# THE MIDLANDS ESSENTIAL ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

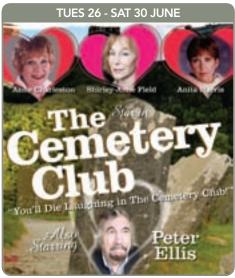


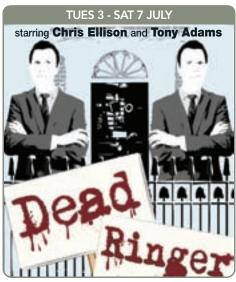
# Great Theatre at the Grand!

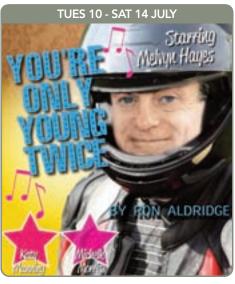


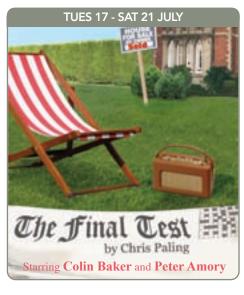






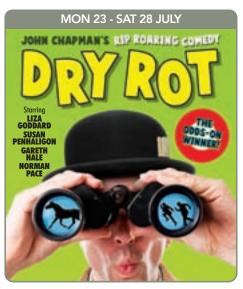






SUNDAY 15 JULY
FOREVER IN BLUE JEANS
SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER
THE ELVIS YEARS
SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER
THE CANNON & BALL SHOW
MONDAY 17 & TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER
CO-OPERA COMPANY
DON GIOVANNI
THE MAGIC FLUTE
FRIDAY 21 - SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER
ENGLISH YOUTH BALLET
SWAN LAKE
SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER
SALLY MORGAN
MONDAY 26 NOV - SATURDAY 1 DEC
GREASE
SAT 8 DEC - SUN 20 JAN

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STARRING SHERRIE HEWSON AND KEITH HARRIS



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# **June** 2012

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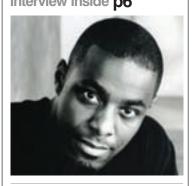
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# News

#### **Bhangra legend gets his star**

Birmingham's King of Bhangra Malkit Singh has been honoured with a star on the city's Broad Street Walk of Stars. A recent event at the city centre's Gatecrasher also saw the best-selling Bhangra artist presented with a plaque by the city's Lord Mayor, Councillor Anita Ward (pictured), in recognition of his global contribution to Bhangra music. The plaque and star are the latest in a long line of accolades to be bestowed on the Punjabi artist.



# Vegetarian shark discovered at Birmingham attraction

The National Sealife Centre in Birmingham's Brindleyplace has announced that one of its prime specimens - a six-foot-long tropical shark - is, in fact, a vegetarian! In an effort to ensure that 'Florence' gets the natural protein she needs, numerous tactics have been employed, including hiding fish inside celery sticks, hollowed-out cucumbers and in between lettuce leaves. Florence's vegetarianism was discovered when she underwent an operation to retrieve a fishing hook buried deep inside her mouth.



#### **Queen arrives in Shropshire...**

Two evenings of outdoor musical celebration are planned at the Shrewsbury Showground this month. The well-toured Queen II take to the stage on 29 June, while on the 30th, the Shrewsbury Light Orchestra present a patriotic Last Night Of The Proms concert and firework finale. What's On has joined with the promoters of these two concerts to offer readers the chance to win tickets to both events. Interested? Then visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk to find out how to enter...



## All-star line-up for Jesus Christ Superstar

Radio One DJ Chris Moyles, Aussie comedian Tim Minchin and former Spice Girl Mel C are confirmed to appear in the forthcoming arena tour of Andrew Lloyd Webber's legendary rock opera Jesus Christ Superstar. The production, which comes to Birmingham's National Indoor Arena in October, will see Moyles take on the role of King Herod, while Mel B will star as the show's only female lead, Mary Magdeline. Award-winning Tim Minchin assumes the role of Judas Iscariot. The search is now on for an actor to play Jesus, and Andrew Lloyd Webber and ITV1 have rekindled their relationship to find the country's most suitable candidate in a soon-to-be-screened new talent show. Of his role as Herod, Chris Moyles said: "To receive a call from Andrew is very cool, but then when he asks you to be in his musical, that's pretty amazing too. There's only one way to respond, and that's by saying yes! Absolutely! My mum's gonna be well excited!"

# Industry accolade awarded to Birmingham art gallery

The Birmingham Institute of Fine Arts has been honoured with a prestigious industry award for its recent Court On Canvas exhibition. The museum was shortlisted from hundreds of entrants at a recent ceremony in London, during which comedian Sue Perkins presented the Barber team with their well-deserved gong.



## Festival in need of street performers

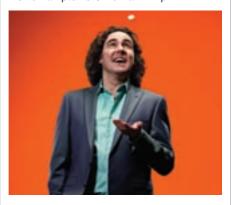
Organisers of Lichfield's Florette Festival Market have issued a plea for local jugglers, magicians, storytellers and troubadours to step forward and showcase their skills at the 7 July event. The annual market, taking place around Lichfield Cathedral Close, features numerous craft stalls and demonstrations, as well as plenty of local produce. Local entertainers already confirmed for the one-day event include the Enigma Brass Band, Watershed Theatre Company and West Bromwich Operatic Society. So if

you're an entertainer and are interested in putting on a show for an expected twenty thousand visitors, give Market co-ordinater Jennifer Smith a ring on 01543 306275.



## Micky Flanagan dates

One of Britain's best-loved comedians has announced that he's to stop off in the Midlands as part of a brand new UK tour in 2013. Micky Flanagan's risky brand of East End comedy has proved a real hit with audiences, and if previous gigs are anything to go by, this much-anticipated show is sure to be a quick sell. Micky brings his Back In The Game tour to Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, in February, Birmingham's National Indoor Arena in March and Wolverhampton's Civic Hall in April.



#### Casting announced for Phantom Of The Opera

The Birmingham Hippodrome has confirmed the line-up for the forthcoming production of Cameron Mackintosh's spectacular Phantom Of The Opera. Acclaimed West End performer Earl Carpenter will play Phantom, while Katie Hall will assume the role of Christine. Phantom Of The Opera shows at the Birmingham Hippodrome from 13 March to 4 May 2013.



## Britpop band set to play in the Midlands

Eighties Britpop band Blur have announced that they've chosen Wolverhampton's Civic Hall as one of only three UK venues in which they'll perform prior to their highly anticipated sold-out return to London's Hyde Park later this summer. Blur last performed in Wolverhampton in 2009, and return to the Civic Hall on 5 and 6 August.

# Arts Council funding for Coventry arts centre

Warwick Arts Centre has announced that it's secured £120,000 of funding from the Arts Council England's Catalyst Arts Scheme. This will enable the venue to enhance the quality of its future commissions and further develop its education programme.



# The Saturdays show their Pride

Chart-topping female band The Saturdays are headlining this year's gay and lesbian Birmingham Pride. Taking the theme of It Gets Better, the two-day event gets under way with a colourful Carnival Parade, which will wind its way through the city centre to the main festival site of Birmingham's Gay Village. A dance arena, main stage, cabaret marquee, funfair and community village green also feature. Joining The Saturdays at this year's Pride are Stooshe, BBC Radio One's Scott Mills, acclaimed DJ Judge Jules, Freemasons vocalist Amanda Wilson and the increasingly popular L Project. Wristbands will be required to get into the Pride Entertainment Zone - main stage, dance arena, cabaret marquee and women's area - and are available both on the day and also in advance from www.birminghampride.com. Birmingham Pride takes place in and around the city's Gay Village on 2 & 3 June.

#### **IN BRIEF**

#### Early bird offer to keep the kids entertained...

A summer camp for children, set in the beautiful Shropshire countryside, has issued an early booking offer for week-long stays during the forthcoming summer holidays. A centre of excellence, JCA at Condover Hall provides safe and secure adventure residentials for schoolchildren, and features a range of land and water-based activities, and, with kayaking, fencing, body zorbing and rope courses, there's something to suit every child's tastes. The early bird offer of £199 per child is for a full seven-night, Saturday to Saturday, activity programme including meals, accommodation and insurance. For further information, visit www.jcaadventure.co.uk

#### **Dinosaurs heading to Coventry**

Online tickets for the Herbert Museum And Art Gallery's latest exhibition, Dinosaurs Uncovered, go on sale this month. Featuring lifesize models and replica fossils, the exhibition invites visitors to travel back two hundred-and-fifty million years to come face-to-face with some of the most fearsome creatures ever to have walked the earth. Springwatch presenter and wildlife expert Chris Packham makes an appearance in holographic form as he

uncovers the facts about the dinosaurs and the world in which they lived. Tickets are on sale from 1 June at a cost of £5.95 for adults and £4.95 for children, with family concessions also available. A 10% discount is available for all advanced online bookings. Dinosaurs Uncovered opens at the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, on 21 July.



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# Paterson Joseph

talks about Gregory Doran's Caesar



Described as having one of those faces that's instantly recognisable, British actor Paterson Joseph has an impressive list of TV and theatre credits to his name - a repertoire that ranges from Othello at the RSC to Channel Four's Peep Show. Patterson returns to the RSC this month to appear as Brutus in Gregory Doran's Julius Caesar. What's On caught up with him to find out more...

## How does Gregory Doran's version of Julius Caesar differ from previous versions?

It's not an adaptation but more of a concept that takes place somewhere in the African continent, presenting a story of coups and counter-coups, and of the vacuum left by a strong man in the centre. That's our take on it and it seems to work brilliantly. It fits more snuggly than you would imagine.

# The performance is being filmed for the BBC. Has that proved distracting in any way?

Initially, it felt like quite a challenge, because the Royal Shakespeare Theatre is about a thousand seats and so we rehearsed it for that. On the Friday, we finished rehearsing; on the Saturday, we were filming. But what was interesting about the whole experience was that bringing it down to the level of screen performance wasn't as difficult as we'd imagined it would be. Some of the physical stuff had to change, because we didn't need to move so much, but what we found was that the detail we had in the rehearsal room was heightened on camera, which was great. It showed us how far we'd come after three-and-a-half weeks of rehearsal. The trickiest bit, of course, is bringing it back into the theatre space. We've got two weeks back in the rehearsal room to make it a stage show rather than a camera show. It's a very interesting journey.

#### You've performed with the RSC on numerous occasions. Who, for you, is the most interesting of all Shakespeare's characters?

That's a major question and the honest answer is that I don't know. I think the great thing about Shakespeare is that we can revisit. There are characters and plays that I've done that I'd love to revisit, Othello being the obvious one. I played the role in my early forties, and I'd love to play him again in my fifties. I also think that plays are relevant for their time. Plays like Troilus And Cressida, which I did at the RSC when I was last there, is a neglected play because it's about war, the situations of war and why one goes to war. Sam Mendes directed us in 1990, and the Gulf War hit about the time we were opening the show. It just seemed quite pertinent to talk about going to war, who were the warmongers and who were the peacemakers.

# You've got a lot of TV roles under your belt - what draws you back to the stage, and in particular the RSC?

I think it's a bit like the engine of a sports car, really. I know it sounds a bit grand, but you tick away in steady traffic, which is what TV can be like; you're not always asked to go to the highs and lows of emotion on the screen. Certainly with Shakespeare, and a lot of drama, they tend to be big themes where big emotions are needed to be expressed. That's where an actor really loves to burn his engine, to really rev and go as far as he can.

#### Is it correct that you were a chef before becoming an actor?

That's very grand. I was actually a catering assistant at the Royal Free in Hampstead Heath for a short while before I went to drama school. I thought I wanted to be a chef, I was geared towards getting my qualifications, and then I was put off. I won't tell you how, but it was to do with hygiene. That was that for me, so I decided to seek out something else that was also creative but a bit more physically challenging. So I tried a youth theatre called The Cockpit in Marylebone, and from there I went to drama school.

#### What barriers, if any, did you have to overcome to pursue a career in acting?

None at all. It was very un-dramatic. The only comment that my mum made about it was, "do what you like, as long as you make some money". I tried to point out to her that it was unlikely I'd ever make any money, due to the fact that actors are unemployed most of the time, and also because it wasn't my goal to make any money. I was very young and naive but I was also very truthful. I think it's very fortunate when any actor can make any money, as most of us, as I'm sure you know, are unemployed most of the time.

#### What was your first major role?

I think my first job was probably my first major role, and that was playing a young, unemployed man from Derbyshire at the Bush Theatre in Shepherd's Bush. That was my introduction to the profession, and it was a great first role for a young actor - he was an angry and articulate young man.

# You're professional CV features a lot of very varied work. Is it a conscious decision to keep things fresh, or do you just accept whatever comes along?

It's a bit of both. With most actors, the only real power that we have is to say yes or no when offered a job or an interview. Most of the time, the culling of those things that I don't want to do happens before the interview stage. If it's something I find interesting, or if I just need to work because I haven't got any money, then that will dictate what I do. I try not to second-guess where my career is going. For example, I got together with some friends to do some improvisation, just for ourselves. One of those actors was connected to a comedy casting director who worked a lot for Channel Four; hence Peep Show came into my life. And out of Peep Show came Green Wing, and out of all of that came Dead Ringers and That Mitchell And Webb Look.

#### And will we be seeing you in the new series of Peep Show?

Definitely. We start filming the end of July.

#### Is Alan Johnson a good character to play?

Yeah, I spend a lot of time giggling, and have to really control myself to do that deadpan thing. He's a great character to play, mainly because he's larger than life, which is why we probably only get one episode of him in every series - less is often more. What's surprising is that he's very popular with young people. Students adore him; I don't know why, because he's horrible...

#### Do you have much influence over the character?

I don't think I have any. People say "you created this character", but he's the creation of Jesse Armstrong and Sam Bain. I just interpreted him in my way, which they seemed to like. So they now tend to write about him with me in mind - but then they do that with all the characters.

You commented once that you'd like to appear in a TV period drama. Is there a particular role that you'd like to play? Yeah, I've fallen in love with this eighteenth century African called Charles Ignatius Sancho, who is famously painted by Gainsborough as a gentleman. He wrote many, many letters, and I've adapted the letters to make a monologue for myself, which I've performed and will perform again next year. I'm trying to work on a screenplay in the hope that someone will run with it. One of the difficulties connected to it is that it's a Black story, if you like. It's a story of a man who makes his way despite the fact that his colour might be against him, and that's a concept which makes TV executives shy away, thinking that there may be very little interest. But times will change, and maybe there'll be room for a black character in lovely eighteenth or maybe nineteenth century costume.

#### Do you think there are now more roles available to black actors, or is the glass ceiling still very much in evidence?

I think there's a bit of both going on. There's more of an openness in terms of casting black actors - or actors who happen to be black, if you like - in roles that wouldn't traditionally be seen in that way. And I think that the traditions are changing in themselves. Hopefully it will start to happen more rapidly than it has been doing. I think that there's a desire, certainly amongst directors and producers, to cast a bit more widely.

#### If you could change one rule in theatreland, what would it be?

It would be that all theatres could be subsidised so that they could do the work that they wanted, not the work that they had to do in order to get revenue. We earn millions for the nation with people coming to the West End and to other theatres and we're not subsidised to the degree that perhaps classical music and opera are. So I think that would make a major difference.

Paterson Joseph star in Julius Caesar at The Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratfordupon-Avon until Sat 7 July



# Janice Connolly

talks about women in comedy...



Whether as Mrs Barbara Nice or as herself, actor/comedian/producer Janice Connolly is a well-known face on the Midlands entertainment circuit. A self-confessed workaholic, Janice is this month compering a Laughing Sole comedy night in West Bromwich and is also appearing in a brand new musical, entitled Underrated: Birmingham The Musical, at mac. What's On caught up with her to find out more...

You recently made a comment on your blog about people thinking that female comedians couldn't be as funny as male comedians. Can you expand on this? I think it's deeply complicated, this whole thing about females and comedy and who we want to see on stage. I think undoubtedly that women are as funny as men, and some men are less funny than some women. I think it's a complicated discussion to have, but the truth of the matter is that it's not a true assumption. Women can be as funny and often funnier than some men...

#### Is it a perception that holds some wouldbe female comedians back?

No, I think comedy is one of those things that you'll do if you really want to. Maybe in the past some promoters have thought that they couldn't put more than one woman on a bill, but things are changing. There's now a higher percentage of female comedians around.

#### You're bringing your acclaimed show Higher And Higher back to the Midlands. Has this been adapted in any way?

Audiences bring a lot to this particular piece, so every performance is different depending on the audience. It's that which provides the show with its variety.

# You're also working on a new show, called Mrs Nice, for the Edinburgh Festival. Where do you begin when devising a new show?

I collect ideas of things that are funny, things that are worth talking about, worth doing. Higher And Higher is about being connected with people, and Mrs Nice is about rediscovering the fun that exists in all of us, and especially nowadays, in 'austerity Britain'. It's about discovering the kid in us all, I guess.

#### Who is Barbara Nice based on?

She's a mixture of women I've met; She's probably like your favourite mad auntie.

#### What inspired you to get into comedy?

Thinking I could do it. I was in a play with Frank Skinner in Birmingham years ago, before he was famous, and then went to see him at the Edinburgh Festival. I remember thinking, "I can do that". He was kind of talking to the audience and being 'in the moment'. So I decided to try and do that type of thing. I also felt that there was room for lots of different voices in comedy. At the time, it was more or less a case of one fella after the next standing up and basically saying the same thing. I wanted to provide audiences with more variety, more choice, which is what Laughing Sole is all about.

#### Who's your favourite female comedians?

I think lsy Suttie is really good. She's absolutely lovely and really clever. I think audiences really appreciate intelligence in comedy. They often get comedy wrong and think it's all about insulting people and

putting people down, but that's only a very small aspect of comedy. Proper comedy is really a broad church; there are lots of types - surreal, topical, political. I think that audiences appreciate an intelligent approach. In this day and age, when things are tough economically, I think it's a comedian's job to speak up a bit. I think it's their job to have a go at the status quo.

#### Will Barbara Nice just go on and on?...

It's interesting; who really knows? My feeling is that as long as people like and appreciate Barbara she will continue, but she won't outstay her welcome...

#### Barbara has quite a gay following; why do you think this is?

I wasn't aware that she had that appeal until I did some shows in Brighton. I don't know what it is, really. She's just an ordinary lady. Maybe it's because she loves wearing leopard skin! I think she probably reminds people of their mums, their nannas or maybe their aunties - women in their lives who make them laugh, basically. She's very inclusive, and never has a go at any minorities - well, apart from the posh.

#### How would you define posh?

All these people who've gone to Eton, I guess - the government, really. All these people who are in power and are connected. Their kids all go to the same parties and ride the same horses. I really don't like abuse of power.

#### How did your working relationship with Peter Kay come about?

He saw me in a comedy competition in Manchester - I'm from Stockport originally - and asked me to be in one of his television programmes. It was one of those showbiz dream stories of being in the right place at the right time. It's been brilliant to be involved with him.

#### Can you explain your Women And Theatre initiative?

We work with a variety of different communities to produce new theatre and drama, as well as comedy courses for community groups. We've just received some funding to take comedy workshops into older people's residential homes.

#### How did Women And Theatre come about?

I've been involved in theatre and performance since I was a kid. I was doing a lot of pub theatre in the evenings, and the opportunity arose to start up a theatre group. So I gave up my day job - at the time I was working for Barnardos. That was nearly thirty years ago. Four of us started the company, and now I'm the only original founding member.

#### Are you still very hands-on with the group, then?

Yes, very much so...

#### How do you find the time?

It's quite difficult sometimes to fit everything in, particularly as I continue to be a freelance actor. I've just had a little part in In With The Flynns, which is a television programme with Will Mellor on BBC One. So I'm still doing freelance acting, stand-up comedy and running a theatre school. They all dovetail into each other, really. Finding the time can be a bit of a problem, but you get used to it.

#### Do you have any social life?

Not massively. But thankfully, I do enjoy the audiences, and I have a good chat with people who come to see me. I always make a point of meeting and mingling with people afterwards.

# What's the concept behind Woman And Theatre's new production, Underrated: Birmingham The Musical, which you're staging this month at mac?

We're working with three different groups of young people. One is a group of young asylum-seekers, one is a group from Queensbridge school, and the other group is from a school where pupils have visual impairment. Nationally, people still look down on the city, and this is about young people saying what's great about Birmingham. It's going to be a musical, and we've written about three or four new songs which are very catchy. In fact, one of them should have been a Eurovision entry, but we left it too late. Engelbert Humperdinck pipped us to the post!

# What, in your opinion, has contributed most to making Birmingham the cultural hub that it is today?

I still think that nationally it's not recognised as such. Sandi Toksvig, who I think is lovely, recently commented on the high-speed rail by saying "who wants to get to Birmingham any quicker?". I think the national prejudices remain the same, even though, when you go into Birmingham, it's such a great city. It's so wonderfully multicultural, but I don't think it's appreciated nationally as much as it should be. Even though the architecture looks great, there's still an old-fashioned attitude from the rest of the country about it. Birmingham has a wonderful community spirit and is a very friendly place. That's one of the messages we want to get across in Underrated: Birmingham.

#### Finally Janice, what's been the highlight of your career?

To be honest, and I know this sounds a bit of a cliche, I think you're only as good as your last gig. Last night I went down very well at The Glee Club. That's what keeps me going, thinking 'that was good, people liked it'

Janice Connolly comperes Laughing Sole at **The Public, West Bromwich** Wed 6 June. Underrated, Birmingham The Musical shows at **mac, Birmingham**, Thurs 14 to Fri 15 June



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# GHS

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#### Classical



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Friday 20 July 7.30pm £16.50-£32.50\*

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The Gruffalo

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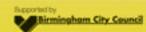
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With his visionary and all-encompassing approach to music, Warwickshire-born Jonathan Harvey has received worldwide critical acclaim and numerous accolades, the latest of which was the UK's prestigious Royal Philharmonic Award. This month sees Harvey's longest ever work, Weltethos, being given its UK debut, performed in Birmingham as part of the London 2012 opening celebrations. What's On caught up with the talented composer to find out more...

# How do you feel your upbringing in Sutton Coldfield influenced your career as a composer?

I was born in Little Aston and had a very nice childhood. I used to go into Birmingham to see the CBSO with my father, who was an amateur musician - a very good one, I might add.

I suppose I was about six when I wrote my first composition. My father would sit in his armchair, puffing his pipe, and I'd sit at the piano with my pencil and paper. I would play something and write it down, and he would say "try an F sharp there!", and so we went on...

# How old were you when your first piece of music was performed to the public? I think I was about eleven; it was performed

I think I was about eleven; it was performed on local BBC radio.

# How do you think people's perceptions of classical music have changed over the years?

I don't think they've changed that much, but I do think the borders between different types of music have blurred - though probably not as much as they should have done. There are now many more crossover ventures and composers. I suppose it's like the class system in England; it's become much less marked. And nowadays, of course, recordings are much more available, which makes classical music a lot more accessible.

# This month sees the UK premiere of Weltethos. Can you tell us a bit about this particular piece?

It means 'world ethic'. I set it in German for the first performance in the Berlin Philharmonic Hall, with the orchestra conducted by Simon Rattle.

#### What was your starting point when writing this particular piece?

Well, the words obviously formed the basis. In this particular case, one meditated on the words and then the different sections. In Weltethos, there are six sections, each devoted to a different culture - Confusianism, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Christianity. All of these cultures have their own music; in a way, it was that factor which began to form the musical thinking.

#### How did the commission come about?

Through Hans Kung, one of the most distinguished theologians alive. He's the president of the Foundation for a Global Ethic - a kind of religious/political organisation for world peace. He wanted to commission a work to celebrate the ideals of goodness for which his institute stands. He looked around and found me, in collaboration, I think, with the Berlin Orchestra, who advised him.

#### And how long did it take to complete? About two years. It took much, much longer than usual. It's a big, big work - a whole evening. Normally my works last fifteen to

twenty minutes. This lasts a full hour-and-ahalf

## What does it mean to you as a composer to have your work performed as part of London 2012?

It's a great honour, and I'm very proud to help in the theme of the Olympics, which is all about nations coming together in an attitude of kindness. It's not about economic hostility or any of the other hostilities we're used to hearing about when nations come together. It's a gesture of kindness and goodness. And it's exactly this, the aesthetics of goodness, which my work is celebrating.

#### And what, over the years, has influenced your work the most?

I think spiritual aspiration in music can raise us all higher. A composer can be a sort of medium for greater psychological and spiritual profoundity. Not necessarily to do with the composer being like that, but more about the composer being open and allowing such things to form.

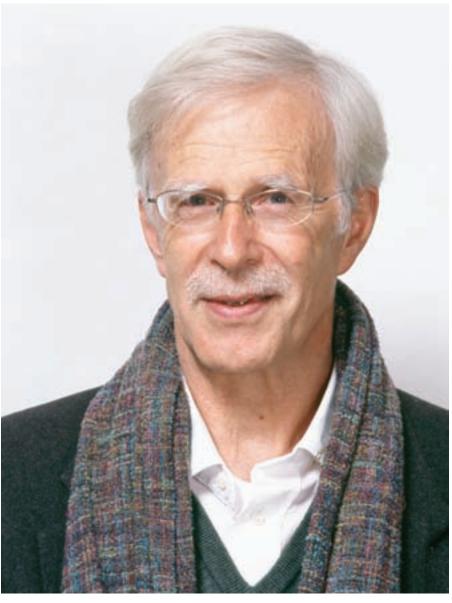
#### Do you have an all-time favourite piece of music?

I don't think I can answer that, because I love so much music. I love the great classics, and, of course, I'm very interested in World Music. I've always found music from distant places fascinating, and I've always loved jazz. As for pop music, I leave that to my daughter...

#### What's the greatest accolade you've ever received?

I received the Royal Philharmonic Award recently, which is the biggest prize that you can get in this country. So probably that.

The CBSO perform Jonathan Harvey's Weltethos at **The Symphony Hall**, **Birmingham**, Thurs 21 June





# Porgy And Bess

Cape Town Opera's Michael Williams talks to Nancy Groves

Was there ever a song as seasonally appropriate as Summertime? Guaranteed to raise temperatures, this standard of the American songbook has been covered more than twenty-five thousand times by artists including Billie Holiday, Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, Sam Cooke, Miles Davis, Janis Joplin and even The Doors. So many times, in fact, that it's easy to forget it started life as an operatic aria in George Gershwin's 1935 masterpiece, Porgy And Bess.

This summertime, however, the tune will be restored to its rightful origins by Cape Town Opera (CTO), the pioneering South African company whose triumphant version of Porgy And Bess took the UK by storm in 2009 and now returns for a six-venue tour throughout the month of June. 'One of the mornings, you're going to rise up singing' - never have the words seemed so appropriate. Transferring the story from the sweltering humidity of Charleston, South Carolina, to the deep heat of South Africa's Western Cape, the production boasts a cast including Soweto-born soprano Tsakane Valentine Maswanganyi, last seen in the title role of Carmen Jones at the Royal Festival Hall, and a chorus that Rupert Christiansen, opera critic of The Telegraph, has called 'quite magnificent'.

Given the rapturous reviews CTO received last time round, bringing Porgy And Bess back to the UK was a no-brainer, says managing director Michael Williams. "It was a revelation to see how warmly the Brits took to a South African company tackling an American standard with such vigour and in such a novel fashion," says Williams. "People were taken away by our enthusiasm, the quality of our voices and the opportunities for those voices which Gershwin's score provides."

Porgy And Bess was George Gershwin's attempt to write an opera that showcased the true depth and range of African-American voices. Despite the beauty of his music, the concept challenged both white and black audiences alike, and for many years the opera was presented in a watered-down 'musical' format. "Even by Gershwin!" Williams points out. "He wrote the piece to give black singers an opportunity, but when it turned out that it wasn't cutting it with the opera glitterati - the mink and pearls brigade - he tried to make it into a Broadway show." Happily, Porgy And Bess is now a stalwart of the operatic canon, and "people know they shouldn¹t tamper with it". At least not with the music - transferring the setting is another matter, says Williams, who insists that the South African relocation is faithful to the themes and spirit of the opera. Not to mention the characters of Catfish village: beautiful but broken Bess, her brute of a boyfriend Crown, no-good drug pusher Sportin' Life, and, of course, noble but crippled Porgy himself. "If you pick up any newspaper in South Africa, you'll see the issues we deal with," says Williams. "First, there's the poverty in South Africa; the gap between rich and poor is the largest in the world. Then, the drugs - there are many Sportin' Lives roaming our schools and city landscapes. And finally, the male on female violence - South Africa's rape statistics are well known.'

But it's not all doom and gloom, he adds. "In amongst all this death and misery, there is an abundance of joy to Porgy And Bess, which is what we have in this country too. You've got to realise that singing is a way of life here. We have choral competitions that last

five days, every high school has two or three choirs, and when I do auditions for our ensemble, at least five hundred people turn up!"

Making Porgy And Bess the perfect match for CTO: "When you have a piece with so many great tunes, it's ideal for our singers. Turning life into song is very much what our people do. They sing about marriages, about death, about lovemaking, about harvesting, about buying a new car. For every significant event, there's a song. Singing forms the patterns of people's lives here."

Tsakane Maswanganyi agrees. "We are a nation of singers," proclaims the thirty-twoyear-old soprano, based in Italy but back on home-turf for Porgy And Bess rehearsals. "There is something very familiar about singing this music," she says. "I heard my own African music from when I was a tiny baby, and here I am singing with my people and my nation again. It reminds me of where and who I am. It takes me back to being young, and the reasons why I'm a singer.' Maswanganyi was thirteen when she first heard opera via a chance clip on TV. "I think it was La Bohème, and it was just one clip, one aria, but I was mesmerised, completely taken over," she recalls. Throughout her teenage years, she sang acapella in her local church choir, but it wasn't until university, when a friend invited her to a music masterclass, that Maswanganyi realised her

"Opera is the highest form the voice can reach for me," she says, "not in the sense of the highest kind of living, but in the capacity of what your voice can do when music and emotion are combined. It's so expressive and yet so composed at the same time - combining nature and art together into a more powerful form."

Maswanganyi had to go abroad to pursue her musical career, which included an award-winning stint in best-selling opera group, Amici Forever. Opera, once a strong tradition in South Africa, fell out of favour along with other 'classical' art forms with the arrival of the ANC government in 1996, who withdrew public subsidy for the arts to channel muchneeded funds into impoverished rural areas. Regional opera departments and orchestras folded, and only Cape Town survived, thanks to the benevolence of its supporters and the leadership of Williams and his team, who

fought hard to win it charitable status. CTO is still South Africa's only full-time opera company - its nearest competitor almost a continent away in Cairo - but it works hard to spread the gospel of opera as widely as possible. "We do a national tour every year to ten different cities, and the kids who do our workshops are the same kids who say, 'We want to come and sing and audition for you'," reports Williams. "We did La Bohème and every one of the soloists came through our programme. The average age on stage was twenty-three."

The company aims to present at least one new African work each season. Recent successes include Poet And Prophetess, a NorrlandsOperan co-production with a libretto by Williams, and Mandela Trilogy, which will be performed twice at the Wales Millennium Centre before Porgy's Cardiff dates

'What we strive to do is not only the European classics," says Williams. "Do foreign audiences really want to see our version of La Bohème, or is that taking coals to Newcastle? We want to represent the miracle that is South Africa: look at what we can do here, look at the art we can produce."

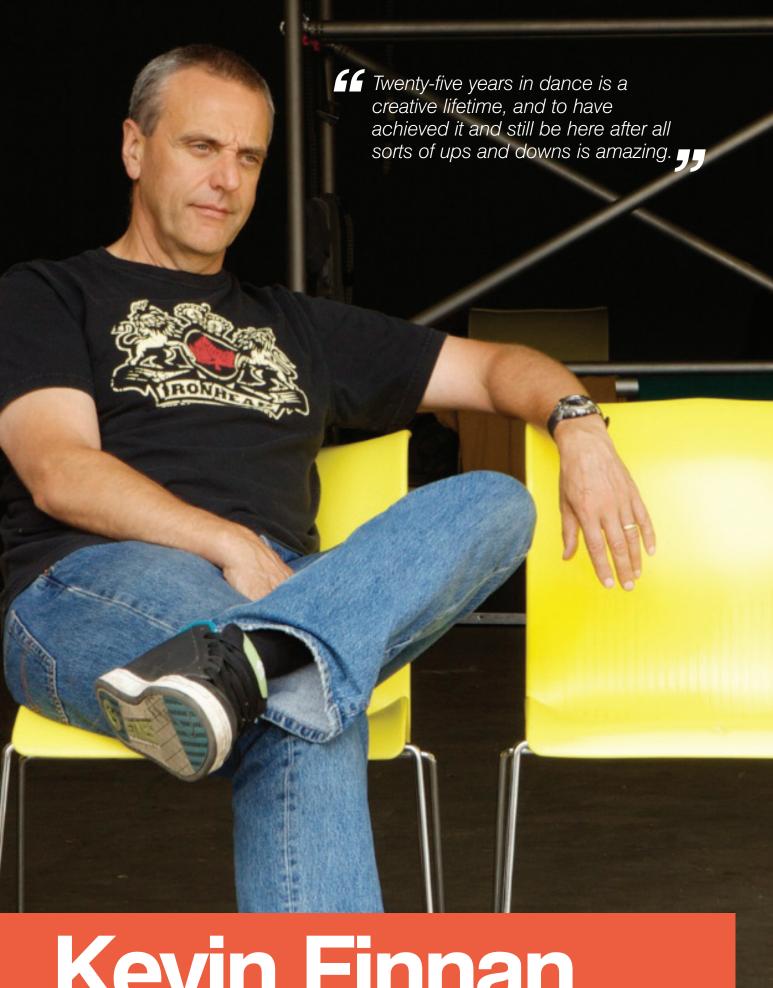
And people are certainly looking - this September, CTO will travel to Berlin at the personal invitation of Sir Simon Rattle to perform the complete Porgy And Bess with the Berlin Philharmonic.

"All this and we're a country still in our adolescence," Williams marvels. "We are only seventeen years old, you must remember - we're the pimply kid who drives his dad's car down the highway." He pauses for thought. "I wonder what Gershwin would have thought of a South African cast singing his piece?"

Maswanganyi is in no doubt. "This works," she says. "Storytelling is storytelling. Once you put music to it, it's going to communicate. Porgy And Bess is from the Western world but there's nothing Western about it. This is African song, this is South African opera, and music is a universal language."

Cape Town Opera perform Porgy And Bess at **Birmingham Hippodrome** from Wed 6 -Sat 9 June





# Kevin Finnan

Motionhouse's Artistic Director takes us on a voyage...

With the celebratory mood surrounding the Queen's Jubilee festivities and the Olympic Games, living in the UK in 2012 is proving to be a special experience for many people. For leading dance theatre company Motionhouse, it's a particularly special time. Established in 1988 by Kevin Finnan and Louise Richards, Motionhouse creates startling dance theatre. Although rooted in dance, the company also draws on theatre, circus, acrobatics and film to create visually stunning performances. 2012 marks a career highlight for Artistic Director Kevin, as he's created and choreographed The Voyage - in collaboration with Patrick Nolan, his counterpart from Australian aerial specialists Legs On The Wall - a presentation which will open the West Midlands' celebrations of the London 2012 Festival.

# What does it mean to be invited to be involved in the official Olympic celebrations, Kevin?

It's a tremendous honour. We're all absolutely thrilled to be opening the London 2012 Festival. There's a real feeling that we want to do everybody proud, acknowledge the honour that we've been given and really do it justice.

#### Is The Voyage Motionhouse's most challenging production to date?

This is the biggest production in terms of scale, without a doubt. We've created pieces in the past where we worked with a thousand young people, so that was bigger in terms of numbers. But there's no doubt that, in terms of scale of the project, the money that's gone into it and the profile, this is the biggest to date. It's just extremely thrilling and humbling to be given this opportunity.

#### Where did the concept of The Voyage come from?

The Voyage is a story that explores the courage which inspires us to embark on journeys in pursuit of our dreams. Olympic athletes are journeying to the UK from all over the world, in hope. Their hopes will be different. For one athlete it will be the hope of a gold medal, whereas for another it will be the hope that they're fit enough to run in their particular heat. In countries across the world. people have made similar journeys to other lands in hope. Some journey to make their fortune and aim to change the world, while others journey in the hope of having their own home and a better standard of living for their children. This theme of journeying in hope is a fundamental theme in life, so I wanted to create a show that speaks about a moment in time but that mirrors an experience that binds us all. It's really about looking at the Olympic moment and realising that there's something profound for us all to

# How much does touring the USA with Motionhouse's production of Scattered mean to you?

I think it's an extraordinary achievement for Motionhouse. We have our first tour confirmed and are already talking about the second one. What's so extraordinary is that when a lot of companies go to the US, they might do New York, LA and Chicago, whereas we're doing twenty dates - so it's a massive new market for the company. It's also great as we're not being exported; we've done it off our own back and it's an enormous step. It can only help to develop and strengthen the company. Plus, I jumped around playing rock and roll very badly on my guitar as a teenager, as we all did, dreaming of going on a US road tour, so to have that as a reality is hilarious and exciting.

# Can you believe that you'll be celebrating Motionhouse's twenty-fifth anniversary next year?

Twenty-five years in dance is a creative lifetime, and to have achieved it and still be here after all sorts of ups and downs is amazing. What's most significant for me, and what is utterly thrilling, is that we're making and doing the best work we've ever done, and have the biggest audiences, widest international reach and most exciting projects to date. Creatively it feels like the most exciting time in the company's life. It's also very exciting that we've been signed by IMG Artists, the same company that represents the Bolshoi Ballet, on the eve of our twenty-fifth anniversary.

# You're based in Leamington Spa in Warwickshire. How important is it not to forget your roots, despite becoming increasingly global with your shows?

A lesson we've learned is that a company builds an audience by its connections with people. The more we engage in every way, the more we can speak honestly and plainly about issues, and make them into a form that's exciting, challenging and stimulating. We have strong local roots, and a long-standing relationship with Warwick Arts Centre and Birmingham's mac, who helped support us, and we're not a disconnected observer. We see ourselves as a tree that's growing from an area, and we reach out our branches, our aspirations, from the roots of where we are.

# What advice would you give to those people who aren't readily open to contemporary dance?

What perhaps people don't realise is that the Motionhouse dance experience cradles virtually all other art forms. We're working with people who are filmmakers, composers, visual artists and digital artists to create our productions. Our dancers are gymnasts, break dancers, aerialists, and this diversity in skills and art forms means a production can be a very moving experience, but also an extraordinary visual event. You should explore it even if you think it's not for you, because it's so incredibly diverse.

#### Does 2012 feel like a defining year for Motionhouse?

Yes - I don't think you can look at it in any other way. With our first tours to China and the USA being in place, and doing our biggest project to date with The Voyage, it's a watershed moment for the company, for Louise Richards and for myself. It's something that, as a company, we have consistently worked for. And in a lifetime of creating work, you have to acknowledge moments when it's fantastic and has gone your way. They are wonderful gifts, and it's just marvellous.

The Voyage shows at **Victoria Square**, **Birmingham** from Thurs 21 to Sun 24 June



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# Music

#### **Editors**

HMV Institute, Birmingham, Tues 26 - Wed 27 June One of Birmingham's most famous indie bands, Editors have been quiet since the 2009 release of last studio album In This Light And On This Evening. Currently in the studio working on their fourth album, the band confirmed the departure of guitarist Chris Urbanowicz in April, stating that he'd left "in a decision entirely based upon future musical direction", and that his departure is "entirely amicable". This Birmingham gig is their only UK show of the year.



#### The View

Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, Fri 29 June

Scottish indie band The View found fame in 2007 with the release of Same Jeans, their best selling single to date. Now, ahead of the release of fourth studio album Cheeky For A Reason in July, the fresh-faced quartet have headed out on a twenty-two-date UK tour. The first release on the band's new label, Cooking Vinyl, the album has been described by lead singer and guitarist Kyle Falconer as 'Fleetwood Mac's Rumours done by The Clash'.



#### **Mica Paris**

The Assembly, Leamington Spa, Wed 6 June

Hitting the headlines recently for her dramatic weight loss, Mica Paris is not just a singer but a TV presenter and actress too. Starting out singing soul and gospel music in her local church, she released platinum-selling debut album So Good while still a teenager. Seven albums and a string of successful collaborations with the likes of Prince, Boy George and Mark Morrison later, the soul singer is still going strong, and played three sold-out shows at Ronnie Scott's in September.



#### Nicki Minai

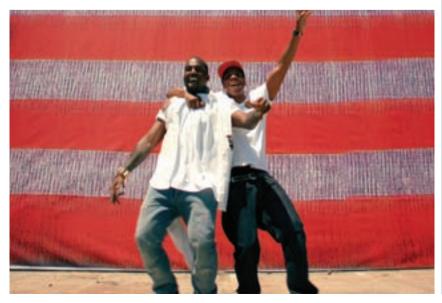
National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Tues 26 June

Known for her wacky outfits and use of alter-egos, the Pink Friday rapper and singer has seen her 2010 debut album go multi-platinum this year, and has also found time for a row on Twitter over the leaking of songs from her recently released Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded album. Famously mentored by Lil Wayne, the artist who discovered her and helped her secure a record deal, Nicki toured extensively with Britney Spears last year on the Femme Fatale tour. She's going it alone this time, though, and touring the world with songs from both her albums.

#### **Jay Z And Kanye West**

LG Arena, Birmingham, Wed 13 & Fri 22 June

Two of the biggest names in rap, Jay Z and Kanye joined forces last year to become The Throne, releasing an album - Watch The Throne - which took a year to make and has been described by West as "very dark and sexy, like couture hip-hop". Hot on the heels of their huge success at the 2012 Grammy Awards, winning the coveted gong for Best Rap Performance, they here perform songs from both the album and their classic back-catalogues.







