

Wolverhampton

What's On

FILM | COMEDY | THEATRE | GIGS | VISUAL ARTS | EVENTS | FOOD

wolverhamptonwhatson.co.uk



OMID DJALILI:
FEATURE INSIDE...

CHARLES DICKENS' A TALE OF TWO CITIES

ADAPTED BY MIKE POULTON COMPOSED BY RACHEL PORTMAN



Epic story at the Grand Theatre

fizzog PRESENTS

the **SUCK IT & SEE** tour



COMEDY SKETCH SHOW

Featuring the world famous 'DANCING GRANNIES'
(300+ MILLION video hits world-wide)



ALSO FEATURING
BLACK COUNTRY COMEDIAN
Jonny COLE

★★★★★

"Pure laughs from start to finish,
this fantastic foursome deserve a full house
each and every night."

★ Broadsheet/Leaf

TOURING FROM DECEMBER 2016 TO MARCH 2017
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TICKETS VISIT WWW.THEFIZZOGS.COM
ALL TICKETS £15 | SHOW STARTS 7.30PM | CALL: 07757 424618 | SUITABLE FOR AGES 14+

What's On

Dudley Canal & Tunnel Trust
Presents



SPOOKY FAMILY HALLOWEEN FUN

We have the perfect boat trip to make your Halloween fun.

All trips are aimed at families
with witches, ghouls, spiders and more.

**FEATURING PUPPETRY FROM GROOVY UV,
GHOST STORIES AND A FEW SURPRISES**

The Spooky Family Halloween Tour runs
every 30 min from 4.30 to 8.00pm
October 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st

Tickets £7.80

(Tickets from Wolverhampton or Birmingham)
Minimum fee of £2.00 per booking for under 16s and under 25s

**Book now on www.dudleycanaltrust.org
or phone 0121 557 6265**




ARENA THEATRE WOLVERHAMPTON

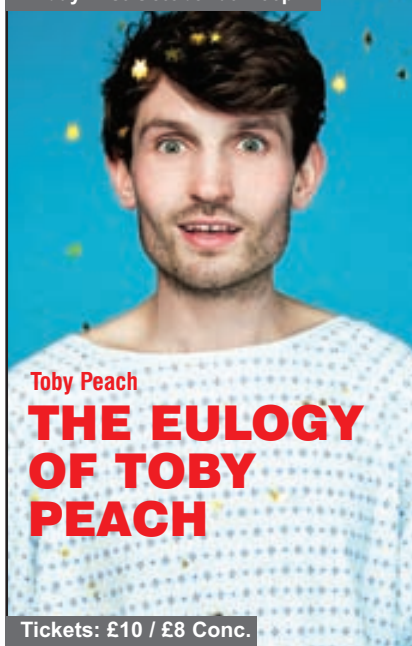
Wednesday 19th & Thursday 20th
October at 7.30pm

Highly Sprung **FALL OUT**



Tickets: £10 / £8 Conc.

Friday 21st October at 7.30pm



Toby Peach

THE EULOGY OF TOBY PEACH

Tickets: £10 / £8 Conc.

