

# THE MIDLANDS ESSENTIAL ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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TOURS THE REGION

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STOKE

# Rita Ora

Hot Right Now and appearing in Brum...

What's On  
MAGAZINE GROUP

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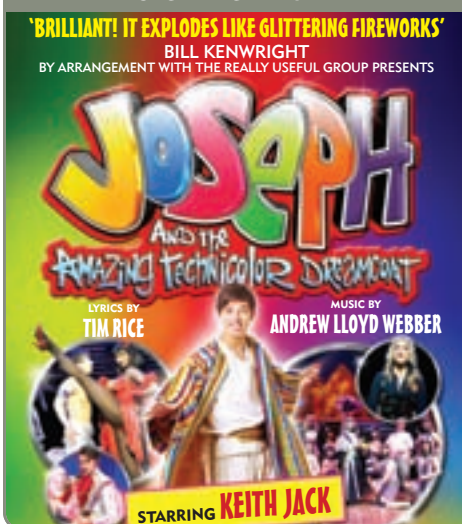


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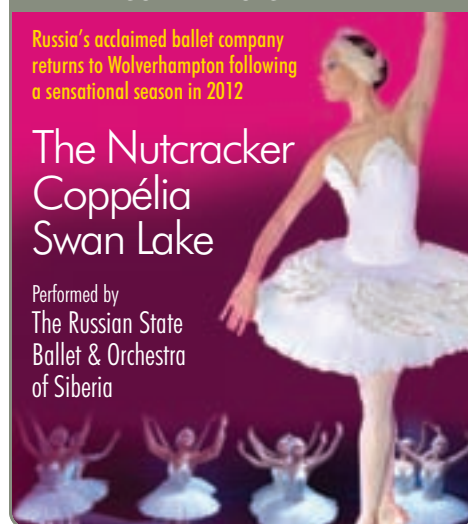
MON 4 - SAT 9 FEB



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FRI 22 FEB



TUES 26 FEB - SAT 2 MARCH



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- TUESDAY 2 - WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL  
**HORMONAL HOUSEWIVES**

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- SAT 6 APRIL  
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- SUNDAY 7 APRIL  
**THE SOLID SILVER 60s SHOW**

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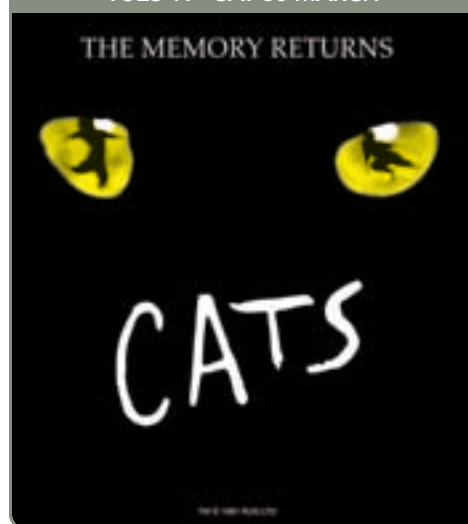
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- SUN 14 APRIL  
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**What's On**  
MAGAZINE GROUP



Harry Hill - returns to the comedy circuit with new show. Interview page 8

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## New venue for Chris Evans' summer festival

Cheshire's Oulton Park has been announced as the new venue for the northern leg of Chris Evans' CarFest. The three-day event, together with its sister festival in the south, brings together the Radio Two DJ's passion for fast cars, great music and fine food. So far, Alfie Boe, The Feeling, Reef, Ocean Colour Scene and Bjorn Again are confirmed for the 2013 event. Described as the ultimate family festival, last year's CarFest raised a staggering £968,735 for BBC Children In Need.



## Contemporary Arts Festival for Malvern

A new month-long festival which aims to bring the very latest in modern drama, music, dance, comedy and film to the town of Malvern has been announced. The 2013 Malvern Contemporary Arts Festival will take place at Malvern Theatres from Friday 22 March to Wednesday 17 April. The event will feature acrobatic theatrical troupe Ockham's Razor, comedian Andy Parsons, the National Dance Company of Wales, performances of award-winning West End show The Pitman Painters, and August Wilson's Fences, an acclaimed American drama starring Lenny Henry in the lead role.



Lenny Henry

## Heritage Lottery Fund behind Thinktank's latest venture

A new gallery featuring more than twenty interactive exhibits based around Birmingham's world-renowned manufacturing industry will be opened to the public this month. Largely funded by a £894,000 Heritage Lottery Fund grant - and forming part of the Made In Birmingham project - the We Made It Gallery at Thinktank in Millennium Point demonstrates how everyday goods - from raw material to finished products - are produced. Around twelve hundred objects from the city's manufacturing and natural science collections will be showcased in the new space, which opens its doors on 16 February.

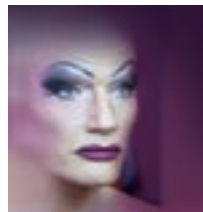


## Guess Who's coming to Brum?

Legendary rock band The Who are to perform iconic double album Quadrophenia in its entirety when they visit Birmingham in the summer. Released in 1973, Quadrophenia was the band's second rock opera (after Tommy) and went on to become one of the most influential albums in the history of rock music. The new concert version has been personally directed by Roger Daltrey. Focusing on the original album, it replaces the narrative used in previous stage incarnations with powerful imagery projected on an array of massive screens. The new show features The Who's founding members Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend, who will be joined by Zak Starkey (drums), Pino Palladino (bass), Simon Townshend (guitar/backing vocals), John Corey (keyboards), Loren Gold (keyboards/backing vocals) and Frank Simes (musical director, keyboards/backing vocals). The Who's Quadrophenia And More tour hits the LG Arena in Birmingham on 28 June.

## Something to Shout about...

The fourth Shout festival, celebrating the best of LGBT arts and queer culture in the Midlands, gets under way this month. Comedians Rosie Wilby, Claire Summerskill and Pam Ann are just a few of the well-known names to feature in this year's programme of events. Shout takes place at various venues across Birmingham - including mac, The Barber Institute, The Library Theatre, BMAG, The Custard Factory and The Public in West Bromwich - and runs from 28 February to 10 March. For a full line-up of what's on where, check out [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)



## Plans for Shrewsbury Food Festival announced

Shrewsbury's Quarry Park is to host the town's first food and drink festival this summer - and it's anticipated that around five thousand people will attend the two-day debut event on 29 and 30 June. As well as showcasing quality fare from some of the region's finest food and drink purveyors, the festival will also feature exhibits from local

craftspeople, demonstrations by two of Shropshire's finest chefs (Will Holland from Ludlow's La Becasse restaurant and Marcus Bean from The New Inn at Baschurch), food trails, live music and numerous family activities.



Will Holland

## Midlands' show to host Gardeners' Question Time

The Edible Garden Show, which takes place at Warwickshire's Stoneleigh Park next month, is to host a pre-recorded episode of the BBC's much-loved Gardeners' Question Time show. A panel of experts - including TV botanist James Wong and GQT stalwart Bob Flowerdeew - will be on hand to answer questions on the opening day of the event.

Organisers have eighty pairs of free tickets to the GQT session up for grabs. Interested? Then email your name, postal address and contact telephone number to [gqt@bbc.co.uk](mailto:gqt@bbc.co.uk) with email subject: Ticket Draw. The Edible Garden show runs from 15 to 17 March.



James Wong



## Boost for Midlands art scene...

A major new £1million art collection is to open at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery (BMAG) next month. Containing over sixty works by some of the world's most highly acclaimed artists, *Metropolis: Reflections On The Modern City* presents visions of urban life from around the globe, and features photographs, paintings, videos and sculptures. All of the included works were produced within the last decade, with several pieces being a response to different areas of Birmingham. Commenting on the new exhibition, Simon Cane, Interim Director of the Birmingham Museums Trust, said: "Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery is proving itself as a leading player in contemporary art in the UK. *Metropolis* is a great boost to the region's art scene, bringing some of the best international art to our doorsteps. We have been collecting these works for the past five years and it is fantastic to finally see the finished collection open to the public." *Metropolis: Reflections On The Modern City* opens at BMAG on 23 March.



## Birmingham Stage Company announces record numbers

Birmingham Stage Company (BSC) has seen out its twentieth anniversary year on a high, with its Christmas show *James And The Giant Peach* breaking all previous box office records. More than forty thousand people will have attended the much-acclaimed show by the time it ends its twelve-week run at Birmingham's Old Rep Theatre on 2 February. Of BSC's success, founder and actor Neil Foster said, "When I started the company aged twenty-six I didn't dream that twenty years later we would be heading off to Hong Kong and Singapore with our shows after an amazing Christmas season. We're really looking to celebrating our twenty-first anniversary this September."

## Bonjour! from Motionhouse...

Leamington-based Motionhouse Dance - the team behind last year's acclaimed outdoor production *The Voyage* - is to present its show *Traction* to the people of France as part of the Marseille-Provence 2013 European Capital of Culture celebrations in May. The production, which was initially developed for the opening of the Spicel Street development at Birmingham's Bullring, sees six Motionhouse dancers moving in unison with three JCB diggers in a high-voltage celebration of the powerful harmony of humans and machines.



## David Tennant to return to the RSC

The Royal Shakespeare Company's 2013/14 winter season will see ex-Dr Who David Tennant making a welcome return to Stratford, to take the lead in a new version of *Richard II*. Shakespeare's powerful play of nobility and conflict is the first in a cycle of History plays to be directed by the company's new Artistic Director Gregory Doran. The production will see Tennant once again joining forces with Oliver Ford Davies, with whom he appeared in the RSC's much-acclaimed 2008 production of *Hamlet*. Other highlights announced in Doran's first season as Artistic Director include the world premiere of Ella Hickson's *Wendy And Peter Pan* (the RSC's Christmas show for 2013/14) and adaptations of two award-winning novels - Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall* and Mike Poulton's *Bring Up The Bodies* - both of which will play in rep at the Swan Theatre. For further information on the RSC's forthcoming shows, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

### IN BRIEF

#### Romancing for a good cause...

A Valentine's date with a difference is on offer from Shropshire Drama Company this month. The amateur ensemble has joined forces with Shrewsbury's Lion Hotel for an evening of fine food, poetry and music to raise funds for the town's Severn Hospice. A champagne reception at the hotel's Hayward restaurant will be followed by a three-course meal, a romantic poetry reading and live music.

Tickets to the 15 February event cost £35 (£5 of which goes to the Hospice) and can be booked via the Lion Hotel on 01743 353107.



## Shropshire World Heritage Site beats India's Taj Mahal in international poll

The region's Ironbridge Gorge beat off some stiff opposition in a recent poll held by TripAdvisor. In what's described as 'the largest study of its kind ever conducted' - with more than a million traveller feedback forms received - the famous Shropshire visitor attraction was declared the most highly recommended UNESCO World Heritage site in the UK. On an international scale, the Gorge came second behind the Historic Ensemble of the Potala Palace in Lhasa, China, but ahead of the Egyptian Pyramids and India's Taj Mahal.

Delighted with the accolade, Professor Les Sparks, Chairman of the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site Steering Group, said, "This is a worthy tribute to the warm reception visitors receive from local businesses and residents of the Ironbridge Gorge, which complements the exceptional beauty and history of the area."



## Lichfield Festival appoints new patron

Michael Fabricant, the long-standing Member of Parliament for Lichfield, is to join celebrated conductor Valery Gergiev in the prestigious role of Patron of the Lichfield Festival. Fabricant, who is said to have spoken warmly during debates in the Commons on the great value of the event, said of his new role: "I am honoured to have been asked to be Patron of the Festival. It is already one of the country's leading arts festivals, with a varied programme. My goal will be to help expand its already wide reach, both geographically and in relation to the audience it attracts. The festival is a huge success for Staffordshire and the West Midlands. With Lichfield already expanding its hotel facilities, I want to help make the festival a must-attend venue for London and other concert-goers too." This year's event takes place from 4 to 14 July.



**“** I feel the most challenging role is the one I'm about to undertake, but ultimately it's all about getting into the right place in your head. **”**

# Tara Fitzgerald

talks about her debut performance with the RSC...



**With a long and distinguished theatrical career behind her, not to mention plenty of high-profile film and television work, it's maybe surprising that Tara Fitzgerald has never performed with the Royal Shakespeare Company. The *Waking The Dead* star is filling that significant gap in her CV this year, however, by starring as Hermione in a new Stratford production of *The Winter's Tale*. What's On caught up with her to find out more..**

**You're about to make your RSC debut; what does working with the company mean to you on a personal level?**

Since my childhood it's always had a special place in my heart and I've always held the RSC in very high esteem. My stepfather, who's no longer alive and who pretty much brought me up, was a Shakespeare artist at the RSC. So as a child I was sort of surrounded by news of the company and the productions with which he was involved. Then there were the actors with whom he was friends and who'd come over for Sunday lunch at our house. There was always a sort of magic.

**Obviously you've been an established actor for quite a while; why has it taken you so long to perform with the RSC?**

I don't know, it's just how it's panned out. I guess it just hasn't been the right time before, but this is all very exciting. And it's great to be working with Lucy Bailey, who I think is a really innovative and strong director. She's very clear with her vision and very modern.

**So how does Lucy's *Winter's Tale* differ from previous versions?**

I'm not sure, as I've never seen *The Winter's Tale* performed on stage, so I don't have any previous ideas about how it should be. I knew the play a little because it's a bit of a set text at drama school and I'd read it then. I came back to it recently, and when this came up by coincidence, I decided I really wanted to have a crack at Hermione.

**John Boden is providing the musical compositions. Have you heard any of them?**

To my shame, I hadn't heard of him before. That says quite a lot about me, doesn't it? Where have I been? In the cultural wilderness, I think. I'm in the Sicilia section of the play, and John's work is primarily focused in the Bohemia section, so as I'm not performing, I get to watch the others. There's some lovely work, and the music is really beautiful. It's traditional with a twist.

**Was becoming an actor something to which you'd always aspired?**

Yes, pretty much. As a child I did, because it was something I was surrounded by. My great aunt was an actress. My mother's side of the family geared towards traditionalist acting, and theatre in general, and my aunty was a director. There've been a lot of strong women in our family who've gone into the business.

**Do you see yourself as a strong character?**

No, I don't think that I do. I think it's usually something that other people attribute to you. I don't know if I feel that strong. At the moment I just feel like I'm trying to leave myself open to the work.

**You've got an impressive repertoire under your belt, so you must feel fairly confident about what you're able to achieve?**

No, I wouldn't say that. I don't think it gets any easier. I think there are other things which come into play. Obviously over time you get to know a lot of people, or a lot more people, which gives you some sort of fortitude, but actually - in my experience anyway - every time I come to something new, I feel like I'm starting again. Sometimes I forget I'm in my forties and that I'm one of the older members of the group. I often feel as if I've just come out of drama school.

**What was your first big breakthrough?**

My first ever job! I was in such an unusual position of having just left drama school and going straight into doing a movie, *Hear My Song*. I was getting ready to do public theatre, and in those days getting hold of an Equity card wasn't a given. I just didn't imagine I'd land a plumb role like that. That was an incredible experience, a really special time - everything really came together and everybody had a lovely time. We were filming in Ireland, which has its own sort of magic.

**Has it been an easy ride since then?**

Some of it has and some of it hasn't. Like life, you have to have your ups and downs. I guess the thing about being older is that you recognise you have to have the lay periods in order to have time to do other things, like meeting new people and going travelling. In the past, when I've just worked constantly, my perspective has become quite narrow. I need to be able to go out and bring things back to what I'm doing. I think the more I go on, the more I realise the key is managing your time when you're not working, and keeping your head together during those periods, which can be a challenge.

**As you've got older, has your criteria for accepting roles changed?**

No, it hasn't. I know in my waters if something is a good thing to do. It's normally dependent on the same factors, mainly the director and the quality of the writing.

**You alternate between stage and screen. Which do you ultimately prefer?**

They're challenging in different ways. To me, they're very different disciplines. Filming is about small bursts of intense focus and then a lot of waiting around, keeping yourself ready and being able to get back to the place where you were. You're not so much in command of what you're doing, and it can be dependent on so many other variable conditions. Then there's the after-process, the post-production, which can change things radically. With theatre, it's up to you, and you're responsible in a different way. Filming is quite isolating and you're pretty much on your own. You're often in your own little box - you come out and do some work,

and then you go back and sit in your little box again. Theatre's much more about the company, obviously; about being part of that and about being responsible to that company and to the moment. You get a very particular buzz performing to a live audience, so I guess it has to be theatre.

**You've worked in classical and contemporary theatre - are different disciplines required for each?**

For me, no. Every piece of work throws up its own problems. It can be about discovering the style, how far you can go with the performance, and whether it's naturalistic or not. I suppose in that regard they can be different, but it's so important to create the world for yourself, which with filming you don't. It's all laid out for you on set, whereas in theatre you have to create it.

**What's been the most challenging role you've undertaken?**

I feel the most challenging role is the one I'm about to undertake, but ultimately it's all about getting into the right place in your head.

**You had to deal with some fairly gruesome scenes when filming *Waking The Dead* and *The Body Farm*. Was that quite challenging?**

No, I really like all that. I like the gore, but I don't like watching it back, hence I couldn't watch a lot of *Waking The Dead*. I can't handle it. For some reason, being in it and working with it is easier for me. I quite like getting my hands dirty, getting stuck into things and learning new things. One of my favourite aspects of the work I do is the research; and that's why I like theatre, because you have a period of discovery in rehearsal.

**What new skills did you have to learn for those two series?**

Obviously I didn't have to learn anything properly - I didn't ever forget that I wasn't actually a forensic pathologist! I wouldn't make that mistake, but I learned stuff about entomology. Before the series, I didn't really know anything about insects, gestation of life and all those sort of things, but I had brilliant help from the people around me. I needed to feel like I did know what I was talking about in order to make it credible. My partner says actors have very wide knowledge but very little depth; a bit like a little puddle. I'm a little puddle, I think, in terms of my knowledge of things.

***Waking The Dead* was primetime TV. Do you regard it as the highlight of your career to date?**

It was one of them, certainly. I loved working with that group of people and we had a really good time. I found it very inspiring and exciting. It really challenged me in lots of ways.

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**What's been the lowest point of your career?**

I don't think I know my actual lowest point, but there was a period of about eighteen months in my thirties where I didn't work; that was difficult.

**Is the security of the profession something you worry about?**

It's a brilliant job but also a funny job. You don't necessarily progress in the way you might do in a normal company, where you work your way up the ranks. It doesn't work that way in this business; things fluctuate all the time and something can happen overnight. That's all part of the allure, of course - the fact that your life can change on a dime.

**Do you measure your success by the roles you're offered?**

Yes, to a certain extent. I recently went to see a brilliant panto with these really good actors in it - I mean really, really good. They were making such bold choices, and it was funny, it was adult and it was so committed. They were all doing such brilliant work, and it made me realise just how lucky I am, because I'm no more talented than those actors. Luck also has a lot to do with it.

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

To make it cheaper, which in turn would make it accessible to more people. I think people and companies are making efforts to do that, but it suffers from being so rarified. It really doesn't have to be, though, because there's something for everybody. There's

such good theatre in this country.

**Do you think theatre is, in some respects, still elitist?**

I think some people are still slightly in awe of it, and some people may be a little afraid of it. The reaction you get from some people in relation to Shakespeare, for instance, is that they don't understand it, and that breeds fear.

**So should more companies look to simplify Shakespeare's text in a bid to make it more accessible?**

I don't think you have to simplify the text as long as it's presented with clarity and commitment. That's certainly something we're working towards with *The Winter's Tale*, and something we're hoping to achieve.

**Has Hollywood ever beckoned?**

I went over there for a couple of things in my twenties but it didn't work out. I think you find where you're comfortable as you get older, and I've always been more drawn to European films, although I do admire American filmmaking enormously. I admire their hands-on approach and their openness. Everyone has an opportunity. It's very much, "If you want to have a go, then have a go, and if it's any good, we'll get behind you". I think it's harder in this country, because it's more hierarchical. English is my only language, and although I've been drawn to Europe, I haven't worked there, as I don't know any other languages. I can't put my finger on it, but there's something that makes European films a lot

more interesting. Also, the way in which women in the industry are treated is much better. In France, Spain and Italy, actresses are really admired, and there are still parts for older women that aren't just playing mums. It's a cliché but it's true.

**If you had to switch careers, what would you choose to do?**

I've always been interested in architecture, which would be a very different career route and involve many years of study.

**Is it an interest which spills over into your spare time?**

I love going to cities and exploring architecture. I don't know if architects and actors are of the same ilk, but there's something about leaving something indelible; leaving your mark. Obviously a building is there for as long as it can stand, and actors' performances can travel through time like that too.

**Looking back over the past twenty years, is there anything you wish you'd done differently?**

If I'd changed one thing it would then have impacted on a whole chain of events, which would have meant a different life, and I've liked my life. I'm glad I'm living this life. So no, I wouldn't change a thing.

Tara Fitzgerald appears in *The Winter's Tale* at **The Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon** until Sat 23 February; **Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent**, Tues 16 to Sat 20 April





# Harry Hill

back on tour and grappling with a giant sausage...



**In his brand new show, Sausage Time Live, which is coming to a theatre near you very soon, the daft, floppy-collared Harry Hill dazzles on every level. For instance, the show pledges to offer absolute proof that God exists, provides a section exclusively for Tongans, furnishes audiences with a summary of Harry's nan's latest ailments, showcases the legendary Stouffer the Cat and proffers a debut solo stand-up spot to Gary, Harry's son from his first marriage and best known for his role as Alan Sugar in Harry Hill's TV Burp...**

During the course of this captivating show, we're also promised performances by the show band, The Harrys, expert whistler-of-chart-hits grandson Sam, and an all-singing, all-dancing finale.

Oh, and a giant sausage. What's not to like? The critics have already been queueing up to lavish praise on Harry's show. Dominic Cavendish in The Daily Telegraph writes that, "Hill constructs a world of his own crazed invention. The effect is like being repeatedly tickled: he wears you down until you're giggling like a merry idiot." Mike Ward in the Daily Star goes for a more simple assessment: "The man oozes genius." So what other delights might we expect in Sausage Time Live, Harry's first stand-up show since Hooves in 2007? One thing we should anticipate above all else is a wonderful sense of silliness.

Sporting his trademark look of gleaming bald pate, thick spectacles, big-collared white shirt and dark suit, complete with a top pocket stuffed with pens and lapels lined with badges, Harry is tucking into a quiche and salad at a south London arts centre in the run-up to the tour. Crackling with charisma, he is a rare example of a comedian who's just as charming and funny offstage as he is on it. An hour in his presence simply flies by.

Harry, whose TV Burp on ITV1 has been described by Peter Kay as "the only thing on TV that actually makes me laugh out loud", begins by declaring that "there's never a serious agenda to my comedy. I use a lot of slapstick and a lot of silly wordplay and puns. The show doesn't have an overall theme. It's just a load of silly stuff."

The comedian has been doing lots of warm-up shows and has relished the experience of performing live once again. "I've loved it," he says. "It gives you such a buzz. Hearing laughter is such an exciting feeling. Stand-up offers you freedom. When you do a TV show, there's a very long time between writing a joke and getting a laugh. You have to write a script, have meetings, explain to the producer why it's funny and shouldn't be cut, and explain to the prop maker what the prop should look like. Then you turn up and the prop is wrong. The new prop turns up just ten minutes before filming, but even though it gets a laugh, the producer still wants to cut it. It's such a laborious process."

"On the other hand, stand-up is so immediate. You can have an idea in the morning and get a laugh for it in the evening. No one else can tell you what to do, apart from the audience. The audience is the ultimate arbiter."

The comedian, who gave up his career as a doctor to concentrate on stand-up two decades ago, expands on the natural high that performing live comedy gives him. "At its best, stand-up is like a car race. You're driving along and accelerating as the audience is laughing. It gets to the point where you're on such a roll that almost

anything you say is funny. You're not even thinking about it. It's just automatic.

"It's like you're constantly changing up a gear. You can even stop suddenly and then speed off again. It's like you're driving the audience. It's an amazing feeling of power. You can understand why some performers go off the rails!

"For that period when you're on stage, everything else has gone and you're completely living in the moment. That's what you're aiming for in life, to be absolutely in the moment. You're not worried about the future or the past. It's quite difficult to achieve. It's the same effect as meditation or Class A drugs probably!"

Touring with Sausage Time Live represents a return to his roots for Harry. "Stand-up is what I've always wanted to do. It's what I gave up medicine to do all those years ago. It's the bedrock of everything I do."

The comedian, who's won multiple BAFTA and British Comedy Awards, goes on to reveal one of the major ideas that will run through Sausage Time Live.

"I have a whole shtick about Broken Britain. It's a mickey-take of Middle England paranoia. I pick on someone in the audience and accuse them of putting their rubbish in their neighbour's wheelie bin. I get really angry about it.

"Then I accuse someone else of throwing away a coffee cup without disposing of the grounds first. I extrapolate the consequences of their actions, which are that a baby ends up on a ventilator. By the end of the show, I've completely lost my rag!

"We're paranoid about this country falling apart because it is, but there's nothing we can do about it. It's finally caught up with us. I'm not saying why. I'm just taking the mickey out of that overreaction. I get furious with the audience for their misdemeanours because there is something really funny about people getting angry over something so trivial. "We're obsessed with dividing up our rubbish and putting it in different bags. That's so annoying. In one local borough, they distribute plastic bags for you to put your recycled rubbish into. Any system that relies on plastic bags for recycling is obviously flawed."

The comic, who's married with three daughters, explains why he's been away from stand-up for so long. "TV Burp took up so much of my time. I wanted to tour, but I couldn't do it to my family. Even when I was at home, I was having to watch TV all the time and was mentally somewhere else. Eventually with TV Burp, I felt we were getting disinterested, which is the kiss of death. It was a great stress watching TV for hours and hours each week. You can do that for six weeks, but not for weeks on end.

"Also over an eleven-year period, we felt we'd done all the jokes we could do about every single show. How many more jokes are there to make about EastEnders? And by the end, pseudo-documentaries like The Only Way Is

Essex were doing the jokes for us."

So Harry decided to quit while he was ahead. "I thought, 'We'd better get out now'. By then, no amount of money could have persuaded me to stay. On our final show, we had a knitted character, Wagbo, and Heather's death on EastEnders, which was a complete gift for us. I thought, 'It won't get any better than this'.

"At the end of that last show, all the production team were crying, but I went back to my dressing room and felt like a weight had been lifted. The closest equivalent was when I gave up medicine. When I drove out of Ashford Hospital for the last time, I had this great feeling of euphoria. I still feel that I'm not missing TV Burp in the slightest."

He admits that some audience members come along to Sausage Time Live thinking it's going to be TV Burp Live. "But it's not. I wouldn't give in to that pressure. It's a slippery slope when you start giving people what you think they want. You end up popular and wealthy, and we wouldn't want that!"

Harry closes by underlining how much he's revelling in being back on the live stage. "I love it, and the audiences so far seem to be loving it, too. They particularly love slapstick. It's in our DNA. It's a childlike thing. Why do people enjoy You've Been Framed when it's really the same thing every week?"

"I've done it for a long time now, and I think it's funnier now I'm older. It's more incongruous and humiliating. The older you are, and the higher your status, the less likely you are to be rolling around on the floor with a giant sausage!"

But you can't wait to see that!

## Did you know?

- Harry's real name is Matthew Hall, but he changed it to Harry Hill because he thought it sounded more "showbiz".
- Although Harry was born in Surrey, he spent the majority of his childhood in Hong Kong.
- Despite quitting the medical profession in 1990, Harry is still a registered surgeon.
- Harry's TV Burp has previously won two British Comedy Awards and a BAFTA.
- Whilst doing his new stand-up tour, Harry is also developing The X Factor Musical alongside Simon Cowell, which is set to tour at the end of the year.

Harry Hill performs at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 13 to Thurs 14 February; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Tues 26 - Wed 27 February



**“** I just adore all the ridiculous clothes I get to wear. Talk about mutton dressed as lamb! There's a side of me which really loves that. **”**

# Sheila Reid

Benidorm actress enthuses about her latest role...

**Best known for playing the sharp-tongued Madge Harvey in ITV's hugely successful comedy-drama series Benidorm, Scottish-born actress Sheila Reid this month makes her way to the Midlands, joining Julian Glover and Nichola McAuliffe in Nichola's critically acclaimed drama Maurice's Jubilee. What's On recently caught up with her to discuss her new role - and to find out about her experience of playing opposite the legendary Laurence Olivier!**

**You're about to star as Helena in Maurice's Jubilee. What was it about the character that first attracted you to the role?**

Helena's got so many layers to her. She reveals so many different emotions and there's the potential for lots of development. She's funny, sad, tender and loving, but she's also a strong woman who's had to deal with a lot of disappointment in her life. I suppose she's a bit like a diamond - there are so many different facets to her. When I read the script she just leapt off the page at me.

**You've said she's a multi-faceted character. Is there anything about the role**

**that you've found particularly challenging?**

Yes, she has a great moment, a moment of truth, where she has to dig really deeply into herself. It sounds a bit poncey, doesn't it, but it's not; it's true. She has to find forgiveness, and it's quite a tough journey. She's also in denial about her husband's illness, and it's quite hard to portray characters who are having to put a lot of stuff on top, to make people believe that they're different. On the surface she's great, a real social butterfly who can talk the hind leg off a donkey. She's quite bright and light, but underneath there are great chasms of feelings and depth. That's the challenge, really - to find those

areas; but the discovery is what I've really enjoyed the most - and I'm still discovering.

**Do you see the role evolving the more you perform it?**

Yes I do, and what's interesting - because we did it at the Edinburgh Festival, which was a great success - is that it's a lovely role to revisit. That's always the mark of good writing - if, when you come back to a play, you discover more in it, and that's exactly what we've done. Helena's character has been expanded since we played Edinburgh, because in Edinburgh you only have ninety minutes. The turnover is so tremendous and



it's completely frantic. There's a different show every ninety minutes; that's all you've got and then you have to be out. So in this lovely tour we're doing, there's room for expansion, and room to shake our shoulders and let it breathe more.

**You're performing alongside Julian Glover, who you've worked with before. What was your reaction when you realised you'd be reunited in this production?**

He's completely gorgeous and brilliant. I couldn't be more pleased. I really think he's a hugely fine actor, and we're really lucky to have him on board.

**Has it made it easier performing alongside someone you've worked with previously?**

Of course. It's lovely, and we know each other as friends too, which is also lovely. The three of us are ridiculously close, so it's absolutely gorgeous. I knew Nichola vaguely before, but we'd never worked together. I'd seen her work and admired it from afar, but now the three of us are just like peas in a pod and very happy working together. This play really requires a certain kind of intimacy and trust and generosity and spirit. It just beams out from both of them, and it's a real delight.

**Do you imagine playing Helena night in, night out will be an emotionally draining experience?**

Yes, I think it will be. It's something I'm slightly nervous about because we've got a lot of matinees as well as evening performances, which we didn't have in Edinburgh. But we'll have the mornings to recover, when I can leap up, do my yoga and get set again. I do think energy breeds energy; the more you do, the more you're able to do. Well, I'm certainly hoping that proves to be the case, anyway!

**You've mentioned yoga. Do you have a pre-performance routine?**

Yes I do, but it doesn't involve yoga - I just do that in the morning. Before a show I concentrate on vocal exercises. A lot of the venues we're playing are quite large and this is a very intimate play; it can be quite challenging to find a vocal balance that allows you to reach the back of the stalls yet at the same time retain the intimacy between the three of us.

**You're well known for playing the domineering Madge in Benidorm. How much influence did you have in terms of the creation of that character?**

The writing dictates the direction you go. It's inevitable, because that's the material that you're working with. With Madge, as with Helena, I had to discover the person behind the lines - why she says the things that she does, and what makes her behave in the way that she behaves. As with Helena, Madge has had a pretty tough time, what with all her horrible husbands and the deaths of those husbands, and having seven girls, six of whom have deserted her. It may not be entirely their fault, because I have to admit she doesn't have the most attractive qualities, but she's a survivor, isn't she? She's had it tough and that's what she is.

**What do you think is her least endearing quality?**

How long have you got? I think she's a bit

mean pinching her grandson's money. She's always nicking his money, and going off and having her nails done.

**You must have so much fun filming it...**

We have huge, huge fun. We really do. Madge is a wonderful character and it's a lovely cast as well.

**On the flipside, have you ever worried playing a character like Madge might have a negative effect on the type of roles you're offered?**

Yeah, and I think that in certain instances it's probably been to my detriment. People think, "Oh we'd better not put her in that serious play because people might just see her as Madge and not believe in her as a different character". I'm hoping that my role in the Christmas special of Call The Midwife - which was a wonderful part, and one which received a really positive reaction - might hit that problem on the head. But playing Madge has led to something good as well, in that I've been chosen to play wonderful characters in Channel Four's Psychobitches. What a challenge I've been given there!

**In Psychobitches you're working alongside very well-known comedians such as Katherine Tate and Katy Brand...**

Yeah, I know - and I'm not a comic, so that's another taboo broken, which is lovely.

**You say you're not a comic, but there's a comedic side to Madge which is very entertaining...**

Yeah, she does have that, but she's still in a drama. It's not like getting up and doing your own stuff, like Katy Brand and a lot of the actresses in Psychobitches. They all come from that kind of stable. Then again, there are others who don't - like Samantha Spiro, for instance.

**So has Psychobitches been a learning curve?**

Most definitely. I've been so lucky with the characters I've been given in the show. I actually met Mother Theresa, so I knew what she was like. I also had to do Margot Fonteyn, and I always wanted to be a ballet dancer, so that's another good thing there. Then there was Betty Ford, who enjoys a glass or two, and I've been known to enjoy a glass in my past. You can always search into your own murky background and find clues.

**You say you have an association with those characters, so did you have a say in terms of who you played?**

Absolutely not. I was just thrilled to bits that I was thought of.

**What was your most memorable moment filming Psychobitches?**

I think it was probably trying to dance as an eighty-year-old Margot Fonteyn, whose limbs had lost a lot of their elasticity!

**Were there many re-takes?**

Quite a few!

**You have a very long and successful career behind you. What's been the key to that success?**

Tenacity, hard work, the love of it, loving the process of discovering different characters, how they tick and why they behave as they

do; the company of other actors and enjoying going to work more than not going to work; being optimistic and hopeful and looking forward. I feel very lucky to have a job I want to get up for every morning.

**What's your fondest moment of life in the theatre?**

Possibly playing opposite Laurence Olivier in a play in which I had to kneel down and grasp him around the knees because I was in love with him. My wig got caught in his watch chain, and in trying to extricate myself - well, you can imagine what it looked like...

**If you were asked to offer advice to someone entering the profession, what would it be?**

Just to learn to accept rejection, because you'll get a lot of that, but to keep your face and spirit alive. Also to look outwards, not inwards. It's interesting, really, because the more you look out, the more you will be seen, the more ammunition you have to work with. I think that's important. So be interested in other people and other things, everything around you.

**Looking back on your career, is there anything you'd have done differently?**

I'm very bad at networking and I think if you really want to get to the top, you have to be good at pushing yourself and being seen in the right places. I don't think I'm good at that. I think it's because I come from a Presbyterian-Scottish background; I tend to let things just happen, as opposed to making them happen. I think maybe you need to be more proactive than I've been.

**Back to Madge - are there any plans for another series of Benidorm?**

There are, yes. We go out at the end of March, and we'll be there for April, May and June. So I'll be back in another bathing suit and the bright orange make-up, but having the time of my life.

**It must be fun getting ready for that?**

I just adore all the ridiculous clothes I get to wear. Talk about mutton dressed as lamb! There's a side of me which really loves that. The awful thing is, at the end of the shoot, they say, "Do you want any of your clothes?", and I think, "Oh, well I might have that...", and when I get home, after being in London for two weeks, I think to myself, "What am I doing?", and they all end up going to the charity shop!

**Have you ever been tempted to use any of Madge's traits in your personal life?**

Well, she says what she thinks, and, again, in my own personal upbringing, we were always told to think really hard before saying anything, to the point that you'd be so busy thinking, you'd forget what you were going to say in the first place. But her honesty is refreshing, even though I think it could be tempered with perhaps a little more gentleness.

Sheila Reid appears in Maurice's Jubilee which shows at the **New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham** from Mon 5 to Sat 9 March and **Malvern Theatre** from Mon 11 to Sat 16 March

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# What's on HIGHLIGHTS

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## Rock, Pop & Entertainment



### Anton and Erin Go To Hollywood

Saturday 2 February  
7.30pm  
& Sunday 3 March  
3pm  
Symphony Hall  
£18.50 - £39.50\*

## Jazz, Folk, World & Roots



### Richard Thompson

Thursday 21 February  
7.30pm  
Symphony Hall  
£24.50, £27.50\*



### The Osmonds and Gareth Gates in Boogie Nights in Concert

Saturday 9 February  
7.30pm  
Symphony Hall  
£29.50 - £35.50\*



### Brad Mehldau and Kevin Hays Part of Jazzlines

Thursday 21 February  
7.30pm  
Town Hall  
£19.50\*

## Classical



CLASSIC ROMANCE

### Classic Romance

Friday 15 February  
7.30pm  
Symphony Hall  
£12.50 - £36.50\*



### The Lock In

Friday 1 March  
7.30pm  
Town Hall  
£16.50\*  
£10\* for groups of 10+

## Family



### Michaela Strachan's Really Wild Adventures

Sunday 17 February  
3pm  
Town Hall  
£12\*

## Spoken Word



### Kenton Cool: Everest

Monday 25 February  
7.30pm  
Town Hall  
£15\*

\*£2.50 fee per transaction will be charged on all bookings except purchases made in person at Town Hall or Symphony Hall Box office

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# Music

## Paloma Faith

Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, Sat 2 February

Kicking off 2013 with jazz legend Jools Holland on his Hootenanny New Year show, the highly original Paloma is keeping the momentum going courtesy of an eleven-date UK tour. A former Agent Provocateur sales assistant, Paloma released debut album *Do You Want The Truth Or Something Beautiful* in 2009, and followed up last year with *Fall To Grace*.



## Frightened Rabbit

HMV Institute, Birmingham Sat 9 February;  
The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 18 February

Formed in Selkirk but resident in Glasgow for the last eight years, this Scottish indie folk act was formed by lead singer Scott Hutchinson, the primary lyricist on all five of the group's previous releases. New album *Pedestrian Verse* is the first to have been written by the rest of the band, a fact which Hutchinson says has "done nothing but benefit the new songs". Making the quirky decision when they started out to send biscuits with EP orders, they are here supported by Wintersleep and Washington Irving.



## Sam Gray

Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, Sun 24 February

Living proof that you can never have *Too Much Of A Good Thing* (the title of his soon-to-be-released debut album), Sam Gray is a soulful solo singer who hails from Hull. Starting out by writing songs for Hollyoaks actress Abi Phillips, he embarked on a solo career in 2010, touring with The Overtones, East 17 and Westlife, along with his own three-piece band. Now on tour with Peter Andre after a stint touring Caffe Nero as their Artist of the Month in 2011, the Motown-inspired singer is here supported by Jack The Lad.



## Rita Ora

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Sat 9 February

A relative unknown this time last year, Kosovo-born singer Rita Ora released her debut number one album in August 2012. Spawning three number one singles - *Hot Right Now*, *How We Do (Party)* and *RIP* (the song that gave her career a spectacular kick-start) - the native Londoner found fame overnight thanks to the help of an A&R. Seeing her perform in a London bar, the A&R told Roc Nation about her and within days she was on a flight to New York to meet Jay Z. Iggy Azalea supports.



## Girls Aloud

LG Arena, Birmingham, Tues 26 - Wed 27 February

Regrouping after plenty of speculation, Girls Aloud's reunion is the most hotly anticipated since that of the Spice Girls. Having kicked off last November with *Something New*, the official single for *Children In Need*, and the release of a greatest hits album, the fabulous five are certainly celebrating ten years of musicmaking in style. Speaking of their success in her biography, Cheryl said, "We've achieved more than any of us ever dared to dream of". They perform in Birmingham as part of a twelve-date UK tour.