#### Music Previews

#### **Patti Smith**

Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, Mon 25 June

A singer, songwriter, activist, poet and visual artist, Patti is cited as a pioneer of punk rock, storming onto the scene in 1975 with groundbreaking debut, Horses. A huge influence on musicians, including most notably Michael Stipe of REM, she's devoted much of her life to causes such as AIDS and the anti-Iraq war movement. Patti appears in Wolverhampton as part of an eleven-date UK tour, showcasing songs from her tenth studio album, Banga, including This Is The Girl - a tribute to Amy Winehouse - and Fuji-san, dedicated to the people of Japan.

#### All The Young

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Mon 18 June Stoke quartet All The Young are tipped for stardom as one of XFM's Twelve For 2012, and have recently appeared on stage as guests of Morrissey, The Courteneers, The Wombats, Hard-Fi and The Pigeon Detectives. About to embark upon a headlining twenty-one-date tour, the band will play Europe's festivals this summer, including Southside and Hurricane in Germany, as well as the Blue Balls Festival in Switzerland. With a Britpop sound influenced by The Smiths, The Cure, The Stone Roses and The Clash, the band have recently released their debut album, Welcome Home.



#### **Citizens**

The Yardbird, Birmingham, Sun 17 June

On a mission to provide credible band-based pop music, Citizens are five young London men who were NME's Radar Band of the Week in March. The hotly tipped ensemble recorded the tracks for debut LP Here We Are in Scotland last year, and enlisted Franz Ferdinand frontman Alex Kapranos to produce the record. PRISMS and Vigilance Committee support at this free show.



#### **Panic Room**

The Robin, Bilston, Sun 24 June

Formed from the embers of Karnataka, Welsh band Panic Room started off the year by announcing that they'd signed to Esoteric An-



LG Arena, Birmingham, Fri 15 June

A much-cherished national treasure, Elton John is a man who wears his heart on his sleeve, tells it how it is, and doesn't take himself too seriously. He's the top chum of superstar celebrities the world over, an absolute must at any big showbiz bash worth its salt, and has earned his stripes as a much-respected musician by reason of over four decades in the upper echelons of a notoriously unforgiving business. The man, quite simply, is celebrity personified. "I'm still as excited about playing live as I was when my career began" says Elton "In fact, probably more so. I've played Birmingham many times since my first concert there in January 1971 at Mothers, and the audiences have always been fantastic, so I'm looking forward to returning."

tenna, which is part of Cherry Red Records. Playing their biggest ever tour last year, covering twenty cities in six weeks, the band are going from strength to strength, winning five awards in the Classic Rock Presents Prog magazine awards. With third album SKIN due for release this summer, they're playing a handful of shows before embarking on a full album launch tour in the autumn.



#### **Lucy Wainwright Roche**

Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, Wed 13 June A member of the multi-talented Wainwright family, Lucy finally got involved in the 'family business' of musicmaking after years spent teaching at elementary school. Releasing her debut album, Lucy, in 2010, she's this summer playing at just a handful of shows in the UK before heading back over the pond to ap-

#### Diango Diango

pear at numerous folk festivals.

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Wed 6 June Edinburgh psychedelic pop quartet Django Django are David Maclean (drummer and producer), Vincent Neff (singer and guitarist), Jimmy Dixon, (bassist) and Tommy Grace (synth operator). Meeting in art school in 2009, the band released their self-titled debut album earlier this year. Earning rave reviews from The Guardian and NME, Django

Diango's music is a colourful explosion of the tropics, tribal drums, electro and animal noises. Check them out live on their twelvedate UK tour before they head off to play a summer's-worth of festivals.



#### The Chieftains

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Tues 5 June Six-time Grammy Award-winners and one of the first bands to make traditional Irish music popular around the world. The Chieftains are back with a nationwide tour to celebrate fifty years in the business. Starting out in 1962, the band have tirelessly promoted their instrumental music, and remained extremely loyal to their roots. Having appeared with a veritable who's who of talented performers, including Luciano Pavarotti, the Rolling Stones, Van Morrison and Willie Nelson, the four-piece are currently touring in support of their latest album, Voice Of Ages.



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#### **Music** Previews

#### **Carly Connor**

The Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, Wed 27 June

Signed on the spot after auditioning at Atlantic Records at just seventeen, Carly moved to London from Scotland two years ago and

has spent her time writing and perfecting her debut album, set for release later this year. She's also racked up an impressive live résumé, having supported fellow Scots The View and Paolo Nutini on tour across the UK and in Europe.



#### **Blink 182**

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Thurs 7 June; LG Arena, Birmingham, Sat 16 June

Multiple MTV award-winners Blink-182 certainly caused a stir with their 1999 breakthrough album Enema Of The State, racking up sales in excess of fifteen million. Since that time, the San Diego band have enjoyed no shortage of success, their next two albums, Take Off Your Pants And Jacket (2001) and Blink-182 (2003) helping to cement their position as a pop punk supergroup.



#### **Kids In Glass Houses**

Kasbah, Coventry, Sat 2 June

Welsh rockers Kids In Glass Houses got together in 2003, and after a few quiet years - highlighted by support slots for Lostprophets, 30 Seconds To Mars, Hundred Reasons and The Goo Goo Dolls - released their debut EP in 2006. Unusually for an unsigned band, they received significant levels of press support from NME, Kerrang and Radio One, and were nominated for a Kerrang award in 2007 before being signed later that year. Three albums later, the band have just completed a tour in support of latest release, In Gold Blood. Catch them in this Coventry show before they continue with their festival schedule.





#### The Musgraves

The Ballroom, Birmingham, Fri 8 June; The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Sat 9 June

In February, Midlands band The Musgraves became the first unsigned band to appear on The Graham Norton Show - albeit in borrowed clothes and with borrowed instruments after their belongings were stolen from a van the night before, a crime which prompted their genial Irish host to launch a Twitter manhunt! A few months on, they've just released their second single and announced a string of UK tour dates. Set for big things in the near future, catch them before they get huge.

#### Sam Leak Quartet

The Hive, Shrewsbury, Sat 9 June

Sam Leak is a pianist and composer who broadcaster Helen Mayhew called, "one of the brightest young stars in the Jazz piano galaxy, a heavenly improviser and a brilliant prospect for the future". Performing at famous venues including Ronnie Scott's, Pizza Express Dean Street and The Vortex, his debut album, Aquarium, was recorded by his quartet of the same name, and has been described in Jazzwise Magazine as 'a mature and often sumptuous statement of intent'.

#### **Roy Orbison And Friends**

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Sat 23 June; Solihull Arts Complex, Sat 6 October; Bedworth Civic Hall, Thurs 11 October; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Fri 19 October

He may be long gone, but the music of Roy Orbison shows no sign of fading away - particularly with men like Barry Steele doing their darnedest to pay fitting tribute to the man who was lovingly referred to as The Big O. Steele is widely recognised to be straight out of the top drawer of Orbison tribute performers, and augments his own remarkably accurate stage performance with the backing of a five-piece band and a backdrop of original film footage from the era. The show also features the sounds of The Shadows and Ray Charles, and includes special star quest tributes to Johnny Cash, Buddy Holly and Jerry Lee Lewis. All in all, then, an evening of highenergy tribute performances for all lovers of rock'n'roll to enjoy.

#### **Best Coast**

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Mon 18 June

Creating music that's the perfect soundtrack to laidback summers everywhere, Best Coast comprises frontwoman/songwriter Bethany Cosentino and multi-instrumentalist Bobb Bruno, joined on stage by former Vivian Girls

drummer Ali Koehler. Based in Los Angeles, their music is a low fi style of surf rock and a homage to the city. The followup to debut album Crazy For You is the recently released The Only Place, an album that they describe as a departure from their usual style of songwriting. Fear Of Men and Spectrals support.



#### **George Benson**

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Fri 29 June

With a career spanning more than four decades behind him, the hugely talented George Benson is one of the most respected performers in modern music. A formidable jazz master, George has also enjoyed great success in the worlds of pop and R&B music, along the way garnering a reputation for excellence that's seen him collect no fewer than ten Grammy Awards.

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#### Rizzle Kicks

LG Arena, Birmingham

These two Brighton boys have more energy than a Duracell bunny. Jordan and Harley may be twenty and twenty-one respectively, but with their baby faces and low-slung jeans, they must get ID'd all the time. Forthcoming single Dreamers was already well known by their diehard fans,



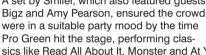
whilst the audience started dancing early to When I Was A Youngster. Showing that they're not afraid to do the unexpected, a mixedup cover of Ed Sheeran's You Need Me, a skit of the James Bond theme and a Latino version of Down With The Trumpets kept things interesting. Harley showed off his musical talents on guitar, and the boys' impressive acrobatics even earned them some bras! Not even the lazy style of Miss Cigarette and Even On A Rainy Day could dampen the audience's enthusiasm, as evidenced by their enthusiastic response to encore number Mama Do The Hump. Young, talented and already boasting a legion of fans, these boys have the world at their feet. Alev Dervish

#### **Professor Green**

Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

Hundreds of fans braved the weather on a dull Wolverhampton evening to see the amazing Professor Green.

A set by Smiler, which also featured quests Bigz and Amy Pearson, ensured the crowd were in a suitable party mood by the time



sics like Read All About It, Monster and At Your Inconvenience alongside new single Remedy. Iconic song Jungle sent the crowd absolutely mental - the screams were so loud it was a wonder they weren't heard in Walsall!

In short, this was one of the best live performers I've ever seen.

Stew Middleton ■■■■■

#### **Music Venues Box Office**

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THEATRE SEVERN, SHREWSBURY 01743 281281 THE PLACE, OAKENGATES, TELFORD 01952 382382

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#### Worcestershire

HUNTINGDON HALL / SWAN THEATRE 01905 61142 MARR'S BAR, WORCESTER 01905 61333 THE RIVER ROOMS, STOURBRIDGE 01384 397177

#### Music LISTINGS

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

#### FRI 1 JUN

TALON The Swan The-

atre, Worcester FARISLE, SOUND OF THE SIRENS, CIVIL DISOBEDI-**ENCE. LAWRENCE TAYLOR AND SAMUEL ROGERS** 02 Academy, Birmingham **REGGAEBABY LOUNGE** The Drum, Birmingham DORIAN FORD TRIO Symphony Hall, Birmingham BLUE ONYX - MOODY **BLUES TRIBUTE BAND** The Robin, Bilston **MUSICAL YOUTH Palace** Theatre, Redditch **DESPERADO** Artrix, Bromsgrove ISLET A four-piece experimental rock band from Cardiff. The Rainbow. Birmingham THE YOUNG RUNAWAYS Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton THIS IS NIRVANA Cox's Yard, Stratford-upon-Avon **CHURCHFITTERS** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury HUNGRY KIDS OF HUN-GARY Kasbah, Coventry THE SOUL SESSION BAND The Jam House, Birmingham

#### SAT 2 JUN

RANG A TANG The River

THE ESTABLISHMENT The

SARAH GILLESPIE Barton

Arms, Aston, Birming-

Rooms, Stourbridge

Cavern, Warwick

BALLROOM GLITZ The River Rooms, Stourbridae THE SOUL SESSION BAND The Jam House, Birm ingham

FROM THE GET GO PLUS

OPEN TO FIRE, ILLICIT **DISCO, THEMSELVES AND** FIGHT THE DICE The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

**UNEEUQ - QUEEN TRIBUTE** The Ironworks, Oswestry

KIDS IN GLASS HOUSES Kasbah, Coventry **ABSOLUTE BOWIE** Cox's Yard, Stratford-upon-

THE BLACK AND REDS The Public, West Bromwich JACKSON - LIVE IN CON-**CERT** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**COLIN CURTIS** Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

FAY HIELD TRIO The Hive, Shrewsbury **NEW MODEL ARMY** The Robin, Bilston THE FORTUNES & THE IVY

**LEAGUE** Tamworth As-

sembly Rooms THE MAGIC OF MOTOWN Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

ANDY HAMILTON & THE **BLUE NOTES** Symphony Hall, Birmingham JOE BROUGHTON'S CON-SERVATOIRE FOLK ENSEM-BLE Huntingdon Hall, Worcester STAKEOUT! 02 Academy, Birmingham BLEECH + MILLION EM-PIRE Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

#### **SUN 3 JUN**

QUEST Civic Hall, Wolverhampton GLENN MILLER ORCHES-TRA Stafford Gatehouse Theatre MICHAEL KING PRESENTS THE BILLY FURY YEARS Tamworth Assembly Rooms PAUL DRAKELEY & THE **ALLSTARS BAND Himley** Hall & Park, Dudley

JOOLS HOLLAND & HIS RHYTHM & BLUES OR-CHESTRA Malvern Theatres TALON - THE BEST OF THE **EAGLES** Lichfield Garrick ARE YOU EXPERIENCED -

JIMI HENDRIX TRIBUTE The Robin, Bilston THE NIGHTINGALES The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton LIMEHOUSE LIZZY The River Rooms, Stour-

bridge STRANGLE KOJAK The

Ballroom, Birmingham MACCABEES Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham



SALOPIAN BRASS The Quarry Park. Shrews-

#### **MON 4 JUN**

K\*\*\* AND THE GANG The Ballroom, Birmingham PUNK'D The River Rooms, Stourbridge GAVIN HARRISON & 05RIC 02 Academy, Birming-

#### **TUES 5 JUN**

THE CHIEFTAINS Symphony Hall, Birmingham

WE ARE KNUCKLE DRAG-GER PLUS SHIRT LIFTER. THE DOUBLE HAPPY AND FICKLE TWIN The Flapper & Firkin, Birmingham BY LANTERN LIGHT Cox's Yard, Stratford-upon-ITCHYFEET The Jam House, Birmingham

#### **WED 6 JUN**

PATSY FULLER & THE REV-**ELATORS** The Jam House, Birmingham MICA PARIS The Assembly, Leamington Spa SAM FORREST (NINE BLACK ALPS) The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham

AMONG BROTHERS. DON'T TOUCH THE WALLS The River Rooms, Stourbridge

MAXIMO PARK The Glee Club, Birmingham THE MANFREDS Lichfield



**DJANGO DJANGO** 02 Academy, Birmingham HOODIE ALLEN 02 Academy, Birmingham DOUGIE MACLEAN IN CON-CERT Huntingdon Hall, Worcester THE HACKENSAW BOYS Kitchen Garden Cafe,

## Kings Heath, Birming-

#### **THUR 7 JUN**

BLINK 182 National In-

door Arena, Birmingham THE UPBEAT BEATLES Royal Spa Centre. Leamington Spa MAGIC - A KIND OF QUEEN Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent FRAGILE - CLASSIC YES The Robin, Bilston THE MANFREDS Artrix Bromsgrove NO SPRING CHICKEN The River Rooms, Stourbridge **SOIL** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton MARY BLACK IN CONCERT Birmingham Town Hall THEY WROTE THE SONGS The music of four great piano singer/ songwriters of the last decades of the 20th century, Crewe Lyceum DR TEETH BIG BAND The Jam House, Birming

**DEL BROMHAM'S BLUES DEVILS** The Cavern, Warwick

ham

TRADITIONAL SONG SES-SION Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

#### **Music** LISTINGS

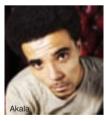
For full listing information on gigs including, times and dates, visit www.whatsonlive.co.uk

#### FRI 8 JUN

THE SUBTERRANEANS The Jam House Birmingham WESTLIFE LG Arena, Birmingham



DR TEETH BIG BAND Cox's Yard, Stratfordupon-Avon ALBERT LEE & HOGAN'S HEROES The Assembly, Leamington Spa KICK UP THE 80'S The River Rooms, Stourbridge THE MUSGRAVES The Ballroom, Birmingham THE ESTABLISHMENT The Cavern, Warwick A VISION OF ELVIS Palace Theatre, Redditch THE SKA AND 2-TONE RE-VIEW The Robin, Bilston **VOULEZ VOUS - THE** MAMMA MIA CONCERT Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa MIRANDA SYKES AND REX **PRESTON** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester CHARLOTTE GLASSON BAND Symphony Hall, Birmingham BEN - A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL JACKSON Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhamp-



**AKALA LIVE IN CONCERT** 

The Drum, Birmingham

ABBAMANIA The Grand Theatre, Wolverhamp-

THEY WROTE THE SONGS The music of four great piano singer/songwriters of the last decades of the 20th century, The Swan Theatre, Worces-

THE SMYTHS 02 Academy, Birmingham

#### SAT 9 JUN

STARS OF THE OPERA The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton **CURSIVE** 02 Academy,

Birmingham THE SUBTERRANEANS The Jam House, Birmingham GERRY CROSS THE MERSEY The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford ALAN PRICE Huntingdon Hall Worcester T-REXTASY The Robin, Bilston DAHOLL KURDISH ENSEM-BLE Symphony Hall, Birmingham RUBY TURNER Artrix. Bromsgrove RAT PACK VEGAS SPEC-TACULAR Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent **BRIT FLOYD** Malvern Theatres MOTOWN'S GREATEST **HITS** Lichfield Garrick TALON - THE BEST OF THE **EAGLES** Bedworth Civic Hall **GANDALE MURPHY & THE** SLAMBOVIAN CIRCUS OF DREAMS The Ballroom. Birmingham MICHAEL BUBLE V ROBBIE WILLIAMS The River Rooms, Stourbridge THE WH00 The Assembly, Leamington Spa

THE MUSGRAVES The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

THE TOWN, THE QUEUE, MARMAI ADE SKY & D.I. **SCOTT SPENCER** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton SAM LEAK QUARTET The Hive, Shrewsbury

CHAOS CAROUSEL Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton MAGIC - A KIND OF QUEEN Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

MIKE DENVER PLUS **BLAKE & BRAZIL** Birmingham Town Hall BACCHUS Cox's Yard. Stratford-upon-Avon BUSBY BABES The Cavern, Warwick
STRAY SOUL REMEDY, VILLAGE GREEN MACHINE. **L00CA** Sunflower

SUN 10 JUN

Lounge, Birmingham

FOSSIL COLLECTIVE The Yardbird Jazz Club Birmingham JANE TAYLOR Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

#### MON 11 JUN

SD-JEM Kasbah, Coven-THE ELVIS YEARS Belgrade Theatre, Coven-**DEAD BELGIAN** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings

Heath, Birmingham

#### **TUE 12 JUN**

FOREVER JACKSON Belgrade Theatre. Coven-TERRY REID Cox's Yard. Stratford-upon-Avon IAN PARKER The Jam House Birmingham LEGEND (RISE RECORDS). DEMORALISER, ODESSA. THE ELIJAH, EMPIRES FADE & THE ESTABLISH-MENT The Ballroom Birmingham BEN MONTAGUE 02 Academy, Birmingham



#### WED 13 JUN

MARK STEWART 02 Academy, Birmingham THE CHANTEL MCGREGOR BAND The Robin, Bilston THE MILK Hare & Hounds Birmingham LUCY WAINWRIGHT **ROCHE** Hare & Hounds. Birmingham **GOSPEL CENTRAL** The Jam House, Birmingham

THE RAPTURE The Sugarmill Stoke-on-Trent JAY-Z & KANYE WEST LG Arena, Birmingham RELIGHT THE FIRE Belgrade Theatre. Coven-

RÁGHU DIXIT Birminaham Town Hall

#### **THUR 14 JUN**

THE WIZE GUYZ The Jam House, Birmingham **LUCY ROSE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham THE LUCKY STRIKES Hare & Hounds, Birmingham BACKWASH The Marr's Bar, Worcester **COOL BRITANNIA** Palace Theatre, Redditch **DUETS FOR DJANGO** Lichfield Garrick THE ELO EXPERIENCE Solihull Arts Complex LIMEHOUSE LIZZY Huntingdon Hall, Worcester T00 PETTY The Robin, Bilston HONEYBOY HICKLING BAND The Cavern, Warwick

#### FRI 15 JUN

STEVE YIMGA BAND Symphony Hall, Birmingham TIME IN A BOTTLE Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire **JAMES FAGAN & NANCY** KERR Huntingdon Hall,

Worcester THE CUREHEADS 02 Academy, Birmingham **DUETS FOR DJANGO** Lichfield Garrick MARTY WILDE & THE WILDCATS Solihull Arts Complex HERMAN'S HERMITS Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock ROGER DEAN SINGS THE JOHNNY CASH STORY Lichfield Garrick THE CAVERN BEATLES The Robin, Bilston JOHNNY KOWALSKI & THE SEXY WEIRDOS The Ballroom, Birmingham FRED ZEPPELIN The River Rooms, Stourbridge URBAN INTRO The Jam House, Birmingham ELTON JOHN LG Arena, Birmingham THE ILLEGAL EAGLES Belgrade Theatre, Coven-

#### SAT 16 JUN

UNDER A BANNER & ONE

CURE FOR MAN Newhampton Arts Centre Wolverhampton BLINK 182 LG Arena. Birmingham URBAN INTRO The Jam House, Birmingham DIO TRILOGY Cox's Yard. Stratford-upon-Avon THE MILK Kashah Coventry TOWNS/SULK The Flapper & Firkin, Birmingham MR BEN The Cavern, Warwick ONE STOP BOOGIE - 70S V 80S The River Rooms. Stourbridge BIG GIRLS DON'T CRY Celebration of the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, Palace Theatre, Redditch LET'S HANG ON - THE MUSIC OF FRANKI VALI & THE FOUR SEASONS Prince Of Wales Centre. Cannock **BOOTLEG ABBA** The Robin, Bilston TOM POPE Symphony Hall, Birmingham **ARRA MANIA** Tamworth Assembly Rooms DANCING IN THE STREETS: MOTOWN'S **GREATEST HITS!** Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stokeon-Trent ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN New Alexandra Theatre. Rirmingham BOYCE AVENUE 02 Academy, Birmingham



FURY. REVENENT DEAD. HURTSEASON. STREETROOPER AND

SILENT RESISTANCE 02 Academy, Birmingham THE JACKIE GENERATION Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa MJ THE TRIBUTE The Place, Oakengates Theatre. Telford

#### SUN 17 JUN

SILENT FILTER FT. CALL ATLANTIS PLUS SUPPORT 02 Academy, Birmingham JOE LONGTHORNE New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham BRAVADO - TRIBUTE TO RUSH The Robin, Bilston TIR NA NOG The Marr's Bar, Worcester KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS The Roadhouse, Birmingham TRANSMISSION (JOY DIVI-SION TRIBUTE) The Cavern. Warwick **CITIZENS** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham JAMES FAGAN & NANCY KERR The Hive. Shrewsburv ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN Crewe Lyceum TRASH TALK The Rainbow. Birmingham WRECKLESS ERIC & AMY RIGBY Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

#### **MON 18 JUN**

ALL THE YOUNG 02 Academy, Birmingham BEST COAST 02 Academy, Birmingham STEVE TILSTON Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

#### **TUE 19 JUN**

CHRIS CORNELL Symphony Hall, Birmingham THE SOUNDS OF THE **SUPREMES** Lichfield Garrick THE GREVISH OLIARTET

The Jam House, Birmingham LESS THAN JAKE The As-

sembly, Leamington Sna

CARA LIJET Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

#### WED 20 JUN

**GRAINNE DUFFY** The Jam House, Birmingham JAKE MATTISON The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham BUDDY HOLLY'S WINTER **DANCE PARTY Crewe** Lyceum BERNIE MARSDEN Cox's Yard, Stratford-upon-Avon TOM HINGLEY The Robin, Bilston

#### THU 21 JUN

ANDY OLIVERI Sym-

phony Hall, Birmingham UK SUBS The Robin, Bil-**GA GA** Malvern Theatres OMAR The Jam House, Birmingham CLEM CURTIS AND THE

FOUNDATIONS The Cav-

#### FRI 22 JUN

ern, Warwick

THE TREVOR BURTON RAND THE MAZ MITRENKO TRIO AND THE DEL RAY ROCKETS The Cavern Warwick THE DOMINO SET. SHOCK-PARADE REREI MOVIE MAKER. ONLY ROUTE OUT & THE ARKHAMISTS The Ballroom Birmingham P!NK MISS UNDERSTOOD The River Rooms. Stourbridge JAY-Z & KANYE WEST Fri 22 Jun, LG Arena, Birmingham UP4 THE DOWNSTROKE The Jam House Birmingham STEVE GIBBONS Cox's Yard. Stratford-upon-Avon



**DIAMOND HEAD** Solihull Arts Complex THE GUNS N' ROSES EX-PERIENCE Lichfield Gar-**DESPERADO** Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock THE ELO EXPERIENCE Artrix, Bromsgrove **KWARTET WITH TIM** WHITEHEAD & TONY W00DS Symphony Hall, Birmingham BERNIE MARSDEN The Robin, Bilston KENNY BALL & HIS JAZZ MEN Huntingdon Hall, Worcester **VOICES UNLIMITED** The Swan Theatre, Worces-

#### SAT 23 JUN

**ROY ORBISON AND** FRIENDS New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham **UP4 THE DOWNSTROKE** The Jam House, Birmingham DIAMOND HEAD Solihull Arts Complex **EVERYBODY LOOKS FA-**MOUS. THE BLACK TEARS. MY FAVOURITE RUNNER UP, IN THE CARDS, AR-CADE PARADE, STATIC PINK & LITTLE WING 02 Academy, Birmingham KATY SETTERFIELD AS **DUSTY SPRINGFIELD** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester **VOICES UNLIMITED** The Swan Theatre, Worces'MOTOWN' LEGENDS PARTY WITH BROTHERS OF SOUL Nailcote Hall. Berkswell, Warwickshire THE RAT PACK The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford **GERRY CROSS THE** MERSEY Artrix, Broms-

**SECRET AFFAIR** The



Robin, Bilston THE BARRON KNIGHTS Lichfield Garrick THE JACKIE GENERATION The River Rooms. Stourbridge THE ELO EXPERIENCE The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury KNOXVII I F HIGHWAY Evesham Arts Centre THE KAYAS The Ironworks, Oswestry NAVI - KING OF POP Michael Jackson tribute, Genting Club Star City, Birmingham **SOUTHVILLE** The Cavern. Warwick

#### SUN 24 JUN

MARINA AND THE DIA-MONDS The Assembly. Leamington Spa PAUL DRAKELEY & THE **ALLSTARS BAND Himley** Hall & Park, Dudley BRIT FLOYD Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury KATE NASH The Glee Club, Birmingham PANIC ROOM The Robin, Bilston TONY BENNETT Symphony Hall, Birmingham ALYSSA REID 02 Academy, Birmingham STEVE AJAO Kitchen Gar-

#### **MON 25 JUN**

Birmingham

den Cafe, Kings Heath,

PAGE 44, ADELAIDE & THE AFTERPARTY 02 Academy, Birmingham PATTI SMITH Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton **CLOUD SALE & ESCAPE IN** PARIS Kasbah, Coventry **TOM MORIARTY & NIGEL PASSEY** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

#### **TUE 26 JUN**

EDITORS HMV Institute, Birmingham KEITH JAMES: THE SONGS OF LEONARD COHEN The Roses Theatre. Tewkshurv NICKI MINAJ National Indoor Arena, Birmingham

TERRI CLARKE The Glee Club, Birmingham THE GLENN MILLER OR-**CHESTRA** St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire

#### WED 27 JUN

R.E.M UK The Robin, Bilston PAST LIVES WITH CIPHER Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry FAT FIGHTERS The Robin, Bilston LAUNCH PAD A showcase of unsigned bands, The Jam House, Birmingham CARLY CONNOR Hare & Hounds, Birmingham EDITORS HMV Institute. Birmingham THE DOLLY PARTON STORY Belgrade Theatre. Coventry THE BIG CHRIS BARBER BAND & ACKER BILK & HIS PARAMOUNT JAZZ **BAND** Kitchen Garden Cafe. Kings Heath. Birmingham

#### **THUR 28 JUN**

THE UKULELE ORCHESTRA OF GREAT BRITAIN Birmingham Town Hall **DEL CAMINO** The Jam House, Birmingham YOUFO TRIBUTE BAND TO U.F.0 The Robin, Bilston AMINGTON BRASS BAND Lichfield Garrick TERRY CLARKE BAND The Cavern, Warwick

#### FRI 29 JUN

AND FINALLY - PHIL COLLINS TRIBUTE SHOW Lichfield Garrick **QUEEN II** West Midland Showground, Shrewsburv AYNSLEY LISTER BAND The Robin, Bilston NOKE Warwick Arts Centre. Coventry



**HUGH MASEKELA & AYANNA** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry THE BON JOVI EXPERI-**ENCE** Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock SIMON SPILLETT QUAR-TET Symphony Hall, Birmingham GEORGE BENSON Symphony Hall, Birmingham SOLID GOLD COUNTRY LEGENDS The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

THE VIEW Wulfrun Hall,

Wolverhampton

DELIAH'S NO.10, SUGAR RAZORS, GUCCI PIMP AND CHAOS PARADE 02 Academy, Birmingham **DETROIT SOUL** The Jam Worcester House, Birmingham ACHTUNG BABY - U2 TRIB-UTE Cox's Yard, Strat-Drum, Birmingham ford-upon-Avon ROBERT CRAY BAND 02 Academy, B'ham Birmingham Town Hall **COMBICHRIST** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

THE ESTABLISHMENT The Cavern Warwick THE GUNS N' ROSES EX-**PERIENCE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge STEVE CRADOCK ACOUSTIC SHOW The Marr's Bar, Worcester HATS OFF TO LED ZEPPE-LIN Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Evesham CHRIS BISCOE & THE TONI

MARINA AND THE DIA-

Birmingham

MONDS HMV Institute,

KOFI PROFILES QUARTET Red Lion, Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

#### Sat 30 JUN

THE SOUL SURVIVORS The River Rooms, Stourbridge THE OFFICIAL RECEIVERS BAND The Cavern, Warwick **DETROIT SOUL** The Jam House, Birmingham WHOLE LOTTA LED The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton SING LIVE UK: BACK TO THE BIG BAND Birmingham Town Hall **REALLY HOT CHILLI PEP-**PERS & BASKET CASE Cox's Yard, Stratfordupon-Avon THE GUNS N' ROSES EX-**PERIENCE** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

JIM MCALLISTER - THE

**VOICE OF SINATRA** The Public, West Bromwich JOHN TAMS AND BARRY COOPE Huntingdon Hall, NOVA GUARDA - BRAZIL-IAN CARNIVAL SHOW The MIKE & THE MECHANICS HOSTILE, CAPTAIN HORI-ZON, POINT BLANK FURY,

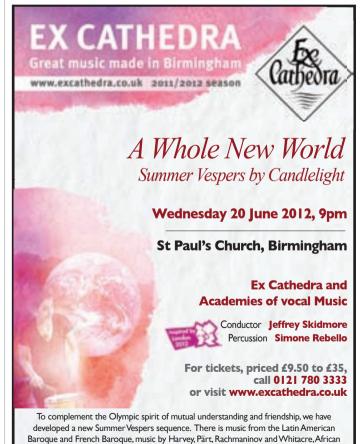
**ZOMBIE XTRAS AND** CHEMIKILL 02 Academy, Birmingham THE CONMITMENTS The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford TAKE THAT & WESTLIFE SHOW Nailcote Hall Berkswell, Warwickshire ANDY HAMILTON & THE **BLUE NOTES** Symphony Hall, Birmingham

THE JAM'D & COMPLETE WELLER The Robin, Bilston

JOE LONGTHORNE Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

THE WANTED Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham JACKSON - LIVE IN CON-**CERT** Lichfield Garrick





Sanctus, African drumming, a vocalized Indian tabla, and another chance to hear Alec

Roth's Hymn to Gaia, sung in Ancient Greek - one of 10 languages in the concert.

Birmingham City Council

**ENGLAND** 

ARTS COUNCIL

#### Classical Music PREVIEWS



#### **CBSO London 2012 Festival Opening Concert**

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Thurs 21 June

This momentous concert not only kicks off the nationwide celebrations that make up the London 2012 Festival, it also premieres a major new work from one of Britain's foremost composers, Sutton Coldfield-born Jonathan Harvey. Principal Guest Conductor Edward Gardner directs the City Of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, CBSO Chorus, CBSO Youth Chorus and Children's Chorus in a performance of Harvey's Weltheos. The work is inspired by the shared spiritual heritage of humanity, and celebrates the common values held by six of the world's greatest religions - Confucianism, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Christianity. Weltheous will broadcast live on BBC Radio Three.

Read our interview with Jonathan Harvey on page 11

#### Symphony Hall Anniversary Concert

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Tues 12 June Acclaimed Welsh bass-baritone Bryn Terfel here leads the celebrations in a special gala concert to mark the twenty-first anniversary of the Midlands' premier concert hall. CBSO Chorus Director Simon Halsey conducts the orchestra as they pay homage to Birmingham's rich musical heritage with a performance of Elgar's The Music Makers. Ravel's Daphnis And Chloe - a piece performed at the very first concert to be held at Symphony Hall in 1991 closes the evening's performance. The programme also features - under the directorship of Andris Nelsons - works by Donizetti, Hazell, Puccini and Bizet.





#### The King's Singers

Lichfield Cathedral, Fri 1 June

A busy concert schedule for 2012 sees the Grammy Award-winning King's Singers touring to no fewer than twenty countries, in the process performing at some of the world's greatest concert halls, including Sydney Opera House and Carnegie Hall. Stopping off in the Midlands to perform as part of the annual Lichfield Festival, the British ensemble celebrate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee with a lively programme of secular music. Having commissioned composer Paul Drayton to write a new work for the occasion, The Singers here present a choral history of England's monarchs, from Alfred the Great onwards.

## Shropshire Proms

Oswestry Showground, North Shropshire, Fri 1 June

The renowned Royal Philharmonic Orchestra are set to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in style this month when they stop off in Shropshire to present an evening of pomp and ceremony. An orchestra of fifty will lead the crowd through rousing renditions of prom favourites, including Jerusalem, Rule Britannia, Land Of My Fathers and Land Of Hope And Glory. A 'spectacular' firework display rounds off proceedings with a bang (or several).

#### **CBSO: Gloria**

Coventry Cathedral, Sat 23 June

One of Britain's most high-profile composers, James MacMillan has compiled a vast catalogue of religious works. For this latest offering, he's taken the ancient text of Benjamin Britten's hymn and transformed it into a new choral concert piece. Commissioned to celebrate Coventry Cathedral's Golden Jubilee in 2012, MacMillan's Gloria is here premiered by a group of local children performing alongside the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, St Michael's Singers and English tenor lan Bostridge. A performance of Britten's St Nicholas, under the directorship of Paul Leddington Wright, also features in the celebratory programme, which culminates with another Coventry Cathedral commission from 1980 - War In Heaven by Neil Cox.



### **Classical** LISTINGS

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

CBSO FRIDAY NIGHT CLASSICS: DIAMOND JUBILATIONS Programme includes works by Walton, Desplat. Coates, Elgar, Bliss, Britten, Arnold & Parry, Fri 1 Jun, Symphony Hall. Birmingham ANGELA HEWITT PIANO RECITAL Programme includes works by Couperin & Faure, Fri 1 Jun, Malvern Theatres THE SHROPSHIRE PROMS & FIREWORKS SPECTACU-LAR Fri 1 Jun, Oswestry Showaround, North Shropshire ANTHONY HEWITT Fri 1 Jun, Concord College, Shrewsbury PETER NOKÉ AND JULIAN HELLABY (TWO PIANOS) Programme includes works by Saint-Saens, Gershwin, Addinsell, Rachmaninov & Ravel, Fri 1 Jun, CBSO Centre, Birmingham KINGS SINGERS JUBILEE CONCERT Fri 1 Jun, Lichfield Cathedral ORCHESTRA OF THE **SWAN DIAMOND JUBILEE CONCERT** Programme features works by Grieg, Delius & Elgar, Sat 2 Jun, Stratford Civic Hall JOHN LILL PIANO RECITAL Programme includes works by Beethoven, Brahms & Schumann, Sat 2 Jun, Malvern Theatres CITY OF WOLVERHAMP-TON CHOIR JUBILEE CON-**CERT** Coronation anthems and Last Night of the Proms favourites, Sat 2 Jun, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton ACADEMY OF ANCIENT MUSIC Richard Egarr conducts a programme of Handel's Royal Music to celebrate The Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen, Sat 2 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham **RUSSELL WATSON** Sun 3 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham **EUROPEAN UNION CHAM-**BER ORCHESTRA Featuring Alison Balsom (Trumpet) & Nikolai Demidenko (piano) Programme includes works by Haydn, Shostakovich, Mozart & Tchaikovsky, Sun 3 Jun, Malvern Theatres **ORCHESTRA OF THE** SWAN Featuring Benjamin Grosvenor (piano). Programme to include works by Grieg & Delius, Wed 6 Jun, Birmingham Town Hall **CBSO: THE SPIRIT OF DEFIANCE** Featuring Andris Nelsons (con-

ductor) & Baiba Skride

(violin). Programme to include works by Sofia Gubaidulina & Shostakovich, Thurs 7 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

CBSO: CENTRE STAGE
Programme includes
works by Handel, Vivaldi, Bach, Couperin &
Dowland, Thurs 7 Jun.
CBSO Centre, Birmingham

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Programme to include works by Elgar, Grieg, Mascagni, Mussorgsky & Tchaikovsky, Fri 8 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN Programme to include works by Finzi & Vaughan Williams, Fri & Jun, Bedworth Civic Hall

CBS0: NELSONS CON-DUCTS SHOSTAKOVICH Programme to include works by Dvorak, Bartok & Shostakovich, Sat 9 Jun, Symphony Hall,

Birmingham
JAKOB KORANYI SUNDAY
MORNING COFFEE CON-

CERT Programme to include works by JS Bach, Esa-Pekka Salonen & Kodaly, Sun 10 Jun, Birmingham Town Hall

SYMPHONY HALL 21ST ANNIVERSARY CONCERT Featuring the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Andris Nelsons, Simon Halsey (conductors), Bryn Terfel (baritone) & the CBSO Chorus... Programme to include works by Elgar. Ravel, Puccini & Bizet, Tue 12 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

WAGNER DREAM Welsh National Opera perform Jonathan Harvey's fantasy on Wagner's final days, fusing biography with what might have been..., Tue 12 Jun, Birmingham Hippodrome

LOHENGRIN Welsh National Opera present Wagner's romantic opera, Wed 13 - Fri 15 Jun, Birmingham Hippodrome

THOMAS TROTTER 21ST ANNIVERSARY ORGAN CONCERT Wed 13 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham THE TRUMPET SHALL

SOUND: MUSIC FOR THE 21ST CENTURY Programme includes works by Tippett, Byrd Sellinger, Deborah Pritchard, Robert Saxton & John McCabe, Fri 15 Jun, Stratford Civic Hall AN EVENING WITH BLAKE Fri 15 Jun, Palace Theatre, Redditch SINFONIA Concert of twentieth-century music, including Britten's Serenade For Tenor, Horns and Strings, Fri 15 Jun, The Barber Concert Hall, Birmingham SIR SIMON RATTLE & THE VIENNA PHILHARMONIC Programme to include works by Brahms, Webern & Schumann, Sat 16 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham SHREWSBURY CHORAL SOCIETY: OPERA VIVA Programme features pieces from Verdi's II Travatore, Puccini's Madama Butterfly and Borodin's Prince Igor, Sat 16 Jun, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury WAYNEFLEET SINGERS Sat 16 Jun, St Mary's Church, Warwick JUBILEE PROMS CONCERT The combined Darwin Ensemble Chamber Orchestra and City Concert Orchestra, Sat 16 Jun, Lichfield Gar-

EX CATHEDRA CHOIR AND ACADEMY OF VOCAL MUSIC Programme: A Whole New World, Summer Vespers by

Summer Vespers by Candlelight, Wed 20 Jun, St Paul's Church, Birmingham FRANCIS MURTON AND NYKKO GREGOIRE ORGAN

NYKKO GREGOIRE ORGAN AND PIANO DUET Wed 20 Jun, Abbey Church, Shrewsbury CBSO CENTRE STAGE Pro-

gramme includes works by Zupancic, Yates & Johnston, Wed 20 Jun, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

CBSO LONDON 2012
OPENING CONCERT
Thurs 21 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham
GALA ORGAN CONCERT
WITH JAMES LANCELOT
Programme includes
works by Bach,
Mendelssohn, Purcell &
Elgar, Sat 23 Jun, St
Laurence's Church,
Ludlow, South Shropshire

L'OFFERTA MUSICALE" DI **VENEZIA** Programme includes works by Galuppi, Clementi, Rossini & Beethoven. Sat 23 Jun, CBSO Centre. Birmingham HEINER GOEBBELS WALDEN Presented by Birmingham Conservatoire, Ensemble Klang & BCMG, Sat 23 Jun. mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham TELEORD ORCHESTRA: MIDSUMMER CELEBRA-**TION** Programme includes works by Freckleton Butterworth Vaughan Williams & Mendelssohn, Sat 23 Jun, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

CANOLDIR'S CHORAL

VARIATIONS Featuring
Canoldir Male Choir,
Black Voices & Felicity
Murphy (soprano), Sat
23 Jun, Symphony Hall,
Birmingham
CBSO: GLORIA Sat 23
Jun, Coventry Cathedral
ENSEMBLE SINE NOMINE
Perform Handel's Messiah, accompanied by
The Corelli String
Orchestra, Sun 24 Jun,
St Laurence's Church,

STRING QUARTET Sun 24
Jun, Shugborough Historic Working Estate,
Staffordshire
SOLIHULL SCHOOLS
MASSED CHOIR Featuring Val Whitlock (conductor) & Tim Lowe (compere), Mon 25
Jun, Symphony Hall,
Birmingham
JUNIOR CONSERVATOIRE
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA &

Ludlow, South Shrop-

shire

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA & CHORUS Mon 25 Jun, Birmingham Town Hall LUNCHTIME CONCERT WITH NICK STRINGFEL-LOW Programme to include Bach's Cello Suites One & Two, Tue 26 Jun, St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire ORCHESTRA OF THE

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN Programme to include works by Finzi, Vaughan Williams, John Ireland & Thomas Tallis, Wed 27 Jun, St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire LUNCHTIME CONCERT WITH NICK STRINGFEL-LOW Programme comprises of Bach's Cello Suites Three and Four,

Thurs 28 Jun, St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire CBSO SUMMER SERE-NADE Featuring Laurence Jackson (violin/director) & Christopher Yates (viola). Programme to include works by Elgar, Mozart, Barber & Dvorak, Thurs 28 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birming-

ham SHREWSBURY LIGHT ORCHESTRA: LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS Sat 30 Jun, West Midland Showground, Shrewsbury

WAGNER'S RING: DIE
WALKURE Opera North
present the second
installment of their fouryear Ring Cycle, Sat 30
Jun, Symphony Hall,
Birmingham
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA: THE
QUEEN'S DIAMOND

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE TOUR: Sat 30 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR Sat 30 Jun, St Laurence's Church, Lud-

low, South Shropshire

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# Comedy

#### **Amy Lame: Unhappy Birthday**

mac, Birmingham, Fri 8 June

American-born Amy is a naturalised Brit who made her stage debut back in the mid-1990s with her memorably titled Gay Man Trapped In A Lesbian's Body one-woman show. She's since gone on to co-found the Olivier Awardwinning 'performance club night and collective' Duckie, which she's toured to the Midlands from its London home of the Royal Vauxhall Tavern. Amy here appears with her Edinburgh preview show, which she says

'cracks open the cult of celebrity and fandom; flays fat, faith and sexual identity; probes the pains of growing up; and cross-examines a curious nostalgia for a time that may never have existed except in the bedroom of our imagination'.



