hijinx continue when the troupe mingle with crowds for a cuppa and the odd selfie.



SHETLAND PONY GRAND NATIONAL Watch the jockeys of tomorrow compete in the show's main arena as part of a UK-wide tour raising funds for the Bob Champion Cancer Trust.



Shrewsbury Flower Show takes place at The Quarry, Shrewsbury, on Friday 12 & Saturday 13 August. For info and tickets, visit: shrewsburyflowershow.org.uk



thinktank
Birmingham science museum



MIND-BLOWING



Family Days Out at Thinktank



- minibrum
- 4k Planetarium
- Outdoor Science Garden

Plus lots more

birminghamsmuseums.org.uk/whats-on

Funded by:



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Birmingham
Museums



Events previews from around the region



Pirate Treasure Hunts

National SEA LIFE Centre Birmingham and Legoland Discovery Centre, Sat 9 July - Sun 4 September

Get your sea legs on and head over to Birmingham's Brindleyplace for some swashbuckling fun with two brand-new pirate-inspired events for summer. At the National SEA LIFE Centre, Captain Careless has lost his booty and is in serious need of some help locating it. Learn about protecting our ocean's future and meet some, er, fin-tastic creatures along the way.

Meanwhile, over at Legoland, Captain Brickbeard (love it!) has devised a scavenger hunt to find enough golden treasure to help him buy a new pirate ship... Creative sessions making pirate pets and flags also feature, as does a 4D cinema experience featuring rain, wind and, somewhat unseasonally, snow!

Cosford Food Festival

RAF Museum Cosford, Sat 23 & Sun 24 July

Cosford Food Festival is back for the first time since the pandemic.

Event highlights include live music, a range of kids' activities and the chance to check out some of the region's top chefs on the event's demonstration stage.

This year the festival is also offering rum and whisky enthusiasts an exclusive opportunity to enjoy their favourite tipples on board the VC10 aircraft. Tickets must be booked in advance for this element of the show.



Shrewsbury Live

The West Mid Showground, Shrewsbury, Sun 3 July

Shrewsbury Live is a show that aims to entertain the whole family. Death-defying motorcycle stunts, freerunning displays and magnificent monster trucks are the centrepiece attractions at this year's event. Music, a funfair for the kids and a selection of food & drink vendors also feature.

Pirates Day

Blakesley Hall, Birmingham, Thurs 28 July

Ahoy, me hearties, and shiver those timbers... Blakesley Hall's very own Pirate Captain is hosting this fun interactive one-hour show at timed intervals throughout the day, providing youngsters with the opportunity to learn all about working aboard a pirate ship. There's even a chance to walk the plank (without ending up in Davy Jones' Locker, of course). And if booty's your thing, a special prize is up for grabs - assuming you can first of all find the treasure on the island, that is!



Back Home

Black Country Living Museum, Dudley, Sat 9 & Sun 10 July

This brand-new event focuses on fascinating stories of life in the Black Country and surrounding region during the 1940s. Visitors will have the opportunity to explore aspects of 1940s civilian life, in the process meeting a number of famous names from

the decade, including Winston Churchill and George Formby. As an extra treat, the D-Day Darlings make a return to the museum as headliners on both days of the festival.



COSFORD
FOOD FESTIVAL
 23 - 24 JULY 2022



Cosford Food Festival

THE summer event for all foodies and street food fans!

A weekend packed full of artisan food stalls, street food and drink accompanied by a colourful programme for everyone.

- Over 100 exhibitors
- Street food and bars
- Live cooking demos
- Whisky and rum masterclass
- Live music
- Family entertainment

For more details and to buy your tickets, visit rafmuseum.org/midlands



SUMMER OF SPORT

FROM 23RD JULY



PRE-BOOK AND
 SAVE UP TO
£64!*

*£64 saving calculated against value of individual adult and child tickets

A CHAMPION DAY OUT
 Book now at SVR.CO.UK or call 01562 757 900



Events previews from around the region



Shropshire Petal Fields

Lynn South Farm, Newport, Shropshire, dates to be confirmed

Award-winning company Shropshire Petals is this summer teaming up with Shropshire Festivals to provide people with the opportunity to visit a field of flowers which is grown and harvested in order to make biodegradable petals. Sunflowers, cornflowers, delphiniums and wildflowers will create the perfect photo backdrop for visitors to the field. There will also be a viewing platform from which to take in the spectacular views,

street food to tuck into, and the opportunity to buy freshly cut flower bouquets. Kids, meanwhile, can experience the Forest of Fun, complete with a special gnome trail. The flower-field experience is expected to open at the end of the month for two weeks only. The exact dates will be revealed once it's known when the best crop of flowers will be due. To find out more, visit shropshirepetals.com

The Beach At Your Cathedral

Lichfield Cathedral, Staffordshire, Fri 22 July - Wed 31 August

Life's a beach in Lichfield this month, as the cathedral brings the seaside to the city for the summer! A programme of events for all the family to enjoy will take place across the school holidays. Or, if you prefer just to chill out and take things easy, you can grab yourself a deckchair and soak up some sizzling summertime sunshine...



The Rum Train

Severn Valley Railway, Bewdley, Kidderminster, Sat 9 July



Do you enjoy a glass of rum? If so, then why not take advantage of this unique Severn Valley Railway tasting session, taking place in first-class seating in a vintage carriage. The Little Gin & Rum Company will present each guest with a 'welcome' cocktail when they board the train at Kidderminster, after which they will provide four artisan rums for passengers to sample during the train's journey along the Severn Valley. And being the good hosts that they are, they'll also be on hand to share their expert knowledge.

Wythall Busfest Gaydon

British Motor Museum, Gaydon, Sat 2 July

A selection of restored, vintage and modern buses and coaches from up and down the country is the centrepiece of this British Motor Museum and



Transport Museum Wythall event. The show is celebrating 50 years of both the Leyland National Bus and National Express coaches, with examples of both models on display at the venue. Q&As with Leyland National celebrities from across the industry will run throughout the day. And as well as being able to browse numerous trade stands, visitors can also jump on a bus and take a ride around the local routes and museum roads for free.

The Game Fair

Ragley Hall, Warwickshire, Fri 29 - Sun 31 July

Celebrating all things countryside, The Game Fair brings together fishing, shooting, falconry, archery and a selection of other much-loved sporting pursuits. Gundog displays and scurry driving both feature in the main arena, with other attractions including a series of talks by experts and familiar faces in the Game Fair Theatre. TV's James Martin and Yorkshire Shepherdess Amanda Owen will be putting on their chef hats to create bespoke menus in the hospitality tent.

Victorian Sports Weekend

Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge, Sat 30 & Sun 31 July

The residents of Blists Hill Victorian Town are putting on a weekend of fun Victorian sports activities this month... Battle it out in the tug of war, race against family and friends in the egg & spoon, or enjoy a game of badminton, croquet or Victorian football.





LEGO
LEGOLAND
DISCOVERY CENTER

THE ULTIMATE
INDOOR LEGO® PLAYGROUND



Discover
LAND



**2 GREAT ATTRACTIONS
FOR 1 GREAT PRICE**

SEA★LIFE

An Amazing Underwater World

Events previews from around the region



Vintage Sports Car Club Silverstone Circuit, Northamptonshire, Sat 16 July

The chance to check out vintage vehicles from across the decades is the name of the game at this not-to-be-missed day out for sports car enthusiasts. Practice sessions in the morning are followed by an action-

packed afternoon of races. Visitors can also walk around the paddock, stop off at a trade village, sample a selection of family-friendly entertainment and find out all about the host of car clubs attending the event.

The Healing Gardens Of Bab

Chamberlain Square, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Symphony Hall and other Birmingham City Centre locations, until Sun 17 July

Inspired by Babylon's hanging gardens - one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World - The Healing Gardens Of Bab sees Fierce transforming a number of locations in Birmingham city centre with unique installations, art and events for everybody. The Healing Gardens are described by Fierce as "a paradise that uplifts alternative expressions of gender, sexuality and family. The gardens are a space to reflect on the violent erasure enforced by British Empire and to celebrate the many sexual identities that are not translatable into English." The project provides numerous ways to get involved. These include costume workshops, performance opportunities, crafting and talks & discussions.



The JQ Festival

Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham, Sat 23 July

This month's JQ Festival will see Birmingham Jewellery Quarter's Golden Square host artisans, makers and creators from across the city, with a tent housing live maker demos and workshops being run by local jewellers & makers. After its hugely successful debut in 2019, the music festival at St Paul's Square will take place throughout the afternoon and into the early evening. Meanwhile, Warstone Lane Cemetery will be hosting an outdoor theatre, with a variety of guided and self-guided tours of the area available throughout the day. As a special extra attraction, the district's museums will be waiving their entry fee for the occasion.

Farmarama

National Forest Adventure Farm, Staffordshire, Sat 16 July - Mon 5 September

Described as a 'festival of fun', Farmarama offers a wide variety of activities for families to enjoy across the summer holidays. Highlights include princess singalong sessions, pirate shows, mascot meet & greets, outdoor adventure play and indoor soft play opportunities, and funfair and tractor rides. Visitors can also meet the farm's animals, pet some guinea pigs, place their bets on a sheep race and navigate the twists and turns of the ever-popular maize maze.



Camper Jam

Weston Park, Shropshire, Fri 1 - Sun 3 July

VW fans will no doubt be heading to Weston Park in their droves for this year's edition of Camper Jam. Attractions include stalls to shop in, bars to cool off in, and plenty of live entertainment to enjoy across the three-day weekend. Not only can visitors check out a variety of VW vehicles, they can also sample a host of fun activities, including axe throwing, a dog show and 'wheely goos' wagon competition. Music performers across the weekend include Massaoko, Artful Dodger and a number of tribute acts.





PASS THE BATON

The well-travelled Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton makes its way through the Midlands this month, with its final destination the city's Alexander Stadium on 28 July. Here, we take a look at where it's stopping off en route - and what associated events are taking place along the way...

MON 18 JULY

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME:

KEELE UNIVERSITY

Children from local primary schools will visit the sports facilities on campus. There, they'll take part in different sporting activities in an informal multi-sport competition to celebrate the spirit of camaraderie and sportsmanship embodied by the Games.

BELONG HERITAGE GALLERY

Baton-route activities include a Philip Astley circus celebration.

KIDSGROVE

Harecastle Tunnel and Trent and Mersey Canal, Canal and River Trust have organised a unique 'adventure' for the Baton, as it's carried on a narrowboat along the canal.

NEWCHAPEL PUMP TRACK

Local schoolchildren and members of the community take

part in cycling and sports events.