**FRIGHTENED RABBIT**  
Saturday 9 February



**RYAN LESLIE**  
WITH FULL LIVE BAND  
Saturday 9 February



**GENERAL FIASCO**  
+ THE ANTICS  
Saturday 9 February



**EVERYTHING**  
**EVERYTHING**  
Tuesday 12 February



**AWOLNATION + ITCH**  
Wednesday 13 February



**VILLAGERS**  
Thursday 14 February



**SWIM DEEP**  
Friday 15 February



**MATT SHEEHAN**  
Saturday 16 February



**PURE LOVE**  
Friday 22 February



**ANDY BURROWS**  
Saturday 23 February



**ANGEL HAZE**  
Monday 25 February



**WALK THE MOON**  
Tuesday 26 February



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Tuesday 26 Feb  
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## 2013 HIGHLIGHTS

### COMEDY

Friday 1 February, 8.00pm

#### #HashTagFunny

10 local comics battle it out to win a cash prize of £100 and a stepping stone to stardom. £5



### BURLESQUE

Saturday 9 February, 8.00pm

#### Ruby Maihem Burlesque

Some of the Midlands finest Burlesque artists perform at a special Valentine's themed show  
£8 advanced, £10 on the door



### COMEDY

Friday 15 February, 8.00pm

#### Shazia Mirza - Cuckooland!

Hilarious brand new show from the internationally acclaimed award winning stand-up comedian.  
£12 advanced, £15 on the door



### THEATRE

Thursday 21 February, 2.30pm

#### Little Red...You Know Who

By Freehand Theatre

A spellbinding play for young children following a magical path through the woods. (suitable for ages 3-7 years)  
£7 children, £8 adults,  
£18 family ticket for 3 people (1 adult and 2 children) or £24 family ticket for 4 people (2 adults, 2 children)



### COMEDY

Friday 1 March, 8.00pm

#### Sit Down, Stand Up

#### Headlined by Alun Cochrane

New regular comedy night in association with Avalon Comedy Network.  
£10 advanced, £12 on the door



### COMEDY

Wednesday 17 April, 8.00pm

#### Lucy Porter - People Person

Brand new show based around a fascinating true story with a stunning twist in the tale  
£12 advanced, £14 on the door



### COMEDY

Saturday 18 May, 8.00pm

#### Robin Ince - The Importance of Being Interested

The award winning comedian and science enthusiast takes a comic look at his favourite scientists!  
£12 advanced, £14 on the door



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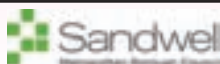


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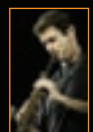
Fri - STRAY DOG  
Sat - KNOXVILLE HIGHWAY

Tickets: £2 before 6pm / £3 After 6 on the door / £2 all day advanced tickets

Mon 11th Feb, 8.30pm

WADE STREET CHURCH HALL

#### Tommaso Starace Quintet

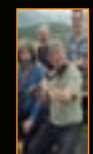


Tickets: £12/£11 concs / £10 members/£7 students

Wed 13th Feb, 8.30pm

WADE STREET CHURCH HALL

#### Tannahill Weavers



Tickets: £12/£11 concs / £10 members/£7 students

Sun 17th Feb, 8.00pm

#### Dervish



Tickets: £15/£14 concs / £13 members/£9 students

Fri 22nd Feb, 8.30pm

#### King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys



Tickets: £15/£14 concs / £14 members/£9 students

Sun 24th Feb, 8.00pm

#### The Old Dance School



Tickets: £14/£13 concs / £12 members/£8 students

Tickets: £14/£13 concs / £12 members/£8 students

### MARCH

Sat 9th Mar, 8.00pm

#### The Matt Schofield Band



Tickets: £15/£14 concs / £13 members/ £9 students

Sun 10th Mar, 8.30pm

#### Chris Newman & Máire Ní Chathasaigh

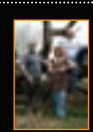


Tickets: £12/£11 concs / £10 members/ £7 students

Wed 13th Mar, 8.30pm

WADE STREET CHURCH HALL

#### Chase Mist



Tickets: £12/£11 concs / £10 members/£7 students

Tickets: £12/£11 concs / £10 members/£7 students

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## Funeral For A Friend

The Sugarmill, Sun 17 February; Asylum, Birmingham, Tues 19 February

This year is already shaping up to be the most exciting yet for these Welsh alt metal rockers. With a huge twenty-three-date tour keeping them busy until April, the band has also released a brand new album entitled *Conduit*, the first to feature new drummer Pat Lundy of Rise To Remain fame. Support comes from Such Gold, I Divide and Day-trader.



## Flossie Malavialle

Stafford Gatehouse, Fri 15 February

Originally from Nimes in France, Fairport Convention collaborator Flossie became involved in the growing British folk scene in 2001, during a teachers' exchange in Stockton-on-Tees. Accustomed to singing in public, she turned up at a Darlington folk club one evening and got to know the locals. Her nine albums to date have ably illustrated the versatility of her voice, which seems every bit as capable of performing Piaf and Brel classics as it does folk, jazz and blues numbers.



## Sadie And The Hotheads

Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham, Fri 8 February

If the name doesn't ring any bells, then here's one that will: Lady Cora Crawley. Elizabeth McGovern's success in the ITV drama *Downton Abbey* has shone a light on the actress's musical talent, including her hugely impressive voice, which manages to be both husky and fragile. The band was born when Elizabeth took guitar lessons and was encouraged to write her own songs by her teacher. They released their second album, *How Not To Lose Things*, last year.



## Plan B

LG Arena, Birmingham, Fri 8 February

Plan B, aka Ben Drew, is not just a rapper and singer-songwriter, he's a successful actor too, having had roles in *Adulthood*, *Harry Brown*, *4.3.2.1.* and *The Sweeney*. Following the release of the movie *Ill Manors*, the soundtrack to which he also wrote and produced, he's now bringing his *Ill Manors* tour to eleven UK arenas before taking some time out later this year. Support comes from Labrinth and Rudimental.

## Pure Love

HMV Institute, Birmingham, Fri 22 February

Following the recent release of debut album *Anthems*, former Gallows frontman Frank Carter and ex-Hope Conspiracy and Suicide File guitarist Jim Carroll this month celebrate the first anniversary of their first ever gig. Speaking about the new album, Carter said: "We want to put it all out there, blood, sweat and tears. But we also want to have a lot of fun. The intention is to write honest rock songs that are about love and death and sex." Support comes from The Vestals and Turbo-geist.



## Dervish

Lichfield Guildhall, Sun 17 February

Confirmed to be working on the music for ITV series *James Nesbit's Ireland*, County Sligo's finest exports will be touring both the UK and US this year with a new show based on the theme of collaboration in Irish traditional music. The colourful production brings the spirit of an Irish jam session and village festival to the stage for the first time, and will feature many well-known guests. Expect to hear a sneak preview of their new album at this gig, which they spent much of last year recording with trad legend Mike McGoldrick.

## Katherine Priddy

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Thurs 28 February

Folk music and fairy stories have been the building blocks upon which hugely talented weaver-of-dreams Katherine Priddy has built both her sound and her career. A finalist in the *NextBritThing* competition, Katherine has developed a style all her own (with generous nods in the direction of such legendary heavyweights as Nick Drake and John Martyn), her haunting melodies recounting ethereal tales with which she routinely holds her audience in her thrall. Winner of the best newcomer gong at the *Radio Two Folk Awards* in 2012, she plays *The Hive* as part of the *Shrewsbury Folk Festival*.

## Yiddish Twist Orchestra

mac, Birmingham, Thurs 21 February

Europe's retro king Natty Bo leads the all-star Yiddish Twist Orchestra in a homage to the deliriously danceable music of 'der shvitz' - which crossed the Atlantic from 1950s London in the diluted-down form of the Twist. Beatnik founder Willy Bergma was the man behind the dance - which has been described as 'an hallucinating mix of surf rock guitar, West Indian calypso, mambo, skiffle and Jewish folk melodies' - and is here saluted by a band who're highly regarded for their bold and brassy musical fusions.





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<b>FRI 1 FEB</b> <b>AND FINALLY...</b> The ultimate tribute to <i>Phil Collins</i>	<b>SAT 16 FEB</b> FEAT <b>NICK DAGGER</b> <b>THE COUNTERFEIT STONES</b> + SUPPORT THORADAGOR
<b>SAT 2 FEB</b> <b>DEEP PURPLE</b> <b>FAMILY TREE</b> WHITESNAKE UH RAINBOW RISING PURE PURPLE	<b>SUN 17 FEB</b> <b>PETE KENT</b> + SUPPORT <b>ALEX VANN</b>
<b>SUN 3 FEB</b> FROM THE USA, BACK WITH HIS SLIDE GUITAR <b>KELLY JOE PHELPS</b> + SUPPORT DAN WHITEHOUSE	<b>TUE 19 FEB</b> <b>THE SAM DRAISEY SESSIONS</b> A free evening of quality acoustic music from around the Midlands, including open mic slots
<b>WED 6 FEB</b> THE GERMAN BONAMASSAI <b>HENRIK FREISCHLADER BAND</b>	<b>WED 20 FEB</b> Award-winning acoustic guitarist multi- instrumentalist often referred to as the 'Yamaha of acoustic guitar' ALL SEATED SHOW <b>ANTONIO FORCIONE</b> + support
<b>THU 7 FEB</b> <b>SPIRIT OF SMOKIE</b> LIVING NEXT DOOR TO ALICE - IF YOU THINK YOU KNOW HOW TO LOVE ME NEEDLES & PINS - OH CAROL - I'LL NEED YOU AT MOMENT - DON'T PLAY YOUR ROCK N ROLL TO ME...	<b>THU 21 FEB</b> <b>The Producers</b> + SUPPORT THE BLUE ROAD
<b>FRI 8 FEB</b> <b>SIMPLE MINDS</b> On stage 8.45pm 'til late Alive and kicking + support The Undercover Police	<b>FRI 22 FEB</b> THE LEGENDARY <b>URIAH HEPP</b> NAIL ON THE HEAD TOUR + SUPPORT VIRGE AND THE ACCELERATOR!
<b>SAT 9 FEB</b> ONE OF THE FINEST UK R&B BANDS LIVE <b>NINE BELOW ZERO</b> + support Weezer Diesel	<b>SAT 23 FEB</b> The world's only official live tribute band dedicated to Marc Bolan & T.Rex <b>T*REXTASY</b> 20th CENTURY BOY TOUR 2013
<b>SUN 10 FEB</b> <b>THE KAST OFF KINKS</b> Featuring long term band members: MIKE BRIDGES - GALE BRIDGES	<b>SUN 24 FEB</b> <b>BR A V A D O</b> a tribute to Rush
<b>THU 14 FEB</b> FROM ZOUK TO <b>COLIN BLUNSTONE</b> WITH HIS FULL BAND + support Dan Greenaway	<b>WED 27 FEB</b> From South Africa, a unique musical experience <b>Mr. Cat &amp; The Jackal</b>
<b>DOUBLE HEADER FRI 15 FEB</b> TRIBUTE TO <b>doors</b> STRANGE DOORS TRIBUTE TO <b>SMALL FAKERS</b>	<b>THU 28 FEB</b> One of the hottest R&B Soul & Funk bands to emerge from the 60's <b>THE PRETTY THINGS</b> with Charles Foster Ward & The Soulmates

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<b>Feb 22</b> <b>June Tabor &amp; Oysterband</b> Buxton Opera House	<b>Feb 23</b> <b>The Red Hot Chili Pipers</b> Buxton Opera House
<b>Feb 24</b> <b>Justin Currie</b> Bromsgrove Artrix	<b>Apr 04</b> <b>Buzzcocks</b> Wolverhampton Slade Rooms
<b>Apr 07</b> <b>Eric Johnson</b> Birmingham Town Hall	<b>Apr 20</b> <b>10cc's Graham Gouldman &amp; Friends</b> Bromsgrove Artrix
<b>Apr 24</b> <b>10cc's Graham Gouldman &amp; Friends</b> Shrewsbury Theatre Severn	<b>May 26</b> <b>Fish (ex Marillion)</b> Bilston Robin 2



## Paul Carrack

Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent,  
Sat 9 February

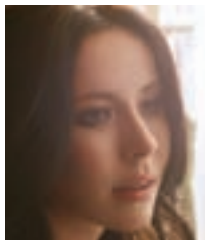
Sheffield-born singer, songwriter and musician Paul Carrack has enjoyed a long and distinguished career, performing in his fair share of bands down the years, including such heavyweights ensembles as Ace, Squeeze, Mike And The Mechanics and Roxy Music. He's also paid his dues as a session and touring musician, and can point to his fair share of solo success too. Oh, and he's no slouch when it comes to songwriting either, with Tom Jones, The Eagles and Jools Holland all having benefitted from his remarkable talent.



## Nerina Pallot

The Glee Club, Birmingham, Sun 17 February

Exquisitely crafted and beautifully sung pop songs are Nerina Pallot's stock-in-trade. The talented singer-songwriter has been nominated for a Brit Award and an Ivor Novello Award during a Kate Bush-inspired career that's included four albums to date and writing credits for artists such as Kylie Minogue and Diana Vickers. Nerina's well known and much admired for her passionate approach not only to life but also her career, which she views as a marathon rather than a sprint; so much so, in fact, that her stated aim is to die on stage at the age of ninety-five while performing her one-woman review show. ...It's always good to have ambition.



## Richard Hawley

The Assembly, Leamington Spa,  
Thurs 21 February

Away from his work as a solo artist, Richard Hawley is best known for his time in the Brit-pop band Longpigs, and for spending some time with his mate Jarvis Cocker in Pulp. As a solo performer, the guitarist and singer-songwriter has released seven albums, the latest of which was last year's *Standing At The Sky's Edge*, a work that's been described as 'channelling elements of psychedelia, space rock and ragas with heavy riffs and raw, visceral guitar solos'. Charting at number three - Richard's highest ever entry - and receiving more than its fair share of praise across the board, the album offered irrefutable evidence, were any to be needed, that Hawley is an artist who's very much at the peak of his powers.



## Kaiser Chiefs

Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, Fri 22 February

Indie pop boys from Leeds, the Kaiser Chiefs' ascent into the public consciousness was rapid indeed, with charismatic front man Ricky Wilson liking to enliven their gigs with a spot of crowd-surfing. On the whole, they give the general impression of not being able to believe their luck - which makes them all the more endearing, of course - while clever lyrics, driving guitars and a knack for a memorable chorus place them very much in the tradition of The Jam. Drummer Nick Hodgson quit the Kaisers in late 2012 to concentrate on other projects, meaning that this latest Midlands gig sees the band entering an exciting new era.

## The Jacksons

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham,  
Tues 26 February

Having rarely performed together over the last three decades, it's hardly surprising that The Jacksons' decision to reunite for a new tour has resulted in plenty of publicity and no shortage of ticket sales. At the height of their success, The Jacksons were, of course, The Jackson Five, with solo-superstar-in-the-making Michael joining Jackie, Jermaine, Marlon and Tito to score numerous worldwide hits with songs such as *I Want You Back*, *ABC*, *The Love You Save* and *I'll Be There*. Peddling a unique brand of soul punk, the brothers continued to enjoy success even after Five became four with Michael's departure, cutting their final album together in 1989. They perform in Birmingham as part of their comeback Unity tour.

## Justin Currie

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sun 24 February

Citing Nick Cave, Crowded House and Mark Lanegan as his major influences, Del Amitri founder member and front man Justin Currie has garnered an impressive reputation as a solo performer, his hauntingly dark urban ballads presenting a winning blend of strong imagery and powerful storytelling. The Scottish singer-songwriter's output is far from prolific, with only two albums recorded since he went solo in the early twenty-first century, but if you're an admirer of loveorn country-tinged pop, Currie's well worth a look when he stops off in the region for this Bromsgrove date.



## Bellowhead

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry,  
Sat 16 February

This eleven-piece group merge folk, jazz, funk, classical and world music influences with a twist of English music hall. Between them, they play more than twenty instruments in a unique mix, and have picked up an impressive seven BBC Radio Two Awards in recognition of their quality. High energy and highly talented, the band are Artists-in-Residence at the Southbank Centre, and last year released fourth album *Broadside* to great acclaim.

## Example

LG Arena, Birmingham, Thurs 28 February

Bringing together alternative hip-hop, electro house, Eurodance, British hip-hop, dubstep, EDM, trance and electronica, singer-songwriter and rapper Example burst into the charts for the first time in 2009, scoring a hit with *Watch The Sun Come Up*, from his album *Won't Go Quietly*. In the years which have followed he's worked hard to achieve a stranglehold on the world of electronica, with arena tours, gigs in Ibiza and plenty of summertime festival appearances ensuring he's never been far from the lime-light. His Midlands concert comes in support of third album *The Evolution Of Man*, and sees Benga making a special guest appearance.





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**Igor Stravinsky**: Sonata for 2 pianos \*\*  
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# Music GIG REVIEWS

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## Caravan

The Robin, Bilston

Emerging from the now-legendary Canterbury music scene, Caravan became a vital part of the late-1960s/early-1970s underground movement. Although real commercial success eluded the group, they've nonetheless succeeded in retaining a considerable following. Gigs these days are infrequent, but this year they're back on the road for a short and well-received UK tour, to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of their classic album *For Girls That Grow Plump In The Night*. Despite four-fifths of the band being under the weather, they appeared to be enjoying themselves at this recent Bilston gig. Original member, singer and guitarist Pye Hastings, whose whimsical choir-boy vocals are integral to the band's sound, had to sing an octave lower on the night, due to the effects of a virus, but the group still managed to deliver a magical set. Comprising a very English mix of folk, classical, jazz, jazz-prog and rock, with a sense of humour never far away, highlights included *L'Auberge de Sanglia/A Hunting We Shall Go*, *Nine Feet Underground*, *In The Land Of Grey And Pink*, and *Golf Girl* - the latter featuring a spoons solo by the superb Geoff Richardson (viola, flute and guitar). Let's just hope that it's not another ten years before Caravan tour again. **David Davies** ■■■■■



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## FRI 1 FEB

GA GA Artrix, Bromsgrove  
ISQ The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire  
HIGH ON FIRE O2 Academy, Birmingham  
ASAF SIRKIS TRIO Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB O2 Academy, Birmingham  
DEAD HARTS, EMPIRES FADE & CANVAS The Asylum, Birmingham  
DETROIT SOUL The Jam House, Birmingham  
AND FINALLY... PHIL COLLINS The Robin 2, Bilston  
IAIN DIXON & MIKE WALKER QUINTET The Barton Arms, Aston, Birmingham  
STRAY DOG (PERFORMING AS PART OF THE LICHFIELD WINTER BEER & WINE FESTIVAL) Lichfield Guildhall  
THE COUNTERFEIT BEATLES Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
DELAMERE, YOUTH & THE REBELLION The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
FIFTEEN ENGLISH POUNDS The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
FRED ZEPPELIN The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
BUDDY HOLLY & THE CRICKETERS: ROCK 'N' ROLL JUKEBOX Swan Theatre, Worcester  
ARE YOU EXPERIENCED Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
LEO TURNER Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

## SAT 2 FEB

THE BE GOOD TANYAS Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
THE SINNERS SERVICE WITH D RAMIREZ The Rainbow, Birmingham  
WOODEN HORSE Artrix, Bromsgrove  
PALOMA FAITH Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
AND FINALLY PHIL COLLINS Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
WALTER SMITH III QUARTET CBSO Centre, Birmingham  
PURE LOVE & GRAND-MASTER FLASH Kasbah, Coventry  
THE 1975 HMV, Birmingham  
APOLLONIA The Rainbow, Birmingham  
DETROIT SOUL The Jam House, Birmingham  
THE DEEP PURPLE FAMILY

TREE FEAT. WHITESNAKE UK, RAINBOW RISING & PURE PURPLE The Robin 2, Bilston  
MIDNIGHT BONFIRES & FRIENDS mac, Birmingham  
THE SOUL SURVIVORS The Place, Oakengates, Telford  
MIDGE URE Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
KNOXVILLE HIGHWAY (PERFORMING AS PART OF THE LICHFIELD WINTER BEER & WINE FESTIVAL) Lichfield Guildhall  
LOCAL WITH THE BEATLES Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
HIGH ON FIRE & SPECIAL GUESTS The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
NEARLY DAN - THE SPIRIT & SOUND OF STEELY DAN Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
BLACK CAT BONE The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
70S V 80S ONE STOP BOOGIE! The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
FOREVER IN BLUE JEANS Swan Theatre, Worcester  
PATSY MATHESON & BECKY MILLS Palace Theatre, Redditch  
HENRY PRIESTMAN Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
HIGH ON FIRE The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
JERICHO HILL, JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE The Ironworks, Oswestry  
TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB O2 Academy, B'ham

## SUN 3 FEB

THE UPBEAT BEATLES Artrix, Bromsgrove  
LEGEND IN JAPAN & DRONES The Asylum, Birmingham  
THE SOLDIERS Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
RIFF RAFF The Granville, Barford, Warwickshire

## MON 4 FEB

WE ARE THE OCEAN O2 Academy, Birmingham  
HANK WANGFORD & THE LOST COWBOYS New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

## TUE 5 FEB

LITTLE MIX Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
FOLKS & CAT CHINN Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
THE WEDDING CRASHERS The Jam House, Birmingham  
THE FACELESS & SAFETY FIRE Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

## WED 6 FEB

THE TANNAHILL WEAVERS Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
ALL TIME LOW O2 Academy, Birmingham



GABBIDON The Jam House, Birmingham  
HENRIK FREISCHLADER BAND The Robin 2, Bilston  
TONY CHRISTIE Lichfield Garrick Rooms  
MARZY'S JAMMING SESSIONS Marr's Bar, Worcester

## THUR 7 FEB

BLAKE Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
HANS KOLLER'S CHASING THE UNICORN Bramall Music Building, Birmingham  
TRANSATLANTIC SESSIONS Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
ESBEN & THE WITCH & EX EASTER ISLAND HEAD Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
THURSTON MOORE & MICHAEL CHAPMAN The Glee Club, Birmingham  
LES AND THE LICKS The Jam House, Birmingham  
THE SPIRIT OF SMOKIE The Robin 2, Bilston  
MARK RADCLIFFE & FOES The Ironworks, Oswestry, North Shropshire  
STEVE KNIGHTLEY Huntingdon Hall  
PERCY PURSGLOVE QUARTET Bramhall Music Building, Birmingham

## FRI 8 FEB

FAIRPORT CONVENTION Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
HATS OFF TO LED ZEPPELIN Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
CLASSIC CLAPTON Artrix, Bromsgrove  
PLAN B LG Arena, Birmingham  
TOBY BOALCH SEXTET Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
SADIE AND THE HOT-HEADS Adrian Bout Hall, Birmingham  
EVIL ALIEN Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
MODESTEP O2 Academy, Birmingham  
LET'S HANG ON - THE MUSIC OF FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS The Roses, Tewksbury  
HANGING DOLL, TRIAXIS

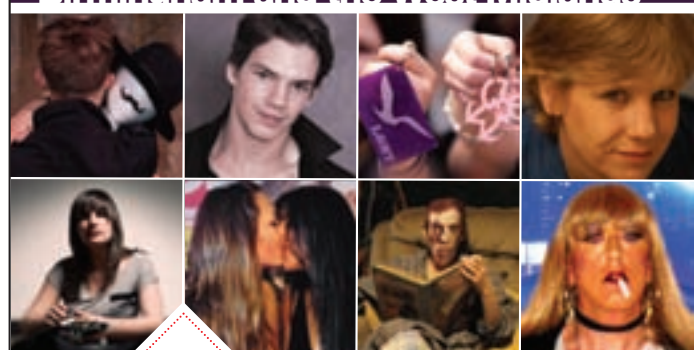


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February 2013



Date	Event	Price
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Thurs 7th	RETRO VARIETY WITH <b>THE PIN-UP GIRLS</b> Guest Paul Goodhead	£9 inc: main course carvery
Sat 9th	BARRY STEEL as <b>ROY ORBISON!</b> A great tribute night packed	£16.50 inc: two course carvery
Fri 15th	Stagedoor Productions Ltd <b>The Seduction Of Murder xxx</b> All new murder mystery night	£10 inc: main course carvery
Sat 16th	Party with <b>The Hubcaps!</b> 50's, 60's and more.....	£12 inc: main course carvery
Fri 22nd	IRISH NIGHT with <b>NAPPATANDY!</b>	£10 inc: main course carvery
Sat 23rd	Sixties Groups Night with <b>THE JAGUARS</b> Award winning group!	£12 inc: main course carvery



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**& INCASSUM** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**THE SOUL SESSION BAND** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**ALIVE & KICKING (SIMPLE MINDS TRIBUTE)** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**DANCING QUEEN: ABBA TRIBUTE SHOW** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**CHRIS WOODS WITH SUPPORT FROM TOM STEDMAN** The Ironworks, Oswestry, North Shropshire  
**VOICE OF THE HEART** Celebration of the music of The Carpenters, Lichfield Garrick  
**THE REPLICAS** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**THE EVERLEY BROTHERS & FRIENDS TRIBUTE SHOW** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**CHASING TRAITS** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**MJ COLE** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**X.O.V.A** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

## SAT 9 FEB

**MOTOWN'S GREATEST HITS - HOW SWEET IT IS** Bedworth Civic Hall  
**RITA ORA WITH SUPPORT FROM IGGY AZALEA** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**FRIGHTENED RABBIT** HMV Institute, Birmingham  
**T.REXTACY** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**GLAMBA** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**BOOGIE NIGHTS IN CONCERT** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**KODALINE** Kasbah, Coventry  
**NINE BELOW ZERO** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**BRAD & NEW KILLER SHOES** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ELKIE BROOKS** Birmingham Town Hall



Elkie Brooks

**THE WHISKEY SYNDICATE, MY GREAT AFFLICTION, RESIN & MORDECAI** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**RYAN LESLIE WITH FULL LIVE BAND** HMV, Birmingham  
**ACKER BILK & HIS PARAMOUNT JAZZ BAND** The Roses, Tewksbury

**THE SOUL SESSION BAND** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**PATRICK WOLF** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**GOOD FRIDAY - THE CLINICAL DEPRESSION CONCEPT ALBUM SHOW** mac, Birmingham  
**TOPLOADER** The Place, Oakengates, Telford  
**QUENTIN COLLINS & BRANDON ALLAN** The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**PURPLE ZEPPELIN - LED ZEPPELIN TRIBUTE BAND** Lichfield Garrick  
**BUBLE FEVER** Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**WIRED & SPECIAL GUESTS** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**PAUL CARRACK** Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**CROOKED EMPIRE** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**MAETLOAF** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**SADIE & THE HOTHEADS** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**ROCK 'N' ROLL PARADISE** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**THE BOWIE EXPERIENCE** Theatre on the Steps, Bridgnorth, Shropshire  
**THE GRADES, BLACK MIRRORS & REGALE** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

## SUN 10 FEB

**TINA LAW SINGS STREISAND** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**THE X FACTOR LIVE TOUR 2013** Featuring James Arthur, Ella Henderson, Jahmene Douglas, Rylan Clark, Christopher Maloney, Union J & District3, LG Arena, Birmingham  
**PIAF: THE CONCERT** Birmingham Town Hall  
**ASKING ALEXANDRIA, WHILE SHE SLEEPS, MOTIONLESS IN WHITE & BETRAYING THE MARTYRS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BUSHBURY MOUNTAIN DAREDEVILS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham  
**ETHAN JOHNS & MARIKA HACKMAN** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**THE KAST OFF KINKS** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**THE MILITARY WIVES GRIMETHORPE COLLIERY BAND** Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**THE MACHINE BREAKERS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**LIZ LAWRENCE** Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham

## MON 11 FEB

**ANDY WHITE** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham  
**TOMASSO STARACE QUIN-TET** Church Hall, Wade St, Lichfield

## TUE 12 FEB

**CASH (JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE)** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**EVERYTHING EVERYTHING** HMV, Birmingham  
**KILLER MIKE** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**GARY O'DEA** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham  
**IAN PARKER** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE JOHN RICHARDS BAND** Stourbridge Folk Club, Katie Fitzgerald's Pub, Stourbridge

## WED 13 FEB

**AWOLNATION & ITCH** HMV, Birmingham



Awolnation

**WES BORLAND'S BLACK LIGHT BURNS** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**DARWIN DEEZ** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**RAY COOPER** Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**MICHAEL WOLLNY'S (EM)** Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham  
**SCHOOL OF ROCK & POP SHOWCASE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**SHMOO** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**GOSPEL CENTRAL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**WES BORLAND'S BLACK LIGHT BURNS** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**TANNAHILL WEAVERS** Church Hall, Wade Street, Lichfield  
**THE BLUES BAND** New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme  
**MARZY'S JAMMING SESSIONS** Marr's Bar, Worcester

## THUR 14 FEB

**FEED THE RHINO** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**JULIAN SMITH - VALENTINE SHOW** Solihull Arts Complex  
**BLACK VEIL BRIDES, CHIODOS, TONIGHT ALIVE & FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**GALLOPS WITH SUPPORT FROM CONSTANT WAVES** The Flapper & Firkin,



Bellowhead - Warwick Arts Centre

**Birmingham YOUR DEMISE, HEIGHTS, COUNTERPARTS & FACT** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**VILLAGERS** HMV, Birmingham  
**MOOD INDIGO** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**COLIN BLUNSTONE WITH FULL BAND** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**MARK TREMONTI** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE** Lichfield Garrick

## FRI 15 FEB

**CHRIS MEETS ACKER** Birmingham Town Hall  
**PURE BRUBECK** Malvern Theatres  
**DELPHIC** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**DEATH AT SEA, CAVES & THIEVES** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**FLOSSIE MALAVIALLE** Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**ANDY DERRICK QUARTET** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**DUTCH UNCLES, COVES & VICTORIES AT SEA** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**PARLOUR FLAMES** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**SWIM DEEP** HMV, Birmingham  
**LET'S HANG ON - THE MUSIC OF FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS** Solihull Arts Complex  
**ROCKET** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE STRANGE DOORS & THE SMALL FAKERS** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**PARTIKEL** The Red Lion, Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham  
**T.REXTACY** The Place, Oakengates, Telford  
**SHREWSBURY JAZZ ORCHESTRA** The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**YOUR DEMISE, HEIGHTS, COUNTERPARTS & FACT** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**SHE WILL ROCK YOU** The Marr's Bar, Worcester

**THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**GIGSPANNER** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**THE BLUES BAND** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**ONEMAN** The Rainbow, Birmingham

## SAT 16 FEB

**BELLOWHEAD** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**MATT SHEEHAN** HMV, Birmingham  
**TRIBUTE TO MICK HIPKINS** Birmingham Town Hall  
**SALIM SABRI** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**MOSTLY JAZZ FUNK & SOUL PRESENTS PIGBAG, CANTALOOP & THIS IS TMRW (DJ SET)** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**DJANGO DJANO, MILES KANE, PALMA VIOLETS & PEACE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BURNS** Kasbah, Coventry  
**SOUL SURVIVORS** Dudley Town Hall  
**ROCKET** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE COUNTERFEIT STONES** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**STEVE GIBBONS** Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton  
**GYPSY FIRE** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**STOMP & HOLLER** Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire  
**HATS OFF TO LED ZEPPELIN** Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**DELPHIC PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**ROY ORBISON & FRIENDS** Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**LABOUR OF LOVE: UB40 TRIBUTE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**BEVERLEY CRAVEN** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**MAWKIN** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**STEVE KNIGHTLEY** Royal

Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**ERGO PHIZMIZ** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**DELPHIC** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**SURRENDER THE COAST** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**PAUL VAN DYK** HMV Institute, Birmingham  
**SCOTTY AND THE SKY-HOOKS** The Ironworks, Oswestry

## SUN 17 FEB

**EMILY PORTMAN TRIO** The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND, SUCH GOLD, MAJOR LEAGUE & I DIVIDE** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**THE DEAD FAMOUS & LOST ALONE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ROCK 'N' ROLL PARADISE** The Roses, Tewksbury  
**NERINA PALLOT** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**PETE KENT** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**KATHRYN ROBERTS & SEAN LAKEMAN** The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire  
**DERVISH** Lichfield Guildhall  
**ANDY CASSERLEY** Banstock House Museum, Wolverhampton  
**PATRICK DUFF & GERARD STARKIE** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham

## MON 18 FEB

**FRIGHTENED RABBIT, WINTERSLEEP & WASHINGTON IRVING** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**LOUISE JORDAN** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham  
**BRENDAN STANLEY** Solo gig in aid of Storybook Dads charity, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham



BRING YOUR PARTY TO OUR PARTY AT NAILCOTE HALL HOTEL

**THE MARQUEE**  
BRING YOUR PARTY TO OUR PARTY

**Rick's**  
AT NAILCOTE HALL HOTEL

*Romantic Party Nights at Nailcote*

**9th FEB**  
**'MAMMA MIA' PARTY**

Enjoy a Valentine's Party with 'Sensation' who perform Abba's greatest hits including 'Mamma Mia, Waterloo, Dancing Queen, Thank You For The Music' & many more!

**£35.00**

**14th FEB**  
**'MICHAEL BUBLÉ' VALENTINE TRIBUTE**

*Valentines Night*

Enjoy a special Valentines menu at our Candlelit dinner dance for that someone special someone in your life. A romantic night of Michael Buble hits and love songs performed by Jamie Flanagan.

**£39.50**

**16th FEB**  
**'TAKE THAT' & 'WESTLIFE' SHOW**

An amazing tribute to the ultimate boy band, featuring all the huge hits from Take That & Westlife performed by the sensational That's Life!

**£35.00**

Or enjoy an intimate or romantic dinner in **THE OAK ROOM RESTAURANT** on Thursday 14th February with guitarist Stuart Toogood. Table bookings 7pm to 9.30pm. £55.00 per person

**CABARET NIGHTS IN RICK'S BAR**

**'DIAMOND NIGHTS'**  
with MIKE LEIGH  
as NEIL DIAMOND  
with Disco with DJ FRANCO  
**SAT 2ND FEBRUARY**  
**£29.50**

**HEART & SOUL PARTY**  
with HARRY CAMBRIDGE  
as LUTHER VANDROSS  
with Disco with DJ FRANCO  
**SAT 23RD FEBRUARY**  
**£29.50**

**THE LEGENDS PARTY**  
with ABSOLUTE LEGENDS  
as ELTON JOHN, TOM JONES,  
ROBBIE & MORE  
**SAT 9TH MARCH**  
**£35.00**

**THE 'BLUES BROTHERS' SHOW**  
with THE BRIEFCASE  
BLUES BROTHERS  
**SAT 23RD MARCH**  
**£32.50**

**THE 'ROD STEWART' SHOW**  
with GARRY PEASE  
**FRI 26TH APRIL**  
**£32.50**

TICKET PRICES INCLUDE 4 COURSE MEAL. WE WILL COVER FOR ANY SPECIAL dietary needs, if prior arrangement

BOOKING HOTLINE CALL: 02476 466174 Fax: 02476 478728 or Email: info@nailcotehall.co.uk

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# ENTERTAINMENT CANNOCK CHASE

at the Prince Of Wales, Centre

## FEBRUARY

Sun 24th February 7.30pm

### DEREK ACORAH

A new tour for 2013 starring one of the most respected Spiritualist Mediums of a generation.



## MARCH

Sat 2nd March, 7.30pm

### A VISION OF ELVIS

Rob Kingsley brings you a full evening of all the classic hits, from the Early Years through to the sensational "Vegas" era.



Thurs 14th March, 7.30pm

### DANIEL O'DONNELL TRIBUTE

UK's only tribute to the man. Daniel O'Connell



Fri 22nd & Sat 23rd March, 7.30pm

### THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF LLOYD-WEBBER

Chase Harmony, Cannock's very own 4-part harmony singing group, return to songs from one of the West End's most successful composers over the years.



Fri 29th March, 7.30pm

### THE BILLY FURY YEARS

The Billy Fury Years is quite simply 'The Ultimate Billy Fury show to ever hit the stage'.



Sat 30th March, 7.30pm

### TOTALLY TINA

TOTALLY TINA! Recreate the spectacle and energy of her live shows with a six-piece live band, four stunning dancers and Justine's incredible impersonation of the Queen of Rock and Soul.



## APRIL

Wed 3rd April, 7.30pm

### LDN WRESTLING

Back by popular demand, LDN Wrestling returns with its brand new show.



Sat 6th April, 2.00pm

### PINNOCHIO

Riverbank Productions proudly present Carlo Collodi's classic tale of the puppet who wanted to become a real boy.



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# Music LISTINGS

For full listing information on gigs including, times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

**JONATHAN GEE** Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

## TUES 19 FEB

**THE SOLDIERS** Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**DON BROCO, MALLORY KNOX & HEY VANITY** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND, SUCH GOLD... I DIVIDE & DAYTRADER** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**JAKE BUGG & VALERIE** JUNE HMV Institute, Birmingham  
**TOM HILL & OUTSVILLE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**DEFTONES, LETLIVE & THREE TRAPPED TIGERS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**SOPHIE EVANS** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**THE SAM DRAISEY SESSIONS** The Robin 2, Bilston

## WED 20 FEB

**THE OLD DANCE SCHOOL FEATURING KATRIONA GILMORE & JAMIE ROBERTS** Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**MARK EITZEL** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**SHARON SHANNON** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**JACQUIE WILLIAMS & FRIENDS** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**ANTONIO FORCIONE** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**POLLY AND THE WOLF, THE ACCIDENTS & NOT COMPLETELY BLONDE** The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**JAMES SUMMERFIELD, OWEN TROMANS & COPILGRIM** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

## THUR 21 FEB

**THE RICHARD THOMPSON BAND** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**FIDLAR** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**REDWIRE** The Flapper & Firkin, Birmingham  
**BRAD MEHLDAU & KEVIN HAYS** Birmingham Town Hall  
**THE GHOST INSIDE & BURY TOMORROW** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**DAVE GILES, TOM LAW, EDDPLANT & BRIBRY** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**HAAR, BURIAL, FUNERAL THRONE & CULT FINDER** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**THE SUBS** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE PRODUCERS** The Robin 2, Bilston

**YIDDISH TWIST ORCHESTRA** mac, Birmingham  
**ULTIMATE ELVIS** Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**RICHARD HAWLEY** The Assembly, Leamington



Richard Hawley

Spa  
**TAKE FAT** Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**UNION J** The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury

## FRI 22 FEB

**STOMP & HOLLER** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**ARTHUR DOHERTY BAND** Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**BOOTHBY GRAFFOE** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**YAMATO - THE DRUMMERS OF JAPAN** New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**KAISER CHIEFS** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**JOHN LAW TRIO** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**GILES SMITH, ADAM SHELTON & MARK E** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**BLUE NATION, BY DEVICES, LOOCA, QUAYSIDE & FRAMED** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**PURE LOVE** HMV, Birmingham  
**THE CHAPMAN FAMILY** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**CRAIG OGDEN** The Roses, Tewksbury  
**NEBUKADNEZZA, WHISPERING VAULT & SPAWNED FROM HATE** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**UP4 THE DOWNSTROKE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**URIAH HEEP - NAIL ON THE HEAD TOUR** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS** Lichfield Guildhall  
**HITS FROM THE BLITZ WITH FIVE STAR SWING** Lichfield Garrick  
**REIGN OF FURY, 44 FIRES & PARALUS** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**KISS - DRESSED TO KILL** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**TAKE FAT** Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**MARTY WILDE & THE WILDCATS** Palace Theatre, Redditch

## SAT 23 FEB

**MAET LOAF** Stafford Gatehouse Theatre  
**THE COURTEENERS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**YAMATO - THE DRUMMERS OF JAPAN** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**GINGER BAKER'S JAZZ CONFUSION** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**THE BILLY FURY YEARS** The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton  
**THE UNION** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**THE LUMINEERS & LANGSHORN SLIM** HMV Institute, Birmingham  
**SAX IN THE CITY WITH THE NOTEBENDERS** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**RUMOURS OF FLEETWOOD MAC** Birmingham Town Hall  
**HOOPLA BLUE & KASTELLA** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**DIAMOND LIL, TWISTED SPECIES, AUSTIN, PISTON & SWAMP SNAKES** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ANDY BURROWS** HMV, Birmingham  
**DRUM & BASS AWARDS 2013** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**WHOLE LOTTA LED** Solihull Arts Complex  
**UP4 THE DOWNSTROKE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**T.REXTACY** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**ROCK 'N' ROLL PARADISE** Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**WHO'S NEXT: A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF THE WHO** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**THE ROBIN GUTHRIE TRIO** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**TRAIN WITH SUPPORT FROM GIN WIGMORE** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton



Gin Wigmore

ton  
**THE 80S PROJECT** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**TAKE FAT** Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**DAME SHIRLEY BASSEY - A MUSICAL CELEBRATION** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**HATS OFF TO LED ZEPPELIN** Theatre on the Steps, Bridgnorth, Shropshire  
**WOLF ALICE, WIDE EYED & HOOPLA BLUE** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**JAGUAR SKILLS** HMV Institute, Birmingham  
**RADIOCLASH** Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**THE MOTIVES AND JET**



Lucy Spraggan - The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury

**SET CADET** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**LUCY SPRAGGAN** The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury

## SUN 24 FEB

**JUSTIN CURRIE** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**I AM KLOOT** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**SAM GRAY** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**EXIT CALM** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MARTHA TILSTON** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham  
**ROBIN GUTHRIE TRIO (COCTEAU TWINS) & MARK GARDENER (RIDE)** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**BRAVADO - TRIBUTE TO RUSH** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**THE OLD DANCE SCHOOL** Lichfield Guildhall  
**MEET THE BRASS FAMILY** Bridge House Theatre, Warwick  
**DEAP VALLY & DRENCE** The Rainbow, Birmingham

## MON 25 FEB

**HEIDI TALBOT** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**MAZES** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ANGEL HAZE** HMV, B'ham  
**LOCH LOMOND** Taylor John's House, Coventry  
**COSMO JARVIS** Kasbah, Coventry

## TUE 26 FEB

**OF MONSTERS AND MEN** HMV Institute, Birmingham  
**THE JACKSONS** National Indoor Arena, Birmingham  
**STOOSHE** HMV, Birmingham  
**GIRLS ALOUD** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**JIM LOCKEY & SOLEMN SUN** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**EXIT TEN** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**WALK THE MOON** HMV, Birmingham  
**MEGSON** The Roses, Tewksbury  
**THE ACOUSTIC SESSIONS** The Jam House, Birmingham

## WED 27 FEB

**GIRLS ALOUD** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**THE ACOUSTIC STRAWBS** Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**ROOSEVELT & NEW CARNIVAL** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**JUSTIN BIEBER** National Indoor Arena, Birmingham  
**LINDI ORTEGA PLUS ZERVIS & PEPPER** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE DRILLS (FEAT PHILX), DORJE (FEAT. ROB CHAPMAN) & STORMBORN** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MR CAT & THE JACKAL** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**SONIC BOOM SIX, THE LA-**

**FONTAINES & UNDER THE INFLUENCE** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

## THUR 28 FEB

**JUSTIN BIEBER** National Indoor Arena, Birmingham  
**TOPLADER** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA** Malvern Theatres  
**GRAND MAGUS** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**EXAMPLE** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**KATHERINE PRIDDY** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**MAPS & ATLASES** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**COSMO JARVIS** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**DEL CAMINO** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE PRETTY THINGS** The Robin 2, Bilston  
**MIKE WATT** The Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**MERCURY** Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**THE COURTEENERS** The Ironworks, Oswestry  
**MARZY'S JAMMING SESSIONS** Marr's Bar, Worcester  
**DESSAN, POST VEXXARTS & LIFE UNWRITTEN** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE SENSATIONAL 60'S EXPERIENCE FEATURING THE TREMELOES, HERMAN'S HERMITS, THE UNION GAP UK & THE IVY LEAGUE** New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham



## Manchester Concert Orchestra Featuring Amore

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Fri 15 February

Former Royal College of Music students Victoria Gray, Monica McGhee, David Webb and Peter Braithwaite have certainly garnered plenty of praise since they started performing together as Amore. Recently formed, the ensemble came about when a tutor from the Royal College popped into Starbucks for a coffee and fortuitously overheard two Warner Bros executives discussing their vision of a 'fresh, commercial and totally British classical group'. The tutor immediately thought of four of his prize students and, after a few phone calls, all parties met, a six-album deal was agreed, and the rest, as they say, is history (well, history in the making, anyway!). This month sees the young quartet make their Symphony Hall debut, joining the Manchester Concert Orchestra for an evening of romantic classics that includes Tchaikovsky's Romeo And Juliet, Verdi's Prelude to Act One from La Traviata and Bizet's Duet from The Pearl Fishers.

## Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Tues 26 February

Founded in 1935, the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra boasts an extensive international touring programme, and has performed with some of the greatest composers of modern times. This Coventry date sees the orchestra joined by award-winning young Polish violinist Agata Szymczewska for a programme that features Bernstein's Candide Overture, Penderecki's Chaconne, Philip Glass' Violin Concerto and Mahler's Symphony No.5.



## Birmingham Contemporary Music Group

CBSO Centre, Birmingham, Fri 15 February

The world premiere of Richard Baker's The Tyranny Of Fun takes centre stage at this latest BCMG concert. Recognised as one of the foremost conductors of his generation, Baker's latest work for ensemble and electronics brings together the pace of Ravel's 'death-driven' waltzes and the sound of 1980s New York disco.

The BCMG Sound Investment scheme commission is on this occasion performed alongside Stravinsky's Sonata For 2 Pianos, John Cage's Second Construction, Oliver Messiaen's fantasy Oiseaux Exotiques, and Richard Causton's Chamber Symphony.

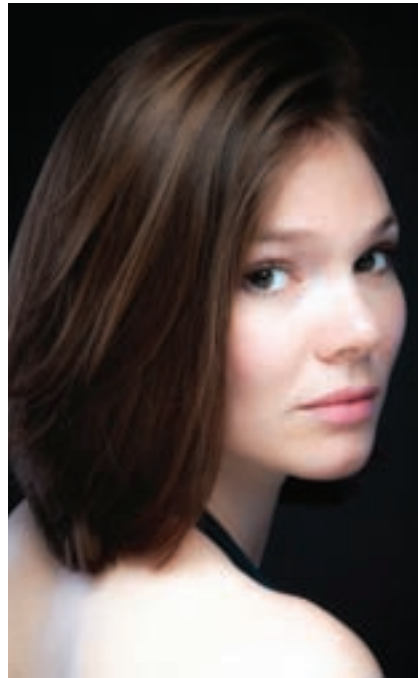
## Orchestra Of The Swan: Young Romantics

Stratford Civic Hall, Tues 12 February; Birmingham Town Hall, Wed 13 February

This month sees extremely talented violinist (and Orchestra of the Swan Associate Artist) Tamsin Waley Cohen join pianist and 'Composer-in-the-House' Huw Watkins for a double-bill of concertos by the young Mendelssohn.

Under the directorship of conductor David Curtis, the duo - together with the Orchestra of the Swan - perform Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in D minor and his Concerto for Violin, Piano and Strings.

The Mendelssohn double-bill is presented alongside Mozart's Eine Kleine Nachtmusik and Suk's Serenade For Strings.



## Jerusalem Quartet

The Barber Concert Hall, Birmingham, Wed 13 February

With a nomination at the forthcoming International Classical Music Awards for their most recent recording of Schumann's piano quartet, this ever-popular ensemble return to the region to present three works which demonstrate the importance of patronage in music... Comprising Alexander Pavlovsky and Sergei Bresler on violins, Ori Kam on viola and Kyril Ziotnikov on cello, the group perform Mozart's Quartet in B flat, K.589; Shostakovich's Quartet No.12 in D flat, op.133; and Beethoven's Quartet B flat, op. 18 no.6





# Classical LISTINGS

For full listing information on classical concerts, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

**CBSO: A CELEBRATION OF LERNER & LOEWE** John Wilson (conductor), Annalene Beechey (vocalist) & the CBSO Chorus, Fri 1 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**THE MIDLAND CHAMBER PLAYERS** Programme includes works by Beethoven & Mozart, Fri 1 Feb, Birmingham & Midland Institute

**CONSORT AUDITE NOVA** Joint first prize winners at the 2012 Sir Anthony Lewis Memorial Competition. Programme includes works by Isaac, Moulu, Ward, Holborne & Bruck, Fri 1 Feb, Barber Concert Hall, Birmingham

**MIDLAND SINFONIA** Programme to include works by Mendelssohn, Beethoven & Mozart, Sat 2 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**SOUTH BIRMINGHAM SINFONIA** Programme includes works by Bruckner & Schubert, Sat 2 Feb, Shirley Methodist Church, Birmingham

**BERGEN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Programme to include works by Delius, Grieg & Strauss, Sun 3 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**IGOR, THE BIRD WHO COULDN'T SING** Featuring bird-inspired music by Mozart, Saint-Saens, Messiaen & Haydn, Sun 3 Feb, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**UNIVERSITY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA - IN THE HOUSE OF THE DEVIL** Programme includes works by Vanhal, Haydn, Mozart & Boccherini, Sun 3 Feb, Bramall Music Building, Birmingham

**CBSO: HANDEL'S MESSIAH** Featuring Simon Halsey (conductor) & the CBSO Chorus, Sun 3 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**ENSEMBLE 360** Programme includes works by Beethoven, Britten & Mozart, Sun 3 Feb, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE CHAMBER CHOIR** Programme includes works by Britten & Purcell, Mon 4 Feb, St Alban The Martyr, Highgate, Birmingham

**A VIENNESE STRAUSS GALA** Featuring highlights from some of the great operettas of the Strauss family, including Die Fledermaus, The Merry Widow and many more..., Wed 6 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**CBSO A BOY WAS BORN** Featuring Ilan Volkov (conductor) & Steven Osborne (piano). Programme features work by Sibelius, Britten, John Oswald & Sibelius, Wed 6 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**HANDEL'S RADAMISTO** One of Handel's finest Arias is here sung by David Daniels, Fri 8 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**JONATHAN DOVE: ADVENTURES IN OPERA** Fri 8 Feb, Barber Concert Hall, Birmingham

**ARMONICO CONSORT: BACH B MINOR MASS** Sat 9 Feb, Malvern Theatres

**SOUTH BIRMINGHAM SINFONIA** Programme includes works by Bruckner & Schubert, Sat 9 Feb, St Frances Church, Bournville, Birmingham

**CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2013: LIEDERABEND** Programme includes works by Schubert & Britten, Thurs 14 Feb, Recital Hall, Birmingham

**CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2013: YOUNG MUSICIANS SHOWCASE: BROMSGROVE CONCERTS** Showcase from some of Worcestershire's up and coming musicians, Fri 15 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**ALKAN: AN ANNIVERSARY LECTURE RECITAL** Featuring Kenneth Hamilton, Fri 15 Feb, Barber Concert Hall, Birmingham

**MANCHESTER CONCERT ORCHESTRA: CLASSIC ROMANCE** Fri 15 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

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**A GILBERT & SULLIVAN EXTRAVAGANZA** Showcasing songs from many of the duo's most famous operettas, Sat 16 Feb, Birmingham Cathedral

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**RISING STARS FEATURING ADAM BANDA (VIOLIN) & ORSOLYA SOOS (PIANO)** Sun 17 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**FINAL YEAR RECITALISTS** Featuring Eimear McCarthy Luddy (soprano), Isabella Valentini & Eleanor Nixon (sopranos), Mon 18 Feb, Bramall Music Building, Birmingham

**JAMES GILCHRIST (TENOR) & PETER SEYMOUR (FORTEPIANO)** Programme comprises Schubert's Die Winterreise, Tues 19 Feb, St Mary's Church, Warwick

**CARMEN** Ellen Kent Productions present their version of Bizet's passionate opera, Tue 19 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**CBSO THE YEAR 1913: FALSTAFF** Featuring Andrew Litton (conductor) & Freddy Kempf (piano). Programme includes works by Elgar, Prokofiev & Respighi, Wed 20 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CHAMBER ENSEMBLES & SAXOPHONE ENSEMBLE** Wed 20 Feb, Bramall Music Building, Birmingham

**COULL QUARTET: RUSSIAN WINTER** Featuring Roger Coull & Phillip Galloway (violin), Rose Redgrave (viola) & Nicholas Roberts (cello). Programme to include works by Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky, Glazunov & Haydn, Thurs 21 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**BEYOND CLASSICAL: NYMPHS & TANGOS** Featuring Heather Roach (flute) & Jo Sealey (piano), Thurs 21 Feb, Symphony Hall Cafe Bar, Birmingham

**FREDDY KEMPF PIANO RECITAL** Programme includes works by Beethoven, Liszt, Chopin & Schumann, Thurs 21 Feb, Malvern Theatres

**CBSO: A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS** Featuring Carl Davis (conductor) & Heather Shipp (Vocalist), Fri 22 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**THE MIDLAND CHAMBER PLAYERS** Programme includes works by Mozart, Fri 22 Feb, Birmingham & Midland Institute

**SKAMPA STRING QUARTET** Programme includes works by Mozart, Kapralova & Beethoven, Fri 22 Feb, Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

**ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN: A SPRING SERENADE** Featuring works by Respighi, Mozart & Suk, Sat 23 Feb, Bedworth Civic Hall

**ONYX BRASS FAMILY CONCERT** Featuring

works by Monteverdi, Holborne, Bach, Shostakovich, Jackson, Copland & Arnold, Sun 24 Feb, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**VIVE LA FRANCE!** Featuring Oakham School Chapel Choir, Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band & Chamber Orchestra. Programme includes works by Durufle, Debussy, Ellery & Poulenc, Sun 24 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**CBSO YOUTH ORCHESTRA: MAHLER'S FIFTH** Featuring Andrew Litton (conductor) & Jean-Efflam Bavouzet (piano). Programme includes works by Ravel & Mahler, Sun 24 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham



**TROTTER: WAGNER NIGHTS** Mon 25 Feb, Birmingham Town Hall

**FINAL YEAR RECITALISTS** Featuring Louise Govier (oboe), Geneve Yeo Zhina (piano) & the Early Modern Vocal Ensemble, Mon 25 Feb, Bramall Music Building

**POLISH NATIONAL RADIO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Tue 26 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA:** Featuring Andres Orozco-Estrada (conductor) & Klara Ek (soprano). Programme includes works by Mozart & Mahler, Wed 27 - Thurs 28 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**FIBONACCI SEQUENCE** Featuring Kathron Sturrock (piano), Christopher O'Neal (oboe) & Stephen Stirling (horn). Programme includes works by Saint Saens, Reinecke, Dukas, Poulenc & Herzogenberg, Thurs 28 Feb, The Gateway, Shrewsbury

**COVENTRY CATHEDRAL** 02476 521200

**THE GATEWAY, SHREWSBURY** 01743 355159

**LEAMINGTON MUSIC** 01926 742762/776438

**MAIDMENT HALL, SHREWSBURY SCHOOL** 01743 280810

**ROYAL PUMP ROOMS, LEAMINGTON SPA** 01926 742700

**ST ALBAN THE MARTYR, BIRMINGHAM** 0121 440 4605

**ST FRANCES CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM** 0121 472 7215

**STRATFORD CIVIC HALL** 01789 207100

**SYMPHONY HALL, BIRMINGHAM** 0121 780 3333

**WARWICK ARTS CENTRE** 02476 524524

## Classical Box Office

**ADRIAN BOULT HALL, BIRMINGHAM** 0121 331 5901

**ARTRIX, BROMSGROVE** 01527 577330

**BELGRADE THEATRE, COVENTRY** 02476 553055

**BARBER INSTITUTE, BIRMINGHAM** 0121 414 7333

**BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL** 0121 262 1840

**BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE** 0121 331 5901/2

**BIRMINGHAM & MIDLAND INSTITUTE** 0121 236 3591

**BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL** 0121 780 3333

**BRAMALL CONCERT HALL, UNIVERSITY OF B'HAM** 0121 414 3344

**BRIDGE HOUSE THEATRE, WARWICK** 01926 776438

**CBSO CENTRE, BIRMINGHAM** 0121 780 3333

This month sees Birmingham Repertory Theatre celebrating its one hundredth birthday. To acknowledge the anniversary, the Rep is staging a celebratory programme of exhibitions, activity days and guided backstage tours. It's also co-ordinating an audio history project and launching a new website, not to mention hosting a gala performance of Philip Pullman's *I Was A Rat!* In short, it's all go for one of the UK's most famous and well-established theatres...



# REP 100

We take a look back at one hundred years of the Birmingham Repertory Theatre...

## Key dates in the Rep's history

**1879:** Barry Jackson was born.

**1913:** Birmingham Repertory Theatre opens on Station Street. Founded and financed by Barry Jackson, the small elegant playhouse seating just four hundred-and-sixty-four is the first new purpose-built British repertory theatre.

**1916:** Eden Phillpott's rural comedy *The Farmer's Wife* is destined to become a major popular success over two decades.

**1919:** John Drinkwater's play *Abraham Lincoln* becomes the first Rep production to be presented in London. In Birmingham, a nineteen-year-old Noel Coward appears in the Jacobean comedy *The Knight Of The Burning Pestle*.

**1923:** Shakespeare's *Cymbeline*, directed by HK Ayliff,

becomes the first production of Shakespeare to be staged in modern dress.

**1925:** Barry Jackson is knighted for services to theatre.

**1926:** Laurence Olivier and Ralph Richardson make their professional stage debuts in Birmingham.

**1929 - 1937:** Sir Barry Jackson becomes director of the Malvern Festival.

**1931:** A pioneering series of radio dramas are broadcast from the Old Rep Theatre.

**1934:** At Christmas the première of *1066 And All That* becomes the greatest financial hit The Rep has ever had. During the run, Sir Barry agrees to transfer his interest to a Trust and effectively gives The Rep to the City of Birmingham as the Birmingham Repertory Theatre Limited.

**1935:** Gift of the theatres to Birmingham City Council.

**1940:** The Rep's wardrobe building in Hinkley Street is destroyed by incendiary bombs. Thirty years of sets and costumes go up in flames. In December, the theatre closes.

**1945:** Peter Brook makes his directorial debut with *Man And Superman* by George Bernard Shaw.

**1946:** Sir Barry Jackson becomes Artistic Director of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre in Stratford.

**1950:** Alan Badel, John Neville, Eric Porter and Donald Pleasance are all in the Birmingham company.

**1954:** The first Arts Council grant of £500 is awarded to The Rep.

**1955:** Sir Barry Jackson is given the Freedom of the City.

**1957:** Albert Finney plays Henry V.

**1961:** On 3 April Sir Barry Jackson dies.

**1963:** The Rep celebrates its

fiftieth birthday with a ten-week Shakespeare festival. Derek Jacobi plays Henry V, Troilus in *Troilus And Cressida* and Aaron the Moor in *Titus Andronicus*. By June, Swinging '60s icon Julie Christie is a member of the company.

**1965:** Peter Dews becomes Artistic Director.

**1967:** New Artistic Director Peter Dews directs a modern Carnaby Street-style *As You Like It*, with Brian Cox, Timothy Dalton and Oliver Ford-Davies in the cast.

**1970:** The Old Rep closes on 16 December with a final production of *1066 And All That*. Construction of the new Rep building on Broad Street gets under way.

**1971:** The new Rep opens on Broad Street with a heroically-proportioned stage and a fan-shaped auditorium which seats nine hundred-and-one. In October, Princess Margaret



## Did you know... Birmingham Rep has staged three hundred-and-fifty world premieres in the last one hundred years



attends a Royal Gala performance of First Impressions, a musical version of Jane Austen's *Pride And Prejudice* featuring Patricia Routledge as Mrs Bennett.

**1972:** The Rep's Studio Theatre opens.

**1976:** Clive Perry becomes Artistic Director.

**1977:** In the Studio David Edgar's play *Mary Barnes* is given its world première with a cast which includes Patti Love, Simon Callow, Timothy Spall and Roger Allam.

**1978:** At Christmas *Worzel Gummidge* - by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall, based on the popular children's television series - is a huge success in Birmingham and transfers to London starring Jon Pertwee as the lovable scarecrow *Worzel* and Una Stubbs as his disdainful yet beloved Aunt Sally.

**1982:** At Christmas Noelle Gordon, well-known from the Midlands television soap *Crossroads*, gives a barnstorming central performance in a lavish production of the musical *Call Me Madam*.

**1987:** John Adams becomes Artistic Director.

**1988:** Kenneth Branagh and his new Renaissance Company take over the Studio to present three plays by Shakespeare directed by celebrated actors. *As You Like It* is directed by Geraldine

McEwan. Judi Dench directs *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Derek Jacobi directs Branagh as *Hamlet*.

**1992:** Bill Alexander becomes Artistic Director.

**1993:** For Christmas, new Artistic Director Bill Alexander strikes gold when he directs the first performances of *The Snowman*, based on Raymond Briggs' best-selling children's story.

**1994:** Gwenda Hughes' production of the exuberant Caribbean musical *Once On This Island* wins an Olivier Award for Best Musical after it transfers to London.

**1995:** The appointment of The Rep's first Literary Manager, Ben Payne, signals the growing emphasis on the development of new plays.

**1996:** The Rep's creative partnership with the British Asian company Tamasha peaks with the première of Ayub Khan Din's play *East Is East*, which goes on to achieve national and international success on stage and screen.

**1997:** The Rep wins a Lottery grant of over £5.5million to enable much-needed refurbishment and repair, especially to the main auditorium.

**1998:** Bill Alexander directs the première of Bryony Lavery's play *Frozen*. With Josie Lawrence, Anita Dobson and Tom Georgeson, it is a major critical success and is subsequently

revived at the National Theatre. The Studio is relaunched as *The Door*, dedicated exclusively to new writing.

**2000:** The Millennium year is celebrated with nine new plays at The Rep. Alexander's final autumn season includes a double bill of *Twelfth Night* and *Hamlet*, and Indhu Rubasingham directs an exuberant version of the Indian epic *The Ramayana*.

**2001:** Jonathan Church becomes Artistic Director.

**2002:** Jonathan Church directs Steinbeck's *Of Mice And Men*, starring Matthew Kelly and George Costigan, to rave reviews and sold-out signs. The production transfers to the West End and Matthew Kelly is awarded the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Actor.

**2002:** *Wallop Mrs Cox*, a boisterous musical play about Birmingham's Bull Ring market traders with a cast of community actors, sells out at The Rep in July and receives standing ovations.

**2004:** Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti's play *Behzti (Dishonour)* receives its world premiere. After thirteen performances the run is forced to end following public protests by members of the Sikh community.

**2005:** Rachel Kavanaugh becomes Artistic Director.

**2008:** The Rep welcomes plans for a joint development of the theatre with the new Library of Birmingham.

**2009:** Dennis Kelly's electrifying new play, *Orphans*, is awarded a prestigious 2009 Fringe First Award and a Herald Angel Award. Also, *East Is East*, the BAFTA award-winning comedy, returns to Birmingham Repertory Theatre in a new production, this time in the Main House.

**2010:** Graffiti artist Mohammed Ali is commissioned by The Rep to develop *Writing On The Wall*, a one-night-only aerosol art and spoken word performance marking the closure of The Rep's set design and construction workshops.

**2011:** The Rep's building closes for two years as part of the Library of Birmingham development. The Rep presents its first off-site programme.

**2013:** Roxanna Silbert becomes Artistic Director.

**2013:** After more than three thousand plays and over fifty thousand performances, The Rep celebrates a century of theatre on 15 February at the Old Rep Theatre on Station Street, its original home.

**2013:** Birmingham Repertory Theatre on Broad Street re-opens on 3 September, with a new three hundred-seat Studio Theatre to complement its existing two auditoria, new set design and construction workshops, dressing rooms and rehearsal rooms.

## How it all started...

The Birmingham Rep began life on 15 February 1913 when Barry Jackson, the son of a Birmingham merchant, opened the theatre he'd built on Station Street (now known as the Old Rep). In the years that followed, the venue staged a wide-ranging programme of theatrical endeavours, with Jackson taking his plays out into the city's parks and also being responsible for the first ever

presentation of Shakespeare in modern dress (*Cymbeline* in 1923). Jackson also established a theatre school, and, in the process of all this innovation, garnered for his venue a reputation as one of the best theatres in the world. The Rep shifted to its current site on Broad Street in 1971, to a newly built theatre with a stage of epic proportions and a democratic auditorium with no balconies, pillars or boxes. Everyone shares the same space and everyone gets a great view.

With work on the city's new library, sited next to the Rep, now nearing completion, the theatre is gearing up for its September re-opening. The autumn/winter programme for 2013/14 will be announced at the gala performance of *I Was A Rat!* on 15 February.



Sir Barry Jackson in front of The Old Rep, Station Street, in 1954



# Famous names at The Rep...

Over the years many of the UK's greatest actors have started their careers at The Rep, including Laurence Olivier, Peggy Ashcroft, Michael Gambon, Derek Jacobi, Paul Scofield, Ralph Richardson, Albert Finney, Gwen Ffrangcon-Davies, Ian Richardson, Elizabeth Spriggs and director Peter Brook. Plenty of illustrious names have also graced its stage down the years, including Peter O'Toole, Julie Christie, Richard Chamberlain, Patricia Routledge, Kenneth Branagh, Damian Lewis, Martin Freeman, Anita Dobson, Matthew Kelly and David Suchet.



Laurence Olivier 1927



Julie Christie 1963



Albert Finney 1958



Richard Chamberlain 1969



Derek Jacobi 1972



Anita Dobson 1998



Martin Freeman 1999



Matthew Kelly 2002



Princess Margaret meets Patricia Routledge and the cast of First Impressions in 1971

## Birmingham REP reveals artists for new initiative

NEWS

The names of eighteen regional artists chosen to take part in a year-long programme designed to forge a new generation of theatre-makers have been revealed.

REP Foundry - an initiative put together by The Rep's new artistic director Roxana Silbert - aims to discover and promote the West Midlands' most promising talent. It will be made up of six writers, six directors and six theatre-makers, all of whom will receive mentoring and professional support from staff at The Rep. In addition to masterclasses with theatre professionals, the group will have an opportunity to present 'work in progress' to a live audience via monthly scratch performance nights, the first of which takes place on Thursday 28 February.



Roxana Silbert (centre) with REP Foundry artists

## Roxana Silbert's vision for the future

"Birmingham Repertory Theatre has a unique place in British theatre history and we want to invite everyone to come and explore that rich heritage as we celebrate one hundred years since the theatre was founded by my visionary predecessor, Sir Barry Jackson.

"We've scheduled a fantastic series of events to mark our centenary and give people a wonderful opportunity to get a hands-on behind-the-scenes insight into the making of theatre, the history of The Rep and the amazingly talented people who have worked here. And as the theatre's iconic home on Broad Street is being renovated and re-opened this year, there's also a chance to explore the history of that building, as well as the Old Rep."



## Rep Community and Education

The Rep can be rightfully proud of its connections to the community and its contribution to the education of young people both from within Birmingham and beyond. The company has nineteen youth theatres with three hundred-and-fifty members, conducts two hundred-and-fifty workshops with schools each year, and has developed one hundred-and-fifty young playwrights since 2003. As part of its celebration, The Rep is giving every child born at City and Heartland's Hospitals in Birmingham during the one hundredth anniversary week (11 - 17 February) free theatre experiences at the venue for the first ten years of their life.

This will be the second Rep's Children project - its first was launched in partnership with Birmingham Family Learning Service and the Health Trust in 2004. Those one hundred-and-forty children, all of whom are now eight years old, are still going to the Rep year after year. Where possible, the theatre tries to offer productions that are suitable for the Rep's Children's age group - so, for example, this year's Rep's Children cohort will experience their first trip to the theatre in October, to see a special sensory performance for babies. The company's overall aim for children and families is to make theatre a very familiar part of their life.



# What lies ahead...

# REP 100

The Rep is entering not only its second hundred years but also an exciting new era, with a new Artistic Director in Roxana Silbert at the helm. As previously mentioned, the autumn/winter season which will follow the Rep's September reopening will be announced on 15 February at the gala performance of Philip Pullman's *I Was A Rat!* - but there's plenty more to enjoy in the months leading up to that highly anticipated relaunch...

## Celebrating those involved...

Recognising the actors, the directors, the world premieres and the behind-the-scenes staff who have made The Rep what it is today - and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund - REP100 affords people the opportunity to explore behind the scenes and discover the history of one hundred years of theatre. From The Rep's beginnings, through two world wars, the Swinging '60s and right up to the twenty-first century, this series of events offers a variety of experiences and hands-on opportunities, including activity days where people can try on costumes and help get the theatre ready for a performance. Here's what's happening, and when...

### BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS

Sat 16 Feb to Sat 30 March  
The Old Rep was The Birmingham Repertory Theatre's original home. These backstage tours will provide a fascinating insight into the early days of the company - a time when producing and performing twenty or more plays in repertoire was quite normal. So why not pop along to stand in the wings and sit in the Green Room while The Rep's guides interpret both the building and the REP100 exhibition. Free of charge. Places must be booked in advance.

### THE QUIET PIONEER

Sat 30 March at 4pm  
In association with Flatpack Festival, *The Quiet Pioneer* is a documentary about Sir Barry Jackson, the founder of Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company, giving an insight into his life and work in Birmingham, Stratford and Malvern. A special screening in association with Flatpack Festival. For more information, visit [flatpackfestival.org.uk](http://flatpackfestival.org.uk). Free of charge. Places must be booked in advance.

### AUDIO TOUR

Discover Sir Barry Jackson's theatrical journey with this audio walking tour, starting at the Old Rep on Station Street and finishing at the new Rep on Broad Street, with lots of interesting points along the way. Available from Saturday 16 February, listening devices can be collected from The Rep's Box Office, The Box in Central Library, Chamberlain Square (deposit applies), or the audio tour can be downloaded free of charge from [birmingham-rep.co.uk](http://birmingham-rep.co.uk).

### REP100 - HIDDEN HISTORIES

Mon 18 Feb to Sat 30 March  
Described as interactive, theatrical and vivid, *Hidden Histories* brings the Old Rep's stories to life. Try on costumes, write your own press report, and help get the theatre ready for its first ever performance. Lots of activities for all ages. Free of charge. Places must be booked in advance.

### REP100 - BRICKS AND MORTAR

Two free talks exploring the architectural history of The Rep. Sat 16 February 2013 at 12.30pm. Hear the story of John Bowen, who walked from Worcestershire to Birmingham with a sack of tools on his back in 1868 and set up his own business building many of Birmingham's public buildings, including the Old Rep and the Victoria Law Courts.

### THE NEW REP ON BROAD STREET, A TALK BY GRAHAM WINTERINGHAM

Sat 30 March 2013 at 1pm  
Architect of the theatre on Broad Street, Graham Winteringham tells the fascinating story of being commissioned to design a new and democratic repertory theatre - to reflect the physicality of the Old Rep, but to seat an audience of nine hundred. Learn more about his award-winning design. Free of charge. Places must be booked in advance.

### REP100 WEEKENDER

Sat 23 & Sun 24 March  
Sure to appeal to theatre lovers, artists, students, academics and historians, this weekend event is devoted to a series of talks and discussions on the Rep's achievements and significant influence on the development of British theatre over the last century. It includes:

### STATION STREET TO STRATFORD VIA MALVERN - Saturday 23 March,

Discover the fascinating journey of The Rep's founder, Sir Barry Jackson, and his role in theatre development. Leading experts from the UK theatre world will discuss the complexities and rich possibilities of re-imagining classics, as Sir Barry did when he broke new ground by producing the first Shakespeare in modern dress with his production of *Cymbeline* in 1923. They will also look at the role of regional theatre today, and what the future might hold for The Rep and other contemporary theatre-makers. Guest speakers include historian Claire Cochrane, playwrights David Edgar and Robin French, Rep Artistic Director Roxana Silbert and theatre designer Pamela Howard.



The Snowman was first staged at The Rep in 1993



## I Was A Rat!

Old Rep, Birmingham, Tues 12 February - Sat 2 March

With acclaimed adaptations of *Beauty And The Beast*, *The Snow Queen* and *The Mermaid Princess* behind them, there's little doubt that *I Was A Rat!*'s producers have here come up with a show that'll prove to be a twenty-four carat theatrical winner. Humour, fantasy, and adventure combine in this first ever professional UK production of Phillip Pullman's popular story, which sees old married couple Bob and Joan more than a little disconcerted by the arrival on their doorstep of a scruffy pageboy - particularly when he insists that he'd once upon a time been a rat...



## Heather Gardner

Old Rep, Birmingham, Thurs 14 - Thurs 28 March

This new version of Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* has been nicely Brummie-fied by local writer Robin French, whose first play, the award-winning *Bear Hug*, was produced at the Royal Court in 2004. This latest offering revolves around the life of beautiful socialite Heather, who, returning from her honeymoon to her dream home in early-1960s Edgbaston, finds herself not only torn between the attentions of two men but also on a decidedly downward spiral of self-destruction...

# Comedy

## Justin Moorhouse

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Sat 2 February; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Wed 6 February; Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Wed 13 February; Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, Thur 21 March; Glee Club, Birmingham, Thurs 28 March

Justin Moorhouse is "easily my favourite comedian", says Jimmy Carr. This is either a good thing or bad thing, dependent on whether you're an admirer or otherwise of Mr Carr's comic patter.

Moorhouse is a real charmer who knows exactly how to work a crowd. He's been around for a fair old while now (always a plus with a comedian), and offers a hugely enjoyable evening of adult-themed laughter.



## Phil Cool

mac, Birmingham, Fri 8 February

Rubber-faced laughter merchant Phil Cool was a big star back in the 1980s and early-'90s, giving Rowan Atkinson a run for his money when it came to performing 'hugely hilarious facial contortions'. Phil's career's considerably quieter nowadays, but that doesn't mean he's any less entertaining or indeed 'rubber-faced'. An evening of satire, comedy and facial-expressions-that'll-make-you-chuckle is a guarantee.

## Greg Davies

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sun 24 February

If you recognise Welsh funnyman Greg Davies from the telly but can't quite recall from which programme, it's The Inbetweeners you're likely to be thinking of - Greg played psychotic Head of Sixth Form, Mr Gilbert. Greg's made his fair share of appearances in other TV programmes too, mind, including Mock The Week and Would I Lie To You? As well as being funny -

and looking a bit like Rik Mayall - Greg's other claim to fame is his height - he's six feet eight inches tall in his stockinged feet; feet, by the way, which are a whopping size thirteen! A big man with a growing reputation.



## Micky Flanagan

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 17 February; National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Sat 16 March; Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, Tues 23 April; National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Thurs 7 - Fri 8 November

An ever-rising star on the UK comedy circuit, Micky Flanagan has made all the usual stop-offs for TV-friendly funny men, lending his talents to telly favourites such as Mock The Week, A League Of Their Own and Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow. Gags include "I've worked out what an ambience is - it's a night out without poor people", and "I went to a gym the other day. I laid down on the mat to do some sit-ups and woke up two hours later. I felt fantastic. I treated myself to a frothy coffee and a chunky Kit Kat".

## Andrew Lawrence

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 3 February, The Glee Club, Birmingham, Fri 22 February

Having started his comedy career while still at university, Andrew Lawrence has gone on to be nominated as the Chortle Awards' Best UK Headline Act, and has also been an Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee. TV appearances on shows like BBC One's Live At The Apollo and Channel Four's Stand Up For The Week, together with a series on Radio Four (How Did We End Up Like This?) in which he explored human development via stand-up, song and sketch, have earned him a still-growing reputation as one of the funniest fellas on the UK comedy circuit.



## Comedy Box Office

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM  
0844 871 3011

ARTRIX, BROMSGROVE  
01527 577330

BEDWORTH CIVIC HALL  
02476 376707

BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL  
0121 780 3333

THE DRUM, BIRMINGHAM  
0121 333 2444

DUDLEY CONCERT HALL  
01384 815 577

GLEE CLUB, BIRMINGHAM  
0871 4720400

HIGHLIGHT, BIRMINGHAM,  
0844 844 0044

HUNTINGDON HALL,  
WORCESTER,  
01905 611427

FOXLOWE ARTS CENTRE,  
LEEK, STAFFS  
01538 386112

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0121 443 4725

LG ARENA, BIRMINGHAM  
0844 338 8000

LUDLOW ASSEMBLY  
ROOMS  
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HALL  
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WOLVERHAMPTON  
0870 320 7000



# Comedy LISTINGS

For full listing information on comedy gigs including times and dates visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

**ADAM BLOOM, MICHAEL FABBRI, JOHN GORDILLO** Thurs 31 Jan - Sat 2 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**PETE FIRMAN** Fri 1 Feb, Solihull Arts Complex  
**JIMMY CARR - GAGGING ORDER** Fri 1 Feb, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**WINDSOR, DIANE SPENSER, ROB COLLINS, CHRISTIAN REILLY** Fri 1 - Sat 2 Feb, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**MANDY KNIGHT, TOPPING AND BUTCH, CARL DONNELLY & JOHN NEWTON** Fri 1 - Sat 2 Feb, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**JUSTIN MOORHOUSE** Sat 2 Feb, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**ALUN COCHRANE** Sun 3 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**ANDREW LAWRENCE** Sun 3 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**MARK THOMAS** Tue 5 Feb, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**MARK THOMAS** Wed 6 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**JUSTIN MOORHOUSE** Wed 6 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**IMRAN YUSUF** Wed 6 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**RUSSELL KANE** Thurs 7 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**JAMES ACASTER** Thurs 7 Feb, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

**ANDREW O'NEILL, GAVIN WEBSTER, SARA PASCOE & COMIC TBC** Thurs 7 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**PAUL TONKINSON** Fri 8 Feb, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

**PHIL COOL** Fri 8 Feb, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**ANDREW O'NEILL, GAVIN WEBSTER, SARA PASCOE & FREDRIK ANDERSSON** Fri 8 - Sat 9 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**CHRISTIAN REILLY, STEVE WILLIAMS, MAT REED & RHODRI RHYS** Fri 8 - Sat 9 Feb, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**JASON PATTERSON, WILL- E ROBO AND COMICS TBC** Fri 8 - Sat 9 Feb,

**FRIDAY** Fri 8 - Sat 9 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham**  
**BARRY CRYER & RONNIE GOLDEN** Sun 10 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**JIMEOIN** Tue 12 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**MARK THOMAS** Tue 12 Feb, Solihull Arts Complex

**JUSTIN MOORHOUSE** Wed 13 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**LAUGHING COWS** Featuring Susan Murray, Suzi Ruffle & MC Maureen Younger, Wed 13 Feb, The Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

**HARRY HILL: SAUSAGE TIME** Wed 13 - Thurs 14 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**IAN MOORE, BRENDON BURNS, KEVIN MCCARTHY & ANGELA BARNES & COMIC TBC** Thurs 14 - Sat 16 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**SHAZIA MIRZA - CUCK-OOLAND!** Fri 15 Feb, The Public, West Bromwich

**MARK THOMAS** Fri 15 Feb, Stourbridge Town Hall

**JIMMY CARR - GAGGING ORDER** Fri 15 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**PETE FIRMAN** Fri 15 Feb, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton

**ROBIN INCE: THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING INTER-**

**ESTED** Fri 15 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**PIERRE HOLLINS, STUART GOLDSMITH, SCOTT AGNEW & THE NOISE NEXT DOOR** Fri 15 - Sat 16 Feb, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**PHIL BUTLER, ADAM CROW, KATE LUCAS & KEITH FARNAN** Fri 15 - Sat 16 Feb, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**KEN DODD** Sat 16 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**BARNSTORMERS COMEDY NIGHT** Line-up tbc, Sat 16 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**SIMON DAY: COMEDY & ERROR** Sat 16 Feb, The Place, Oakengates, Telford

**KATHERINE RYAN - NATURE'S CANDY TOUR** Sun 17 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**CHRIS ADDISON** Sun 17 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**MICKY FLANAGAN** Sun 17 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**ZOE LYONS** Wed 20 Feb, Roses Theatre, Tewksbury

**JOHN FOTHERGILL, GORDON SOUTHERN, REVEREND O'BADIAH STEPPENWOLF & SIMON CLAYTON** Thurs 21 - Fri 22 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**JOHN ROBINS** Sat 23 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**JETHRO** Sat 23 Feb, Dudley Town Hall

**SIMON DAY** Sat 23 Feb, Birmingham

**COMEDY AT THE MET** Sat 23 Feb, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre



**JOJO SMITH, DALISO CHAPONDA, RICH WILSON & STUART MITCHELL** Fri 22 - Sat 23 Feb, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**JERRY SADOWITZ** Comedian, Magician, Psychopath!, Fri 22 Feb, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton

**4 POOFS AND A PIANO** The promise of magical musical mayhem & camp comedy capers, Fri 22 Feb, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**BARNSTORMERS COMEDY NIGHT** Fri 22 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**QUINCY, SIMON BLIGH, THE RAYMOND AND MR TIMPKINS REVUE** Fri 22 - Sat 23 Feb, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**ANDREW LAWRENCE** Fri 22 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**GREG DAVIES: THE BACK OF MY MUM'S HEAD** Sun 24 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**HARRY HILL: SAUSAGE TIME** Tues 26 - Wed 27 Feb, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**HENNING WEHN** Wed 27 Feb, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**TAYLOR GLENN, RHYS JAMES, TOM TOAL, RAY PEACOCK** Wed 27 Feb, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

# ARENA THEATRE

Thursday 7th February, 7.30pm

## GOOD FRIDAY

David Parkin



In 2009 David Parkin suffered a breakdown due to clinical depression. As he recovered he taught himself how to play the piano and ended up writing an album about his illness.

David will perform the album and talk about his breakdown in this humorous performance accompanied by two talented multi-instrumentalists and directed by New Art Club's Pete Shenton.

Tickets: £9 full price and £7 concs.

Wednesday 13 February, 7.30pm

## A SOLDIER'S SONG

KEN LUKOWIAK



Ken Lukowiak was an infantryman during the Falklands War, witnessing many of the most famous moments of the conflict. This one-man show invokes the horror, futility and tedium of his experiences on the front line and the lingering

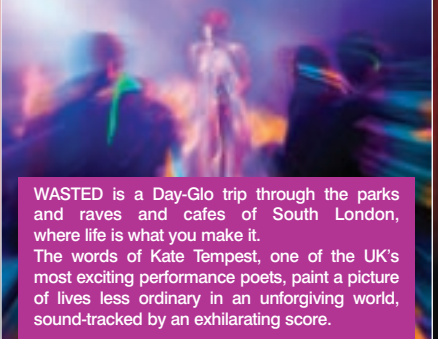
Tickets: £9 full price and £7 concs.

Tuesday 26 February, 7.30pm

Paines Plough, Birmingham Repertory Theatre and The Roundhouse present

## WASTED

by Kate Tempest



WASTED is a Day-Glo trip through the parks and raves and cafes of South London, where life is what you make it. The words of Kate Tempest, one of the UK's most exciting performance poets, paint a picture of lives less ordinary in an unforgiving world, sound-tracked by an exhilarating score.

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FRI 15 - SAT 23 FEB



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£15 - £21

TUE 26 FEB - SAT 2 MAR



**THE FULL MONTY**  
A PLAY BY SIMON BEAUFAY

£15 - £22.50

TUE 5 - SAT 9 MAR



Welsh National Opera

Lulu  
ALBAN BERG  
Madam Butterfly  
GIACOMO PUCCINI  
The Cunning Little Vixen  
LEOŠ JANÁČEK

£10 - £16

WED 13 MAR - SAT 4 MAY

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★★★★★  
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TUE 7 & WED 8 MAY

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# SUTRA

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FRI 10 & SAT 11 MAY

# SEAN LOCK PURPLE VAN MAN



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TUE 14 - SAT 18 MAY

# HIGH SOCIETY



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TUE 21 MAY - SAT 1 JUN

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FUNNY, SUNNY,  
SHOW IN TOWN!'

GUARDIAN

'THE MUSICAL  
WITH EVERYTHING  
A TRIUMPH!'

OBSESSIVE

# hairspray



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WED 12 - SAT 15 JUN

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Welsh National Opera

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RICHARD WAGNER  
Wagner Dream  
JONATHAN HARVEY  
Madam Butterfly  
GIACOMO PUCCINI



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SAT 28 SEP

£15 - £50



# Theatre



## The Mousetrap

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Mon 4 - Sat 9 February; Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 18 - Sat 23 February; Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 27 May - Sat 1 June

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

formed almost twenty-five thousand times, and turns up in the Midlands on its first ever tour. Casting for the Birmingham and Stoke dates features Karl Howman (*Brush Strokes*), Bruno Langley (*Coronation Street*), Graham Seed (*The Archers*), Steven France, Jemma Walker and Clare Wilkie (*EastEnders*).



## Driving Miss Daisy

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Mon 11 - Sat 16 February

Recounting the story of an old Jewish woman and her challenging relationship with her African-American chauffeur, Alfred Uhry's Pulitzer Prize-winning play is best known from its 1989 Academy-Award-winning movie adaptation starring Morgan Freeman and Jessica Tandy, the latter of whom bagged a Best Actress Oscar. This critically acclaimed version of the work is out on tour after enjoying sell-out runs both on Broadway and in the West End. Television favourites Gwen Taylor (*Duty Free* and *Coronation Street*) and Don Warrington (*Rising Damp*) take the lead roles.

## The Full Monty

Birmingham Hippodrome, Tues 26 February - Sat 2 March

Sheffield Theatres is the company behind this latest version of one of the most successful British screen comedies of all time, telling the story of six unemployed steel workers who decide to get their kits off to earn some much-needed cash. Featuring songs from the film by Donna Summer, Rod Stewart, Hot Chocolate and Tom Jones.



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## **Heather Gardner**

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by Robin French  
Directed by Mike Bradwell

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## Spring Awakening

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sat 16 February;  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Fri 29 March

Containing nudity and scenes of an adult nature, Frank Wedekind's *Spring Awakening* is regarded as a seminal work in the modern history of theatre. Set in Germany in 1891, it focuses on the character of the hedonistic Melchior, a fifteen-year-old boy who's considered to be so lewd and despicable that he's chased out of town. But Melchior is both bright and sensitive, and is crushed by the death during an abortion of his fourteen-year-old love, Wendla - an abortion thrust upon her by her narrow-minded parents. Struggling to come to terms with his loss, and persecuted by both his own parents and the authorities, Melchior finds himself suddenly confronted by the ghosts of his past...