#### **Kevin Bridges**

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Fri 29 June; Birmingham Hippodrome, Sun 11 November; Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 12 November; Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, Sat 24 November

Kevin Bridges' appearance on BBC One's Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow may

one day be viewed by the comic as having been a real turning point in his career, with rave reviews cementing his reputation as one of the brightest young laughter merchants currently performing on the UK comedy circuit.



#### **Alex Horne**

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 10 June

Alex Horne is a man with a fast-growing reputation, both as a stand-up and a writer. The star and co-creator of BBC Four's comedy quiz show We Need Answers, the award-winning funnyman is a former member of Cambridge Footlights, and cleverly blends delicately crafted material with an unusual style of delivery. Examples of his style are, "I used to

do a lot of jokes about crash mats, but I've moved on now. Still, it's always nice to have something to fall back on", and "My grandfather was shrewd. People threw small mammals at him till he suffocated".



#### **Michael Winslow**

Birmingham Town Hall, Wed 6 June; De Montfort Hall, Leicester, Fri 29 June

He may be best known for his role as Sergeant Larvelle 'Motor Mouth' Jones in five hundred-and-fifty-four Police Academy movies (okay, that number's an exaggeration for effect, but probably not *that* much of an exaggeration!), but there's little question that Michael Winslow is just as comfortable being funny on stage as he is on celluloid. And it's not just straightforward gag-telling with which he raises a laugh either - he also knows how to generate more than the occasional chuckle with his breathtaking mimicry, which can not only bring to life Jimmi Hendrix but also delight Star Wars aficionados and even make audiences think Benji the movie dog has entered the building!

#### **Al Murray**

The Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Sun 24 June; The Public, West Bromwich, Tues 17 July; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Tues 2 October; Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, Fri 12 October; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Thurs 6 December

Al Murray's barrel of fun is always a big one, and he's got no shortage of regulars who're always happy to share in the pleasures of a convivial evening with him. Pub Philosopher extraordinaire, Al certainly knows how to serve a pint or two of high quality satire, and he makes for a thoroughly nice drinking companion into the bargain.



## Comedy Box Office

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0844 871 7649 RICOH ARENA, COVENTRY

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#### **Comedy** LISTINGS

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

SIMON AMSTELL Fri 1 Jun. New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham **UPFRONT 20TH BIRTHDAY SPECIAL** Featuring Stephen K Amos, Kayleigh 'Loudmouth' Lewis, Jamie Howard & John Simmit, Fri 1 Jun, The Drum, Birmingham BILLY KIRKWOOD, DAVID LONGLEY, TREVOR CROOK & GEOFF BOYZ Fri 1 Jun, Comedy Live @ Highlight, Birmingham STEWART FRANCIS Fri 1 Jun, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton KILL FOR A SEAT COMEDY **CLUB** Featuring Dr George Ryegold & Macel Lucont, Fri 1 Jun, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham HOLLY WALSH, JOHN WARBURTON, KEVIN MCCARTHY AND DOMINIC HOLLAND Fri 1 - Sat 2 Jun, The Glee Club, Birmingham BILLY KIRKWOOD, TREVOR CROOK, CHRISTOPHE DAVIDSON & **DAVID LONGLEY** Sat 2 Jun, Comedy Live @ Highlight, Birmingham LAUGHTERHOUSE COME-DY SHOW Featuring

Chris Cairns, Howard Read, Phil Butler & Sean Percival, Sat 2 Jun, Palace Theatre, Redditch TIM MINCHIN Sat 2 Jun, Malvern Theatre PETE FIRMAN & MARCEL LUCONT Wed 6 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry JOHN BISHOP Wed 6 Jun, Artrix, Bromsgrove **Z0E LY0NS** Wed 6 Jun, The Public, West Bromwich JASON JOHN WHITEHEAD, DAMIAN CLARK AND DANNY MCLOUGHLIN Thurs 7 Jun, The Glee Club, Birmingham KUM-N-AVALOFF COMEDY NIGHT Thurs 7 Jun, Stourbridge Town Hall JASON JOHN WHITEHEAD, DAMIAN CLARK, DANNY MCLOUGHLIN & COMIC TBC Thurs 7 Jun, The Glee Club, Birmingham **BARRY & STUART** Fri 8 Jun, Birmingham Town Hall AMY LAME Fri 8 Jun, mac - Midlands Arts

**COMEDY NIGHTS** Line-up

tbc, Fri 8 Jun, Lichfield

MILTON JONES Fri 8 Jun,

Stratford Civic Hall CAREY MARX, DUNCAN **OAKLEY & JOE LYCETT** Fri 8 Jun, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton JASON JOHN WHITEHEAD, DAMIAN CLARK, DANNY MCLOUGHLIN & EDDIE KADI Fri 8 - Sat 9 Jun, The Glee Club, Birmingham PHIL ELLIS, DOUGIE DUN-LOP, KEVIN GILDEA & ADDY VAN DER BORGH Fri 8 & Sat 9 Jun, Comedy Live @ Highlight, Birmingham **CRAIG CAMPBELL** Sat 9 Jun, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
DAVE GORMAN Sat 9 Jun, Dudley Concert Hall **ALEX HORNE: SEVEN** YEARS IN THE BATHROOM Sun 10 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry LAUGHING COWS Featuring Liz Carr. Shelley Cooper, Jen Brister and resident MC Maureen Younger, Wed 13 Jun, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham JETHRO Contains Adult Material, Thurs 14 Jun, Prince Of Wales Centre, **ELIS JAMES, MICHAEL** LEGGE AND JO CAULFIELD Thurs 14 Jun, The Glee Club, Birmingham JOHN MANN, KAI HUMPHRIES, MICHAEL FABBRI & GEOFF NOR-COTT Fri 15 Jun. Comedy Live @

ELIS JAMES, MICHAEL LEGGE, JO CAULFIELD & SIMON BLIGH Fri 15 - Sat 16 Jun, The Glee Club, Birmingham JOHN MANN, MIKE **NEWALL, MICHAEL FAB-BRI & GEOFF NORCOTT** Sat 16 Jun, Comedy Live @ Highlight, Birmingham TOM STADE Sun 17 Jun, Artrix, Bromsgrove **ROBIN INCE: HAPPINESS** THROUGH SCIENCE Sun 17 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry **CRAIG CAMPBELL** Wed 20 Jun, Artrix, Bromsgrove CHRIS RAMSEY, THE RAYMOND & MR TIMPKINS REVUE, KERRY **GODLIMAN & PHILBERTO** Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Jun, The Glee Club, Birmingham
JONATHAN MAYOR, MICK FERRY, PAUL PIRIE & THE NOISE NEXT DOOR Sat 22 Jun, Comedy Live @ Highlight, Birmingham JONATHAN MAYOR JACQUES BARRETT, PAUL PIRIE & MICK FERRY Sat 23 Jun. Comedy Live @ Highlight, Birmingham IAN BILLINGS: DUMBS UP Stand-up comedy for all the family, Sat 23 Jun, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa **COMEDY AT THE MET Sat** 23 Jun, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre **COMEDY EVENING Sat 23** 

Highlight, Birmingham

Craig Campbell

Jun, The Blue Orange
Theatre, Birmingham

Theatre, Telford
GARY DELANEY, DAVE

Theatre, Birmingham AL MURRAY - THE PUB LANDLORD Sun 24 Jun, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon JETHRO Tues 26 Jun, Palace Theatre Redditch LAFFACINO EDINBURGH PREVIEWS Wed 27 Jun, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham STEWART LEE Wed 27 & Thurs 28 Jun, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester DAVE GORMAN Thurs 28 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry ROY 'CHUBBY' BROWN Thurs 28 Jun, The Place, Oakengates

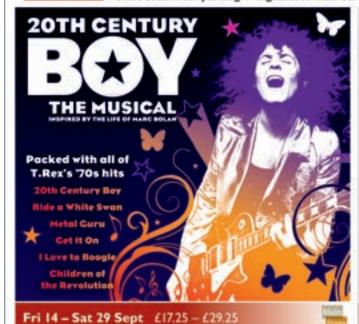
TWENTYMAN & ZOE LYONS Thurs 28 Jun. The Glee Club, Birmingham MICKEY D, MARTIN BEAU-MONT, JOHN MOLONEY & ANDY ASKINS Fri 29 Jun. Comedy Live @ Highlight, Birmingham KEVIN BRIDGES Fri 29 Jun, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
GARY DELANEY, DAVE TWENTYMAN, ZOE LYONS & ROMESH RANGANATHAN Fri 29 -Sat 30 Jun, The Glee Club, Birmingham MICKEY D. JOHN **MOLONEY, DAVE WHITNEY** & ANDY ASKINS Sat 30 Jun, Comedy Live @ Highlight, Birmingham

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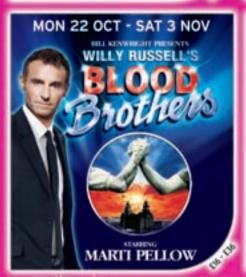
















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# Theatre



This rarely performed George Gershwin masterpiece premiered in 1935 and often referred to as 'the people's opera', is here presented by the highly regarded Cape Town Opera, with the action being relocated from the American Deep South to the townships of South Africa. The production first visited these shores back in 2009, but this is its first ever stop-off in Birmingham. Offering a contemporary view of an enduring classic - originally conceived by Gershwin as an 'American folk opera' - the show includes legendary numbers such as Summertime, I Got Plenty Of Nuttin', It Ain't Necessarily So and I Loves You Porgy, and is sung in English with English surtitles.



#### **Doctor In The House**

The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 11 - Sat 16 June

The Doctor series of comic novels by British physician Richard Gordon became incredibly popular in the 1950s and '60, courtesy of various films starring Dirk Bogarde and then Leslie Phillips. These were followed in the 1970s by numerous spin-off TV series featuring first Barry Evans and later Robin Nedwell. The basic story sees inexperienced young medical student Simon Sparrow beginning his five-year internship at St. Swithin's Teaching Hospital, where he finds himself repeatedly falling foul of irascible head surgeon Sir Lancelot Spratt.

Jesus Of Nazareth star Robert Powell and squeaky-voiced laughter merchant Joe Pasquale demonstrate their bedside manner in this new stage version of a classic British comedy.

#### A Soldier In Every Son: The Rise Of The Aztecs

The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Fri 29 June - Sat 28 July

Based on true events spanning the course of a century, and which were chronicled in the Aztec codices, A Soldier In Every Son has been commissioned for the World Shakespeare Festival, and is closely inspired by Shakespeare's history plays. It's the late fourteenth century, and in the Valley of Mexico. a small, unknown tribe called the Aztecs propel themselves from nomadic mercenaries to rulers of a great empire...







Tue 5 June, Free drop-in fun - 11am-4pm, Touchwood Jubilee Street Party Event in Library Square Live music, nibbles, nostalgic fun & family craft workshops

Wed 6 June In The Box Tickets £19

With stars of BBC Radio's Test Match Special Ralph Dellor hosts an hilarious evening with Jonathan Agnew, Mike Gatting & Geoff Miller



Thur 7 June The Snail & The Whale Tickets £6 Fun family show by the creators of The Gruffalo (for ages 4-10)

Mon 11 June Nicholas Nickleby Tickets £14 (£12) One man virtuoso performance by relative Gerald Dickens

Fri 13 July Buddy Holly & The Cricketers £16.50

Kenny Ball & his Jazzmen Fri 20 July

£19

Fri 27 July Abba - The Show (tribute) £16.50

Outdoor Theatre in the Park - Brueton Park, Solihull Tues 17 July Much Ado About Nothing
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Bring your own seat/blanket/picnic. Tickets are cheaper in
advance but always check availability if buying on the gate.

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#### Theatre PREVIEWS

#### **Guys And Dolls**

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 June

Coventry Musical Theatre Society's latest outing sees them taking on the high-energy challenge of this longtime hit musical, a show which brings into conflict unscrupulous gamblers, sexy showgirls and high-principled missionaries on the streets of 1940s New York, Hit songs include Luck Be A Lady, Sit Down You're Rockin' The Boat, A Bushel And A Peck, and Take Back Your Mink.



#### **Our Fathers**

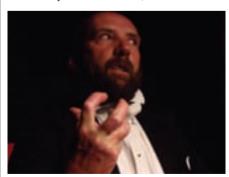
Warwick Arts Centre. Coventry. Tues 12 - Wed 13 June

A piece that takes a look at the subject of fatherhood, Our Fathers is described as 'a playful and moving search through diaries, bibles, memories and dreams, an imaginative leap across oceans and decades led by three performers whose far-away fathers might just make an appearance'. Pertinent questions asked during the show include: What would you do if you were asked to become a father in an email? Or if your dad thought it was dance school that turned you gay? Or if you'd never had the chance to see the man behind the mask?

#### **Nicholas Nickleby**

Solihull Arts Complex, Mon 11 June

Now this should be an evening you won't forget in a hurry - the great great grandson of Charles Dickens performing one of the Victorian novelist's most popular stories, in the process playing each and every character himself! Gerald Dickens is likely to be just a tad tired by curtain-call time, we surmise!



#### Romeo And Juliet

Stafford Castle, Thurs 28 June - Sat 14 July Widely regarded as the playwright's fifth tragedy, this story of a forbidden and secret

love tends to fair less well critically than the majority of Shakespeare's better known plays, but its popularity is ensured by its timeless themes. And this particular version



## The Just Price Of Flowers

AE Harris Building, Birmingham, Fri 15 - Sat 30 June

Birmingham-based Stan's Cafe are the creative force behind this thought-provoking play about the 2008 financial collapse. And it certainly promises to be an intriguingly different work of theatre, being described by its originators as a play that's 'set in seventeenth century Netherlands, looks like a Rembrandt, features origami and pays homage to the great theatremaker Bertolt Brecht'. All that and a refreshingly straightforward presentation of the complexities of high finance! All in all, then, an experience that promises to be engagingly different from a common-or-garden night at the theatre...

has the added attraction of being presented in the great outdoors, as this year's Stafford Festival Shakespeare offering. With all-weather grandstand seating in use, this is the very best kind of outdoor gig - the kind where you stay dry even during a torrential downpour!



#### Situation

Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Tues 12 - Sun 17 June

Last Fancies' The Death Of Georgia B was a sell-out success when it was staged at the Arena last year. The company now invites its audience to make a return visit to the popular Wolverhampton venue, to see a show that's being staged across the entire theatre complex, and in which nowhere is out of bounds and nothing is as it seems...

#### A Miller's Tale With Songs Of **Bob Dylan**

Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham,

To say this is a highly original and inventive interpretation of Chaucer's famous work might be considered by some to be an

understatement. Reworked for a contemporary audience, this fourteenth century Canterbury Tale finds the Miller reciting his poem, dancing around his broomstick, singing the songs of Bob Dylan and wearing an interesting collection of hats.

Intriguing, to say the least. In fact, we'd go so far as to say that this is one miller who's well worth a butchers...

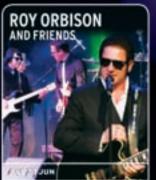
#### Murder On The Nile

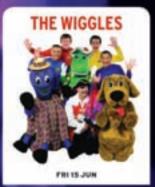
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Mon 18 - Sat 23 June

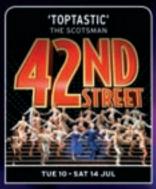
An Agatha Christie tale in which the sleuthing is done by somebody other than Miss Marple or Hercule Poirot, Murder On The Nile sees holidaying cleric Canon Pennefather being drawn deep into a web of intrigue and deceit, as he finds himself on the trail of a ruthless murderer... The much-admired Agatha Christie Theatre Company are the ensemble behind this latest version of the Queen of Crime's famous tale, with the cast including familiar television face Kate O'Mara.

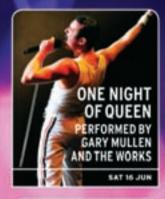






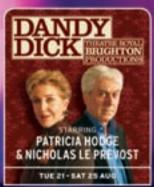












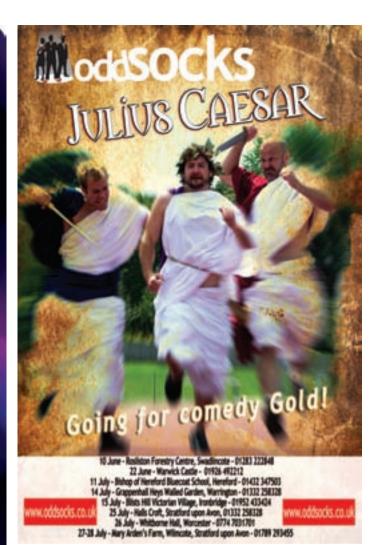




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#### Theatre PREVIEWS

#### Total Football

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 15 June

The big questions of life, immortality, happiness and why England always lose are tackled in this new satire from Ridiculusmus, taking a look at what it means to be British in the early twenty-first century. All of life is contained herein - well, some interesting elements of it, at least; from the controversial attempt to create a united UK football team for the 2012 games to one man's attempts to reproduce when he can't even explain the offside rule...



#### **Pinocchio**

The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury, Sat 30 June The legendary tale of the wooden boy with a disappointing propensity for telling porky pies to the detriment of his fast-growing proboscis is here presented by the ever-imaginative Cube, using a tried-and-trusted blend of puppetry, music and comedy. Suitable for children aged five and older, the show also offers its sure-to-be-captivated young audience an opportunity to get up and close and personal with the puppets.



# Underrated: Birmingham The Musical

mac, Birmingham, Thurs 14 - Fri 15 June
Billed as 'a multi-voiced theatrical extravaganza', Underrated celebrates what are
described as 'the best bits of Brum through
the eyes of its young people'. Birmingham
may be known for its Bullring and its Balti,
but how is it viewed by the younger generation, the people who have a real stake in the
future well-being of the UK's second city?
Presented by Women & Theatre, this highenergy new work attempts to find out...

#### The Mysteries

Coventry Cathedral Ruins, Mon 18 June

Playbox Theatre here revives its highly regarded production of The Mysteries. Bringing together more than forty actors, this impressively staged epic takes its audience on the ultimate journey, from Creation to the end of time.



# The Cemetery Club

The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Tues 26 - Sat 30 June

Ivan Menchell's much-loved comedy has been described as 'Steel Magnolias meet The Golden Girls in Brooklyn'. Ida, Lucille and Doris are three widows who meet once a month to visit their husbands' graves, providing support for one another as they face an uncertain future without the men they have loved. But when each of them starts taking widowed life in a different direction, they find that their self-created support network is suddenly in serious danger of being significantly compromised... Anne Charleston, Anita Harris and Shirley-Anne Field star.

## The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy Radio Show

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Tue 12 June

Douglas Adams's famous creation is back, courtesy of this brand new stage production which reunites the original radio and TV cast. As radio shows go, this one's pretty darned unique, and comes complete with surround-sound, laughter, robots, sound effects and drinks with extremely silly names.

#### The Railway Children

The Dell, Stratford-upon-Avon, Sun 3 June; Jephson Gardens, Leamington Spa, Wed 27 -Thurs 28 June; Brueton Park, Solihull, Tues 31 July; Shugborough Historic Estate, Staffordshire, Sun 2 September

E Nesbitt's famous tale remains best known in its 1971 film version, of course, and tells the gentle story of an Edwardian family whose life is unexpectedly turned upsidedown. Days stretch endlessly for Bobbie, Peter and Phyllis in their new home of Three Chimneys, a house near a railway in a Yorkshire village. Mysteriously separated from their father, the children set about the business of carving out a new way of living for themselves, and pass the time of day watching the trains on the nearby railway line and waving to the passengers. The youngsters soon become friendly with Albert Perks, the station porter, and with an old gentleman who regularly takes the 9.15 down train, little knowing that their new acquaintance is set to have a remarkable effect on their future hapniness...



#### The Wiggles

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Fri 15 June

"We love touring the UK and Ireland," says Blue Wiggle Anthony Field. "It's the favourite part of our year. We're all looking forward to seeing our old friends, as well as meeting some new ones."

And friends certainly aren't in short supply for the Australian fab four, who've taken the children's entertainment world by storm over the last few years. Although they've only come to significant international prominence relatively recently, The Wiggles are actually celebrating their twenty-first anniversary this year - and if that's not a good enough reason to get wiggling to hits such as Hot Potato, Fruit Salad, Rock-a-Bye Your Bear and Toot, Toot, Chugga Chugga, then we don't know what is!



#### As You Like It

The Commandery Gardens, Worcester, Tues 12 - Sat 23 June

Shakespeare's highly likable comedy 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... This Worcester Repertory Company production sees Benjamin Way make his Shakespeare debut taking the role of Orlando. Fiona McGregor also stars.







# PLAY IN THE PARK King Arthur & the Sword in the Stone Thursday 26th July



Bring a picnic and enjoy a summers evening out as the Cambridge Touring Theatre being myth and magic to Weston Park with this lively outdoor production.

Workshop: 5pm (5-10 yrs)
Gates Open: 6pm
Performance: 6:30pm
Ticket Prices - Adults £15, Child (3-14yrs) £10, Family £40
Workshop £2, Under 3's Free

"has families rolling around on their picnic mats with laughter"

BOX OFFICE - 01952 852100 www.cambridgetouringtheatre.co.uk

# Theatre LISTINGS

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

# From FRI 1 JUN

KAFKA'S MONKEY Olivier Award-winner Kathryn Hunter portrays an ape in a tale of forced assimilation into an alien culture that's based on A Report To The Academy by Franz Kafka, until Fri 1 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

HIP HOPE HERO Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company, together with Moving Hands, fuse a combination of dance, poetry, animation, original music and puppetry in a new and exciting show for children, until Sat 2 Jun, Old Rep, Birmingham

AVENUE Q Tony Awardwinning musical that centres on a group of loveable yet hopeless characters on a downtown New York street, until Sat 2 Jun, Belgrade Theatre, Coven-

SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME Brand new rock'n'roll musical that sees Dreamboats & Petticoats meet Dirty Dancing, until Sat 2 Jun, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton I DREAMED A DREAM

Elaine C Smith stars as Susan Boyle in an acclaimed new musical that charts the singer's story, until Sat 2 Jun, Birmingham Hippo-

drome
THE LADY IN THE VAN
Alan Bennett drama
starring Nichola McAuliffe, until Sat 2 Jun,
Malvern Theatres
PIRATES OF PENZANCE
Sutton Coldfield Musical Theatre Company

present an amateur production of the Gilbert and Sullivan comedy, until Sat 2 Jun, Lichfield Garrick THE EDGE The Steelworks Dance and Performing Arts Studio present an evening of choreographed pieces from the world of musicals and film, until Sat 2 Jun, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

KISS OF THE SPIDER
WOMAN Music Theatre
Warwick present their
version of Kander &
Ebb's musical that's
based on Manuel
Puig's successful novel,
until Sat 2 Jun, Warwick
Arts Centre

FROZEN Blue Orange Arts present Bryony Lavery's award-winning play, until Sat 9 Jun, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD New version of Thomas Hardy's classic tale, until Sat 9 Jun. New Vic Theatre Newcastle-under-Lyme IN A PICKLE An Oily Cart and Royal Shakespeare Company co-production that takes young audiences through the landscapes of Shakespeare's imagination and the music of his language, until Sun 17 Jun, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon JULIUS CAESAR Director Gregory Doran brings a contemporary edge to Shakespeare's great political thriller, until Sat 7 Jul, Royal Shake speare Theatre. Stratford-upon-Avon RICHARD III Roxana Silbert directs a contemporary version of Shakespeare's expose of one of history's most infamous monarchs until Sat 15 Sep. The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon KING JOHN Maria Aberg directs the RSC in a new version of Shakespeare's play about the medieval monarch's political struggle with France, until Sat 15 Sep. The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

Avon
OUR LADS Kidderminster
College present a new
play from young local
writer Joshua Read,
Thurs 1 Jun, The Rose
Theatre, Kidderminster
MASTERS OF THE HOUSE
A vocal journey through
the various stages of
producing a West End
musical hit, Fri 1 Jun,
Tamworth Assembly

THE GAMES Spike Theatre present the story of three Greek nobodies caught up in a celestial bet between Zeus, Hera & Hercules, Fri 1 Jun, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

Rooms

GRAND HOTEL The Crescent Theatre Company present Luther Davis' musical which focuses on events during the course of a weekend in an elegant hotel in 1928 Berlin, Sat 1 - Sat 2 Jun, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham YOU'RE NOT LIKE THE OTHER GIRLS CHRISSIE Caroline Horton presents a poignant portrait

of one woman's experience of love and war, Sat 2 Jun, Artrix, Bromsgrove SHYLOCK Guy Masterson's solo show that presents an artful dissection of Shake-

speare's The Merchant

of Venice, Sat 2 Jun,

ENGLAND An afternoon of nostalgic entertainment to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, Sat 2 Jun, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford SHAW AND DICKENS ON STAGE One-act farce set in Malvern Wells, Sat 2 Jun, The Coach House Theatre, Malvern AMERICAN BUFFALO The Crescent Theatre Company present David Mamet's simple tale of small-time crooks and swindlers... Sat 2 - Sat 9 Jun, The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham RICHARD III The Festival Theatre Company present an outdoor production of Shakespeare's expose of one of history's most infamous monarchs. Sun 3 Jun. Whittington Castle, THE RAILWAY CHILDREN Heartbreak Productions present their awardwinning adaptation of E Nesbitt's classic Edwardian tale, Sun 3 Jun, The Dell, Stratfordupon-Avon

The Bridge House The-

THERE'LL ALWAYS BE AN

atre, Warwick

# Week Commencing MON 4 JUN

THE GRUFFALO Tall Stories present their adaptation of Julia Donaldson's magical tale for children, Tues 5 - Wed 6 Jun, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTH-ING Heartbreak Production present their version of Shakespeare's tale of love and deceit, Tue 5 - Wed 6 Jun, Jephson Gardens, Leamington Spa IN THE BOX Following the huge success of Sticky Wicket and Rain Stops Play, the team behind BBC Radio's Test Match Special return to the road with a brand new show that's packed with anecdotes from life in the box, Wed 6 Jun, Solihull Arts Complex
THERE WAS AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY The People's Theatre Company present a children's show that sees one of the world's best loved nursery rhymes brought to life, Wed 6 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury HIP HOPE HERO New and exciting show combining dance, animation, original music, poetry and some seriously cool puppets, Wed 6 Jun, Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Evesham PORGY & BESS Cape Town Opera present George Gershwin's masterpiece, Wed 6 Sat 9 Jun, Birmingham Hippodrome

HARE & TORTOISE A new adaptation of Aesop's fable. Thurs 7 Jun. Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Evesham THE PIED PIPER Krazy Kat Productions present a fast-moving comedy re-telling of the classic fairy tale, Thurs 7 Jun Arena Theatre Wolverhampton THE SNAIL AND THE WHALE Tall Stories present their latest collaboration with Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler Thurs 7 Jun Solihull Arts Complex ANNIE Presented by Spa Theatre Juniors, Thurs 7 - Sat 9 Jun, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick 42ND STREET Amateur production presented

by The Viv Kelly Youth
Theatre Group, Thurs 7
- Sat 9 Jun, Theatre
Severn, Shrewsbury
HIP HOPE HERO New and
exciting show combining dance, animation,
original music, poetry
and some seriously
cool puppets, Thurs 8
Jun, The Public, West
Bromwich
AN EVENING OF BUR-

LESQUE The fascinating art form is brought to the stage in this touring show that features an all-star cast, Fri 8 Jun, Malvern Theatre EDWARD II Jadis Shadows present Christopher Marlowe's classic tale of love, lust and ambition, Fri 8 Jun, Arena Theatre, Wolver-

nampton
THE HEIRESS The Billesley Players present their
version of Henry James'
novel that explores
issues of wealth, control, sincerity and true
love, Fri 8 - Sat 9 Jun,
Old Rep, Birmingham
THIS IS ENTERTAINMENT
Argosy Musical Theatre
Company present a
celebration of the West
End and Broadway, Fri
8 - Sat 9 Jun, The Crescent Theatre, Birming-

ham
A NIGHT OF DIRTY DANCING Concert show featuring all the songs
from the much-loved
iconic movie, Sat 9 Jun,
Palace Theatre, Redditch

EMMA Chapterhouse Theatre present their version of Jane Austen's classic tale of matchmaking, marriage and merriment, Sat 9 Jun, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

I'M TELLING YOU THEY'RE ALIENS Stage adaptation of Jeremy Strong's book for children, Sat 9 Jun, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa AN EVENING OF BUR-LESQUE The fascinating art form is brought to

art form is brought to the stage in this touring show that features an all-star cast, Sat 9 Jun, Theatre Severn, Shrewshury

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

AND THE THREE LITTLE PIGS The award-winning Ballet Cymru present a double-bill of Boald Dahl classics. Sat 9 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF RODGERS AND HAM-MERSTEIN & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Featured pieces include Phantom, Les Miserables, Mary Poppins and Witches Of Eastwick Sat 9 Jun, Victoria Hall, Hanley Stoke-on-Trent THE WHEELS ON THE BUS Interactive theatre session for the under-fives, Sun 10 Jun, Crewe Lyceum GANG SHOW 80TH ANNIVERSARY Featuring one-hundred and fifty scouts and guides from

ANNIVERSARY Featuring one-hundred and fifty scouts and guides from thirty Gang Shows across the UK, Sun 10 Jun, Birmingham Hippodrome DANCING QUEEN Choreographed show that takes the audience

graphed show that takes the audience through Abba's greatest hits, Sun 10 Jun, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

# Week Commencing MON 11 JUN

**NICHOLAS NICKLEBY** Enter the world of Charles Dickens in the company of his great great grandson Gerald Dickens, Mon 11 Jun, Solihull Arts Complex DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE Joe Pasquale and Robert Powell star in a stage version of the classic British comedy, Mon 11 - Sat 16 Jun. The Grand Theatre. Wolverhampton SINGIN' IN THE RAIN Presented by Pershore Operatic & Dramatic Society, Mon 11 - Sat 16 Jun, Number 8 Community Arts Centre, THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY Radio show featuring Simon Jones. Susan Sheridan. Geoff McGivern, Mark Wing-Davey and the voice of Stephen Moore, Tue 12 Jun, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham SCIENCE MUSEUM LIVE London's world-famous Science Museum takes to the road to present a brand new live show that's set to challenge the brains of children aged seven and above, Tues 12 - Wed 13 Jun, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury OUR FATHERS Drama that explores what it means to be a dad in today's society, Tue 12 -Wed 13 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry THE CEMETERY CLUB Starring Anita Harris, Shirley-Anne Field. Karen Ford and Debbie Norman, Tue 12 - Sat 16 Jun, Crewe Lyceum

MTC present their version of Tim Firth's acclaimed musical Tues 12 - Sat 16 Jun. The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham **SITUATION** Last Fancies theatre company take the traditional murder mystery to a new level as they take over the whole of the theatre to stage a city-wide murder hunt, Tue 12 - Sun 17 Jun, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton A SERVANT OF TWO MAS-TERS Carlo Goldini's comedy of mistaken identity, Tue 12 - Sat 23 Jun, Highbury Theatre Centre, Sutton Coldfield **EQUUS** Inspired by a true story, Peter Shaffer's unique psychological thriller explores the complex relationships between worship, myth and sexuality, Tues 12 -Sat 23 Jun, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-AS YOU LIKE IT Worcester Repertory Company present an outdoor production of Shakespeare's romantic comedy, Tues 12 - Sat 23 Jun, The Commandery, AN AUDIENCE WITH SALLY

**OUR HOUSE** Great Barr

MORGAN Psychic to the stars! Wed 13 Jun, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham ROLL OUT THE BARREL Wed 13 Jun, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock PADDY ASHDOWN - A FORTUNATE LIFE Paddy looks back over his long career in the armed forces and politics, Wed 13 Jun, Lichfield Garrick PRIVATE LIVES Heartbreak Productions present their version of . Noel Coward's celebrated drama, Wed 13 -Thu 14 Jun. Jephson Gardens, Leamington LA BOHEME Welsh

Spa
LA BOHEME Welsh
National Opera present
a major new production
of Puccini's much-loved
romantic opera that
sees internationally
acclaimed director
Annabel Arden make
her company debut,
Wed 13 - Fri 15 Jun,
Birmingham Hippodrome

O.U.T SPELLS OUT Playbox Theatre present a powerful drama that explores the journeys of children forced to migrate as a result of WWII, Wed 13 - Sat 16 Jun, The Dream Factory, Warwick
CALAMITY JANE Crossed Keys Musical Theatre Company present their version of the iconic Wild West musical, Wed 13 - Sat 16 Jun, Old Rep, Birmingham I, CINNA (THE POET) Tim Crouch directs a new version of Shake-

speare's Julius Caesar

that aims to encourage

# **ENTERTAINMENT** CANNOCK CHASE

Prince of Wales Centre

Wednesday 13th June, 2.30pm

#### **ROLL OUT THE BARREL**

A joyous and unforgettable musical journey. 'Roll Out The Barrel' is a feast of non-stop nostalgia featuring over 65 songs that you know and love.



#### **JETHRO**

Jethro is the stage name of British stand-up comedian Geoff Rowe, based in



#### **HERMAN'S HERMITS**

british groups, three of which became household names - The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and... Herman's Hermits, who are one of the most successful groups throughout the world. From their beginning in



Cannock Chase Council

Saturday 16th June, 7.30pm

#### **LETS HANG ON**

successful bands of all time.



Friday 22nd June, 7.30pm

#### DESPERADO

HELL FREEZES OVER TOUR

performing their take on that very same show



#### **BON JOVI EXPERIENCE**

Formed in 1983, Bon Jovi is an American rock band from Sayreville, New Jersey, fronted by lead singer and namesake Jon Bon Jovi.



Saturday 30th June, 7.30pm

#### JOE LONGTHORNE

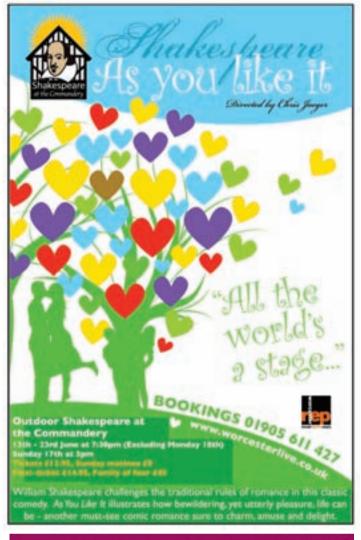
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Fri 1st June 7.30 MUSICAL YOUTH £12 & £11 (disc)



Sat 2nd June 8.00 COMEDY LAUGHTERHOUSE COMEDY SHOW £12.50 & £8.50 (disc)



Wed 6th June 1.00 BOB THE **BUILDER LIVE** £12.00 & £10.00 (disc)



Fri 8th June 7.30 A VISION OF **ELVIS** £17.50 & £16.50 (disc)



Sat 9th June 7.30 A NIGHT OF **DIRTY DANCING** £18.50 & £17.50 (disc)



Tues 28th June 7.30 JETHRO 2012 LIVE All seats £18.50

Thur 14th June 7.30

Fri 15th June 7.30

Love Lifts Us Up £20 & £19 (disc)

Sat 16th June 7.30

£18.50 & £17.50

**BIG GIRLS** 

DON'T CRY

(disc)

COOL

BRITANNIA

£22.50 &

BLAKE

£20 (disc)



Fri 29th June 7.30 DEREK ACORAH The True VisionTour £17.50 & £16.50 (disc)



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online booking at www.redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk

# Theatre LISTINGS

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

engage with the Bard's writings. This production has been commissioned as part of the World Shakespeare Festival, Wed 13 Jun -Fri 6 Jul, The Swan Theatre Stratford **BACK TO BROADWAY** Thurs 14 Jun, The Place, Oakengates Theatre Telford. Shropshire THE BURLESQUE SHOW Evening of sophisticated tease, comedy, magic and music, Thurs 14 Jun, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry
HIP HOPE HERO Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company, together with Moving Hands, fuse dance, poetry, animation, original music and puppetry in a new and exciting show for children. Thurs 14 Jun. Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTH-ING Heartbreak Production present their version of Shakespeare's tale of love and deceit, Thurs 14 Jun, The Pavilions, Smethwick, Birmingham
AN EVENING WITH GER-VASE The English

author shares poignant tales of life as a schools inspector in the Yorkshire Dales, Thurs 14 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury UNDERRATED: BIRMING-

atre, Tewksbury
UNDERRATED: BIRMINGHAM THE MUSICAL A
multi-voiced theatrical
piece that celebrates
the best bits of Brum
through the eyes of its
young people, Thurs 14
- Fri 15 Jun, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birm-

ingham THE CEPHAS CHRONICLES Jars Of Clay Theatre present a one-man show that brings to life the tale of Peter, Jesus' most impetuous disciple, Thurs 14 - Sat 16 Jun, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham TOTAL FOOTBALL Ridiculusmus present David Woods and Jon Hayes' exploration of our cultural identity, as told through the lens of our most popular sport, Fri 15 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry MACBETH Performed by the Lord Chamberlains Men, Fri 15 Jun, Black Country Living Museum. Dudlev

A NIGHT AT THE OPERA
Crucifixus Productions
present a fast-paced
odyssey of variety performances, Fri 15 - Sat
16 Jun, Old Joint Stock
Theatre, Birmingham
ICARUS A fusion of storytelling, music, dance
and physical theatre
that retells the Greek
myth, Fri 15 - Sun 17
Jun, mac - Midlands
Arts Centre, Birmingham
THE JUST PRICE OF

FLOWERS Birmingham Repertory Theatre and Stan's Cafe present a play about the 2008 financial collapse that's set in the Netherlands in the 17th Century and pays homage to the great theatre-maker Bertolt Brecht, Fri 15 -Sat 30 Jun, A E Harris Building, Birmingham TRISTAN & ISOLDE Welsh National Opera present Wagner's passionate opera. This co-production with Scottish Opera sees the performance sung in German with English surtitles, Sat 16 Jun. Birmingham Hippodrome AN EVENING WITH **DEMENTIA** Former RSC

actor Trevor T Smith

one-man play that

stars in a bitter-sweet

explores the mind of an

old actor who has been

cut loose from society

by a fading memory,

Sat 16 Jun, The Public, West Bromwich APPLAUSE A cabaret of song and dance, Sat 16 Jun, Dovehouse Theatre, Solihull THE KIDZ CONCERT -TOTALLY AWESOME! A multi-talented cast showcase some of the coolest dance moves in what's described as the biggest and best pop party on the planet' Sat 16 Jun. Belgrade Theatre Coventry THAT'LL BE THE DAY Rock'n'roll spectacular combining music from the 50s, 60s & 70s with wacky comedy routines, Sat 16 - Sun 17 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury MY BIG FAT JAMAICAN FUNERAL Harmony Productions present Sylvia De'Vere's drama that centres around Seianus Jackson, a boy born to be special... Sat 16 -Sun 17 Jun, The Drum, Birmingham PRIVATE LIVES Heartbreak Productions present their version of Noel Coward's celebrated drama, Sun 17 Jun, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford PIRATES OF THE CURRY

BEAN Theatretrain pres-

ent a swashbuckling

pirate musical for chil-

dren aged six to eight-

een, Sun 17 Jun, The

Crescent Theatre, B'ham

# Week Commencing MON 18 JUN

THE MYSTERIES Playbox Theatre revive their acclaimed production of the epic story of hope and fear, from Creation to the end of time, Mon 18 Jun, Coventry Cathedral of Ruins DAISY PULLS IT OFF The Nonentities present their version of Denise Deegan's comedy play that centres around life in an English boarding school in the 1920s. Mon 18 - Sat 23 Jun,

The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster
MURDER ON THE NILE
Kate O'Mara, Denis Lill
and Susie Amy star in a
new production of the
queen of crime's classic thriller, 18 - Sat 23
Jun, Theatre Severn,
Shrewsbury
DANGEROUS OBSESSION

DANGEROUS OBSESSION
Stoke Repertory Players present their version of NJ Crisp's classic thriller, Mon 18 - Sat 23 Jun, Stoke Repertory Theatre

PHANTOMS AND THE MUSICALS Barry Walker's Smackee makes a welcome return, presenting the latest and greatest from London's West End and Broadway, Tue 19 Jun, Dudley Concert Hall DRY ROT Physical comedy featuring an all-star cast, including Liza Goddard, Susan Penhaligon, Gareth Hale & Norman Pace, Neil Stacy & Derren Nesbitt, Tues 19 - Sat 23 Jun. Malvern Theatre THE PILLOWMAN Warwick University Drama Students present their version of Martin McDonagh's black comedy, Wed 20 - Sat 23 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry A KISS ON THE BOTTOM Wythall Theatre Com pany present Frank Vickery's comedy, Wed 20 - Sat 23 Jun, Dovehouse Theatre, Solihull THE MARRIAGE OF BETTE AND BOO Birmingham School of Acting, in association with Josef Weinberger, present a rollercoaster of a black comedy in thirty-three short scenes, Wed 20 Sat 23 Jun, The Old Rep. Birmingham I'M AN ARISTOCRAT GET ME OUT OF HERE Fastpaced swashbuckling comedy that sees three actors perform twenty roles in a seventy-fiveminute production. Thurs 21 Jun, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTH-





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Thu 7th June, 7.30pm

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Sun 10th June, 10.00am & 2.00pm

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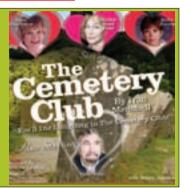
Tues 12th - Sat 16th June. 7.30pm, Sat Mat 2.30pm

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Tickets from £12.00 - £18.50



Sun 17th June, 7.30pm

#### ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN

performed by Gary Mullen and The Works

Tickets £17.50 G

Wed 20th June, 7.30pm

#### **BUDDY HOLLY'S WINTER DANCE PARTY**

Tickets £15.00 / £16.00 / £17.00 G

Sun 24th June, 2,30pm

#### THERE WAS AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY

Tickets £9.50 / Children £8.50 / Family £32.00

Tue 26th June, 7.30pm

#### CARNIVAL QUEENS PRESENTED BY THE LADY **BOYS OF BANGKOK**

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THEY ARE UNABLE TO OPEN IT.