STOKE-ON-TRENT:

HANLEY PARK Relay At The Park - a community celebration.

SHREWSBURY:

SHREWSBURY SPORTS VILLAGE

The Queen's Baton arrives via helicopter.

FLAXMILL MALTINGS

Official photo call.

THE QUARRY

Free-to-attend family event.

TUES 19 JULY

IRONBRIDGE : TELFORD : NEWPORT : LILLESALL

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME:

VICTORIA PARK

Community celebrations, details tbc.

STONE : RUDYARD : LEEK

WED 20 JULY

UTTOXETER:

UTTOXETER LEISURE CENTRE

The Queen's Baton arrives...

ST. GEORGE'S PARK

Events include a schools football celebration.

BURTON UPON TRENT : LICHFIELD : BURNTWOOD : CHASEWATER

TAMWORTH:

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Mini community games to take place.

THE RAWLETT SCHOOL

Pupils to present a celebratory display.

TAMWORTH CASTLE

Fun family activities and entertainment, including community games, singers and tribute acts.

THURS 21 JULY

BODYMOOR HEATH : ATHERSTONE : MARKET BOSWORTH

NUNEATON:

RIVERSLEY PARK

Calling all budding performers for Nuneaton's Got Talent.

PINGLES ATHLETICS TRACK

Fun fitness session for children.

BEDWORTH:

MINER'S WELFARE PARK

Fun and interactive family activities.

RUGBY:

CALDECOTT PARK

Community festival.

COVENTRY

FRI 22 JULY

KENILWORTH:

BALSALL COMMON LIBRARY

Free drop-in event for kids to

make their own Queen's Baton, plus a sport-themed treasure hunt.

WHITNASH : WARWICK

GAYDON:

BRITISH MOTOR MUSEUM
See the arrival of the Baton at the museum, together with a parade of British classics to mark the occasion.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

BROADWAY TOWER:
Community celebration event.

PERSHORE : UPTON-UPON-SEVERN : MALVERN:
WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

SAT 23 JULY

REDDITCH:

ARROW VALLEY COUNTRY PARK
Redditch Rocks Celebration with Lauren Mernagh.

BROMSGROVE:

SANDERS PARK
Demonstrations from Bromsgrove Gymnastics Club, together with the Music Bus from Seven Arts and Bromsgrove Festival.

KIDDERMINSTER

BRIDGNORTH:

SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY
The Queen's Baton arrives via a special train service.

SEVERN PARK

Queen's Baton Relay & community sports day.

CODSALL MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Sports festival featuring a series of sporting activities.

RUGELEY : HEDNESFORD : CANNOCK

WALSALL ARBORETUM:

Commonwealth cultural festival celebrating Walsall's finest sports clubs and cultural organisations.

SUN 24 JULY

WOLVERHAMPTON:

EAST PARK

The Baton arrives in spectacular fashion - dropping out of the sky thanks to the Wings Parachute Team.

QUEEN SQUARE

Celebratory event tbc

HALESOWEN : STOURBRIDGE

DUDLEY:

CORONATION GARDENS

Celebratory civic event.

WATERFRONT, MERRY HILL

An evening of celebration with live entertainment and music.

MON 25 JULY

OLDBURY : WEDNESBURY : TIPTON : CRADLEY HEATH : ROWLEY REGIS : BLACKHEATH : BEARWOOD : SMETHWICK : WEST BROMWICH

TUES 26 JULY

CASTLE BROMWICH : FORDBRIDGE : CHELMSLEY WOOD : MARSTON GREEN : HAMPTON IN ARDEN

MERIDEN PAVILION:

Arts & crafts workshops - specifically baton-making.

BERKSWELL :

BALSALL COMMON

KNOWLE LIBRARY:

Day of activities, including a treasure hunt and Commonwealth flag-making sessions, plus quizzes for adults and children.

DORRIDGE : CHESWICK

GREEN : HOCKLEY HEATH

DICKENS HEATH VILLAGE

GREEN:

Arts 7 crafts activities, including creating a Commonwealth flag and pom-poms.

SHIRLEY : SOLIHULL

WED 27 JULY

BIRMINGHAM:

GAY VILLAGE Drag queen parade and mini carnival.

VICTORIA SQUARE Special evening celebration event.

ASTON HALL After 180 visits to 72 nations, the Queen's Baton here makes its final stop-off before going on to mark the formal beginning of the Birmingham Commonwealth Games.

To celebrate the Baton's visit, Aston Hall will be free to enter and hosting all manner of 'fun and foolishness', including a family craft activity in the classroom.



A vibrant, circular graphic for the Battle of Britain Proms. The graphic is set against a blue background with white stars and musical notes. It features a central image of a hand holding a glass of champagne, surrounded by various musical instruments like a trumpet, saxophone, and double bass. The text 'BATTLE OF BRITAIN PROMS' is prominently displayed in large, bold letters, with 'BATTLE OF BRITAIN' in blue and 'PROMS' in red. Below the main title, the date 'SATURDAY 13 AUGUST 2022' is written in blue. At the bottom left, there is a call to action: 'For more details and to buy your tickets, visit rafmuseum.org/midlands'. At the bottom right, the Royal Air Force Midlands Museum logo is displayed, featuring a red bullseye symbol and the text 'ROYAL AIR FORCE museum midlands'.



LET'S GO OUT KEY TO THE CITY

BIRMINGHAM2022.COM/FESTIVAL
#B2022FESTIVAL

28 MAY - 7 AUGUST
LOCATIONS ACROSS
BIRMINGHAM & SOLIHULL
PRODUCED BY FIERCE


**BIRMINGHAM 2022
FESTIVAL**
commonwealth
games

IMAGE CREDIT: UCKACRE / EYEEM



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



Made possible with
**Heritage
Fund**

fierce



Proudly sponsored by Yale



IT'S A FASCINATING FACT!

The Birmingham Commonwealth Games officially begins on Thursday 28 July. The clock is ticking... and as the countdown to 11 exciting days of second-city sport continues, here are 22 fascinating facts you might like to know about the 2022 Games...

1. 72 nations and territories are planning to send teams to the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games
2. Around 6,500 athletes and team officials will be coming to Birmingham for the Games
3. 19 sports and eight para sports will feature, making it the biggest-ever Commonwealth Games sports programme
4. Although the full-court, five-a-side version of basketball has been included before, this is the first time basketball 3x3 has featured
5. The addition of wheelchair basketball means there will be more para sport than ever before
6. Across the 11 days, there will be 286 different sessions of sport
7. The Solomon Islands women's team will take part in beach volleyball for the first time. In

- the men's competition, there will be Commonwealth Games debuts for Rwanda, South Africa and the Maldives
8. Women's cricket features in the Games for the first time, and it's also the first time that T20 cricket has been included
9. For the first time ever, mixed, synchronised diving is being included in the Games
10. 54 hockey matches will take place during the Games. These will all be held at the University of Birmingham
11. There will be two 'super Sundays' at Birmingham 2022, the second of which is a huge day for women's team sport, with the women's cricket T20 final, the netball final and the women's hockey final all featuring
12. Sandwell Aquatics Centre is the only brand-new venue, and

- after the Games it will be converted into a community leisure facility
13. One of the key venues is the Alexander Stadium, which has undergone a £72million transformation
14. Three parks are included on the venue list: West Park in Wolverhampton, Sutton Park in Sutton Coldfield and Victoria Park in Royal Leamington Spa
15. Moseley Cricket Club is being upgraded ahead of its use as a training venue for the Games. The playing surface will replicate the surface at Edgbaston Stadium, to provide the best possible training facilities
16. Two temporary venues are being built at Smithfield - one for the basketball events and one for beach volleyball
17. Three students from the School of Jewellery have

- designed the medals, ribbons and boxes that will be awarded to athletes at the Games
18. The gold, silver and bronze medals are being made in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter
19. More than 2,000 volunteers will be taking part in the opening and closing ceremonies
20. The Birmingham 2022 Festival includes more than 100 different community events which have been funded through the Creative City grants
21. Around 14,000 volunteers will be helping to make sure that the Games runs smoothly - more than 41,000 people applied to be a volunteer
22. More than one million tickets have already been sold for the Games. The remaining tickets can be purchased now by visiting birmingham2022.com

Tickets
on Sale Now!



Shrewsbury Flower Show

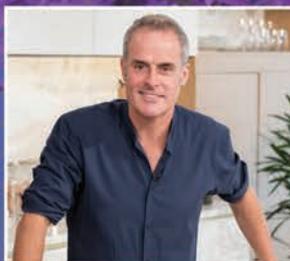
FRIDAY 12 & SATURDAY 13 AUGUST 2022



Shropshire Horticultural Society
Charity Number: 501544

IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK!

Celebrity gardeners Toby Buckland and Penny Meadmore will be joined by David Domoney. In the Food Hall, celebrity chef Phil Vickery will be providing cookery demonstrations. The evening live music entertainment, on the stage in the main arena, will be The Ronnies on Friday and South African pop star Amy Jones on Saturday.



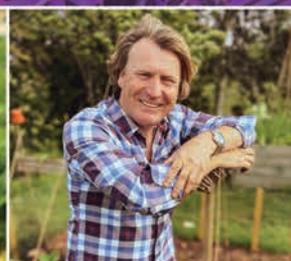
PHIL VICKERY



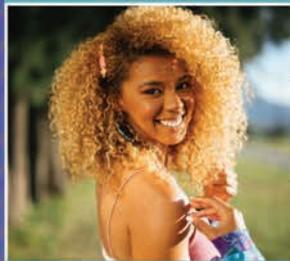
TOBY BUCKLAND



PENNY MEADMORE



DAVID DOMONEY



AMY JONES (SATURDAY NIGHT)



THE RONNIES (FRIDAY NIGHT)



ARENA ENTERTAINMENT



FLEURS DE VILLES

Day tickets £30 Evening ticket £20 (after 4pm) Membership £70

For further information call: 01743 234058

 ShrewsburyFlowerShow  @shrewsflowershw  shrewsburyflowershow

SHREWSBURYFLOWERSHOW.ORG.UK

Your week-
by-week
listings guide
July 2022

the list



Cluedo at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre - Mon 11 - Sat 16 July

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

What's On

Fri 1 - Sun 10 July



Steampunk Weekend at Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge
Sat 9 - Sun 10 July

Mon 11 - Sun 17 July



Jaivant Patel Dance at The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield
Mon 11 July

Mon 18 - Sun 24 July



Stone Jets at Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury
Fri 22 July