Saturday 29th October at 7.30pm

Tayo Aluko Productions

MANDELA: LET FREEDOM REIGN



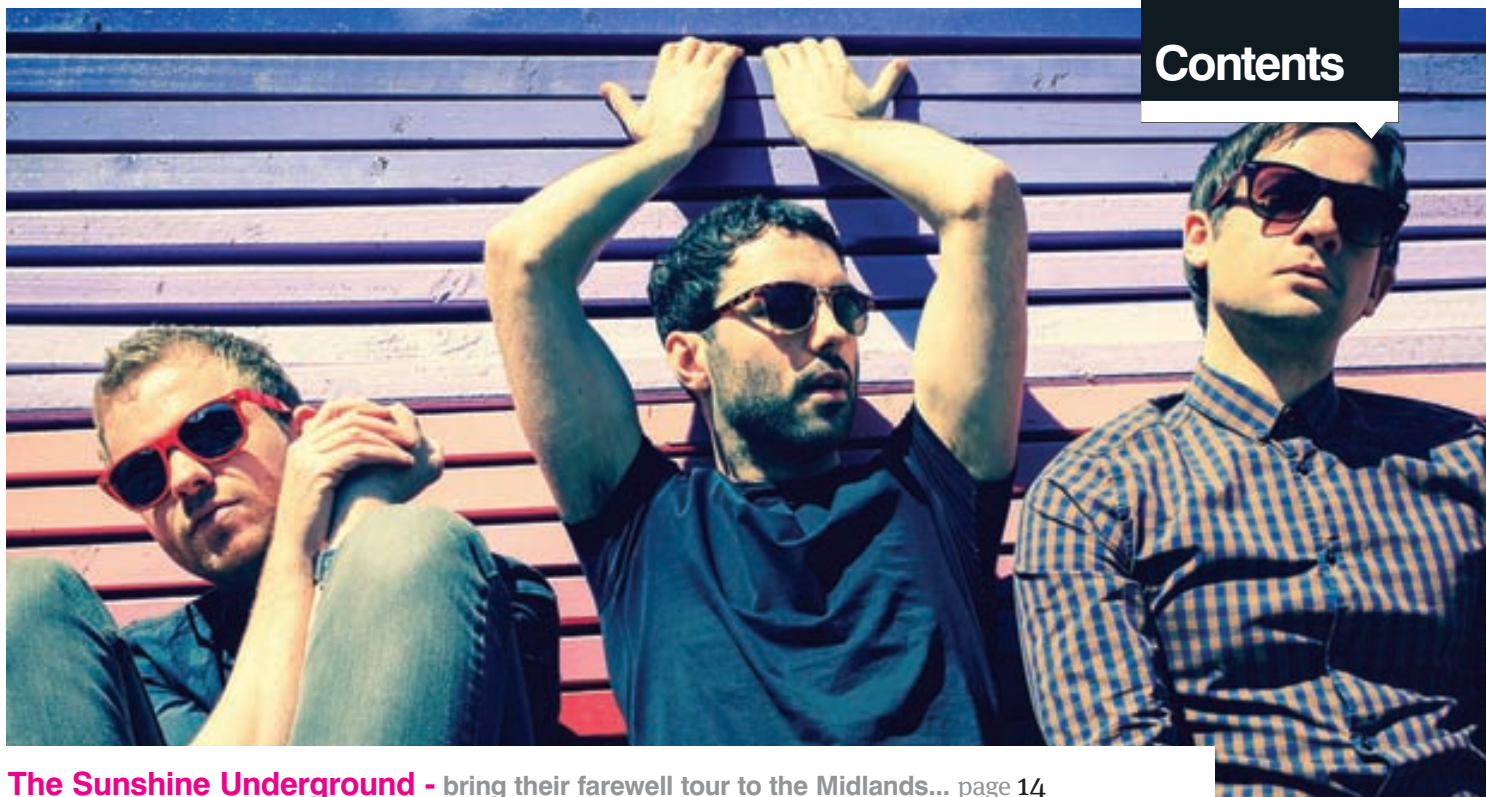
Tickets: £10 / £8 Conc.

THE LITTLE VENUE WITH BIG IDEAS

Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE

Follow @Arena_Theatre on Twitter www.facebook.com/arenatheatre

For full programme, visit: arena.wlv.ac.uk



The Sunshine Underground - bring their farewell tour to the Midlands... page 14

Omid Djalili



talks about being a Schmuck
For A Night
interview page 8

Jasmin Vardimon



rediscovers Pinocchio at
Theatre Severn
page 19

The Sound Of Music



The Hills Are Alive With The
Sound Of Music, at the Grand
page 28

the list



Your 16-page
week-by-week listings guide
page 51

inside:

4. First Word

11. Food

14. Music

20. Comedy

26. Theatre

37. Film

40. Visual Arts

43. Events



fb.com/whatsonwarwickshire
Warwickshire What's On Magazine

fb.com/whatsonworcestershireshire
Worcestershire What's On Magazine



@whatsonwarwicks
Warwickshire What's On Magazine

@whatsonworcs
Worcestershire What's On Magazine

What's On
MAGAZINE GROUP



Managing Director: **Davina Evans** davina@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281708
Sales & Marketing: **Matt Rothwell** matt@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281719 **Lei Woodhouse** lei@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281703
Chris Horton chris@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281704
Editorial: **Lauren Foster** lauren@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281707 **Sue Jones** sue@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281705
Brian O'Faolain brian@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281701 **Abi Whitehouse** abi@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281716
Ryan Humphreys ryan@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281722 **Adrian Parker** adrian.parker@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281714
Contributors: **Graham Bostock**, James Cameron-Wilson, **Heather Kincaid**, Adam Jaremko, **Kathryn Ewing**, David Vincent, **Eva Easthope**
Publisher and CEO: **Martin Monahan** Accounts Administrator: **Julia Perry** julia@whatsonlive.co.uk 01743 281717

This publication is printed on paper from a sustainable source and is produced without the use of elemental chlorine.
We endorse the recycling of our magazine and would encourage you to pass it on to others to read when you have finished with it.

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

Major new Tamworth project sees art popping up in unusual places

A major new project is set to see various forms of art popping up in unusual spaces across Tamworth over the course of the next two years. The project, which has been designed to create and nurture new audiences in preparation for the opening of the new-look Tamworth Assembly Rooms, has been made possible as a result of a £68,000 grant from Arts Council England.

Comprising a wide variety of initiatives, the project will feature a new sculpture for the town centre, bus shelter art, street music, a 'big draw' event, a massive community mosaic, theatre in new community locations, a film depicting a day in the life of Tamworth and an original World War One commemorative song performed by local choirs. Commenting on the initiative, Councillor Joy Goodall, Tamworth Borough Council's Cabinet member for Environment & Culture, said: "With the refurbishment of the Assembly Rooms, we're creating a theatre that's fit for future generations, but while it's closed we must look at how we can continue to provide high-quality arts entertainment and activities.

"By taking a variety of fun, exciting and sometimes unique events out into the community, and often in places that are not normally used for art, we are doing just that. We're making sure that performers still get to perform and theatre lovers still get to enjoy the theatre."



Kara Tointon to star in Gaslight



Former EastEnders favourite Kara Tointon, Merlin actor Rupert Young and one-time hellraiser Keith Allen visit the Midlands next year in a revival of Patrick Hamilton's 1938 psychological thriller, *Gaslight*.

West End leading lady Kara, whose career has also seen her win *Strictly Come Dancing*, will take the part of Bella Manningham, the role memorably played by Ingrid Bergman in the classic 1944 film adaptation. The UK tour of *Gaslight* begins at the New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, where it plays from 6 to 14 January.

Phillip and Holly to bring This Morning to the Midlands

A lifestyle show inspired by ITV1's *This Morning* programme will make its debut at Birmingham's NEC next spring. Featuring live appearances by Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby - the presenters of the popular daytime television series - the event will also feature numerous lifestyle elements, including fashion & style, food & drink, home, gardening, pets, beauty, and health & wellbeing.

Commenting on the new four-day show, Emma Gormley, ITV Daytime Managing Director, said: "This Morning is one of ITV's most loved and iconic brands. With our fantastic presenting talent and the wonderful mix of content that we'll be taking on the road, this event promises to delight fans of the show across the country."

This Morning Live takes place at the NEC from 18 to 21 May.



Shrewsbury arts venue launches new season of folk music concerts

Shrewsbury arts venue The Hive is launching a new season of folk music concerts this month.

Uptown Folk will feature gigs by Chris Wood, The Small Glories (featuring Cara Luft and JD Edwards), Luke Jackson Trio, Jim Moray (pictured), Kris Drever and Martin Simpson.