Wednesday 20th June **CRAIG CAMPBELL** 

RNATIONALLY Med Act, Craig's Ical Travel Anecdotes Fail to Surprise.



**RUBY TURNER** 

RUBY AND HER BAND PERFORM Tracks from Her Latest Gospel-Inspired Album I'm Travelling On.



Friday 22nd June THE ELO

**EXPERIENCE** COME AND HEAR THEIR GREATEST HITS REPRODUCED BY THE ELO EXPERIENCE.



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JUNE

**HIGHLIGHTS** 

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# Theatre LISTINGS

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ING Heartbreak Productions present their version of Shakespeare's tale of love and deceit, Thurs 21 Jun, Twycross Zoo, Warwickshire SWING IT WITH THE OPERA

**DUDES** Featuring a unique blend of style, swing and slapstick humour, Thurs 21 Jun, Lichfield Garrick THE CANTERBURY TALES Playbox Theatre's Young

Company present Chaucer's colourful and witty tale, Thurs 21 - Fri 22 Jun, Lord Leycester Hospital, Warwick ACARI - MASTER STAGE HYP-

NOTIST Comedy show with a difference, Thurs 21 - Fri 22 Jun, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham **GUYS & DOLLS Classic** musical tale of unscrupulous gamblers, sexy showgirls and high-principled missionaries doing battle in the depraved streets of 1940s New York, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Jun, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

THE MAGIC OF MUSICALS The Norbury Players present an evening of songs from the musicals, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Jun, Norbury Theatre Droitwich Sna **BEAUTY & THE BEAST** Amateur production presented by The Harlequins Drama Group, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Jun, Palace Theatre, Red-

AN AUDIENCE WITH COLIN FRY Fri 22 Jun, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire BEING HUMAN Three performers present an evening of poetry from around the world, supported by music, projections and striking imagery, Fri 22 Sat 23 Jun, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry WILD CHILD Moby Duck present a new theatrical production for young people aged eight and over, Sat 23 Jun, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

A MILLER'S TALE WITH SONGS OF BOB DYLAN A musical comedy of Chaucer's fourteenth century carry-on, told by England's oldest song and dance man, the Miller, Sat 23 Jun. Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Heartbreak Productions present their version of Shakespeare's tale of love and deceit, Sat 23 Jun, Charlecote Park. Warwick-

THERE WAS AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY The People's Theatre Company present a children's show that sees one of the world's best loved nursery rhymes brought to life, Sun 24 Jun, Crewe Lvceum

#### Week Commencing **MON 25 JUN**

THE LADYBOYS OF BANGKOK Tue 26 Jun, Crewe Lyceum

THE WIZ Brit Youth Theatre present their version of the much-loved musical, Tues 26 - Fri 29 Jun, The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham THE CEMETERY CLUB Presented by Ian Dickens Productions, Tue 26 - Sat 30 Jun, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

THE FINAL TEST Chris Paling's comedy about cricket, marriage and the dangerous lure of Bexhill-on-Sea. Colin Baker, Peter Amory, Karen Ford and Nicola Weeks star, Tues 26 - Sat 30 Jun, Malvern The-

SABBAT: THE TRIALS OF THE **PENDLE WITCHES** Amy Leach directs the story of

one of the most famous witch hunts and trials in British history. Tues 26 -Sat 30 Jun New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-

THE LADYBOYS OF BANGKOK Wed 27 Jun. Lichfield Garrick

MADE IN HEAVEN A compelling evening of dance theatre from the Mark Bruce Company, assisted by puppetry from awardwinning company Pickled Image, Wed 27 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury DISNEY'S ARISTOCATS Presented by Kids Hydesville Tower School in conjunction with Ambient Night Productions, Wed 27 Thurs 28 Jun, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock THE RAILWAY CHILDREN Heartbreak Productions present their award-winning adaptation of E Nesbitt's classic Edwardian tale, Wed 27 - Thu 28 Jun, Jephson Gardens, Leamington Spa

MUCH ADO ABOUT WENLOCK Worcester-based theatre company Vamos present a fully-masked show that centres on Much Wenlock's very own Olympic Games in 1850, Thurs 28 -Sat 30 Jun, The Swan Theatre Worcester

SHINE ON The Belgrade Community and Education Company presents everyday stories from the lives of Coventry's older generations, Thurs 28 - Sat 30 Jun. Belgrade Theatre. Coventry

DRACULA Birmingham School of Acting in association with Nick Hern Books present a powerful and poetic version of Bram Stoker's classic story Thurs 28 - Sat 30 Jun, The Old Rep, Birmingham ROMEO AND JULIET Outdoor production of Shake-. speare's famous tale of passion and tracedy. Thurs 28 Jun - Sat 14 Jul. Stafford Castle DR. PHIL'S RUDE HEALTH

SHOW Private Eye's medical correspondent takes to the stage for an evening

of rudeness, Fri 29 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewks-

DEREK ACORAH: TRUE VISION Evening of mediumship, Fri 29 Jun, Palace Theatre, Redditch

MIRIAM MARGOYI FS: DICK-FNS' WOMEN The wellknown character actress portrays over twenty of Dickens' best loved characters, from doe-eyed young heroines and browbeating old harridans to men and midgets, Fri 29 Jun, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire A SOLDIER IN EVERY SON -THE RISE OF THE AZTECS Roxana Silbert directs the first in a trilogy of plays commissioned for the World Shakespeare Festival, Fri 29 Jun - Sat 28 Jul, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon RIIGSY MAI ONE Presented

by Reach Musical Theatre. Fri 29 - Sat 30 Jun, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton AN EVENING OF JAPANESE FAIRYTALES A series of tales, often dark, that fuse Japanese, commedia and western theatre styles. Sat 30 June, The Met Studio, Stafford Gatehouse The-

PINOCCHIO Cube's new adaptation of the classic children's story of a pup-pet's quest to become a real boy, Sat 30 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury **BOB THE BUILDER: BOB'S BIG** THEATRE BUILD Sat 30 Jun. Stafford Gatehouse The-

HAPPY STEPS CHOREOGRA-PHY SHOW Showcase of works from Worcester's musical theatre groups, Sat 30 Jun, Norbury Theatre. Droitwich Spa THE CANTERBURY TALES Presented by Playbox Theatre's Young Company, Sat 30 Jun, The Dell, Stratford-upon-Avon PRIDE AND PREJUDICE The Crescent Theatre Touring Company present their version of the Jane Austen classic, Sat 30 Jun - Sat 7 Jul, The Crescent Theatre,



#### Thurs 31 May, 8pm **SHOOT OUT** AT THE **IMPROV CORRAL**

Upstairs Improv present TWO Directors and a Posse of Improvisers

#### Wed 6 June, 7.30pm AT THE INLAND SEA

Big Brum present a staged, rehearsed reading of Edward Bond's first play for Big Brum, performed by the original cast

#### Thurs 14 June, 7.30pm WORKSHOP PERFORMANCE

In A Moment present a new piece devised and written during Shakespeare Workshops at the OJST

Fri 15 & Sat 16 June, 7.30pm (Sat mat 2pm) A NIGHT AT

THE OPERA Crucifixus presents Songs from

Mon 18 - Wed 20, 2pm & 7.30pm OH! WHAT A **LOVELY WAR** 

the Shows!

Birmingham Metropolitan Academy of Performing Arts Presents an adaptation of the Theatre Workshop Classic

Thurs 21 & Fri 22 June, 7.30pm **HIP - NOSIS** 

Stage Hypnotist ACARI returns for more feats of hypnotic fun!

Sat 23 June, 2pm & 8pm THE MILLERS TALE WITH THE SONGS OF **BOB DYLAN** 

Chaucer as you've never seen before

Thurs 28 June, 8pm **IMPROV EMPORIUM** 

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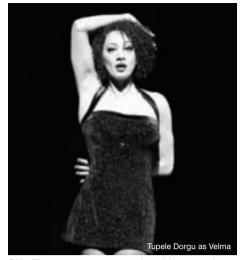
# Theatre REVIEWS

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

#### Chicago

**Wolverhampton Grand Theatre** 

Former Hollyoaks star Ali Bastian certainly ticked all the right boxes with her portrayal of murderess Roxie Hart, in what can only be described as a wonderfully slick production. Her vocals may not have the resonance of Tupele Dorgu's, who played fellow jailbird Velma, but they nevertheless worked extremely well on musical numbers Funny Money and Roxie. Evident from the outset was her flawless comic timing and mimicry - this was a truly first-class performance. Tupele Dorgu - whose legs meet her armpits - is perfectly cast as Velma, while former EastEnder Stephan Booth was controlled and impressive as hotshot lawyer



Billy Flynn, a man very much at his ease when surrounded by the scantily clad ensemble of dancers who more than did justice to Bob Fosse's wonderful choreography.

Patsy Moss

#### **Bette And Joan**

**Belgrade Theatre, Coventry** 

Hollywood star Greta Scacchi headlines alongside EastEnders and Strictly Come Dancing favourite Anita Dobson in this new comedy from Anton Burge. Movie legends Joan Crawford and Bette Davis have hated each other for a long time, but with their careers now in freefall, the ageing stars are brought together for Whatever Happened To Baby Jane?, a movie that could maybe change their fast-failing fortunes. The problem is, how do two warring divas manage to make a film together without their age-old feud reaching boiling point?... The plain and simple answer to that question is 'pretty easily', if what we're allowed to witness of their backstage interaction is anything to go by. And therein lies the problem with a show that otherwise has plenty to recommend it - you never get to see the two anxiety-ridden icons really blow a gasket at one another, in fact, for much of the show, they're not even in each other's company, instead taking turns to tell the audience about their lives and their long-running conflict from the tranquility of their respective dressing rooms.



Scacchi and Dobson are both impressive, and the quality of the writing is never in doubt, but the lack of fireworks means that this story of two Golden Age Tinseltown legends is unlikely ever to register on the radar of theatre-goers who're too young either to recall them or even to know who they are. Susan Hill

# **Artifact: Royal Ballet Flanders**

Birmingham Hippodrome

A lone dancer on a dark, bare stage sets the scene for William Forsythe's acclaimed Artifact - a four-act work which many claim has reconfigured traditional ballet. Moments later, the lone dancer is joined by the hunched figure of an ageing man, who, equipped with a megaphone, mutters continuously about rock and dust - a reference to the disintegration of tradition. An agitated Marie Antoinette lookalike then appears, striding the stage and requesting that the audience 'step inside', to explore the past. Against Bach's Chaconne in D minor, the thirtytwo-strong ensemble ripple across the stage, their perfectly regimented formations compromised at times by a range of ferocious movements that see them suddenly being transported at great speed, as if someone has hit the fast-forward button. As the curtain falls sharply and the mesmeric score abates, we hear the dancers scurry like mice to their new positions, ready to begin again... Trying to make sense of much of Artifact is quite a challenge, but take it on face value and you've got a beautifully exe-



cuted performance from Royal Ballet Flanders that showcases radical ballet at its very best. A real joy to watch. *Patsy Moss* 

## **Anne Boleyn**

**Malvern Theatre** 

Howard Brenton's play, currently touring after its successful run at Shakespeare's Globe in London, is the most refreshing and exciting production I've seen this year, offering a witty and engaging celebration of a great English heroine. Anne may have been in love with Henry, but she had an equally compelling lustre for the most dangerous ideas of her day, including making England Protestant forever. Jo Herbert's strong, almost masculine, interpretation of Anne is presented with total conviction, offering a real sense of the way in which she cleverly imposed her influence on the king. Great credit must also go to James Garnon for his excellent portrayal of King James I - his interpretation of the monarch as likeable and responsible while at the same time being bonkers and maybe just a little bit gay proved to be a real show-stealer of a performance.

Eva Easthope

# Sylvie Guillem And Russell Maliphant: Push

Birmingham Hippodrome

Part of the International Dance Festival Birmingham, Push is a performance piece in four parts produced by Sadler's Wells London in collaboration with Russell Maliphant and Sylvie Guillem. The first part of the work, Solo, introduced us to Guillem's grace and strength in a piece created especially for her, played out to the flamenco music of Carlos Montoya. Shift, meanwhile, was a duet between Maliphant and, er, himself - thanks to the ingenious lighting of Michael Hulls. Inspired by yoga, Maliphant's controlled movements were accentuated through the interplay of light and dark, fading to black. Trapped inside a box of light, Guillem returned to the stage in Two exploring the relationship between movement, lighting and music - before the two dancers finally came together in an intimate piece that showcased their breathtaking agility.

#### **West End Eurovsion**

Aley Dervish

**Dominion Theatre, London** 

Now in its fifth successful year, West End Eurovision is a late night celebration of everyone's favourite Song Contest. Performers from London's Theatreland create their own unique and, in most cases, hysterical interpretations of Eurovision classics, all in the name of the Make A Difference trust. Presided over by celebrity judges Tony Blackburn, Kerry Ellis and Stefanie Powers, this year saw the musical Sweeney Todd come out on top, performing Michael Ball's 1992 entry One Step Out Of Time. Matthew Gent was uncanny as a youthful Ball, making the most of the cheesy dance routine. Not surprisingly the crowd went wild when the real Michael Ball (who plays the title role in Sweeney Todd) came out on stage, cut the throat of his doppelganger and finished the song himself! A fantastically fun night out. Jack Rolfe ■■■■■

# Theatre WEST END

# Des O'Connor to put in a Wizard performance...

Veteran performer Des O'Connor is to make his West End debut in a stage musical this month, taking on the iconic role of The Wizard in Andrew Lloyd Webber's acclaimed reimagining of The Wizard Of Oz. Des also plays the character of Professor Marvel, for

whom a new song -The Wonders Of The World - has been specially written, just one of several brand new numbers by Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. The Wizard Of Oz shows at the London Palladium until September.



# West End premiere for new comedy

New York playwright Mike Batistick brings a play about modern-day city life to the West End this month. Described as 'a play of our time', Chicken is set in the Bronx and concerns two childhood pals, Wendall and Floyd, an unhappy wife and a sickly rooster, which the crew are grooming for an illegal cockfight. Coronation Street and Queer As Folk actor Craig Kelly takes on the role of Wendall, while George Georgiou (Mamma Mia! - The Movie) assumes the role of his best friend Floyd. Chicken shows at Trafalgar Studio 2, Whitehall, from 25 June to 21 July.



## Acclaimed comedian to make his musical debut

It's been announced that award-winning comedian Jason Manford is to take on his first role in musical theatre next month when he joins the cast of Sweeney Todd - The Demon Barber Of Fleet Street. Manford will assume the role of Italian barber Pirelli, and appears in the show alongside West End veterans Michael Ball and Imelda Staunton. Manford showcased his opera skills last year, winning ITV1's Born To Shine, and says

of his venture into theatreland: "I'm really excited to perform in one of Stephen Sondheim's most thrilling and funny shows. Anyone who's wondering what a comedian is doing singing in the West End should remember that once upon a time Frank Spencer became Phantom! This is the West End, where anything can happen!" Jason Manford performs as Pirelli at London's Adelphi Theatre from 2 - 27 July.

#### **WEST END LISTINGS:**

#### **MUSICALS**

BILLY ELLIOT – THE MUSI-CAL Victoria Palace Theatre, booking until 15 Dec 2012

BLOOD BROTHERS
Phoenix Theatre booking until 24 Nov 2012

CHICAGO Garrick Theatre booking until 26 Jan 2013

DREAMBOATS & PETTI-COATS Playhouse Theatre, booking until 24 Nov 2012

**GHOST THE MUSICAL** Piccadilly Theatre, booking until 13 Apr 2013

JERSEY BOYS Prince Edward Theatre, booking until 21 Oct 2012

**LES MISÉRABLES** Queen's Theatre booking until 27 Apr 2013

LION KING Lyceum Theatre, booking until 30 Sept 2012

MAMMA MIA! Prince Of Wales Theatre, booking until 13 Apr 2013

MATILDA THE MUSICAL Cambridge Theatre, booking until 17 Feb 2013

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Her Majesty's Theatre, booking until 27 Apr 2013

**ROCK OF AGES** Shaftesbury Theatre, booking until 20 Oct 2012

#### SHREK THE MUSICAL Drury Lane, Theatre

Royal, booking until 16 Dec 2012 SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
PalaceTheatre, booking
until 23 Feb 2013

**STOMP** Ambassadors Theatre, booking until 15 Dec 2012

SWEENEY TODD - THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET

Adelphi Theatre, booking until 22 Sept 2012

THRILLER LIVE Lyric Theatre, booking until 23 Sept 2012

**TOP HAT** Aldwych Theatre, booking until 26 Jan 2013

WE WILL ROCK YOU Dominion Theatre, booking until 20 Oct 2012

**WICKED** Apollo Victoria Theatre, booking until 27 Apr 2013

WIZARD OF OZ London Palladium Theatre, booking until 28 Oct 2012

#### DRAMA

**ANTIGONE** Olivier National theatre, booking until 20 June 2012

# CHILDREN'S CHILDREN Almeida Theatre, booking until 30 June 2012

CHARIOTS OF FIRE Gielgud Theatre, 22 June 2012 - 10 Nov

COLLABORATORS Olivier National Theatre, booking until 23 June 2012

DETROIT Cottesloe
National Theatre, booking until 15 June 2012

DEMOCRACY Old VicTheatre, 15 June 2012 - 14 July 2012

**DOLLS HOUSE** Young Vic Theatre, 29 June - 26 July 2012

**DUCHESS OF MALFI** Old Vic Theatre, booking until 9 June 2012

**GATZ** Noel Coward Theatre, 8 June - 15 July 2012

**HENRY V** Shakespeare Globe Theatre, 7 June 2012 - 26 Aug 2012

HORRIBLE HISTORIES -BARMY BRITAIN Garrick Theatre, booking until 1 Sept 2012

KINGS SPEECH Wyndham's Theatre, booking until 21 July 2012

LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT Apollo Theatre, booking until 18 Aug 2012

MOON ON A RAINBOW SHAWL Cottesloe National Theatre, booking until 9 June 2012

# MOUSETRAP St Martins Theatre, booking until 15 Dec 2012 COMEDY

PHYSICISTS Donmar Warehouse, booking until 21 July 2012

WOMAN IN BLACK Fortune Theatre, booking until 15 Dec 2012

WRITTEN ON THE HEART Duchess Theatre, booking until 21 July 1012 **39 STEPS** Criterion Theatre, booking until 20 Oct 2012

COMEDY OF ERRORS
Roundhouse Theatre, 1
June - 4 July 2012

NOISES OFF Novello Theatre, booking until 30 June 2012

ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS
Havmarket Theatre

Royal, booking until 1 Sept 2012

PAUL MERTON: OUT OF MY HEAD Vaudeville Theatre Royal, booking 1 Oct - 20 Oct 2012

**SUNSHINE BOYS** Savoy Theatre, booking until 28 July 2012

WHAT THE BUTLER SAW Vaudeville Theatre, 4 May - 25 Aug 2012







## 7 - 25 July

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# Dance



The Voyage Victoria Square, Birmingham, Thurs 21 - Sun 24 June

Celebrating the London 2012 Festival in the West Midlands, The Voyage sees an enormous ship sail into the centre of Birmingham's Victoria Square. It's here that professional dancers and aerialists take to the vessel's rigging to perform. At street level, a huge amateur choir, live musicians and community performers transform the square to tell a story that explores the different journeys that people make through life. A collaboration between Birmingham Hippodrome, Midlands-based Motionhouse Dance, Australian physical theatre company Legs On The Wall and award-winning film projection company Logela Media, this major outdoor spectacle looks set to live long in the memories of its audience.

# Far From The Madding Crowd

Birmingham Hippodrome, Wed 20 - Sat 23 June

Thomas Hardy's tale of lust, deceit and murder is here given a new lease of life, as Birmingham Royal Ballet bring their choreographed version to the Hippodrome stage. For those not familiar with Hardy's classic, Far From The Madding Crowd follows the story of the flighty Bathsheba Everdene and her complex relationships with three men, each of whom compete for her love. When it premiered in 1996, David Bintley's adaptation of the rural classic received much critical acclaim, and is a production not to be missed...



# **Midnight Tango**

The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Tues 19 - Sat 23 June

Following on from an acclaimed run in London's West End, two of Strictly Come Dancing's best known dancers return to the road with another UK tour. Considered to be two of the finest tango dancers in the world, Flavia Cacace and Vincent Simone are here joined by musicians Tango Siempre to present a tale of passion and romance that fuses the sounds of Buenos Aires with dazzling Latino moves. The piece has been choreographed by Arlene Phillips.



# **COMING SOON** TO THEATRE SEVERN

#### **SATURDAY 9 JUNE**



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# What's





Fri 22nd June **COLIN FRY Higher Senses tour** 7.30pm. Tickets £18.50, £17.50 concs



Sat 23rd June THE RAT PACK **IS BACK!** 7.30pm. Tickets £17



Thu 28th June **ROY CHUBBY BROWN** (18+) 7.30pm. Tickets £20, £19 concs



Fri 29th June **SOLID GOLD COUNTRY LEGENDS** 



Wed 4th July Laugh Out Loud Comedy Club **IVAN BRACKENBERRY** 8pm. Tickets £10 adv, £12 door



Thu 19th July **JIMMY TARBUCK:** THIS IS MY LIFE 7.30pm. Tickets £20, £18.50 concs



Tue 31st July **TEA DANCE** Doors 1.30pm, Dance 2pm-4.30pm. Tickets £4



Sat 15th Sept THERE WAS AN **OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY** 

2.30pm. Tickets £7



Mon 1st Oct THE TIM VINE **CHAT SHOW** 8pm. Tickets £17.50

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## Flawless And English National Ballet: Against Time

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Thurs 21 - Fri 22 June

Now here's an interesting partnership - one of Britain's most prestigious ballet companies joining forces with Britain's Got Talent finalists Flawless. The brainchild of Flawless artistic director Marlon 'Swoosh' Wallen and English National Ballet soloist and choreographer Jenna Lee, Against Time fuses streetdance, acrobatics and ballet to tell the story of four students from The Academy Of Excellence who uncover the dastardly plans of an evil time manipulator, intent on bringing an end to all dance. With the students battling against time, the audience is taken on a journey that promises to showcase the very best of contemporary dance

# Matthew Bourne's Early Adventures

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Tues 19 - Wed 20 June

This triple-bill of acclaimed works that launched the career of choreographer Matthew Bourne is touring to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of his company, New Adventures. First of the three shows being presented is Spitfire, Bourne's 1998 hit, set in the world of men's underwear advertising. Next up is the Olivier Award-nominated Town And Country, which, set to the evocative music of Elgar and Noel Coward, provides a witty portrayal of characters from a bygone era. Finally, The Infernal Galop - inspired by French icons of the 1930s and '40s - explores the cliches that are often associated with France, and culminates in a performance of Offenbach's Can-Can.



# **Dance LISTINGS**

**CINDERELLA** Presented

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

by European Ballet, Sat 2 Jun, The Swan Theatre, Worcester **MOVING EARTH** Featuring twenty groups of twelve dancers from across the West Midlands who combine their individual dance styles with indian martial-arts moves, Sat 2 Jun. Chamberlain Square, Birmingham ESSENCE OF IRELAND Fusion of dance and Irish music all cleverly woven into a heartwarming tale, Thurs 7 -Fri 8 Jun, Lichfield Garrick LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD AND THE THREE LITTLE PIGS The award-winning Ballet Cymru present a double-bill of Roald Dahl classics. Sat 9 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury **ESSENCE OF IRELAND** Fusion of dance and Irish music all cleverly woven into a heartwarming tale, Sun 10 Jun, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent TOM DALE: I INFINITE An immersive dance experience that, while set in a white digitially animated environment. allows audience members to roam within centimetres of the performer, Wed 13 - Sat 23 Jun, mac - Midlands

Arts Centre. Birmingham WORLD OF DANCE: QUICKSTEP TO THE **OLYMPICS** A big band and modern sequence dance inspired by a 2012 dance project in Stoke-on-Trent, Thurs 14 Jun, Kings Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

DANCE TO THE MUSIC Featuring dancers from BBC One's Strictly Come Dancing together with Dave Arch & The Strictly Band, Fri 15 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham **EDGE 2012** Showcase of works from London Contemporary Dance School, Sat 16 Jun, Artrix, Bromsgrove THE JAZZ DANCE **COMPANY** Fusion of modern street dance, tap, musical theatre & contemporary jazz, Sun 17 Jun. Theatre Severn. Shrewsbury MATTHEW BOURNE'S **EARLY ADVENTURES** A triple-bill of early works in celebration of Matthew Bourne's dance company's twenty-fifth anniversary cele-brations, Tue 19 - Wed 20 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry **GISELLE** Birmingham

Royal Ballet present

Galina Samsova's lav-

ish production of one

David Bintley and

classical ballets, Tue 19 Fri 22 Jun, Birmingham Hippodrome
MIDNIGHT TANGO Brand new dance show featuring Strictly Come Dancing stars Vincent Simone & Flavia Cacace, Tue 19 - Sat 23 Jun, The Grand Theatre Wolverhampton FAR FROM THE MADDING **CROWD** Birmingham Royal Ballet present David Bintley's balletic adaptation of Thomas Hardy's acclaimed novel, Wed 20 - Sat 23 Jun, Birmingham Hippodrome FLAWLESS AND ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET Collaboration between two acclaimed dance troupes that presents a fusion of streetdance, acrobatics and ballet, Thurs 21 - Fri 22 Jun. New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham THE VOYAGE Thurs 21 -Sun 24 Jun, Victoria Square, Birmingham **EKATVA** Dance/drama production performed by sixteen underprivileged children from the slums of Ahmedabad, Fri 22 Jun, The Drum, Birmingham RAYMONDA Live performance from the Bolshoi State theatre, Sun 24 Jun, Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Evesham & Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa SUMMER CELEBRATION

Birmingham Royal

Ballet present a triple-

of the most celebrated

bill of works, including Faster, Higher, Stronger, a brand new ballet that's the result of a second collaboration between David Bintley and renowned Australian composer Matthew Hindson, Wed 27 - Sat 30 Jun, Birmingham MADE IN HEAVEN An evening of dance theatre from the Mark Bruce Company, Wed 27 Jun, The Roses

Theatre, Tewksbury
THE DANCE SHOW An
eclectic showcase featuring ballet, street, tap,
Irish, acrobatic and theatrical dance, Fri 29 Sat 30 Jun, Belgrade
Theatre, Coventry
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2012 Finale to an eighteen-month dance project that's formed part of
the region's Dancing
For The Games, Sat 30
Jun, Castle Green,
Hereford



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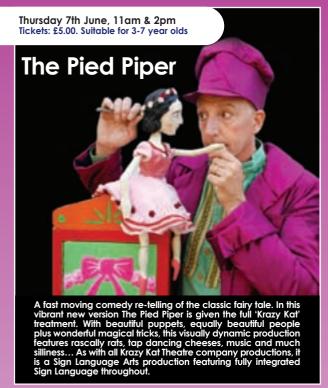
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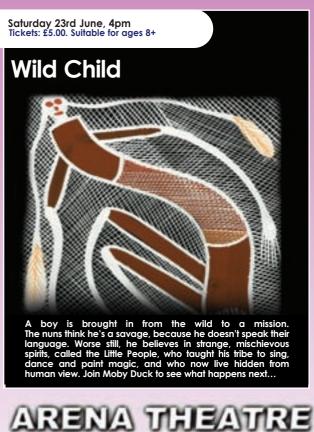
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# SHOWS FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

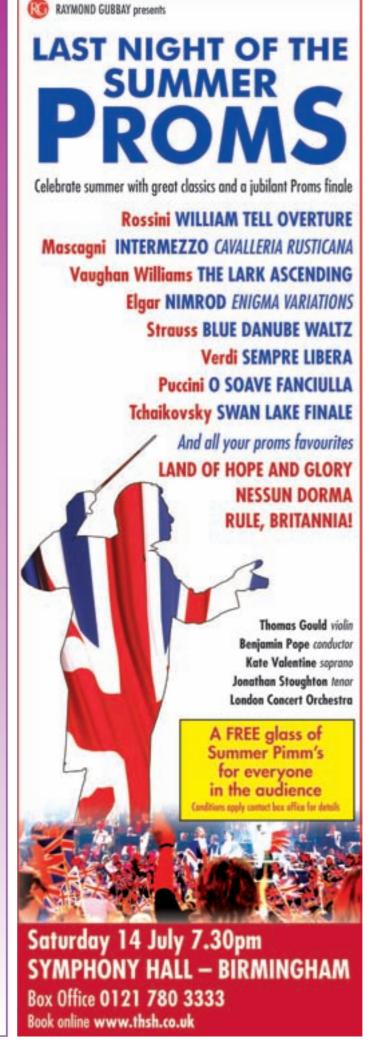




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# Prometheus CERT 15 (124 mins)

Starring Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender, Charlize Theron, Guy Pearce, Idris Elba, Logan Marshall-Green Directed by Ridley Scott (USA)

In space, they can hear you counting dollars. Even so, it's been thirty-three years since Ridley Scott introduced us to the talented Ellen Ripley and a whole new take on sci-fi horror. Alien opened in Britain in November of 1979, spawned five sequels (including James Cameron's phenomenally successful Aliens) and deservedly attained cult status. But Sir Ridley went on to other things (Blade Runner, Thelma & Louise, Gladiator), leaving the directorial reins to the likes of Cameron and David Fincher. But now, with the critical acclaim of films like Batman Begins and X-Men: First Class, the prequel has become a going concern. So Sir Ridley returns to the franchise he launched to focus on the events that occurred before John Hurt got severe stomach cramps.



# Rock Of Ages CERT the

Starring Julianne Hough, Diego Boneta, Russell Brand, Paul Giamatti, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Mary J. Blige, Alec **Baldwin, Tom Cruise** Directed by Adam Shankman (USA)

Film musicals don't come around too often, particularly with Tom Cruise in the cast. Featuring the music of Bon Jovi, Guns N' Roses, Def Leppard, Foreigner and others, this is the film version of the hit Broadway rock'n'roll knees-up about a waitress who dreams of being an actress. Along the way she meets a busboy who aspires to being a rock star and romantic sparks are ignited. Dreams are made of this. From the director of Hairspray (the film based on the musical based on the original film) and producer Tobey Maguire.

# **FILM BOX OFFICE**

- **Avengers Assemble** (12a)
- **American Reunion (15)**
- **3** Dark Shadows (12a)
- The Lucky One (12a)
- **Beauty And The Beast (U)**



# FILM NEW RELEASES

#### Released from Fri 1 June

LOL CERT 12a (97 mins)

Starring Miley Cyrus, Demi Moore, Ashley Greene, Jean-Luc Bilodeau, Douglas Booth, Marlo Thomas, Thomas Jane, Gina Gershon Directed by Lisa Azuelos (USA)

You have to laugh out loud. Lol is actually the nickname for Lola, played by Miley Cyrus, a seventeen-year-old schoolgirl buffeted by the changing times. As Lol navigates the new avenues of Twitter and social networking, her mother (Demi Moore) struggles to keep up. Like so many Hollywood movies, it's a remake of a French film, this time directed by the original filmmaker.





## The Angels' Share CERT 15 (101 mins)

Starring John Henshaw, William Ruane, Gary Maitland, Roger Allam, Paul Brannigan Directed by Ken Loach (UK/France)

Once again Ken Loach - some say Britain's greatest living director - tackles the underclass of Scotland. Here a new father

attempts to mend his criminal ways and find a job worthy of his new son. Amazingly, this is the eleventh time that a Loach film has been entered into the competition at Cannes. And this year it's the only British entry.



#### **Snow White And The Huntsman**

CERT **12a** (127 mins)

Starring Kristen Stewart, Charlize Theron, Chris Hemsworth, Sam Claflin, Ian McShane, Bob Hoskins, Ray Winstone, Lily Cole Directed by Rupert Sanders (USA)

Just as Alice took up a sword at the end of Tim Burton's Alice In Wonderland, so now Snow White takes up arms in this adventure inspired by the Brothers Grimm's fairytale. It's been a long time since Hollywood tackled Snow White - what, two months? - and this one turns our beloved heroine into a far more militant figure. Indeed, this promises to be the most violent take on the fable yet.



# shire hall gallery

Opportunity at the Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford, for artists/designer makers.

The Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford, is hosting 'handmade', a contemporary Art and Craft Fair on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd November 2012.

If you are an artist or designer/maker and would like an application form, please email handmade@staffordshire.gov.uk

Deadline for returning applications is 5pm Saturday 30th June.



Shire Hall Gallery, Market Square, Stafford, ST16 2LD www.staffordshire.gov.uk/has 01785 278345



#### Released from Fri 8 June

#### III Manors CERT 18 (121 mins)

Starring Riz Ahmed, Nathalie Press, Mem Ferda, Dannielle Brent Directed by Ben Drew (UK)

That isn't a typo in the title, but then this crime drama is directed by Plan B - and everybody knows that rappers can't spell. Mr B - aka Ben Drew - also scripted this film inspired by real events. It's a series of interlocked tales in which each is represented by a different rap number.



## Red Tails CERT 12a (125 mins)

Starring Cuba Gooding Jr, Terrence Howard, Nate Parker, David Oyelowo, Ne-Yo Directed by Anthony Hemingway (USA)

Released on the anniversary of the D-Day landings, this is the remarkable true story of the Second World War's first African-American fighter squadron. Although the film is meant to have the most realistic dogfights yet committed to celluloid, Red Tails was dismissed by American critics for being corny and clichéd. George Lucas is said to have served as co-director.



# A Fantastic Fear Of Everything

CERT 15 (100 mins)

Starring Simon Pegg, Sheridan Smith, Clare Higgins, Amara Karan, Paul Freeman Directed by Crispian Mills and Chris Hopewell (UK)

As part of an initiative by Pinewood Studios to support low-budget British filmmaking, this is the story of a children's writer who turns to crime fiction. Simon Pegg is the author with a whole lot of phobias, who becomes a wreck when he starts researching Victorian serial killers. The director, Crispian, is the grandson of the actor Sir John Mills.





#### Casa De Mi Padre CERT 15 (85 mins)

Starring Will Ferrell, Gael García Bernal, Diego Luna, Génesis Rodríguez, Pedro Armendáriz Jr

Directed by Matt Piedmont (USA)

The title translates as 'House of My Father' but most of the action centres on a ranch. It is here, in Mexico, that Armando Alvarez (Will Ferrell speaking Spanish) struggles to maintain the property inherited from his padre. Then he finds himself at loggerheads with Mexico's most scary drug lord. Dios mío!



## The Pact CERT 15 (89 mins)

Starring Caity Lotz, Casper Van Dien, Haley Hudson, Agnes Bruckner Directed by Nicholas McCarthy (USA)

Haunted houses are becoming a recent staple of the horror genre but Insidious and The Woman In Black are hard acts to follow. This one is set in Los Angeles' South Bay area

and concerns a young woman who returns to the family home after her mother has died. And the home is just not behaving itself! The American reviews were hardly benevolent



#### Released from Fri 15 June

#### Fast Girls CERT 12a (91 mins)

Starring Lenora Crichlow, Lily James, Noel Clarke, Bradley James, Rupert Graves, Philip Davis Directed by Regan Hall (UK)

A lot of films with an athletic theme are coming out to coincide with the Olympics. This one focuses on a British female sprint relay team as they strive to win the women's 4x100metre relay. Apparently, cowriter Noel Clarke says that part of his inspiration was the Rocky films. So, go girl!

### Late September CERT tbc

Starring Anna Mottram, Richard Vanstone, Bob Goody Directed by Jon Sanders (UK)

Following the terms and conditions of the Belgrade Manifesto, director Jon Sanders (Painted Angels) has created a totally improvised, digitally-shot drama set around a sixty-fifth birthday party. It's rare that characters in this age range get a film to themselves, so it's a shame that Sanders has given them so little to do. There's no sense of place (we are not even shown the exterior of the house), while the plot is virtually non-existent. Fans of English miserablism may feel engaged but others should steer a wide berth.



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#### Released from Fri 22 June

### The Five Year Engagement

CERT 15 (124 mins)

Starring Jason Segel, Emily Blunt, Chris Pratt, Alison Brie, Rhys Ifans, Jacki Weaver Directed by Nicholas Stoller (USA)

Getting engaged is one thing; tying the knot is another. Sous-chef Tom Solomon (Segel) and psychology student Violet Barnes (Blunt) find increasing obstacles obstructing their Big Day, stumbling blocks that duly test their romantic resolve! From the director of Forgetting Sarah Marshall and Get Him To The Greek.

#### Chernobyl Diaries CERT tbc

Starring Jesse McCartney, Jonathan Sadowski, Devin Kelly Directed by Brad Parker (USA)

Contrary to expectations this is not a documentary about what happened in Russia in 1986. It's a horror film that uses the now very threadbare gimmick of utilising 'found film footage - à la Blair Witch, Cloverfield, Chronicle, et al. A group of young tourists (who should know better) go on a guided tour of a deserted town outside Chernobyl and find themselves the victims of radioactively modified beings. All in the worst possible taste.



## Red Lights CERT 15

Starring Cillian Murphy, Sigourney Weaver, Robert De Niro, Joely Richardson, Elizabeth Olsen, Toby Jones, Craig Roberts Directed by Rodrigo Cortés (USA/Spain)

This is paranormal activity with a budget and a top-tier cast. Sigourney Weaver (Alien, The Cabin In The Woods) plays a psychologist who, with her assistant, investigates a world-class psychic. Filmed in and around Barcelona.



#### Released from Fri 29 June

#### Friends With Kids CERT 15 (107 mins)

Starring Adam Scott, Jennifer Westfeldt, Jon Hamm, Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph, Chris O'Dowd, Megan Fox, Edward Burns Directed by Jennifer Westfeldt (USA)

An ensemble comedy that explores how children affect our friendships. To buck the trend, best friends Jason and Julie decide to have kids together and then look for their respective lifetime partners. Director, scenar-

ist and star Ms Westfeldt previously scripted the smart, poignant and funny Kissing Jessica Stein (2001). She's also the long-time partner of co-star Jon Hamm (of Mad Men fame).



#### Joyful Noise CERT PG (118 mins)

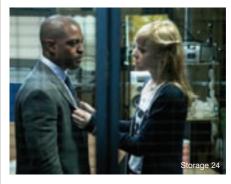
Starring Queen Latifah, Dolly Parton, Keke Palmer, Jeremy Jordan, Courtney B. Vance, Kris Kristofferson Directed by Todd Graff (USA)

Regardless of the sexual preference of the film's director (who helmed the funny and poignant Camp), this looks certain to appeal to a certain demographic. Come on, Queen Latifah and Dolly Parton? These two dames lock horns as the leading lights in a fight to win the National Joyful Noise Competition. In spite of the divas personality discord, expect some rousing harmonies.

#### Storage 24 CERT 15 (87 mins)

Starring Noel Clarke, Antonia Campbell-Hughes, Laura Haddock, Colin O'Donoghue Directed by Johannes Roberts (UK)

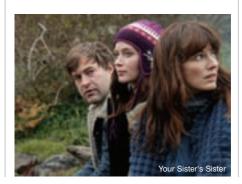
The capital of the United Kingdom is in for quite a battering this year. Besides the mauling London gets in the upcoming GI Joe: Retaliation (released in August), here it is invaded by extraterrestrials when a classified military aircraft crash-lands into a storage unit (24). The word is that the film combines the same horror-comic elements of Attack The Block, which is a good thing.