Mon 25 - Sun 31 July



The Queen's Knickers at The Place, Telford
Sat 30 July

THROUGHOUT JULY

Visual Arts

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

WE ARE BIRMINGHAM Exhibition curated by Birmingham Museums and six members of Don't Settle - an initiative empowering young people of colour from Birmingham and the Black Country 'to change the voice of heritage through the arts, research and governance', until Sun 30 Oct

BLACKLASH: RACISM AND THE STRUGGLE FOR SELF-DEFENCE Mukhtar Dar's extensive archive of photographic, video and political ephemera showcases the street & state racism faced by Asian and African Caribbean communities, until Sun 30 Oct,

SAVAGE K'LUB: VA TAMATEA Installation that reclaims the gentleman's clubs of the same name which were first established in London in the 19th century, until Sun 30 Oct

UNPRECEDENTED TIMES Exploring themes of hope and loss through historic artwork from Birmingham's collection alongside loans and new acquisitions from Birmingham-based artists, until Sun 30 Oct

WONDERLAND: BIRMINGHAM'S CINEMA STORIES Featuring unseen photographs and cinema memorabilia, alongside historic magic lanterns and optical toys from Birmingham's Collection, until Sun 30 Oct

New Art Gallery, Walsall

TWENTY TWENTY COLLECTION Thirty-two new works by 30 West Midlands-based artists, all of which are individual responses to the 'significant events' that shaped 2020, until Sun 28 Aug, New Art Gallery, Walsall

WEST MIDLANDS OPEN Celebrating the diversity and quality of visual arts in the region, until Sun 25 Sept, New Art Gallery, Walsall

The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery

COMMONWEALTH CONNECTIONS Join Ozzy Owl as he explores some of the Commonwealth countries in Europe, Africa, Asia, the Pacific, the Caribbean and Americas before visiting the Commonwealth Games, until Sun 11 Sept, The Potteries Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

Wolverhampton Art Gallery

BLACK COUNTRY BEATS Exhibition that celebrates the diverse musical genres that emerged from the Black

Country between the 1970s and 2000s, until Sun 4 Sept, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

Other VISUAL ARTS

60 YEARS OF THEATRE MAKING A selection of exhibits celebrating 60 years of 'fantastic' theatre-making in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire, until Sat 9 July, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

RAJINA PERERA: TRAVELLERS A series of paintings, sonic artworks and sculptures that animate ideas and issues of hybridity, ancestorship and futurity, until Sat 6 Aug, Eastside Projects, Birmingham

JOY STICKS Family-friendly sport and games-inspired exhibition, where visitors have to work with others to win the games, until Sat 27 August, Birmingham Open Media

PEOPLE, PLACE AND SPORT A collection of photographic portraits and recorded conversations with individuals who take part in everyday sports across the West Midlands, until Wed 31 Aug, Bournville Green, Birmingham Coach Station, Moseley Road Baths, St Pauls Square in the Jewellery Quarter, Haden Hill Leisure Centre, Hadley Stadium, Wednesbury Leisure Centre and West Bromwich Leisure Centre



HAFFENDI ANUAR; RUMAH BERKAKI (LEGGED HOUSE) Postcolonialism, architecture, ways of living and identity construction are among the subjects explored in the sculptures, paintings, installations and drawings of London and Kuala Lumpur-based Malaysian artist Haffendi, until Mon 29 Aug, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

CEREMONY: POP COMES TO CAMPUS Exploring and celebrating the contribution the University of Birmingham has made to local and international music culture. Featured items on display include posters, photographs and archive material, until Fri 28 Oct, Bramall Music Building, University of Birmingham



Collateral - KK Steel Mill, Wolverhampton

Gigs

BRIAN WILSON Fri 1 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

BON JOVI EXPERIENCE Fri 1 July, Dudley Town Hall

NIRVANA UK Fri 1 July, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

THE JIMI HENDRIX EXPERIENCE + BROKEN SOUND PARKWAY Fri 1 July, The Robin, Bilston

FLOYD IN THE FLESH Fri 1 July, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

STEVE HARLEY ACOUSTIC BAND Fri 1 July, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

THEO MIZU + BRAD HUNTER Fri 1 July, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

AVARUS + BLOODMOON Fri 1 July, Percy's Cafe Bar, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

ZACK KNIGHT Sat 2 July, O2 Institute, B'ham

THE GET UP KIDS Sat 2 July, O2 Academy, Birmingham

JP SAXE Sat 2 July, O2 Academy, Birmingham

SHAM 69 Sat 2 July, The Mill, Digbeth, Birmingham

THE CHRISTIANS + BLUEBYRD Sat 2 July, The Robin, Bilston

THE SPACEHOPPERS Sat 2 July, Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

ALEX OHM + BRYONY WILLIAMS + THE HUMDRUM EXPRESS + JACK CATTELL + THE JACK FLETCHER BAND + STAY LOOSE RECORDS (DJ SET) + BRAINS FOR BREAKFAST + THE

PAGANS S.O.H. + SMOKIN ESKIMO Sat 2 July, Newhampton Arts Centre, W'hampton

THE SMYTHS Sat 2 July, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

OLD TIME SAILORS Sat 2 July, Ludlow Brewery, South Shropshire

CALL OF THE KRAKEN Sat 2 July, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

THE 501'S + STAY VOICELESS + ORTARIO + DE'LOUR Sat 2 July, Percy's Cafe Bar, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

KID RAIN Sun 3 July, O2 Academy, B'ham

GWEN DICKEY Sun 3 July, Birmingham Town Hall

THE KAKATSITSI MASTER DRUMMERS Sun 3 July, Ludlow Brewery, South Shropshire

WHITE TYGER Sun 3 July, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

OLIVIA RODRIGO + BABY QUEEN Mon 4 July, O2 Academy, Birmingham

ROGER DALTRY Mon 4 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

HIGHLY SUSPECT + CALVA LOUISE Tues 5 July, O2 Institute, Birmingham

ADAM ANT + LAURIE BLACK Wed 6 July, Symphony Hall, B'ham

THE SIMON & GARFUNKEL STORY Wed 6 July, The Alexandra, Birmingham

JEREMY ZUCKER + SOPHIE CATES Thurs 7 July, O2 Institute, Birmingham

HAYSEED DIXIE Thurs 7 July, The Robin, Bilston

TONY HADLEY Thurs 7

July, Lichfield Cathedral

THE SOAP GIRLS Thurs 7 July, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

DECKERS SHANTY GROUP Thurs 7 July, Ludlow Brewery, South Shropshire

GABBA GABBA HEY! + BRUISED KNEES Thurs 7 July, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

THE BEACH BOYZ TRIBUTE SHOW Thurs 7 July, The Place, Telford

GIANT AND THE GEORGES Fri 8 July, Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

COLLATERAL Fri 8 July, KK Steel Mill, Wolverhampton

REMI HARRIS & TOM MOORE Fri 8 July, St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire

VOODOO SIOUX Fri 8 July, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

PEACH ST. + BRAD HUNTER + GREYSHA Fri 8 July, Percy's Cafe Bar, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

THIS IS THE POLICE Sat 9 July, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

ASHLEY PAUL + H.U.M.A.N + K-SYRAN Sat 9 July, Percy's Cafe Bar, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

THE CHRIS SLADE TIMELINE Sun 10 July, The Robin, Bilston

ELECTRIC SWING CIRCUS Sun 10 July, Ludlow Brewery, South Shropshire

ROSE ROYCE FEAT. GWEN DICKEY Sun 10 July, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

Classical Music

CBSO: STANFORD'S REQUIEM Featuring Martyn Brabbins (conductor), Carolyn Sampson (soprano), Marta Fontanal-Simpson (mezzo soprano), James Way (tenor), Ross Ramgobin (baritone) & University of Birmingham Voices, Sat 2 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

FRANÇOIS CLOETE ORGAN CONCERT Programme includes works by Elgar, JS Bach, Petr Eben & Widor, Sat 2 July, St Laurence Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire

BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY Featuring David Wynne (conductor), Louise Wayman (soprano), James Davies (baritone), Kevin Gill & Stephen Hargreaves (pianos). Programme includes works by Brahms & Finzi, Sat 2 July, Lichfield Cathedral

MEBRAKH HAUGHTON-JOHNSON CLARINET CONCERT Programme includes works by Jessie Montgomery, Brahms, Bernstein & Lovreglio, Thurs 7 July, Wade Street Church, Lichfield

BRODSKY QUARTET & DANNY DRIVER Programme includes works by Haydn, Beethoven & Dvorak, Thurs 7 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield



ELEANOR CORR VIOLIN CONCERT Programme includes works by Janacek, Vaughan Williams & Grieg, Fri 8 July, Wade St Church, Lichfield

DANNY DRIVER PIANO CONCERT Programme includes works by Fauré, Lili Boulanger, Franck, Ligeti & Schumann, Fri 8 July, St Michael's Church, Lichfield

HALESOWEN ORCHESTRA: A SPANISH SUMMER Programme includes works by Chabrier, Rimsky-Korsakov, Massenet & Rodrigo, Sat 9 July, Cornbow Hall, Halesowen

JUNYAN CHEN PIANO CONCERT Programme includes works by Beethoven & Liszt, Sat 9 July, Wade Street Church, Lichfield



SPERM IN ALIUM Featuring The Carice Singers, Pieces of Eight, Gentlemen of the Cathedral Choir plus Patrick Craig and George Parris

(conductors). Programme includes works by Thomas Hyde and Vaughan Williams, Sat 9 July, Lichfield Cathedral

SHEKU & ISATA KANNEH-MASON Programme includes works by Bridge, Britten, Khachaturian & Shostakovich, Sun 10 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

BEN GOLDSCHIEDER HORN AND THE GOLDFIELD ENSEMBLE Programme includes works by Vaughan Williams & Brahms, Sun 10 July, St Chad's Church, Lichfield

Comedy

BILL BAILEY, MIKE COX, SIMON LOMAS & WAYNE BEESE Fri 1 July, Walsall Arena & Arts Centre

ROB GEE Fri 1 July, Ludlow Methodist Church, South Shropshire

NICK HALL Fri 1 July, Ludlow Brewery, South Shropshire

LILY PHILLIPS, GAVIN WEBSTER, DAVE FULTON & ANUVAB PAL Fri 1 - Sat 2 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

BILL BAILEY, MIKE COX, SIMON LOMAS & WAYNE BEESE Sat 2 July, Brierley Hill Civic, Dudley

NICOLA HOUGHTON Sat 2 July, Rose and Crown, Ludlow, South Shropshire

LOUISE ATKINSON Sat 2 July, Rose and Crown, Ludlow, South Shropshire

GARY DELANEY Sun 3 July, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

ALFIE MOORE Tues 5 - Wed 6 July, Ludlow Brewery, South Shropshire

HAL CRUTTENDEN & BRENNAN REECE Thurs 7 July, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs

TOM HOUGHTON, PAUL SINHA, PATRICK DRAPER & BARRY DODDS Thurs 7 July, The George Hotel, Lichfield

DUNCAN OAKLEY, LOVELL SMITH, JAMES COOK & COMIC TBC Thurs 7 July, Stourbridge Town Hall

ROB NEWMAN Fri 8 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

NATHAN CATON, ANDREA HUBERT, THE NOISE NEXT DOOR, THANYIA MOORE & PHIL CARR Fri 8 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

MATT RICHARDSON, KATE MARTIN, STEPHEN BAILEY & ANDREW BIRD Fri 8 July, Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

NATHAN CATON, ANDREA HUBERT, THE NOISE NEXT DOOR & THANYIA MOORE Sat 9 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

MATT RICHARDSON, PETER BRUSH, NICK DOODY & DIANE SPENCER Sat 9 July, Rosies Nightclub, Birmingham

LEW FITZ Sat 9 July, Rose and Crown, Ludlow, South Shropshire



Waitress - Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

Theatre

PLAYBOY OF THE WEST INDIES Mustapha Matura's classic play has been transformed into a brand-new musical rooted in the Caribbean, until Sat 2 July, The Rep, Birmingham

WAITRESS Hit West End musical starring Chelsea Halfpenny as a waitress and expert pie-maker in search of happiness. Matt Willis also stars, until Sat 2 July, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

ROMEO & JULIET Stafford Festival Shakespeare returns with 'the world's greatest love story'. Archers actress Madeleine Leslay stars as Juliet opposite Tom Lane as Romeo. Gill Jordan (best known for playing the character of benefits-scrounging 'lazy cow' Doreen Tipton) takes on the role of Nurse, until Sat 9 July, Stafford Castle

TOM, DICK & HARRY Brand-new production telling the true story of prisoners held in Stalag Luft III and their cat-and-mouse engagements with their captors, until Sat 9 July, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

RICHARD III Gregory Doran directs Arthur Hughes in this climax to Shakespeare's first history cycle, until Sat 8 Oct, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK: THE CHARITY PANTOMIME In aid of Severn Hospice, Fri 1 - Sat 2 July, The Place, Telford

MATILDA THE MUSICAL JR StageScreen MTA students present an amateur staging of Dennis Kelly and Tim Minchin's hit musical, Sat 2 July, Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN The Crescent Theatre Company presents Oscar Wilde's social satire exploring sexual morality, gender politics and what constitutes a 'good woman', Sun 3 July, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

FOOTLOOSE THE MUSICAL Jake Quickenden stars alongside Darren Day in this foot-tapping musical based on the hit 1980s' movie, Mon 4 - Sat 9 July, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

WE WILL ROCK YOU Smash-hit musical by Queen & Ben Elton, Mon 4 - Sat 30 July, Birmingham Hippodrome

THE ADDAMS FAMILY Amateur staging presented by Sutton Coldfield Musical Theatre Company (SCMTC), Tues 5 - Sat 9 July, Lichfield Garrick

LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN The Crescent Theatre Company presents Oscar Wilde's social satire exploring sexual morality, gender politics and what constitutes a 'good woman', Wed 6 July, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

WHAT MYRA DID Powerful play exploring the paradoxical dark and humorous aspects of living in the grip of mental illness, Wed 6 July, The Women's Centre, Ludlow, South Shropshire

THE CHANGING ROOM Amateur production presented by Grand Arena Youth Theatre Seniors group, Wed 6 - Thurs 7 July, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

CELL OUTS A dark comedy written and performed by two ex-prison officers, Thurs 7 - Sat 9 July, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

GREASE Amateur staging performed by SAOS Youth Theatre, Thurs 7 - Sat 9 July, Stourbridge Town Hall

THE LITTLE MERMAID Amateur staging presented by Get Your Wigle On, Thurs 7 - Sat 9 July, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

WE ARE NOT SHELLFISH Sabotage Theatre present a provocative story of protest and rebellion, Sat 9 July, Fringe Central, Castle Square, Ludlow, South Shropshire

TIL THEY COME HOME Followspot Theatre Company present a verbatim theatre piece giving a voice to the women who lived through the war



the
brewhouse
arts centre & café bar



brewhouse 2022
on tour

Join us this summer holidays as we travel across East Staffordshire bringing live theatre and workshops to a location near you!

Saturday 30th July The Washlands, by Burton Library Burton upon Trent, DE14 1AH	Saturday 6th August Stapenhill Gardens, Stapenhill Burton upon Trent, DE15 0AX	Thursday 11th August Tutbury Mill Park, Tutbury, DE13 9LZ
Thursday 18th August Bramshill Road Park, Uttoxeter, ST14 7PF	Saturday 3rd September The Washlands, by Burton Library Burton upon Trent, DE14 1AH	

All sessions 10:30am - 3:30pm

f Brewhouse Arts Centre @Brewhousecentre @Brewhouseartscentre Brewhouse Arts

o: Brewhouse Arts Centre, Union Street, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 1AA
e: brewhousearts@eaststaffs.ac.gov.uk | box office: 01283 508 100
www.brewhouse.co.uk



Immerse yourself in the beauty in a **BRAND NEW** visitor attraction in Newport, Shropshire



SHROPSHIRE
PETAL FIELDS

Book now



This August, Shropshire Petal Fields will be open to the public for a very limited time, with exclusive access to stroll amongst an array of flowers.

shropshireflowerfield.co.uk



LICHFIELD FESTIVAL

40TH ANNIVERSARY

7TH - 17TH JULY 2022
www.lichfieldfestival.org | 01543 306271

years, Sat 9 July, Fringe Central, Castle Square, Ludlow, South Shropshire

A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN Rebecca Vaughan performs Virginia Woolf's 1928 exploration of the impact of poverty and sexual inequality, Sat 9 July, The Hub at St Marys, Lichfield

HAMLET: THE COMEDY Oddsocks present a unique take on Shakespeare's famous tragedy, Sat 9 - Sun 10 July, Midlands Arts Centre (MAC), Birmingham

THE BATTLE OF BOAT The tale of a group of courageous children trying to find their place in a world at war in 1916. Presented by Stage It! Performing Arts Academy Tweens and Seniors cast, Sun 10 July, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

PATIENCE Charles Court Opera present their staging of Gilbert & Sullivan's comic opera, Sun 10 July, The Hub at St Mary's Lichfield

Dance

MAILLES BY COMPAGNIE KADIDI Six female artists use their voices and bodies to tell a unique story of journey, commitment and strength, Fri 1 - Sat 2 July, Patrick Studio, Birmingham Hippodrome

BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL 2022 Weekend of free performances showcasing both local and international artists, Sat 2 - Sun 3 July, Handsworth Park, Birmingham

OTI: I AM HERE Expect mesmerising jives, pumping sambas and much, much more in what promises to be an 'explosive night of dance and music that will set your heart racing.' Sun 3 July, Birmingham Hippodrome

BALLET CYMRU: DREAM Innovative new full-length ballet based on Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, Fri 8 July, Lichfield Cathedral

ANTON & GIOVANNI Join 'the ballroom king' and the two-time Guinness world record holder as they're joined by a cast of 'world class' dancers and singers, Sat 9 July, The Alexandra, Birmingham

TELFORD ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS: POWER Students from the Oakengates and Childs Ercall academies perform a fusion of street dance, ballet, tap, musical theatre and much more... Sat 9 July, The Place, Telford

Light Entertainment

THE GREAT BRITISH SEASIDE SHOW A nostalgic trip down memory lane, based on the classic end-of-pier variety shows. Expect singing,

dancing, comedy, and a musical tribute to George Formby, Sun 3 July, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

GO GENTLE INTO THE LIGHT: AN EVENING WITH GUY CHAMBERS A night of solo piano, including many of Guy's hits, with insider stories and anecdotes to accompany them, Mon 4 July, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

RACE CHASER LIVE WITH ALASKA & WILLAM The award-winning podcast breaks out of the recording studio for an evening of 'unforgettable entertainment', Fri 8 July, The Alexandra, Birmingham

CABARET AT THE BREWERY See Ludlow's hottest burlesque, circus and drag acts do things you've never seen before - and may never see again, Fri 8 July, Ludlow Brewery, South Shropshire

Talks & Spoken Word

STORY BAZAAR: HENNA Gorg Chand & Peter Chand tell of an anxious bride having henna applied to her hands on the eve of her wedding. As the patterns emerge, ancient stories begin to unfold... Fri 1 July, The Arts Cafe, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

THE QUIET COMPERE Featuring a varied and diverse mix of poets. Line-up includes Casey Bailey, Aliyah Denton, Priyanka Joshi, Gerald Kells, Mogs & Alex Jakob-Whitworth, Fri 1 July, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

IN CONVERSATION WITH APARNA SEN AND KONKANA SEN SHARMA A rare talk by India's greatest and longest-standing female writer/director, known for her frank and honest views on women's experience, filmmaking in Bengal and other matters, Mon 4 July, The Bradshaw Hall, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire

POETRY JAM: LIVE! Featuring poets who are starting out, seasoned veterans, and everyone else with a story to tell, Thurs 7 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

MONOLOGUE SLAM Mawa Theatre Company present Shakespeare classics as you've never seen or heard them before, Sat 9 July, Birmingham Hippodrome

Events

CIRCUS ZYAIR A colourful and action-packed show with high-energy acts from all over the world, until Sun 3 July, Tamworth Castle Grounds

PEPPA PIG Meet Peppa as she dives into an adventure and makes friends with some of the ocean's most incredible animals, until Sun 3 July,



Steampunk Weekend - Blists Hill, Ironbridge

National SEA LIFE Centre B'ham

FREDDO'S FESTIVAL OF FUN The famous frog goes on a musical journey with his very own festival, until Sun 9 Oct, Cadbury World, Bournville, Birmingham



GUIDED TOUR OF SAREHOLE MILL Enjoy the sights and sounds of a traditional 18th-century water mill with the experienced guides, Fri 1 July plus Fri 8 - Sat 9 July, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

CAMPER JAM Family-friendly show for VW owners and fans, Fri 1 - Sun 3 July, Weston Park, Shropshire

EXPLORE SAREHOLE MILL Explore Sarehole Mill at your leisure without the need for a guided tour, Sat 2 July, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

MURDER MYSTERY EVENING Look at the evidence, follow the clues and interrogate the suspects in their cells, Sat 2 July, West Midlands Police Museum, Birmingham