## The Animals And Children Took To The Streets

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry,  
Tues 12 - Sat 16 February

Live music, performance and storytelling, films and animation are here combined to intriguing effect by the highly rated 1927 company, whose previous offering, *Between The Devil And The Deep Blue Sea*, enjoyed widespread international success. Set in a sprawling tenement block in the much-loathed Bayou area of the city, the play focuses on the characters of Agnes Eaves and her daughter, late-night arrivals in a world inhabited by curtain-twitchers and peeping-toms. But do the pair symbolise a previously unimaginable glimmer of hope, or has the real horror only just begun?...



## Gonzo Moose: What The Dickens?

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Wed 27 February

Pockmarked pickpockets, cobwebby convicts, teeming slums, empty marshes, quick costume changes, daft jokes and plenty of thick pea-soupers are very much the name of



Rehearsal shot for High Society

## High Society

The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Tues 26 February - Sat 2 March;  
Birmingham Hippodrome, Tues 14 - Sat 18 May

The magnificent Cole Porter musical *High Society* needs no introduction. It tells the story of Tracy Lord, a beautiful society hostess whose pending second marriage is put in jeopardy by the arrival of her first husband and a sleazy journalist sifting for gossip. Based on *The Philadelphia Story*, the popular MGM movie starred Frank Sinatra and Bing Crosby, each trying to croon their way into the affections of Grace Kelly, and included such classic songs as *True Love*, *Well Did You Ever* and *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*. Michael Praed (Robin Of Sherwood), Teddy Kempner (Acorn Antiques), Daniel Boys and Sophie Bould star.



the game in this intriguing new comedy that sees three actors playing more than twenty roles in only eighty minutes. When rookie reporter Charles Dickens is busily investigating the foggy slums of fair Londinium, he accidentally stumbles across a story that could well be the making of him as a journalist, not to mention see him embarking on the adventure of a lifetime... Well reviewed by many a usually dour-faced critic, *What The Dickens?* is described as 'the most absurd contribution to the Dickens bicentenary you could hope to see'.



## The Thrill Of Love

New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme,  
Sat 22 February - Sat 9 Mar

Best known for having been the last woman to be hanged in Britain, single mum Ruth Ellis was a complex character who worked hard and played hard. When she shot dead her unfaithful lover, her wild life of nightclubs, alcohol and men was brought to an abrupt and highly publicised halt. This new play by Amanda Whittington seeks to present the woman behind the horrific headlines, revealing not only why Ruth offered no defence for her crime but also the identity of the person she was seeking to protect...



## I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton,  
Sat 9 - Sun 10 February

The trials and tribulations of relationships - not forgetting the associated subjects of dating, sex, weddings, babies and divorces - offer plenty of ripe subject matter for playwright/lyricist Joe DiPietro and composer Jimmy Roberts's highly regarded revue show. Off-Broadway's longest running musical is here presented by Hashtag Theatre.

## Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Tues 12 - Sat 16 February;  
Malvern Theatre, Tues 26 February - Sat 2 March

Any Dream Will Do runner-up Keith Jack takes the lead in Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's classic musical, which tells the story of a boy driven into slavery by his calculating brothers, who're all envious of his coat of many colours. Joseph's ability to predict the future from his dreams, however, ultimately frees him and wins him a place among the highest in the land... This long-time hit show is an ensemble triumph, with terrific energy put in by all concerned.





## The Be Good Tanyas

with Emily Portman

Sat 2 Feb



"Three feisty angels"

★★★★ The Guardian

## Mark Thomas

Bravo Figaro!

Wed 6 Feb

"Nothing short of amazing...absolutely superlative stuff"

Chortle.co.uk



1927

## The Animals and Children Took to the Streets

Tue 12 - Sat 16 Feb



"Anyone interested in the theatre should see this company now"

The Observer

Theatre-Rites

## Rubbish

Wed 20 Feb - Sat 23 Feb



"The outstanding children's company Theatre-Rites"

The Guardian

## Yamato

The Drummers of Japan

Sat 23 Feb

"Simply breathtaking"

The Telegraph



Fevered Sleep

## Above Me The Wide Blue Sky

Wed 27 Feb - Sat 2 Mar

Staged within a multi-screen film installation, with a soundscape of birdsong, electronic music and a new score for string quartet.



## Toploader

Turning It Around Tour

Thu 28 Feb

"Melodies that soar to the heavens." Q Magazine

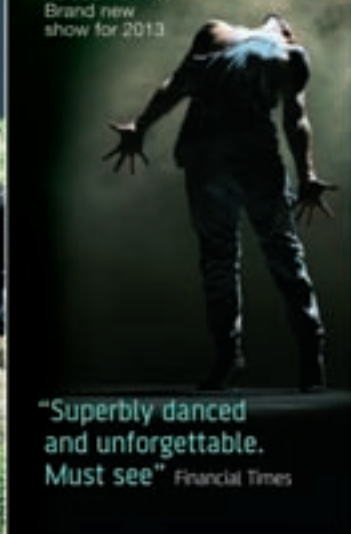


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## Theatre PREVIEWS

### The Life Of Galileo

The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Thurs 31 January - Sat 30 March

Charting the seventeenth century scientist's incredible struggle against the church over his assertion that the earth orbits the sun, *A Life Of Galileo* is considered by many to be Bertolt Brecht's finest play, presenting, as it does, the key conflict between scientific discovery and religious fundamentalism. This is a new translation by RSC Writer In Residence Mark Ravenhill.



### Of Mice And Men

Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham, Wed 6 - Sat 9 February

George and Lennie are drifters who only have each other and their shared search for the American Dream. George is the sharp little guy who looks out for Lennie. Lennie, meanwhile, is his big-hearted companion who, unaware of his own strength, seems unable to keep out of trouble. Finding work on a ranch in California, they plan to stay long enough to buy a little place of their own - but their arrival triggers a tragic chain of events that threatens to destroy the very dream that unites them... John Steinbeck's classic novel is widely considered to be one of the twentieth century's greatest works of literature, and is regularly adapted for the stage.



## Kids SHOWS

### The Elephant Bridesmaid

Bridge House Theatre, Warwick, Wed 20 February; Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Thurs 21 February; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 23 February; The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 6 May

Weddings, wombats and the Australian jungle's one and only elephant bridesmaid are all present and correct in this high-energy musical from the pen of Steven Lee. Written with anybody between the ages of four and one hundred-and-four in mind, it's based on a story from the bestselling book *How The Koala Learnt To Hug And Other Australian Fairytales*, and follows Nessie the Elephant and her numerous animal friends on a sure-



Rehearsal shot for Marriage

## Marriage

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Sat 2 - Sat 23 February

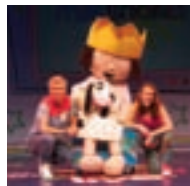
The latest in a series of Belgrade productions taking a look at the subject of marriage, this new version of Nikolai Gogol's comic masterpiece is set in St Petersburg and finds Ilya driven to distraction by his dithering friend Ivan. Blushing bride-to-be Agafya has no shortage of suitors, of whom Ivan is one, but the latter doesn't seem able to find the nerve to pop the question. So what's a top chum to do but take control of the situation, with Ilya determining to do what he can to ensure that his pal will soon be taking that longed-for walk down the aisle...

to-be-fun quest for a bridesmaid outfit. And just to stick with the theme, audience members are invited to wear their own fancy clothes (or fancy dress) for the chance to take part in a 'fabulous fashion show' live on stage!

### Milkshake Live

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Weds 20 February; Palace Theatre, Redditch, Thurs 4 April; Crewe Lyceum, Sat 13 April; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Sat 1 June

If your kids love Channel Five's *Milkshake!*, then tell them they'd better brace themselves - because the hit TV show is coming to a theatre near them! *Milkshake!* favourites Little Princess and Scruff, Noddy and Tessie Bear, Roary and Big Chris, Fifi and Bumble and B1 & B2 - the Bananas In Pyjamas - have all hit the road for a tour that's promising to bring to life all the familiar magic from the hugely popular television series. New songs, classic favourites and funky dance moves all feature, not to mention the compulsory 'bags of audience interaction and bucketloads of fun'.



### Disney On Ice: Let's Party!

LG Arena, Birmingham, Wed 20 - Sun 24 February

Get your skates on for the return of Disney's ever-popular ice spectacular, complete with high-energy music, glittering sets and dramatic choreography! This year's show features over fifty Disney characters in what's

being described as 'a captivating compilation of favourite holidays and celebrations from around the world'. Highlights include Mickey and Minnie Mouse celebrating a Very Merry Unbirthday Party with Alice and the Mad Hatter; Woody, Jessie and Buzz Lightyear experiencing the pleasures and perils of a winter wonderland; and numerous Disney villains ensuring the show benefits from a knee-knocking, spinet-ingling Halloween vibe.



### The Chuckle Brothers: Meet The Phantom

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Tues 19 February; Bedworth Civic Hall, Thurs 21 February; The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 8 April

More Chuckletastic fun from Paul and Barry, with the boys this time setting off on a Scooby-Doo-style adventure in a haunted old theatre. With rumours of a ghostly phantom meaning there are fewer and fewer bums on auditorium seats, the theatre's at-his-wits'-end manager turns to the dynamic duo in the hope that they can help him bring the crowds back... Songs, slapstick comedy, 'spectacular' magic and even the odd puppet or two all feature in this latest installment of the Chuckle boys' adventures.



AGATHA CHRISTIE'S  
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1952-2012

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THE UNION GAP UK,  
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THU 28 FEB

THE  
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OF HORRORS

CURSE OF  
THE DEVIL DOLL

MON 18 FEB

**RUSSELL  
KANE**

POSTURING  
DELIVERY

FRI 1 MAR

YAMATO  
DRUMMERS  
OF JAPAN

FRI 22 FEB

BIZZET  
**CARMEN**

SAT 2 MAR

**CODY  
SIMPSON**

WELCOME  
TO PARADISE

SAT 23 FEB

★★★★  
'YESTERYEAR  
ENGLAND AT IT'S BEST'  
THE TELEGRAPH

MAURICE'S  
JUBILEE

TUE 5 - SAT 9 MAR

**HARRY HILL**

SAUSAGE TIME

TUE 26 - WED 27 FEB

**SALLY  
MORGAN**

PSYCHIC  
SALLY: ON  
THE ROAD


MON 11 MAR

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## WHAT'S ON?

### Simon Day - Comedy & Errors

Sat 23 Feb, 8pm | Tickets £15 (£12) | 12+

Witty repartee from the star of The Fast Show based on his recent autobiography followed by a Q&A session and book signing.

### Rosie Kay Dance - There Is Hope

Thu 7 & Fri 8 Mar, 8pm | Tickets £12 (£10) | Age 14+

Contemporary dance with Kay's renowned black comedy, occasional nudity and athletic performances.

### NT Live: Alan Bennett's People

Thu 21 Mar, 7pm | Tickets £14 (£12)

Exciting new work from the National Theatre, London, broadcast live on the big screen at **mac birmingham**. Look out for another chance to see this with our Encore screenings.

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# Theatre LISTINGS

For full listing information on theatre productions including times and dates visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

From  
**FRI 1 FEB**

## GO BACK FOR MURDER

Robert Duncan, Andrew Attwood, Lysette Anthony & Ben Nealon star in a new production of Agatha Christie's crime classic, until Sat 2 Feb, Malvern Theatres

## UBU ROI

Cheek By Jowl present Alfred Jarry's menacing, petulant and wonderfully anarchic play, until Sat 2 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW

Rhydian Roberts stars alongside Ben Forster in this fortieth anniversary production of Richard O'Brien's cult musical extravaganza, until Sat 2 Feb, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

## BEDROOM FARCE

The Lichfield Players present their version of Alan Ayckbourn's acclaimed play, until Sat 2 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

## THE LADYKILLERS

Michele Dotrice stars alongside Clive Mantle, Chris McCalphy, William Troughton, Cliff Parisi and Paul Brown in Graham Linehan's new adaptation of the celebrated Ealing comedy, until Sat 2 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

## BIRDSONG

Critically acclaimed version of Sebastian Faulks' tale of love and war, set both before and during the Great War, until Sat 2 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

## PRIVATE LIVES

Noel Coward's comedy of manners in three acts, until Sat 2 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

## THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS

ISCARIOT WUDS present a riotous courtroom drama where history's most infamous betrayal is dissected by the forces of good and evil, until Sat 2 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## THE CARDINALS

Stan's Cafe present a wordless show-within-a-show which centres around the nature of religious and theatrical belief, until Sat 2 Feb, AE Harris, Birmingham

## JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH

Birmingham Stage Company present Roald Dahl's classic adventure for children, until Sat 2 Feb, Old Rep, Birmingham

## A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED

Agatha Christie's much-loved mystery is here presented by The Nonentities, until Sat 2 Feb, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

## TWELFTH NIGHT

Blue Orange Arts present Shakespeare's comedy of mistaken identity, transformation and deception, until Sat 9 Feb, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

## TALKING HEADS

Three monologues from acclaimed British playwright Alan Bennett - A Chip In The Sugar, A Lady Of Letters and A Cream Cracker Under The Settee, until Sat 16 Feb, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

## THE WINTER'S TALE

Lucy Bailey directs Tara Fitzgerald in Shakespeare's uplifting tale of reconciliation and forgiveness, until Sat 23 Feb, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

## THE ORPHAN OF ZHAO

Gregory Doran directs a new production of the first Chinese play to be translated in the West, until Thurs 28 Mar, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

## BORIS GODUNOV

Michael Boyd directs Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of Alexander Pushkin's political Russian drama, until Sat 30 Mar, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

## THE LIFE OF GALILEO

Bertolt Brecht's play explores the struggle between scientific discovery and religious fundamentalism, until Sat 30 Mar, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

## DEATH OF A BEAUTY

Tracey presents a one-woman show about the world of beauty, Fri 1 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## MOTHER GOOSE

Family pantomime written by Sarah Newall-Lecrivain, Fri 1 - Sun 3 Feb, The Belfry, Wellington, Shropshire

## THE TWIST (GREAT SONGS NEVER DIE)

Happy Days meets Buddy in a '50s & '60s rock'n'roll epic. Starring and created by Strictly Come Dancing lead vocalist Chris Main and West End sweetheart

Suzi Jary, Sat 2 Feb, Solihull Arts Complex

## THE CUCKOO-CLOCK BIRD

STAC present theatre for children, Sat 2 Feb, Swan Theatre, Worcester

## WOULD BE NICE THOUGH

Odd Comic present a site-specific performance that immerses audiences in the tense atmosphere of a waiting room and invites them to join other hopeful candidates awaiting a job interview, Sat 2 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## MAVIS SPARKLE

New production from M6 Theatre Company which fuses illusion and animation to explore the magic and wonder of the universe, Sat 2 Feb, Library Theatre, Birmingham

## MARRIAGE

A new staging of Nikolai Gogol's comic masterpiece, Sat 2 - Sat 23 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

Week Commencing  
**MON 4 FEB**

## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Shakespeare's comedy is here performed by Custom Practise & TEG Productions, Mon 4 - Tues 5 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

## GO BACK FOR MURDER

Robert Duncan, Andrew Attwood, Lysette Anthony & Ben Nealon star in a new production of Agatha Christie's crime classic, Mon 4 - Sat 9 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

## OF MICE AND MEN

Tin Shed Theatre Company present their version of John Steinbeck's gripping tale of two men with a single dream, Mon 4 - Sat 9 Feb, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

## THE MOUSETRAP

Karl Howman, Bruno Langley, Elizabeth Power, Graham Seed, Steven France, Jemma Walker, Clare Wilkie & Bob Saul star in a touring production of the longest running show in the history of British theatre, Mon 4 - Sat 9 Feb, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

## CHINESE STATE CIRCUS

Two-hour extravaganza featuring thirty Chinese artists, Tues 5 - Wed 6 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## MATTHEW BOURNE'S SLEEPING BEAUTY

Matthew Bourne's latest production is described as a gothic romance for all ages - a supernatural love story which not even the passage of time can hinder, Tue 5 - Sat 9 Feb, Birmingham Hippodrome

## PACK OF LIES

Stafford Players present an



amateur production of Hugh Whitmore's compelling drama, telling the story of an ordinary suburban couple's descent into the nightmare world of lies, treachery and deceit, Tue 5 - Sat 9 Feb, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

## THE SMELL OF ENVY

Pigeon Theatre present a show about smell and memory, place and love, desire and envy, Wed 6 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## ELSIE & NORM'S MACBETH

Fed up with playing Trivial Pursuit and watching television reruns, Elsie & Norm decide to go for a bit of culture and stage some Shakespeare in their living room. Presented by Opus Theatre Company, Thurs 7 - Fri 8 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

## BOOGIE NIGHTS

Remixed one-night concert featuring Merrill, Jimmy & Jay Osmond, Gareth Gates, Andy Abrahams, Laura White, Chico & Shane Richie Thurs 7 Feb, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

## THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND

Tamworth Theatre Company present Tom Stoppard's one-act play, Thurs 7 - Fri 8 Feb, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

## THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD

Oddssocks put a festive spin on the classic English tale, Thurs 7 Feb, The Place, Oakengates, Telford

## HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

Amateur production of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's most popular story, Thurs 7 - Sat 9 Feb, Swan Theatre, Worcester

## GILBERT & SULLIVAN

ABRIDGED A fast-paced romp through all fourteen of the musical duo's operettas in just

ninety minutes, Fri 8 Feb, Malvern Theatre

## THE BIG ARENA LOVE SLAM

Valentine's Day-themed poetry slam, Fri 8 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## THE ZERO HOUR

Imitating The Dog & Pete Brooks fuse live action with pre-recorded film, animation and computer-generated imagery to create a world where human relationships are located at the heart of historical events, Fri 8 - Sat 9 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## THE WIZ

The Viv Kelly Children's Theatre Group present a fun, hippie version of The Wizard Of Oz, with fabulous rock, gospel and soul music, Fri 8 - Sat 9 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## MOTHER GOOSE

Family pantomime written by Sarah Newall-Lecrivain, Fri 8 - Sun 10 Feb, The Belfry, Wellington, Shropshire

## SWINGING AT THE COTTON CLUB

Action-packed show celebrating the music, dance and songs of the Cotton Club - New York City's famous nightclub of the 1920s and '30s, Sat 9 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

## TALES FROM THE SHADOWS

The ghost stories of Edgar Allan Poe, Sat 9 Feb, Palace Theatre, Redditch

## RUBY MAIHEM BURLLESQUE

Sat 9 Feb, The Public, West Bromwich

## MACBETH: BLOOD WILL HAVE BLOOD

A new version of Shakespeare's bloodiest play which is aimed at nine to thirteen-year-olds, Sat 9 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE

Hashtag Theatre present a musical comedy

about love in the twenty-first century, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

## MADAM BUTTERFLY

The Grand Opera of Belarus present Puccini's tragic tale, Sun 10 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## DRIVING MISS DAISY

A timeless American play which inspired the much-loved Academy Award-winning film of the same name. Gwen Taylor and Don Warrington star, Mon 11 - Sat 16 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

## SPRING AWAKENING

Icarus Theatre Collective present an adaptation of the 1891 German play of the same name which explores the often confusing journey from adolescence to adulthood, Sat 16 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## GREASE

Presented by WBS Musicals, Tues 12 - Fri 15 Feb, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

## SOPHOCLES' AJAX

Greek tragedy presented by Warwick School Classical Society, Tues 12 - Fri 15 Feb, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Shakespeare's comedy is here performed by Custom Practise & TEG Productions, Tues 12 - Sat 16 Feb, Malvern Theatre

## THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett's staging of one of the most poignant true stories to emerge from the Second World War, Tues 12

Week Commencing  
**MON 11 FEB**



# Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**JUSTIN MOORHOUSE**  
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

CALL FOR YOUR BROCHURE TODAY

**Sat 2 Feb**

Don't miss this stand-up romp from one of Britain's best comedians. Watching Justin live is a joy to behold, his comedy only coming second to his modesty. Justin didn't write this. He got someone else to do it, but he agrees.



8.00pm, £14 / £12 concs

**FLOSSIE**  
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

**Fri 15 Feb**

Acknowledged by Radio 2 as an upcoming talent, Flossie Malavalle showcases songs from her collection of nine albums, from well established folk songs to jazz standards, blues numbers to Edith Piaf and Jacques Brel's classics.



7.30pm, £12, £11 concs

**JUICE COMEDY**  
THE MET STUDIO

**Sat 16 Feb**

JUICE Comedy is Stafford's premier comedy club, entertaining Stafford for over eight years! After sell-out shows in 2011 & 2012 JUICE returns to The MET Studio, bringing the very best in stand-up comedy! The show will feature five excellent comedians plus resident MC & host Paul Savage!



7.30pm, £12

**THE ELEPHANT BRIDESMAID**  
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

**Thurs 21 Feb**

A magical musical about weddings and wombats and the loveliest elephant in the world! Join Nessie the Elephant and her friends as they search for an outfit fancy enough (and large enough) to make her the Australian jungle's most beautiful Elephant Bridesmaid



2.30pm, £9.50, £8.50 concs, Family £32.00

**MAET LOAF**  
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

**Sat 23 Feb**

Let your rock 'n' roll dreams come true with Maet Loaf & The Never Neverland Express, a fully live tribute to rock legend Meat Loaf. Maet Loaf & The Never Neverland Express have excited fans across the country including main stage appearances at several festivals



7.30pm, £17.50 / £16.00 concs

**RICH HALL**  
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

**Fri 1 Mar**

Rich Hall's renowned grouchy, deadpan style has established him as a master of absurdist irony and king of rapid-fire wit. Fans can see the comic genius from Montana discuss a variety of topics all delivered in his own hilarious unique way



8.00pm, £15

**BOOK ONLINE**



Box Office 01785 254653  
www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk

Blue Orange Arts presents

# Lady Chatterley's Lover

by D. H. Lawrence  
Adapted by Roman de Fruscan

**WARNING!**  
Contains scenes of an explicit sexual nature.

Thursday 7th March - Saturday 16th March  
The Blue Orange Theatre  
Box Office 0121 212 2643  
www.blueorangetheatre.co.uk  
118 Great Hampton Street, Birmingham, B18 6AD

## BROMSGROVE'S THEATRE, CINEMA, LIVE MUSIC AND COMEDY VENUE

## FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Tues 19th February

**ALASKA**

PYTHONESQUE DOTTINESS FROM BLACK FISH



Wed 20th February

**SHARON SHANNON**

ACCLAIMED IRISH ACCORDIONIST



Thurs 21st February

**PETE FIRMAN - HOODWINKER**

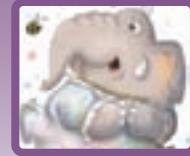
AS SEEN ON BBC1'S THE MAGICIANS



Sat 23rd February

**THE ELEPHANT BRIDESMAID**

A TRUNKLOAD OF FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY



Sat 23rd February

**GINGER BAKER'S JAZZ CONFUSION**

LEGENDARY DRUMMER WITH PEE WEE ELLIS



Mon 25th February

**HEIDI TALBOT**

ACHINGLY BITTERSWEET & TENDER IRISH VOCALIST



**FORTHCOMING CINEMA:** Beginners (15) // The Life Of Pi (PG) Beauty (18) // Rise Of The Guardians (PG) // Babette's Feast (U) Quartet (12A)



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# Theatre

THE OLD JOINT STOCK

## BIRMINGHAM'S PREMIER PUB THEATRE

Sat 2nd Feb, 7.30pm

**NTI SHOWCASE**

The short plays created in our third cycle of NTI workshops will be premiered in the NTI Showcase Night.

£5.00

Fri 8th Feb, 8pm

Sat 9th Feb, 2pm & 8pm

**OF MICE AND MEN**

John Steinbeck's gripping and dramatic tale of two men with a single dream is told in stunning detail by Tin Shed Theatre Co.

£10 (£8.50 concs)

Wed 13th Feb, 7.45pm

Thu 14th Feb, 2.30pm & 7.45pm

Fri 15th Feb, 7.45pm

Sat 16th Feb, 5.00pm

**THERESE RAQUIN**

Zola's 19th-century examination of inevitable brutality in this taut psychological thriller of adultery, murder and revenge.

£7 / £5 concs / £2.50 students

Wed 20th Feb, 7.45pm

Thu 21st Feb, 2.30pm & 7.45pm

Fri 22nd Feb, 7.45pm

Sat 23rd Feb, 5.00pm

**THE GLASS MENAGERIE**

In 'The Glass Menagerie', Tennessee Williams movingly portrays a world of loneliness and lost love.

£7 / £5 concs / £2.50 students

Thurs 28th Feb, 8pm

**FOGHORN IMPROV: MOVIE MAKEOVER**

Got a favorite movie? Come see Foghorn Improv shamelessly plagiarize the plot - we'll Improv recycle your favorite film scenes creating tall tales to order!

£7.50

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# Theatre LISTINGS

For full listing information on theatre productions, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

- Sat 16 Feb, Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**I WAS A RAT** A Birmingham Repertory Theatre production in association with Nottingham Playhouse, Ipswich New Wolsey and Teatro Kismet (Italy), Tue 12 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, Old Rep, Birmingham

**THE ANIMALS AND CHILDREN TOOK TO THE STREETS** 1927 fuse live music, performance and storytelling with films and animation in an original and startling new tale set in an infamous tenement block, Tue 12 - Sat 16 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT** Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, Tue 12 - Sat 16 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**A SOLDIER'S SONG** The true story of Ken Lukowiak's experiences as a soldier during the Falklands War, Wed 13 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**TWEEDY'S LOST PROPERTY** Family comedy concerning a clown who gives into society & gets a real job, Wed 13 Feb, The Roses, Tewksbury

**VIRGINIA IRONSIDE'S GROWING OLD DISGRACEFULLY** Witty, one-woman show for all ages, Wed 13 Feb, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**ROMEO AND JULIET** Icarus Theatre Collective present a bold new production of Shakespeare's most tragic tale, Wed 13 - Fri 15 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT** Birmingham School of Acting present a courtroom drama where history's most infamous betrayal is dissected by the forces of good and evil, Wed 13 - Sat 16 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**THERESE RAQUIN** Birmingham School of Acting present Nicholas Wright's adaptation of Emile Zola's psychological thriller of adultery, murder and revenge, Wed 13 - Sat 16 Feb, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**MIDDAY VARIETY** Featuring Vince Hill & comedy duo Sanders and Martin, Thurs 14 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**ALASKA** Tragi-comic riot set in Alaska's isolated

landscapes, Thurs 14 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton  
**THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT** Stand-up romcom Valentine's special featuring comic Gareth Berliner & actress Kiruna Stamell, Thurs 14 Feb, mac, Birmingham

**FINDING JOY** A comic, anarchic, touching and heroic full-mask adventure from Worcester-based theatre company Vamos, Thurs 14 - Sat 16 Feb, Hereford Courtyard Theatre

**THE NIGHT QUEEN** A fusion of music, mystery and adventure in an uplifting tale where youth is pitted against experience, Thurs 14 - Sat 16 Feb, Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**MICHAELA STRACHAN'S REALLY WILD ADVENTURES** A whistle-stop show of alphabet jungle rhymes, Fri 15 Feb, Roses Theatre, Tewksbury

**A FEAST OF GILBERT & SULLIVAN** Featuring the former singers of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, Fri 15 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**THE LICHFIELD MYSTERIES** Two new short plays from the pens of local writers Carolyn Scott-Jeffs and Lizzie Wofford, Fri 15 - Sat 16 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**FLYING HOME** Somesuch Theatre present a new play by Dierdre Burton & Tom Davis, Fri 15 - Sun 17 Feb, mac, Birmingham

**ALADDIN** Birmingham Royal Ballet present the UK premiere of David Bintley's magical tale of love, trickery and triumph, Fri 15 - Sat 23 Feb, Birmingham Hippodrome

**RED RIDING HOOD** Sat 16 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**SING-A-LONG-A GREASE** Sat 16 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS** Lollipop Theatre School present their version of the much-loved comic rock musical, Sat 16 - Sun 17 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**COPACABANA** Adlib Theatre Company present Barry Manilow's full-scale musical, Sun 17 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**Week Commencing MON 18 FEB**

**CIRCUS OF HORRORS: CURSE OF THE DEVIL DOLL** Prepare for phantasmagoria twists and

turns to send shivers down your spine as the demonic dummy seems to take on a life of its own, Mon 18 Feb, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**STUCK** Big Wooden Horse present a stage show for children based on Oliver Jeffers' award-winning book, Mon 18 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**THE MOUSETRAP** Karl Howman, Bruno Langley, Elizabeth Power, Graham Seed, Steven France, Jemma Walker, Clare Wilkie & Bob Saul star in a touring production of the longest running show in the history of British theatre, Mon 18 - Sat 23 Feb, Regent Theatre

**THE ICEBOOK** A miniature theatre show which uses paper and light to transport viewers into the heart of a fantasy world, Mon 18 - Sat 23 Feb, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**THE CHUCKLE BROTHERS MEET THE PHANTOM** Songs, slapstick, magic, puppets and fun for all the family in this latest offering from the popular TV and stage duo, Tue 19 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**ALASKA - BLACK FISH** Tragi-comic riot set in Alaska's isolated landscapes, Tue 19 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**TICK TOCK TIME MACHINE** CBeebies presenters Andy & Mike present their latest stage adventure for children, Tues 19 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**JANE EYRE** Hull Truck Theatre Company present a new version of Charlotte Bronte's classic story of love, loss and redemption, Tues 19 Feb, The Roses, Tewksbury

**CARMEN** Ellen Kent Productions present their version of Bizet's passionate opera, Tues 19 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**THE SOUND OF MUSIC** Bridgnorth Musical Theatre Company present their version of the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic, Tues 19 - Sat 23 Feb, Bridgnorth Leisure Centre, South Shropshire

**THE ADVENTURES OF RED RIDING HOOD** Tues 19 - Fri 22 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**A NIGHT AT THE MUSIC HALL** Hosted by Don Maclean and featuring Marilyn Hill Smith, Jan Hunt, Simmons & Simmons, David Conway and Jimmy McWilliams, Wed 20 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**FARM BOY** New Perspectives Theatre Company present Michael



Alaska - Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton & Artrix, Bromsgrove

Morpurgo's sequel to War Horse - a moving account of the changing face of the English countryside, Wed 20 Feb, Solihull Arts Complex

**CIRCUS OF HORRORS: CURSE OF THE DEVIL DOLL** Prepare for phantasmagoria twists and turns to send shivers down your spine as the demonic dummy seems to take on a life of its own, Wed 20 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**DICKIE BIRD - NOT OUT!** An evening with the cricketing legend, Wed 20 Feb, Lichfield Garrick

**SID'S SHOW** Join Cbeebies' Sid as he sets out on a quest to find out where his favourite socks and shoes have gone, Wed 20 Feb, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**MILKSHAKE! LIVE** Featuring the presenters and characters from the Channel 5 programme, including Noddy, Fifi, Roary, Mr Men and Bananas In Pyjamas, Wed 20 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE ELEPHANT BRIDESMAID** Magical children's musical about weddings, wombats and the loveliest elephant the world has ever known..., Wed 20 Feb, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**THE GLASS MENAGERIE** Birmingham School of Acting present their version of Tennessee Williams' tale of loneliness & lost love, Wed 20 - Sat 23 Feb, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham  
**RUBBISH** Theatre-Rites

present a visually stunning and playful production which explores the unexpected value of discarded objects, Wed 20 - Sat 23 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**WALSALL GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY SHOW** Double-bill of work, featuring The Pirates Of Penzance and Trial By Jury, Wed 20 - Sat 23 Feb, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

**THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE** Music Theatre Warwick combine toe-tapping dance routines and jazzy musical numbers to tell the tale of small-town girl Millie Dillmount and her New York pursuit for a rich husband, Wed 20 - Sat 23 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**DISNEY ON ICE: LET'S PARTY** Join all your favourite Disney characters as they don their dancing shoes and celebrate with a magical medley of holidays, celebrations and festivals from around the globe, Wed 20 - Sun 24 Feb, LG Arena, Birmingham

**LITTLE RED...YOU KNOW WHO** Freehand Theatre present a spellbinding play for young children fusing puppetry and specially composed music, Thurs 21 Feb, The Public, West Bromwich

**THE SAGAS OF NOGGIN THE NOG** New piece of theatre for children which brings the wonderful world of Oliver Postgate & Peter Firmin to the stage, Thurs 21 Feb, The Place, Oaken-gates Theatre, Telford

**HAIRY BIKERS** An

evening of world-inspired cooking, stories and hearty laughs, Thurs 21 - Fri 22 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE CHUCKLE BROTHERS MEET THE PHANTOM** Songs, slapstick, magic, puppets and fun for all the family in this latest offering from the popular TV and stage duo, Thurs 21 Feb, Bedworth Civic Hall

**AN AUDIENCE WITH SALLY MORGAN** Evening of psychic entertainment, Thurs 21 Feb, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**THE ELEPHANT BRIDESMAID** Magical children's musical about weddings, wombats and the loveliest elephant the world has ever known, Thurs 21 Feb, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**THE OWL WHO WAS AFRAID OF THE DARK** Children's theatre based on the best-selling children's classic by Jill Tomlinson, Thurs 21 Feb, Stourbridge Town Hall

**KID CARPET & THE NOISY ANIMALS** Children's half-term special featuring an argumentative drum-playing gorilla and a badger with amazing legs, Thurs 21 Feb, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

**HOBSON'S CHOICE** Carr Lane Productions present an amateur performance of Harold Brighouse's Lancashire comedy, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Feb, Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham

**THE NEW FOUR POOFS & A PIANO** A promise of magical musical may-

# COMING SOON TO THEATRE SEVERN

TUESDAY 5 - WEDNESDAY 6 FEBRUARY



WEDNESDAY 13 FEBRUARY



TUESDAY 19 FEBRUARY



WED 27 FEBRUARY - SUN 3 MARCH



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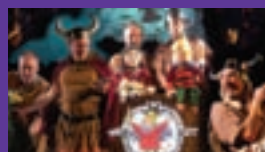
# What's on...



Sat 9th February  
**TOPLOADER**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £18 / £15 concs



Fri 15th February  
**T.REXTASY**  
I LOVE TO BOOGIE  
8.00pm. Tickets: £14



Thurs 21st February  
**THE SAGAS OF NOGGIN THE NOG**  
2.00pm. Tickets: £8 / £7 concs



Sat 2nd March  
**THE MR BLUE SKY TOUR**  
ELO EXPERIENCE  
7.30pm. Tickets: £17 / £15 concs



Wed 6th March  
**CIRCUS OF HORRORS**  
THE CURSE OF THE DEVIL DOLL  
7.30pm. Tickets: £22, £18, £13 / £19, £16 concs



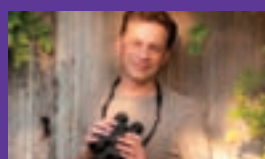
Fri 8th March  
**LEE HURST: TOO SCARED TO LEAVE THE HOUSE**  
8.00pm. Tickets: £15



Sat 9th March  
**THE MANFREDS**  
FIVE FACES TOUR  
7.30pm. Tickets: £19.50/ £17.50 concs



Tue 12th March  
**AN EVENING WITH CHARLIE LANDSBOROUGH**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £17.50



Wed 20th March  
**CHRIS PACKHAM: WILD NIGHTS OUT**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £15

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# Theatre LISTINGS

For full listing information on theatre productions, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

hem and camp comedy capers, Fri 22 Feb, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**WILD THING I LOVE YOU** Ella Good & Nicki Kent present a new performance which examines their own experiences of searching for a legendary mythical creature in rural Africa, Fri 22 - Sat 23 Feb, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**BEN & HOLLY'S LITTLE KINGDOM** New stage production for children based on the much-loved, BAFTA award-winning TV animation, Fri 22 - Sat 23 Feb, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**THE GLASS MENAGERIE** Birmingham School of Acting present their version of Tennessee Williams' tale of loneliness & lost love, Fri 22 - Sat 23 Feb, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**TALKING HEADS** Double-bill of Alan Bennett monologues featuring Cream Cracker Under The Settee and Soldiering On, Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Feb, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE** Songs, laughter and plenty of audience participation in a show for all ages, Fri 22 Feb, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**SPOT'S BIRTHDAY PARTY** Musical adaptation of Eric Hill's classic children's book featuring music, stories, songs and games, Fri 22 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** Shropshire Youth Theatre present their version of Shakespeare's much-loved play, Fri 22 - Sat 23 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**MY BIG LITTLE SISTER** Pied Piper Theatre present a show for children about growing up, Fri 22 - Sat 23 Feb, mac, Birmingham

**THE THRILL OF LOVE** Amanda Whittington's new play takes a look at the life and loves of Ruth Ellis, the last woman to be hanged in Britain... Fri 22 Feb - Sat 9 Mar, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**THE ELEPHANT BRIDESMAID** Magical children's musical about weddings, wombats and the loveliest elephant the world has ever known...., Sat 23 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**BROADWAY AND BEYOND**

A celebration of the best of musical theatre, Sat 23 Feb, The Roses, Tewksbury

**FOREST OF SHADOWS** One-off celebration of the works of The Brothers Grimm, Sat 23 Feb, Playbox Theatre, Warwick

**OLIVER!** Amateur production of Lionel Bart's musical, presented by Cannock & District Catholic Schools, Sat 23 Feb, Prince of Wales Centre, Cannock

**DEREK ACORAH** Evening of psychic entertainment, Sun 24 Feb, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

**I DREAMED A DREAM** A musical theatre revue performed by local and professional singers, Sun 24 Feb, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**CIRCUS HILARIOUS** Magic, mayhem and laughter from father-and-son duo Clive Webb and Danny Adams, Sun 24 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**Week Commencing  
MON 25 FEB**

**DEATHTRAP** The Nonentities present their version of Ira Berlin's play within a play, Mon 25 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

**WASTED** Paines Plough, Birmingham Repertory Theatre and The Roundhouse present a play about life, love and losing your mind, Tues 26 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**BIRDS OF A FEATHER** Pauline Quirke, Linda Robinson and Lesley Joseph star in a stage adaptation of the much-loved sitcom, Tue 26 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**THE FULL MONTY** Stage adaptation of Simon Beaufoy's BAFTA Award-winning film. Sidney Cole, Kenny Doughty, Craig Gazey, Roger Morlidge, Kieran O'Brien, Simon Rouse with Scott Anson, Tracy Brabin, Caroline Carver, Eamonn Fleming, Elaine Glover, Rachel Lumberg and Ian Mercer star, 26 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, Birmingham Hippodrome

**HIGH SOCIETY** Michael Praed, Teddy Kempner, Daniel Boys & Sophie Bould star in a new production of Cole Porter's timeless classic, Tue 26 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**THE WOMAN IN WHITE** A new adaptation of the classic Victorian thriller, Tues 26 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, Lichfield Garrick

**WAGS GANGSHOW** Annual showcase from Warwickshire Guides & Scouts, Tues 26 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**GONZO MOOSE: WHAT THE DICKENS?** Inventive and gripping comedy featuring just three actors playing over twenty roles in an eighty-minute production, Wed 27 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**AN EVENING WITH PAM AYRES** Wed 27 Feb, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**INSPECTOR NORSE** Award-winning comedy duo Lip Service present their much-acclaimed self-assembled Swedish crime thriller, Wed 27 Feb, Roses Theatre, Tewksbury

**BOXED IN** A comic play by Shifting Sands Theatre about an economic crisis, Wed 27 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**ABOVE ME THE WIDE BLUE SKY** Fevered Sheep present a performance which draws together stories of love, loss and belonging from an ever-changing world, Wed 27 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST ON ICE** The Russian Ice Stars present their adaptation of the classic story, Wed 27 Feb - Sun 3 Mar, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**GOD'S OFFICIAL** High-octane play by Reform Theatre Company about the aftermath of a refereeing decision, Thurs 28 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**HANGING BY A THREAD** Ding Foundation use puppetry, objects, performers and music to present a 'playful and hypnotic' production for children aged twelve plus...., Thurs 28 Feb, mac, Birmingham

**FOGHORN IMPROV: MOVIE MAKEOVER** Catch the Old Joint Stock's resident Improv Group as they prepare to recycle your favourite film plots to order, Thurs 28 Feb, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**THE BLUES BROTHERS... APPROVED** The boys are joined on their mission to bring soul and blues back into your heart by the fabulous Bluettes -



three sassy ladies with attitude and voices to knock you off your perch, Thurs 28 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE MIKADO** SOSage Factory present their version of the acclaimed Gilbert and

Sullivan opera, Thurs 28 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, Solihull Arts Complex

**IL TRITICO BY PUCCINI** Birmingham Conservatoire present three of Giacomo Puccini's one-act operas, including Il Tabarro, Suor Angelica, and Gianni Schicchi, Thurs 28 Feb - Sat 2

Mar, The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**BAD GIRLS THE MUSICAL** Ludlow College present an adult-themed performance based on the popular ITV prison drama, Thurs 28 Feb - Sat 2 Mar, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**SOLIHULL ARTS COMPLEX** Spring Highlights

<b>Feb 1</b>	<b>Pete Firman</b> TV's hit comedy magician
<b>Feb 2</b>	<b>The Twist (Great Songs Never Die)</b> <i>Set in a Diner - 'Happy Days' meets 'Buddy'.</i>
<b>Feb 12</b>	<b>Mark Thomas - Bravo Figaro Tour</b> <i>Comedic tale of love loss &amp; family opera!</i>
<b>Feb 14</b>	<b>Julian Smith - Valentine Saxophone</b> <i>BGT Finalist is joined by Steve Brookstein</i>
<b>Feb 20</b>	<b>Farm Boy - Family drama, sequel to Michael Morpurgo's War Horse Age 7+</b>
<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>The Elephant Bridesmaid family fun 4+</b>
<b>Mar 13</b>	<b>Cantabile, Funny Side of the Street</b> <i>50 years of hilarious songs in one show</i>
<b>Mar 14</b>	<b>Indian Takeaway with TV's funnyman-turned cook - Hardeep Singh Kohli</b>
<b>Apr 6</b>	<b>MORE TAPE</b> Boy with Tape on his face <i>Hilarious sequel to the huge hit mime show</i>
<b>Apr 9</b>	<b>Comedy Club 4 Kids huge fun ages 6-11</b>
<b>Apr 17</b>	<b>Mike Harding</b>

**New seat selection facility is now available online!**

**Box Office: 0121 704 6962**  
[www.solihullartscomplex.co.uk](http://www.solihullartscomplex.co.uk)



Here are a few of our favourite theatre productions we reviewed from last month. For further theatre reviews, visit, [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## Robinson Crusoe And The Caribbean Pirates

Birmingham Hippodrome

I wish I hadn't waited so long to check out Birmingham Hippodrome's 2012/13 panto offering, because it really is a cracker of a show, with Brian Conley and Lesley Joseph taking top billing. Qdos Entertainment have certainly produced a fantastic evening (or afternoon, for that matter) of family entertainment, with colourful sets, statues, pyrotechnics and even a flying car all featuring! Frequently referencing his not-so-long-ago misadventures in I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here!, Brian Conley is pure comedy gold in the role of Robinson Crusoe, bringing his unique brand of slapstick humour to his quest for the chest of gold, the heart of the girl he loves and his efforts to become King of Birmingham!