The series is kicked off on 29 October with a performance by all-female folk trio Lady Maisery.

"We're thrilled to be starting our album launch tour at The Hive," says the group's Rowan Rheingans. "Over the last few years, Shrewsbury Folk Festival has been an important gig for us, and we always look forward to playing there. We can't wait to return, to share our new album, *Cycle*, with the good people of Shrewsbury."

Contemporary craft fair makes a welcome return

The always-popular Hereford Contemporary Craft Fair makes a welcome return next month (The Left Bank, 11 - 13 November).

The annual show features contemporary craft designer-makers presenting a wide variety of work, including jewellery, textiles, furniture, ceramics, glass, stone carving, basketry, fashion & accessories and metalwork.

Commenting on the show, organiser Leoni Linton says: "Visitors to the event are able to meet every single maker of the craft they see, bringing to life an object of beauty with an understanding of who made it, and how and why they made it. This makes every purchase both personal and special - especially a bespoke commission, which virtually all our exhibitors take."

Ninth life for street festival

Blackberry Fair, Whitchurch's much-loved all-day street festival, is this month taking place for a ninth consecutive year. "It's a day to celebrate all things 'local'," say its organisers, "and there's plenty of fun to be had, from bees to bunting and from funky processions to markets and mayhem. Blackberry Fair is for everyone and dares to be different, through fabulous food, colourful events and plenty of arts and crafts. It's a day designed to be fun for all." Blackberry Fair takes place in Whitchurch, North Shropshire, on 1 October.

More details can be found at blackberryfair.co.uk

Poison Dart Frogs arrive in Walford

An animal care lecturer at North Shropshire College's (NSC) Walford Campus has successfully bred a number of Blue Poison Dart Frogs. The frogs, which are famous for their toxic skin and bright colours, originate from rainforests in South America.

"I started the project about 12 months ago," explains Laura Pugh, "with many unsuccessful attempts at actually getting a tadpole to hatch. But now we have three frogs and seven tadpoles. It takes a lot of time and dedication to ensure temperature, humidity and feeding procedures are correct to successfully hatch and rear a frog. The whole process can take a few months."



An elephant in the room at the Wolverhampton Grand

The first ever UK touring production of Michael Morpurgo's *Running Wild* is visiting the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton next summer.

Telling the story of a girl who takes a ride on an elephant, only to find herself needing to survive in a rainforest following a devastating tsunami, the award-winning stage adaptation of Morpurgo's novel features 'spectacular' life-size puppets. It shows at the Grand from Tuesday 6 to Saturday 10 June.

Tickets are on general sale from Thursday 6 October and can be purchased via the box office on 01902 429212 or online at grandtheatre.co.uk

A Life More Ordinary in South Shropshire

Ludlow Assembly Rooms is to screen a series of popular films - including *High Society*, *Singin' In The Rain* and *White Christmas* - for people with dementia and memory loss.

The movie screenings form part of *A Life More Ordinary* (ALMO), a national programme being rolled out to 15 venues over three years which also includes training, theatre shows and the development of a 'memory loss theatre group'. The dementia-friendly film screenings will take place at the Assembly Rooms on Tuesday afternoons during the autumn and are open to everyone.

A fashionable show indeed!

The Midlands Fashion Awards take place in Birmingham this month.

Now in its ninth year, the event offers a platform for local designers to showcase their collection to fashion industry professionals. "We've seen so many previous winners go on to develop their own careers," says show founder Jenny Eason. "We're giving creatives a chance to excel in their field as well as on their home turf. Often the pressure for designers and creatives to move to London is overwhelming, but there are so many potential opportunities right here in the Midlands. An event like this proves that there's a melting pot of talented individuals just waiting for their chance to shine."