MEDIAEVAL DAY AT WEOLEY CASTLE RUINS Learn what life was like in medieval Birmingham with re-enactors, battle displays, storytelling, guided tours, craft activities and much more, Sat 2 July, Weoley Castle, Birmingham

LARGE MODEL AIR SHOW Scale models of iconic aircraft take to the skies, Sat 2 - Sun 3 July, RAF Museum, Cosford

TAMWORTH SUMMER FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL Featuring a range of international street food from all over the world, artisan traders and a lot more, Sat 2 - Sun 3 July, Tamworth Castle Grounds

ORIGINS OF MIDDLE-EARTH: JRR TOLKIEN AND SAREHOLE GUIDED WALK A guided walk introducing the scenery that inspired JRR Tolkien when he lived near Sarehole Mill as a child, Sun 3 July, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

EXPLORE BLAKESLEY A chance to explore Blakesley Hall, a fine Tudor house and beautiful gardens built in 1590 by Richard Smalbroke, Wed 6 - Thurs 7 July plus Sat 9 - Sun 10 July, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

THE RUM TRAIN Unwind in first-class seating in a vintage carriage and sip a selection of tasty rums, Sat 9 July, Severn Valley Railway

STEAMPUNK WEEKEND Grab your goggles and top hat for a unique blend of sci-fi, engineering and Victoriana, Sat 9 - Sun 10 July, Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge

BRASS BAND FESTIVAL Watch some of the UK's best brass bands perform, Sat 9 - Sun 10 July, Coalbrookdale Museum of Iron, Ironbridge

BACK HOME Event focusing on the fascinating stories of life in the Black Country and surrounding region during the 1940s, Sat 9 - Sun 10 July, The Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

WESTON PARK MOTOR SHOW Featuring in excess of 500 vintage, classic and modern classic cars and motorcycles, Sun 10 July, Weston Park, Shropshire



Spooky Men's Chorale - Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

Gigs

NATIVE HARROW Tues 12 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield

NATIONAL JAZZ YOUTH ORCHESTRA: BASIE AND BEYOND Tues 12 July, The Close, Lichfield

HOLIDAY GHOSTS Wed 13 July, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

THE STRUTS Wed 13 July, O2 Institute, Birmingham

DENIM SOCKS + VIBRANT DUCKS + INDIECISIVE + OVERSIZE + BLEACH'D + INDEPENDANT Wed 13 July, The Robin, Bilston

AYANNA WITTER-JOHNSON Wed 13 July, Lichfield Cathedral

THE NATURE CENTRE Thurs 14 July, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

JON BODEN Thurs 14 July, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

STIFF LITTLE FINGERS Thurs 14 July, KK Steel Mill, Wolverhampton

THE LONGEST JOHNS Thurs 14 July, Lichfield Cathedral

PEGGY SEEGER & CALUM MACCOLL Thurs 14 July, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

GABBA GABBA HEY! Thurs 14 July, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

UNDER THE COVERS Fri 15 July, The Rhodehouse, Sutton Coldfield

TINA TURNER TRIBUTE Fri 15 July, Dudley Town Hall

ULTIMATE COLDPLAY Fri

15 July, The Robin, Bilston

EUREKA MACHINES Fri 15 July, KK Steel Mill, Wolverhampton

RAI KAH MERCURY Fri 15 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield

GLORY DAYS - TRIBUTE TO BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN Fri 15 July, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

THE SOUTH Fri 15 July, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

DOWNSHIFT Fri 15 July, Two Gates Club, Tamworth

MADNESS + THE ZUTONS + THE HOOSIERS Fri 15 July, The Quarry, Shrewsbury

BORN NEXT DOOR Fri 15 July, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

ETERNITY ROAD Fri 15 July, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

TINA LIVE Fri 15 July, The Place, Telford

HOMETOWN GLORY - ADELE TRIBUTE Fri 15 July, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

GRACE SOLERO + SWAMP CHICKEN Fri 15 July, Percy's Cafe Bar, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

THE PRODIGY Sat 16 July, O2 Academy, Birmingham



PARTY POPPERZ Sat 16

July, The Rhodehouse, Sutton Coldfield

ESSENTIAL 80S Sat 16 July, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

BON GIOVI Sat 16 July, The Robin, Bilston

JESSICA WALKER & JOSEPH ATKINS Sat 16 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield

SHIRLEY SMART TRIO Sat 16 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield

MARQUIS DRIVE + SEROTONES + THE PUBLICS + WINTERGREEN Sat 16 July, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

HI ON MAIDEN Sat 16 July, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

THE CHICAGO BLUES BROTHERS Sat 16 July, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

GOOD TO GO Sat 16 July, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

THE SPOOKY MEN'S CHORALE Sat 16 July, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

ASHEN REACH + WARLOCK A.D. Sat 16 July, Percy's Cafe Bar, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

MALAH PALINKA + TRADIN' FIVES Sun 17 July, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

THE KID LAROI + GLAIVE Sun 17 July, O2 Academy, Birmingham

JANE MCDONALD Sun 17 July, The Alexandra, Birmingham

XHOSA COLE Sun 17 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield

Classical Music

CATHY & BEN LAMB ORGAN RECITAL

Programme includes works by J.S. Bach, Mozart & Wesley, Mon 11 July, Lichfield Cathedral

RACHEL PODGER BAROQUE VIOLIN

Programme includes works by J.S. Bach, J.H. Roman & J.J. Vilsmaier, Mon 11 July, Lichfield Cathedral

THE ALKYONA QUARTET

Programme includes works by Mendelssohn & Beethoven, Mon 11 July, Swinfen Hall Hotel, Lichfield

JOE HOWSON PIANO CONCERT

Programme includes works by Ravel, Rachmaninov, Vine & Kapustin, Wed 13 July, Wade Street Church, Lichfield

THE ARMONICO CONSORT

Featuring Oz Clarke (narrator) and William Towers (counter tenor). Programme includes works by Purcell, Handel & Downland, Wed 13 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield



CBSO: SIMPLY SCHUBERT Featuring Edward Gardner (conductor), Thurs 14 July, Birmingham Town Hall

AARON AKUGBO TRUMPET CONCERT

Also featuring Zeynep Özsuca (piano). Programme includes works by Telemann, Sally Beamish, Enescu & Florence Price, Thurs 14 July, Wade Street Church, Lichfield

BROKEN BONES QUARTET

Programme includes works by Bartok, Humperdinck, Beethoven & Verdi, Sat 16 July, St Laurence Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire

TIM POSNER (CELLO) & JOSEPH HAVLAT (PIANO)

Programme includes works by Webern, Schumann & Dohnányi, Sat 16 July, Wade Street Church, Lichfield

BBC NATIONAL ORCHESTRA OF WALES

Programme includes works by Vaughan Williams, Britten & Schumann, Sat 16 July, Lichfield Cathedral

Comedy

CHRIS MCGLADE Wed 13 July, The Place, Telford

JOSH PUGH Thurs 14 July, Old Post Office, Shrewsbury

LOU CONRAN Thurs 14 July, Old Post

Office, Shrewsbury

EDDY BRIMSON Thurs 14 July, Old Post Office, Shrewsbury



ZOE LYONS Fri 15 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield

DAN NIGHTINGALE Fri 15 July, Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

TUDUR OWEN Fri 15 July, Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

ROB ROUSE Fri 15 July, Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

ANDREW RYAN Fri 15 July, Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

LATE & LIVELY Fri 15 & Sat 16 July, Havana Republic, Shrewsbury

PAUL THORNE, MIKE COX, JOHN HASTINGS & SUNIL PATEL Fri 15 - Sat 16 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

STEVE ROYLE, PAUL PIRIE, SAM AVERY & PETER RETHINASAMY Sat 16 July, Rosies Nightclub, Birmingham

ROGER MONKHOUSE, AARON SIMMONDS, TOM WRIGGLSWORTH & DAMIAN LARKIN Sat 16 July, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

JUSTIN MOORHOUSE Sat 16 July, The Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury

MIKE CAPOZZOLA Sat 16 July, The Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury

ALISTAIR BARRIE Sat 16 July, The Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury

DANNY MCLOUGHLIN Sat 16 July, The Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury

PAUL SINHA, SEANN WALSH, FLO & JOAN, GARY DELANEY, STEVE ROYLE & DAN NIGHTINGALE Sun 17 July, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

Theatre

AS YOU LIKE IT Outdoor staging by The Lord Chamberlain's Men, Mon 11 July, Lichfield Cathedral

MY THOUSAND YEAR OLD LAND (A SONG FOR BIH) A story of the search for truth, justice and hope through three generations of women, Mon 11 - Tues 12 July, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

CLUEDO Michelle Collins (EastEnders/Coronation Street) stars as Miss Scarlett in a new comedy-thriller based on the hit 1985 film, Clue, Mon 11 - Sat 16 July, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

DOROTHY PARKER TAKES A TRIP One-woman musical play about legendary writer Dorothy Parker's immense talent and complicated life, Tues 12

July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield

PRECIOUS EMILY The story of how South African Precious McKenzie overcame the odds to become a Commonwealth weightlifting champion - twice... Wed 13 July, Midlands Arts Centre (MAC), Birmingham

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS MYTS present an amateur staging of Kenneth Grahame's much-loved riverside tale, Wed 13 - Sat 16 July, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

BEYOND THE GARDEN An intimate new chamber opera inspired by the relationship between composer and muse Alma Mahler and her daughter, Thurs 14 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield

WALKING TO JERUSALEM Theatre and stand-up combine as virtuoso storyteller Justin Butcher traces the perils, pratfalls and marvels of the path to Jerusalem, Fri 15 July, Lichfield Guildhall

THE LITTLE MERMAID JNR Amateur production presented by Performing Stars Academy, Fri 15 - Sat 16 July, Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS Paperback Theatre presents its version of Kenneth Grahame's riverside tale, Sat 16 July, Lichfield Cathedral School Gardens

ROMEO & JULIET Chapterhouse Theatre present an outdoor staging of the world's most famous love story, Sat 16 July, Erdigg Hall, Wrexham

Dance

JAIVANT PATEL DANCE An evening of kathak dance with live Indian music, Mon 11 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield



BURN THE FLOOR Fusion of Latin & ballroom dance performances featuring Strictly favourites Aljaž Škorjanec, Kevin Clifton, Janette Manrara, Karen Hauer, Dianne Buswell, Joanne Clifton, Luba Mushtuk, Kai Widdrington and Robin Windsor, Tues 12 - Wed 13 July, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

RHYTHM OF THE DANCE Journey through the history of Irish dance and music with 22 award-winning world &

Irish dance champions, Sat 16 July, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