Andrew Ryan is hilarious as the dame, Mrs Crusoe; he's like an oversized drag version of Katie Price, complete with teenyweeny bikini and desperate to find a love interest.

Lesley Joseph's in fine form, too, as the spritely and shapely Enchantress of The Ocean, trying her best to matchmake pretty Polly with the bumbling Crusoe. This being panto, the plot inevitably takes a backseat to the madcap antics. There are some great visual gags to enjoy throughout the show, including a caged Crusoe imprisoned by a huge gorilla, a dame in a cupcake, a moving tree trunk, and a hilarious 'mini-Michael Jackson'-in-a-box. With the obligatory audience participation (not to mention the equally obligatory fart and wee jokes) also present and correct, this truly is a brilliant show that will have children laughing out loud and adults giggling with glee. *Anita Champaneri* ■■■■■

## Messy Jessie

Blue Orange Theatre. Birmingham

As many parents will surely be aware, there's plenty of theatre aimed at young children. However, it's also true that there's very little theatre aimed at pre-school audiences. The Blue Orange Theatre set out to redress this balance with their production of Messy Jessie, designed to delight youngsters aged between two and five years old.

The story's both a simple one and a familiar one: Jessie is a little girl who keeps on getting in a terrible mess, whether it's getting paint all over her hands or pasta all over her head. A new day of the week, a new mess to be made! The production was delightfully presented, using outsized props, musical instruments, storytelling and interaction. The cast of four were excellent in their roles, interacting beautifully with the young audience, involving them in the drama until the children became participants themselves, playing instruments, joining in the story, and moving around the theatre space to get involved in the various activities on offer. It was also educational in a gentle way, teaching children the days of the week, simple music and, of course, how to respond to theatre and storytelling - important skills in this modern age of television and computers. I took my three-year-old along. At first he was determined to be shy - standing by the exit and refusing to go any further - but as the show progressed, he got more and more drawn in. By the end, perhaps inevitably, I pretty much needed a crowbar to get him out of there!

*Adam Sherwood* ■■■■■



## Strictly Come Dancing

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham

Despite the freezing temperatures and arctic snow, the SCD juggernaut pulled into Birmingham last month with all the glitterball fanfare that you'd expect.

The Strictly Come Dancing Live arena tour has an all-male judging line-up of Craig, Len and Bruno, who returned to the NIA alongside host Kate Thornton.

Series' winner Louis Smith and runner-up Denise Van Outen both took part, as did Fern Britton, Lisa Reilly, Michael Vaughan, Phil Tufnell and pocket-rocket Dani Harmer. The professional dancers looked sensational (of course!), and there was no shortage of beefcake on show either, courtesy of appearances by Artem Chigvintsev, Robin Windsor and Pasha Kovalev. Sadly, there was no sign of Louis' winning partner Flavia Cacace, so he was teamed up instead with the equally perfect Ola Jordan.

As you'd expect, Phil Tufnell added an element of humour to the proceedings, grinding his hip and shaking his booty. The finale was a glitterball and confetti frenzy, with the professional dancers dressed like Grecian gods and goddesses in white and gold glitter - a nod, no doubt, in the direction of London 2012.

My highlights were the American Smooth, performed by Michael Vaughan and the super-sexy Natalie Lowe (she is just amazing to watch!), and Denise Van Outen and James Jordan's Charleston, performed to Walk Like An Egyptian. The real crowd-pleaser, though - and no surprises here - was Louis and Ola's performance of the iconic Dirty Dancing routine to I've Had The Time Of My Life. Louis' sexy hip action and smouldering looks, combined with their perfect lift, was a real gold medal-winning performance. As nights of pure entertainment go, this was fab-u-lous!

*Anita Champaneri* ■■■■■

## Theatre Box Office

### Birmingham

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BIRMINGHAM REP  
0121 236 4455  
THE BLUE ORANGE THEATRE  
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CRESCENT THEATRE  
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DOVEHOUSE THEATRE  
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THE DRUM 0121 333 2444  
MAC 0121 446 3232  
OLD JOINT STOCK THEATRE  
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OLD REP 0121 245 4455  
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FOREST ARTS CENTRE, WALSALL  
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GRAND THEATRE,  
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NEWHAMPTON ARTS CENTRE  
01902 572090

### OLDBURY REP, OLDBURY

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THE PUBLIC, WEST BROMWICH  
0121 533 7161

### Shropshire

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THE EDGE, MUCH WENLOCK  
01952 728911  
THE HIVE, SHREWSBURY  
01743 234970  
LUDLOW ASSEMBLY  
ROOMS 01584 878141  
THE PLACE, OAKENGATES, TELFORD  
01952 382382  
THEATRE SEVERN, SHREWSBURY  
01743 281281  
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CENTRE, CANNOCK  
01543 578762  
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0870 060 6649  
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THEATRE, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON  
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NORBURY THEATRE, DROITWICH  
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PALACE THEATRE  
REDDITCH 01527 65203  
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WORCESTER 01905 611427



## Further casting announced for Roald Dahl classic...

Warner Bros Theatre Ventures has announced that Nigel Planer is to join the cast of Sam Mendes' production of Roald Dahl's *Charlie And The Chocolate Factory*. Planer, who's best known for his role as hip-pie Neil in the 1980s BBC TV comedy series *The Young Ones*, will play Grandpa Joe when the show previews at the Theatre Royal in May. Further recently announced casting includes Clive Carter as Mr Salt, Jasna Ivir as Mrs Gloop, Paul J Medford as Mr Beauregarde, Iris Roberts as Mrs Teavee and Myra Sands as Grandma Georgina.



Nigel Planer

## Extension for The Bodyguard

If you've not yet had a chance to catch Thea Sharrock's West End show *The Bodyguard*, then fear not - its Adelphi Theatre run has been extended until 28 September. Opening last December, *The Bodyguard* is based on the 1992 film of the same title starring Whitney Houston and Kevin Costner. The London show features Heather Headley as pop superstar Rachel Maron and Lloyd Owen as body-guard Frank Farmer, the man hired to protect her.



## Tony Award-winning show opens in the West End

The much-anticipated London production of a highly controversial musical makes its debut at The Prince of Wales Theatre late this month.

*The Book Of Mormon*, which comes from South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone and Avenue Q co-creator Robert Lopez, is being touted in the West End as a must-see show for 2013.

The satirical comedy - which received nine Tony Awards after opening in Broadway in

2011 - follows a pair of Mormon boys sent on a mission to deliver the news of the Latter Day saints to the people of Uganda and its surrounding villages - a place where war, famine, poverty and AIDS are more of a concern than religion.

Featuring songs *Spooky Mormon Hell Dream*, *I Am Africa*, *Baptize Me*, *All American Prophet* and *Tomorrow Is A Latter Day*, *The Book Of Mormon* opens on 25 February and is currently taking bookings until 29 June.

## WEST END LISTINGS:

### MUSICALS

**BILLY ELLIOT – THE MUSICAL** Victoria Palace Theatre, booking until 21 Dec 2013

**BODYGUARD** Adelphi Theatre, booking until 28 Sept 2013

**BOOK OF MORMON** Prince Of Wales Theatre, 25 Feb - 29 June 2013

**CHORUS LINE** London Palladium Theatre, 5 Feb 2013 - 13 Jul 2013

**JERSEY BOYS** Prince Edward Theatre, booking until 20 Oct 2013

**KISS ME KATE** Old Vic Theatre, booking until 2 Mar 2013

**LES MISÉRABLES** Queen's Theatre, booking until 26 Oct 2013

**LET IT BE** Savoy Theatre, booking until 5 Oct 2013

**LION KING FOREVER!** Lyceum Theatre, booking until 29 Sept 2013

**MAMMA MIA!** Novello Theatre, booking until 26 Oct 2013

**MATILDA THE MUSICAL** Cambridge Theatre, booking until 22 Dec 2013

**MIDNIGHT TANGO** Phoenix Theatre, booking until 2 Mar 2013

**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** Her Majesty's Theatre, booking until 26 Oct 2013

**ROCK OF AGES** Garrick Theatre, booking until 2 Nov 2013

**SHREK THE MUSICAL** Drury Lane, Theatre Royal, booking until 24 Feb 2013

**SINGIN' IN THE RAIN** Palace Theatre, booking until 31 Aug 2013

**SPAMALOT** Playhouse Theatre, booking until 2 Nov 2013

**TAILOR-MADE MAN** Arts Theatre, 13 Feb 2013 - 6 Apr 2013

**THRILLER LIVE** Lyric Theatre, booking until 15 Sept 2013

**TOP HAT** Aldwych Theatre, booking until 28 Sept 2013

**VIVA FOREVER!** Piccadilly Theatre, booking until 8 Jun 2013

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

**WICKED** Apollo Victoria Theatre, booking until 2 Nov 2013

### DRAMA

**AUDIENCE** Gielgud Theatre, 13 feb - 15 June 2013

**CAPTAIN OF KOPENICK** Olivier Theatre, booking until 4 Apr 2013

**EFFECT** Cottesloe National Theatre, booking until 23 Feb 2013

**FEAST** Young Vic Theatre, booking until 23 Feb 2013

**GREAT EXPECTATIONS** Vaudeville Theatre booking until 1 June 2013

**IF YOU DON'T LET US DREAM, WE WON'T LET YOU SLEEP** Royal Court Theatre (Downstairs), 15 Feb - 9 March 2013

**JUDAS KISS** Duke Of York Theatre, booking until 6 Apr 2013

**MACBETH** Trafalgar Studios 1 Theatre, booking until 27 Apr 2013

**MOUSETRAP** St Martins Theatre, booking until 21 Dec 2013

**PORT** Lyttelton National Theatre, booking until 24 Mar 2013

**QUARTERMAINE'S TERMS** Wyndham's Theatre, booking until 13 Apr 2013

**WAR HORSE** New London Theatre, booking until 2 Nov

### COMEDY

**39 STEPS** Criterion Theatre, booking until 19 Oct 2013

**ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS** Haymarket Theatre Royal, booking until 31 Aug 2013

**PRIVATES ON PARADE** Noel Coward Theatre, booking until 2 Mar 2013



Viva Forever - Piccadilly Theatre



# Dance



## Matthew Bourne's *Sleeping Beauty* Birmingham Hippodrome, Tues 5 - Sat 9 February

Described as a fairytale for all ages, Matthew Bourne's gothic reworking of Perrault's classic fairytale has received rave reviews since making its debut at London's Sadlers Wells last December, and follows on from Bourne's critically acclaimed productions of *The Nutcracker* and *Swan Lake*. The decade of the 1890s - a period synonymous with fairies, vampires and decadent opulence - is the starting point for this haunting tale of good versus evil, which begins with the birth of Princess Aurora. The action then shifts to the 1920s, as the Princess makes the transition into adolescence, and then jumps forward once again - this time to the modern day, and her awakening from one hundred years of slumber. The show sees Bourne once again collaborating with Tony and Olivier Award-winning designers Lez Brotherston (set and costumes), Paule Constable (Lighting) and Paul Groothuis (Sound Designer).

## Shared Material On Dying Plus Body And Forgetting

The Patrick Centre, Birmingham Hippodrome, Thurs 7 - Fri 8 February

This DanceXchange show sees Ireland's award-winning choreographer Liz Roche return to the UK (with her company) to present a double-bill of contemporary works. Recognised internationally for producing a diverse programme of innovative dance, the troupe here perform *Shared Material On Dying*, which - performed in silence - sees the dancers looking to each other for company and protection as they face the unknown. The show is presented alongside *Body And Forgetting*, a powerful work inspired by the writings of Milan Kundera.



## Balletboyz: Talent

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sat 9 February; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Mon 4 - Tues 5 March

Balletboyz comprises ten male dancers who combine muscle with grace to present a distinctive style which fuses energetic dance with music and film. Out on tour with brand new show *Talent*, the boys here showcase a double-bill of works from award-winning choreographer Russell Maliphant and Royal Ballet Artist-in-Residence Liam Scarlett.



## Birmingham Royal Ballet: Aladdin

Birmingham Hippodrome, Fri 15 - Sat 23 February

David Bintley's magical tale of love, trickery and triumph is here receiving its UK premiere. Presented by the Birmingham Royal Ballet, of which Bintley is the Artistic Director, Aladdin was originally created for the National Ballet of Japan in 2008, and features music by Carl Davis - the composer of numerous well-known television scores including *Pride And Prejudice*, *Cranford*, *The World At War* and *Up Pompeii*. A firm family favourite, Aladdin tells the story (as if you didn't know) of an impoverished ne'er-do-well who discovers a battered old lamp with special powers - powers that are tested to the max when he falls in love with the Emperor's daughter and lands himself in trouble.



## Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

Birmingham Hippodrome, Fri 1 - Sat 2 February

Following on from their much-acclaimed performance at the Hippodrome in 2011, ballet's outrageously grande dames return with a brand new programme, a lorryload of costume changes and lashings of diva attitude. 'The Trocks', as they're affectionately known, present unique works that tread a fine line between high art and high camp, with the result being a playful take on traditional ballet in parody form. Since their early performances in the off-Broadway lofts back in 1974, this inimitable troupe have gone on to garner a huge international fanbase and numerous awards - and have even performed in front of British royalty!



## Anton And Erin In Hollywood

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Sat 2 February

Celebrity dancing duo Anton du Beke and Erin Boeg return to Birmingham's Symphony Hall this month with their brand new show. Blending smart choreography, sassy tunes and sparkly costumes, Anton And Erin In Hollywood pays homage to the golden years of MGM musicals, and sees the popular pair being joined by a twenty-five-piece orchestra, guest singer Lance Ellington and conductor Richard Balcombe.



## Dance LISTINGS

For full listing information on dance, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

**ANTON DU BEKE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD** Sat 2 Feb, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**013 DANCE LIGHTS. CAMERA. ACTION** The region's biggest community dance event, Tue 5 - Sat 9 Feb, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**SHARED MATERIAL ON DYING & BODY AND FORGETTING** Liz Roche Company present a double-bill of works, Thurs 7 - Fri 8 Feb, The Patrick Centre, Birmingham Hippodrome

**BALLETBOYZ** Sat 9 Feb, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**NEW COLLEGE PRESENTS DNC13** Eclectic showcase of dance works ranging from contemporary to international, Wed 13 Feb, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET: ALADDIN** Fri 15 - Sat 23 Feb, Birmingham Hippodrome

**THE NUTCRACKER** Russian State Ballet present a new production of one of the most

famous fantasy ballets, Sun 17 Feb, The Grand Theatre, W'hampton

**COPPELIA** The Russian Ballet presents a light-hearted tale of mistaken identity, confused lovers and an eccentric toymaker, Mon 18 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**SWAN LAKE** The Russian State Ballet & Orchestra of Siberia present one of the greatest romantic ballets of all time, Tue 19 Feb, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**2FACED DANCE COMPANY: OUT OF HIS SKIN** New full length contemporary work choreographed by Artistic Director Tamsin Fitzgerald, Tue 19 Feb, Malvern Theatres

**OUT OF HIS SKIN** All-male dance troupe 2Faced Dance return with a new full length work choreographed by Artistic Director Tamsin Fitzgerald, Wed 27 Feb - Fri 1 March, The Patrick Centre, Birmingham Hippodrome

## Dance Box Office

NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM 0844 871 3011

ARTRIX ARTS CENTRE, BROMSGROVE 01527 577330

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From  
FRI 8  
FEB

## Hitchcock 3D CERT12a (98 mins)

Starring **Anthony Hopkins, Helen Mirren, Scarlett Johansson, Toni Collette, Danny Huston, Jessica Biel**  
Directed by **Sacha Gervasi (USA)**

What do Hitler, Nixon and Picasso have in common? They've all been played by Anthony Hopkins. Now the former Welsh actor takes a stab at the Master of Suspense, and once again we have to take a huge leap of faith. Facially, Hopkins is just not fat enough to convince us that he's Hitchcock but he does have enormous fun mimicking the director's extraordinary speech patterns. The story of Hitchcock's attempt to get Psycho off the ground, the film is never less than entertaining and is sprinkled with some good laughs. Indeed, it's a fascinating chapter in Hollywood's iconography, and Dame Helen, as Hitchcock's long-suffering wife Alma, provides a strong human spine. There are also some peachy cameos, with the London-born James D'Arcy particularly effective as a nervy Anthony Perkins. Cineastes should relish. In 3D.



From  
FRI 1  
FEB

## Flight CERT 15 (138 mins)

Starring **Denzel Washington, Don Cheadle, Kelly Reilly, John Goodman, Bruce Greenwood, Melissa Leo** Directed by **Robert Zemeckis (USA)**

Denzel Washington is Whip Whitaker, a brilliant commercial pilot with a breezy manner and charisma to spare. Then, when his skills are called on to save two hundred passengers from near certain death, he reveals a heroic aptitude for the job. But there's something else... A story of self-denial, Flight is a slick, engrossing drama about a man addicted to lying to himself. There's an incongruous subplot tacked on about a heroin addict, but as the latter is played by Kelly Reilly it acts as a persuasive counterbalance to Whitaker's own story. As always, Denzel fills the screen with his larger-than-life personality, presenting a man whose demons we abhor rather than the man fuelling them. It's a tough act, but the film pulls it off, even when Robert Zemeckis's direction is at its most knowing.

## TOP 5

FILM BOX OFFICE

- 1 **Les Miserables (12a)**
- 2 **Lincoln (12a)**
- 3 **Django Unchained (18)**
- 4 **Gangster Squad (15)**
- 5 **The Impossible (12a)**



Les Miserables

Released from Fri 1 Feb

## Hyde Park On Hudson

CERT 12a (94 mins)

Starring **Bill Murray, Laura Linney, Samuel West, Olivia Coleman, Elizabeth Marvel, Olivia Williams**

Directed by **Roger Michell (UK)**

As England braces itself for war with Germany, Franklin D Roosevelt invites the king and queen to his rural retreat in New York state - the first time a royal couple has visited a US president. As the preparations begin apace, Roosevelt (Murray) strikes up a friendship with his fifth cousin, Daisy (Linney), from whose viewpoint the events are described. It's a slight tale, beautifully told and obviously riding on the coattails of the far more engrossing *The King's Speech* (also featuring George VI). Even so, there are many pleasures, some delightful performances and a fresh perspective of a man who certainly carved his mark on history. The film's most affecting scenes are the private moments between Roosevelt and the king (West), although both Olivia Williams and Olivia Coleman are wonderful as, respectively, Eleanor Roosevelt and Queen Elizabeth (the Queen Mum).



## Bullet To The Head

CERT 15 (91 mins)

Starring **Sylvester Stallone, Sung Kang, Jason Momoa, Christian Slater, Sarah Shahi, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje**

Directed by **Walter Hill (USA)**

Not to be confused with the 1990 John Woo film *Bullet In The Head*, this actioner is based on the French graphic novel *Du Plomb Dans La Tete*. Sylvester Stallone plays a hitman who teams up with a cop (Kang, from *Fast Five*) so as to exact revenge on a murderous lawyer, real estate developer and police department. So many bad guys. Filmed in New Orleans.

## Warm Bodies

CERT 12a (98 mins)

Starring **Nicholas Hoult, Teresa Palmer, John Malkovich, Dave Franco, Rob Corddry, Cory Hardrict**

Directed by **Jonathan Levine (USA)**

It had to happen. With the continuing prevalence of Shakespeare and films featuring rather handsome vampires, werewolves, zombies, etc, now comes a film with Romeo cast as a zombie. It's based on the popular novel of the same name by the Seattle writer Isaac Marion. Expect a good deal of humour.



## Talking Textiles: Until 10 March 2013

Following a major exhibition tour of Japan during the summer, Edward Burne-Jones's tapestry 'Love Leading the Pilgrim' will be coming to Stafford's Shire Hall Gallery as the centrepiece of the 'Talking Textiles' exhibition.

The pre-Raphaelite tapestry, designed by Burne-Jones and produced by Morris & Co in 1909 is kindly being loaned by Birmingham Museums Trust and will be on show between 12 January to 10 March.

Also on display will be two complementary *Studies of Birds* (Finches, Crows, Kingfishers & Sparrows), in chalk & crayon on brown paper, from 1877-1897.

### DRAW & STITCH STAFFORD'S STORIES with Stewart Easton

18th - 20th FEBRUARY

10am - 3pm

Drop in workshop for ages 7+



Edward Burne-Jones



Released from Fri 8 Feb

## I Give It A Year

CERT 15 (97 mins)

Starring **Rose Byrne, Anna Faris, Rafe Spall, Simon Baker, Minnie Driver, Stephen Merchant, Olivia Coleman**  
Directed by **Dan Mazer (UK)**

Most romcoms end with the happy couple getting together. This one focuses on the stresses that a couple faces in their first year of marriage. And with their first anniversary approaching, can Josh and Nat combat their differences? A first-rate cast should up the comic ante.



## 'No'

CERT 15 (118 mins)

Starring **Gael García Bernal, Antonia Zegers, Alfredo Castro, Luis Gnecco**  
Directed by **Pablo Larraín (Chile)**

'No' is the sentiment of García Bernal's adman working in Chile in 1988 who is asked to come up with a campaign to end Pinochet's fourteen-year reign of corruption. The film has not only received enormous critical acclaim but has been nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film. The director previously brought us *Tony Manero* and *Post Mortem*.

Released from Thurs 13 Feb

## This Is 40

CERT 15 (134mins)

Starring **Paul Rudd, Leslie Mann, Jason Segel, John Lithgow, Megan Fox, Albert Brooks**  
Directed by **Judd Apatow (USA)**

Steve Carell played a forty-year-old virgin for director Judd Apatow, and now his friend Pete (Rudd, again) is turning forty. Pete isn't a virgin and in fact has two daughters by his wife Debbie (Mann - aka Mrs Apatow). But the stress of work, kids and, yes, turning forty, is having a profound effect on the couple's marriage.



## A Good Day To Die Hard

CERT tbc

Starring **Bruce Willis, Jai Courtney, Cole Hauser, Sebastian Koch, Yuliya Snigir, Mary Elizabeth Winstead**  
Directed by **John Moore (USA/Hungary)**

The tagline is 'Yippee Ki-Yay Mother Russia', which certainly reflects the irreverent outlook of maverick New York cop John McClane (Willis). This is the fifth instalment of the *Die Hard* series, with Willis now fifty-seven and still causing trouble for foreign nationals. Here he travels to Russia to facilitate his son's egress from prison and promptly gets involved in a terrorist plot. The Cold War has just got hotter.



## Beautiful Creatures

CERT tbc

Starring **Alden Ehrenreich, Alice Englert, Jeremy Irons, Viola Davis, Emmy Rossum, Emma Thompson**  
Directed by **Richard LaGravenese (USA)**

Fancy a bit of supernatural romance? This one is based on the novel of the same name by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl and stars Alice Englert as Lena, the new girl in town. But Lena has a dark secret, a power that may even test the devotion of local stud muffin Ehrenreich. Englert, incidentally, played Rosa in the recent critical hit *Gen & Rosa*.

## Wreck-it Ralph 3D

CERT PG (108 mins)

Featuring the voices of **John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman, Jack McBrayer, Jane Lynch, Alan Tudyk** Directed by **Rich Moore (USA)**

The fifty-second animated feature from Walt Disney, *Wreck-It Ralph* is the story of an arcade game villain who wants nothing more than to be a hero. Being able to travel between games, W-I Ralph realises that the very arcade is under threat and so resolves to save the day. In 3D.

Released from Fri 22 Feb

## Mama

CERT 15 (100mins)

Starring **Jessica Chastain, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, Megan Charpentier, Isabelle Nélisse**  
Directed by **Andres Muschietti (Spain/Canada)**

Adapted from Muschietti's 2008 short of the same name, *Mama* is the story of two little girls. Having vanished five years earlier, the girls come to live with their uncle and his girlfriend and all seems to be hunky dory. But the girls seem to have changed and brought something with them...





2013

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## Cloud Atlas

CERT 15 (171mins)

Starring **Tom Hanks, Halle Berry, Jim Broadbent, Hugo Weaving, Jim Sturgess, Susan Sarandon, Hugh Grant**  
Directed by **Andy Wachowski, Lana Wachowski (formerly Laurence) and Tom Tykwer (Germany)**

The book by David Mitchell (the novelist) became a cult in 2004 and won a shelf full of awards (including the Richard & Judy Book of the Year gong). However, those who claimed the novel's time-jumping narrative threads were not made for the cinema may have been right. Even with three directors and a \$102million budget, the one hundred-and-seventy-one-minute, metaphysical sci-fi epic doesn't appear to be for all tastes. The US critics weren't so much divided as fractured and fractious.



Cloud Atlas

## Fire In The Blood

CERT tbc

Featuring **Bill Clinton, Yusuf Hamied, Desmond Tutu**  
Directed by **Dylan Mohan Gray (UK)**

Filmed on four continents, *Fire In The Blood* features contributions from, amongst others, such globally recognised names as Bill Clinton, Desmond Tutu and Joseph Stiglitz. Described as a tale of 'medicine, monopoly and malice', the film focuses on the efforts of the group of people who decided to fight back when, in the years after 1996, western pharmaceutical companies and governments blocked access to low-cost AIDS drugs for the countries of the global south, causing more than ten million unnecessary deaths.

## Hansel And Gretel:

### Witch Hunters 3D

CERT tbc

Starring **Jeremy Renner, Gemma Arterton, Famke Janssen, Peter Stormare, Thomas Mann**  
Directed by **Tommy Wirkola (USA)**

Not an exact replica of the Brother Grimm's fairy tale, but a sequel of sorts. Hansel and Gretel are now fully grown and have taken up bounty hunting. Still traumatised by their stay at a gingerbread house, they now have it in for any old witch... Bizarrely, it's produced by Will Ferrell. In 3D.



Hansel And Gretel



From  
FRI 22  
FEB

## Dark Skies

CERT 15 (107mins)

Starring **Keri Russell, Josh Hamilton, Dakota Goyo, J.K. Simmons**  
Directed by **Scott Stewart (USA)**

Who would have thunk it? An alien invasion! Here, a couple living in a sleepy Californian suburban find an unseen force plotting to appropriate their children. From the producers of *Paranormal Activity*.



Dark Skies

## The Liability

CERT 15 (115mins)

Starring **Tim Roth, Jack O'Connell, Peter Mullan, Talulah Riley, Kieron Wareing**  
Directed by **Craig Viveiros (UK)**

Few English actors do better at nasty than Tim Roth. Here he plays an ageing hitman who involves a nineteen-year-old (O'Connell) in the joys of revenge, murder and sex trafficking. When Adam agrees to do a day's driving for his mother's dodgy boyfriend Peter, he suddenly finds himself in the company of Roy, a killer intent on stalking his prey through the forests of Northumberland. Problem is, there's a witness to Roy's crime (Riley), and the ensuing chase across the north east leaves Adam in little doubt that there's nothing even remotely glamorous about being a killer...

## To The Wonder

CERT 12a (113mins)

Starring **Ben Affleck, Olga Kurylenko, Rachel McAdams, Javier Bardem**  
Directed by **Terrence Malick (USA)**

After years in the wilderness, Terrence Malick is churning out films like there was no tomorrow. Following the critical success of his unwieldy, metaphysical *Tree Of Life* comes this 'abstract' romantic drama in which a man (Affleck) returns to the arms of a childhood friend (McAdams). Scenes featuring Jessica Chastain and Rachel Weisz ended up on the cutting room floor.

## Song For Marion

CERT PG (93mins)

Starring **Terence Stamp, Gemma Arterton, Christopher Eccleston, Vanessa Redgrave, Anne Reid, Ram John Holder**  
Directed by **Paul Andrew Williams (UK)**

Continuing the trend for cinema for pensioners, this dramatic comedy stars Vanessa Redgrave as Marion, a woman dying of cancer. Her husband (Stamp), curmudgeon that he is, agrees to join her senior singing group because he knows how happy it makes her. It's really not his thing, though, and he's surprised by the affect it has on him.



Song For Marion

# 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](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## A Liar's Autobiography 15

The untrue story of Monty Python's Graham Chapman. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 20 - Thurs 21 Feb*

## Amour 12a

Drama concerning an elderly couple whose bond of love is severely tested when one of them suffers a stroke. *Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, until Tues 5 Feb; OMH, Shrewsbury, Mon 18 - Thurs 21 Feb*

## And Along Came Tourists PG

Robert Thalheim's subtitled drama confronts the challenge to the new generation of young Germans in facing up to the Nazi/Holocaust past. *Showing at Birmingham Central Library, Wed 27 Feb*

## Annie Hall 15

Woody Allen's popular and seminal romantic comedy which sees the American director star opposite Diane Keaton. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sun 3 Feb*

## Argo 15

Ben Affleck directs a political thriller set around the rescue of six American diplomats during the 1979 hostage crisis in Iran. *Showing at Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Wed 6 Feb*

## Arrietty PG

Japanese animation based on Mary Norton's classic children's tale *The Borrowers*. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 9 Feb*

## Aurora 12a

Critically acclaimed Romanian psychological study. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Tues 12 - Thurs 14 Feb*

## Babette's Feast u

Award-winning Danish drama which tells the story of a mysterious French woman working as an

unpaid housekeeper and cook for a poor pastor and his two daughters.

*Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 13 - Thurs 14 Feb; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Mon 18 Feb*

## Beasts Of The Southern Wild 12a

Acclaimed fantasy drama about Hushpuppy, a fearless six-year-old girl living with her father in 'the Bathtub', a fictitious southern Bayou community. *Showing at Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Wed 13 Feb*

**WATCH THE FILM TRAILERS AT [whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk)**

## Beauty PG

LGBT screening of Oliver Hermanus' drama concerning a husband and father living in Bloemfontein, South Africa, who gives in to the urge to experiment with his sexuality when an attractive younger man moves in next door. *Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 16 Feb*

## Beginners 15

Ewan McGregor and Christopher Plummer star as father and son in Mike Mills' romantic comedy drama. *Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, Thurs 7 Feb*

## The Blossoming Of Etsuko Kamiya 12a

A subtitled tragic-yet-quiet love story set in Kagoshima as the Second World War draws to a close. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Mon 18 - Tues 19 Feb*

## Bullhead 15

Belgian crime drama which follows a young cattle farmer who's approached by a veterinarian to make a deal with a notorious beef trader. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 22 - Wed 27 Feb*

## The Casebook Of Eddie Brewer 15

Birmingham-made faux documentary concerning old-school paranormal investigator Eddie Brewer. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Thurs 28 Feb*

## Chasing Ice 12a

Documentary which follows acclaimed environmental photographer James Balog as he travels to the Arctic, tasked with capturing images to help tell the story of Earth's changing climate. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Mon 25 Feb*

## Chinatown 15

Roman Polanski's multiple-award-winning noir classic starring Jack Nicholson and Faye Dunaway. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 15 & Sun 17 Feb*

## Corpo Celeste u

Alice Rohrwacher's debut feature, which has been favourably compared to the Dardenne Brothers and features a stellar performance from Yie Vianello. *Showing at Birmingham Central Library, Wed 13 Feb*

## Distant Lights 12

Hans Christian Schmid's film interweaves a number of stories based on local research into illegal migration. *Showing at Birmingham Central Library, Tues 5 Feb*

## Django Unchained 18

Quentin Tarantino's much-anticipated film about a slave-turned-bounty hunter. Jamie Foxx & Leonardo DiCaprio star. *Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton & mac, Birmingham, Fri 15 - Thurs 21 Feb*

## Eugene Onegin

Royal Opera Live screening of Tchaikovsky's acclaimed opera. Sung in

Russian with English subtitles. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire; Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire; Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Wed 20 Feb*

## False Trail 15

Scandinavian thriller which follows Detective Erik Backstrom (the original Wallander) as he returns to his home village to investigate a particularly grisly murder. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 5 Feb*

## Great Expectations 12a

Ralph Fiennes and Helena Bonham Carter star in Mike Newell's ravishing adaptation of Dickens' classic. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 1 - Sat 2 Feb; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 8 - Sun 10 Feb*

## The Gruffalo And The Gruffalo's Child u

Double-bill of animated films based upon Julia Donaldson's best-selling picture books of the same name. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 2 Feb*

## The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 12a

Martin Freeman plays young Bilbo Baggins in the first of Peter Jackson's epic trilogy, a prequel to *The Lord Of The Rings*. *Showing at Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Fri 15, Mon 18 & Tues 21 Feb; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Mon 18 - Tues 19 Feb & Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Feb*

## Holy Motors 18

Leos Carax's bizarre metaphysical journey between life, love and death, featuring the extraordinary French actor Denis Lavant in a variety of roles. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 14 Feb*

## Hyde Park On Hudson 12a

Bill Murray stars in Roger Michell's drama concerning King George VI and Queen Elizabeth's trip to America to meet President Roosevelt. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 22 Feb - Fri 1 March*

## In Brum u

Feature documentary where eight Spaniards, living in Birmingham, are

asked to discuss their experiences and the cultural differences between Spain and the UK. *Showing at Birmingham Central Library, Wed 13 Feb*

## The Impossible 12a

Ewan McGregor and Naomi Watts star as a couple who, together with their children and tens of thousands of strangers, are caught up in one of the worst natural catastrophes of our time. *Showing at Malvern Theatre, Fri 1 - Thurs 7 Feb; Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 22 - Thurs 28 Feb*

## The Imposter 15

Documentary which plays as a thriller to tell the true story of thirteen-year-old Nicholas Barclay, who vanished without a trace. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 12 Feb*

## Jerichow 12

Christian Petzold's well-crafted reworking of The Postman Always Rings Twice, reflecting the social impact of unification on the former East Germany. *Showing at Birmingham Central Library, Wed 27 Feb*

## Laurence Of Arabia PG

Digital restoration to mark the fiftieth anniversary of David Lean's classic film starring Peter O'Toole, Alec Guinness, Anthony Quinn and Omar Sharif. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Wed 6 - Thurs 7 Feb*

## Les Miserables 12a

Tom Hooper's much-acclaimed cinematic version of Victor Hugo's epic tale. Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe and Anne Hathaway star. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, until Thurs 7 Feb; Electric Cinema, Birmingham, until Thurs 7 Feb; OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 1 - Thurs 14 Feb*

## Lifeboat PG

Alfred Hitchcock's inventive, beautifully paced drama, which observes the lifeboat's occupants' fight for survival, and the heightened tension of its minimalist setting. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Mon 25 Feb*

## Life Of Pi PG

Ang Lee's acclaimed film, based on Yann Martel's fantastical novel, which sees a young man hurtled into an epic journey of adventure and discovery after surviving a disaster at sea. *Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, Mon 11 - Thurs 14 Feb; Stoke Film Theatre, Tues 19 - Thurs 21 Feb*

## Lincoln 12a

Steven Spielberg's critically-acclaimed biopic, which focuses on Abraham Lincoln's attempts to abolish slavery. *Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 1 - Thurs 7 Feb; Malvern Theatre, Fri 8 - Thurs 14 Feb; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 15 - Sun 24 Feb; Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Fri 22 - Thurs 28 Feb*

## The Master PG

Joaquin Phoenix plays a World War Two veteran in Paul Thomas Anderson's acclaimed drama. Unable to cope with his drunkenness and post-traumatic stress disorder, he looks for salvation in a philosophical movement known as The Cause. Philip Seymour Hoffman and Amy Adams also star. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Fri 1, Mon 4 & Wed 6 Feb; OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 15 - Sun 17 Feb*

## McCullin tbc

Documentary charting the life and career of veteran photographer Don McCullin. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 15 - Thurs 21 Feb*

## Midnight In Paris 12a

Woody Allen's romantic comedy, starring Owen Wilson, Marion Cotillard, Kathy Bates & Carla Bruni. *Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Thurs 14 Feb*

## Midnight's Children 12a

The long-awaited adaptation of Salman Rushdie's 1981 novel, which looks at post-colonial India through the eyes of two generations. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 15 - Sat 16 Feb*

## Mr And Mrs Smith u

A screwball comedy from

## CINEMA Box Office

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MAJESTIC, BRIDGNORTH 01746 761815  
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STOKE FILM THEATRE, 01782 411188  
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ODEON, NUNEATON 0871 224 4007  
SHOWCASE, COVENTRY 0871 220 1000  
APOLLO 4, LEAMINGTON SPA 01926 427 448  
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Alfred Hitchcock starring Robert Montgomery and Carole Lombard. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Mon 4 Feb*

**My Brother The Devil 15**  
Sally El Hosaini's lyrical portrayal of life on the rough streets of London. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Mon 4 - Tues 5 Feb; mac, Birmingham, Tues 5 - Thurs 7 Feb*

**Neil Young: Journeys PG**  
Intimate retrospective portrait of the well-loved Canadian singer-songwriter. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Mon 18 - Tues 19 Feb*

**No 15**  
Pablo Larrain's darkly comic look at the colliding interests of left-leaning politics and the world of advertising. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Mon 25 - Tues 26 Feb*

**Polisse 15**  
Powerful French drama which examines the intricate workings of a police Child Protection Unit. *Showing Birmingham Central Library, Tues 19 Feb*

**Quartet 12a**  
Dustin Hoffman directs Maggie Smith, Michael Gambon, Billy Connolly and Tom Courtenay in a gentle comedy-drama set

in a retirement home for opera singers. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, until Sun 3 Feb & Tues 5 - Thur 7 Feb; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Sat 9, Mon 11 - Thurs 14 & Sat 23 Feb; Malvern Theatre, Fri 15 - Thurs 21 Feb; Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 22 - Sat 23 & Tues 26 Feb; Artrix, Bromsgrove, Fri 22 - Thurs 28 Feb; Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Wed 27 - Thurs 28 Feb*

**Red Dog PG**  
Touching true-life story by Louis de Bernieres which tells the tale of a russet-coloured sheepdog from a remote '70s Western Australian mining community. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sat 2 Feb*

**Repulsion 15**  
Roman Polanski's psychological thriller, which sees Catherine Deneuve star as a Belgian manicurist losing her grip on reality. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 27 - Thurs 28 Feb*

**Rise Of The Guardians PG**  
Hugh Jackman, Alec Baldwin and Isla Fisher lend their voices to Peter Ramsey's animated family adventure. *Showing at Artrix, Bromsgrove, Mon 18 - Thurs 21 Feb*

**Rocky 12a**  
Oscar-winning boxing drama starring Sylvester Stallone and Burgess Meredith. *Showing at Electric Theatre, Birmingham, Fri 8 Feb*

**Roman Holiday u**  
Classic romantic comedy starring Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Mon 11 - Thurs 14 Feb*

**Rust And Bone 15**  
Marion Cotillard and Matthias Schoenaerts star in a powerful romantic drama adapted from a short story by Craig Davidson. *Showing at Malvern Theatre, Thurs 14 Feb*

**Saboteur 15**  
Alfred Hitchcock's wartime thriller starring Robert Cummings as a Los Angeles aircraft factory worker who witnesses his plant's firebombing by a Nazi agent. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Mon 11 Feb*

**The Sapphires PG**  
Feelgood movie set in Australia in 1968 which tells the story of four aboriginal sisters who become the southern hemisphere's answer to The Supremes. *Showing at Malvern Theatre, Tues 5 Feb*

**The Sessions 15**  
Ben Lewin's life-affirming comedy starring John Hawkes, Helen Hunt and William H. Macy. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 8 - Thurs 14 Feb*

**Seven Psychopaths 15**  
Colin Farrell and Woody Harrelson star in Martin McDonagh's crime comedy, which follows a struggling screenwriter who inadvertently becomes entangled in the Los Angeles criminal underworld after his oddball friends kidnap a gangster's beloved Shih Tzu. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 8 - Sat 9 Feb*

**Shadow Of Doubt PG**  
Alfred Hitchcock's psychological thriller, set in the sleepy town of Santa Rosa. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Mon 18 Feb*

**The Shining 15**  
Screening of Stanley Kubrick's much-acclaimed 1980 horror movie, starring Jack Nicholson. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 8 Feb*

**Sightseers 15**  
Steve Oram and Alice Lowe star in Ben Wheatley's black comedy. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 7 Feb*

**Silver Linings Playbook 15**  
Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence star in David O Russell's acclaimed comedy. *Showing at Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 1 - Thurs 7 Feb; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 7 - Thurs 7 Feb; OMH, Shrewsbury, Fri 22 - Thurs 28 Feb*

**Skyfall 12a**  
Daniel Craig returns as Ian Fleming's James Bond 007 in the longest-running film franchise of all time. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Sat 2 Feb*

**Starbuck 15**  
A quirky French-Canadian comedy which explores the meaning of fatherhood in the age of artificial insemination. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Fri 1 - Mon 4 Feb; Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Mon 11 - Tues 12 Feb*

**Tinkerbell And The Secret Of The Wings PG**  
Family animation which follows Peter Pan's admirer cross the 'great divide' into the mysterious and forbidden Winter Woods. *Showing at OMH, Shrewsbury, Sat 16 - Sat 23 Feb*

**To Rome With Love 12a**  
Woody Allen comedy, which follows the inter-

twining romances, adventures and predicaments of visitors to, and residents of, Rome. *Showing at Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Thurs 14 Feb*

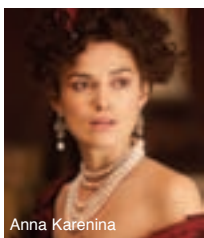
**Untouchable 15**  
French biographical drama concerning a paraplegic aristocrat who takes on a young black man from 'the project' as his caregiver. *Showing at Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire, Thurs 7 Feb; Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Sat 23 Feb; Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 28 Feb*

**You Will Be My Son 12a**  
Subtitled French drama concerning a coldhearted winemaker trying to find someone to take over his chateau & vineyard. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 6 - Thurs 7 Feb; mac, Birmingham, Fri 8 - Sun 10 Feb*

**Zero Dark Thirty 15**  
Kathryn Bigelow's cinematic version of the hunt for Osama bin Laden. Jessica Chastain and Jason Clarke star. *Showing at Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Fri 1 - Thurs 7 Feb; mac, Birmingham, Fri 8 - Thurs 14 Feb; Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton, Fri 8 - Thurs 14 Feb*

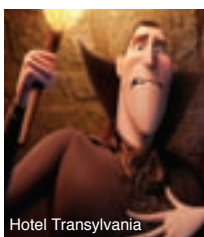
## DVD NEW RELEASES

**Anna Karenina 12a**  
Keira Knightley stars alongside Jude Law in this adaptation of Leo Tolstoy's epic story of love and betrayal among the Russian aristocracy. With Oscar nominations for cinematography and costume design. **Released 04 February**



Anna Karenina

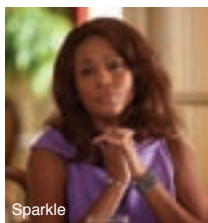
**Hotel Transylvania u**  
Dracula, voiced by Adam Sandler, is helping his daughter celebrate her 118th birthday by inviting a raft of familiar brutes to his castle in Romania. **Released 04 February**



Hotel Transylvania

**The Perks Of Being A Wallflower 12a**  
Charlie, played by Logan Lerman, is the wallflower of the title, who is helped by Sam (Emma Watson) to learn a few things he didn't know. **Released 11 February**

**Sparkle 12**  
Set during the Motown era, this, like Dreamgirls, is inspired by the story of The Supremes and stars Whitney Houston in what transpired to be her final film role. **Released 11 February**



Sparkle

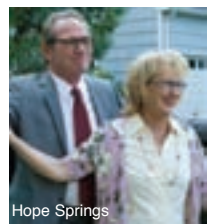
**Beasts Of The Southern Wild 12a**  
With nominations at this month's Oscars for Best Film and Best Actress awards (among others), this is the story of a six-year-old girl and her father as they live through the flooding of the fishing communities in Louisiana. **Released 11 February**



**Skyfall 12a**  
The name is Bond and you know the rest. Daniel Craig returns for his third outing as 007 in this, the biggest-grossing Bond film of the franchise. **Released 18 February**

**Hope Springs 12a**  
A romantic comedy starring Meryl Streep as a long-married wife of thirty years who attends couple counselling with

her husband, played by Tommy Lee Jones. **Released 25 February**



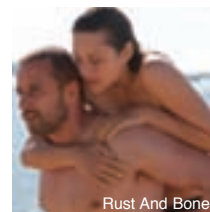
Hope Springs

**Babette's Feast u**  
Originally released in 1987 and winning an Oscar for Best Foreign

Language Film, this Danish fable concerns two pious sisters for whom Babette agrees to work for no money, in the process changing their lives. **Released 25 February**

**Ginger And Rosa 12a**  
Two teenage girls stumble from discos and cigarettes to political activism in early 1960s' London during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Christina Hendricks and Elle Fanning star. **Released 25 February**

**Rust And Bone 15**  
Ali is seemingly on the run with a young son in tow. Stéphanie trains killer whales for a marine park. A chance encounter brings them together. **Released 25 February**



Rust And Bone



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## Sikh Fortress Turban



Sikh Asti-Ning turban (dastar) boogal, blue cloth (dalla) with steel blades and ornaments. Punjab, India, 19th century. © The Trustees of The British Museum.