#### Your Sister's Sister CERT 15 (90 mins)

Starring Emily Blunt, Rosemarie DeWitt, Mark Duplass Directed by Lynn Shelton (USA)

Jack's brother has just died and so he's been advised to catch up on some quality 'alone' time at a remote cabin on an island off the Washington coast. But unbeknownst to him, his best friend's sister got there first! It's a simple enough premise featuring three people in an idyllic setting. But thanks to the accomplished acting of the principles, the escalating chain of events gathers a credible comic momentum that is totally disarming, fresh and funny. As the best friend, Emily Blunt has never been better, and is well matched by Rosemarie DeWitt and Mark Duplass, the latter best known as the cowriter and co-director of Cyrus (2010). In lesser hands, the scenario would surely have proved ridiculous, but the film's enormous strength is that it all makes perfect sense. And the fact that we care so much for the characters says a lot for Lynn Shelton's consummate direction



# Film A-Z LISTINGS

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

**2 Days In New York 15** Sequel to the acclaimed Two Days In Paris. Starring Julie Delpy and

Chris Rock. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 23
- Tues 26 June

#### 2001: A Space Odyssey u

Screening of Stanley Kubrick's cinematic masterpiece, presenting a series of encounters between humans and mysterious black monoliths affecting human evolution. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 22 June

#### A Cat In Paris PG

French animated crime mystery which unfurls on the rooftops of Paris. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 23 June

#### A Royal Affair 15

Historical romantic drama concerning the relationship between an insane king, his young wife and her physician. Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 29 - Thurs 5 July

#### African Cats u

Samuel L Jackson narrates an adventure documentary that centres on two cat families and how they teach their cubs the ways of the wild. Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 22 - Mon 25 June

#### **Albert Nobbs 15**

Glenn Close stars as a woman who, in order to scrape together a living in nineteenth century Ireland, poses as a male waiter. Based on the short story by Irish novelist George Moore. Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 1 - Thurs 7 June

#### All In Good Time 12a

Funny, tender-hearted portrait of family strife

from East Is East writer Ayub Khan-Din. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 1 - Thurs 7 June

#### An Ecology Of Mind PG

A film portrait of Gregory Bateson, the celebrated anthropologist, philosopher, author, naturalist, systems theorist and filmmaker, that's produced and directed by his daughter, Nora Bateson. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Mon 11 June

WATCH THE FILM TRAILERS AT whatsonlive.co.uk

#### **Angel And Tony 15**

Intimate French drama about two lost souls in search of human connection. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Tues 26 -Thurs 28 June

**The Angels' Share 15** See preview page 46

#### Another Earth 12a

Sci-fi drama that sees an ambitious young student and an accomplished composer cross paths in a tragic accident. Showing at Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Thurs 7 June

#### The Beloved 15

Real-life mother and daughter Chiara Mastroianni and Catherine Deneauve star in a romantic drama that follows the loves and losses of a mother and daughter over a forty-year period. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 29 June - Mon 2 July

#### Blackthorn 15

Sam Shepard stars in a Western adventure that explores the possibility of Butch Cassidy's survival, and his life of seclusion in Bolivia. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 8 - Sun 10 June

#### Cafe de Flore PG

Jean-Marc Vallee directs a drama which cuts between stories of love and responsibility in modern day Montreal, and Paris in 1969. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 1 - Tues 5 June; mac, Birmingham, Fri 1- Tues 5 June

Casa De Mi Padre 15 See preview page 47

**Chernobyl Diaries tbc** See preview page 49

#### Coriolanus 15

Ralph Fiennes' contemporary adaptation of Shakespeare's play of political power and intrigue. Gerard Butler stars. Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, Mon 18 June

#### Damsels In Distress 15

Adam Brody and Greta Gerwig star in an offbeat drama that explores the psyche of privileged American youth. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 1 - Mon 4

#### Dark Shadows 12a

Johnny Depp, Michelle Pfeiffer and Helena Bonham Carter star in Tim Burton's acclaimed comic fantasy. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 15 - Thurs 21 June; Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 15 - Thurs 21 June

#### **Delicacy** 18

Audrey Tautou stars as a woman learning to love again after the death of her husband. Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 8 - Thurs 14 June

# Elizabeth: The Golden Age 12a

Acclaimed drama that sees Cate Blanchet resume her role as The Virgin Queen. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sun 3 June

#### Elles 18

Juliette Binoche stars as a French journalist researching an article about female student prostitution for French Elle. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Mon 11 -Wed 13 June

#### **Even The Rain 15**

Acclaimed Spanish drama that follows a director and his crew as they set about shooting a controversial film about Christopher Columbus in Cochabambam Bolivia. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Mon 11 - Wed 13 June; Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Mon 11 - Thurs 14 June

#### The Fabulous Baker Boys 12a

Jess Bridges, Michelle Pfeiffer and Beau Bridges star in the 1989 romantic musical. Showing at Malvern Theatre, Fri 1 June

#### A Fantastic Fear Of Everything 15 See preview page 47

Fast Girls 12a See preview page 47

#### Faust 15

Alexander Sokurov's unique take on Goethe's Faust focuses on an anonymous man driven by simple instincts: hunger, greed and lust. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Tues 19 - Thurs 21 June

#### The Five Year Engagement 15 See preview page 49

#### Free Men 12a

French drama, set in Paris in WWII, concerning an Algerian immigrant and his friendship with a Jewish man. Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 15 -Mon 18 June; mac, Birmingham, Fri 29 June - Mon 2 July

#### Friends With Kids 15 See preview page 49

# The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo 18

Adaptation of the first novel in Stieg Larsson's

literary blockbuster, The Millennium Trilogy. Daniel Craig and Christopher Plummer star. Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, Mon 25 June

eff Who Lives At Home

## Goodbye First Love 15

Examination of first love that follows a young architecture student as she begins a new life when her boyfriend leaves France for a ten month trip to South America. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Tues 5 - Thurs 7 June

# Hara-Kiri: Death Of A Samurai 15

Subtitled Japanese drama telling a tale of revenge, honour and disgrace that centres on a poverty-stricken samurai who discovers the fate of his ronin son-in-law. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 6 - Thurs 7 June

#### Hobson's Choice u

John Mills and Charles Laughton star in David Lean's romantic comedy, based on Harold Brighouse's play of the same name. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Tues 26 June

#### How I Spent My Summer Vacation 15

Mel Gibson stars as a career criminal who finds himself in a Mexican jail and ends up being helped by a nine-year-old boy. Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 1 - Thurs 7 June

The Hunger Games 12a Suzanne Collins' popular novel of the same name. Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, Tues 19 -Fri 22 June

#### III Manors 18 See preview page 47

#### Jeff Who Lives At Home the

Jason Segal stars as a thirty-year-old bachelor living at home with his parents whose life is transformed when he's enrolled by his brother to help track down the latter's possibly adulterous wife. Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 8-Mon 11 June; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 22 - Mon 25 June

#### **Joyful Noise PG** See preview page 49

#### The Kid With A Bike

Award-winning French drama that delves into the emotional life of a troubled eleven-year-old, abandoned in a state-run youth farm. Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 22 - Sat 23 June

#### Late September the See preview page 47

## Les Quai Des Brumes

Subtitled romantic drama concerning a military deserter who finds love - and trouble - in a smoky French city port. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Wed 27 - Thurs 28 June

#### Like Crazy 12a

Romantic drama that concerns a British student who falls for an American student only to be separated when she's banned from the US. Showing at Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Thurs 21 June

#### **LOL** 12a

See preview page 46

#### The Man Who Fell To Earth 18

Cult classic based on Walter Tevis' novel of the

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same name. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Tues 19 June

#### Marley 15

Definitive life story of the musician, revolutionary and legend, from his early days to his rise to international superstardom. Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Mon 25 -Wed 27 June

#### Men In Black III PG

Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith return as government agents assigned to monitor extraterrestrials living under cover in New York Showing at Malvern Theatre, until Thurs 7

#### Mirror Mirror PG

Julia Roberts and Lily Collins star in the latest irreverent take on a traditional fairytale. Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 2 - Tues 5 June

#### Monsieur Lazhar 12a

Comedy drama that's set in a Montreal public grade school. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 15 - Mon 18 June; Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Tues 19 - Wed 20 June

#### Moonrise Kingdom PG

Bill Murray, Bruce Willis, Edward Norton, Tilda Swinton and Harvey Keitel star in Wes Anderson's latest tale of small-town characters who come together in the form of a search party convened to look for a pair of young lovers who have eloped in 1960s' New England. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 15 -Thurs 21 June; mac, Birmingham, Fri 29 June - Tues 3 July

#### Mozart's Sister 12a

A re-imagined account of the early life of Maria Anna 'Nanneri' Mozart, five years older than Wolfgang and a musical prodigy in her own right. Showing at mac. Birmingham, Fri 8 - Sat 9

#### Our Daily Bread 12

Powerful documentary taking a look at France's agricultural industry. Showing at mac. Birmingham, Sat 23 June

#### Outside Bet 12a

Comedy starring Jenny Agutter and Bob Hoskins. Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 22 - Thurs 28 June

#### The Pact 15 See preview page 47

#### Passport To Pimlico U

Classic Ealing comedy starring Stanley Holloway and Margaret Rutherford. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Tues 5 June

#### **Past Lives**

Films from the Midlands with live accompaniment by Cipher. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre. Coventry, Wed 27 June

#### Pickwick U

Musical version of the Dickens classic. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 2 June

#### The Pirates! In An Adventure With Scientists U

Hugh Grant, Selma Hayek, Imelda Staunton and David Tennant lend their voices to this critically acclaimed swashbuckling adventure from Aardman Animations. Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 1 - Sat 9 June; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sun 3 - Wed 6 June

#### The Plague Of The Zombies 12

Hammer Horror about a mysterious epidemic that hits a small Cornish village, killing its inhabitants at an accelerating rate. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Tues 12 June

## Prometheus 15

#### See preview page 45 The Queen 12a

Academy Award-winning drama starring Helen Mirren. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Mon 4 June

#### The Raid 18

Action thriller about a SWAT team who become trapped in a tenement run by a ruth-less mobster and his army of killer thugs. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 8 -Thurs 14 June

#### Red Lights the See preview page 49

Red Tails 12a See preview page 47

Rock Of Ages tho See preview page 45

#### Salmon Fishing In The Yemen

Romantic drama starring Ewan McGregor and Emily Blunt. Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, until Sun 10 June; OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 15 -Thurs 21 June; Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Thurs 28 -Fri 29 June

#### Shame 18

Steve McQueen's compelling and timely examination of the nature of need, how we live our lives, and the experiences that shape us. Showing at The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, Mon 11 June

#### Sing Your Song 12a Biopic of the American singer, songwriter and

actor Harry Belafonte that unearths his significant contribution to the leadership of the civil rights movement. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 30 June - Sun 1 July

#### Snow White & The Huntsman 12a See preview page 46

Storage 24 15 See preview page 49

#### This Must Be The Place 15

Comedy drama that sees Sean Penn star as a bored, retired rock star who sets out to find his father's executioner. an ex-Nazi war criminal who is a refugee in the US. Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 29 - Sat 30 June

#### Tomboy U

French contemporary coming-of-age drama that concerns a young girl who's mistaken for a boy and plays along when she's introduced to the local gang. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Tues 26 June

#### Trishna 15

Michael Winterbottom directs Freida Pinto and Riz Ahmed in a contemporary working of Thomas Hardy's 1891 novel Tess Of The D'Urbervilles. Showing

at Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 1 - Sat 2 June

#### The Turin Horse 15

Hungarian drama that concerns a rural farmer forced to confront the morality of his faithful horse. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 22 -Mon 25 June

#### Welcome 15

Subtitled French film that follows a Kurdish teenager from Iraq as he sets out on an adventure-filled journey across Europe. Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 16 June

#### What To Expect When You're Expecting 12a

Cameron Diaz, Jennifer Lopez, Dennis Quaid and Chris Rock star in a comedy drama based on the bestselling book of the same name Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 8 -Thurs 14 June

#### Wild Bill 12a

A directorial debut by Dexter Fletcher that tells the funny, bittersweet and dramatic story of a father and his two sons in London's East End. Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Tues 5 Wed 6 June

Your Sister's Sister 15 See preview page 49

## **NEW RELEASES**

#### W.E 15

Madonna's acclaimed drama that concerns Wally Winthrop, a woman in 1998 Manhattan who becomes obsessed with the love story between King Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson.

#### Released 4 June



#### Coriolanus 15

Ralph Fiennes' contemporary adaptation of Shakespeare's play of political power and intrique. Gerard Butler stars.

#### Released 4 June



#### A Monster In Paris II A 3D-animated movie set in Paris that centres on a monster and his love for a beautiful young singer. Released 4 June

#### J.Edgar 15

Leonardo Di Caprio & Naomi Watts star in Clint Eastwood's exploration of the public and private life of one of the most powerful, controversial and enigmatic figures of the twentieth century.

#### Released 11 June

#### The Muppets U

Acclaimed family drama that sees the Muppets reunited in a bid to save their theatre from being destroyed by an oil prospector. Jason Segel, Amy Adams & Chris Cooper star along-side Miss Piggy and

Released 11 June



# Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close 12

Tom Hanks & Sandra Bullock star in Stephen Daldry's drama that's based on the 2005 novel by Jonathan Safran Foer. Released 11 June

Kermit.



Released 18 June

#### Carnage 15

Jodie Foster and Kate Winslet star alongside John C. Reilly and Christopher Waltz in Roman Polanski's adaptation of Yasmina Reza's play The God Of . Carnage.

# Released 18 June The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel 12

Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Penelope Wilton and Celia Imrie star in John Madden's acclaimed drama that follows a group of retired Brits who descend on a hotel in Udaipur, only to find that it's not at all as they'd been led to believe. Released 25 June

#### Young Adult 15

Charlize Theron stars as a successful writer of teen literature who returns to her hometown with a very specific agenda.

#### Released 25 June

# A Dangerous Method

Michael Fassbender and Keira Knightley star in David Cronenberg's drama that's based on the turbulent relationship between Carl Jung and Siamund Freud. Released 25 June

#### Hunky Dory 15

adopts a Welsh accent, starring as an idealistic Swansea secondary school drama teacher attempting to mount a musical version of The Tempest.

Released 25 June



#### **Exhibitions**

#### Transmitter/Receiver:

The Persistence of Collage An Arts Council touring exhibition Until 30 June 2012

#### In Conversation

Saturday 23 June, 2pm

Join artist Idris Khan for an informal talk about his work. Book your free place in advance on 01922 654400.

Eric Bainbridge: Collage

Until 21 July 2012

**Good Sport** 

Until 1 September 2012

**Portfolio** 

Until 1 September 2012

#### **Artists' Studio**

**Power and Beauty** 

28 june - 11 August 2012

# Garman Ryan Collection and Exhibitions

#### **Garman Ryan Collection**

on display all year round

Isabel Rawsthorne: Moving Bodies

15 June - 11 September 2012

#### Make Room2

Interventions into the Garman Ryan Collection **Until 22 September 2012** 

#### In Conversation

Saturday 21 July, 2pm

Curator Carol Jacobi talks about the life and

art of Isabel Rawsthorne.

Book your free place in advance on 01922 654400.

# Free Regular Family Workshops

#### **Junale Queen Crowns**

Wednesday 6 & Thursday 7 June, 1-3pm

#### **Olympic Flags**

Saturday 30 June, 10am-12noon

Decorate your own flag to wave as the Olympic torch passes the gallery.

#### **Events**

#### **Breastfeeding Awareness Day**

Tuesday 19 June, 11am - 3pm

#### **Free Adult Workshops**

#### **College Prints**

Saturday 23 June, 11am-4pm - fee £10

Learn the art of collage and lino printing inspired by the Transmitter/Receiver exhibition.

For a full list of exhibitions and events thenewartgallerywalsall.org.uk

The New Art Gallery Walsall, Gallery Square, Walsall WS2 8LG I 01922 654400







# Stourbridge Glass Quarter

exhibitions & events

ADMISSION FREE • www.dudley.gov.uk/museums

#### **Broadfield House Glass Museum**

Compton Drive, Kingswinford, DY6 9NS . Tel: 01384 812745

## **Paperweight Day**

Saturday 9 June, 10am - 4pm
Specialist dealers, identification service and paperweight-making demonstrations. Plus an exclusive exhibition of fun and quirky lamp-working paperweights, by the Paperweight Collectors' Circle



### **Blood and Bones**

**Patricia Niemann** 

Until 5 August

Glass, jewellery, textiles and drawings inspired by the human body, funeral archaeology and the wild landscapes of Scotland



#### Red House Glass Cone

High Street, Wordsley, DY8 4AZ . Tel: 01384 812750

# Faces & Places Keith Turley

Saturday 9 June - Sunday 8 July A collection of works by Keith Turley in acrylics and oils featuring portraiture and

acrylics and oils featuring portraiture and figure painting, as well as scenes of well know local places. All work for sale.



# International Festival of Glass

Coming soon - August 24 – 27 Exhibitions, events, workshops, family activities, fun for all ages. August 24 – 27 www.ifg.org.uk



#### **Juniors at Museums**

7 June - Glass engraving at the Cone

8 June - Kiln fused keyring making at Broadfield House

£3.75 £3.75 FREE

9 June – Living History Day

Call 01384 815571 to book

FREE Diamond Jubilee trail during Whit Week (Broadfield and Dudley closed 4 and 5 June)



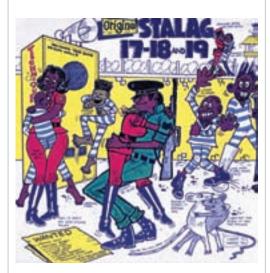


# Visual Arts

#### **Art In The Dancehall**

The Drum, Birmingham, Tues 26 June - Fri 13 July

Featuring rare cover art from Limonious, Jamal Pete and Tony McDermott, Art In The Dancehall offers a rare insight into the vibrant art and design used in dancehall and Jamaican soundsystem culture over the past thirty years. Curated by Auze Webb - in conjunction with dancehall brand Shimmy Shimmy - this unique exhibition showcases many works never before seen in the UK, as well as pieces commissioned for this particular project. An eclectic range of works from present-day artists also features, together with assorted memorabilia, photos and prints of original posters by Jamaica's celebrated poster designer Sassa.



#### Yto Barrada: Riffs

Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, until Sun 8 July

Working in a variety of media, French-born artist Yto Barrada uses her present-day environment in Tangier as the focus of her work. Featuring selected pieces from previous series alongside new photos and film, Barrada's art narrates the fragmentation of everyday life, with the recurring figure of a tree - be it physical or family - acting as a metaphor of resistance and strength, of changing times, of shelter, regeneration and nutrition, and also of decor and tourism.





# **Isabel Rawsthorne: Moving Bodies**

New Art Gallery, Wolverhampton, Fri 15 June - Sat 8 September

Well known within London's bohemian set of the 1930s and '40s, artist Isabel Rawsthorne developed firm friendships with many artists of the day, including Jacob Epstein, Alberto Giacometti and, later, Francis Bacon. However, it was Isabel's friendships with prima ballerina Margot Fonteyn, Antoinette Sibley and Rudolph Nureyev that influenced much of her figurative work. Very often she would sit and paint the dancers as they rehearsed at Covent Garden, and her works are as much portraits as they are an exploration of dance and movement.

# Cloud Nylon: The Jewellery Of Nora Fok

Bilston Craft Gallery, until Sat 7 July From innovative jewellery pieces to wacky yet aesthetically pleasing headpieces, Nora Fok's work is sure to amaze anyone with an interest in knitting, as well as those with an appreciation of ambitious design. Made from intricate nylon thread (usually used as fishing line), Fok's work is inspired by complex mathematics, geometry and patterns in nature, and is created by knitting, sewing, plaiting or weaving. On tour from The Harley Gallery, this is the first time that Fok's work has been shown in a solo retrospective.



# VisualArts PREVIEWS | VisualArts LISTINGS

### Ongoing exhibitions

#### **Pedals To Medals**

**Coventry Transport Museum,** Fri 22 June - Sun 14 October

Celebrating all aspects of competitive cycling - the heroes and the history - this new exhibition affords visitors the chance to get up close and personal to bikes and memorabilia from some of the country's greats. Items relating to Olympic champions Tommy Godwin, Chris Boardman and Tom Sabin are on show alongside some of the most important bikes ever to have been ridden in a competitive arena. Stories from the people who've changed the face of cycling are sure to be a hit with enthusiasts, and, as with all Coventry Transport exhibitions, there's also an array of themed family activities to keep visitors entertained.



## **Beautiful Catastrophe**

Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, until Fri 13 July

Featuring a selection of photographs previously unseen in the UK, this exhibition by acclaimed New York photographer Bruce Gilden showcases works that have captured the eccentricity of some of the Big Apple's inhabitants since 1981. Over the years, using his distinctive confrontational style, Magnum photographer Gilden has satisfied his fascination with everyday life on the streets by taking spontaneous images created with the use of a stark flash that alerts passers-by to



## Jamaica 50

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, until Sun 7 October

A partnership between the Birmingham Kingsway Project, the Drum Arts Centre and Birmingham Archives, Jamaica 50 was borne from an initiative where young people interviewed an older generation about their experiences of coming to the UK in the '50s and '60s. Together with vibrant displays, Jamaica 50 features examples of oral history, presented alongside personal artefacts from those who migrated to the UK and photographs that chronicle Jamaica's independence.

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

EPSTEIN'S RIMA: 'A TRAVESTY OF NATURE' Featuring a selection of Jacob Epstein's preparatory drawings for the WH Hudson Memorial, this exhibition provides a rare opportunity to explore the artist's creative imagination and question the controversy that surrounded much of his work, until Sat 2 June, The New Art

FROM CAMERA TO CAN-VAS Printed works on canvas, until Sat 2 June, Bears Steps Gallery, Shrewsbury

Gallery, Walsall

TOM PRICE EXHIBITION Major solo exhibition of animated works by the London-based sculptor who has a special interest in the minutiae of body language and facial expression, until Sun 3 June, mac -Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

CONTEMPORARY COL-**LECTION** An insight into the artworks that feature in

Wolverhampton's contemporary collections, until Sat 9 June. Wolverhampton Art Gallerv

JOURNEY OF THE DRUM Exhibition curated by young people that visually represents the use of the drum in Diasporic communities and the tradition and ritual that surrounds the instrument in West African communities, until Sat 9 Jun. The Drum, Birmingham

JEWEL IN THE CROWN An exhibition of unique works by outstanding British jewellers, until Sat 9 Jun. lapetus Gallery, Malvern

INTO THE LIGHT: FRENCH & BRITISH PAINTING FROM IMPRESSIONISM TO THE EARLY 1920S

Fifty-four paintings and drawings from some of the UK's major galleries are brought together in an exhibition that illustrates trends in painting practice at the beginning of the last century, until Sun 10 June, Compton Verney Gallery, Warwickshire

THE ARTDEPOT IN 2012 Featuring a variety of media - textiles, glasswork, ceramics, metalwork, printmaking, painting and sculpture, until Sun 10 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury

KATE SPENCE - TIME STOOD STILL IN THE SHADOWS Exhibition of work that explores the notion of being able to stop time, until Sun 10 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove

CHILDREN'S LIVES A new project that focuses on children's experiences from the eighteenth century to the present day, until Sun 10 June, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

GAINSBOROUGH'S LAND-

SCAPES: THEMES & VARIATIONS This, the first exhibition solely devoted to the landscapes of Thomas Gainsborough, brings together paintings and drawings from both public and private collections that span the artist's career, until Sun 10 June, Compton Verney Gallery, Warwickshire

ROYALTY ON THE ROAD Exhibition that celebrates The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, until Sun 10 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum

PLANES IN FRAMES An exhibition by local artists who belong to the National Society of Aviation Painters, until Sat 16 June, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

THE DRAMA QUEENS Exhibition featuring costumes worn by

some of the cast in the acclaimed period drama Downton Abbey, until Sun 17 June, Himley Hall, Dudlev

PUGIN, DURER AND THE GOTHIC Display that showcases eight prints and a single drawing by the well-known Renaissance artist Albrecht Durer, together with two stained-glass designs by 16th century German artists, Hans Holbein and Abel Stimmer, until Thurs 21 June, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

THE AGE OF LEONARDO A special collection display that features ten works from some of the greatest 16th century Italian print-makers, until Thurs 21 June, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**LEATHER** Exhibition that celebrates Worcester's history in the British glove-making industry, until Sat 23 June, Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

CAPTURED MOMENTS Selling exhibition of paintings in a variety of media by two Shropshire artists, Mary Herber Davies and Blanche James until Sat 23 Jun, The Place, Oakengates, Telford

MAESTROS Featuring two moving image installations by Turner Prize-winner Douglas Gordon, until Sat 23 Jun, The Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre

REING HIIMAN Documentary artwork by artist Jill Impey that's inspired by young people's responses to identity, until Sat 23 June,

W'hampton Art Gallery ARTISTS AND PRINTMAK-ERS Exhibition featuring works from the museum's print collection, in particular the works of a group of artists known as the Senefelder Group, until Sun 24 Jun, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-

I WANT MORE LIFE EXHI-

BITION A showcase of paintings by Horace Panter - best known for being the bass-player with Coventry ska band The Specials. until Tues 26 June, Talisman Theatre, Kenilworth

JUBILEE A series of photographs of HRH The Queen taken by Patrick Lichfield, until Sat 30 June, Shugborough Estate, Stafford

FROM HIGHFIELD ROAD TO WEMBLEY...

Collection of photography, film and memorabilia that celebrates one of the most memorable FA Cup Finals (1987), until Sun 1 Jul, Herbert Art Gallery Museum, Coventry

NEW ART FOR A NEW AGE: OPTIMISM IN POST WAR BRITISH ABSTRAC-TION Exhibition featuring abstract painting and sculpture from around 1960 made by artists working in both London and St. Ives, until Sun 1 July, The Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

**GARY HUME: FLASHBACK** Exhibition by one of Britain's most celebrated contemporary artists, until Sat 7 July, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

STAFFORDSHIRE OPEN ART until Sun 8 July, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

A BEAUTIFUL CATASTRO-PHE Magnum photographer Bruce Gilden celebrates his trademark style with abandon, capturing New York City street life from 1981 to 2001. until Fri 13 July, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

ROYAL JOURNEYS An exhibition that brings together stories of royal obsessions. escapes, commandments and freedoms, told through historic paintings and a contemporary artwork by acclaimed artist Uriel Orlow, until Sat 14 July, Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

**BEDWYR WILLIAMS** A

#### **Museums & Art Galleries**

#### Birmingham

ARTIFEX Sutton Coldfield 0121 323 3776

BARBER INSTITUTE

BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY 0121 303

THE BURROWS GALLERY, THE CUSTARD FACTORY **CASTLE GALLERIES** 

0121 633 0015 IKON GALLERY

NUMBER NINE THE GALLERY RBSA GALLERY 0121236 THREE WHITE WALLS

GALLERY 0121 643 0078

#### **Black Country**

BANTOCK HOUSE WOLVERHAMPTON 01902 552195

**BILSTON CRAFT GALLERY** BROADFIELD HOUSE GLASS MUSEUM, DUDLEY 01384 812745 **DUDLEY MUSEUM** & ART GALLERY 01384 815575

LIGHT HOUSE MEDIA CENTRE WOLVERHAMPTON

THE NEW ART GALLERY WALSALL 01922 654400 RED HOUSE GLASS CONE

WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY 01902 552055

#### Staffordshire

THE POTTERIES MUSEUM & ART GALLERY 01782 232323 SHIREHALL GALLERY STAFFORD 01785 278345

STAFFORDSHIRE MUSEUM, SHUGBOROUGH 01889 881388

#### Warwickshire

COMPTON VERNEY GALLERY 01926 645500 HERBERT ART GALLERY COVENTRY 02476 832386 MEAD GALLERY WARWICK

02476 524524 ROYAL PUMP ROOMS 01926 742700

#### Worcestershire

WORCESTER CITY ART GALLERY 01905 25371

Visit whatsonlive.co.uk for venue website details wide range of media, including performance, sculpture, painting and photography, all fea-ture in this exhibition, considered to be Williams' most comprehensive presentation to date, until Sun 8 Jul, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

ERIC BAINBRIDGE: COL-**LAGES** Exhibition that consists of more than forty small-scale collages realised from images culled and cut from fashion magazines, until Sat 21 July, New Art Gallery, Walsall

WONDERFUL WATER-COLOURS: VIEWS OF COVENTRY & WARWICK-SHIRE Showcase of some of the gallery's watercolour collection including works by Paul Sandby, David Cox & Thomas Girtin, until Sun 22 July, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

BLOOD AND BONES Solo exhibition by Patricia Niemann that features work in precious metals, glass, textiles and drawings, all of which are inspired by the human body, archaeology and wild landscapes, until Sun 5 Aug, Broadfield House, Dudley

**CRAFTSENSE** Exhibition that celebrates the

links between eighteenth century industry and modern craft practices, until Sat 1 Sep. Bilston Craft Gallery

**GOOD SPORT** Paintings, photographs, memorabilia and installations are here brought together in a display that celebrates the passion and sense of community often associated with sport, until Sat 1 Sep, The New art Gallery, Walsall

STYLE AFRICA Exhibition that explores the changing traditions of woven, embroidered, printed and dyed clothing and textiles, from the early twentieth century through to 2011, until Sun 2 Sept, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

OUR SPORTING LIFE: THE SCIENCE OF SPORT EXHI-**BITION** Exhibition that focuses on the relationship between science & sport, in particular how technological advancements have shaped achievements and performance in the elite sporting world, until Sun 9 Sept, Enginuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

GODS, GREEKS AND GOR-**GONS** Discover some of the greatest stories ever told in an exhibition that explores how different societies inter-

pret Greek cultures, until Sun 9 Sept, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**LIVING WALLS New** exhibition commissioned for the World Shakespeare Festival, until Sun 9 Sept, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

ALLOTMENT An innovative programme that sees mac's Arena Gallery divided into plots and tended by independent curators and artists, until Sun 9 Sep, mac, Birmingham

**CORE - A DIGITAL ART INSTALLATION** Kurt Hentschlager's installation provides an insight into a weightless world of virtual aquariums, until Sun 30 Sep, Enginuity, Ironbridge,

Shropshire CITYSCAPES An exhibition of the world in miniature featuring items from the most circulated art medium coins and medals, until Sun 6 Oct, The Barber Institute. Birmingham

**GRAND DESIGNS** A chance to view some of the museum's rarely seen masterpieces, until Sat 20 Oct, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

**CELEBRATION** A display of costumes in the Servants' Quarters

Costume Gallery, until Sun 28 Oct. Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford

ANTONY DONALDSON Exhibition featuring early works from the '60s & '70s alongside more recent works, until Sat 3 Nov. Wolverhampton Art Gallery

MUSCLES, BALLS & **BOWLS** Exhibition that explores the history of sport in Shakespeare's time, until Sun 4 Nov. Nash's House & New Place. Stratford-upon-Avon

THE DIG! Exhibition showcasing archaeological finds uncovered so far. until Mon 31 Dec. Nash's House & New Place, Stratford-upon-Avon

THE STORIES OF SHAKE-**SPEARE** Joint exhibition from the Royal Shakespeare Theatre & the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, until Mon 31 Dec, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**DEAR SHAKESPEARE** New display that showcases a small but rare collection of letters written by famous authors, from Oscar Wilde to Bram Stoker, until Mon 31 Dec. Nash's House & New Place, Stratfordupon-Avon

**ROYAL CARS 'JUBILEE'** EXHIBITION Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon

FASTER. STRONGER. **HIGHER** Exhibition that explores the parallels between sport & art, Thurs 7 Jun, The Drum, Birmingham

FACES & PLACES A collection of works by Keith Turley in acrylics and oils featuring portraiture and figure painting, Sat 9 Jun - Sun 8 Jul, Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge

TOM DALE: I INFINITE **EXHIBITION** Interactive exhibition inspired by the digital world's quest to re-create life, Sat 16 -Sun 24 Jun, mac, Birmingham

**INSPIRED BY NIGHT** An exhibition of poetry and short stories penned by talented night-time visitors to the 'All the story of the night told over' event at the Birthplace, Sat 2 Jun - Sun 1 Jul, Shakespeare's Birthplace, Stratfordupon-Avon

JASKIRT DHALIWAL: EVERYDAY OLYMPIAN Exhibition that explores the commitment and participation of people in local community sports, Mon 18 Jun -Sun 8 Jul, The Drum, Birmingham

MARION RICHARDSON **EXHIBITION** The former Dudley Girl's School art mistress showcases some of the outstanding work that she's produced with children over the years, Sat 23 Jun - Sat 22 Sep, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

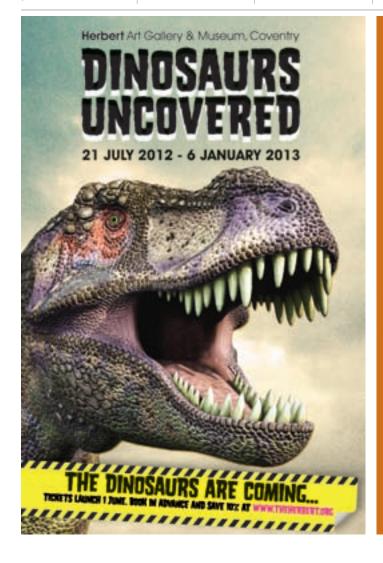
LOCAL OLYMPIC HEROES Exhibition of local artworks that celebrate physical movement, Sat 30 Jun - Sat 8 Sep, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

POWER & BEAUTY Exploration of the Black Country through photography and film, Thurs 28 Jun - Sat 11 Aug, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

FLIGHT AND THE ARTISTIC IMAGINATION Major exhibition that explores man's instinctive desire to fly. Works from Leonardo de Vinci & Francisco Goya feature, Fri 29 Jun - Sun 30 Sep, Compton Verney Gallery, Warwickshire

FORMER GLORY The grandeur of buildings, the faded beauty of clothing and personal items is the source of inspiration for this group of artists, working in textiles, film and mixed media, Sat 30 Jun - Sun 2 Sep, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley

Barber





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25 MAY - 27 AUGUST 2012

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National Portrait Gallery



7th - 10th June Lichfield Rugby Club

If you enjoy Modern Jazz, Gypsy, Trad, Funk, Electric & Acoustic Blues, Flamenco, Lap-Steel, Steaming Hammond Organs, Dynamic Vocals, Fantastic Drummers, Pianists, Big Bands and Workshops then we have an exceptional line-up of the best creative bands and musicians around

## This years line up:

- Paul Cox & Charlie Fabert
   Wonderbrass
- Eduardo Niebla
   Derrin Nauendorf Band
- Led Bib
   Gabrielle Ducomble
   Clare Free
- Kevin Brown's Shackdusters
   Strumpit
- Ben Cosland's Threeway
   George Huxley's Jazzmen
- The Producers
   Fret & Fiddle
- The Tom Woodman Band
   The Cohen Brothers



# PLUS OVER 30 REAL ALES FROM A WELL STOCKED BAR

Plenty of safe family space for camping & caravans just yards from the music. Showers and Catering.

Full Festival Ticket + FREE Camping £55/£51 concs/£47 members/£30 students. Single day tickets available: £7-£20 / Camping £7 (per tent or caravan/per day)

Booking Office: 01543 262 223 lichfieldarts.org.uk Lichfield Rugby Club, Tamworth Road, Lichfield. WS14 9JE

# Festivals

# **Wychwood Festival**

Cheltenham Racecourse, Fri 8 - Sun 10 June

Often referred to as Gloucestershire's answer to Glastonbury, the Wychwood Music Festival was launched in 2005 by a group of enthusiasts wanting to create an intimate and thrilling weekend festival experience. The annual event features music as wide-ranging as world, folk, psychedelic pop and dance, not to mention solar-powered cinema

and numerous workshops for all ages, including circus skills, taichi and yoga. Line-up for the 2012 festival includes Bellowhead, The Saw Doctors, The Damned, Hawkwind and Port Isaac's Fisherman's Friends.



## **Upton Jazz**

Upton-on-Severn, Worcestershire, Fri 22 - Sun 24 June

Now in its twenty-seventh year, the annual Upton Jazz Festival offers a blend of jazz,

mainstream/modern and swing with traditional jazz and Dixieland foundations. With the 2012 festival being touted as the 'year of dance', organisers have transformed the town's Memorial Hall into a dance venue, and intend to create other dance spaces in numerous other venues. At the request

of festival-goers, the 2012 event sees the return of some familiar faces, including Fat Sam, Carl Sinclair, Karen Sharp, Bob Kerr and the Whoopee Band, Tipitina, Pete Allen and Alan Barnes, to name but a few...



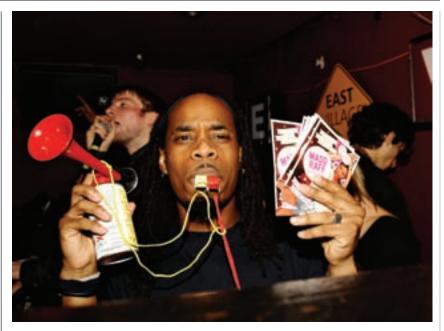
## The Lunar Festival

Umberslade Estate, Tanworth in Arden, Warwickshire, Fri 1 - Mon 4 June

Set in the spiritual home of singer/songwriter Nick Drake, this brand new family-orientated festival offers an intimate weekend of entertainment in the beautiful setting of the Umberslade Estate. Featuring two stages of live music, film screenings, a mini-rave and on-site catering provided by

Birmingham's Soul Food Project, the inaugural Lunar Festival is headlined by the extremely talented Benjamin Francis Leftwich, Scott Matthew and Fionn Regan.





## **Bass Festival**

Various locations in and around Birmingham, Tues 19 June - Fri 13 July

An appearance by Jamaican reggae star Junior Murvin is guaranteed to be the high-light of this year's Bass Festival - the region's month-long celebration of Black music and art. With 2012 marking the fiftieth anniversary of Jamaican Independence, and with Birmingham hosting the Jamaican Olympic team for the duration of the games, this year's incarnation may well prove to be the best ever. This year's line-up also features Moqapi Selassie, Lady Leshuur, RoxXxan, Top Cat, Seani B and the Channel One Sound System.



### **Lichfield Real Ale Jazz And Blues**

Lichfield Rugby Club, Thurs 7 - Sun 10 June

With electric blues, acoustic blues, lap-steel guitar, flamenco guitar, trad, gypsy and modern jazz, brass ensembles and funk to recommend it, Lichfield Real Ale Jazz And Blues Festival certainly offers something to satisfy all tastes. Add to this workshops for budding musicians, great camping facilities, renowned catering (for all the right reasons) and the promise of more than thirty real ales, and you've got the makings of a fine festival. Promising to be bigger and better than ever before, the 2012 event features performances from Eduardo Niebla, Led Bib, Gabrielle Ducomble (pictured), Derrin Nauendorf, The Cohen Brothers, Paul Cox and Charlie Fabert and Wonderbrass.









www.3choirs.org 0845 652 1823



## Philharmonia Orchestra Three Choirs Festival Chorus

Programme includes Berlioz Te Deum, Fauré Requiem, Bach Goldberg Variations, Beethoven Symphony No 5, Tchaikovsky 1812 Overture, Clarinet Quintets by Coleridge-Taylor & Brahms, Debussy Danse sacrée et danse profane, Dobrinka Tabakova Centuries of Meditations, Joseph Phibbs Rivers to the Sea & Judith Bingham Celticity

Guest conductors Carlo Rizzi & David Hill

Guest artists include The King's Singers, Dante Quartet, Fretwork & National Youth Orchestra of Wales

The world's oldest and greatest choral festival!

# **Festival PREVIEWS**

#### Vive Le Rock

The Workhouse, Llanfyllin, Powys, Fri 15 - Sun 17 June

Coventry ska band The Selecter and '80s New Wave artist Hazel O'Connor are just two of the many acts booked to appear at this

brand new Mid-Wales festival. The two-day event is being staged to raise much-needed funds to enable The Workhouse to continue to bring music legends past and present to the venue, and to support fresh new talent from within the local area.



## Stratford Fringe Festival

Various locations throughout Stratford-upon-Avon, Sat 2 - Sun 10 June

With more than one hundred-and-fifty separate events at forty different venues across the historic town of Stratford-upon-Avon, the annual Stratford Fringe promises to offer something for all tastes and age groups. Comedians Robin Ince and Milton Jones headline the eight-day event, with theatre companies (performing everything from An Evening With Charlotte Bronte to a new work to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee), live music, a visual arts trail, exhibitions, art classes and family activities also featuring.

# **Cheltenham Science Festival**

Various locations in and around Cheltenham, Tues 12 - Sat 17 June

The Cheltenham Science Festival provides six days of debate and entertainment, and offers visitors the chance to put their questions to some of the world's leading thinkers, and even to conduct their own experiments. This year's festival hosts the Famelab International Final - a quest to find scientific stars of the future.

# **Gregynog Festival**

Gregynog Hall, Tregynon, Newtown, Powys, Fri 15 - Sun 1 July

Wales' oldest classical music festival attracts thousands of visitors from around the globe, all of whom descend on mid-Wales to indulge their passion for 'music-making of the highest standard'. Set within the grand surroundings of Gregynog Hall, this two-week event features six Welsh debuts and six exclusive UK appearances. Taking Venezia as its inspiration and featuring seven centuries of music associated with the city, this year's event marks the passing of one hundred years since Gregynog's Festival founders - sisters Gwendoline and Margaret Davies - bought their first paintings of Venice

by Monet. Highlights for 2012 include performances by The Avison Ensemble, pianist Alessandro Taverna, vocal group La Venexiana, Catalan viol player Jordi Savall and Italian virtuoso Giuliano Carmignola.





## **Ludlow Festival**

Ludlow Castle, Ludlow Assembly Rooms and St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, South Shropshire, Sat 23 June - Sun 8 July

This well-established festival is now in its fifty-second year and has grown into an event of national interest, not least because of its often-star-studded centrepiece, an outdoor Shakespeare production performed in the grounds of the town's magnificent castle. This year it's a new version of Much Ado About Nothing that's being presented beneath the stars. Other attractions for 2012 include musical performances from Ensemble Sine Nomine, Orchestra of the Swan, Fron Male Voice Choir, Wishful Singing, Niamh Parsons and Graham Dunne. Abba tribute band Bjorn Again provide the final evening's entertainment with a performance at Ludlow Castle.

#### Os Fest

Oswestry Showground, North Shropshire, Fri 1 - Mon 4 June

The region's first pop festival of summer 2012 takes place in Oswestry early this month and boasts an impressive line-up of eighty acts performing across three stages. N-Dubz member Dappy takes to the main stage on Saturday, while acclaimed British indie group Razorlight top the bill on Sunday. Other noteable acts performing during the four-day event include Hard-Fi, Benjamin Francis Leftwich, Delilah, Levi Roots and Goldie Lookin' Chain. Apart from providing

top music, Os Fest also offers a comedy store, funfair, DJ Booth, open mic, Kidzone, food stalls, Pimms bus, beer tents and the promise of much, much more...