Light Entertainment

CONFETTI Will Jackson's queer rom-com follows wedding planner Felix as he embarks on a romance of his own... Thurs 14 July, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

SHELL SUIT CHER: BELIEVE IN BINGO Be amazed as Shell Suit Cher (aka Tracey Collins) unzips the story of her wild journey from Vegas to Mecca and beyond, Fri 15 July, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

ROB BRYDON: A NIGHT OF SONGS & LAUGHTER Sat 16 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham



BINGO AT TIFFANYS Bingo games, raucous singalongs and glamorous dancing as Audrey Heartburn (aka Tracey Collins) spins her cage of bingo balls and shakes her maracas to a marvellous party soundtrack, Sat 16 July, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

Talks & Spoken Word

BARE ESSENTIALS POETRY EVENT A minimalist spoken-word experience featuring established and emerging artists, Thurs 14 July, The Arts Cafe, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

JUMPROV! The UK's first Black and Brown Improv group, featuring live sketch comedy made up on the spot, Sat 16 July, Patrick Studio, Birmingham Hippodrome

Events

EXPLORE BLAKESLEY A chance to explore Blakesley Hall, a fine Tudor house and beautiful gardens built in



Cluedo

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Mon 11 - Sat 16 July

This new stage play is based on the famous detective board game of the same name, and the hit 1985 movie, Clue. Featuring all of the game's famous characters - Miss Scarlett, Professor Plum, Mrs Peacock, Reverend Green, Mrs White and Colonel Mustard - the show is being helmed by Mark Bell, director of the award-winning The Play That Goes Wrong and A Comedy About A Bank Robbery. Coronation Street and EastEnders favourite Michelle Collins stars as Miss Scarlett.

1590 by Richard Smalbroke, Wed 13 - Sun 17 July, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

GUIDED TOUR OF SAREHOLE MILL Enjoy the sights and sounds of a traditional 18th-century water mill with the experienced guides, Fri 15 - Sat 16 July, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

BURGER FEST Celebrating some of Birmingham's best-loved burger traders, as well as a handful of out-of-town favourites, Sat 16 July, Aston Hall, Birmingham

PAINT THE DAY Can you capture a scene in just one day? Sat 16 July, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

SKETCHING ON THE SVR - FOUNDRY ARTISTS WORKSHOPS Bewdley-based Foundry Artists host relaxed two-hour

sessions to help you create fantastic works to remember your visit, Sat 16 July, Severn Valley Railway, Bewdley, Nr Kidderminster

BLACK COUNTRY WEEKENDER A huge weekend of live music and entertainment, Sat 16 - Sun 17 July, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley

VICTORIAN ANIMAL TRAILS Trail, talks & activities, across all of the museums, which focus on Ironbridge's many connections with animals - from cats to elephants! Sat 16 July - Sun 4 September, Ironbridge Gorge Museums, Shropshire

FARMARAMA Navigate the maize maze, enjoy live shows, join the foam party and much, much more, Sat 16 July - Mon 5 September, National Forest Adventure Farm, Staffordshire



Farmarama - National Forest Adventure Farm



Rob Lamberti - Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

Gigs

DAN WHITEHOUSE Wed 20 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham



CLOSE TO YOU - THE CARPENTERS TRIBUTE Thurs 21 July, Brierley Hill Civic, Dudley

EUROPHORIA Thurs 21 July, Dudley Town Hall

TOTALLY TINA Thurs 21 July, The Robin, Bilston

BAD SKIN + WARNING SIGNAL Thurs 21 July, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

MYSTIEK + THE MOJO CITY REBELS + SLIM & BLADE + THE UNRESOLVED + ECLIPSE Fri 22 July, O2 Academy, Birmingham

MARC VALENTINE + CONTINENTAL LOVERS Fri 22 July, The Asylum, Birmingham

NEBULA + THE ATOMIC BITCHWAX Fri 22 July, The Asylum, Birmingham

WILKO JOHNSON + JOHN OTWAY Fri 22 July, Birmingham Town Hall

DEVOTED TO ROCK Fri 22 July, The Rhodehouse, Sutton Coldfield

DON'T STOP -

FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE Fri 22 July, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

G2 DEFINITIVE GENESIS Fri 22 July, The Robin, Bilston

MYKESTOCK + ASHEN REACH Fri 22 July, KK Steel Mill, Wolverhampton

STRICTLY UB40 Fri 22 July, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

SURFIN LLAMAS BAND Fri 22 July, Two Gates Club, Tamworth

WINGWALKERS Fri 22 July, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

STONE JETS Fri 22 July, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury



SLACKRR + ALIENSDONTRINGDOORBELLS + JP RILEY Fri 22 July, Percy's Cafe Bar, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

BLUES CLUB Sat 23 July, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

JOSHUA LEE TURNER & ALLISON YOUNG Sat 23 July, O2 Institute, Birmingham

THE SOUTHMARTINS + CITYLIGHTZ Sat 23 July, O2 Academy, Birmingham

JAMAICA 60TH CULTURAL EXTRAVAGANZA Sat 23 July, Birmingham Town Hall

ABSOLUTE Sat 23 July, The Rhodehouse, Sutton Coldfield

ICONIC 80S VS 90S Sat 23 July, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

FLEETWOOD BAC Sat 23 July, The Robin, Bilston

DENNIS ROLLINS' FUNKY-FUNK! + LAURA JURD & DINOSAUR + SARA DOWLING + HOWL QUARTET Sat 23 July, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

PARAMORE GB Sat 23 July, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

FOOFIGHTERS GB Sat 23 July, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

EGO FRIENDLY Sat 23 July, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

DAVE BUSBY Sat 23 July, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

FIVE O FIVES + HOLLOWAYS + NAMSAKÉ Sun 24 July, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

ROCKETMAX + CLIFF AND THE SHADZ - ELTON JOHN + THE SHADOWS TRIBUTES Sun 24 July, The Robin, Bilston

ROB LAMBERTI - THE SONGS OF GEORGE MICHAEL Sun 24 July, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

Classical Music

CBSO SO VOCAL 10 YEAR CELEBRATION Early evening summer concert, Sun 17 July, Birmingham Town Hall

TRIO MAZZOLINI Programme includes works by Haydn, Amy Beach & Schoenberg, Sun 17 July, The Hub at St Mary's, Lichfield

STEVEN ISSERLIS CELLO CONCERT Programme includes works by Moscheles & Beethoven, Sun 17 July, Lichfield Cathedral

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC CONCERT ORCHESTRA: MUSIC FROM THE MOVIES Featuring Russell Watson & The Overtones, Sat 23 July, Tamworth Castle

CBSO: KAZUKI YAMADA CONDUCTS RACHMANINOV SYMPHONY NO.2 Featuring Elena Urioste (violin) & Ben Goldscheider (horn). Programme includes works by Glinka, Smyth & Rachmaninov, Sun 24 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

Comedy

MARK WATSON Thurs 21 July, The Place, Telford

JASON JOHN WHITEHEAD, DANNY MCLOUGHLIN, MICHAEL FABBRI, GBEMI OLADIPO & COMIC TBC Fri 22 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

JASON JOHN WHITEHEAD, DANNY MCLOUGHLIN, MICHAEL FABBRI & COMIC TBC Sat 23 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

Theatre

SIT WITH ME One-woman show, written & performed by Amber Gollay. Part of Birmingham Fest 2022, Mon 18 - Wed 20 July, Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING Folksy Theatre's outdoor staging of Shakespeare's tale of love, deception and misunderstanding, Tues 19 July, Martineau Gardens, Edgbaston, Birmingham

POPSTARS THE 90S MUSICAL It's boyband vs girlband in this brand-new musical packed with pop smash-hits from the 1990s, Tues 19 - Wed 20 July, Birmingham Hippodrome

SOME MOTHERS DO 'AVE 'EM Joe Pasquale stars as Frank Spencer opposite Sarah Earnshaw as his long-suffering wife, Betty, Tues 19 - Sat 23 July, The Alexandra, Birmingham

MY FRIEND, MISS FLINT The Lichfield Players present an amateur staging of Donald Churchill & Peter Yeldham's 'very British comedy', Tues 19 - Sat 23 July, Lichfield Garrick

ROBIN HOOD: COMMUNITY MUSICAL Follow the famous archer's journey from disgraced nobleman to charming thief to leader of a rebel group, in a production brought to life by the Garrick's community musical cast, Tues 19 - Sat 23 July, Lichfield Garrick

PARKY PLAYERS: SHAKE IT UP No-holds-barred comedy about the experience of living with Parkinson's. Part of Birmingham Fest 2022, Wed 20 July, Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

FASHION SPIES Devil Wears Prada meets Spy Kids in this surreal choose-your-own-adventure comedy from Quick Duck Theatre, Thurs 21 July, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham



ALICE IN WONDERLAND Folksy Theatre venture down the rabbit hole with an outdoor staging of Lewis Carroll's much-loved tale, Thurs 21 July, Whittington Castle, Shropshire

SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD Amateur staging of Jason Robert Brown's musical, which examines life, love and the choices we make, Thurs 21 - Fri 22 July, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

BLOOD SWEAT AND VAGINAS Edinburgh Festival preview staged as part of Birmingham Festival 2022, Thurs 21 - Fri 22 July, Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING Folksy Theatre's outdoor staging of Shakespeare's tale of love, deception and misunderstanding, Thurs 21 - Fri 22 July, Wightwick Manor Gardens, Wolverhampton

FOUR 2 JUMP Two Jens & Me presents a new black comedy looking at suicide, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 July, Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

THE SILENT TREATMENT An 'intimate, funny and uplifting new solo show' combining storytelling, physical theatre and song to explore how the body remembers what the mind forgets, Fri 22 July, The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

SONGS FROM THE MOVIES Performed by Starcross Youth Theatre, Fri 22 - Sat 23 July, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

SARAH & DUCK'S BIG TOP Join Sarah and her best friend, Duck, as they plan the ultimate circus soiree to help Scarf Lady celebrate her birthday, Sat

23 July, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

RAPUNZEL Immersion Theatre present a musical version of the classic fairytale, Sat 23 July, Alderford Lake, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

ALICE IN WONDERLAND Folksy Theatre venture down the rabbit hole with an outdoor staging of Lewis Carroll's much-loved tale, Sat 23 July, Wightwick Manor Gardens, Wolverhampton

MUCH ADO ABOUT MURDER Heartbreak Productions present an original murder-mystery in which five suspects are put under the spotlight... Sat 23 July, Castle Bromwich Gardens, Birmingham

9 TO 5 THE MUSICAL Amateur staging presented by Curtain Call Theatre Company, Sat 23 - Sun 24 July, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