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26 January - 28 April 2013

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# Visual Arts

## Zed Nelson: Love Me

Wolverhampton Art Gallery and Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton  
Sat 16 February - Sat 8 June

An exhibition which straddles the Art Gallery and nearby Lighthouse Media Centre, Love Me brings together a body of work by photographer Zed Nelson which reflects on the cultural and commercial forces that drive the global obsession with youth and beauty. The images contained within the exhibition were taken over a five-year period by Nelson as he visited eighteen countries across five continents, taking photographs not only of cosmetic surgeons, beauty queens and body-builders, but also of everyday teenagers, housewives and businessmen.



## John Flaxman

Ikon Gallery, Birmingham,  
Wed 13 February - Sun 21 April

Consisting almost entirely of rarely seen drawings and plaster models for sculpture from the UCL Art Museum at University College London, this new exhibition offers a significant insight into the thinking behind much of John Flaxman's more formal output. Flaxman, who lived from 1755 to 1826, was a leading exponent of British Neoclassicism, and was renowned for his spare draughtmanship in illustrations of stories from ancient Greece. The exhibition is curated by art historian David Bindman.



## Monet's View

The Barber Institute, Birmingham,  
Fri 15 February - Sun 5 May

Michelle White is the artist behind this intriguing presentation, which uses as its inspiration the windswept trees in the foreground of Monet's painting The Church At Varengeville. Fusing the ancient craft of jewellery-making with the fine art of painting, White attempts to generate emotional response to her work through the careful selection of precious metal and gemstones.



## Sonia Audhali: Little Yemen

mac, Birmingham, Sat 9 February - Sun 14 April

A West Midlands community in transition is the subject of British Yemeni artist Sonia Audhali's latest photographic exhibition. Featuring images showing life in the home, at work, during prayer and at leisure, Little Yemen reflects the way in which one nation and its culture is integrating with another, and seeks to record the transition before the nations' respective heritages merge inseparably.

## Sikh Fortress Turban

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, until Sun 28 April

A distinctive symbol of Sikh faith and history, the fortress turban is often referred to as 'the warrior's turban'. As well as the display items themselves, the exhibition also features contributions from members of Birmingham's Sikh community, offering an insight into why the turban remains so important to them even today. Sikh Fortress Turban is a Spotlight Loan from the British Museum.

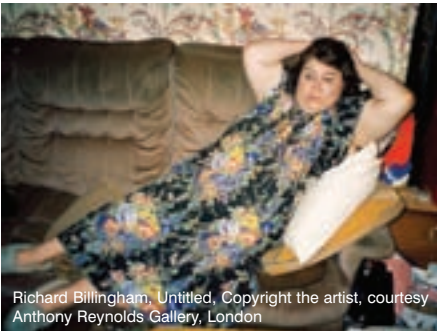


## Ongoing exhibitions

### Black Country Legends

The Public, West Bromwich,  
Wed 13 February - Mon 6 May

The charms and quirks of the Black Country, not to mention some of the numerous extraordinary individuals who've helped make the region what it is, are celebrated in this delightfully engaging new exhibition. Highlights include a contribution by Dudley-born photographer and Turner Prize nominee Richard Billingham, and a short film and artwork by local artist AJW, who, over the course of a fifty-year period, has secretly left more than two hundred-and-fifty thousand drawings and sketches of 1940s Hollywood star Mario Lanza in pubs and shops across the region. There's also a giant map constructed by Brendan Jackson, revealing odd and peculiar aspects of the Black Country.



Richard Billingham, Untitled, Copyright the artist, courtesy Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London

### Mr Watt: Grumpy Man Of Metal

Enginuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire,  
until Sat 31 August

This amusing exhibition by blacksmith artist Jon Mills has been inspired by a series of illustrated books featuring the character Mr Watt, Grumpy Man Of Metal. The display features a range of unusual metal objects that Mr Watt has made in his curious metal world, among which are such intriguing creations as a crab's bicycle, a flying machine and a new kind of trumpet.



For full listing information on Visual Art exhibitions, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

**TIME PASSING II** Gunhild Thomson documents changes taking place at particular locations in Birmingham over a period of one year, with a photo taken each month, until Sat 2 Feb, Bilston Craft Gallery

**STRATA** Showcase of new works by recent UK fine art graduates, until Sat 2 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**ROBERT LENKIEWICZ RETROSPECTIVE** until Sun 3 Feb, Artix, Bromsgrove

**LIGHTS** Celebration of light and dark featuring works by local photographers from across the region, until Sun 3 Feb, The Public, West Bromwich

**BEAT STRUELI: NEW STREET** A portraiture of urban life presented via a series of photographs, video and digital projections, until Sun 3 Feb, Ikon, Birmingham

**DEFIANCE: TWO YEARS ON FROM THE EGYPTIAN REVOLUTION** New exhibition by Egyptian photo-journalist Mosa'ab Elshamy, until Sun 3 Feb, Ikon, Birmingham

**LIGHT UP DIGITAL** Through the creation of an optical illusion, artist Joanie Lemerrier challenges not only the viewer's senses, but also their perception of space, depth and distance, until Sun 3 Feb, The Public, West Bromwich

**DUDLEY SOCIETY OF ARTISTS ANNUAL EXHIBITION** 81st annual exhibition showing work in a variety of media, until Sat 23 Feb, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

**INSPIRED BY LACE** Lady Barber's personal lace collection provides the starting point for mixed-media textile artist Jacqueline Lawrence's

series of sensitively observed works, until Sun 24 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**PORTRAIT OF A LADY: THE LIFE AND PASSIONS OF LADY BARBER** Portraits of Lady Barber by her favoured artist Nestor Cambler provide the main focus of this exhibition, which explores the life and times of Dame Martha Constance Hattie Barber and her husband Sir Henry, until Sun 24 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**LAURA KNIGHT IN THE OPEN AIR** Special exhibition of works produced during Dame Laura Knight's long and distinguished career, until Sun 10 Feb, Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

**OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION** Featuring twenty-four unusual shots from across Birmingham, until Thurs 14 Feb, Brindleyplace, Birmingham

**CONSTRUCTIONS & DECONSTRUCTIONS EXHIBITION** Featuring works by Malcolm Tillis and Jeremy Schrecker, until Sat 23 Feb, The Willow Gallery, Oswestry, North Shropshire

**REVEALED: GOVERNMENT ART COLLECTION** Touring exhibition featuring five groups of works being showcased together for the first time, until Sun 24 Feb, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**MOON** Exhibition exploring the influence of the Moon on our culture, until Sun 24 Feb, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE MOSQUES OF GAMBIA** Acclaimed Birmingham photographer Vanley Burke showcases a body of work which depicts the environments where Islamic

worship takes place in The Gambia, until Thurs 28 Feb, The Drum, Birmingham

**MIKE NELSON: M6** Sculptural installation described as 'a love letter to car industries, highways departments, concrete islands and shifting economies', until Sat 9 Mar, Eastside Projects, Birmingham

**SCOOTERMANIA** Showcase of British scooters from the '50s & '60s, until Sun 3 March, Coventry Transport Museum

**D'ARRELLE HARRISON** Exhibition of new work, until Fri 8 Mar, Moseley Exchange, Alcester Rd, Birmingham

**RACHEL LOWE: REVOLVING WOMEN** Video installation that uses footage of a mannequin the artist shot on analogue video tape in a shopping mall in Brazil, until Sat 9 Mar, Eastside Projects, Digbeth, Birmingham

**BAGS: THE CRAFT OF THE CARRYING COMPANION** Exhibition showcasing the diversity of approaches contemporary craftspeople have taken to bags and accessory cases - objects where design, skilled manufacture and aesthetics meet, until Sat 9 Mar, Bilston Craft Gallery

**THE WORKPLACE** Featuring works by Adel Abidin, Emily Jacir, Joao Onofre, Superflex, Pilvi Takala, John Wood & Paul Harrison, until Sat 9 Mar, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**THE FOX SKETCHBOOK** Exhibition celebrating the latest addition to the gallery's collection - a number of works by local artist Ernest Fox, until Sat 9 Mar, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

**TALKING TEXTILES** Exhibition featuring works from eight contemporary textile artists who explore how stories are represented through their work, until Sun 10 Mar, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**TELLING TALES** Storytelling, folk tales and memories of childhood form the basis for this latest craft exhibition, until Sun 10 Mar, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**NEW YEAR SHOWCASE** Discover a range of makers producing the best in hand-crafted carrying companions, until Sat 16 Mar, Bilston Craft Gallery

**HIS DARK MATERIALS: NEW ART BY ADIE BLUNDELL** Large-scale detailed drawings of ravens, albatrosses and other bird-like creatures feature in this exhibition, which explores our precarious position in the world, until Sun 17 Mar, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**ARROW IN THE BLUE: THE KOESTLER EXHIBITION FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS** Exhibition of artwork & writing from prisons, secure hospitals, secure children's homes & people on probation in the West Midlands, until Sun 24 Mar, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**AVIATION ART - PERSONAL AIRCRAFT DECORATION** Temporary exhibition which showcases the detailed and often unique artwork that aircrew created to personalise their aircraft, until Sun 31 Mar, RAF Cosford, Nr Wolverhampton

**NORTHERN IRELAND** Return of the gallery's collection of contemporary art relating to the troubles in Northern Ireland, until Sat 6 April, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**JOCHEM HENDRICKS** Exhibition which affords visitors an opportunity to view Hendrick's artistic development from the late-1980s until the present day, until Sun 7 April, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**BRIERLEY HILL SOCIETY OF ARTISTS EXHIBITION** Selling exhibition featuring local & country scenes, portraits, still life and life drawing,

## Museums & Art Galleries

### Birmingham

**ARTIFEX** Sutton Coldfield 0121 323 3776  
**BARBER INSTITUTE** 0121 414 7333  
**BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY** 0121 303 2834  
**THE BURROWS GALLERY, THE CUSTARD FACTORY** 0121 224 7344  
**CASTLE GALLERIES** 0121 633 0015  
**IKON GALLERY** 0121 248 0708  
**NUMBER NINE THE GALLERY** 0121 643 9099

### PURPLE GALLERY

0121 459 0941  
**RBSA GALLERY** 0121 2364353  
**THREE WHITE WALLS GALLERY** 0121 643 0078

### Black Country

**BANTOCK HOUSE WOLVERHAMPTON** 01902 552195  
**BILSTON CRAFT GALLERY** 01902 552507  
**BROADFIELD HOUSE GLASS MUSEUM, DUDLEY** 01384 812745

### DUDLEY MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

01384 815575  
**LIGHT HOUSE MEDIA CENTRE WOLVERHAMPTON** 01902 716055  
**THE NEW ART GALLERY WALSALL** 01922 654400  
**RED HOUSE GLASS CONC** 01384 812750  
**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](http://whatsonlive.co.uk) for venue website details



# VisualArts LISTINGS

For full listing information on Visual Art exhibitions, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

until Sun 7 April, Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge

**DEAN KELLAND: LIVING ROOM** Performance, photography, film and period materials are here used to explore representations of class and masculinity in British situation comedy, until Sat 20 April, New Art Gallery, Walsall

**LET GO OF CERTAINTY** Exhibition of contemporary works from students from Walsall College, until Sun 28 Apr, New Art Gallery, Walsall

**JOHN BRIDGEMAN (1916-2004) RETROSPECTIVE** Sculpture, drawings, maquettes and paintings all feature in this exhibition of work by Birmingham School of Art's longtime Head of Sculpture, until Sun 21 April, Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum, Leamington Spa

**EDWIN BUTLER BAYLISS** Exhibition which illustrates Butler Bayliss' importance as one of the few nineteenth century painters of the

industrial landscape, until Sat 27 April, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**INDUSTRIAL ARTWORK BY WELSH ARTIST FALCON HILDRED** Major exhibition of selected originals by the highly accomplished artist who's dedicated his working life to recording the buildings and landscapes of nineteenth and twentieth century industry, until

Tues 30 April, Coalbrookdale Gallery, Ironbridge, Shropshire

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

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

**POP HIGHLIGHTS** Chance to see key works from the gallery's Pop Collection, including pieces by Peter Blake,

Richard Hamilton, Jann Haworth, Allen Jones and Andy Warhol, until Wed 15 May, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

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

**CAUGHT IN THE CROSS-FIRE** Exploration of how artists grapple with both the brutality of war and the desire of peace, until Sun 7 July, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD: DARK AGE DISCOVERY** Featuring more than two hundred pieces from the Anglo-Saxon Hoard, until Sun 1 Sep, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**ARTIST ROOM** A year-long exhibition featuring sculptures, paintings and prints. This display will be accompanied by a series of inspired satellite exhibitions, events and activities through the course of the year, until Sat 27 Oct, The New Art

Gallery, Walsall

**CLOSE TO THE HEART** Seventeenth to nineteenth century British miniatures from UK collections, Fri 1 Feb - Sun 5 May, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**SOLIHULL COLLEGE STUDENT EXHIBITION** Thurs 7 Feb - Sat 16 Mar, Solihull Arts Complex

**SNAPSHOTS OF MUMBAI** Exhibition which explores historical Anglo/Indian relationships through the photography of Paul Ward & words of Ed King, Sat 9 Feb - Sat 9 Mar, Bilston Craft Gallery

**THE MYSTERY OF AJW BY BARNEY SNOW** Exhibition featuring artworks from the Black Country's very own Banksey - a ghost-writer known as AJM who has been baffling locals by leaving sketches of 1940s star Mario Lanza across the region for the past fifty years, Wed 13 Feb - Mon 6 May, The Public, West Bromwich

**A MOST PECULIAR PLACE BY BRENDAN JACKSON** A huge map revealing the things that are odd, curious, unique, particular or just plain peculiar about the Black Country, Wed 13 Feb - Mon 6 May, The Public, West Bromwich



Birds (Finches, Crows, Kingfishers & Sparrows), in chalk & crayon on brown paper, from 1877-1897, Talking Textiles Exhibition - Shirehall Gallery, Stafford

**ZULU DAWN**

Photographic exhibition which celebrates the birth of UK Hip Hop, featuring famous names in early West Midlands deejaying, break dancing, rapping and graffiti art, including Goldie, Wed 13 Feb - Mon 6 May, The Public, West Bromwich

**NEW ART WEST MIDLANDS** Exhibition which explores themes of authenticity, urban and domestic spaces, as

well as ideas about nostalgia and memory, Fri 15 Feb - Sun 19 May, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**CASTLE ARTISTS AND MARCHES BOOK ARTS GROUP EXHIBITION**

Featuring paintings, photographs, linocuts, textiles, prints, cards, handmade artists' books and other new local work, Sat 23 - Sun 24 Feb, Public Hall, Station Street, Bishops Castle, Shropshire

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17th- to 19th-century  
British Miniatures  
from UK Private Collections  
1 FEBRUARY - 5 MAY



28 February - 10 March 2013

# Birmingham LGBT's Festival of Queer Arts & Culture returns!

Birmingham LGBT's hugely popular and successful SHOUT Festival of Queer Arts and Culture returns to the West Midlands this month - and it looks set to be bigger and better than ever!

Since 2009, the SHOUT Festival has presented the best in Queer arts, theatre, comedy, performance, talks and more. Last year even saw the introduction of SHOUT's very own stand-alone film festival, which was hailed a massive success.

Kicking off with some pre-festival events on Thursday 14 February, SHOUT's official launch event takes place on Thursday 28 February (from 6pm) at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. The launch will feature a drinks reception hosted by comedian **Billy Rubin**, with music from **Sarah Kate Bennett**, poetry from **Andy Conner** and dance from **One In Ten**.

There's a whole host of events to enjoy throughout the festival - and here's just five of them.



FREE Event

## Gender Blending

Friday 1 March - Sunday 10 March at Various Venues

Drag and dressing up have long played an important role in the sexual counter-culture.

From cross-dressing male prostitutes in 19th century 'molly houses' to Lady Gaga's alter-ego Joe Calderone, men and women have mixed dressing up, making up and style to help define their sexuality, parody 'normal' society and simply wrong-foot people's assumptions about sex, gender and identity. Gender Blending examines how recent generations have used drag and dressing up to challenge, subvert and entertain.

Birmingham-based photographer Nick Hyman specialises in chronicling alternative cultures, from Birmingham's art clubbers to Drag Queens. His work is centred around gay culture and practice.



## Move Over Darling

Saturday 9th March, 8pm at mac Birmingham

In the lead-up to SHOUT, artist Tom Marshman will be working with local LGBT adults, focusing on the testimonies of the over-60s.

Tom will be creating a new work incorporating fragments of stories, traces of memories, coded language and gesture. From the politically-charged to the mundane and the illicit, Move Over Darling will celebrate the full lives of gays and lesbians in Birmingham and the West Midlands, as presented through their very own stories.

A closing party takes place in the Arena Bar & Terrace Gallery after the performance.

Admission: £10/£8

For more information, to download the SHOUT Festival Brochure and to see the full programme of events, please visit

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





## The Triumph of Dionysus

Saturday 9th March, 9pm til Late at Boltz Club

Building on his previous successes with Cum Clubbing, Get Bent! And Bang! Bang!, Joey Vivo presents The Triumph Of Dionysus, a one-time-only party dedicated to hedonism in the gay village.

Providing a platform for the new era of Queerists, this event will explore sexuality through experimental performance, music, video projection and photography.

Admission: £3.50 advance/£5 on the door (Suitable for ages 18+ only)



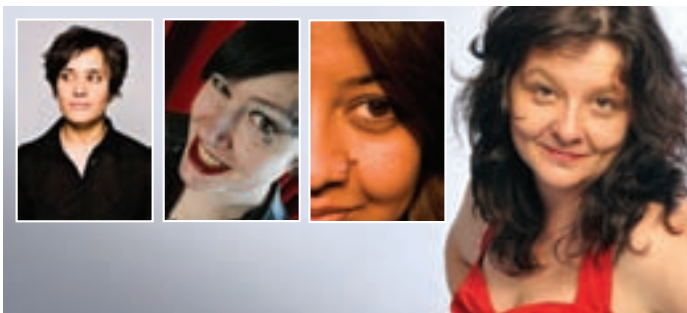
## Inconvenience

Exhibition Wed 6 - Fri 10 March at Showcase Gallery

This soundpiece explores a time when homosexuality was illegal, and gay men often found sexual partners in public toilets.

Inconvenience not only explains how gay men used cottages and other cruising grounds, but also examines the legacy that such practices have bequeathed to later generations. Using sounds recorded in public toilets, including drips, flushes and dryers, several tracks combine to tell a story - representing a progression from the 1950s and '60s to the present day.

Private view and appointments also available - see SHOUT website for info.



## Laughing Cows

Sunday 3rd March, 7.30pm at The Eden Bar

Laughing Cows returns to SHOUT festival with a special show featuring some fantastic female comedy talent.

Alongside resident Laughing Cows MC Maureen Younger will be comedienne Jen Brister, Isma Almas and Bethany Black.

Admission: £9/£7 - tickets can be purchased at [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com) (Suitable for ages 18+ only)

## Other SHOUT Events / Diary

14 Feb	<b>Looking For Langston</b> Pre-festival / £5	The Barber Institute of Fine Arts
15 Feb	<b>Birmingham Schools Showcase</b> Pre-festival / £5/£3	The Library Theatre
15 Feb	<b>Clare Summerskill Book Signing &amp; Talk</b> Pre-festival / £4 on door	Birmingham LGBT Centre
26 Feb	<b>Birmingham Queer History</b> Pre-festival / Free	The Barber Institute of Fine Arts
28 Feb	<b>SHOUT Festival Launch</b> Launch Event	The Waterhall Gallery
1-10 Mar	<b>Gender Blending by Nick Hynan</b> Visual Arts / Free	Various Venues
1 Mar	<b>Sweet Nothings by InteGreat Theatre</b> Performance	Hexagon Theatre, mac
2 Mar	<b>In Excelsis by Mandy Romero</b> Performance / £10/£8	The Public
2-10 Mar	<b>Queer Family Tree by Lisa Metherall</b> Visual Arts / Free	The Hub, mac
2-10 Mar	<b>We Love, We Make, We Exist</b> Visual Arts / Free	Deloitte Corridor, mac
3 Mar	<b>Laughing Cows</b> Comedy / £9/£7	The Marquee at Eden Bar
4 Mar	<b>Gayby</b> Film/Media / £7.40/£5	The Electric Cinema
4 Mar	<b>Shout Out Theatre Youth Project</b> Performance	Hexagon Theatre, mac
4-29 Mar	<b>The Revelations Of Faust by Rob Gibb</b> Visual Arts / Free	VisComm Gallery
5 Mar	<b>Twisted Straight! Dr Charlotte Ross</b> Film/Media / Free	Birmingham LGBT Centre
6-9 Mar	<b>FRED Theatre Company: Generations</b> Performance / £10/£8	The Custard Factory Theatre
6 Mar	<b>Nineties Woman by Rosie Wilby</b> Comedy / £8/£6	Hexagon Theatre, mac
6-10 Mar	<b>Inconvenience by Andrew Williams</b> Visual Arts / Free	Showcase Gallery
6-10 Mar	<b>Queer Eye Project: Generations and Legacies Eye to Eye Group</b> Visual Arts / Free	The Works Gallery
7 Mar	<b>Laughing Bulls</b> Comedy / £9/£7	The Fountain Inn
7 Mar	<b>Spoken Word and Music (Various)</b> Performance / £4	The Fox
8 Mar	<b>Cat Chinn and Band</b> Performance / £5 on door	Vertu Bar
8 Mar	<b>Well That Explains It! by Clare Summerskill</b> Comedy / £8 adv./con. or £10 on door	The Public
9 Mar	<b>Move Over Darling by Tom Marshman</b> Performance / £10/£8	Foyle Theatre, mac
9 Mar	<b>Birmingham REP: Pengy</b> Performance / £5	Foyle Theatre, mac
9 Mar	<b>SHOUT Festival Closing Party</b> Closing Event / Free	mac
9 Mar	<b>The Triumph Of Dionysus</b> Performance / £3.50 adv. or £5 on door	Boltz Club
10 Mar	<b>Queer's The Word</b> Talks/Workshops / £5	Birmingham LGBT Centre
10 Mar	<b>LGBT Authors</b> Talks/Workshops / Free	Birmingham LGBT Centre
10 Mar	<b>Pam Ann - Around The World</b> Comedy / £20-£26	The New Alexandra Theatre





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# Events



## The Spring Caravan And Camping Show NEC, Birmingham, Tues 19 - Sun 24 February

With the cold dark nights seeming to go on forever, many turn their thoughts towards warmer seasons and spending time in the great outdoors. And with more and more Britons choosing to holiday in the UK, the Spring Caravan And Camping Show is a perfect starting-point when planning ahead. Show organisers promise an event which is both inspiring and informative - packed with ideas on how to while away a long, hot summer (fingers crossed, eh?). As well as

showcasing the latest models in caravanning, motorhomes, camping and accessories, the six-day event features a variety of free activities and attractions - including hydro zorbing, rockface challenges, canoeing and kayaking - as well as a chance to get up close and personal with wildlife from Dudley Zoo. Celebrity slots are this year filled by naturalist and wildlife TV presenter Nick Baker, cook and broadcaster Valentine Warner, and extreme adventurer Andy Torbet.

## Chinese New Year Celebrations

Arcadian Centre, Birmingham, Sun 10 February

Birmingham's Southside district once again plays host to the region's biggest Chinese New Year celebrations. Dragon dances, acrobatic displays and martial art demonstrations are just a few of the attractions on offer on the main stage, with traditional craft stalls and an abundance of delicious Chinese fare available along Hurst Street. Festivities culminate with what promises to be a spectacular fireworks display in the evening.



## British Athletics Grand Prix

National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, Sat 16 February

Regarded as one of the UK's best indoor athletics events, the British Athletics Grand Prix brings together many of the country's top athletes to compete in track and field events. Double Olympic champion Mo Farah is confirmed to race in the 3,000metres, and recently spoke about competing in front of a passionate Birmingham crowd: "I always love running

in Birmingham, and have fond memories of celebrating my Olympic success with the British fans at Alexander Stadium last August. I always run well at the NIA." Also competing at this month's meet is high jump bronze medallist and European champion Robbie Grabarz, and world indoor pole-vault bronze medallist Holly Bleasdale.





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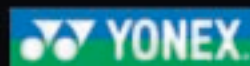
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Birmingham

[allenglandbadminton.com](http://allenglandbadminton.com)



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## Incredible Inventors

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry,  
Mon 18 - Fri 22 February

Visitors to Coventry's award-winning art gallery and museum are this month being invited to take part in a host of creative workshops inspired by art, science and history. Kicking off the half-term initiative will be Bags Of Glue - a workshop where youngsters can have a go at decorating gift bags using glues and a variety of tools. Other sessions provide opportunities to make artworks inspired by the working parts inside a watch, and to create 'illusion art' which plays tricks on the eyes. There's also the chance to build a junk model in celebration of Coventry's contribution to transport.



## Scooter Fun

Coventry Transport Museum,  
Sat 16 - Sun 24 February

Working in conjunction with Scootermania - a display of forty British-made scooters - the Coventry Transport Museum has devised an array of events to keep visitors entertained throughout the half-term holiday. After exploring the exhibition and taking part in the museum's Scooter activity trail, visitors can engage in numerous themed craft activities, including making racing trophies and medals, funky '50s fabric painting, retro plate and mug-painting, and psychedelic clip-frame collage-making.



## Shrewsbury Darwin Festival

Various locations in and around Shrewsbury,  
Tues 12 - Sun 24 February

Organised by the Shropshire Wildlife Trust, this now-annual event aims 'to inspire people with curiosity about the natural world and awaken understanding of the marvellous wildlife with which we share our world'. Organisers hope their stated mission can be achieved via a packed programme of events that includes lectures, demonstrations, guided tours, workshops and film screenings. For full festival listings, visit [www.discoverdarwin.co.uk](http://www.discoverdarwin.co.uk)



## Love Stirchley More

Various venues in Stirchley, Birmingham, Thurs 14 - Sat 16 February

Billed as an 'alternative Valentine's experience', this mini-festival - hosted by local businesses - celebrates all that's good about Birmingham's Stirchley district. The three-evening event opens with What's Love Got To Do With It? - a carnival procession made up of dancers and choirs from the local community which will be making its way from Bournville Railway Station to the Selly Oak Constituency Office on Stirchley High Street.

Comedian Barbara Nice is on hand to play her part in the festival too, exploring the ups and downs of love and loss during a two-and-a-half-hour show aboard Love Stirchley's Love Boat. Other attractions include a pop-up food experience from Loaf, family film fun from Stirchley Happenings' Travelling Bug House, and free tattoos for people over eighteen at Skinny Ink Tattoo Studio.

## Stunt Fest

Santa Pod, Northampton, Sat 23 February

A driver in a Robin Reliant jumping over a bed of cars is just one of the many stunts on offer at this high-octane half-term event, an action-packed day of daredevil activity and monster truck magic that also features flame-throwing vehicles and plenty of fireworks. Freestyle motorcross, drift rides, jet karts, caravan racing, kids' entertainment and funfair rides also feature, as well as a performance from professional stunt performer Abby Baker, who'll be having a smashing time crashing cars.



motoring shot, upload it to the web and then edit it. The events take place at different times during the week and incur additional charges. To find out more and to book places, visit [www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk](http://www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk)

## Airfix Make And Take

RAF Cosford, nr Wolverhampton,  
Mon 18 - Fri 22 February

This family-friendly event is sure to evoke a feeling of nostalgia for a certain generation of dads, with the RAF Museum inviting visitors to take part in building an Airfix 1:72 Lightning. Models will be built alongside a full-sized aircraft, and modelling skills are not required in order to take part, as staff will be on hand to provide assistance. If you need a little inspiration regarding how to paint your model Spitfire, sessions take place next to the venue's famous 1:1 scale model Spitfire, as built by James May for the BBC Toy Stories series.



## Auto Science Live

Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon,  
Warwickshire, Sat 16 - Sun 24 February

A range of 'inspiring' family-friendly activities awaits visitors to the Heritage Motor Centre during this month's half-term week. A Painting By Wheels workshop with artist Ian Cook from PopBangColour provides an insight into how to create artworks using radio-controlled cars, while Land Rover Imagineering Trust hosts K'Nex Buggy Challenges, an activity which enables children to design, build and test a three or four-wheeled spring or electric motor-driven buggy. For photography enthusiasts, Lara Platman facilitates a Cars Through The Lens event, illustrating how to take the perfect





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Wednesday 6th March, 11.30am-3.30pm:

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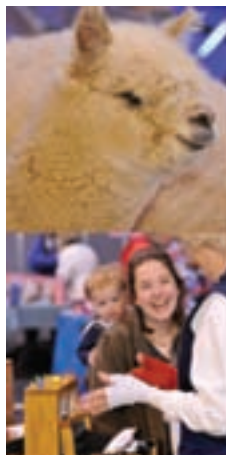
Thursday 7th March, 10am-2pm:

Wynnstay Hotel, 43 Church St, Oswestry, Shropshire,  
SY11 2SZ (free parking subject to availability)



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# BRITISH ALPACA FUTURITY & fibre festival 2013

Friday 15 + Saturday 16 March  
Hall 3A, NEC Birmingham

The biggest alpaca show in Europe, supporting British farmers by the promotion of home bred alpacas and showcasing the fibre to fashion industry. Meet the breeders, explore the world of alpacas.

The Fibre Festival will showcase alpaca fibre in all its forms and those who work with it. This is the place where the makers will display and sell their products. There will be informal workshops where hand spinners, weavers, feltmakers, knitters, dyers and crochet makers will demonstrate their craft and invite visitors to have a go.



For more information and the opportunity to buy day entry tickets at £7.50 a head (accompanied children under 16 go free) visit:  
[www.britishalpaca futurity.com](http://www.britishalpaca futurity.com)  
or [www.theticketfactory.com](http://www.theticketfactory.com)

## Broadfield House Glass Museum

Compton Drive, Kingswinford DY6 9NS  
Tel: 01384 812745

### COLLECTOMANIA: EAST MEETS WEST

10 FEBRUARY - 9 JUNE

This special exhibition features a private collection of British and European glass, decorated in Oriental styles, shown alongside traditional Japanese prints



NEW

### YOUTH CRAFT CLUB

9 FEBRUARY, 1.30PM - 3.30PM

Leave your child with us in our new craft workshop to have fun with a new craft each month.  
Ages 8 - 14, £5.25

## Red House Glass Cone

High Street, Wordsley DY8 4AZ  
Tel: 01384 812750

### BRIERLEY HILL SOCIETY OF ARTISTS

UNTIL 7 APRIL

Annual exhibition: all items for sale. Paintings, portraits, landscapes, still life, life drawing



### MADE @ THE CONE STUDIOS

SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS,  
MONDAYS AND  
THURSDAYS

Drop by our open studios and find the perfect gift from ceramics, paintings, clocks, jewellery, glass jewellery, fused, blown and engraved glass



## Juniors at Museums

### STICKY SATURDAYS: FREE

Sat 2 Feb: 1.30pm - 3.30pm @ Broadfield  
Sat 16 Feb: 1pm - 3.30pm @ Cone  
Come along and have fun and we tidy up!

### SPRING TRAIL: FREE

16 - 24 FEBRUARY  
Look for the clues at the Cone and Broadfield

### ADULT CRAFT CLASSES

@ BROADFIELD

Friday 8 Feb: Rag-rugging,  
10.30am - 12.30pm: £5.25

### FAMILY CRAFTS

Mon 18 & Tues 19 Feb - Gone Fishing @ RHGC - £3.80  
Weds 20 & Thurs 21 Feb - Animal Antics @ RHGC - £3.80  
Weds 20 & Thurs 21 Feb - Glass inclusions @ BHGM - £5.50  
Join us for a range of crafts based around a different theme.

Visit the website for a full programme.  
Call 01384 815571 to book.



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Dudley  
Metropolitan Borough Council

ADMISSION FREE [www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do)



## Meccano Model Display

Enginuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire,  
Sat 9 February

If you're a fan of Frank Hornby's model construction system, then this is a must-attend event for your diary. For one day only, members of the Telford and Ironbridge Meccano Society descend on the Ironbridge Gorge science and technology centre to showcase a fascinating collection of models that includes cranes, cars, clocks, trains and some very quirky inventions, some of which contain vintage parts well over one hundred years old.



## The Birmingham Antiques And Collectors Vintage Fair

Centennial Centre, Edgbaston, Birmingham,  
Sun 24 February

Featuring over one hundred stalls'-worth of quality items, the Birmingham Antiques and Collectors Vintage Fair provides a perfect opportunity to pick up bespoke items from numerous UK-wide dealers. And with more and more people choosing to give their home a vintage look, the event is a great place to find items which not only cater for all tastes but also all budgets.



## Children's Dangerous Plants Trail

Birmingham Botanical Gardens,  
throughout February

A new initiative for 2013, the Botanical Garden's Children's Trails aim to be both educational and fun, and are each month based around a different theme. During February, visitors will be encouraged to explore examples of strangling vines, meat-eating plants and mysterious cacti as they make their way through the site's four impressive glasshouses.



## Race Retro

Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, Fri 22 - Sun 24 February

The presence of two motorsporting legends provides the highlight at this month's historic motorsport show, with racing icon Sir Stirling Moss (Saturday) and commentator Murray Walker (Sunday) appearing on Race Retro's live interview stage. Other attractions at the three-day event include a battle between Group B Rally cars on the Live Rally stage, an Arrive & Drive circuit, Silverstone Auctions' Race & Rally sale, Retro and Cafe Racer Concour, hundreds of trade stands and a treasure trove of autojumble.

## Arenacross 2013

LG Arena, Birmingham, Sat 2 February

An adrenaline-charged evening of entertainment is on the cards at this action-packed spin-off of motorcross racing. Having made its debut in America in the 1970s, Arenacross transposes all the spectacular elements of outdoor racing onto purpose-built dirt tracks, where the racing is described as 'short, sharp and spectacular'. Pro Riders confirmed to perform at Arenacross 2013 include Britain's Tom Church, Carl Nunn, Elliot Banks-Browne, Matt Bayliss, James Harrison, Jack Brunnell and Adam Chatfield.



## Half-term fun in West Brom

The Public, West Bromwich,  
Mon 18 - Fri 22 February

There's plenty at The Public to keep West Brom's youngsters entertained during this month's half-term holiday, including a series of activities and workshops. A Family Craft Day, inspired by artists Hsiao-Chi and Kylma Yoshikaw, kick-starts proceedings, and is fol-

lowed by the Little People's Art Zone, gaming days, a den-building day, a stop motion animation workshop and a balloon fun workshop. The Public's Femtinos alien collection is on hand on Wednesday the 20th to assist younger visitors in exploring Earth and learning through craftmaking, storywriting and wacky creative challenges.



## Family celebrations at Cadbury World

Cadbury World, Bournville, Birmingham,  
Sat 16 - Sun 24 February

A wealth of half-term fun awaits visitors to Cadbury World this month, with ventriloquists, magicians and jugglers adding to the usual fare on offer. A great day out for adults and children alike, Cadbury World comprises various zones which take visitors through the origins of the cocoa bean and the history of the Cadbury brand. A trip on board the magical Cadabra is a surefire hit with younger visitors, as is the Essence zone, where kids can have a go at writing their name in smooth liquid chocolate. And, of course, there are always the free samples to enjoy...



**Feb HALF TERM FUN!**

**HERITAGE MOTOR CENTRE**

*Motoring fun for all the family*

**Auto Science Live**

16-24 FEBRUARY 2013

A week of family friendly activities bringing automotive engineering and the science behind it to life.

**'Painting by Wheels'**  
A children's painting workshop with resident artist Ian Cook.  
Saturday 16

**What a smashing day!**

**K'neec Electric Buggy Challenge**  
Drop in family activity  
Sunday 17 & Tuesday 19

**Driven Futures**  
Meet the Greenpower electric car & race team.  
Thursday 28

**'Cars through the Lens'**  
A one day children's photography workshop.  
Wednesday 20

**Cotton Reel Races**  
Family Crash Day  
Thursday 21

Normal Museum entrance fees apply.

heritage-motor-centre.co.uk  
Call 01926 641188

GET SOCIAL...  

Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon Road, Gaydon, Warwickshire, CV35 9EF

**TRACTOR WORLD**

**2nd & 3rd March 2013**

Large indoor event at:  
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- New Tractors on display From Leading Manufacturers

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Trade stands and specialist tractor spares, tools, book and model dealers.

**SATURDAY** large Auction sale by HJ Pugh call 01531 631122 or [www.hjpugh.co.uk](http://www.hjpugh.co.uk) (over 2000 lots of 2012 show) 

**SUNDAY** Vintage Sortout and Sparesday (call our office for a sellers form)

**SUNDAY** Charity tractor road run into the Malvern Hills.

**Ticket prices** Adult £12 at gate, Advance £9 Weekend £20 at gate, Weekend Advance £15, Under 15's free.

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 AND MEET THE MINIBEASTS**  
 (handling sessions) for FEB HALF TERM.  
 The Handling sessions are  
 at 11.30am and 2.30 pm

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Swans Nest Lane, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 7LS  
 01789 299288 [www.butterflyfarm.co.uk](http://www.butterflyfarm.co.uk)

  
 Birmingham science museum

Millennium Point  
 Curzon Street,  
 Birmingham, B4 7XG  
 0121 202 2222  


**Something for all  
 the Family...**

- The Undersea Race Storytelling
- Object Handling
- Drop In Sessions
- Arts Activities
- Care Of Collections



Weekends and Birmingham School Holidays

  
 Keeping the story alive

Millennium Place,  
 Coventry CV1 1JD  
 024 7623 4270

**HALF TERM ACTIVITIES**

As always, during the Half Term break, there will be a range of craft activities and quiz trails for families to take part in during the holidays, and for February these will all be based around the theme of the Museum's temporary exhibition of British scooters, Scootermania!



[www.transport-museum.com](http://www.transport-museum.com)



**Auto Science Live**

**16-24 FEBRUARY**

Bringing automotive engineering to life in a fun and interactive way to inspire all ages. Choose from painting with remote controlled cars, children's digital photography, K'nex build challenge, to name a few.

Pre-booking is required for some activities. See website for full details.