The event takes place at the CBSO Centre on Friday 7 October. Tickets are available from midlandsfashionawards.co.uk

TV favourites to star in *The Exorcist*

Popular television and theatre actors Jenny Seagrove and Peter Bowles will star in this month's production of *The Exorcist* at Birmingham Repertory Theatre.

Seagrove is perhaps best known as QC Jo Mills in the television series *Judge John Deed*, while Bowles has enjoyed starring roles in numerous TV shows, including *To The Manor Born*, *The Irish RM*, *The Bounder*, *Rumpole Of The Bailey* and *Only When I Laugh*. *The Exorcist* is receiving its UK premiere at The REP, where it shows from Friday 21 October to Saturday 5 November.

First Word

Great start for Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust campaign

Shropshire's Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust is hoping to raise nearly £12,000 to buy a number of significant pieces of locally made china which it fears may otherwise disappear from public view forever. The pieces, which are currently on loan to the Trust's Coalport China Museum, are now being sold by their owner.

More than 65% of the required funds have already been raised, allowing the museum to purchase two Coalport China plaques exquisitely painted by John Randall, one of the company's best-known artists. The museum is still raising funds for the additional items of great local importance - two Caughley bowls decorated with images of the Iron Bridge, one of which, a square salad bowl, is extremely rare, and a Coalport 'Loving Cup', decorated with images of the Forest Glen and Buildwas Abbey. Alongside its efforts to raise the near-£12,000 required to purchase the items, the museum is also hoping to attract donations worth a further £50,000 in order to buy the opulent Northumberland Vase at auction in November. The porcelain vase was created as an exhibition piece to advertise the superior quality of the Coalport China Company's ornamental china. It was showcased at the 1862 International Exhibition in London, where it won a bronze medal.

All donations for the Northumberland Vase will take the form of pledges and will only be called in if the auction bid is successful.

To contribute to either or both fundraising campaigns, visit ironbridge.org.uk/support-us/urgent-appeal-pilkington-collection/. For more information, call the fundraising team on 01952 435 900 or email fundraising.manager@ironbridge.org.uk.

From Kenya to Shrewsbury...

Film director and photographer Harry Hook is visiting Shrewsbury this month to tell the epic story of Africa's people and their inspiring journey from the land to the city.

Brought up in Kenya, Harry has been photographing and filming the African Continent and its people for over 40 years. His 14

October show at Theatre Severn sees him bringing together extraordinary stories and unique film footage to shine fresh light on Africa both past and present.



Dudley-born Josie Lawrence to headline Birmingham's first improv festival

Birmingham is hosting its first Improv Festival this month.

The brand new three-day event, comprising 10 shows and eight workshops, sees Dudley-born actress and 'improv queen' Josie Lawrence making a welcome return to the Midlands.

Presented in the intimate setting of the Jewellery Quarter's Blue Orange Theatre - from Friday 21 to Sunday 23 October - the festival features plays, musicals, sketches, puppets and costume dramas.

Commenting on the event, its director, Jon Trevor, said: "This is a unique opportunity for people to be part of the first festival of its kind in what I believe to be a great festival city. Audiences can expect the unexpected, with lots of twists and turns. In fact, nobody knows how each performance will pan out - it really is relying on audience participation. I want people to immerse themselves and just have a really memorable and fun night out."

The festival culminates in a special charity showcase in aid of Birmingham Children's Hospital.



Silly songs and manic monologues...

Long-established Shrewsbury comedy act Three Men In A Bowtie is making a rare home-town appearance this month.

Described in an Edinburgh Fringe review as 'the funniest thing to come out of Shropshire in a long while', the trio of performers have been treading the theatrical boards for over 20 years, during which time they've apparently performed in 400 village halls, half a dozen tents, three cowsheds and an opera house! They present their latest collection of 'silly songs and manic monologues' at The Wightman Theatre in The Square, Shrewsbury, on Saturday 15 October. Tickets can be booked via thewightman.co.uk or purchased on the door.



Here I Belong...

Shropshire-based theatre company Pentabus are heading out on tour this month with their brand new production, Here I Belong.