CONFESSIONS Series of monologues and duologues created by members of the Gatehouse Youth Theatre, Sat 23 - Sun 24 July, Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

OLIVER SAMUELS IN GUILTY WITH EXPLANATION Thought-provoking comedy starring 'Jamaica's king of comedy', Sun 24 July, The Alexandra, Birmingham

BEHIND THE HEADLINES Topical panel show in which Have I Got News For You meets Saturday Night Live... Part of Birmingham Fest 2022, Sun 24 July, Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

INDIA GATE The Questors Theatre & Punjabi Theatre Academy present a new play depicting India's fight for freedom and independence from the British Raj, Sun 24 July, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

Dance

MASQUERADE Dance extravaganza presented by Footlights Dance School, Thurs 21 - Fri 22 July, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

BURN THE FLOOR Fusion of Latin & ballroom dance performances featuring Strictly favourites Aljaž Škorjanec, Kevin Clifton, Janette Manrara, Karen Hauer, Dianne Buswell, Joanne Clifton, Luba Mushtuk, Kai Widdrington and Robin Windsor, Fri 22 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

HERE COME THE BOYS High-octane celebration of dance, featuring Graziano di Prima, Nadiya Bychkova, Pasha Kovalev, Nikita Kuzmin and Strictly finalist Karim Zeroual, Sat 23 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

EUPHORIA 7 Academy of Performing Arts present a showcase of dance and musical theatre performances, Sun 24 July, The Place, Telford

Talks/Spoken Word

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SERIAL KILLERS Join Jennifer Rees as she gives a new insight into the phenomenon of serial homicide, Fri 22 July, The Place, Telford

Events

LUKE JERRAM: CROSSINGS Row out onto the lake whilst listening to incredible stories from around the world in this new sound-installation artwork, Tues 19 July - Sun 4 Sept, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

AN EVENING WITH DAVE'S ANGELS PSYCHIC MEDIUM Wed 20 July, Horsehay Golf Club, Telford

EXPLORE BLAKESLEY A chance to explore Blakesley Hall, a fine Tudor house and beautiful gardens built in 1590 by Richard Smalbroke, Wed 20 - Sun 24 July, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

GUIDED TOUR OF SAREHOLE MILL Enjoy the sights and sounds of a traditional 18th-century water mill with the experienced guides, Fri 22 - Sat 23 July, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

THE BEACH AT YOUR CATHEDRAL Visit a beach 100 miles from the sea that comes complete with a programme of events for all the family, Fri 22 July - Wed 31 August, Lichfield Cathedral

LET'S PLAY AT ATTINGHAM Experience Attingham's Pavilion of Play, created by Wild Rumpus, and its surrounding 30m diameter straw bale fort, Fri 22 July - Sun 4 Sept, Attingham Park, Shropshire

JQ FESTIVAL Featuring a music festival in St Paul's Square, crafts market in the Golden Square and live theatre in Wartsone Lane Cemetery. Plus tours, live maker demos and acoustic music, Sat 23 July, Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

THE GIN TRAIN Unwind in first-class seating in a vintage carriage with a gin & tonic in hand, Sat 23 July, Severn Valley Railway, Bewdley, Nr Kidderminster

CLIMBING AT YOUR CATHEDRAL Try your hand at scaling an 8m-high climbing wall at the cathedral and get a whole new perspective on the great west front, Sat 23 July, Lichfield Cathedral

COSFORD FOOD FESTIVAL Featuring artisan food stalls and street food & drink, Sat 23 - Sun 24 July, RAF Museum, Cosford

PIRATES AND PRINCESSES WEEK Join Hapless Jim the Pirate and Princess Pearl for daily shows, Sat 23 - Sun 31 July, Park Hall Farm, Shropshire

COME OUT AND PLAY AT COMER WOODS Pay a school summer holiday visit to



Here Come The Boys - Symphony Hall, Birmingham

Comer Woods and join in with outdoor games & activities, Sat 23 July - Sun 4 Sept, Comer Woods, Heath Meadow, Shropshire

ORIGINS OF MIDDLE-EARTH: JRR TOLKIEN AND SAREHOLE GUIDED WALK A guided walk introducing the scenery that inspired JRR Tolkien

when he lived near Sarehole Mill as a child, Sun 24 July, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

GET ARTY TRAIL Take a trip around the grounds of Dudmaston Hall, sketching various things in nature, Sun 24 - Thurs 28 July, Dudmaston Estate, Shropshire

festival at the edge

15-17 July 2022

Hopton Court, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster DY14 0EF

Join us for superb storytelling, music, workshops, and much more, in beautiful South Shropshire

Artists appearing include:
BouZatina, Jim Causley, Peter Chand, Kate Corkery, Maria Credali, Keith Donnelly, Pauline Down, Nick Hart, Andy Harrop Smith, Michael Harvey, Cath Little, Hugh Lupton, Jack Lynch, Sarah McQuaid, Jumana Moon, Jess Morgan, Abdullah Mufta, Rachel Murray, Belinda O'Hooley, Panic Family Circus, Gauri Raje, Raphael Rodan, Erik Sjöholm, Dovie Thomason, Liz Weir, with more to be announced.

Weekend and day tickets available, please see our website for details.

taking storytelling to the edge

"Amazing music, wonderful activities, excellent!"

"Lovely atmosphere, beautiful landscape."

"Great festival... there's nothing quite like it!"

For more information:
email: info@festivalattheedge.org
www.festivalattheedge.org
tel: 07544 044 126

supported using lottery funding by



Joe Jackson - Symphony Hall, Birmingham

Gigs

JESSE ROYAL Mon 25 July, Castle & Falcon, Birmingham

JOHN CALE Mon 25 July, Birmingham Town Hall

THE DICKIES + YEAR ZERO + PURE GOLD BABIES Mon 25 July, The Robin, Bilston

JACOB DERSLEY Tues 26 July, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

JOHN O'BRIEN EXPERIENCE + HELLO AMNESIA Tues 26 July, Hare & Hounds, B'ham

ROSE TATTOO + THE POOR Tues 26 July, O2 Institute, Birmingham

GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS Tues 26 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

GILBERT O'SULLIVAN Tues 26 July, Walsall Arena & Arts Centre

B.D. LENZ TRIO + JORDAN SWANN TRIO Tues 26 July, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffordshire

THE SIMON AND GARFUNKEL STORY Sun 27 July, W'hampton Grand Theatre

THE MEN THEY COULDN'T HANG Thurs 28 July, Hare & Hounds, B'ham

R JOHN WEBB + BIG SPECIAL Thurs 28 July, Hare & Hounds, B'ham

GRAHAM BONNET BAND

Fri 22 July, KK Steel Mill, Wolverhampton

THE DESTROYERS + ABI BUDGEN + YAWAAN Fri 29 July, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

THE MAIN EVENT Fri 29 July, O2 Academy, Birmingham

FRED ZEPPELIN Fri 29 July, The Rhodehouse, Sutton Coldfield

THE SOUNDS OF BILLY FURY & CLIFF RICHARD Fri 29 July, Brierley Hill Civic, Dudley

DEFINITELY MIGHT + ADORED - OASIS + STONE ROSES TRIBUTES Fri 29 July, The River Rooms, Stourbridge

LIMEHOUSE LIZZY + STEVIE JONES & THE WILDFIRES Fri 29 July, The Robin, Bilston

DANBERT NOBACON & KIRA WOOD + THE HUMDRUM EXPRESS Fri 29 July, Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

MUSIK MASCHINE + SONGS OF FAITH AND DEVOTION - KRAFTWERK + DEPECHE MODE TRIBUTES Fri 29 July, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

CALL OF THE KRACKEN Fri 29 July, Albert's Shed, Southwater, Telford

KILLER RHAPSODY - A NIGHT OF QUEEN Fri 29 July, Theatre On The Steps, Bridgnorth

TIGER SEX + THE

CHIMPS Fri 29 July, Percy's Cafe Bar, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

BLUES CLUB Sat 30 July, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

DANNY WRIGHT Sat 30 July, Castle & Falcon, Birmingham

JOE JACKSON Sat 30 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

CALLING PLANET EARTH Sat 30 July, Walsall Arena & Arts Centre

MAETLIVE + THE NEVER NEVERLAND EXPRESS Sat 30 July, The Robin, Bilston

RAMMLIED - RAMMSTEIN TRIBUTE Sat 30 July, Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent

THE MUSIC OF BUDDY HOLLY & THE CRICKETS Sat 30 July, Lichfield Garrick

THE ORIGINAL WANTED Sat 30 July, Albert's Shed, Shrewsbury

LAURA ASTON & THE LA BAND Sun 31 July, Hare & Hounds, B'ham

THE DOLLY SHOW Sun 31 July, The Robin, Bilston

DAN FRIEDMAN Sun 31 July, Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

ASFIXIA SOCIAL Sun 31 July, Percy's Cafe Bar, Whitchurch, North Shropshire

Comedy

FRANKIE ALLEN, JAMES KILVINGTON & WILL CRANNY Thurs 28 July, Brierley Hill Civic, Dudley

DAN NIGHTINGALE Thurs 28 July, Station Pub, Sutton Coldfield

SARAH MILLIGAN Thurs 28 - Sat 30 July, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

JOHN LYNN, JASON PATTERSON, NINIA BENJAMIN, CAREY MARX & JACOB NUSSEY Fri 29 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

MARK THOMAS Fri 29 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

JOHN LYNN, JASON PATTERSON, NINIA BENJAMIN & CAREY MARX Sat 30 July, The Glee Club, Birmingham

Theatre

WHEATON'S LAW A story of family, technology, and trying to find human connection in a virtual world, Mon 25 - Wed 27 July, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

THE GUNPOWDER PLOT The Three Inch Fools promise an 'explosive' evening of short fuses and tall tales, as five actors try to pull off the most infamous conspiracy in history, Tues 26 July, Shrewsbury Castle

EDEN Greg Stewart's new psychological thriller, revolving around the meeting of a self-help guru and an unassuming recruit at a weekend retreat, Tues 26 - Wed 27 July, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

OPHELIA Nereids Theatre Company presents a play about fate, female friendship and female triumph. Performed as part of Birmingham Fest, Tues 26 - Wed 27 July, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

JANE EYRE Heartbreak Productions' adaptation of Charlotte Bronte's classic novel follows the Victorian heroine as she battles her many ordeals, aided by 'astounding acrobats and jaw-dropping jugglers', Wed 27 July, Silvester Horne Institute, Church Stretton, Shrewsbury

ZENDAYA Action-packed children's adventure where 'a child born new to mankind' uses her superhero powers to save the natives of the tropical Jungle Mongabay, Wed 27 - Thurs 28 July, Old Rep, Birmingham