**HALF TERM FUN!**

**HERITAGE MOTOR CENTRE**  
 Banbury Road, Gaydon,  
 Warwickshire CV35 0BJ  
 Tel: 01926 645120  
[heritage-motor-centre.co.uk](http://heritage-motor-centre.co.uk)

  
**Model Making  
 Half Term**

**18th - 22nd February 2013**  
 11.00am - 3.00pm  
 £3.00 per person

See website for details



Royal Air Force Museum Cosford  
 Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP  
**T: 01902 376 200**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
[www.rafmuseum.org](http://www.rafmuseum.org)

**ICESK8**

**Half Term Daytime Sessions**  
 Monday 18 - Friday 22 February

**Morning session 10.30am-12.30pm**  
**Afternoon session 1.30pm-3.30pm**

Weekdays only, evening and weekend sessions as per normal timetable.

**Adult £8 Flex £6.10 - Junior £7 Flex £5.35**

St. Quentin Gate, Town Centre, Telford TF3 4JQ  
 Tel: 0845 155 9966  
[www.telford.gov.uk/icerink](http://www.telford.gov.uk/icerink)



  
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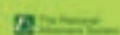
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For groups of 10 or more call 0800 358 0058



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# Events LISTINGS

For full listing information on Events, including times and dates, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## Week Commencing FRI 1 FEB

**CHILDREN'S DANGEROUS PLANTS TRAIL** Learn about man-eating plants in a brand new fun educational trail, throughout February, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

**WINTER TOURS: THROUGH THE ROOF** A forty-minute tour which forms part of the Attingham rediscovered project, where visitors can discover the past, present and future of the site's iconic Nash Roof, Fri 1 - Sat 9 Feb, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**GUIDED TOUR** Sat 2 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**HORROR VACUI MASKED BALL** Evening of exploration inspired by The Herbert's current exhibition His Dark Materials, Sat 2 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Birmingham  
**THE BIRMINGHAM GAMES** The twentieth outing of this event sees an array of national and international athletes compete in a series of field and track events, Sat 2 - Sun 3 Feb, National Indoor Arena, Birmingham

**STORY BOOK GLOVES WITH JENNIFER COLLIER** Take along your favourite storybook to be upcycled into a pair of beautiful handmade gloves, Sat 2 Feb, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**ARENACROSS 2013** Experience an adrenaline-charged evening of indoor motorcross action, Sat 2 Feb, LG Arena, Birmingham

**WILLOW ARTS WORKSHOP** Join the site's willow arts expert and gain some valuable tips in a workshop for beginners, Sat 2 Feb, Weoley Castle, Birmingham

**FAMILY SATURDAY** Afternoon of free creative activities, Sat 2 Feb, Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace, Birmingham

**GAY CLASSIC CAR GROUP 25TH ANNIVERSARY** Sun 3 Feb, Coventry Transport Museum

**BRIDAL FAYRE** Demonstrations, fashion shows & entertainment to help you plan your special day, Sun 3 Feb, Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire

**DISCOVER ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR** A one-day course which provides participants with a better understanding of

why animals do what they do, Sun 3 Feb, Napier Centre, Twycross Zoo, Warwickshire

## Week Commencing MON 4 FEB

**BIRMINGHAM CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE** Thinktank initiative to get science into cafes and pubs all over the world. This event will be hosted by Professor Bill Chaplin, Tues 5 Feb, Gin Parlour Room, Jekyll and Hyde Pub, Birmingham

**CONSERVATION TOUR OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD** Wed 6 Feb, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**SPECIALIST TOUR: WILLIAM MORRIS & THE KELMSCOTT** Chance to see items from Wightwick's collection not usually on show, Wed 6 Feb, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton

**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Wed 6 Feb, Aston Hall, Birmingham

**CONSERVATION TOUR OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD** Wed 6 Feb, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**TOUR WITH DAI MORGAN EVANS** Take an exclusive tour of Wroxeter Roman City and the Roman Town House with Professor Dai Morgan Evans, Thurs 7 Feb, Wroxeter Roman City, Shropshire

**RAG-RUG WORKSHOP** Learn about the craft of rag-rug-making with specialist Jessie Lindon, Fri 8 Feb, Birmingham Back to Backs

**CHINESE COSTUME PARTY** Fri 8 Feb, The Honey Club, Southside, Birmingham

**MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY WITH JENNIFER COLLIER** Workshop where visitors can recycle food packaging to make papier mache tea sets and utilise end-of-life storybooks using stitching, waxing and trapping techniques to make cakes that look good enough to eat, Sat 9 Feb, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**RAG-RUG CUSHION COVER ADULT WORKSHOP** Chance to learn about the make-do-and-mend traditional craft, Sat 9 Feb, Walsall Leather Museum

## THE BRITISH SHOOTING & COUNTRYMAN SHOW

Featuring everything you'd expect to see at the UK's premier specialist shooting event, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Feb, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

**VALENTINE WEEKEND** Sat 9 - Sun 10 Feb, Cadbury World, Birmingham

**JO MCCHESENEY PRINT-MAKING WORKSHOPS** Chance to carve and print your own wood-block, creating your own unique design to take home, Sat 9 - Sun 10 Feb, Weston Park, Staffordshire

**PANCAKE DAY CELEBRATIONS** Join the ladies of Blists Hill Victorian Town as they take part in the annual pancake-flipping contest, Sat 9 - Tue 12 Feb, Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**CHINESE NEW YEAR FAMILY DAY** Celebrate the Year of the Snake with activities, live music & storytelling, Sun 10 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**TOY COLLECTORS' FAIR** Featuring six hundred stalls of toys, trains and models, Sun 10 Feb, NEC, Birmingham

**WEDDING SHOW** Featuring VIP wedding tours & Bridal Fashion Show, Sun 10 Feb, Ragley Hall, Warwickshire

**WEDDING PREVIEW DAY** Sun 10 Feb, Warwick Castle

**MIDLANDS ANTIQUES & COLLECTORS FAIR** Sun 10 Feb, The National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull

**THE FRED HILL MOTORCYCLE RUN 2013** Organised by the Warwickshire branch of Motorcycle Action Group UK, Sun 10 Feb, Coventry Transport Museum

**THE BARBER BOOK CLUB** Subject: Death In Venice by Thomas Mann, Tues 12 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**PANCAKE DAY CELEBRATION** Featuring entertainment by Steve Tovey, Tues 12 Feb, Mayoral Suite, Civic Centre, Wolverhampton

**TELLING TALES: A DEBATE FOR REVEALED** Comedian John Hegley, artist Mel Brimfield & writer/critic Sally O'Reilly come together for a lively debate inspired by the museum's Revealed exhibition, Tues 12 Feb, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**PRECIOUS PAINTINGS: COUNTRY HOUSE CON-**



Cadbury World, Birmingham

**SERVATION AT WESTON PARK** Find out how the Weston Park Foundation care for its internationally important Van Dycks, Tues 12 - Wed 13 Feb, Weston Park, Staffordshire

**SHREWSBURY DARWIN FESTIVAL** Twelve days of activities to celebrate the life and achievements of Charles Darwin, Tues 12 - Sun 24 Feb, various locations in & around Shrewsbury

**DRIFT WHAT YA BRUNG** Chance to learn or practise drifting in safe and legal conditions, Wed 13 Feb, Santa Pod, Northampton

**LOVE ART?** Screening of the award-winning film Looking For Langston, followed by a special LGBTQ-themed gallery tour which explores love and art across boundaries, Thurs 14 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**THE LOVE TOUR** Valentine's-themed tour around the zoo to meet some of the site's animal couples, Thurs 14 Feb, Twycross Zoo, Warwickshire

**LOVE STIRCHLEY MORE** Mini-festival of art, commerce and love, Thurs 14 - Sat 16 Feb, various locations, Stirchley, Birmingham

**GRAND DESIGNS: THE BUILDING OF HALL'S CROFT** Exhibition which showcases the features of a wealthy Tudor/Jacobean house, plus a children's quiz, Thurs 14 - Sun 17 Feb, Hall's Croft, Stratford-upon-Avon

**A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME** A celebration of famous love scenes from Shakespeare's plays, Thurs 14 - Sun 24 Feb, Shakespeare's

Birthplace, Stratford-upon-Avon

**TRAIL OF LOVE** Explore the site for Shakespearean love quotes before tying romantic tributes to a Sweetheart tree. For kids, there's the chance to take part in a Valentine's I Spy game, Thurs 14 - Sun 24 Feb, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Stratford-upon-Avon

**SEEK THY LOVE** Match the famous Shakespearean couples concealed around the house & garden, Thurs 14 - Sun 24 Feb, Nash's House & New Place, Stratford-upon-Avon

**VALENTINES GHOST TOUR** Fri 15 Feb, Kenilworth Castle

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY HALL'S CROFT** Celebrate four hundred years of history, meet some of the house's characters and uncover its secrets... Fri 15 Feb, Hall's Croft, Stratford-upon-Avon

**SINGLES NIGHT** Meet like-minded singles during a fun-packed Valentine's event, Fri 15 Feb, Birmingham Museum

**LAMB FEEDING** Discover the delight of bottle-feeding gorgeous little lambs at this opening event of Park Hall's farming season, Fri 15 - Sun 24 Feb, Park Hall Countryside Experience, Oswestry, North Shropshire

**BRITISH ATHLETICS GRAND PRIX** Sat 16 Feb, National Indoor Arena, Birmingham  
**LOVE WORCESTER** Free family drop-in event where visitors can take inspiration from the most popular paintings in the museum's collections to create their very own Worcester

City landscape, Sat 16 Feb, Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

**VALENTINE'S DINE THROUGH TIME BANQUET** Unique evening of entertainment and hearty food, Sat 16 Feb, Warwick Castle

**MIDLANDS CARP & COURSE SPECTACULAR SHOW** Sat 16 Feb, Ricoh Arena, Coventry

**MEET PEPPA PIG** Sat 16 Feb, Twycross Zoo, Warwickshire

**ENGINEUTY FLIGHT SHOW** A model aircraft workshop in conjunction with Telford Model Aero Club, Sat 16 - Sun 24 Feb, Enginuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**HALF-TERM FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND HANDS-ON HERITAGE**, Sat 16 - Sun 24 Feb, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**HALF-TERM ICE SKATING** Enjoy an exhilarating whirl around a real ice rink in a magical lakeside setting, Sat 16 - Sun 24 Feb, Trentham Estate, Stoke-on-Trent

**HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES A range of craft activities and quiz trails for families**, Sat 16 - Sun 24 Feb, Coventry Transport Museum  
**HALF-TERM FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT** Featuring a variety of performances from some of Cadbury World's favourite family entertainers, including magicians, ventriloquists and jugglers, Sat 16 - Sun 24 Feb, Cadbury World, Birmingham  
**AUTO SCIENCE LIVE** programme of fun, interactive workshops and drop-in sessions to inspire all ages, Mon 16 - Sun 24 Feb, Heritage Motor Museum, Gaydon, Warwickshire  
**NATIONAL NEST BOX WEEK** Join the

## Week Commencing MON 11 FEB

**THE BARBER BOOK CLUB** Subject: Death In Venice by Thomas Mann, Tues 12 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

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**PRECIOUS PAINTINGS: COUNTRY HOUSE CON-**



# WAVE

THE MUSEUMS, GALLERIES &  
ARCHIVES OF WOLVERHAMPTON

## EVENTS 2013

### WOLVERHAMPTON LOCAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM BANTOCK HOUSE AND MUSEUM

SATURDAY 23 FEBRUARY, 10AM - 4PM

7th annual event showcasing new and significant research into local history. Tickets £5.50 to include buffet lunch from Wolverhampton Archives.

Tel: 01902 552480 or Email: [archives@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:archives@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

### EXPERIMENTAL LEATHER WORKSHOP BILSTON CRAFT GALLERY

SATURDAY 2 MARCH, 11AM - 3.30PM

Join Bags exhibitor John Todd to explore different ways of working with leather. Many techniques have been devised by John in his own practice. Use your new-found skills to create a personalised and robust leather cover for a notebook, sketchbook, tablet computer or e-reader. £29 booking required.

### HANDMADE AND VINTAGE WEDDING FAYRE WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY

SATURDAY 16 MARCH, 11AM - 3:30PM

Featuring handmade and vintage products for couples who dream of a bespoke wedding and value the handmade touch. This event will include a fashion show of wedding gowns and afternoon tea served in the Gallery café.

Free, drop in.

### ART AND THE BLACK COUNTRY STUDY DAY WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY

SATURDAY 23 MARCH, 10.30AM - 4PM

Celebrating the influence of the Black Country and its changing landscape and industry on artists both past and present. The day features insightful talks by historians including Dr Malcolm Dick (University of Birmingham), Dr Connie Wan (Wolverhampton Art Gallery), Dr Michael Hall (Francis Brett Young Society) and Brian Stevenon RBSA.

£25 per person (includes lunch and refreshments)

Tel: 01902 552055 or visit

<https://bookwhen.com/wolverhamptonartsandheritage>

### VINTAGE TEA PARTY

BANTOCK HOUSE MUSEUM

SATURDAY 23 MARCH, 4PM - 6PM

Enjoy high tea in the delightful setting of Bantock House. £6.50 per ticket. Booking required.

SHEPHERD & WILLIAMS ANTIQUES FAIRS

# Antique Fair

100 QUALITY STALLS! 9AM - 4PM  
£2 ENTRY KIDS FREE!

+ COLLECTABLES & VINTAGE

## CENTENNIAL CENTRE

100 ICKNIELD PORT RD, EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM, B16 0AA. FREE PARKING.

SUN 24 FEBRUARY & SUN 17 MARCH

07748972938 INFO@SWFAIRS.CO.UK WWW.SWFAIRS.CO.UK

## Stafford Bingley Hall

### QUALITY 3 DAY ANTIQUES FAIRS

At the County Showground,  
Stafford ST18 0BD on A518. 5 mins J14, M6  
Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays

### 8th / 9th / 10th March 2013

Admission £5 adults £3 concessions, children under 16 free of charge  
10am-5pm each day Ample free parking  
Up to 400 STANDS INCLUDING ART, FURNITURE, CERAMICS,  
GLASS, CLOCKS, FASHION, SILVER & JEWELLERY.

**Bowman Antiques Fairs**  
Telephone 01274 588505  
Web: [www.antiquesfairs.com](http://www.antiquesfairs.com) @antiquesfairs

# THE BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

## Friends look Books around

### 17 Feb for £2

Sunday 17 Feb 2013 10am

Beautiful Gardens Exotic Glasshouses Birds  
Bonsai Playground Gallery Shop Tea Room  
Groups welcome New family backpack trails

[www.birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk](http://www.birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk)  
Westbourne Road Edgbaston Birmingham B15 3TR  
Open daily 0121 454 1860

10% off day visit with ad W0113



WAVE



Supported by  
ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND



Wolverhampton  
City Council



Discovery Team and sharpen your bird identification skills, Sat 16 - Sun 24 Feb, Twycross Zoo, Warwickshire  
**MG SHOW 2013** Sun 17 Feb, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire  
**HANG OUT WITH A HAWK** Get the school holidays off to a flying start and meet some stunning birds of prey, Sun 17 Feb, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

**Week Commencing  
MON 18 FEB**

**FAMILY CRAFT DAY** Be inspired by The Public's beautiful flower sculptures to create something colourful to take home using recycled materials, Mon 18 Feb, The Public, West Bromwich  
**BAGS OF GLUE WORKSHOP** Experiment with markmaking and decorate a gift bag using coloured glues and art tools, Mon 18 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**DRAW & STITCH STAFFORD'S STORIES...** Workshop with Stewart Easton where participants can draw and stitch some of Stafford's hidden stories, Mon 18 - Wed 20 Feb, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford  
**TILE DECORATING WORKSHOPS** Mon 18 - Fri 22 Feb, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge  
**AIRFIX MAKE AND TAKE** Modelmaking activity for children, Mon 18 - Fri 22 Feb, RAF Museum, Cosford, Nr Wolverhampton  
**CHINESE NEW YEAR CERAMIC DROP-IN WORKSHOPS** Themed drop-in workshops, Mon 18 - Fri 22 Feb, Coalport China Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire  
**RAGLEY FOREST ADVENTURE** Activities include den-building, campfire-making, natural art and story walks, Mon 18 - Fri 22 Feb, Ragley Hall, Warwickshire  
**SCRUBBING UP FOR SPRING - HALF-TERM CONSERVATION** Hands-on activities for all the family, Mon 18 Feb - Sun 24 Feb, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton  
**HERBERT ILLUMINATIONS: CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE - AN ARTIST'S INTRODUCTION** A unique opportunity to meet one of the artists whose work is displayed as part of the museum's Caught In The Crossfire exhibition, Tues 19 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**GAMING DAY** Join the LearnPlay Foundation and experience the world of computer gaming, Tues 19 Feb, The Public, West

Bromwich  
**FILM PRODUCTION WORKSHOP** One-day event where eight-to-thirteen-year-olds can explore digital film production techniques, Tues 19 Feb, The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**CREATIVE MOVEMENT CLASS** Children's workshop facilitated by dance artist Tara Rutter. Booking essential! Tues 19 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**ONCE UPON A TIME...** Storytelling followed by craft activities for children of all ages, Tues 19 Feb, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton  
**WHEELY WONDERFUL WATCHES** Make an art-work inspired by the intricate working parts inside a watch, Tues 19 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**LITTLE PEOPLE'S ART ZONE** Creative fun featuring everything from painting, playing and 'cool' puppet performances, Tues 19 Feb, The Public, West Bromwich  
**COLLECTION CONVERSATIONS** Drop in to What's In Store and handle items from the museum's natural history, archaeology and social history collections, Tues 19 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**FESTIVAL CRAFTS** Craft activities exploring celebration days around the world, including festivals, feast days and carnivals, Tues 19 - Fri 22 Feb, Worcestershire County Museum  
**AVONCROFT'S GOT TALENT** Chance to play your part in Avoncroft's drama workshop, make yourself heard with your singing, and show your creative side with crafts, Tues 19 - Sun 24 Feb, Avoncroft, Bromsgrove  
**THE SPRING CARAVAN & CAMPING SHOW** Featuring the latest models from major manufacturers, together with various attractions, demonstrations and celebrity appearances, Tue 19 - Sun 24 Feb, NEC, Birmingham  
**HOLIDAY TRAILS** A range of events to educate & inspire children during the school holidays, Sat 16 - Sun 24 Feb, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury  
**ANIMAL MANIA** Showcase of a variety of animals, including snakes, lizards, giant rabbits and other unusual animals, Wed 20 Feb, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham  
**GAMING DAY** A day of drama and storytelling workshops for children, Wed 20 Feb, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**MASK DECORATION FAMILY WORKSHOP** Colour or collage your own animal mask to take home, Wed 20 Feb, Walsall Leather Museum  
**BIRD BOX & BUMBLE BEE NEST MAKING** Wed 20 Feb, Severn Valley Country Park, Alveley, Nr Bridgnorth, Shropshire  
**ARTFORUM** Regular art happenings for fourteen-to-twenty-five-year-olds, Wed 20 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**AWESOME EGYPTIANS** Story & craft session for children aged six-plus, Wed 20 Feb, Central Children's Library, Wolverhampton  
**PUPPET THEATRE DAY** Have a go at making your own puppets, before watching a puppet show, Wed 20 Feb, Twycross Zoo, Warwickshire  
**OPTICAL ILLUSIONS** Have a go at making your own illusion art, to play tricks on your eyes, Wed 20 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**FEMTINOS** Join the alien collection to explore Earth, learning through craftmaking, storywriting and creative challenges, Wed 20 Feb, The Public, West Bromwich  
**HALF-TERM FAMILY FUN TRAIL** Crack the clues and solve a mystery to win a prize, Wed 20 - Sun 24 Feb, Stokesay Castle, South Shropshire  
**LECTURE: FIFTY YEARS OF LESBIAN AND GAY HISTORY** With lesbian actress, writer and comedienne Clare Summerskill, Thurs 21 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham  
**HALF TERM ART CLUB** Thurs 21 Feb, Leamington Art Gallery & Museum, Leamington Spa  
**BALLOON ROCKETS** Find out if you've got what it takes to become the next Frank Whittle, the Coventry-born inventor of the jet engine, Thurs 21 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**VALUATION DAY: FINE ART & ANTIQUES** Thurs 21 Feb, Bantock House & Museum, Wolverhampton  
**MODROC MONSTERS CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP** Create your very own modroc monster with artist Benny Semp. Booking Essential! Thurs 21 Feb, Walsall Leather Museum  
**STOP MOTION ANIMATION** Interactive workshop suitable for persons aged eleven-plus, Thurs 21 Feb, The Public, West Bromwich  
**PAINT YOUR OWN PUMP BAG WORKSHOP** Thurs 21 Feb, Bilston Gallery

**PAPER WEAVING WORKSHOP** Thurs 21 Feb, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton  
**COSPLAY COSTUME DESIGN** Be inspired by David Hancock's photo-realist paintings to design your own costumes and accessories to take home, Thurs 21 Feb, Wolverhampton Art Gallery  
**BONNETS UP DAY** An opportunity for technically minded types to get under the bonnets of three of the Heritage Motor Centre's cars, Fri 22 Feb, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire  
**TRANSPORT OF THE FUTURE** Celebrate Coventry's contribution to transport with a workshop for budding inventors, Fri 22 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**FRIDAY FUN: EVERY DOG MUST HAVE ITS DAY** Workshop where participants get to build their very own dog, Fri 22 Feb, The New Art Gallery, Walsall  
**THE NATIONAL FRANCHISE EXHIBITION** Opportunity to find out everything you need to know about franchising, from where to start to which franchise would suit you best, Fri 22 -

Sat 23 Feb, NEC, Birmingham  
**LOCAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM** Local historians share their research, Sat 23 Feb, Bantock House Museum  
**SOIREE FRANCAISE** Gallic gastronomie with French music and dance, Sat 23 Feb, The Morris Hall, Shrewsbury  
**FROM HOME TO HOSPITAL: HEALTHCARE IN 18TH & 19TH CENTURY BIRMINGHAM** Dayschool organised by Birmingham Museums and supported by the Centre for West Midlands History at Birmingham University, Sat 23 Feb, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery  
**CURATOR'S TOUR** With Nicola Gauld, Sat 23 Feb, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
**STUNT FEST** Action-packed day of daredevil stunts, monster truck mayhem, flame throwing jet vehicles, displays and fireworks, Sat 23 Feb, Santa Pod, Northampton  
**BLOCK PRINTING WORKSHOP WITH DRUSILLA COLE** Sat 23 - Sun 24 Feb, Cadet Hall, Station Street, Bishops Cleeve, Shropshire  
**WIGHTWICK'S WILD WOODLAND ADVENTURERS CLUB** Monthly weekend-based club

for families with children aged five to eleven, Sat 23 - Sun 24 Feb, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton  
**WEDDING FAYRE** Sun 24 Feb, Compton Verney, Warwickshire  
**CLASSIC CAR & BIKE AUTOJUMBLE** Sun 24 Feb, Three Counties Showground, Malvern  
**RUN WHAT YA BRUNG** Public track day, Sun 24 Feb, Santa Pod, Northampton

**Week Commencing  
MON 25 FEB**

**TUESDAY TOUR** Discover Blakesley from Tudor times to today, Mon 25 Feb, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham  
**LECTURE: BIRMINGHAM'S GAY HISTORY** David Viney of Birmingham LGBT talks about the Gay Birmingham Remembered project, Tues 26 Feb, The Barber Institute, Birmingham  
**TEXTILE GROUP** An opportunity to meet like-minded people in a creative environment and swap knowledge and skills, Wed 27 Feb, Bilston Craft Gallery  
**WINTER GUIDED TOUR** Wed 27 Feb, Aston Hall, Birmingham



**Singles Night**

**15 February 6.30pm - 9.30pm**

Join us for a wonderful evening of music, gallery tours and ice breakers with like minded individuals, in the opulent surroundings of the beautiful Round Room.

Tickets are £10 each.

Tel: 0121 303 1966 or book online.

Advanced booking essential.

[www.bmag.org.uk](http://www.bmag.org.uk)



**Birmingham MUSEUMS**

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham B3 3DH

# Valentine's Day Gift Guide

The one day of the year that every woman longs for, and every man dreads...  
No fear, What's On are here to help you on your way...

## For Her

Radley for British Heart  
Foundation Tote Bag £10  
www.radley.co.uk



Red Lips Clutch £13.50  
www.awear.com



Christina Classic Satchel £30  
www.vestryonline.com



Vivienne Westwood  
Chancery Croc Heart Tote Bag  
in Dalia Red £230  
www.houseoffraser.co.uk

## When you're not there to be her arm candy

Where else can a girl keep her phone, purse,  
make-up, keys... need we go on?

## Something for the jewellery box...

Valentine's Day inspired pieces that  
will make her say "Awww!"



Myleene Klass Spot Satin  
Underwired Babydoll £34  
www.littlewoods.com



## Be intimate

Valentine's day is always the perfect  
excuse to purchase some new sexy  
underwear



I Love Paris Stud Set £5  
www.accessorize.com



I Love you Bracelet £12  
www.riverisland.com



Heart Bracelet by Larissa  
Landinez £82.50  
www.boticca.com



Ultimo Persuasion Bra and Brief  
£50 and £30  
www.houseoffraser.co.uk



Valentine's Day  
**Chocolate Pizza by The  
 Gourmet Chocolate  
 Pizza Co.** £16.50  
[www.notonthehigh-street.com](http://www.notonthehigh-street.com)



## Keep them sweet...

Because you simply can not beat some sugary treats

**Fauchon Heart-shaped tin of Chocolates** £26  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)



**Image on Food Love  
 Gingerbread Biscuit Tin** £15  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)



**"Be Mine" Chocolate Lolly** £1  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)



## For her dressing table

Beauty essentials that are  
 a must-have for any girly girl

**Jimmy Choo eau de toilette 60ml** £43.50  
[www.theperfumeshop.com](http://www.theperfumeshop.com)



**Limited Collection Heart  
 Cosmetic Bag** £4  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)



**Bobbi Brown  
 Cleansing Oil 200ml** £29  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)



**Benefit Sugarlicious  
 Lip & Cheek Kit** £24.50  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)



**Marks and Spencer Limited Edition  
 Heart Lipstick in Rose** £5  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)



# For Him

## Boys toys

Does your boyfriend constantly bore you with tech talk? If the answer's yes, then keep him entertained with these gadgets...



**Bluelounge Refresh** £69.99  
[www.firebox.com](http://www.firebox.com)



**Razorpit Blade Sharpener** £14.99  
[www.firebox.com](http://www.firebox.com)



**Men's Pyjama Set** £17.50  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)



**Men's Playing Card print Woven Boxers (Pack of 3)** £18  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)



**Polaroid Z2300 Instant Digital Camera** £149.99  
[www.firebox.com](http://www.firebox.com)



**Grippy Pad** £6.99  
[www.firebox.com](http://www.firebox.com)

## So he's always on time...

These watches are both stylish and practical, he'll never be late again!



**Rotary Gents Waterproof Stainless Steel Watch**  
£249  
[www.rotarywatches.com](http://www.rotarywatches.com)



**Timex T2N700 Men's Chronograph Intelligent Quartz Brown Leather Strap Watch** £124.99  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)

## No excuse for worn-out underwear

...because if it wasn't for you, he'd still be wearing those socks with the holes this time next year

**Love Machine Men's Socks**  
£2.50 [www.asda.com/george](http://www.asda.com/george)





**Lynx Excite Body Spray & EDT Gift Set** £7.99  
[www.superdrug.com](http://www.superdrug.com)



**Paco Rabanne 1 Million 100ml** £51.99  
[www.theperfumeshop.com](http://www.theperfumeshop.com)



**James Bond 007 eau de toilette 50ml** £24.50  
[www.theperfumeshop.com](http://www.theperfumeshop.com)

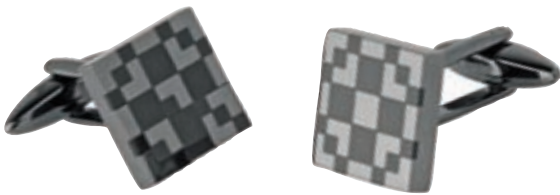
## Signature Scent

Treat him this Valentine's day with one of these men's fragrances



**Ralph Lauren Big Pong RL Red No.2 eau de toilette** £24.98  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)

**Squares Square Cufflinks** £12.50  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)



**Duchamp Colour Block Bow Tie** £75  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)



**Braxton Classic Oxford Brogue** £99.00  
[www.dune.co.uk/berite](http://www.dune.co.uk/berite)



## Suited & Booted

Keep your man on top form with these smart menswear pieces



**London Messenger Bag in Swiss Brown** £95  
[www.forbesandlewis.com](http://www.forbesandlewis.com)

**Blue Horizontal Striped Shirt with White Collar & Navy and Yellow Striped Tie** £26 and £8  
[www.next.co.uk](http://www.next.co.uk)



# For You Both

## For the love nest

Homeware gifts that will make your place feel extra special



**Heart Swirl Cushion** £5  
[www.sainsburys.co.uk](http://www.sainsburys.co.uk)



**Heart-shaped Chopping board** £4  
[www.wikinsonplus.com](http://www.wikinsonplus.com)



**Lip Flask** £9.98  
[www.justmustard.com](http://www.justmustard.com)



**True Love Photo Holder** £5  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)



**TU Pink love Mug** £2.50  
[www.sainsburys.co.uk](http://www.sainsburys.co.uk)



**Eggspress Egg Mould** £4.98  
[www.justmustard.com](http://www.justmustard.com)

**Hot To Handle Heart-shaped Over Mitt**  
£5.98  
[www.justmustard.com](http://www.justmustard.com)



**Ashley Thomas at Home Heart Ramekins** £4 each  
[www.debenhams.com](http://www.debenhams.com)



**La Maison de Senteurs Scented Bath Fizzers** £6  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)



**Heart Tealight Lantern** £7  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)





**Moustache and Lips Mugs** £5 each  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)



**British Heart Foundation  
Heart Shaped Measuring Cups** £2.99  
[www.giftshop.bhf.org.uk](http://www.giftshop.bhf.org.uk)



**Lina Mirrored LOVE Wall Art** £20  
[www.houseoffraser.co.uk](http://www.houseoffraser.co.uk)

## Make it personal

Customise with your gift and make it a Valentine's gift they'll never forget

**Personalised Wordsearch Print** £34.99  
[www.firebox.com](http://www.firebox.com)



**Mr & Mrs  
Personalised Pillow Cases**  
£19.99  
[www.find-me-a-gift.com](http://www.find-me-a-gift.com)



**Personalised Slate Heart** £19.99  
[www.find-me-a-gift.com](http://www.find-me-a-gift.com)

**Personalised Love Cufflinks  
By Studio-sweepings** £20  
[www.notonthehighstreet.com](http://www.notonthehighstreet.com)



**We First Met Here Postcode Puzzle** £29.99  
[www.firebox.com](http://www.firebox.com)



**Personalised Venn Diagram Poster**  
From £19.99  
[www.firebox.com](http://www.firebox.com)

# 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](mailto:claire@spicebham.com)  
or visit [www.spicebham.com](http://www.spicebham.com)



**So what will you be doing tomorrow?**



**“It's an opportunity to get to do lots of things you wouldn't otherwise do**



# What our members are up to in February 2013

## Friday 1st February

- Hotel Du Vin Private Dinner
- Private Lives
- West Sussex Coastal Walking Wend

## Saturday 2nd February

- Black Tie & Posh Frocks Ball + 1 night Hotel
- Claverdon Easy Ramble
- Cotswolds Challenge Hike
- Cotswolds Challenge Hike Meal
- Hooola Hooping
- Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo
- Make 2013 A Great Year
- Makeover or Boudoir Photography Session
- Scuba Taster Morning Experience
- Silver Jewellery Making Taster Course
- Tamworth Town Walk
- Turkish Bath and Swim

## Sunday 3rd February

- Abseiling for the Terrified
- Archery and Rifle Shooting
- Badminton for Beginners
- Beckbury Easy Ramble
- Clearing Difficult Memories
- Cotswolds Hike - Warm Down
- Fire Eating Workshop
- Singing for Beginners - Find your Voice!
- Vintage Cupcake Decorating Workshop
- Zumba for Beginners

## Monday 4th February

- Badminton For Fun - Worcester
- Learn to Snowboard Course
- Recreational Skiing
- Ski Lesson - Beginners
- Spice Book Club
- Tubing Session

## Tuesday 5th February

- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- Bouncers and Shakers (John Godber Double Bill)
- Table Tennis Night
- The Mousetrap
- Unihoc (Mixed Indoor Hockey)

## Wednesday 6th February

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton For Fun - Wolverhampton
- Badminton at NIA
- Matthew Bournes Sleeping Beauty
- Secret Wildlife of the Cairngorms
- Table Tennis Night at Barr Beacon
- Tamworth and Lichfield Pub Night
- Warwick Pub Treasure Trail

## Thursday 7th February

- Bassano, Verona and Venice Masked Festival
- Curry and Quiz - Wolverhampton
- Halesowen and Quinton Pub Night
- Indian Dhol Drumming

## Friday 8th February

- Shootout and Party Food at the Kiddies Playcentre!
- Snowdonia Mountains and Coast Walking Weekend
- Twelfth Night

## Saturday 9th February

- Chinese New Year Party
- Digital Photography for Beginners
- Oil Painting in a Day - Winter Landscapes
- Quad Bike Trekking at Garlands
- Ramble, Scramble and Dangle
- Rebalance your Life through Gentle Yoga
- Thornton Reservoir Ramble
- Volleyball for Beginners

## Sunday 10th February

- Attract, Create and Maintain your Perfect Relationship

- Badminton for Beginners
- Bosworth Battlefield Easy Ramble
- Bridge Abseil and Ladder Climb
- Great Ape Tour and Sunday Lunch
- Hopton Castle and Clunberry Ramble
- Practical Tactical Airsoft Shooting
- SAS Laser Combat
- Segway Intro and Woodland Race at Garlands

## Monday 11th February

- Badminton For Fun - Worcester
- Preview Evening (Arden Hotel)

## Tuesday 12th February

- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- Peninsular Cantonese Party with Neil Diamond Tribute
- Solihull Pub Night
- Table Tennis Night
- Telling Tales: Art Debate for "Revealed"
- Ten Pin Bowling (Broadway Plaza)

## Friday 13th February

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton For Fun - Wolverhampton
- Badminton at NIA
- Fencing for Beginners
- Magic for Beginners
- Sutton Pub Night
- Table Tennis Night at Barr Beacon

## Saturday 14th February

- Blacksmithing Evening

## Sunday 15th February

- Bideford and North Devon Coast Walking Weekend
- Guide Dogs National Breeding Centre Visit
- Salsa Dance Workshop
- Singles Night at the Art Gallery
- Spice Hits Town at the Jam House
- York Fort Weekend

## Saturday 16th February

- Don't Diet - Change the way you Eat
- Hatton Locks and Warwick Moderate Ramble
- Indoor Skydiving
- McLaren MP4-12C Thrill
- Nest Box Building at Middleton Lakes
- On the Ball
- Pasta and Bread Making Workshop
- Poker Night at Lea Marston
- Polo Indoor Lesson at Rugby
- Sutton Coldfield Afternoon Walk
- Tennis Weekend for Beginners - Northants

## Sunday 17th February

- Badminton for Beginners
- Beginners Horse Trek
- Boogie Bounce
- Carsington Ramble
- Colour Therapy Workshop
- Cookley (Near Kinver) Moderate Ramble
- Massage for Beginners Workshop
- Worcester City Walk

## Monday 18th February

- Badminton For Fun - Worcester
- Bromsgrove Pub Night
- Morgan Motors Visit

## Tuesday 19th February

- Bee Appreciation Evening
- Kings Heath Pub Night
- Table Tennis Night
- Wine Tasting - Wonderful Wines of Romania

## Wednesday 20th February

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry

- Badminton For Fun - Wolverhampton
- Badminton at NIA
- Curry and Quiz - Solihull
- Drumming Experience for Beginners
- New Members Mix and Mingle

## Thursday 21st February

- Aladdin - Birmingham Royal Ballet
- And then Came Munich
- Assay Office Tour
- Thai Dinner Shuffle at Maekong Thai
- Unihoc (Mixed Indoor Hockey)
- Warwick / Leamington Pub Night

## Friday 22nd February

- Aylesbury and the Chilterns Walking Weekend
- Borrowdale Walking and Wine Tasting Weekend
- Lake District Ultimate Challenge Walking Weekend
- Murder Mystery Evening and Buffet
- Private Dining with a Celebrity Chef
- Source to Sea W'end 2 - Rhyader to Builth Wells
- Wiltshire Luxury Walking + Social Weekend

## Saturday 23rd February

- Ballroom Dance Masterclass - Pasa Doble
- Barn Dance and Supper
- Bird Handling Course
- Off Road Karting
- Rock Weaseling Day
- Shugborough Hall Conservation Tour

## Sunday 24th February

- Badminton for Beginners
- Birmingham City Walk
- Fire Walking
- Fire and Glass Walking
- Glass Walking
- Golf - Learn to Play in a Day (Warwickshire)
- Hawks, Owls, Tudors and Battles
- Photographic Studio Shoot With Models
- Revealed: Government Art Collection Tour
- Sherwood Pines Improvers Mountain Bike Ride
- Tennis for Absolute Beginners (Indoor)
- Trentham and Hanchurch Moderate Ramble
- Watercolour Painting Intro Day
- Wooton Wawen Easy Ramble

## Monday 25th February

- Adventure Golf at Star City!
- Preview Evening (Warwickshire)

## Tuesday 26th February

- Cafe Ceramica Experience
- Quiz (NOTE DATE CHANGE TO TUESDAY)
- Table Tennis Night

## Wednesday 27th February

- Badminton For Fun - Coventry
- Badminton For Fun - Wolverhampton
- Badminton at NIA
- Knowle Torchlight Ramble
- The Full Monty

## Thursday 28th February

- Golf Driving Range Experience
- Jekyll and Hyde Dining Experience

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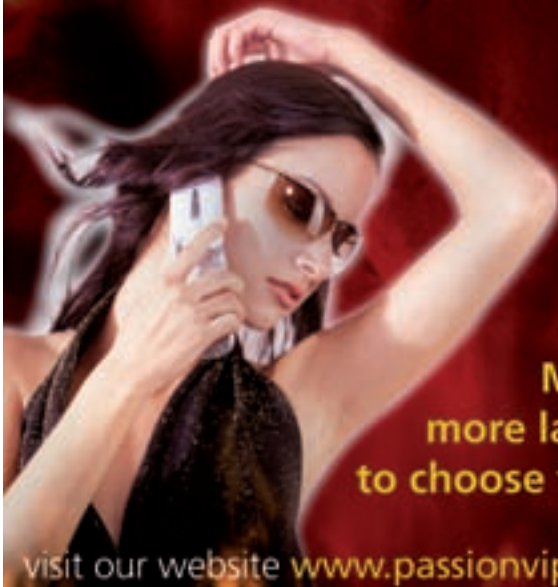
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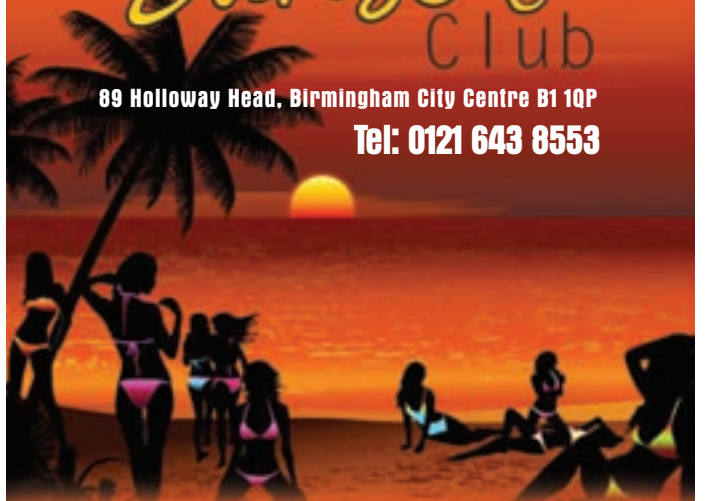
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# Clubbing

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**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

**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

**OCEANA WOLVERHAMPTON** Bilston Rd, Wolverhampton Tel: 0845 402 5290

## SHROPSHIRE

**C:21 NIGHTCLUB** 21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 271821

**BUTTERMARKET** Howard Street, Shrewsbury Tel: 01743 281712

**VELVET** 13 Castle Foregate, Shrewsbury SY1 2DJ Tel: 01743 281712

**FEVER** 19 - 21 Hills Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 1QU Tel: 01743 247508

**THE OFFICE** 27a Market Street, Oakengates TF2 6EN Tel: 01952 616536

**PUSSYCATS NIGHT CLUB** 17 Tan Bank, Wellington, TF2 6EJ Tel: 01952 224260

**SPIRIT NIGHTCLUB** 18 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 355055

## STAFFORDSHIRE

**COURTURE & NOIRE ET BLANC** 139 Newport Rd, Stafford, ST16 2EZ Tel: 01785 244755

**LIQUID** Brunswick St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1DR Tel: 01782 284333

**REFLEX** 3-5 Brockley Square, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5LY Tel: 01782 206170

**TRINITY NIGHTCLUB** Spinning School Lane, Tamworth, ST1 1DR Tel: 01827 58772

## WARWICKSHIRE

**CAREYS NIGHTCLUB** Hereford Place, Coventry CV1 3JZ Tel: 02476 227 397

**EVOLVE NIGHTCLUB** 2 Spencer Street, Leamington Spa, Coventry CV31 3NF Tel: 01926 881449

**JJ'S** Skydome Leisure Park, Croft Rd, Coventry CV1 3AZ. Tel: 02476 555913

**LIQUID & ENVY** Leicester Road, Nuneaton CV11 4B. Tel: 02476 344216

**REFLEX** Church St, Nuneaton, CV11 4BW Tel: 02476 344216

## 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



## Grammy Award-winning DJ to play in the Midlands

The Institute, Birmingham, Sat 16 February

Paul Van Dyk, one of the biggest DJs on the scene today, heads to Birmingham this month to appear at the city's recently renamed Institute (formerly HMV Institute). The German Grammy Award-winner, who's just completed long-awaited sixth album *Evolution*, is widely recognised as one of the hardest-working artists in the business, taking headline spots at many of the world's largest festivals and crossing continents with his sold-out tours. Beginning his producing career in the early '90s, Van Dyk has garnered numerous coveted awards, the latest of which is the - wait for it - Longest Running DJ In Top 10 of *DJs Mag* Top 100, which he won in 2011.