# **English Haydn Festival**

Various locations, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, Wed 6 - Sat 9 June

Celebrating Haydn's early years, the nine-teenth English Haydn Festival opens with a showing in Bridgnorth's Majestic cinema of the newly released film, In Search Of Haydn. Performances by an impressive line-up of internationally acclaimed soloists follow, with Simon Standage, James Kirby, Pavel Serbin and Peter Hanson, together with the English Haydn Orchestra, all contributing. A series of one-hour lunchtime concerts features performances from the Eroica String Quartet, the Barbican Trio and the English Haydn Ensemble.

# **Droitwich Spa Summer Festival**

Droitwich Spa, Pershore, Worcestershire, Fri 22 June - Sun 8 July

This annual event sees the small market town of Droitwich Spa come to life with numerous arts-based activities. Kicking off with a boat gathering weekend on the newly opened Droitwich Canal, the Summer Festival features an eclectic selection of music in the town centre's Vine Park, including performances from Roving Crows, Cowley Cowboys, BabaJack and Hennesea.

## Warwick Summer Music Festival

St Mary's Church, Warwick, Thurs 21 June - Sat 7 July

Warwick's rich musical heritage is here celebrated with seventeen days of performances by some of the world's most acclaimed classical musicians. Renowned organist and composer David Briggs opens the festival with a recital of works by Bach, Franck and Mendelssohn, together with a performance of his improvised symphony. A world premiere of Howard Skempton's song cycle Brave Guy Of Warwick also features, performed by mezzo-soprano Ksynia Loeffler and pianist Jan Loeffler. Other highlights include performances by the Armonico Consort and Symphony Orchestra and the Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra.











# Festivals Listings

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

#### JUNE

GATE TO SOUTHWELL FOLK Highlights include Jools Holland and his Rhythm & Blues Orchestra, Fri 1 - Mon 4 Jun, The Workhouse, Southwell, Nottingham **CHESTER FOLK Fri 1** Mon 4 Jun. Kelsall Village, Chester **SOLIHULL JAZZ** Debut festival with a line-up featuring Tipitina & Ricky Cool & The Hoola Boola Boys, Fri 1 Mon 4 Jun, Solihull, Warwickshire

**0S FEST** Highlights include Razorlight, Dappy, Benjamin Francis Leftwich and Hard-Fi, Fri 1 - Mon 4 Jun, Oswestry Showground

**LUNAR** Highlights include Benjamin Francis Leftwich & Rory McLeod, Fri 1 - Mon 4 Jun, Umberslade Estate, Stratford-upon-Avon

ENGLISH HAYDN Tue 1 -Sun 10 Jun, Various Locations in Bridgnorth, Shropshire

MUCH WENLOCK ARTS FESTIVAL featuring an outdoor production of the Merry Wives of Windsor, Sat 1 - Sun 24 Jun, Various venues throughout Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

REGGAE CITY Confirmed acts include the Twinkle Brothers, The Beat, Congo Natty feat. Nanci & Pheobe, Friendly Fire ft Peppery and many more!, Sat 2 Jun. Rainbow Warehouse. Birmingham

STRATFORD FRINGE Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun. Various locations throughout Stratford-upon-Avon DOT TO DOT FESTIVAL

Line-up includes The Drums, Pulled Apart by

Horses & Dog is Dead, Mon 4 Jun, Various locations in Manchester city centre

LICHFIELD REAL ALE. JAZZ & BLUES Line-up includes Paul Cox and Charlie Fabert, Wonderbrass, Eduardo Niebla, Derrin Nauendorf Band & Led Bib, Thurs 7 - Sun 10 Jun, Lichfield Rugby Club

WYCHW00D Line-up includes Bellowhead, The Saw Doctors. The Damned, Hawkwind & Port Isaac's Fisherman's Friends, Fri 8 - Sun 10 Jun,

Cheltenham Racecourse

**DOWNLOAD** Highlights include The Prodigy, Metallica & Black Sabbath, Fri 8 - Sun 10 Jun, Donington Park, Derby

WELFEST ON THE MEADOW Highlights include The Delteurs, Magic Eight Ball, Sat 9 Jun, Synder Meadow, Stratford-upon-Avon **CHAZZSTOCK** Highlights include The Vaccines, The Horrors & Tribes, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Jun, Stanford Hall. Leicestershire

PARKLIFE WEEKENDER Line-up includes The Flaming Lips, Dizzee Rascal & Noah & The Whale, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Jun, Platt Fields Park, Manchester

**CHELTENHAM SCIENCE** Tues 12 - Sun 17 Jun, Various locations throughout Cheltenham BEACH BREAK LIVE Lineup includes; Chase and Status, Dizzee Rascal, Friendly Fires & Mayerick Sabre Thur 14 - Mon 18 Jun. Pembrey Country Park, South Wales

VIVE LE ROCK Line-up includes The Selector, Dr Feelgood, Hazel O'Connor & Gundogs, Fri 15 - Sat 16 Jun, The Workhouse, Llanfyllin, Powys

LICHFIELD FOLK Fri 15 -Sun 17 Jun, Various locations throughout Lichfield

BURTFEST Line-up features Inme, The Wurzels, The Selecter & The Skints, Fri 15 -Sun 17 Jun, The Washlands, Burton-on-

ALCESTER SUMMER FOLK Fri 15 - Sun 17 Jun, Various locations in and around Alcester, Warwickshire

**GREGYNOG** The oldest classical music festival in Wales, Fri 15 - Sun 24 Jun, Gregynog Hall, Nr Welshpool. Powvs THE BIG SESSION

Highlights include Ovsterband, DJ Peter Lawrence. Show of Hands, Eddi Reader & Chumbawumba, Fri 15 Sun 17 Jun, Catton

Hall, Derbyshire **LEAMINGTON PEACE** Free festival featuring entertainment areas, children's tent & workshop area, Sat 16 - Sun 17 Jun, various locations in and around Leamington Spa

ISLE OF WIGHT Line-up includes Elbow, Example, Bruce

Springsteen & The E Street Band & Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds, Thurs 21 - Sun 24 Jun, Isle Of Wight UPTON JAZZ FESTIVAL Fri 22 - Sun 24 Jun, Upton-on-Severn, **Worcestershire** 

**LUDLOW FESTIVAL** 

Highlights include a production of Much . Ado About Nothing & performances from the Glenn Miller Orchestra & Bjorn Again, Sat 23 June - Sun 8 Jul, Ludlow Castle & various other locations in and around Ludlow. South Shropshire

#### STAFFORD FESTIVAL SHAKESPEARE

Featuring a performance of Romeo & Juliet, Thurs 28 June -Sat 14 July, Stafford

**CORNBURY FESTIVAL** Highlights include James Morrison, Elvis Costello, Jools Holland, Will Young & Pixie Lott, Seasick Steve Stooshe, Hugh Laurie and many more... Fri 29 June - Sún 1 Jul, Cornbury Park, Oxfordshire

**GODIVA FESTIVAL** Sun 1 Jul, War Memorial Park, Coventry

MOSTLY JAZZ Line-up includes Birmingham Jazz Ensemble, The Steve Ajao Band, Miles Levin Band and Husk. Fri 29 Jun - Sun 1 Jul, Moseley Park & Pool, Birmingham

XSTATIC FESTIVAL Lineup includes Judge Jules, James Chadwick and Andy Moor, Sat 30 Jun, Catton Hall, Derbyshire

**CHESTER ROCKS** Sat 30 Jun - Sun 1 Jul, Chester Racecourse STRATFORD-UPON-AVON **RIVER** Festival that brings together the

boating fraternity and local community to enjoy river-based entertainment and activities, Sat 30 Jun - Sun 1 Jul, Stratford upon Avon

#### **JULY**

CHELTENHAM INTERNATIONAL MUSIC Highlights include Nigel Kennedy & Benjamin Grosvenor, Wed 4 - Sun 15 Jul, Various locations throughout Cheltenham

**LICHFIELD FESTIVAL** Wed 4 - Sun 15 Jul, Various locations throughout Lichfield

NAPTON MUSIC Line-up includes Toploader, Guns2Roses & Total Stone Roses, Fri 6 - Sat 7 Jul, Napton on the Hill Centre Warwickshire

FUSE Line-up includes State Of Undress Bleeding Hearts & Kaleidoscope, Fri 6

Sun 8 Jul, Beacon Park. Lichfield WAKESTOCK Line-up includes Calvin Harris Dizzee Rascal & Ed Sheeran, Fri 6 - Sun 8 Jul, Cardigan Bay, South Wales **BUXTON** Line-up includes Piano 4 Hands, Flanders and Swann Give Me Your Hand & The Fairey Band, Sat 7 - Wed 25 Jul, Buxton Opera

LUNANZA Family fun festival, Sat 7 - Sun 8 Jul, West Midland Showground, Shropshire

House

**BLUES AT THE FOLD** Lineup includes Earl Green & The Right Of Time, Sat 7 Jul, The Fold, Worcestershire

LATITUDE Line-up includes Bon Iver, Elbow, Paul Weller & Metronomy, Thurs 12 -Sun 15 Jul, Henham Park, Suffolk

BROMSGROVE FOLK Lineup includes Jez Lowe and the Big Bad Pennies, Josh Tams and Barry Coupe, Mike Silver and Jonny Coppin and many more. Fri 13 - Sun 15 Jul, The Bowling Green, Shaw Lane, Bromgrove,

Worcestershire HOLE IN THE WALL Lineup includes Counterfeit Stones, T-Rextacy & Are You Experienced, Sat 14 - Sun 15 Jul. Hopton Court, between Ludlow & Kidderminster L FEST Fri 13 - Mon 16 Jul West Midland Showground,

Shrewsbury WOLVESTOCK Country music festival, Sat 21 -Sun 22 Jul, East Park, Birmingham

**SPLENDOUR** Highlights include Dizzee Rascal, Katy B, Razorlight and The Levellers, Sat 21 Jul. Wollaton Park. Nottingham

**CHURCH STRETTON ARTS** FESTIVAL A two-week celebration of the arts, Sat 22 July - Sat 4 Aug. Church Stretton, South Shropshire

WARWICK FOLK Line-up includes Eddi Reader, Tickled Pink, Edward II & Michael McGoldrick, Thu 26 - Sun 29 Jul, Warwick OFF THE CUFF Fri 27 -

Sun 29 Jul, The Flapper, Birmingham **GLOBAL GATHERING** Highlights include Tinie Tempah, AfroJack & Labrinth, Fri 27 - Sat 28 Jul, Long Marston Airfield, Stratford-upon-

#### **AUGUST**

**BLUES FESTIVAL** Line-up includes Ricky Cool and the Hoola Boola



Boys, TBelly, Moio Hooker, Steiny's Blues & Mumbo-Jumbo, Sat 4 Aug, The Jinney Ring Craft Centre, Redditch WILDERNESS Line-up includes, Rodrigo y Gabriela, Wilco, Spiritualized, Cloud Control & Lianne La Havas, Fri 10 - Sun 12 Aug, Cornbury Park, Oxfordshire

FARMER PHILS Line-up includes Dreadzone, The Undercover Hippy & Rodney Branigan, Fri 10 - Sun 12 Aug, Rattlinghope, Shrewsbury

V FESTIVAL Highlights include The Stone Roses, The Killers, Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds & Snow Patrol, Sat 18 - Sun 19 Aug, Weston Park, Staffordshire

SHREWSBURY FOLK Highlights include KT Tunstall, Richard Thompson, & Show of Hands, Fri 24 - Mon 27 Aug, West Midland Showground, Shrewsbury

**CREAMFIELDS** Line-up includes Avicii, David Guetta & Example, Fri 24 - Sun 26 Aug, Daresbury, Cheshire BRIDGNORTH MUSIC & ARTS Fri 24 Aug - Sun 2 Sep. Various Locations in Bridanorth. Shropshire UPTON INTERNATIONAL MUSIC Line-up includes The Stylistics, The Drifters, The Selecter &

The Beat, Fri 24 - Sun 26 Aug, Upton Waterside, Upton-on-Severn. Worcestershire **LEEDS** Line-up includes The Foo Fighters, The Cure, Kasabian. The Black Keys & Florence

and the Machine, Fri 24

- Sun 26 Aug, Bramham Park, Leeds READING Line-up The Foo Fighters, The Cure. Kasabian, The Black Keys & Florence and the Machine, Fri 24 Sun 26 Aug, Richfield Avenue, Reading

SHREWSBURY INTERNATIONAL STREET THEATRE Fri 31 August -Sun 2 Sep. Shrewsbury Town Centre

OFF THE TRACKS **SUMMER** Line-up includes Peatbog Faeries, The Selecter, Dhol Fountain & Martin Carthy, Fri 31 Aug Sun 2 Sep, Donington Park Farmhouse, Donnington

MOSELEY FOLK Line-up includes Steeleye Span, Roy Harper, Echo & The Bunnymen & Julian Cope, Fri 31 Aug - Sun 2 Sep, Moseley Park & Pool, Birmingham

#### **SEPTEMBER**

**BESTIVAL** Line-up includes Stevie Wonder, New Order, The XX & Emeli Sande, Thurs 6 - Sun 9 Sep, Robin Hill Country Park, Isle Of Wight BROMYARD FOLK Line-up includes Spiers & Boden, The Mighty Doonans & Vin Garbutt, Fri 7 - Sun 9 Sep, Bromyard, Herefordshire SHREWSBURY FIELDS FOREVER Line-up features The Wombats, Ms Dynamite & The Clock Tower, Fri 14 - Sat 16 Sep, West Mid Showground, Shrewsbury



#### **Dudley Concert Hall**

St James Road, Dudley, DY1 1HP 01384 812812 dudley.gov.uk/entertainmentlive

#### **Tea Dance**

Wed 30 May, 1pm

In celebration of the Queens Diamond Jubilee, includes a cup of tea and a slice of cake. Music and support from Fiona Bennett Tickets £4

#### **Dudley Concert Hall**

St James Road, Dudley, DY1 1HP 01384 812812

dudley.gov.uk/entertainmentlive

# We'll Meet Again Diamond Jubilee Edition

Thurs 31 May, 2pm

Music and entertainment celebrating the wartime spirit. **Tickets £11** 



#### **RAF Cosford**

Shifnal, Shropshire TF11 8U 01902 376 200

cosford@rafmuseum.org

#### Half Term Diamond Jubilee Activities

Sat 2 - Sun 10 June

Creative sessions running daily from 11am - 12.30pm & 2pm - 3.30pm



#### **Heritage Motor Centre**

Banbury Road, Gaydon, Warwickshire CV35 0BJ Tel: 01926 641188 heritage-motor-centre.co.uk

#### Sat 2 - Sun 10 June

Enjoy a patriotic half-term with the museum's special Royal Cars Exhibition & quiz, plusfree family Jubilee craft days on Tuesday 5 and Thursday 7 June, where children are encouraged to dress as kings, queens and princesses.



#### **Gladstone Pottery Museum**

Uttoxeter Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 1PQ. Tel: 01782 237777 stoke.gov.uk/museum

#### **A Victorian Diamond Jubilee**

Thurs 7 June, 10.30am - 4pm

Meet Queen Victoria, her lady in waiting and Victorian soldiers from the Middlesex Regiment. See exotic animals from around the world including meerkats, snakes and parrots.

Standard admission applies

#### **Potteries Museum & Art Gallery**

Bathesda Street, City Centre, Stokeon-Trent ST1 3DW Tel: 01782232323 walsall.gov.uk/leathermuseum

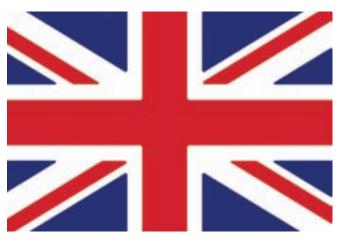
#### **Fabulous Fifties**

Sun 3rd June, 2pm

Celebrate the Diamond Jubilee by visiting the History Wardrobe which is packed with fashions from 1952, including bullet bras and sugared petiticoats.

Tickets £5, concessions £4





# **Diamond Jubilee events**

# Let the celebrations begin...

This month sees towns and cities across the UK decked out in red, white and blue as the biggest party of the year kicks off, bringing communities big and small together to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. As is always the case with such occasions, there's an eclectic mix of organised events taking place across the region, including a Big Jubilee Weekend in Birmingham - which sees the second city marking the occasion with four days of music and entertainment - and a Queen Jubilee Tribute in Wolverhampton's West Park, featuring Coronation anthems and Last Night Of The Proms favourites. Meanwhile, in Shropshire, Blists Hill Museum hosts four days of pomp and pageantry Victorian-style. Coventry's Transport Museum gets in on the act too, holding a Royal Family Day to coincide with its Royalty On The Road exhibition.

So grab yourself a Union Jack and let the partying begin....

#### **Birmingham**

DIAMOND JUBILATIONS Featuring the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra & Stephen Bell (conductor), Fri 1 Jun, Symphony Hall

#### BIRMINGHAM PRIDE

Sat 2 June, Victoria Square & Birmingham's Gay Village

# HANDEL'S ROYAL MUSIC: CELEBRATING THE DIAMOND JUBILEE

Sat 2 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

SPRING FESTIVAL Featuring arts, crafts and nature trails, arena activities and 1950s-style entertainment, Sat 2 Jun, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham

LET THE GAMES BEGIN WEEK & JUBILEE FUN Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Cadbury World, Birmingham

#### FAMILY FUN DAYS - JUBILEE HALF-TERM

Featuring crowning trails, outdoor games & take home crafts, Sat 2 -Sun 10 Jun, Packwood House JUBILEE PRAISE Sun 3 Jun, St Martin's Church

RUSSELL WATSON - A TRIBUTE TO THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

Sun 3 Jun, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

# **CELEBRATE CREATIVITY CRAFT FAIR**Spacehopper Events present a craft

event in celebration of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee, Sun 3 & Mon 4 Jun, Birmingham Council House

# BIRMINGHAM JUBILEE VINTAGE EXTRAVAGANZA Presented by

Spacehopper Events, Sun 3 & Mon 4 Jun, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

BIG SCREEN 1950s music and concert from Buckingham Palace screened live, Mon 4 Jun, Victoria

Square, Birmingham

FAMILY STREET PARTY Mon 4 Jun,
Waterhall, Birmingham Museum &
Art Gallery

#### **Black Country**

#### DRAMA QUEENS TO

CELEBRATE THE DIAMOND JUBILEE
Exhibition of period costumes from
the world of film and television, Until
Sun 17 Jun, Himley Hall & Park,

Dudley

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS A variety of fun for all ages & the opening of the centre's community garden project, Fri 1 Jun, Willenhall Centre

DIAMOND JUBILEE STREET PARTY Sat 2 Jun, Penn Library, Wolverhampton MANOR FARM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS Themed Jubilee lunch with 50s

Manor Farm, Walsall

music and dancing, Sat 2 Jun,

ST THOMAS'S DIAMOND JUBILEE PARTY IN THE PARK Family afternoon featuring bouncy castle, inflatable assault course, tug of war, puppet show, live

music & much more... Sat 2 Jun, St Thomas' Church, Walsall

HALF-TERM DIAMOND ACTIVITIES
Become a royal for the day by making & decorating your very own crown, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, RAF

## Cosford DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Entertainment, dance and exhibition of local memories, Sun 3 June, Bilston Town Hall

THE BIG JUBILEE LUNCH Celebrate in style with an outdoor picnic & entertainment, Sun 3 Jun, Wightwick Manor

#### THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE TRIB-

UTE A summertime bonfire party with live acts, Mon 4 Jun, West Park, Wolverhampton

**DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS** Celebrate HRH the Queen's Diamond

Jubilee with a traditional street party, Tue 5 Jun, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

LOVELY JUBILEE A day of Jubilee celebrations with craft making for all the family, Tues 5 Jun, The Public, West Bromwich

**WOLVERHAMPTON STREET** PARTY Indoor party for adults and children, Tue 5 June, Bilston Baptist Church, Wolverhampton.

AFTERNOON TEA WITH THE QUEEN Nostalgia in abundance with tea, homemade cakes and music from the Senior Citizens Orchestra, Wed 6 Jun, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

#### JUBILEE HATS

Celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by making your own party hat or crown. Wed 6 Jun, Bilston Craft Gallery

**JUNGLE QUEEN'S CROWNS** 

Wed 6 Jun, New Art Gallery, Walsall

**JUBILEE BADGES - DROP IN CRAFT SESSION** Wed 6 Jun, Walsall Leather Museum JUBILEE JAMBOREE Story & craft sessions to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Jubilee, Thurs 7 Jun, Central Children's Library, Wolverhampton **CELEBRATION PLATES WORK-**

**SHOP** Thurs 7 Jun, Walsall Leather Museum CHILDREN'S HALF-TERM CRAFT

DROP-IN Thurs 7 Jun, Walsall Museum

#### SENIOR CITIZENS ORCHESTRA CONCERT

Jubilee-themed concert, Thurs 7 Jun, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

#### PETER PAN

Disney classics released in the decade of the coronation. Fri 8 Jun. Forest Arts Centre. Walsall

**ALICE IN WONDERLAND Disney** classics released in the decade of the coronation, Fri 8 Jun, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

**JUBILEE JAMBOREE** Sun 10 Jun, Bentley Leisure Pavillion, Walsall

TIME TO REMEMBER A trip down memory lane that recreates the sounds & atmosphere of the war years, Thurs 14 Jun, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall **OLYMPIC FLAGS WORKSHOP** Sat 30 Jun, New Art Gallery,

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE: **CLASSIC WOMEN** 

Starring Lesley Garrett, Sat 30 Jun, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

#### **Shropshire**

#### SHROPSHIRE JUBILEE PROMS AND FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR

Led by the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra, this family event features a children's funfair and culminates in a spectacular firework display, Fri 1 Jun, Oswestry Showground, Shropshire

#### **QUEEN VICTORIA'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

A weekend of Jubileeinspired celebrations, Sat 2 -Tue 5 Jun, Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire HALF-TERM DIAMOND **ACTIVITIES** Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, RAF Cosford, Staffordshire

JUBILEE JAMBOREE Celebrate all things royal with a traditional British picnic, Sun 3 Jun, Sunnycroft, Wellington SHREWSBURY RIVER FESTIVAL Free family fun in the Quarry and on the river with Jubilee boat flotilla. Check out the music. bar. food. stilt-walkers. jugglers, fire-eaters and craft stands, Sun 3 Jun, The Quarry Park, Shrewsbury

**GIANT JUBILEE STREET PARTY** Join in the fun as the Quarry Park is transformed into a giant street party and filled with plenty of community

entertainment. Mon 4 Jun. The Quarry Park, Shrewsbury JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS Feed this year's baby lambs and kid goats and take part in an

array of activities, including egg collection and hand feeding deer, Mon 4 Jun, Hoo Farm Animal Kingdom, Telford. Shropshire JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Celebrate the Queen's Jubilee with a walk through the park's magnificent landscape, Tues 5 Jun Hawkstone Park, North Shropshire

JUBILEE BANK HOLIDAY TUES-**DAY** Featuring entertainment from the Darby Singers, Tues 5 Jun, Sunnycroft, Wellington GUY DAY'S HINTS AND TIPS JUBILEE CLASSICS Guy looks at how our approach to food has evolved over the last

sixty years and updates some classic dishes from Jubilee celebrations of the past, Wed 13 - Thurs 14 Jun. Weston Park, Staffordshire

#### **Staffordshire**

#### JUBILEE: EXHIBITION

A selection of photographs of HRH The Queen taken by Patrick Lichfield will be displayed throughout the mansion house, along with the magnificent robes worn by his grandparents at the Queen's Coronation, until Sat 30 June, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford

#### **HM THE QUEEN AND THE PAPARAZZI**

Look out for 'HM The Queen's' lookalike who'll be making a surprise appearance. Fri 1 June. The Trentham Estate. Stoke-on-

**DIAMOND JUBILEE GARDEN** PARTY Attendees are encouraged to dress 1950s-style, Sat 2 Jun, Staffordshire Regiment Museum

**DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRA-**TIONS Featuring live music, street magic, face painting & king and queen stilt walkers, at 2 Jun, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRA-**TIONS AT WEDGWOOD

Featuring a commemorative

museum gallery trail, Sat 2 -Fri 8 Jun, Wedgwood Museum, Stoke-on-Trent **DIAMOND JUBILEE BANK HOLIDAY FUN** Take along a picnic to the gardens and celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee while listening to the Lyme Valley Swing Band, Sat 2 -Tue 5 Jun, Trentham Gardens

JUBILEE HALF-TERM WEEK

Featuring special celebration activities for all the family, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Shugborough Historic Working Estate DIAMOND JUBILEE COURTYARD

PARTY Sun 3 June, Emma Bridgewater Factory, Stoke-

on-Trent **FABULOUS FIFTIES** Celebrate the Diamond Jubilee by visiting the History Wardrobe which is packed with fashions from . 1952, including bullet bras and

sugared petticoats, Sun 3 Jun, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery

THE BIG JUBILEE LUNCH Sun 3 Jun, Lichfield Cathedral JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Featuring fun fair, band displays, BRMB roadshow, Scruffs Dog Show, trade and charity stalls, Mon 4 Jun, Beacon Park

JUBILEE BEACON LIGHTING Mon 4 Jun, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon ROYAL FAMILY DAY A range of royal-themed activities for families, Mon 4 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum JUBILEE HALF-TERM Jubileethemed pottery painting, including ceramic flags and commemorative tiles, Mon 4 Fri 8 Jun, Gladstone Pottery

Museum HALF-TERM FAMILY FUN LITTLE TREASURES Jubilee-themed family drop-in workshop and trails, Mon 4 - Fri 8 Jun, Museum of Cannock Chase JUBILEE DAY CELEBRATIONS Arrive dressed as a prince,

princess, king or queen,

make a crown and enjoy the celebration... Tue 5 Jun. Shugborough Historic Working Estate DIAMOND JUBILEE GARDEN **PARTY** Booking essential! Tues 5 Jun, Moseley Old Hall DIAMOND JUBILEE STREET PARTY Tues 5 Jun. National Forest Adventure Farm, Burton-upon-Trent JUBILEE CROWNS Create a royal crown to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, Tue 5 - Fri 8 Jun. The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent THE STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY SHOW Wed 6 - Thu 7 Jun, Staffordshire County

Showground A VICTORIAN DIAMOND JUBILEE Meet Queen Victoria and her lady in waiting, see Victorian soldiers as well as exotic animals from around the world, Thurs 7 Jun, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-

JUBILEE JAPES Hands-on activity sessions where visitors can make their very own crown, Thurs 7 Jun, The Samuel Johnson Birthplace Museum & Bookshop JUBILEE PROMS CONCERT Sat 16 Jun, Lichfield Garrick

Trent

#### Warwickshire

#### **ROYALTY ON THE ROAD**

Exhibition of vehicles used by the British monarchy past and present, Until Sun 10 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS WITH **THE SEALED KNOT** Featuring battle re-enactments, displays, living history encamp-ment and artillery salute, Fri 1 Mon 4 Jun, The Recreation Ground, Stratford-upon-Avon JUBILEE TEAS Celebrate the Jubilee with afternoon tea in the Barn Restaurant, Sat 2 Jun, Baddesley Clinton JUBILEE WEEKEND

Retro bike ride plus entertainment from local Morris Dancers, Sat 2 - Mon 4 June, Churchend Brewery, Ridge Lane, Warwickshire JUBILEE FAMILY FUN Featuring special jubilee craft days, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon DIAMOND JUBILEE AND ROYAL JOUSTING Celebrate the Queen's sixtieth year on the throne with a royal joust fea-

turing a host of historical characters. Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Warwick Castle **ROYAL JUBILEE FUN Watch as** Queen Elizabeth I holds court, accompanied by William Shakespeare and his company of players. Entry is free to all children attending in fancy dress, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Shakespeare's Birthplace, Stratford-upon-

**ROYAL HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES** Follow an all-new crown jewels activity trail around the museum, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum

Avon

ROYAL CARS JUBILEE **EXHIBITION** 

Sat 2 - Sun 10 June, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire

JUBILEE PICNIC Take along a picnic and listen to some live music, Sun 3 Jun, Charlecote

**GODIVA STREET PARTY** Themed event featuring live music, street performers, community entertainment and refreshments. Mon 3 Jun, Priory Street, by Coventry Cathedral

**LEAMINGTON SPA GOLDEN** JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS Featuring fairground rides, marching bands and firework display, Sat 3 Jun, The Royal

Pump Room Gardens, Leamington Spa LONGFORD FESTIVAL MAD HAT-TER'S TEA PARTY Fun day fea-

turing donkey rides, live music, karaoke, Punch and Judy, and much more... Sat 3 Jun, Longford Park, Coventry TIME TRAVELLERS **GO ROYAL** 

Games and crafts fit for a king or queen, plus a chance to meet some royal characters of times gone by. Sun 3 -Tue 5 Jun, Kenilworth Castle DIAMOND JUBILEE STREET PARTY Celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a family street party including entertainment and nostalgic food. Themed Diamond Jubilee costumes are very much encouraged, Tue 5 Jun, Solihull Arts Complex JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS WITH THE ZINGZILLAS CBeebies favourites entertain their young fans with a series of five mini-shows throughout the day, Tues 5 Jun, Cannon Park Shopping Centre, Canley, Nr Coventry ENGLAND BE GLAD! CONCERT Fri 22 Jun, Holy Trinity Church, Leamington

#### Worcestershire

JUBILEE ELGAR FESTIVAL Fri 1 Jun, Croombe Park **ROYAL JUBILEE ELGAR FESTI-VAL CLOSING CONCERT Sat 2** Jun, Worcester Cathedral KINGS AND QUEENS FAMILY FUN TRAIL Sat 2 - Thurs 7 Jun, Witley Court & Gardens **FAMILY FUN DAYS - JUBILEE HALF-TERM** Featuring crowning trails, outdoor games & take home crafts, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Coughton Court, Alcester

JUBILEE HIGH TEA Sun 3 Jun, Jinney Ring Craft Centre, Redditch

**DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRA-**TIONS Featuring live music, vintage car display, model steam engine rides and a prize for the best fancy dress, Sun 3 - Mon 4 Jun, Eastnor Castle

JUBILEE PICNIC PARTY Sun 3 -Mon 4 Jun, Witley Court & Gardens

FAMILY ACTIVITY DAYS: MAR-**VELLOUS MONARCHS** Mon 4 -Thurs 7 Jun, Hanbury Hall & Gardens

JUBILATION! Themed craft activities for children. Follow the 1950s trail and make a royal crown, decorate a commemorative scroll, plus much more... Mon 4 - Fri 8 Jun, Hartelbury Museum,

Worcester DIAMOND JUBILEE FAMILY FUN DAY Celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a traditional garden party, Tue 5 Jun, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove



**SUMMER 2012** 

# WOLVERHAMPTON **ART GALLERY**

WAVE



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# **A Fantastic Family Day Out!**

Camper Jam at Weston Park is set in acres of parkland with family friendly activities for all ages.

This year it's bigger than ever!

Come along with family and friends for a day out with a difference and dozens of activities and attractions.

VDub Kids Club Funfair & Games Real Ale & Cider tents Quad Bikes Family Dog Show Archery Range Jungle Bounce Real Food Village A mile of stalls VW Bus Displays

Live bands Competitions Zorbing Mini Boating And loads more family fun!

Formere information or to be okyour tickets call

PLEASE NOTE: ALL CAMPING IS PRE-BOOK OF BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!



# Events



# BBC Good Food Show Summer And BBC Gardeners World Live NEC, Birmingham, Wed 13 - Sun 17 June

Celebrating the best of British, the BBC Good Food Show brings together expert tips, demonstrations and advice from some of the best known names in the culinary business. James Martin makes his annual pilgrimage to the show to host the much-loved omelette challenge and the celebrity guests' food heaven and hell in the Saturday Kitchen, while Hairy Bikers, Olly Smith and Michael Caines, as well as local chef Glynn Purnell, demonstrate their skills by rustling up some inspirational dishes in the summer kitchen.

MasterChef hosts John Torode and Gregg Wallace are joined by this year's finalist Shelina Permaloo - and fellow contestants - in the live

MasterChef Kitchen, while visitors wishing to purchase some foodie delights to take home can do so in The Producers' Village, which offers an array of speciality merchandise, both local and seasonal. BBC Gardeners' World Live runs alongside the Good Food Show and features the ever-popular Gardeners' Green area, providing an abundance of family entertainment and craft activities. The show also offers masterclasses from popular celebrity gardeners, including Alan Titchmarsh, Monty Don, Carol Klein, Joe Swift, Adam Pasco and James Alexander Sinclair.

# Tile Decorating Workshops

Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire, Fri 1 June; Tues 5 - Fri 8 June

These creative sessions are ideal for adults and children alike, and are a great way to while away a couple of hours during the school holidays - with the added bonus being that you end up with a beautiful 6x6inch tile to take home!

Visitors to these informal sessions can either create their own design, or select one from the on-site stock of pictures. The process of tube lining is used to incorporate the select-

ed image onto a tile. It's easy to do and it's fun - oh, and there's plenty of help at hand, should you feel that you need it!





Accon Classic Edgbaston Priory, Birmingham, Mon 11 - Sun 17 June

Regularly attracting some of the world's top female tennis players, the Aegon Classic is a firm favourite in the British tennis calendar. Formerly known as the DFS Classic, this week-long event this year sees British players Elena Baltacha, Anne Keothavong, Heather Watson and Laura Robson battling it out against Germany's Sabine Lisicki, Italy's Roberta Vinci, Slovakia's Daniela

Hantuchova and Greece's former Grand Slam finalist Eleni Daniilidou. The Aegon Classic Ladies' Day, in association with Harvey Nichols Birmingham, takes place on 14 June and brings an added dimension to the show with its cocktail bar, demonstrations, hand massages, fragrance and food stands.







**NEC Birmingham** 

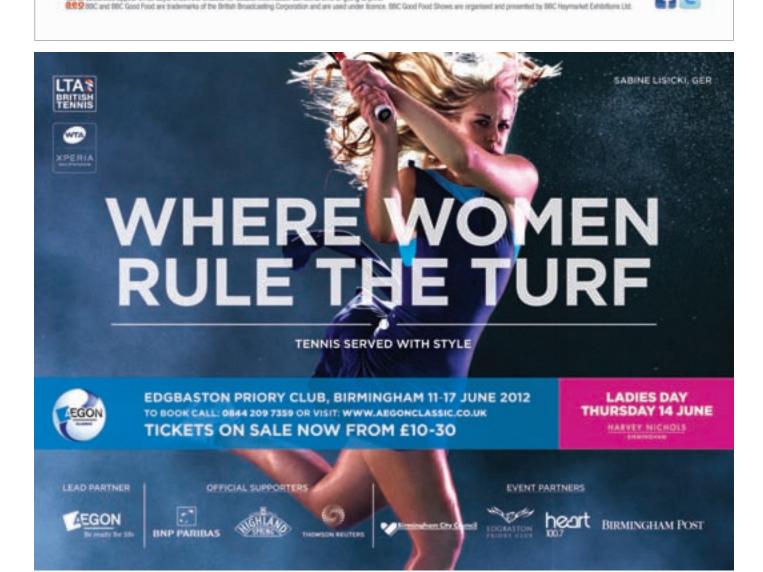
Join us for the tastiest dates in the summer food calendar Save 10%\* by quoting GFWO

Book now: 0844 581 1341 bbcgoodfoodshow.com

\*C1.75 blooking the applies to each advance ticket. Sieve 10% offer valid on Adult and Over 85 advance General Admission tickets. Discount does not apply to theatre seets. Not all celebraties appear on all days, check the website for details, information correct at time of going to print.

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# **Events** PREVIEWS

## **Throckmorton Air Show**

Throckmorton Airfield, Pershore, Worcestershire, Sat 16 June

With the attendance figure expected to exceed the twenty thousand mark, this annual Help For Heroes fundraising event includes an array of action-packed demonstrations and activities. Featuring displays from RAF Merlin and Chinook Helicopters, a parachute freefall team, and aerobatic and royal marines display teams, there's certainly plenty to keep visitors entertained. Add to this appearances by well-known faces from fly-on-the-wall TV shows Road Wars, Traffic Cops, Motorway Cops and Police Interceptors - as well as drift car rides, helicopter flights and aircraft flight simulators - and you've got yourself a great family day



# **Dragonboat Festival**

Brindleyplace, Birmingham, Sat 16 June

Returning for its thirteenth year, this annual fundraising event sees members of the city's business community compete for first place on Birmingham's Fazeley Canal. The oneday event features teams of twelve rowers and one drummer - taking to the water in traditional forty-foot-long boats, and also boasts plenty of entertainment away from the canal, with the public squares at Brindleyplace filled with traditional Chinese lion dancers, craft markets, live music and street entertainers.



# **Wartime Weekend**

Avoncroft, Bromsgrove, Sat 16 - Sun 17 June

Learn all about life during World War Two as this popular event makes a welcome return to Worcestershire's Living History museum. Featuring home front demonstrations, land girls, soldiers, dancing, themed entertainment, battle re-enactment and a flyover of vintage planes, this nostalgic weekend - complete with plenty of hands-on activities - promises to both entertain and educate visitors.



# **Blue Peter Olympic Tour**

West Park, Wolverhampton, Sat 30 June

Intrepid adventurer and Blue Peter favourite Helen Skelton stops off in Wolverhampton this month to host a special day of action-packed activities to get people 'in the mood' for the forthcoming London 2012. Helen is joined by fellow presenter Barney Harwood to present a guide to the games for children - complete with interviews and masterclasses with Olympic stars past and present. A brand new ancient Olympics-themed Horrible Histories sketch, celebrity guest stars and retellings of some of the most famous stories from the modern Olympic era also feature.

This is a ticketed event which will be broadcast as one of three ninety minute programmes filmed at various locations around the UK. To apply for a ticket, call 0370 901 1227.

## **Breathe The Beat Roadshow**

Leamington Peace Festival, Sat 16 June; Bantock House, Wolverhampton, Sun 17 June; Sutton Coldfield Carnival, Sat 23 June; GLOW Dance Festival, Hereford, Sat 30 June

Renowned international hip-hop artist Salah here demonstrates how dance routines can be developed by taking inspiration from everyday surroundings. Held at various community events throughout the region, the Breathe The Beat Roadshow showcases both local talent and professional companies.

## **International Model Airshow**

Weston Park, Staffordshire, Sat 16 - Sun 17 June

Weston Park's International Model Airshow brings together some of the country's top model aircraft pilots to demonstrate their skills.

The 2012 programme includes a performance by the Red Hawks - who'll showcase synchronised flying from two one-third-scale hawks - and appearances by the RAF Red Arrows and the RAF Typhoon Euro fighter. Off-runway entertainment includes a model rocket display, children's funfair, model car racing, model boat regatta, slot car racing and numerous hands-on activities for children.

## Classic And Vintage Commercial Show

Heritage Motor Museum, Gaydon, Warwickshire, Sat 9 - Sun 10 June

Described as the largest classic commercial show in Europe and returning to Warwickshire for a fifth year, this nostalgic offering features hundreds of pre-1985 classic and commercial vehicles. The two-day event also showcases over sixty outdoor commercial vehicle and transport-related stands, one hundred-and-sixty tabletop dis-

plays - including kit-built and scratch-built models in different scales - and a vast array of working radio-controlled models, both inside and outside the prestigious Heritage Motor Museum.

# **Coventry Cycling Festival**

Coventry Transport Museum, Sat 23 June

Boasting plenty of pedal-powered activities, this annual event is popular with both recreational and experienced cyclists. It doesn't even matter if you don't own your own bike, as there are plenty available in all shapes and sizes for you to try! An added attraction at this year's show is the museum's latest exhibition of memorabilia, Pedal Power, offering visitors the chance to check out some of the bikes ridden by British Olympic champions such as Tommy Godwin, Chris Boardman and Tom Sabin.







Weekend of 18th & 19th August 2012

Spetchley Park, Worcester, opens 10am last entry 4pm

M5 is a multi-period Living History show set in the beautiful grounds of Spetchley Park, just outside Worcester.

A great family day out with a chance to see no fewer than five skirmishes and many more living history displays from some of the major conflicts in British History, from Vikings to WWII. With The Battle of Britain Ops Room, food traders, beer tent, café and beautiful gardens, there really is something for everyone.



Adults: £7.50 Children: £2.50 www.m5show.co.uk



#### COVENTRY TRANSPORT MUSEUM

# A fantastic family day out

Home of the fastest car on Earth!

# Whats On

Daily until Sun 10 June Royalty On The Road An exhibition of vehicles

An exhibition of vehicles used by Royalty.

Sat 2 to Sun 10 June Royal Half Term Activities

Crown Jewels activity trails plus a different craft activity each day.

#### Monday 4 June Royal Family Day

Celebrate the Jubilee with a range of Royal activities at this special event.

Various dates throughout June Coventry Cycling Festival

Talks, cycle rides and two-wheeled family fun

#### 22 June to 14 October Pedals To Medals

A new exhibition celebrating the history and heroes of cycling, with lots of interactive family activities



www.transport-museum.com

Tel: 024 7623 4270

## **Events** PREVIEWS

# Stratford-upon-Avon River Festival

The Recreation Ground (opposite the Royal Shakespeare Theatre), Stratford-upon-Avon, Sat 30 June - Sun 1 July

The 2012 Stratford-upon-Avon River Festival features a host of entertainment for the local community to enjoy. A highlight of the two-day event is the illuminated boat display on the Saturday evening, which comes with the promise of a 'spectacular firework display'. Live music, a craft village, a climbing wall, stalls and market traders also feature, while street entertainment is on offer in the historic town centre itself.