SOME MOTHERS DO 'AVE 'EM Joe Pasquale stars as Frank Spencer opposite Sarah Earnshaw as his long-suffering wife, Betty, Tues 26 - Sat 30 July, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

BUGSY MALONE Brand-new production of Lyric Hammersmith Theatre's acclaimed revival of Alan Parker's hit musical, Wed 27 July - Sun 14 Aug, The Rep, Birmingham

THE CAPER TRAIL A fast-paced farce developed especially for Birmingham Fest 2022, Thurs 28 July, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

ANTONY & CLEOPATRA UNTO DEATH Alternative Shakespeare writing presented by the award-winning Inamoment theatre, Thurs 28 - Sat 30 July, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

TAKING UP SPACE The Empathy Club presents an intimate piece of new writing exploring themes of sexuality, queer privilege, cultural expectation, and loneliness. Performed as part of Birmingham Fest, Fri 29 - Sat 30 July, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

ADDAMS FAMILY THE MUSICAL Amateur staging presented by Seasons Theatre Company, Fri 29 - Sat 30 July, Prince of Wales Centre, Cannock

THE CAPER TRAIL A fast-paced farce developed especially for Birmingham Fest 2022, Sat 30 July, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

AMAECCHI A queer-led performance celebrating sport, teamwork, collaboration, difference and the human spirit, Sat 30 - Sun 31 July, 3x3 Practice Court, Smithfield, Birmingham

VILLAGE WOING George Bernard Shaw's anti-romantic battle of the sexes, Sat 30 - Sun 31 July, Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

HOUSEWIVES ON HOLIDAY Holiday heaven and hell collide in this new production from the team behind Hormonal Housewives and Girls Just Wanna Have Fun, Sun 31 July, The Place, Telford

BEHIND THE HEADLINES Topical panel show in which Have I Got News For You meets Saturday Night Live... Part of Birmingham Fest 2022, Sun 31 July, Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

For kids

PEPPA PIG: MY FIRST CONCERT Interactive introduction to a live orchestra for children aged 18 months and older, Thurs 28 - Fri 29 July, Birmingham Town Hall

THE QUEEN'S KNICKERS A regal children's musical featuring songs, silliness... and a corgi or two! Sat 30 July, The Place, Telford

RAPUNZEL Immersion Theatre present a musical version of the classic fairytale, Sun 31 July, Dudmaston Hall, Nr Bridgnorth, South Shropshire

Dance

RHYTHM OF THE DANCE Journey through the history of Irish dance and music with 22 award-winning world &

Irish dance champions, Fri 29 July, Lichfield Garrick

Talks & Spoken Word

AN EVENING WITH DAVID SEDARIS One of America's pre-eminent humour writers, David Sedaris is well known for his sardonic wit and incisive social critiques. He also has a number of bestsellers under his belt, including his latest offering - a collection of essays titled *Calypso*, Mon 25 July, Symphony Hall, Birmingham



Events

EXPLORE BLAKESLEY A chance to explore Blakesley Hall, a fine Tudor house and beautiful gardens built in 1590 by Richard Smalbroke, Wed 27 - Sun 31 July, Blakesley Hall, B'ham

PIRATE DAY Learn all about the jobs and tasks on board a pirate ship. There's even a chance to walk the plank, Thurs 28 July, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

EXHIBITION TOUR: FOUND CITIES, LOST OBJECTS: WOMEN IN THE CITY Join Exhibitions Team Leader Katie Morton and explore key artworks from both the Arts Council Collection and Birmingham's own collection, Thurs 28 July, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

ASTON BIOBLITZ Explore Aston Hall's beautiful gardens and the wider park, recording the plants, animals, and insects you find there, Fri 29 July, Aston Hall, Birmingham

JOURNEY UNDERGROUND: FESTIVAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY Discover what lies beneath the 750-year-old ruins of the castle, Fri 29 July, Weoley Castle, Birmingham

GUIDED TOUR OF SAREHOLE MILL Enjoy



The Queen's Knickers - The Place, Telford

the sights and sounds of a traditional 18th-century water mill with the experienced guides, Fri 29 - Sat 30 July, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

CLIMBING AT YOUR CATHEDRAL Try your hand at scaling an 8m-high climbing wall at the cathedral and get a whole

new perspective on the great west front, Sat 30 July, Lichfield Cathedral

VICTORIAN SPORTS WEEKEND A weekend of fun Victorian sports, including tug-of-war and egg & spoon races, Sat 30 - Sun 31 July, Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge

Judy Collins
Show of Hands
Carlos Núñez
The Unthanks
Blackie & the Rodeo Kings
Skerryvore
The Breath

see website for full line up

tickets on sale now

www.shrewsburyfolkfestival.co.uk



Ceilidhs
Morris Teams
Workshops

SHREWSBURY
FOLK
FESTIVAL

26-27-28-29 AUG 2022

P@ndemonium!
Children's Festival

refolkus
for 11-20 year olds

- Camping & Glamping
- Craft Fair
- Singarounds & Sessions
- Real Ale and Cocktail Bars
- Food Village

THE BUTTERMARKET

SHREWSBURY

SHROPSHIRE'S

AUTUMN /
WINTER 2022

A SUPERSONIC SHOW OF
THE VERY BEST OASIS ANTHEMS

noasis

FRI 2 SEPTEMBER
"THE DEFINITIVE OASIS TRIBUTE BAND"

BOOTLEG

Blondie

'Good luck
with your
show'
DEBBIE
HARRY

The only
Blondie
tribute
to play
CBBB NYC

FRI 9 SEPT

STARRING:
JOHNNY WARMAN'S MAGIC BUS BAND

The TOTAL who SHOW

SAT 10 SEPTEMBER

THE
TRUTH
TOUR



THURS 15 SEPTEMBER

JOHN FURY

Stereosonics

a Tribute to Stereophonics

SUPPORT:
THE BARTELLS



FRI 16 SEPTEMBER

OCTOBERFEST

BONGOO'S BINGO SPECIAL



SAT 17 SEPTEMBER FRI 30 SEPTEMBER

Spiritual Psychic Night



An audience with
Marilyn & Tia
"THE THREE WISHES" FROM HEREFORD
Thursday 22 September at 7.30pm



sex PISTOLS expose

THE WORLD'S No.1
SEX PISTOLS
TRIBUTE

FRI 23 SEPTEMBER

SAT 24 SEPTEMBER

ROB LAMBERT!

A CELEBRATION OF THE SONGS & MUSIC OF
GEORGE MICHAEL

★★★★
"BETTER THAN
NETFLIX"

★★★★★
"REAL LIFE
EXPERT"

THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

HUNTING KILLERS

WITH MARK WILLIAMS & THOMAS



wrest

PLUS SUPPORT



"the hotly-tipped
Scottish indie rock band"

SAT 1 OCTOBER

MACGILLIVRAY PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS A 2 HOUR FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT SPECTACULAR

WRESTLING



SUN 3 OCTOBER
BRAND NEW SHOW FOR 2022
THE #1 LIVE EXPERIENCE FOR FAMILIES!

LE FREAK - EVERYBODY DANCE - GOOD TIMES
I WANT YOUR LOVE - DANCE DANCE DANCE



SAT 8 OCTOBER

CHIC TO CHIC

A Tribute to Nile Rodgers and Chic

HTA PROMOTIONS PRESENTS

FRANKIE ALLEN.

THE UK'S MOST FEARED COMEDIAN

FRI 14TH OCTOBER

SHREWSBURY



★★★★★

SING THEM MUSICALS

THE LIVE BAND SING-ALONG SPECTACULAR!

FRI 21 OCTOBER

BIGGEST LIVE MUSIC & EVENTS VENUE

Howard Street, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY1 2LF (2 MINS FROM THE TRAIN STATION)

BOOK: www.thebuttermarket.co.uk



TAKE THAT

"You guys were great!"
DENISE VAN OUTEN

"BRILLIANT!
- He sounds like me -
're very good these boys"
GARY BARLOW

SAT 22 OCTOBER

THE AWARD WINNING OFFICIAL NO.1 TAKE THAT TRIBUTE BAND

RULE THE WORLD

FRI 28 OCTOBER

THE WORLD'S PREMIER TRIBUTE TO BON JOVI

BON JOVI

MEAT LOAF'S
GREATEST HITS TOUR!

FEATURED ON TV

Meat Live

& THE NEVER NEVERLAND EXPRESS

PERFORMED BY EUROPE'S NUMBER 1
MEAT LOAF TRIBUTE BAND

FRI 11 NOVEMBER

FLEETWOOD MAC

THE FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE SHOW

FRI 18 NOVEMBER

RÉVIVAL

ABBA TRIBUTE BAND

THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER

Vicky Jackson
& HER FULL LIVE BAND!

P!NK

"OUTSTANDING"
★★★★★

FRI 25 NOVEMBER

MASSAOKE CHRISTMAS

SAT 3 DECEMBER

LIVE BAND • GIANT SING-ALONG LYRICS
THE GREATEST SMASH HITS OF ALL TIME

THE ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS OFFICE PARTY!

BONGOS BONGO Christmas

SHREWSBURY

WEEK COMMENCING 12 DEC-17 DEC
PARTY BOOKINGS OF 20+ NOW BEING TAKEN!

THURS 22 DECEMBER

FLASH

FLASH: A TRIBUTE TO QUEEN

THE WORLD'S MOST AUTHENTIC LIVE QUEEN TRIBUTE BAND

EXPERIENCE THE WORLD'S #1 TRIBUTE SHOW

★★★★★ ARENDALS TIDENDE, NORWAY

★★★★★ FINANCIAL EXPRESS, INDIA

★★★★★ BROADWAY BABY

★★★★★ THIS IS LONDON

★★★★★ WHATSONSTAGE

FAULTY TOWERS

Original the Dining Experience

EXTRA PERFORMANCES ADDED!

it Interactive Theatre

THURS 8 DECEMBER
FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER
SAT 10 DECEMBER

THE WEST END ARRIVES IN SHREWSBURY!

...including a 3 course Christmas dinner.
Only a £10 deposit required to confirm your seat!

EnJOY the SIMPLE things
at *your cathedral*



Visit a beach 100 miles from the sea



**LICHFIELD
CATHEDRAL
RE•SOURCE**
Recovering together

22 July - 31 August
Friends, family, toes in the sand!
www.lichfield-cathedral.org/beach

Kindly supported by

Lichfield
district council

**Lichfield
BID**
LET'S MOVE FORWARD

Sponsor

**FRIEL
HOMES**