## Gay SCENE

### Lucy Spraggan in the Midlands...

Nightingale Club, Birmingham, Sat 16 February;  
The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury, Sat 23 February

She made audiences and viewers laugh out loud with her song *Beer Fear* when she auditioned on *The X Factor*, but now it's your chance to see Lucy Spraggan live and up close. She's playing two dates in the Midlands this month, so there's double the opportunity to catch her!



## 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

# Books

# TV



## Doctor Who Anniversary Anthology

By various authors

First screened by the BBC on 23 November 1963, the day after President Kennedy's assassination, Dr Who has certainly been on a bumpy old ride in his Tardis this last fifty years. With that half-century milestone being celebrated this year, and with the regenerated TV series having breathed plenty of new life into the legendary Time Lord, the BBC, in association with Puffin, is publishing an exclusive series of eleven ebook short stories. Each story is based on one of the Eleven Doctors, priced at £1.99 and will be released on the 23rd of each month. A different author will

pen each adventure, presenting their own interpretation and reimagining of their chosen Doctor. This month's tale features the Doctor as played by Patrick Troughton between 1966 and 1969.

## The Wanted

By Chas Newkey-Burden

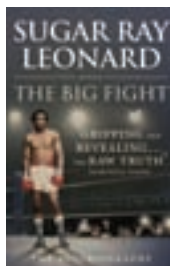
For fans of The Wanted, this is a must-read publication. The five-guy band are considered by many to be on the threshold of real worldwide fame, presenting a quality of music and an uber cool image that's seen them enjoy a meteoric rise to stardom. Featuring plenty of fascinating details about each of the boys and their backgrounds, Chas Newkey-Burden's new book recounts the story of The Wanted's success, from the challenge each of the boys faced getting into the band to the experience of living together in a London flat and making chart-topping music.



## The Big Fight: My Story

By Sugar Ray Leonard

One of the greatest ever boxers, Sugar Ray Leonard has spent his life fighting just as many gruelling battles outside the ring as in it. An early life tainted by domestic violence and sexual abuse was followed by later struggles with alcohol and drug addiction. But alongside this ongoing fight against demons in his personal life, Sugar Ray was punching his way to professional stardom, and basking in the fame that went along with it. His uninhibited autobiography lifts the lid on a truly extraordinary life, and on the inner workings of a man Muhammad Ali once described as having 'a bigger heart than all the rest'....



## TOP 5 BOOKS

- 1 **The Hairy Dieters: How To Love Food And Lose Weight**  
The Hairy Bikers
- 2 **Phantom**  
Jo Nesbo
- 3 **Kill Me If You Can**  
James Patterson
- 4 **Gone Girl**  
Gillian Flynn
- 5 **Life Of Pi**  
Yann Martel



## Kylie Minogue to appear in Sky Arts impressive new season

Kylie Minogue is set to star in Sky Arts' new season of Playhouse Presents. The Australian pop princess will appear next month alongside Mathew Horne, David Harewood and Peter Serafinowicz in debut director Marc Warren's dark comedy-drama Hey Diddle Dee. The Playhouse Presents series will also see Dr Who's Matt Smith sitting in the director's chair for the first time, as will Idris Elba for Pavement Psychologist, a sexy drama which he also wrote and in which Anna Friel stars. Vanessa Redgrave, Frances Barber, Jack Whitehall and Kathy Burke are other well-known names who'll be appearing during the course of the series.

## Shameless' Frank Gallagher to appear in new BBC whodunnit

Shameless actor David Threlfall (who plays Frank Gallagher in the hit Channel Four TV series, returning next month for a final fourteen episodes) has hopped over to the Beeb to join a stellar cast in Tony Basfallop's new drama, What Remains. Currently



David Threlfall as Frank Gallagher

filming on location in London, the four-by-sixty-minute serial sees Threlfall take the lead role as a lonely and disillusioned Detective Inspector who's sent to investigate the discovery of human remains in the eaves of a house. Further casting includes Russell Tovey (Being Human), Stephen Mackintosh (Inside Men) and Victoria Hamilton (Lark Rise To Candleford).

## Filming begins on new Ben Elton sitcom

A mix of established comedy performers and bright young talent is set to come together for a new BBC One comedy series from the pen of Ben Elton. Currently filming at MediaCityUK in Salford, The Wright Way sees Yes Prime Minister actor David Haig take on the role of Gerald Wright - a fastidious manager of a local council's Health and Safety department whose regimented professional life is a million miles away from the chaos of his private life. Mina Anwar, Toby Longworth, Joanne Matthews, Beattie Edmonson, Brenda Edwards and Luke Gell also star.





# Eating Out

## Best of Broad Street winners announced

Pushkar Cocktail Bar and Dining was declared the Best Fine Dining restaurant The BOBS 2013 - an award which honours the best bars, night-clubs, hotels and restaurants along Birmingham's Golden Mile. Other winners at the recent glittering awards ceremony included Duelling Pianos who won Best Newcomer and Symphony Hall and ICC for Best Overall Venue. Of his accolade, Pushkar's Creative Director Rai Singh said: "We take great pride in our restaurant, service and cuisine, and everyone at Pushkar works hard to give our customers the very best of fine dining experiences - it is an honour to receive recognition for that."



## Tour of the Punjab at Walsall restaurant

Five Rivers À La Carte in Walsall is to introduce a brand new tasting menu titled The Tour of Five Rivers. From February, diners can embark on a journey through the Punjab via an eight dish menu to reflect the North Indian cooking traditions of this famous region. Much-loved dishes - including Machi Kofte, Tandoori Khumb and Grilled Pepper Duck - all feature.

## Let food be the gift of love...

UK-wide seafood chain Loch Fyne has announced plans to get diners in the mood for love this Valentine's Day, with a bespoke menu - featuring oysters and champagne - having been devised by Executive Head Chef Douglas Wright. From 14 to 16 February visitors to any of the brand's restaurants will be able to choose from a special four-course Valentine's menu priced at £34.95 per head. Mouth-watering delights, including Lobster Bisque, Truffle and Porcini Mushroom Taglioline, Pan-Fried Fillet of Bream and Vanilla and Passion Fruit Sorbet, all feature on the menu.



## Brilliant La Bécasse

### REVIEW

As we sat amongst the charming seventeenth century timbers, enjoying a pre-dinner drink, it was clear that something very special was in store for us at La Bécasse. 'Locally sourced' is a phrase that many restaurants are proud to boast these days, but when your main course is presented to you on a slate from the Head Chef's own house, you can see why Will Holland and his team have a well-earned reputation for serving up memorable dining experiences. You'd be hard pushed to find finer food and a warmer welcome. Our starters of duck liver and scallops were simply

exquisite, as were the lovely little bites between courses. My main course of juniper roasted venison was delicious, matched only by the superb wine chosen by the attentive sommelier. My wife enjoyed the beef sirloin, and was particularly impressed by the accompanying Shropshire blue cheese dauphinoise. For dessert, I swiftly tucked away the caramel soufflé, accompanied by toasted marshmallow, popcorn and clotted cream ice cream, which tasted every bit as scrumptious as it sounds. Meanwhile, across the table, 'white chocolate cheesecake, hazelnut and oat base, mulled wine-poached figs with honey-comb, and a yoghurt sor-

bet' was also being demolished, the silence between us bearing testimony to the quality of these heavenly desserts.

It's hard to do justice to the La Bécasse experience without taking over this entire page. Food of the highest calibre served by friendly and attentive staff. It doesn't get any better than that. *Matt Morris*

Food: ■■■■■  
Service: ■■■■■  
Ambience: ■■■■■  
Overall value ■■■■■  
**OVERALL** ■■■■■

**La Bécasse**  
17 Corve Street  
Ludlow  
South Shropshire  
SY8 1DA  
Tel: 01584 872325

## New Worcestershire restaurant exceeds expectations..

I must confess that I didn't have high hopes for The Wood Norton, the newly refurbished boutique hotel just outside Evesham in Worcestershire. Looking at the sample menu prior to our visit, I saw the ominous words 'basil foam' - to my mind evidence of an establishment trying that little bit too hard to impress. I'm pleased to report that I was wholly mistaken. The Wood Norton re-opened in autumn 2012 following a £4million spruce-up, the former manor house's gorgeous interiors offering plenty of evidence of a job well done. The grounds are clearly still a work-in-progress, with rather eerie abandoned out-houses standing as a reminder of the estate's former life as a BBC training centre. A dramatic front patio looks out onto the River Avon and to Bredon Hill beyond. Boasting newly planted garden beds and contemporary sculpture come June, when the gardens have settled in, this will be a perfectly tranquil spot. Wood Norton Hall started out in the 1870s as a hunting lodge, and the associated sense of nobility and grandeur remains. Once inside, we were shown through extensive wood-panelled corridors to the dining room, again exquisitely decorated with what appears to be the original Victorian features and a rather wonderful twentieth century parquet floor. Down to business - could they rustle up a decent Sunday lunch? I began with a well-constructed Pressing of Gressingham duck, although the accompanying shallot and lime pickle needed a touch more sweetness to offset the fattiness

of the bird. My partner had the oak smoked salmon with a smartly-named potato tartare, a potato salad echoing the flavours of beef tartare with lemon and capers. Mains were a roast Herefordshire beef sirloin, served medium with generously sized Yorkshire puddings and just-right sprouts. The winner, though, was the smoked haddock with poached egg and hollandaise sauce, a tricky dish that demands precision-timing and strong technical skills from the chef. Both egg and hollandaise were perfectly cooked, oozing richness onto the soft, naturally-smoked fish. Desserts included a well-judged cheese selection accompanied by home-made crackers and breads, and an elegant crême brulee with perfectly set custard and a crisp caramel shell. This is solid, quality cooking, and with three courses plus coffees and shortbread costing £20, good value for money too. More locally produced beers and ciders, and a more interesting wine list, would be appreciated. All in all, though, The Wood Norton is a welcome addition to the region's food scene and deserves to do well.

*Helen Stallard*

Food:       
 Service:       
 Ambience:       
 Overall value       
**OVERALL**

**The Wood Norton**  
**Worcester Rd**  
**Evesham**  
**Worcestershire**  
**WR11 4YB**  
**Tel: 01386 765611**



The Wood Norton in Worcestershire

For full listing information on restaurants, including opening times and type of cuisine, visit: [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://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 4466

**BAR EPERNAY** 171-172 Wharfside Street, The Mailbox, B1 1RL 0121 632 1430

**BAR ESTILO** 10-114 Wharfside St, The Mailbox, B1 1RF 0121 643 3443

**BARNT GREEN INN** Kendal End Rd, Rednal B45 8PZ 0121 445 4949

**BARAJEE** 265 Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 643 6700

**BELLA ITALIA** 102 New St, B2 4HQ 0121 6431548

**BERLIOZ** Burlington Arcade, New St, B2 4JQ 0121 633 1737

**BLUE MANGO** Regency Wharf, Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 633 4422

**BLUE GINGER** 32 Poplar Road, Kings Heath, B14 7AD 0121 444 0999

**BLUU** Fleet St, Summer Row, B3 1JH 0121 236 9013

**BRANDED BULL STEAK-HOUSE** 175 Broad Street, B15 1DT 0121 643 5968

**BUONISSIMO** 1 Albany Rd, Harborne, B17 9JX 0121 426 2444

**BYZANTIUM** 11 York Road, Kings Heath, B14 7SA 0121 444 5444

**CAFE IKON** 1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HS 0121 248 3226

**CAFE ROUGE** Brindleyplace, Broad Street, B1 2HJ 0121 643 6556

**CAFE SOYA** Unit 2, Upper Dean Street B5 4SG 0121 622 3888

**CARLUCCIO'S** The Water's Edge, Brindleyplace B1 2HP 0121 633 9262

**CELEBRITY INDIAN** 44 Broad St, B1 2HP 0121 643 8969

**THE CHAMELEON** 1 Victoria Square, B1 1BD 0121 643 2233

**CHEZ JULES** 5a Ethel St, B2 4BG 0121 633 4664

**CHI** 61 Newhall St, B3 3RB 0121 233 3150

**CHUNG YING** 16-18 Wrottersley Street, B5 4RT 0121 622 5669

**CHUNG YING GARDEN** 17 Thorpe St, B5 4AT 0121 666 6622

**CIELO** 6 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2JB 0121 632 6882

**CITY CAFE GRILL** Hylton Garden Inn, 1 Brunswick Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HW 0121 643 1003

**COFFEE ROOM BAR & BISTRO** Hurst St, B5 4TD 0121 605 4343

**COTE** The Mailbox, B1 1RX 0121 631 1587

**CUCINA RUSTICA** 24 Ludgate Hill, B3 1DX 0121 233 2277

**DEL VILLAGGIO** Unit 528, Middle Mall, The Bullring, B5 4BE 0121 643 1400

**DEOLALI BAR RESTAURANT** 23A St Mary's Row, Moseley B13 8HW 0121 442 2222

**DESI IMLEES** 562-564 Moseley Road Balsall Heath Birmingham B12 9AD 0121 4494495

**DUET CUISINE** Unit 1, Fort Dunlop, B24 9FD 0121 748 1234

**EDMUNDS** 6 Brindley place, B1 2JB 0121 633 4944

**FUMO** 1 Waterloo Street, Birmingham B2 5PG 0121 643 9979

**HARJEE'S SPICES** 512 Stratford Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, B11 4AH 0121 773 6130

**THE HORSESHOE BAR & RESTAURANT** 1214 Stratford Road, B28 9BH 0121 777 2340

**ITIHAAS** 18 Fleet St, B3 1JL 0121 212 3383

**ITIHAAS BRASSERIE** Selfridges Food Hall, Bullring, Birmingham B5 4BP 0121 212 3383

**JAMIE'S ITALIAN** Middle Mall, Bullring Shopping Centre, B5 4BE 0121 270 3610

**JIMMY SPICES** Regency Wharf, Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 643 2111

**JUJU'S** Canal Square, B16 8EH 0121 456 3384

**THE JUNCTION** 212 High Street, Harborne, B17 9PT 0121 428 2635

**KINNAREE THAI** 22 Waterfront Walk, B1 1SN 0121 665 6568

**LA BANCA** 1986 Pershore Road, Cotteridge, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 3AS 0121 459 2204

**LA BASTILLE** 220 Corporation St, B4 6QB 0121 236 1171

**LAS IGUANAS** Arcadian Centre, Hurst St, B5 4TD 0121 622 4466

**LA PLANCHA** 113 Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8DD 0121 449 5430

**LASAN** 3-4 Dakota Buildings, James St, St Paul's Square, B3 1SD 0121 212 3664

**THE LOFT LOUNGE** 143 Bromsgrove St, B5 6RG 0121 622 2444

**LOVES** The Glasshouse, Browning St, B16 8FL 0121 454 5151

**MANIC ORGANIC** 46 Poplar Road, B14 7AG 0121 441 3802

**MAHARAJA** 23/25 Hurst St, B5 4AS 0121 622 2641

**MECHU** 47 - 59 Summer Row, B3 1JJ 0121 212 1661

**METRO BAR & GRILL** 73 Cornwall St, B3 2DF 0121 200 1911

**MILLER & CARTER** 178-180 Wharfside St, The Mailbox, B1 1RN 0121 643 7738

**MINT** Yew Tree Retail Park, Stoney Lane Yardley, B25 8YP 0121 789 8908

**MIRAGE FUSION** Broadway Casino, Broadway Plaza Ladywood Middleway, B16 8LP 0121 456 5557

**MOUNT FUJI** The Bullring, B5 4BH 0121 633 9853

**NUVO** 11 Brindleyplace, B1 2LP 0121 631 1600

**OLD JOINTSTOCK PUB** 4 Temple Row, B2 5NY 0121 200 1892

**NATHANIEL'S RESTAURANT** 13 St Mary's Row, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 8HW, 0121 449 9618

**OLD SPECKLED HEN** Mere Green Road, Sutton Coldfield, B75 5BL 0121 308 9410

**OPUS** 54 Cornwall St, B3 2DE 0121 200 2323

**THE ORIENTAL** The Mailbox, 128-130 Wharfside St, B1 1RQ 0121 633 9988

**PASTA DE PIAZZA** 11 Brook Street, St Paul's Square, B3 1SA 0121 236 5858

**PEACHY KEENS** 1741 Coventry Road, Yardley B26 1DS 0121 764 5519

**PENNY BLACKS** The Mailbox, 132-134 Wharfside St, B1 1XL 0121 632 1460

**PEPPERS** 5b Broad Street, Birmingham B15 1EJ 0121 633 4411

**PICCOLINO** 9 Brindleyplace, B1



2HS 0121 634 3055  
**PITCHER & PIANO**  
 Brindleyplace, B1 2HP  
 0121 643 0214  
**PONTE DI LEGNO** 44-44a  
 Woodbridge Rd,  
 Moseley, B13 8EJ  
 0121 449 8064  
**POPPY RED** Arcadian  
 Centre, Birmingham B5  
 4TD 0121 687 1200  
**PUNJABI HAVELI** 1558  
 Stratford Rd, Hall Green,  
 B28 9HA 0121 745  
 3636

**PURNELL'S** 55 Cornwall  
 St, B3 2DH 0121 212  
 9799  
**PUSHKAR** 245 Broad St,  
 B1 2HQ 0121 643 7978  
**THE RECTORY** 50-54 St  
 Paul's Sq, B3 1QS  
 0121 605 1001  
**RED PEPPERS** 117  
 Wharfside St, B1 1RF  
 0121 643 4202  
**ROSE MURREE** 94 -96  
 Hagley Rd, Edgbaston,  
 B16 8LU 0121 456 4500

**SABAI SABAI**  
 25 Woodbridge Rd,  
 Moseley, B13 8EH  
 0121 4494498  
**SAN CARLO** 4 Temple St,  
 B2 5BN 0121 633 0251  
**SHAH'S** Unit 16, 1160  
 Warwick Road, Acocks  
 Green B27 6BP 0121  
 707 8297  
**SHIMLA PINKS** 215 Broad  
 St, B15 1AY 0121 633  
 0366

**SHOGUN TEPPANYAKI**  
 The Mailbox, 27 - 29  
 Wharfside St, B1 1RD  
 0121 632 1253  
**SIMPSONS**, 20 Highfield  
 Rd, Edgbaston B13 3DU  
 0121 454 3434

**THE SLUG AND LETTUCE**,  
 Brindley Place,  
 Birmingham B1 2HL  
 0121 633 3049  
**SPICE EXCHANGE**,  
 1845 Pershore Rd  
 Kings Norton, B30 3DJ  
 0121 451 1007  
**STRADA** 109-111  
 Wharfside St, The  
 Mailbox B1 1XL  
 0121 643 7279

**SYRIANA** 1 Constitution  
 Hill, B19 3LG 0121  
 2369444

**TGI FRIDAYS** 180 Hagley  
 Road, Edgbaston,  
 Birmingham B16 9NY  
 0121 454 1930

**THAI EDGE** 7 Oozells Sq,  
 B1 2HL 0121 643 3993

**TIN TIN CANTONESE**,  
 The Waters Edge,  
 Brindleyplace, B1 2HL  
 0121 633 0888

**ULYSSES** 42a Bristol  
 Street, B5 7AA 0121  
 622 3159

**THE VAULTS** Newhall  
 Place, Newhall Hill,  
 B1 3JH 0121 212 9837  
**VMF - ASTON VILLA FOOT-  
 BALL CLUB** Villa Park,  
 Trinity Rd, B6 6HE 0121  
 326 1570

**WAGAMAMA** Brindley  
 Place, Birmingham B1  
 2HL 0121 643 7656

**THE WAREHOUSE CAFE**  
 54-57 Allison Street,  
 Digbeth, B5 5TH  
 0121 633 0261

**WING WAH** 278  
 Thimblemill Lane, B7  
 5HD 0121 327 7879

**WOKTASTIC** Paradise  
 Place, B3 3HJ 0121 236  
 3130

**WONGS** 5-11 Fleet St, B3

1JP 0121 212 1888  
**ZIZZI** 183 High St,  
 Harborne B17 9QE  
 0121 428 4228 also at  
 The Mailbox B1 1RL  
 0121 632 1333.  
 10 Poplar Rd, Solihull,  
 B91 3AB 0121 704  
 5030  
**ZORBAS** 359-361 Olton  
 Boulevard, Solihull B27  
 7DP 0121 706 4709

### Black Country

**ARBOUR LIGHTS** 127-128  
 Lichfield Street, Walsall  
 WS1 1SY 01922 613361  
**BANKS BISTRO** Chapel  
 Ash, Wolverhampton  
 WV1 4EP 01902 238433  
**BELLA** 82 Chapel Ash,  
 Wolverhampton. 01902  
 427555

**BENGAL FUSION** 174 High  
 St, Lye, Stourbridge DY9  
 8LN. 01384 891111

**BILASH** 2 Cheapside,  
 Wolverhampton, WV1  
 1TU 01902 427762

**THE BLUE BRICK**  
 Broad Gauge Way,  
 Wolverhampton WV1  
 1AA 01902 875301

**BRAVACCIOUS** 4 Upper  
 Green, Wolverhampton  
 WV6 8QQ 01902  
 756052

**CAFE CHAMPAGNE** 253-  
 255 Bilston Road,  
 Wolverhampton WV2  
 2JN 01902 458024

**CASA CASITA** Upper  
 Gornal, Dudley. DY3  
 1UP 01902 676754

**CAPELLANI'S** 6 School St,  
 Wolverhampton, WV1  
 4LR 01902 428928

**CINNAMON COURT** Bentley  
 Mill Way, Walsall WS2  
 0BP 0121 568 6664

**THE COWSHED** Clive  
 Farm Clive Rd,  
 Pittingham, WV6 7EN  
 01902 701888

**THE CROOKED HOUSE**  
 Coppice Hill, Himley DY3  
 4DA 01384 238583

**THE DITCH** 1 Town Hill,  
 Walsall, WS1 2EU  
 01922 643215

**DON SALVO** 25 Darlington  
 Street, Wolverhampton  
 WV1 4HW 01902 712819

**DUNSLEY HALL** Dunsley  
 Rd, Kinver, DY7 6LU  
 01384 877077

**THE FAIRLAWNS AT  
 ALDRIDGE** 178 Little  
 Aston Road, Aldridge,  
 Walsall WS9 0NU 01922  
 455122

**FARADAYS** The  
 Waterfront, Brierley Hill,  
 Dudley, DY5 1UR  
 01384 482 882

**FIVE RIVERS** Vicarage  
 Place, Walsall WS1 3NA  
 01922 646164

**FOUR STONES** Adam's  
 Hill, Clint, Stourbridge,  
 DY9 9PS 01562 883260

**FRANZLS** 151 Milcote Rd,  
 Smethwick, B67 5BN  
 0121 429 7920

**FRENCH CONNECTION**  
 3 Coventry St,  
 Stourbridge DY8 1EP  
 01384 390940

**FRENCH HEN** Bromsgrove  
 Rd, Clent, Stourbridge  
 DY9 9PY 01562 883040

**GOLDEN MOMENTS** 2-3  
 Ablewell St, Walsall WS1  
 2EQ 01922 640363

**LE BRASSERIE** 5 Lower  
 Mill Street,  
 Kidderminster. DY11  
 6JU 01562 744976



Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

**MADE IN THAI** Darlington  
 St, Wolverhampton WV1  
 4HW 01902 312512

**PARADISE BALTI** 7 Lower  
 Mill Street, Kidderminster  
 DY11 6UU 01562 60479

**THE PIE FACTORY** 50 Hurst  
 Lane, Tipton DY4 9AB  
 0121 557 1402

**RED FORT** Fold St,  
 Wolverhampton, WV1  
 4LP 01902 424440

**RISTORANTE ROMAGNA** 4  
 Upper Green, Tettenhall,  
 Wolverhampton WV6  
 8QQ 01902 756052

**SAFFRON** Wolverhampton  
 Road, Oldbury B69 4RR  
 0121 552 1752

**SIMON'S** 520 Chester Rd,  
 Aldridge, Walsall, WS9  
 0PU 0121 580 9293

**SPICES** Hollywell Rd,  
 Wednesbury, WS10 7PA  
 0121 502 0720

**THE SPRINGHILL**  
 Warstones Rd, Penn,  
 Wolverhampton WV4  
 4LB 01902 342530

**THE SUMMERHOUSE** 92  
 Gospel End Rd, Dudley  
 DY3 4AN 01902 676  
 102

**THORNESCROFT**  
 Bridgnorth Rd,  
 Wolverhampton, WV6  
 7EQ 01902 700 253

**THE WOODMAN** Claverley,  
 Wolverhampton WV5  
 7DG 01746 710 553

### Shropshire

**AFTAB** 25 High St,  
 Ironbridge TF8 7AD  
 01952 432055

**ALBRIGHT HUSSEY**  
 Ellesmere Rd,  
 Shrewsbury, SY4 3AF  
 01939 290 523

**BISTRO JACQUES** 77/77a  
 Mardol, Shrewsbury SY1  
 1PZ 01743 272586

**BUTLERS** Park St, Shifnal,  
 TF11 9BA 01952  
 460662

**CASA NARANJO** Barracks  
 Passage, Wyle Cop,  
 Shrewsbury SY1 01743  
 588165

**CASA RUIZ** 45 High  
 Street, Bridgnorth, WV16  
 4DX 01746 218 084

**CHEZ MAW** Best Western  
 Valley Hotel, Buildwas  
 Rd, Ironbridge, TF8 7DW  
 01952 432247

**THE COTTAGE** Tern Hill,  
 Market Drayton TF9 3PX  
 01630 638984

**CROMWELLS** 11 Dogpole,  
 Shrewsbury SY1 1EN  
 01743 361440

**DA VINCI'S** 26 High St,  
 Ironbridge, TF8 7AD  
 01952 432250

**DORRINGTON OLD HALL  
 PERSIAN CUISINE** Main  
 road, Dorrington,  
 Shropshire SY5 7JD  
 01743 719100

**DRAPERS** 10 St Mary's St  
 Shrewsbury, SY1 1DZ  
 01743 344679

**THE FEATHERS** Brockton,  
 Much Wenlock TF13  
 6JR 01746 785202

**FENNELS** 8 Market Place,  
 Shifnal TF11 9AZ  
 01952 463020

**THE FOX INN** 46 High St,  
 Much Wenlock TF13  
 6AD 01952 727292

**FRANK CAFE BAR** 128  
 Frankwell, Shrewsbury  
 SY3 8JX 01743 354422

**THE GOLDEN CROSS** 14  
 Princess St, Shrewsbury,  
 SY1 1LP 01743 362507

**GRANARY BAR & GRILL**  
 Weston Park, Weston-  
 under-Lizard, Nr Shifnal,  
 TF11 8LE 01952  
 852107

**HADLEY PARK HOUSE**  
 Hadley Park, Telford TF1  
 6QJ 01952 677269

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 Lion Hotel, Wyle Cop,  
 Shrewsbury SY1 1UY  
 01743 353107

**HENRY TUDOR HOUSE**  
 Barracks Passage  
 Shrewsbury SY1 1XA  
 01743 361666

**HILL VALLEY HOTEL**  
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 Whitchurch SY13 4HA  
 0844 879 9049

**THE INN AT GRINSHILL**  
 The High Street,  
 Grinshill, Shrewsbury,  
 SY4 3BL 01939 220410

**KING & THAI** Avenue Rd,  
 Broseley, Telford TF12  
 5DL 01952 882004

**THE KNIGHTON HOTEL**  
 Broad Street, Knighton,  
 Powys LD7 1BL 01547  
 520530

**LA BÉCASSE** 17 Corve St,  
 Ludlow, SY8 1DA 01584  
 872 325

**LA DOLCE VITA** 35 Hills  
 Lane, Shrewsbury SY1  
 1QU 01743 249126

**LA LANTERNA** The Old  
 Vestry, St Julian's  
 Church, Shrewsbury  
 SY1 1UH 01743 233552

**LION & PHEASANT** 50  
 Wyle Cop Shrewsbury  
 SY1 1XJ 01743 770345

**THE LION QUAYS** Moreton,  
 Oswestry SY11 3EN  
 01691 684300

**LOCH FYNE** Talbot House,  
 Market Street,  
 Shrewsbury SY1 1LG  
 01743 277140

**MAD JACKS** 15 St Mary's  
 St, Shrewsbury, SY1  
 1EQ 01743 358870

**THE MALTHOUSE** The  
 Wharfage, Ironbridge  
 TF8 7NH 01902 433712

**MORGANS** 1 Bellstone,  
 Shrewsbury SY1 1HU  
 01743 239114

**MR UNDERHILLS** Dinham  
 Weir, Ludlow Shropshire  
 SY8 1EH 01584 874431

**THE MYTTON & MERMAID**  
 Atcham, Shrewsbury,  
 SY5 6QG 01743 761220

**THE OLD ORLETON INN**  
 Holyhead Rd, Wellington,  
 TF1 2HA 01952 255011

**THE OLD RECTORY HOTEL  
 & RESTAURANT** Lowe Hill  
 Road, Wem, Shropshire  
 SY4 5UA 01939 233233

**THE PEACH TREE** 21  
 Abbey Foregate,  
 Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE  
 01743 355055

**THE PLUME OF FEATHERS**  
 Harley, Shrewsbury SY5  
 6LP 01743 727360

**THE POUND AT LEEBOT-  
 WOOD** Leebotwood, Nr  
 Church Stretton SY6  
 6ND 01694 751477

**RENAISSANCE**, 29a  
 Princess St, Shrewsbury,  
 SY11LW 01743 354289

**ROMOLO** Victoria Avenue,  
 shrewsbury SY1 1HH  
 01743 233244

**SARACENS** Shrewsbury  
 Rd, SY4 4AG 01939  
 210877

**SEBASTIANS** 45 Willow St,  
 Oswestry SY11 1AQ  
 01691 655444

**SHALIMAR** 23 Abbey  
 Foregate, Shrewsbury  
 SY2 6AE 01743 366658

**SHERAZ** 79 Wyle Cop,  
 Shrewsbury SY1 1UT  
 01743 242321

**THE SILVERTON** the Old  
 Dairy, 9-10 Frankwell,  
 Shrewsbury SY3 8JY  
 01743 248000

**TIN TINS** Wellington  
 Road, Telford TF2 8AJ  
 01952 608688

**TRAITORS GATE** Castle St,  
 Water Lane, Shrewsbury  
 SY1 2BX 01743 249152

**THE WALLS** Welsh Walls,  
 Oswestry SY11 1AW  
 01691 670970

**ZIZZI RISOIRANTE** 39-40  
 High Street, Shrewsbury  
 SY1 1SF 01743 353232

### Staffordshire

**NO 5** Gaol Mews,  
 Stafford ST16 3AN  
 01785 22 9900

**95 HIGH GREEN** Cannock.  
 WS11 1BH 01543  
 573905

**1709 THE BASSERIE** 3-5  
 Lombard St, Lichfield.  
 WS13 6DP 01543  
 257986

**BELLA ITALIA** 20  
 Greengate St, Stafford,  
 ST16 2HS  
 01785 211968

**CHANDLERS** Corn  
 Exchange, Conduit St,  
 Lichfield, WS13 6JU  
 01543 416688

**THE CORNER HOUSE**  
 Second Avenue, Burton-  
 On-Trent DE14 2WF  
 01283 542321

**CURRY KUTEER** 31  
 Greengate Street,  
 Stafford ST16 2HY  
 01785 253279

**ESSENCE OF THE ORIENT**  
 27 Broad Eye, Stafford  
 ST16 2QB 01785  
 229988

**FOUR SEASONS** Swinfen  
 Hall Lichfield, WS14  
 9RE 01543 481494

**THE GREEN ROOM** Castle  
 Dyke, Lichfield WS13  
 6HR 01543 412121

**INDIAN VILLAGE**  
 8 Lombard St, Lichfield.  
 WS13 6DR 01543  
 253415

**INDICA** Virage Park,  
 Cannock. WS11 0HN  
 08712 070417



# Restaurant LISTINGS

**JASMINE PEKING** 21 High St, Eccleshall, Stafford ST21 6BW 01785 851200

**LA DOLCE VITA** 19 Stafford St, Stone ST15 8QW 01785 817 985

**THE LODGE** 24 Birmingham Road, Shenstone. WS14 0LQ 01543 483334

**MALABAR** 1-2 Water Street, Stafford, ST16 2AG 01785 227 500/600

**MARLOES** 13 London Road, Newcastle under Lyme, ST4 1LQ 01782 661983

**THE MILL** 1 Mill St, Stone, ST15 8BA 01785 818456

**THE NAVIGATION INN** Newport Road, Gnosall, Stafford ST20 0BN 01785 822327

**OLD VICARAGE** 2 Main St, Branston, Burton, DE14 3EX 01283 533222

**PASTICHE BISTRO** 1 - 2 Mill Street, Stafford, ST16 2AJ 01782 263 737

**THE PEARL** 18 Market St, Kidsgrove, ST7 4AB 01782 788887

**THE PEAR TREE** Swinfen, Nr. Lichfield, WS14 9QR 01543 481807

**PORTOFINO** 38-40 Marsh St Stoke-On-Trent, ST1 1JD 01782 209444

**THE RED ROOM** 7 Newcastle Road, Congleton CW12 4HN 01260 297871

**THE SWAN HOTEL** 46 Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2JA 01785 258142

**THORNBURY HALL, RASOI** Lockwood Rd, Kingsley Holt, Stafford ST10 2DH 01538 750831

**WOLSELEY ARMS** Wolseley Bridge, Stafford ST17 0XS 01889 883179

**WARWICKSHIRE**

**7 SQUARE** 7 Old Square, Warwick CV34 4RA 01926 411 755

**NO. 9 CHURCH STREET** Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire CV37 6HB 01789 415522

**ART KITCHEN** 7 Swan St, Warwick CV34 4BJ 01926 494303

**AUBERGINE** 32 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HS 01926 400 086

**THE ALMANACK** Abbey End North, Kenilworth CV8 1QJ 01926 353637

**THE BLUEBELL** 93 High Street, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, B95 5AT 01564 793049

**BLUE BISTRO** 21 Spon St, Coventry, CV1 3BA 024 7622 9274

**BROWNS** Earl St, Coventry CV1 5RU 0247 622 1100

**CARLUCCIOS** 13 Waterside, Stratford-Upon-Avon CV37 6BA 01789 267424

**CASTLES** 6 Castle St, Warwick, CV34 4BP 01926 492525

**CATALAN** 6 Jury St, Warwick CV34 4EW 01926 498 930

**THE CHURCH STREET TOWNHOUSE** 16 Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HB 01789 262222

**EGO** 29 The Square, Kenilworth, CV8 1EF 01926 864463

**THE ENCORE** Bridge Street Stratford upon Avon CV37 6AB 01789 269462

**FINEST CATCH** B'ham Rd, Henley in Arden. B95 5QR 01564 793783

**FIVE RIVERS** 20-22 Victoria Terrace, Leamington Spa, CV31 3AB 01926 431999

**GEORGETOWN** 23 Sheep St, Stratford-Upon-Avon, CV37 6EF 01789 204445

**HELP OUT MILL** Heather Rd, Shakerstone, Nuneaton. CV13 0BT 01530 260666

**HIGH PAVEMENT** 3 High Street, Warwick, CV34 4AP 01926 494725

**HOGARTH'S HOTEL** 4 Ashes Rd, Solihull, B93 8QE 01564 779988

**HORTONS** 165 High Street, Solihull B91 3ST 0121 709 3177

**INDIA RED** 1-2 Abbey St, Nuneaton. CV11 5BP 02476 342090

**JIMMY SPICES** 64-66 Station Rd, Solihull, B91 3RX 0121 709 2111

**LE BISTRO PIERRE** Swans Nest, Bridgford, Stratford

upon Avon. CV37 7LT 01789 264804  
**MATRICARDIS** 97 High St, Henley in Arden. B95 5AT 01564 792735

**MERCHANTS** Swan Street, Warwick CV34 4BJ 01926 403833

**NAYA** 148 High St, Henley in Arden. B95 5BS 01564 793089

**NAILCOTE HALL** Nailcote Lane, Berkswell, Coventry, CV7 7DE 02476 466174

**NICOLINIS** 14 The Parade, Leamington Spa, CV32 4DW 01926 421620

**ONE ELM** 1 Guild St, Stratford-Upon-Avon, CV37 6QZ 01789 404919

**OSCARS** 39 Chandos St, Leamington Spa, CV32 4RL 01926 452807

**PEEL'S** Hampton Manor, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull, B92 0EN 01675 446080

**PREZZO** 1-3 High St, Warwick CV34 4AP 01926 475867

**QUEANS RESTAURANT** 15 Dormer Place, Leamington Spa CV32 5AA 01926 315522

**RESTAURANT 23** 34 Hamilton Terrace, Holly Walk Leamington Spa, CV32 4LY 01926 422422

**ROBBIES** 74 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HU 01926 400470

**ROOFTOP RESTAURANT** @ The RST, Waterside, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BB 01789 403449

**SAFFRON GOLD** Market St, Westgate House, Warwick CV34 4DE 01926 402061

**THE SAXON MILL** Coventry Rd, Guys Cliffe, Warwick CV34 5YN 01926 492 255

**SIGNATURES @** The Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, CV1 1GS 02476 846762

**TAILORS** 22 Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SL 01926 410590

**THAI ELEPHANT** 20 Regent St, Leamington Spa, Warwick CV32 5HQ 01926 886882

**THE TREVELYAN** Warwick Rd, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 0NR 01789 295252



Desi Ismees, Birmingham

**WARWICK SPICE** 24 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HS 01926 491736

**THE VINE INN** 86 - 88 West St, Warwick CV34 6AW 07873 219005

**ZIZZI** 85-87 Regent Square House, Parade, Leamington Spa CV 32 4NL 01926 432523

**ZORBA'S** Olton Boulevard, Solihull. B27 7DP 0121 706 4709

## Worcestershire

**ANAKARI** 47 The Tythings, Worcester. WR1 1JT 01905 21412

**ANGEL CHEF** 1 Angel St, Worcester WR1 3QT 01905 731131

**ANUPAM** 85 Church Street, Malvern. WR14 2AE 01684 573814

**BACCHUS** 44 Worcester Road, Bromsgrove B61 0TA 01527 877557

**BENEDICTOS** 34 Sidbury, Worcester WR1 2HZ 01905 21444

**BINDLES** 55 Sidbury, Worcester. WR1 2HU 01905 611120

**BRAMBLINGS** Hither Green Lane, Redditch, B98 9BE 01527 406600

**THE BRIDGE INN** Plough Rd, Tibberton, Droitwich. WR9 7NQ 01905 345874

**THE BROOK INN** Elcocks Bank, Redditch. B97 5UD 01527 543209

**BROWNS** 24 Quay St, Worcester WR1 2JJ 01905 26263

**THE CHASE INN** Chase Rd, Upper Colwall, Malvern. WR13 6DQ 01684 540276

**CHESTERS** 51 New St, Worcester, WR1 2DL 01905 611638

**CROWN & SANDYS** Main Rd, Ombersley, WR9 0EW 01905 620252

**EWE & LAMB** Hanbury Rd, Bromsgrove. B60 4DN 01527 871929

**THE FIG TREE** 99 Church

Street, Gt Malvern, WR14 2AE 01684 569909

**FOUR SEASONS** 61 Lowesmoor, Worcester WR1 2RS 01905 27026

**FUSION BRASSERIE** Hawbridge, Stoultton, Worcester WR7 4RJ 01905 840647

**THE GARDENERS ARMS** Vines Lane, Droitwich. WR9 8LU 01905 772936

**THE GATE** 36 Dodford Rd, Bournheath, Bromsgrove B61 9JR 01527 878169

**THE INN AT STONEHALL** Stonehall Common, Worcester, WR5 3QG 01905 820462

**KING CHARLES II** King Charles House, New St, Worcester WR1 2D 01905 22449

**L'AMUSE BOUCHE** 51 Graham Rd, Malvern. WR14 2HU 01684 572427

**LANGTREYS** 89a High St, Bromsgrove. B61 8AQ 01527 878242

**LITTLE VENICE** 1 - 3 St Nicholas St, Worcester WR1 1UW 01905 726126

**LOTUS HOUSE** 33 Ombersley St, Droitwich. WR9 8XQ 01905 770079

**MAEKONG THAI** 12 Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove. B61 7AE 01527 578888

**MASSALLA LOUNGE** 35 Broad St, Worcester WR1 3NH 01905 729955

**MUG HOUSE** Claines Lane, Worcester WR3 7RN 01905 456649

**OLD RECTIFYING HOUSE** North Parade, Worcester WR1 3NN 01905 619622

**ON THE ROCKS**, Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove. B61 7AE 01527 882412

**PORTOFINO**, 6 Worcester Rd, Droitwich. WR9 8AD 01905 794799

**PORTWAY ITALIAN**, Alcester Rd, Redditch. B48 7HT 01564 824794

**PUCCINI'S**, 12 Friar St, Worcester WR12LZ 01905 27770

**RAJDOOT** Cutnall Green, Droitwich. WR9 0PW 01295 851000

**RILY'S** The Quadrant, Redditch B98 8AE 01527 60544

**ROSADOS'S** 2 Finstall Rd, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. B60 2DZ 01527 889948

**SAFFRON BISTRO** 15 New St, Worcester WR1 2DP 01905 610505

**SINGAPORE** 29 Friar St, Worcester WR1 2NA 01905 613005

**THAI GALLERY** 26-32 Friar St, Worcester WR1 2LZ 01905 25451

**THAI LOTUS** 147 Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove. B61 7HN 01527 882606

**THAI RAMA** Walwyn Rd, Gt Malvern. WR13 6QX 01684 541563

**THE WILDMOOR OAK** Top Road, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove B61 0RB 0121 453 2696

**THE WOOD NORTON** Worcester Road Evesham Worcestershire WR11 4YB 01386 765611

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