#### **Much Wenlock Festival**

Various venues in and around Much Wenlock, Shropshire, Sat 2 - Sun 24 June

With numerous arts-based events and activities packed into a three-week programme, there's plenty to attract visitors to the beautiful medieval town of Much Wenlock this month. A Festival Fair on the Church Green opens proceedings on 2 June and is followed by an eclectic array of events, including a literary evening, a cycle ride, workshops, concerts, rambles, exhibitions and six performances of Shakespeare's The Merry Wives Of Windsor, presented by The Shropshire Drama Company.



#### **Tudor Festival**

Mary Arden's Farm, Stratford-upon-Avon, Sat 2 - Sun 10 June

While jubilee celebrations get under way across the country, Her Majesty the Queen's namesake, Queen Elizabeth I, makes her way to the Midlands to oversee proceedings at Stratford's popular Tudor Festival! Dressed in regal finery, Elizabeth I will preside over the annual royal tournament, featuring



## **Victorian Wedding**

Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire, Sat 16 June

The villagers of Shropshire's award-winning Victorian museum are set to don their finest costumes mid-month as they prepare to re-enact a traditional church wedding. The open-air marriage service takes place in the unusual surroundings of the museum's St Chad's Mission Church. It's here that visitors can witness traditional Victorian hymns and readings as the couple make their vows, prior to making their way to the site's Pleasure Gardens, where an outdoor blessing and reception will take place.

archery and jousting contests. She may even select some younger visitors to become her pages or princesses for the day! All children attending in fancy dress are admitted free of charge.



## **Community Games And Fun Day**

Brindleyplace, Birmingham, Fri 29 - Sat 30 June

To coincide with the Olympic torch passing through Birmingham, the city's Brindleyplace is hosting its very own games. Featuring people from the local business community, the event sees competitors battle it out in a range of sports, including ping-pong, five-a-side football, the long jump and a relay race. A family fun day on the Saturday offers visitors the chance to try fencing, boules, sumo-suit wrestling and traditional sports day games. For those wishing to show off their artistic side, the Ikon Gallery will be running various family arts and crafts, while the Brian Newton Big Band provide live music for the day.

#### **RAF Cosford Air Show**

RAF Cosford, Staffordshire, Sun 17 June

Regarded as one of the country's top aviation events, this annual air show attracts thousands of visitors, and features spectacular flying displays, static aircraft displays and military exhibitions. The 2012 show includes a search-and-rescue demonstration by the RAF Mountain Rescue team, featuring the RAF Sea King from HRH Prince William's unit at RAF Valley. The two-day event also includes some high-energy action from the Apaches of the Army Air Corps, who present an attack helicopter role demonstration.

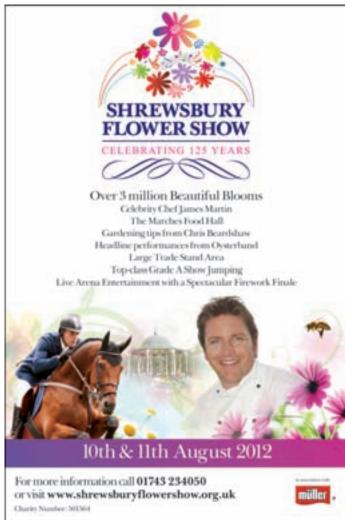
# Classic Car And Transport Show

Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, Sun 17 June

Celebrating twenty-three years of eventing at Trentham Gardens, the annual Classic Car And Transport Show, with its one thousand vehicle entries, fifty club stands, autojumble and trade stands, provides a perfect day out for Father's Day - assuming your dad's a motoring enthusiast, that is!









## **Events** LISTINGS

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

#### Week Commencing FRI 1 JUNE

TITANIC TRAIL Follow the Titanic trail around the museum and discover the city's links with the doomed ocean liner. Learn about Captain Smith and the fashions of the period, until Mon 31 Dec. The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent THE WITCHES OF WARWICK Morbid spells and the darkest witchcraft games create an atmosphere so malevolent and chilling even seasoned scaremongers will be terrified, until Fri 1 Jun - Mon 31 Dec Warwick Castle WEB OF LIFE A rare opportunity to see previously hidden treasures from the museum collection, until Mon 31 Dec, Nash's House & New Place, Stratfordupon-Avon DIG FOR SHAKESPEARE Watch archaeologists unearth exciting relics and try your hand at helping sieve the spoils

Avon TILE DECORATION

in the special mar-

quees, until Sun 4 Nov,

Nash's House & New

Place, Stratford-upon-

WORKSHOP Use the tried and tested tube lining technique to produce a 6x6-inch tile of your own design, Fri 1 Jun, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

FIA EUROPEAN DRAG **RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS** Annual event that attracts over two hundred-and-fifty of Europe's finest teams, Fri 1 - Mon 4 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway,

Northampton TREFONEN HILL WALK WEEKEND Featuring various walks, a quiz night and bonfire, Fri 1 - Mon 4 Jun, Trefonen Village Hall, Shropshire

NEWPORT CARNIVAL Annual event which this year celebrates its fortieth anniversary, Sat 2 Jun, Newport High Street, Shropshire

KENILWORTH SHOW Sat 2 Jun, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

MOTORING MARVELS Motoring marvels from the early 1900s up to the 1930s take centrestage. These rare gems are sure to be the torque of the town!, Sat 2 Jun, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

MOVING EARTH Featuring twenty groups of twelve

dancers from across the West Midlands who combine their individual dance styles with Indian martial arts moves, Sat 2 Jun. Chamberlain Square, Birmingham **EVENING SCENIC** SPECIALS A scenic evening ride, with the added option of traditional fish and chips. Sat 2 Jun. Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster IT'S A GAS! Volunteers bring the gas engines to life in the Cinema Power House and the Trap Shop, Sat 2 Jun, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley STEAM & VINTAGE RALLY Annual event featuring a cross-section of exhibits and attractions for all the family, Sat 2 -Sun 3 Jun, West Park, Wolverhampton BIRMINGHAM PRIDE Celebrating the equality and diversity of the city of Birmingham, this two-day event is renowned for providing great all-round entertainment. Acts booked to appear for 2012 include The Saturdays, Radio One DJ Scott Mills, The L Project, Judge Jules and Freemasons vocalist Amanda Wilson, Sat 2 -Sun 3 Jun, Birmingham Gay Village VW AND RETRO CAR MANIA Featuring vehicle arenas, displays, club display village, trade stands, autojumble stalls and much more... Sat 2 - Sun 3 Jun, Weston Park. Staffordshire TUDOR FESTIVAL Join in the merrymaking, dancing and games. Sample farm food and enjoy entertainment from Shakespeare's day, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Mary Arden House, Stratfordupon-Avon KINGS & QUEENS FAMILY FUN TRAIL See if you

can solve the royal

guest and divert a dis-

den clues and reveal-

ing the royal connec-

tion, Sat 2 - Thurs 7

Jun, Witley Court &

KNIGHTS FAMILY FUN

TRAIL Find the letter

the famous knight's

Stokesay Castle,

MAKE YOUR OWN

Shropshii

name to receive your

prize, Sat 2 - Fri 8 Jun,

MEDALS Celebrate the

by making your own

London 2012 Olympics

clues hidden around

the castle and spell out

Worcestershire

Gardens,

aster by finding the hid-

pewter cast medals, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun, Enginuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire FAMILY ARCHAEOLOGY Witness live excavations and unearth some archaeological treasures in the onsite family marquee, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun. Nash's House & New Place. Stratfordupon-Avon **HOLIDAY TRAILS** Themed family trails to keep the kids entertained during the half-term break, Sat 2 - Sun 10 Jun. Attingham Park, Shrewsbury **NATURE DETECTIVES** Children's event featuring seek-and-learn activities in the woods and gardens. Sat 2 Sun 10 Jun, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Stratford-upon-Avo IT'S ALL FUN & GAMES! Half-term activities. Join in with some traditional games and activities in Folkes Park, Sat 2 -Sun 10 Jun, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley MUCH WENLOCK FESTIVAL Featuring an outdoor production of The Merry Wives Of Windsor, an open-air concert at Wenlock priorv. literary evenings. open gardens, music and fringe events... Sat 2 - Sun 24 Jun, Various venues throughout Much Wenlock Shropshire WOOLLY WONDER DAY Featuring demonstrations in spinning, knitting, sewing and weaving, Sun 3 Jun, Hoo Farm Animal Kingdom, South Shropshire SHREWSBURY RIVER **FESTIVAL** Free family fun featuring the Jubilee boat flotilla, music, bar, food, stilt walkers, jugglers, fireeaters & craft stands. Sun 3 Jun, The Quarry Park, Shrewsbury **CIVIC SUNDAY Parade** through the city centre & St Peter's Church. Sun 3 Jun. Wolverhampton CRAFT & FOOD FAIR Sun 3 Jun, Upper New Street, Birmingham TOY COLLECTORS FAIR Sun 3 Jun, The Three Counties Showground,

Malvern SPRING BANK HOLIDAY

**FUN FAMILY EVENT Sun 3** - Mon 4 Jun, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

TIME TRAVELLERS GO... ROYAL Featuring games and crafts fit for a king or queen. Meet some royal characters from times gone by... Sun 3 Tue 5 Jun, Kenilworth

**BANK HOLIDAY MARKET** Featuring more than seventy market stall holders selling every-thing from plants, tools, food, gift and toys, Mon 4 Jun, Penkridge Market, Staffordshire

SPRING BANK HOLIDAY FUN Mon 4 Jun, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Staffordshire PAELLA & LIVE MUSIC Mon 4 Jun, Cafe Ikon, Birmingham DRAWBOTZ: NEXT GENER-ATION Fusion of science and photography that takes The Public's Drawbotz workshops to a new level, Mon 4 Jun, The Public, West Bromwich

LORD MAYOR'S SHOW Annual event featuring live music, dance performances and children's entertainment, Mon 4 Jun, Birmingham City Centre
BOOK BASH Featuring an Alice In Wonderlandthemed tea party, Mon 4 - Tues 5 Jun, Aston Hall, Birmingham CERÁMIC DROP-IN WORKSHOPS Celebrate the national flowers of our home countries and decorate a mug with a shamrock, red rose, thistle or daffodil, Mon 4 - Fri 8 Jun Coalport China Museum, Ironbridge.

Shropshire TILE DECORATION WORKSHOP Use the tried and tested tube lining technique to produce a 6x6-inch tile of your own design, Tue 5 Fri 8 Jun, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire
BIG DANCE BUS Chance to take part in free dance workshops fea-

turing street, folk, ballroom and zumba, Wed 6 Jun, Westfield Centre, Dudley EARLY YEARS SINGING WORKSHOP Gentle early years singing session, Wed 6 Jun, The Roses

Theatre, Tewksbury
ANIMATION FUN Chance to learn the basics of stop frame animation using toys, drawing and basic collage, Wed 6 Jun, The Public, West Bromwich CONSERVATION TOUR OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE

HOARD Wed 6 Jun, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

GUIDED TOUR OF **BORDESLEY ABBEY** Learn Steam And Vintage Rally -West Park, Wolverhampton

more about the history and destruction of Bordesley Abbey, Thurs 7 Jun, Forge Mill Needle Museum, Redditch MY BAD CONVERSATION Artist Bedwyr Williams

talks with Ikon's curator Tyler Cann about the role of failure and humour within artistic production, Thurs 7 Jun, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham DRAWBOTZ: NEXT GENER-

ATION Fusion of science and photography that takes The Public's Drawbotz workshops to a new level, Thurs 7 Jun, The Public, West Bromwich

GLASS ENGRAVING Thurs 7 Jun, Red House Glass Cone. Dudley CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOW Thurs 7 - Sun 10 Jun, The Three Counties Showground, Malvern GRIMM'S FAIRY TALES

WORKSHOP A workshop that invites brave youngsters to explore the exciting and daring world created by the Brothers Grimm Fri 8 Jun, The Roses Theatre, Tewksbury **EVENING SCENIC SPECIAL** SPICE TRAIN Take a look at the exhibitions

and displays before having supper from the curry buffet, Fri 8 Jun, Severn Valley Railway, Kiddersminster FATHER'S DAY KILN-

FUSED GLASS KEYRING WORKSHOP Fri 8 Jun, Broadfield House, HISTORICAL COOKERY &

MAYHEM Fri 8 Jun. Lichfield Garrick SNOOKER LEGENDS Join Jimmy White, Dennis Taylor, John Parrott, John Virgo, Cliff Thorburn and Michaela Tabb for an evening of snooker, laughter and nostalgia. Fri 8 Jun. The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford,

Shropshire MAKE A COMIC WORK-SHOP Fri 8 Jun. The Public, West Bromwich PAPERWEIGHT DAY

Featuring paper-weight making demonstrations,  $\bar{\text{tr}}\text{ade}$  stands and an exclusive exhibition of weights inspired by nature & organised by the Paperweight Collectors Circle, Sat 9 Jun, Broadfield House Glass Museum Dudley LIVING HISTORY DAY Discover Dudley through the ages, meet a knight and learn about the monks of Dudley Priory, Sat 9 Jun, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

EVENING SCENIC SPECIAL A scenic evening ride, with the added option of traditional fish and chips. Sat 9 Jun Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster

RUN WHAT YA BRUNG **PUBLIC TRACK DAY** Sat 9



## **Events** LISTINGS

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

Jun. Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton THE TOM SABIN **COMMEMORATIVE CYCLE** RIDE 2012 Specialist ride for experienced cyclists, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum **CLASSIC AND VINTAGE COMMERCIAL SHOW** A colourful two-day show featuring a diverse selection of classic and vintage vehicles pre-1985, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Jun, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon THE MIGHTY ROMAN ARMY Cheer on your favourite Roman soldiers as they're put through their paces in an all-action show, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Jun, Wroxeter Roman City. Shropshire NATURE DETECTIVES: POND LIFE Sat 9 - Sun 10 Jun, Hanbury Hall, Worcestershire **EVESHAM BALLOON & CLASSIC CAR FIESTA Sat** 9 - Sun 10 Jun, Evesham Town Centre **BROADWAY ARTS FESTI-**VAL Sat 9 - Sun 17 Jun, Broadway Village, Worcestershire PERFORMANCE VAUXHALL SHOW The UK's biggest show of its kind, Sun 10 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton GREGYNOG GARDEN **FESTIVAL** Featuring demonstrations and all things garden related, as well as forest school children's activities Sun 10 Jun, Gregynog Hall, Nr Welshpool, Powys **CANCER RESEARCH RACE** FOR LIFE Sun 10 Jun. Walsall Arboretum WALK OF THE BLACK **COUNTRY** Join Free Radio (Beacon Radio) on a ten-mile charity walk from Himley Hall to Wolverhampton Racecourse, Sun 10 Jun, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley TRENTHAM BOAT CLUB **REGATTA** Junior crews from all over the country compete for the Victor Ludorum Cup. Sun 10 Jun, Trentham Gardens, Staffordshire **CENTENARY OF WORKERS** INSTITUTE OPENING Featuring re-enactments and street performances based on the one hundred year history of the Worker's Institute, Sun 10 Jun, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley
MEET THE HORSES Find out more about the horses of Blists Hill, chat to their keepers and enjoy shoeing and grooming demonstrations, Sun 10 Jun. Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire **UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS** TOUR A behind-thescenes tour that gives visitors the chance to explore fascinating and busy parts of the house usually not on the public route, Sun 10 Jun, Weston Park, Staffordshire BONSAI DEMONSTRATION Sun 10 Jun. Birmingham Botanical Gardens DEATH AT DOWNTOWN ABBEY Join Earl and Lady Cruelly as they open their doors for an afternoon soiree on the lawn, Sun 10 Jun, Welcome Menzies Hotel Spa & Golf Club, Warwickshire JUNE COUNTRYSIDE FAM-ILY DAY Sun 10 Jun, Worcester Racecourse SUMMER SUNDAY FUN Sun 10 Jun, Eastnor Castle. Herefordshire

# Week Commencing MON 11 JUN

HERITAGE BICYCLE RIDE A pedal-powered guided tour of a number of locations around the city, Mon 11 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum AEGON CLASSIC Mon 11 Sun 17 Jun, Edgbaston Priory Club, Birmingham RACE FOR LIFE Tue 12 Jun. Trentham Gardens, Staffordshire **CERAMIC GALLERY TALKS** Two short talks by members of the Northern Ceramic Society, Tue 12 Jun, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Staffordshire DANCE AT 8 'Dance at 8' teaches dance to a high standard in a wide variety of styles for adults of all ages, Tue 12 Jun, Bredon Village Hall, Tewksbury
DRIFT WHAT YA BRUNG **PUBLIC DRIFT DAY** Wed 13 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton BBC GARDENERS' WORLD LIVE Featuring top gardening experts including Monty Don and Alan Titchmarsh, Wed 13 - Sun 17 Jun, NEC, Birmingham BBC GOOD FOOD SHOW SUMMER Wed 13 - Sun 17 Jun, NEC, Birmingham AN EVENING WITH ROGER LOVELL The UK's only professional Penny Farthing rider Roger Lovell provides an

entertaining and inform-

14 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum HIDDEN WIGHTWICK DANTE GABRIEL ROSSET-TI, HIS LIFE & WORKS Booking essential! Thurs 14 Jun, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton TODDLER THURSDAY Crafty sessions and story time, Thurs 14 Jun, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent BIRMINGHAM **CONSERVATOIRE OPEN** DAY Fri 15 Jun, Birmingham Conservatoire
HERITAGE BICYCLE RIDE A pedal-powered guided tour of a number of locations around the city, Fri 15 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum 2012 BRITISH GRAND PRIX (MOTOGP) Fri 15 Sun 17 Jun, Silverstone Circuit, Northampton THREE COUNTIES SHOW The region's premier agricultural show offering excellent entertainment for all the family and showcasing the best of British food, farming and rural life, Fri 15 - Sun 17 Jun, The Three Counties Showground, Malvern CHOLMONDELEY PAGEANT OF POWER The UK's biggest celebration of power and speed. Sat 16 Jun. Cholmondeley Castle, South Cheshire RUN WHAT YA BRUNG **PUBLIC TRACK DAY Sat** 16 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton BREATHE THE BEAT ROADSHOW Renowned international hip-hop artist Salah demonstrates how to take inspiration from every day surroundings and create routines, Sat 16 Jun, Leamington Spa **DEER STUDY** PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP Join Jenny Morgan from Gentleshaws Wildlife Sanctuary and Bird of Prey Hospital for a daylong photography workshop featuring owls and raptors. Sat 16 Jun, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-MIDSUMMER WALK IN THE PARK A guided walk around the Himley Estate exploring some of the site's fascinating history, including the ice house, the dogs cemetery and the ancient woodland, Sat 16 Jun, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley OPEN DAY AT THE EARL OF DUDLEY'S MEMORY **GARDEN** The only opportunity in the year to view the evocative Earl of Dudley's private memory garden, Sat 16

Jun, Himley Hall &

THROCKMORTON AIR

Park, Dudley

ative talk about the evo-

lution of cycling, Thurs



'TREASURE DAYS' &

SHOW The UK's premier emergency and armed services fun day in aid of Help for Heroes, Sat 16 Jun, Throckmorton Airfield, Worcestershire IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE W00DS... Family activity afternoon, Sat 16 Jun, Moseley Old Hall, Staffordshire SHREWSBURY CARNIVAL Sat 16 Jun, Shrewsbury Town Centre EVENING SCENIC SPECIALS A scenic evening ride with the added option of traditional fish and chips, Sat 16 Jun, Severn Valley Railway, Kiddersminster DRAGONBOAT FESTIVAL The popular festival returns for it's thirteenth year, Sat 16 Jun, Brindley Place, Birmingham **CELEBRATING** SANCTUARY Full day of free activities and events in celebration of Refugee Week, Sat 16 Jun, mac - Midlands Arts Centre. Birmingham **BLOXWICH CARNIVAL** Sat 16 Jun, King George V Playing Fields, NGS GARDEN DAY Sat 16 Jun. Charlecote Park. Warwickshire A VICTORIAN WEDDING Join the townsfolk for a recreated wedding in the Mission Church followed by a reception in the gardens, Sat 16 Jun, Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire WALSALL SUMMER BIOBLITZ Sat 16 Jun, Walsall Arboretum **WARTIME WEEKEND** Find out about wartime life in the 1940s, Sat 16 - Sun 17 Jun, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND Sat 16 - Sun 17 Jun. Cadbury World, Birmingham INTERNATIONAL MODEL AIR SHOW Two-day swap featuring over one hundred and fifty traders, large model rocket display, pyrotechnic display, children's fun fair, model car racing, light aircraft and classic

cars, Sat 16 - Sun 17

Jun, Weston Park,

FATHERS DAY WEEKEND A chance to admire some of Shugborough's special hidden treasures, Sat 16 - Sun 17 Jun, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Staffordshire SECOND HAND BOOK FAIR Sat 16 - Sun 17 Jun, Attingham Park, Nr Shrewsbury CLWYD VINTAGE VEHICLE **RALLY** Featuring autojumble, trade stands, main event ring and children's entertainment, Sat 16 - Sun 17 Jun. Oswestry Showground, North Shropshire BRIDGNORTH STATION **GALA** Featuring miniature railway, traction engines, stationary steam engines, model railways and even a velocipede, Sat 16 -Sun 17 Jun, Severn Valley Railway, Bridgnorth, Shropshire KINVER COUNTRY FAYRE Traditional country fayre featuring exhibitors, displays of historic vehicles, fancy dress parade and arena events, Sun 17 Jun, Kinve. Staffordshire FATHER'S DAY FALCONRY Sun 17 Jun, Hanbury Hall, Worcestershire **BREATHE THE BEAT** ROADSHOW Renowned international hip-hop artist Salah demonstrates how to take inspiration from every day surroundings and create routines, Sun 17 Jun, Bantock House & Park. Wolverhampton **BIG BAND EVENING** Sun 17 Jun, Birmingham Botanical Gardens
RAF COSFORD AIR SHOW The Midlands premier air event with displays from the Red Arrows, RAF Falcons, Typhoon display team & The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, plus fun fair, stalls and much more..., Sun 17 Jun, RAF Cosford, Staffordshire FATHER'S DAY STEEPLECHASE Sheep and goat racing fol-lowed by the Dad's egg and spoon race. Sun

17 Jun, Hoo Farm Animal Kingdom, Telford, Shropshire FATHER'S DAY AT THE MONKEY FOREST Sun 17 Jun, Trentham Monkey Forest, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent FATHER'S DAY EVENT Travel back in time on a vintage tram, see the vintage cars and bikes on display and kit your dad out with a new flat cap or outfit at Morralls Outfitters. Sun 17 Jun. Black Country Living Museum, Dudley FATHER'S DAY -TRANSPORT FESTIVAL Featuring a display of over one-thousand classic, contemporary and rare cars, Sun 17 Jun, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent KNIGHT SCHOOL FOR DADS Watch as your dad hones his skills on a medieval battlefield in front of a watchful master tutor, Sun 17 Jun, Kenilworth Castle. Warwickshire FATHER'S DAY SURVIVAL SKILLS Learn how to be a survivor in an actionpacked day for all the family, Sun 17 Jun, Baddesley Clinton, Warwickshire **BANBURY RUN** Featuring more than six-hundred vintage motorcycles, club stands, autojumble and special interest displays. Sun 17 Jun. Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire FATHER'S DAY FUN Promising a actionpacked day for all the family, Sun 17 Jun, Packwood House, Nr Birmingham JAPSHOW The year's first major event for Japanese car fans, Sun 17 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton TRAVELLER'S TALES Sun 17 Jun, Worcestershire County Museum,

Week Commencing MON 18 JUN

HERITAGE BICYCLE RIDE A pedal-powered guided tour of a number of locations around the

city, Mon 18 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum AN EVENING WITH MIKE **BURROWS** The creative cyclist talks about his work. Tue 19 Jun. Coventry Transport Museum SERVANTS TOUR Catch a glimpse of life below stairs, Tues 19 Jun, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton DANCE AT 8 Dance At 8 teaches dance to a high standard in a wide variety of styles for adults of all ages, Tue 19 Jun, Bredon Village Hall, Tewksbury CHESHIRE COUNTY SHOW Tue 19 - Wed 20 Jun, The County Showground, Cheshire STORYTELLING CAFE Debs Newbold tells Tales Of Midsummer Eve. Wed 20 Jun, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham AN EVENING WITH ROB PENN Cyclist, TV presenter and author of It's All About Bike talks about his work. Wed. 20 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum SPOTLIGHT Chance to put your objects under the spotlight, Wed 20 Jun, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery PRACTICAL WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS Informal and fun way to explore the gallery's current exhibitions, Thurs 21 Jun, Cafe Ikon, Birmingham THE PRE-RAPHAELITE - SEX, DRUGS & POETRY TOUR Booking essential! Thurs 21 Jun, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampon THE VOYAGE Professional dancers and aerialists join forces with a huge amateur choir, live musicians and more than one hundredand-forty community performers to transform Birmingham's Victoria Square and tell a story, Thu 21 - Sun 24 Jun, Victoria Square THE ENCHANTED WOOD Fairies from A Midsummer Night's Dream take over the wood at Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Thurs 21 Jun - Fri 31 Aug, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Stratford-upon-Avon MEET THE SPECIES: BAT, WALK AND TALK An opportunity to discover the nocturnal world of our most enigmatic native mammals, Fri 22 Jun, Palmers Meadow. Tenbury Wells **PEAK PERFORMANCE TEST &** TUNE DAY RWYB with maximum track time and fully prepped track for serious enthusiasts, Fri 22 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton PAELLA & LIVE MUSIC Fri 22 Jun, Cafe Ikon, Birmingham **BEER FESTIVAL** Featuring more than fifteen real ales four ciders and a variety of entertainment, Fri 22 - Sun 24 Jun, The Jinney Ring Craft Centre, Redditch **BOWMAN ANTIQUES FAIR Fri** 22 - Sun 24 Jun, Stafford Bingley Hall, Staffordshire THE SALSA CENTRAL WEEKEND Featuring over sixty hours of classes for

all levels across multiple

styles of Latin dance, Fri 22

Sun 24 Jun, Best Western Connaught Hotel, Wolverhampton
THROCKMORTON FAMILY **GARDENS ROSE FESTIVAL Fri** 22 Jun - Sun 8 Jul. Coughton Court, Warwickshire **BREATHE THE BEAT** ROADSHOW Renowned international hip-hop artist Salah demonstrates how to take inspiration from everyday surroundings and create dance routines, Sat 23 Jun, Sutton Park National Nature Reserve, Sutton Coldfield ALDRIDGE FAIR Sat 23 Jun, Anchor Meadow, Aldridge, Walsall SUMMER FAIR Sat 23 Jun, Baddesley Clinton, Warwickshire SUMMER NATIONALS National Drag Racing Championships, including MSA 200mph Pro Mods, drag bikes, jet car and nostalgia classes, Sat 23 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton TRY SAILING Short free taster sessions on the Great Pool with a qualified RYA instructor, Sat 23 Jun, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley THE GRAND UNION CANAL **CLEAN-UP** Join members of Ikon Youth Programme and the Birmingham Canal Navigations Society as they clean up towpaths near the mooring for Ikon's Slow Boat, Sat 23 Jun, Canalside mooring on Warwick Bar, Fazeley Street, Birmingham
IN CONVERSATION WITH IDRIS KHAN Sat 23 Jun, The New Art Gallery, Walsall WALDEN DAY Featuring new music theatre from Birmingham Conservatoire, outdoor folk sets, films, exhibitions, talks, discussions and writing workshops - all inspired by the work of Heiner Goebbels, Sat 23 Jun, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham THE DRUM OPEN DAY Free day of fun and entertainment featuring performances, workshops, music, stalls, competitions and much more... Sat 23 Jun, The Drum, Birmingham COVENTRY CYCLING FESTIVAL Pedal-powered activities for all ages, Sat 23 Jun, Coventry Transport Museum THE STORY GARDEN Introduce your family to the stories of Shakespeare in a fun and lively way where everyone gets involved, Sat 23 Jun, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon MEDIEVAL GREYFRIARS Step back in time and take part in some medieval dancing, Sat 23 Jun, Greyfriars, Worcestershire DAMPIER'S ROUND CEILIDH A night of dancing for all abilities, Sat 23 Jun, Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Evesham STEP BACK TO THE 1940S Themed event featuring

costumed re-enactors, dis-

plays, battle re-enactment

with pyrotechnics, a 1940s

wedding, replica RAF oper-

ations room and much

more... Sat 23 - Sun 24 Jun, Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster MEDIEVAL FESTIVAL A chance to experience medieval life in the knight's encampment and witness the drill and arming of military men, Sat 23 - Sun 24 Jun, Forge Mill Needle Museum, Redditch SEVERN HOSPICE DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL Sun 24 Jun, Quarry Park, Shrewsbury RIDE TO THE ROMANS Cycle ride from the Coventry Transport Museum to the Lunt Roman Fort, Sun 24 Jun. Coventry Transport Museum TOY COLLECTORS' FAIR Sun 24 Jun, NEC, Birmingham UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS TOUR A behind-the-scenes tour that gives visitors the opportunity to take a look at fascinating and busy parts of the house not usually open to the public, Sun 24 Jun, Weston Park, Staffordshire **ACORNS TRIPLE RUN** Participants have the choice of three courses to raise money for Acorns Children Hospice, Sun 24 Jun The Three Counties Showground, Malvern STAFFORD MORRIS MEN Morris dancing event, Sun 24 Jun, Moseley Old Hall, Staffordshire STEAM ENGINE DAY Sun 24 Jun, Eastnor Castle, Herefordshire ek Commencing **MON 25 JUN** 

**TODDLER TUESDAY** Craft & story session, Tue 26 Jun, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent VALUATION DAY Charles Hanson from BBC's Bargain Hunt is on hand to value your antiques and collectables, Tue 26 Jun, Mary Arden House, Stratford-upon-Avon DANCE AT 8 Dance At 8 teaches dance to a high standard in a wide variety of styles for adults of all ages, Tue 26 Jun, Bredon Village Hall, Tewksbury DRIFT WHAT YA BRUNG PUBLIC DRIFT DAY Wed 27 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton BONNETS UP DAY An opportunity for technically minded types to get under the bonnets of three of the Heritage Motor Centre's cars, Fri 29 Jun, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire KIDS UNDER-FIVES DAY Five hours of entertainment.

including the famous Himley beach, petting zoo, funfair, storytelling and much more... Fri 29 Jun, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley OLYMPIC EVENT Sat 30 Jun, Tamworth Assembly Rooms **RUN WHAT YA BRUNG PUBLIC** 

TRACK DAY Sat 30 Jun, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton **CLASSICAL GREEKS** Meet classical Greek warriors from the Hoplite Association and discover

what life was like in Ancient Greece, Sat 30 Jun, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent ANTIQUES VALUATION DAY Sat 30 Jun, Birmingham Botanical Gardens OLYMPIC TORCH CARNIVAL DANCE MASH-UP The culmination of many weeks of youth workshops and mass camps that explores Jamaican dance and its roots in West Africa. Participants can take part in creating costumes, building a float or learning a new dance, and can take part in one of the many processions, Sat 30 Jun, The Drum, Birmingham ARMED FORCES DAY The Royal Air Force Museum invites veterans from all three services to ioin as one to celebrate National Armed Forces Day, Sat 30 Jun, RAF Cosford, Staffordshire LONDON 2012 TORCH RELAY Overnight stop..., Sat 30 Jun, Birmingham MURDER MYSTERY DINNER Enjoy a dinner with a difference. Pre-booking essential, Sat 30 Jun,

Shuaborouah. Staffordshire **SUMMER FETE** Traditional garden fete complete with

games and stalls, Sat 30 Jun, Sunnycroft, Wellington Shropshire **UNWRAPPED** An onstage discussion and practical demonstration that takes a peek into the rehearsal room with members of the acting company and creative team Sat 30 Jun Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-

MAKING A MINT AND COMMUNITY DAY Celebrate Soho House re-opening with free activites and tours, Sat 30 Jun, Soho UK MOTORHOME SUMMER FAIR A great place to find your next motorhome. Sat 30 Jun - Sun 1 Jul, West Midland Showground, Shrewsbury STEP BACK TO THE 1940S

Attractions include costumed re-enactors, displays, battle re-enactment with pyrotechnics, a 1940s wedding, replica RAF operations room and much more... Sat 30 Jun - Sun 1 Jul, Severn Valley Railway, Kiddersminster

CHARLES DICKENS CELEBRATION A celebration that marks the two hundredth anniversary of Dickens' birth, with readings and drama from his finest work, Sat 30 Jun -Sun 1 Jul, Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire DANCE WEEKEND Sat 30 Jun - Sun 1 Jul, Cadbury World, Birmingham SWEET PEA FESTIVAL See the cottage gardens as they're filled with old and new varieties of sweet peas, Sat 30 Jun - Fri 31 Aug, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Stratford-upon-Avon

What's On in Walsall

# Walsall Leather Museum



SADDLE ROOM CAFÉ LEATHERGOODS SHOP

#### COMING SOON

6 June 10.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Jubilee Badges -Family Drop-In FREE - no need to book

7 June 10.30am - 12.30pm (5-7s must be accompanied) & 1.30pm - 3.30pm (8-12s)

Jubilee **Celebration Plates** Children's Workshop £1.50 - booking essential

16 June 10.30 am - 3.30pm Have-a-Go Day FREE - no need to book

23 June 10.30am - 4.00pm

Leather Notebook Workshop for Adults £20.00 - (materials included) booking essential

7 July

. 10.30am - 3.30pm Leather Carving **Workshop for Adults** £15.00 - ( all materials and equipment provided) booking essential

#### FREE ENTRY

Tel: 01922 721153 www.whatsonwalsall.co.uk

Open Tues-Sat, 10am-4pm Walsall Leather Museum Littleton Street West, Walsall



# Variety is the Life Of Spice.











# Come out to play with a huge network of new friends. A warm welcome awaits you!

Wouldn't you love to be invited to join a thriving club of 3000 friends in the West Midlands (and 15,000 nationally!) who really know how to enjoy themselves?

Well here's your chance. We're a friendly, local action, adventure and social group offering a wide variety of opportunities for our members to have fun together.

There's literally something for everyone; be it the latest adrenaline pumping outdoor activities... weekends & holidays... sports nights... workshops on fascinating subjects... or social nights including theatre, parties and 'behind the scenes' visits to all sorts of unusual

places you've always wanted to go. Events take place at locations across the West Midlands. Lots of our members are single and come along on there own, but we also welcome couples and groups of friends. There's no hidden agenda – we're just one happy family of friends. Members are all ages (18–80!) and from all walks of life.

The one unifying factor of anyone joining Spice is that they want to live life to the full.

Membership is equivalent to the cost of just a pint of beer a week. In fact, our money back promise means that satisfaction is guaranteed.

Get your FREE comprehensive information pack today call:

0121 353 6161 (24 hours) email claire@spicebham.com or visit www.spicebham.com



So what will you be doing tomorrow?













# What our members are up to in June 2012

#### Friday 1st June

- Grange Cross Sands Walking Weekend
- Harrogate and Dales Walking Break
- Isle of Wight Walking and Social Weekend
- Jubilee Four Day Walking Break
- Lynton Devon Coast Walking Break
- Sailing: Diamond Jubilee Cross Channel Cruise

#### Saturday 2nd June

- Grand Hotel
- Subterranean Dudley Tour and Supper
- Walk with Wolves Bedford
- White Water Kayaks

#### Sunday 3rd June

- Assault Course
- Feel the Fear .. and do it anyway®
- Steam Train Day to Thames Jubilee Pageant
- Tank Battle Experience
- Warwick Easy Ramble

#### **Monday 4th June**

- Alvechurch Easy Ramble
- Isle of Wight Walking Weekend

#### **Tuesday 5th June**

- Drumming Experience for Beginners
- Ten Pin Bowling (Broadway Plaza)

#### Wednesday 6th June

- Badminton For Fun Coventry
- Badminton at NIA
- Bangladesh Culture and Cusine
- Great Midlands Fun Run Pre Meet
- Guide Dogs National Breeding Centre Visit
- Tamworth and Lichfield Pub Night

#### **Thursday 7th June**

- Circuit Training for Beginners
- Halesowen and Quinton Pub Night
- Preview Evening (MAC)

#### Friday 8th June

- Dinner at G Casino Walsall
- Frozen
- Sea Kayaking with the Seals

#### Saturday 9th June

- Abseiling for the Terrified
- Chocolate Workshop at The Venue
- Gorge Walking Adventure
- Hippodrome Back Stage Tour
- Indoor Skydiving
- Packington Cream Tea Ramble
- Rally Driving Lesson
- Stock Car Racing
- Worcester Cathedral Medieval Library Tour

#### Sunday 10th June

- Bewdley Countryside Walk
- Cannock Chase Discover Mountain Biking
- Great Midlands Fun Run

- Great Midlands Fun Run MARSHALLS
- Learn to Horse Ride in a Day
- Maxstoke Castle Visit and Easy Ramble
- SWAT Training Mission
- Sponsor the Spice Fun Run Team

#### Monday 11th June

- Badminton For Fun Worcester
- Spice Book Club

#### Tuesday 12th June

- Newhall Mill Private Evening Visit
- Solihull Pub Night
- Unihoc (Mixed Indoor Hockey)

#### Wednesday 13th June

- Badminton For Fun Coventry
- Badminton at NIA
- Blakedown Evening Ramble
- Paddy Ashdown A Fortunate Life
- Sutton Pub Night

#### Thursday 14th June

- Birmingham Evening Walk
- Curry and Quiz Harborne
- Gliding Evening at Stratford
- Indian Fine Dining at Delhi 6

#### Friday 15th June

- Sailing Weekend around the Solent
- Spice Hits Town at the Jam House

#### Saturday 16th June

- Ballroom Dance Masterclass Tango!
- Bidford On Avon Moderate Ramble +
- Bike Adventure with Bike and BBQ!
- Birmingham Central Mosque Visit
- Colour U Confident Workshop
- Symonds Yat Adventure Mission

#### Sunday 17th June

- Berkeley Castle Heirs Tour and Tea
- Brewood Easy Ramble
- CSI Workshop Real Birmingham Detective
- Clay Pigeon Shooting
- Croquet Party
- Healthy Body: Healthy Mind
- Monmouth and Offas Dyke Ramble
- Power Kiting and Kite Buggy Full Day
- World's Wackiest Racers

#### Monday 18th June

- Badminton For Fun Worcester
- Bromsgrove Pub Night

#### Tuesday 19th June

- Kings Heath Pub Night
- Wine Tasting Wines for Summer Drinking

#### Wednesday 20th June

- Badminton For Fun Coventry
- Badminton at NIA
- Preview Evening (Warwickshire)

#### Thursday 21st June

- Beginners Horse Riding Stage 1
- Flawless + English National Ballet
- Shuttington Summer Solstice Evening Ramble
- Warwick / Leamington Pub Night

#### Friday 22nd June

- An Evening with Phil Tufnell
- Center Parcs Sherwood Forest
- Elan Valley Luxury Walking Weekend
- Sailing Weekend around Malta and

#### Saturday 23rd June

- Birmingham Canals Easy Cycle Ride
- Hooky Ramble
- Meeting your True Soul Mate
- Peak Classic Caves Day
- Rally Driving Lesson
- Sailing Taster Day on the Solent
- Shrewsbury to Church Stretton Ramble
- Snowdon Summer Solstice Sleepover

#### Sunday 24th June

- Barton Under Needwood Easy Ramble
- Center Parcs Extras Its A Knockout
- Mind Management Workshop
- Tale of Two Queens
- Male of two QueensWhite Water Rafting

#### Tuesday 26th June

Scuba - Meet the Team -Charity Evening

#### Wednesday 27th June

- Badminton For Fun Coventry
- Badminton at NIA
- Hopwood + Barnt Green Evening
- nan
- QuizSaxon Mill Dinner Shuffle

#### Thursday 28th June

Sail Round The Island Yacht Race

### Friday 29th June

- Bournemouth and Dorset Coast
- Walking Weekend
- Francoise Pascal An Evening WithPatterdale Lakes Walking Weekend

### Saturday 30th June

- \_ Al---ii---f---t--T---if--
- Abseiling for the Terrified
- Dragon Boat Evening and BBQ
- Fifties Style and Boudoir Photo Shoot
- Kayak River Adventure DayPower Kiting + Kite Surfing On Grass

Quad and Honda Pilot Racing

For future listings visit: www.spicebham.com

# classifieds

TO ADVERTISE ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE

Call: Chris Horton on 01743 281704

or: Jon Cartwright on 01743 281703 i.cartwright@whatsonlive.co.uk











39/40 Summerhill Rd, Birmingham B1 3RB complem Chys



# Clubbing

#### **BIRMINGHAM**

AIR Heath Mill Lane, Digbeth, B9 4AL. Tel: 0121 766 6646

**BAMBU** Kottwall House, Wrottesley Street, B5 4BN Tel: 0121 6224124

**BUSHWACKERS** 103 Edmund St, B3 2HZ Tel: 0121 236 4994

**FLARES NIGHTCLUB** 55 Broad St, B15 1AY Tel: 0121 252 3100

**GATECRASHER** 183 Broad St, B15 1DA Tel: 0121 525 1300

**02 ACADEMY** 16-18 Horsefair, Bristol St, B1 1DB Tel: 0121 622 8250

OCEANA BIRMINGHAM Hurst St, B4 4EH Tel: 0845 4025390

**REFLEX** 36-37 Broad St, B1 2DY Tel: 0121 643 0444

**SNOBS NIGHTCLUB** 29 Paradise Circus, Queensway, B1 2BJ Tel: 0121 643 5551

#### **BLACK COUNTRY**

INSOMNIA NIGHTCLUB 2 Bradford Place, Walsall WS1 1PL Tel: 01922 614300

**OCEANA WOLVERHAMPTON** Bilston Rd, Wolverhampton Tel: 0845 402 5290

#### **SHROPSHIRE**

C:21 NIGHTCLUB 21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 271821

**BUTTERMARKET** Howard Street, Shrewsbury Tel: 01743 281712

**VELVET** 13 Castle Foregate, Shrewsbury SY1 2DJ Tel: 01743 281712

**FEVER** 19 - 21 Hills Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 1QU Tel: 01743 247508

**THE OFFICE** 27a Market Street, Oakengates TF2 6EN Tel:01952 616536

ONYX & BLU Raven Meadows, Shrewsbury SY1 1PL. Tel: 01743 289063

PUSSYCATS NIGHT CLUB 17 Tan Bank, Wellington, TF2 6EJ Tel: 01952 224260

**SPIRIT NIGHTCLUB** 18 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 355055

#### **STAFFORDSHIRE**

COURTURE & NOIRE ET BLANC 139 Newport Rd, Stafford, ST16 2EZ Tel: 01785 244755

**LIQUID** Brunswick St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1DR Tel: 01782 284333

**REFLEX** 3-5 Brockley Square, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5LY Tel: 01782 206170

TRINITY NIGHTCLUB Spinning School Lane, Tamworth,ST1 1DR Tel: 01827 58772

#### WARWICKSHIRE

**CAREYS NIGHTCLUB** Hereford Place, Coventry CV1 3JZ Tel: 02476 227 397

**EVOLVE NIGHTCLUB** 2 Spencer Street, Leamington Spa, Coventry CV31 3NF Tel: 01926 435310

**JJ'S** Skydome Leisure Park, Croft Rd, Coventry CV1 3AZ. Tel: 02476 555913

**LIQUID & ENVY** Leicester Road, Nuneaton CV11 4B. Tel: 02476 344216

**REFLEX** Church St, Nuneaton, CV11 4BW Tel: 02476 344216

#### WORCESTERSHIRE

**BUSHWACKERS** Trinity St, Worcester WR1 2PW Tel: 01905 26878

**TRAMPS** Angel Place, Worcester WR1 3QN Tel: 019905 26936

VELVET LOUNGE Angel Place, Worcester WR1 3QN. Tel: 01905 619966



### **Judge Jules: Birmingham Pride**

Chic Dance Arena, Birmingham Pride, Southside, Sat 2 - Sun 3 June

Internationally renowned DJ Judge Jules makes a welcome return to the Midlands this month to headline the Chic Dance Arena as part of Birmingham Pride. The Radio One DJ - who wowed audiences at the 2011 Pride event - is this year joined by a host of other well-known DJs, including Natalie D, Andy Max, Pearce M, Nicky G, Ant Marx, Joe Campbell and Audio Punks. For further information on the Chic Dance Arena, visit, www.birminghampride.com

# Royal rave in the Midlands...

Gatecrasher, Birmingham, Sat 2 June Midlands clubbers can celebrate The Queen's Diamond Jubilee in style this month as seven of the biggest names in trance descend on Birmingham's Gatecrasher venue for what's being described as 'the ultimate summer trance-stormer'. International DJs Dash Berlin (pictured), Marco V, Sean Tyas, Lisa Lashes, Scott Bond, JFK, Genix and AJ Gibson each take their turn at providing the very best in trance tracks against a background of awe-inspiring light and laser shows.



#### **GAY NIGHTCLUBS**

#### **BIRMINGHAM**

**CLUB CHIC** 28 Horsefair, B1 1DD. Tel: 0121 666 6808

**THE CORE** Sherlock Street, B5 6NB Tel: 0121 622 2797

THE NIGHTINGALE Kent St, B5 6RD Tel: 0121 622 1718

THE VILLAGE INN & UNDERGROUND 152 Hurst St, B5 6RY Tel: 0121 622 4742

#### **BLACK COUNTRY**

THE LION Birchills St, Walsall, WS2 8NG Tel: 01922 610977

**GORGEOUS** Salop St Wolverhampton, WV3 0SR Tel: 0844 357 8570

#### SHROPSHIRE

**C21** 18-21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury. SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 271821 (MON ONLY)

**SPIRIT** 22 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 355055 (MON ONLY)

#### **STAFFORDSHIRE**

**THE FACTORY** Bryan St, Hanley, Stoke-On-Trent, ST1 2AA Tel: 01782 478799

#### WARWICKSHIRE

**RAINBOWS** Short St, Coventry CV1. Tel: 02476 551738

#### WORCESTERSHIRE

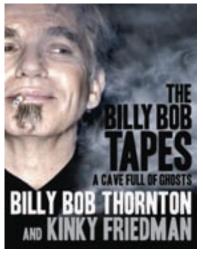
VELVET CLUB Angel Row, Worcester, WR1 3QN Tel: 01905 20218

# BooksTV

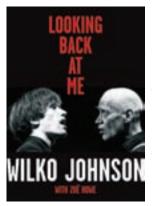
#### The Billy Bob Tapes: A Cave Full Of Ghosts

By Billy Bob Thornton and Kinky Friedman

A foreword from ex-wife Angelina Jolie, describing him as having "an unmatchable wit that can make you laugh until your face hurts", should certainly make people want to read more about award-winning actor and musician Billy Bob Thornton. Featuring colourful tales of his poor Southern upbringing, his Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (fear of komodo dragons and antiques), his lovelife and his career in films, A Cave Full Of



Ghosts offers an intriguing insight into the world of the Hollywood icon. Packed with stories and righteous philosophical rants - and told with the help of his close friend and legendary country music star Kinky Friedman - The Billy Bob Tapes is described as being much more than just a celebrity memoir.



#### **Looking Back At Me**

By Wilko Johnson with Zoê Howe

Written with a little help from acclaimed music writer Zoë Howe, Wilko Johnson's autobiography offers a candid insight into the world of rock. Taking a no-holds-barred approach, the former Dr Feelgood guitarist provides a deeply personal account of his life in one of the country's most revered bands and also as a solo performer. Along the way, Wilko expands on his many offstage interests, including astronomy, art, literature, poetry and Shakespeare. Presented as a rock'n'roll scrapbook, Looking Back At Me features many previ-

ously unseen images, together with anecdotes from some of the artist's noteable fans, including Robert Plant, Alison Moyet, JJ Burnel, Keith Levene, Gavin Martin and Whispering Bob Harris. The book also features a foreword by Mick Farren.

#### **Duncan Edwards: The** Greatest

By James Leighton

The story of Dudley-born footballing legend Duncan Edwards is without doubt one of tragic heroism. Described by Bobby Charlton as "the only player that made me feel inferior", Edwards made his debut for Manchester United at the tender age of sixteen. He went on to help the club win two League Championships and reach the semi-finals of the European Cup

before his life was tradically cut short by the Munich air disaster of 1958. This is the story of both the magnificent sportsman and the private individual, and of the legacy that he left behind.



- Inheritance **Christopher Paolini**
- Steve Jobs: The **Exclusive Biography** Walter Isaacson
- Diary Of A Wimpy Kid **Jeff Kinney**
- **Before I Go To Sleep** S J Watson
- **Bring Up The Bodies Hilary Mantel**



#### Chris Lang drama announced for ITV1

Filming has started on a new two-part drama featuring Spooks star Hermione Norris and Men Behaving Badly and Doc Martin star Martin Clunes. Filmed on location in London and Suffolk, Chris Lang's A Mother's Son follows the recently married Rosie (Norris) as she tries to come to terms with the murder of her teenage daughter. Fearing that someone very close to her could have been involved in the murder, Rosie turns to her ex husband for solace, questioning whether her suspicions are too incomprehensible. Paul McGann (Luther) and Alexander Arnold (Skins) also star in the drama, which will be screened on ITV1 later this year.

#### **Douglas Henshall to star in new BBC drama**

The BBC has announced that acclaimed Scottish actor Douglas Henshall (The Kidnap Diaries, The Silence) is to take the lead in a new two-part drama entitled Shetland. Henshall will star as Detective Jimmy Perez, a native Shetlander who returns to his beloved homeland after a long spell away. When a young

archaeologist discovers a set of human remains and, in a separate incident, an elderly woman is shot on her land in a tragic accident, Perez and his team find themselves embroiled in a feud between two warring families, whose envy, greed and bitterness has divided the surrounding community. Further casting is yet to be announced for the drama, which will air on BBC One later this year.



### C4 pledges continued commitment to original British drama

Channel Four has made a statement reiterating its continued commitment to working with the best British drama talent, announcing what viewers can expect in the way of new commissions for 2012 and beyond. Highlights include Utopia - a sixpart thriller from Dennis Kelly, the creator of the multi-award-winning Matilda The Musical; Complicit - a three-hour drama by Guy Hibbert which sees David Oyelowo (The Help, Rise Of The Planet Of The Apes) star as a British intelligence officer caught up in the complexities surrounding the war on terror; The Fear a four-part drama from Richard Cottan (Wallander) that chronicles the disintegration of a criminal mind; and My Fat Teenage Diary - adapted from Rae Earl's real-life diary and book of the same name.

# Eating Out

# Birmingham Food Festival returns

It's been announced that the week-long Birmingham Food Festival is to make a welcome return to the city next month. Recognised as a gastronomic hotspot - with its Michelin-starred restaurants and famous Balti Quarter - Birmingham is home to some of the country's top eateries and culinary stars, including Glyn Purnell, Aktar Islam and Richard Turner. Last year saw more than seventy thousand visitors head to the city to sample its culinary delights, and it's hoped that this year's festival will be even more successful. An 'event within an event' - the CBD Food Festival, celebrating twenty-four food and drink venues in the city's commercial district - gets 2012's proceedings under way.



#### **British bubbles...**

A recent episode of The Apprentice saw Lord Sugar set the show's remaining contestants the challenge of raising awareness of English sparkling wine, which rivals Champagne in quality but not in market dominance. One person here in the Midlands who knows all about the quality of English sparkling wine is wine aficionado Claire Love, of Loves Restaurant in Birmingham.

Claire is so passionate about the product that she promotes it above its French counterpart. English Wine Week is from 2 to 10 June, and Chef Steve Love has created a new tasting menu at the restaurant for the duration of the month.



# A night of Queen to celebrate the Jubilee

Peachy Keens restaurant is this month hanging out the bunting as it takes part in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Helping the renowned world buffet restaurant mark the occasion in true party style is Freddie Mercury tribute act Pure Magic, headlining an evening of festivities on 1 June. Tickets to the event cost £10, or £19.99 for the show and dinner. Check out www.peachykeens.co.uk for more details.



# In love with Loves!

#### REVIEW

Husband and wife team Steve and Claire Love opened their appropriately named restaurant Loves back in 2009, in the exclusive Canal Square area of Birmingham. While Steve is the head chef, Claire runs front of house with a wine knowledge that is second to none. Loves is a fine dining restaurant with contemporary décor and a wonderfully relaxed atmosphere and even the restrooms are top notch! We began the evening in the bar, enjoying a glass of Knightsbridge Ridgview, a delightful sparkling wine which, quite frankly, I could have drunk all night. Having been shown into the private dining area, which is nicely incorporated into the layout of the restaurant, we started our meal with an amuse bouche of goats cheese and parsnip - a real treat. The amuse bouche was

followed by cubes of beetroot with feta cheese and a jelly sorbet - absolutely divine, and the accompanying Baccus Reserve wine was also phenomenal.

Moving on, the third course of chicken satay and peanut brittle was beautiful, followed by the Beef Carpaccio with fennel and pickled onions. The beef was delicately sliced and bursting with flavour. The next course was the piece de resistance of the evening - Gloucestershire pork. The dish comprised fillet, cheek, tail nugget, and popcorn pork shrimp. Each cut of pork was cooked to perfection - the cheek was tender and simply melted in the mouth. The pork was followed by banana crème with pork scratchings, which doesn't sound like it should work, but believe me. it does! The dessert of chocolate panna cotta with blood orange sorbet rounded off the meal perfectly. The tasting menu is £68

per person, and £35 per person for the accompanying wines. If you're going to splash out on the meal, you should definitely go the whole hog and add the wines, because they really do make the experience wonderful. However, if you fancy a treat midweek, the Wednesday tasting menu is £48.

Loves isn't one of Birmingham's Michelinstarred restaurants, but it certainly should be. If you haven't stopped by there yet, then make sure you do so very soon. You really will be in for a treat. Eva Easthope

Food:
Service:
Ambience:
Overall value

Loves Restaurant The Glasshouse Canal Square Browning Street Birmingham B16 8FL 0121 454 5151

## **Restaurant REVIEWS**

# New Indian restaurant ticks all the right boxes...

Newly opened in Mere Green, Bhujon is the latest offering from the team behind the popular Regards restaurants.

Warmly welcomed into the cocktail lounge, we began the evening with a non-alcoholic passion fruit Mojito and a sweet creation from the mixologist. A selection of plain and spicy poppadoms with chutneys (£3.50) whetted our appetites for the starters to come - a platter of chicken tikka, lamb shami kebabs and king prawn cigars. The prawns were particularly delicious, served in a light spice paste wrapped in pastry. For mains, we let the owner Mohammed choose a fine trio of dishes on our behalf lamb rogan josh (£11.50), soya chunks palak (£7.95) and king prawn tawa masala (£15.95). The tender lamb had clearly been simmered to perfection in a full-bodied tomato sauce, whilst the prawns in onion were meaty, with a flavour that shone through the understated accompaniments. The soya was an unusual dish, but one that I thoroughly enjoyed.

To finish, I chose a traditional wedding dish of gajar ka halwa; warm, grated carrot served unconventionally with pistachio ice



cream.

Delightful service, style and flavours make this an Indian restaurant experience with a difference. Try it out and see for yourself. Aley Dervish

Food: Service: Ambience: Overall value OVERALL



Bhujon Cocktail Bar and Dining 290-292 Lichfield Road Mere Green Sutton Coldfield B74 2UG 0121 308 0930

## Impressive experience at Shrewsbury's latest Italian...

We all love it when a popular chain restaurant comes to town - you know what you're eating, how much you're spending, and what atmosphere you'll find. The new Shrewsbury branch of Zizzi's, however, will surpass your expectations. The hallway is lined with whole silver birch logs from Shropshire, there are hand-painted murals of Shrewsbury scenes all over the walls, chairs spray-painted in Shrewsbury Town FC's colours, and the restaurant itself is stunning the ultimate in laidback, modern comfort with a few quirky touches that prompt you to start Googling products for your own home. All very impressive, but it's the food and service which tops the bill. You can expect your standard hearty pizzas, pastas and salads, but with a twist: Types of olives you've never seen or tasted before; organic drinks you've never heard of; combinations of ingredients that inspire you to cook a bit of Italian yourself; and all for a price that avoids

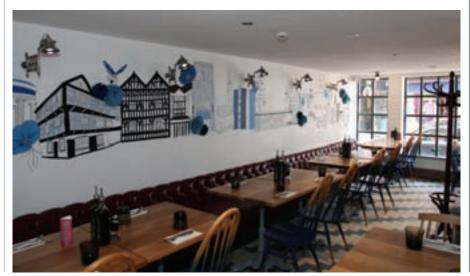
compromising your wallet. The staff are very knowledgeable about products and helpful in choosing dishes, and the open kitchen and stone oven gives you that extra bit of confidence about how your food is being prepared.

Zizzi's as a chain does not disappoint, and has officially become my new favourite haunt for when I want some Italian grub of guaranteed quality. *Jessica Matthews* 

Food: Service: Ambience: Overall value OVERALL



Zizzi Ristorante 39-40 High Street Shrewsbury SY1 1SF Tel: 01743 353232



## **Restaurant LISTINGS**

For full listing information on restaurants, including opening times and type of cuisine, visit: www.whatsonlive.co.uk

#### Birmingham

AALTO RESTAURANT Hotel La Tour, Albert Street, Birmingham B5 5JT 0121 718 8000

AL FRASH 186 Ladypool Road, Sparkbrook, B12 8JS 0121 753 3120

THE ASQUITH 11 Newhall Street, Birmingham, B3 3NY 0121 200 1588

**ASHA'S** 12-22 Newhall Street, B3 3LX 0121 200 2767

**AZZARI TOO** 204 Lightwoods Rd, B67 5AZ 0121 429 6621

**BANK** 4 Brindleyplace, B1 2JB 0121 633 7766

BAR EPERNAY 171-172 Wharfside Street, The Mailbox. 0121 632

BAR ESTILO 10-114 Wharfside St, The Mailbox, B11RF 0121 643 3443

BARNT GREEN INN Kendal End Rd, Rednal B45 8PZ 0121 445 4949

BARTONS ARMS 144 High Street, Aston, B6 5UP 0121 333 5988 BARAJEE 265 Broad

0121 643 6700 **BELLA ITALIA** 102 New St, B2 4HQ

0121 6431548 **THE BERLOIZ** Burlington Arcade, New St, B2 4JQ 0121 633 1737

**BLUE MANGO** 5 Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 633 4422

BLUE GINGER 32 Poplar Road, Kings Heath, B14 7AD 0121 444 0999

**BLUU** Fleet St, Summer Row, B3 1JH 0121 236 9013

BUONISSIMO 1 Albany Rd, Harborne, B17 9JX 0121 426 2444

BRANDED BULL STEAKHOUSE 175 Broad Street, B15 1DT. 0121 643 5968

BYZANTIUM 11 York Road, Kings Heath, B14 7SA 0121 444 5444

CAFE IKON 1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HS 0121 248 3226

**CAFE ROUGE**Brindleyplace, Broad
Street, B1 2HJ 0121 643
6556

CAFE SOYA 70 Hurst St, The Arcadian Centre, B5 4TD 0121 683 8350

CARLUCCIO'S The Water's Edge Brindleyplace B1 2HP 0121 633 9262

CELEBRITY INDIAN 44 Broad St, B1 2HP 0121 643 8969

THE CHAMELEON
1 Victoria Square, B1
1BD
0121 643 2233

**CHEZ JULES** 5a Ethel St, B2 4BG 0121 633 4664

**CHI** 61 Newhall St, B3 3RB 0121 233 3150 **CHINA RED** 193-194 Broad St, B15 1AY 0121 632 6688

CHUNG YING 16-18 Wrottersley Street, B5 4RT 0121 622 5669

CHUNG YING GARDEN 17 Thorpe St, B5 4RT 0121 622 5860 CITY CAFE RESTAURANT

Mint Hotel, 1 Brunswick Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HW 0121 633 6300 CIELO 6 Oozells

Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2JB 0121 632 6882

COTE The Mailbox, B1 1RX 0121 631 1587 CUIZENE 17 Thorp

Street, B5 4AT 0121 622 5573

CUCINA RUSTICA 24 Ludgate Hill, B3 1DX 0121 233 2277

DEOLALI BAR RESTAURANT 23A St Mary's Row, Moseley B13 8HW 0121 442 2222

**DEL VILLAGGIO**Unit 528, Middle Mall
The Bullring B5 4BE
0121 643 1400

DUET CUISINE Unit 1, Fort Dunlop B24 9FD. 0121 748 1234

**EDMUNDS** 6 Brindley place, B1 2 JB 0121 633 4944

**GREEN ROOM** Hurst St, B5 4DT 0121 605 4343

HA HA BAR & GRILL 178-180 Wharfside St, The Mailbox, B1 0121 632 1250

HARJEES SPICES 512 Stratford Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, B11 4AH 0121 773 6130

THE HORSESHOE BAR & RESTAURANT 1214 Stratford Road, B28 9BH 0121 777 2340 THE HOUSE Bennetts Hill, B2 5RS 0121 643

ITIHAAS 18 Fleet St, B3 1JL 0121 212 3383

JAMIES ITALIAN Middle Mall Bullring Shopping Centre, B5 4BE 0121 270 3610

THE JUNCTION 212 High Street, Harborne, B17 9PT 0121 428 2635

**JUJU'S** Canal Square, B16 8BZ 0121 456 3384

JIMMY SPICES Regency Wharf, Broad St, B1 2DS 0121643 2111

JIMMY SPICES 64-66 Station Rd, Solihull, B91 3RX 0121 709

KINNAREE THAI 22 Waterfront Walk, B1 1SN, 0121 665 6568

LA BASTILLE 220 Corporation St, B4 6QB 0121 236 1171 LAHORE KARAHI HALAL CHINESE AND BALTI 309 Highgate Road, B12 8DN 0121773 7575

LASAN 3-4 Dakota Buildings James St, St Paul's Square, B3 1SD 0121 212 3664

LAS IGUANAS Arcadian Centre, Hurst St, B5 4TD 0121 622 4466

**LA TASCA** Regency Wharf, B1 2DS 0121 643 9888

LOCH FYNE Mere Green Road, Sutton Coldfield. B75 5BL 0121 308 9410

THE LOFT LOUNGE 143 Bromsgrove St, B5 6RG 0121 622 2444

LOVES The Glasshouse, Browning St, B16 8FL 0121 454 5151

**MANIC ORGANIC** 46 Poplar Road, B14 7AG 0121 441 3802

MAHARAJA 23/25 Hurst St, B5 4AS 0121 622 2641

**MECHU** 59 Summer Row, B3 1JJ 0121 710 4233

**METRO** 73 Cornwall St, B3 0121200 1911

LA BASTILLE 220 Corporation St, B4 6QB 0121 236 1171

MINT Yew Tree Retail Park, Stoney Lane Yardley, B25 8YP Tel: 0121 789 8908

MIRAGE FUSION Broadway Casino, Broadway Plaza Ladywood Middleway, B16 8LP. 0121 456 5557

MOUNT FUJI The Bullring, B5 4QL 0121 633 9853

**OPUS** 54 Cornwall St, B3 2DA 0121 200 2323

OLD JOINTSTOCK PUB 4 Temple Row, B2 5NY 0121 200 1892

THE ORIENTAL The Mailbox, 128-130 Wharfside St, B1 1RQ 0121 633 9988

PASTA DE PIAZZA 11 Brook Street, St Paul's Square, B3 1SA 0121 236 5858

PEACHY KEENS 1741 Coventry Road, Yardley B26 1DS. 0121 764 5519

PENNY BLACKS The Mailbox,132-134 Wharfside St, B1 1XL 0121 632 1460

**PEPPERS** 5a Broad St, B15 0121 633 4411

PICCOLINO 9 Brindleyplace, B1 2HS 0121 634 3055

PONTE DI LEGNO 44-44a Woodbridge Rd, Moseley, B13 8EJ 0121 449 8064

PUNJABI HAVELI 1558 Stratford Rd, Hall Green, B28 9HA 0121 745 3636

PURNELL'S 55 Cornwall St, B3 2DH. 0121 212 9799

**PUSHKAR** 245 Broad St, B1 2HQ. 0121 643 7978

**THE RECTORY** 50-54 St Paul's Sq, B3 1QS 0121 605 1001

**RED** 4 Temple St, B2 5BN 0121 643 0194

**RED PEPPERS** 117 Wharfside St, B1 1RF 0121 643 4202

**ROSE MURREE** 94 -96 Hagley Rd, Edgbaston, B16 8LU 0121 456 4500 SABAI SABAI 25 Woodbridge Rd, Moseley, B13 8EH 0121 4494498

**SAFFRON** 909 Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury B69 4RR 0121 552 1752

**SAN CARLO** 4 Temple St, B2 5BN 0121 633 0251

SHAH'S Unit 16, 1160 Warwick Road, Acocks Green B27 6BP 0121 707 8297

**SHIMLA PINKS** 215 Broad St, B15 1AY 0121 633 0366

SHOGUN TEPPANYAKI The Mailbox,113-115 Wharfside St, B1 1RD 0121 632 1253

SIMPSONS, 20 Highfield Rd, Edgbaston B13 3DU 0121 454 3434

SPICE EXCHANGE, 1845 Pershore Rd Kings Norton, B30 3DJ 0121 451 1007

STRADA 109-111 Wharfside St, The Mailbox B1 1XL 0121 643 7279

SYRIANA 1 Constitution Hill, B19 3LG 0121 2369444

**THAI EDGE** 7 Oozells Sq, B1 2HL 0121 643 3993

TIN TIN CANTONESE, The Waters Edge, Brindleyplace, B1 2HL 0121 633 0888

THE VAULTS Newhall Place, Newhall Hill, B1 3JH 0121 212 9837

VMF - ASTON VILLA FOOTBALL CLUB Villa Park, Trinity Rd, B6 6HE 0121 326 1570

**ULYSSES** 42a Bristol Street, B5 7AA 0121 622 3159

THE WAREHOUSE CAFE 54-57 Allison Street, Digbeth, B5 5TH

0121 633 0261 WING WAH 278 Thimblemill Lane, B7 5HD 0121 327 7879

WOKTASTIC Paradise Place, B3 3HJ 0121 236 3130

**WONGS** 5-11 Fleet St, B3 1JP 0121 212 1888

**YO! SUSHI** Bullring, Birmingham B5 4BP. 0121 600 6712

ZIZZI 183 High St, Harborne B17 9QE 0121 428 4228 also at The Mailbox B1 1RL 0121 632 1333. 10 Poplar Rd, Solihull, B91 3AB 0121 704 5030

#### **Black Country**

**ALEX'S** 5 Bridgnorth Rd, Wolverhampton, WV6 8AB 01902 759274

ARBOR LIGHTS 127 Lichfield St, Walsall, WS1 1SY 01922 613361

**BELLA** 82 Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton, 01902 427555

**BILASH** 2 Cheapside, Wolverhampton, 01902 427762

THE BLUE BRICK Low Level Station, Sun St, Wolverhampton WV10 0DG 0870 850 6376

BRAVACCIOUS 4 Upper Green, Wolverhampton WV6



8QQ 01902 756052

The Horseshoe Bar & Restaurant, Birmingham

**CAFE CHAI** 29-33 New Street, Dudley DY1 1LT 01384 456847

CAFE CHAMPAGNE 253-255 Bilston Road, Wolverhampton WV2 2JN 01902 458024

CATELLANI'S 6 School St, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LR 01902 428928

**THE COWSHED**Clive Farm Clive Rd,
Pattingham, WV6 7EN
01902 701888

CINNAMON COURT Bentley Mill Way, Walsall WS2 0BP 0121 568 6664

THE DITCH 1 Town Hill, Walsall, WS1 2EU 01922 643215

FARADAYS The Waterfront, Brierley Hill, Dudley, DY5 1UR 01384 482 882

THE FAIRLAWNS AT ALDRIDGE 178 Little Aston Road, Aldridge, Walsall WS9 0NU 01922 455122

FIVE RIVERS Vicarage Place, Walsall WS1 3NA 01922 646164

FOUR STONES Adam's Hill,Clint, Stourbridge, DY9 9PS 01562 883260

FRANZIS 151 Milcote Rd, Smethwick, B67 0121 429 7920

FRENCH CONNECTION 3 Coventry St, Stourbridge DY8 1EP 01384 390940

FRENCH HEN
Bromsgrove Rd, Clent,
Stourbridge DY9 9PY
01562 883040

GARAM MASALA 205 High St, Lye, Stourbridge DY9 8JZ 01384 424 240

GOLDEN MOMENTS 2-3 Ablewell St, Walsall WS1 2EQ 01922 640363

KAMRAN BALTI'S 34 High Street, Lye, Stourbridge DY9 8LF 01384 893030

MADE IN THAI Darlington St, Wolverhampton WV1 4HW 01902 312512 MALABAR 7 Anchor Rd, Walsall WS9 8PT

Rd, Walsall WS9 8P7 01922 944 482 **PARLOUR** 10 The Arcade, Walsall, WS1 1SY 01922 613407

THE PIE FACTORY 50 Hurst Lane, Tipton DY4 9AB 0121 557 1402

**RED FORT** Fold St, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LP 01902 424440

RISTORANTE ROMAGNA 4 Upper Green, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton WV6 8QQ 01902 756052

THE SPRINGHILL Warstones Rd, Penn, Wolverhampton WV4 4LB 01902 342530

SIMON'S 520 Chester Rd, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0121 580 9293

THE SUMMERHOUSE 92 Gospel End Rd, Dudley DY3 4AN 01902 676 102

THORNESCROFT Bridgnorth Rd, Wolverhampton, WV6 7EQ 01902 700 253

THE WOODMAN Claverley, Staffordshire, Wolverhampton WV5 7DG 01746 710 553

#### **Shropshire**

**AFTAB** 25 High St, Ironbridge TF8 7AD 01952 432055

ALBRIGHT HUSSEY Ellesmere Rd, Shrewsbury, SY4 3AF 01939 290 523

BUTLERS Park St, Shifnal, TF11 01952 460662

CASA NARANJO Barracks Passage, Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 01743 588165

CASA RUIZ 45 High Street, Bridgnorth, WV16 4DX 01746 218 084

CHEZ MAW Valley Hotel, Buildwas Rd, Ironbridge, TF8 7DW 01952 432247 CORNHOUSE 59a

Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, SY1 1XY 01743 231991 CROMWELLS 11

CROMWELLS 11 Dogpole, Shrewsbury SY1 1EN 01743 361440

THE COTTAGE Tern Hill, Markey Drayton TF9 3PX 01630 638984 COUNTESS ARMS Weston Heath, Shropshire TF11 8RY 01952 691123

DA VINCI'S 26 High St, Ironbridge, TF8 7AD 01952 432250

D'ARCEYS Broadway, Shifnal TF11 8AZ 01952 460600

DRAPERS 10 St Mary's St Shrewsbury, SY1 1DZ 01743 344679 FENNELS 8 Market Place, Shifnall TF11 9AZ 01952 463020

THE FEATHERS
Brockton, Much
Wenlock TF13 6JR
01746 785202

THE FOX INN 46 High St, Much Wenlock TF13 6AD 01952 727292

FRANK CAFE BAR 165-167 Frankwell, Shrewsbury SY3 8LG 01743 354422

THE GOLDEN CROSS 14 Princess St, Shrewsbury, SY1 1LP 01743 362507

THE GOLDEN MOMENTS 50 Broad St, Ludlow SY8 1NH Tel:01584 878488

GRANARY BAR & GRILL Weston Park, Weston-under-Lizard, Nr Shifnal, TF11 8LE 01952 852107

HADLEY PARK HOUSE Hadley Park, Telford TF1 6QJ 01952 677269

THE INN AT GRINSHILL The High Street, Grinshill, Shrewsbury, SY4 3BL 01939 220410

THE HAYWARDS at The Lion Hotel, Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1UY 01743 353107

KING & THAI Avenue Rd, Broseley, Telford TF12 5DL 01952 882004

LA BÉCASSE 17 Corve St, Ludlow, SY8 1DA 01584 872 325

LA DOLCE VITA 35 Hills Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 1QU 01743 249126

LA LANTERNA
The Old Vestry, St
Julian's Church,
Shrewsbury SY1 1UH
01743 233552
LION & PHEASANT
50 Wyle Cop
Shrewsbury SY1 1XJ

01743 770345

MAD JACKS 15 St Mary's St, Shrewsbury, SY1 1EQ 01743 358870

THE MALTHOUSE The Wharfage, Ironbridge TF8 7NH. 01902 433712

**THE MEADOW INN**Buildwas Road,
Ironbridge TF8 7BJ
01952 433193

MINH'S CHINESE 20 Bradford St, Shifnal TF11 8AU 01952 463323

MR UNDERHILLS Dinham Weir, Ludlow Shropshire SY8 1EH 01584 874431

MORGANS 1 Bellstone, Shrewsbury SY1 1HU 01743 239114

THE MYTTON & MERMAID Atcham, Shrewsbury, SY5 6QG 01743 761220

OAK TREE Burrington, Ludlow, SY8 2HT 01568 770033

THE OLD ORLETON INN Holyhead Rd, Wellington, TF1 2HA 01952 255011

THE OLD RECTORY HOTEL & RESTAURANT Lowe Hill Road, Wem, Shropshire 01939 233233

ODYSSEY TAVERNA Cheapside, Shifnal TF11 8BN 01952 461660

PARKWAY 76 Corve St, Ludlow SY8 2PG 01584 873 130

THE PEACH TREE 21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE 01743 355055

THE POUND AT LEE-BOTWOOD Leebotwood, Nr Church Stretton SY6 6ND 01694 751477

RENAISSANCE, 29a Princess St,Shrewsbury, SY11LW 01743 354289

ROMOLO Victoria Avenue, shrewsbury SY1 1HH 01743 233244

ROYAL BENGAL TANDOORI 32-34 The Broadway, Shifnal TF11 8AZ 01952 460522

SARACENS Shrewsbury Rd, SY4

## Restaurant LISTINGS

4AG 01939 210877 SEBASTIANS 45 Willow St, Oswestry SY11 1AQ 01691 655444

TIN TINS Wellington Road, Telford TF2 8AJ 01952 608688

TRAITORS GATE Castle St, Water Lane, ShrewsburySY1 2BX 01743 249152

THE WALLS Welsh Walls, Oswestry SY11 1AW 01691 670970

#### Staffordshire

NO 5 Gaol Mews, Stafford ST16 3AN 01785 22 9900

**BELLA ITALIA** 20 Greengate St, Stafford,ST16 2HS 01785 211968

**CURRY KUTEER** 31 Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2HY 01785 253279

CHANDLERS 6 Conduit St, Lichfield, WS13 01543 416688

THE CORNER HOUSE Second Avenue, Burton-On-Trent DE14

01283 542321

ESSENCE OF THE ORIENT 27 Broad Eye, Stafford ST16 2QB 01785 229988

FOUR SEASONS Swinfen Hall Lichfield, WS14 9RE 0844 567

THE GREEN ROOM Castle Dyke, Lichfield WS13 6HR 01543 412121

JASMINE PEKING 21 High St, Eccleshall, Stafford ST21 6BW 01785 851200

LA DOLCE VITA 19 Stafford St, Stone ST15 8QW 01785 817 985

LODGE BALTI Shenstone, Wood End Lichfield WS14 (01543)

MALABAR 1 Water

Street, Stafford, ST16 2AG 01785 227 500/600 THE MEETING ROOM

41 Piccadilly, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 1EN

MARLOES 13 London Road, Newcastle, ST5 1LQ 01782 661983

**THE MILL** Mill St, Stone, ST15 8BA 01785 818456

MINT LEAF George St, Burton. DE14 1DP 01283 563468 THE NAVIGATION INN

Newport Road, Gnosall, Stafford ST20 0BN 01785 822327

**OLD VICARAGE 2 Main** St, Branston, Burton, DE14 3EX 01283 533222

PASTICHE BISTRO 12 Percy Street, Hanley, ST1 1NE 01782 263 737

THE PEARL18 Market St, Kidsgrove, ST7 4AB 01782 788887

THE PEAR TREE Swinfen, Nr. Lichfield, WS14 9QR 01543

PORTOFINO 38-40 Marsh St Stoke-On-Trent, ST1 1JD Tel: 01782 209444

THE RED ROOM 7 Newcastle Road Congleton CW12 4HN 01260 297871

SHIMLA PALACE Wolsely Bridge Stafford ST170XS 01889 881025

THE SWAN HOTEL 46 Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2JA 01785 258142

THORNBURY HALL. RASOI Lockwood Rd, Kingsley Holt, Stafford ST10 2DH 01538 750831

WOLSELEY ARMS Wolseley Bridge, Stafford ST17 0XS 01889 883179

#### Warwickshire

21 Spon St, Coventry, CV1 3BA 024 7622

7 SQUARE 7 Old Square, Warwick CV34 4RA 01926 411 755

NO. 9 CHURCH

Stratford upon Avon. Warwickshire CV37 6HB 01789 415522

ART KITCHEN 7 Swan St. Warwick CV34 4BJ 01926 494303

AUBERGINE 42 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HS 01926 400 086

THE ALMANACK Abbey End North, Kenilworth CV8 1QJ 01926 353637

THE BLUEBELL 93 High Street, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, B95 5AT 01564 793049

BROWNS Earl St, Coventry CV1 5RU 0247 622 1100

CARLUCCIOS 13 Waterside, Stratford-Upon-Avon CV37 6BA 01789 267424

CASTLE BALTI 11-13 St. Johns, Warwick CV34 4NE 01926 493007

CATALAN 6 Jury St, Warwick CV34 4EW 01926 498 930

THE CELLAR 5 The Knibbs, Smith St, Warwick CV34 4UW

01926 400809 THE CHURCH

STREET TOWN-HOUSE 16 Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HB 01789 262222

EGO 29 The Square, Kenilworth, CV8 1EF 01926 864463 FIVE RIVERS 20-22 Victoria Terrace, Leamington Spa, CV31 3AB 01926 431999

GEORGETOWN 23 Sheep St, Stratford-Upon-Avon, CV37 6EF 01789 204445

THE GRANVILLE 52, Wellesbourne Rd, Barford, CV35 8DS 01926 624236

LANE'S 6 Castle St, Warwick CV34 4BP 01926 403030

THE LORD LEYCES-**TER** 17-19 Jury St, Warwick, CV34 4EJ 01926 491481

**MERCHANTS** Swan Street, Warwick CV34 4BJ 01926 403833



NAILCOTE HALL Nailcote Lane, Berkswell, Coventry, CV7 7DE 02476

466174 NICOLINIS 14 The Parade, Leamington Spa, CV32 4DW 01926 421620

QUEANS RESTAU-RANT 15 Dormer Place, Leamington Spa CV32 5AA 01926 315522

THE ONE ELM 1 Guild St, Stratford-Upon-Avon, CV37 6QZ 01789 404919

**OSCARS** 39 Chandos St, Leamington Spa, CV324RL 01926 452807

**OYSTER LOUNGE 12-**14 Jury St, Warwick, CV34 4EW 01926 495491

PEEL'S Hampton Manor, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull, B92 0EN 01675 446080

PREZZO 1-3 High St. Warwick CV34 4AP 01926 475867

**BAFFI FS** 57 Warwick Rd, Kenilworth, CV8 1HN 01926 864 300

THE RED LION Station Rd, Warwick CV35 8PE 01926 842291

**RESTAURANT 23** 23 Dromer Place, Leamington Spa, CV32

5AA 01926 422422 ROBBIES 74 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HU 01926 400470

**ROSE & CROWN** 30 Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SH 01926 411117

ROOFTOP RESTAURANT

Royal Shakespeare Théatre, Waterside, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BB 01789 403449

SAFFRON Market St, Westgate House, Warwick CV34 4DE 01926 402061

THE SAXON MILL Coventry Rd, Guys Cliffe, Warwick CV34 5YN 01926 492 255 SIGNATURES AT THE **BELGRADE** Belgrade Theatre, Belgrade Square, Coventry, CV1 1GS 02476 846762

TAILORS 22 Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SL 01926 410590

THAI ELEPHANT 8-10 Theatre St, Warwick CV34 4DP 01926 410688

THE TREVELYAN Warwick Rd, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 ONR 01789 295252

**WARWICK SPICE 24** Smith St. Warwick CV34 4HS 01926 491736

THE VINE INN West St, Warwick CV34 6AW 01926 490744

ZIZZI 29 The Square, Kenilworth, CV8 1EF 01926 852980

#### Worcestershire

ANAKARI 47 The Tythings, Worcester. 01905 21412

ANGEL CHEF Angel St, Worcester WR1 3QT 01905 731131

**ASHLEYS** 11 The Tything, Worcester WR1 1HD 01905 611747

**BACCHUS** 44 Worcester Rd Bromsgrove B61 7AE 01527 877557

BENEDICTOS 34 Sidbury, Worcester WR1 2HZ 01905 21444

THE BEAR AND RAGGED STAFF Station

Rd, Worcester WR6 5JH 01886 833399 **BRAMBLINGS** Hither

Green Lane, Redditch, B98 9BE 0871 2079595 **BROWNS** 24 Quay St, Worcester WR1 2JJ 01905 26263

CHESTERS 51 New St, Worcester, WR1 2DP 01905 611638

CROWN & SANDYS Main Rd, Ombersley, WR9 0EW 01905 620252

FARTHINGS Bransford, Gt Malvern WR6 5JD 01886 833551

THE FIG TREE 99 Church Street, Gt Malvern WR14 2AE 01684 569909

FOUR SEASONS 61 Lowesmoor, Worcester WR1 2RS 01905 2702

FUSION BRASSERIE Hawbridge, Stoulton, Worcester WR7 4RJ 01905 840647

GLASSHOUSE 55 Sidbury, Worcester WR1 2HU 01905 611120

THE HADLEY **BOWLING GREEN** Hadley Heath, Hadley, WR9 0AR 01905

THE INN AT STONE-HALL Stonehall Common, Worcester, WR5 3QG 01905 820462

KING CHARLES II King Charles House, New St, Worcester WR1 2D 01905 22449

LITTLE VENICE 1 St Nicholas St, Worcester WR1 1UW 01905

726126 MASSALLA LOUNGE 35 Broad St, Worcester WR1 3NH 01905 729955

MONSOON 35 Foregate St, Worcester, WR1 1EE 01905 726333

MUG HOUSE Claines Lane, Worcester WR3 7RN 01905 456649

OLD RECTIFYING HOUSE North Parade, Worcester WR1 3NN 01905 619622

THE OLD RECTORY Ipsley, Redditch, B98 0AP 01527 517003

PEPPER & OZ 23 Abbey Rd, Gt Malvern WR14 3ES 01684 562676

THE PRIORY VIEW Abbey Rd, Gt Malvern WR14 3ET 0845 084 8923

PUCCINI'S, 12 Friar St,

Worcester WR12LZ 01905 27770

THE QUAY Worcester WR1 2JN 01905745

THE QUEENS HEAD Sugarbrook Lane, Bromsgrove, B30 3AU 01527 877777

**RED ROOMS** Church St, Worcester WR1 2RH

01905 28228

RILEY'S The Quadrant, Redditch B98 8AE 01527 60544

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SAFFRONS 15 New St, Worcester WR1 2DP 01905 610505

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THAI GALLERY 26-32 Friar St, Worcester WR1 2LZ 01905 25451

VALENTINO'S 43 Foregate St, Worcester WR1 1EE 01905 617773

**VENTURE INN** Ombersley, Droitwich, WR9 0EW 01905 620552

THE WILDMOOR OAK Top Road, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove B61 0RB 0121 453 2696

WYCH WAY INN Worcester Rd, Wychbold, WR9 7PA 01527 860130

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