A celebration of village life, companionship and community across six decades, the play also highlights the challenges faced by people in rural areas.

"At Pentabus we're committed to making plays about rural issues and taking them directly to affected communities," says the company's Artistic Director, Elizabeth Freestone. "I'm excited that these audiences will see our cast transform through the different time periods before their eyes. Here I Belong will be an uplifting and entertaining piece of theatre for people of all ages."

For further information about the tour, visit pentabus.co.uk



Dudley digital festival debuts

Dudley Libraries is holding its first ever Digital Festival this month.

Taking place at Halesowen Library on Saturday 8 October, the event features workshops on a range of subjects, including stop motion animation and digital music creation.

Visitors can also have a go at finding a geocache, try out Minecraft, take part in Wii and Xbox gaming tournaments and create light-up robot cards.

What's On HIGHLIGHTS

Book now 0121 780 3333 www.thsh.co.uk

THSH THE HOME
OF LIVE
MUSIC
TOWN HALL BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY HALL BIRMINGHAM



THSH & FOYLES ARE
PROUD TO PRESENT
**PETER HOOK -
SUBSTANCE: INSIDE
NEW ORDER**

SAT 8 OCTOBER 7:30PM
SYMPHONY HALL



MILES JUPP

SAT 29 OCTOBER 8PM
TOWN HALL



CHRISTY MOORE

THU 13 OCTOBER 7:30PM
SYMPHONY HALL



**CAPTAIN FLINN
AND THE PIRATE
DINOSAURS 2:
THE MAGIC CUTLASS**

SUN 30 OCTOBER
TOWN HALL



**TCHAIKOVSKY
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA
PERFORMS
TCHAIKOVSKY**

FRI 14 OCTOBER 7:30PM
SYMPHONY HALL



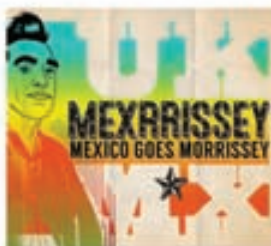
**CHRISTMAS WITH
CLARE TEAL**

SUN 18 DECEMBER 7:30PM
TOWN HALL



THSH & FOYLES ARE
PROUD TO PRESENT
**JO MALONE -
MY STORY**

SUN 16 OCTOBER 2:30PM
TOWN HALL



MEXRRISSEY

SUN 29 JANUARY 7:30PM
TOWN HALL

To see what's on when, visit www.thsh.co.uk/whats-on

Follow us



Town Hall Symphony Hall

@THSHBirmingham

townhallsymphonyhall

thsh_birmingham

Funded by



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

Town Hall renovation also funded by



PROJECT PART-FINANCED
BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

Omid Djalili

talks about being a **Schmuck For A Night**



Award-winning funnyman Omid Djalili is probably one of the most subversive comedians currently doing the rounds on the UK comedy circuit. An actor as well as a comic, Omid has appeared in numerous box office blockbusters, including *Gladiator*, *The Mummy*, *Sex And The City 2* and the James Bond movie, *The World Is Not Enough*. He visits the Midlands this month with his brand new stand-up show, *Schmuck For A Night*. What's On met up with him to find out more...

Your new show's called *Schmuck For A Night*. Why *Schmuck*?

I like the word 'schmuck'. It means 'fool' or buffoon. You have to be a schmuck to do comedy in today's climate. I'm embracing the schmuck in me to take on the big issues of our day. Plus, it's a word that ends with 'uck', which can only be a good thing.

The show is mellower than your other tours. Is that fair to say?

I've become less frenetic. I used to dance every two minutes in between the stand-up. I can't even remember why. It was mentioned to me that when I danced, audiences were laughing at me, not with me. So it was either stop dancing or ban my manager from the gigs.

You touch on Brexit, ISIS and Trump in the show. It's a long tour - will the show change while you're on the road?

I think the show will change even while I'm on stage. It'll be so current sometimes that audiences won't laugh until they get home and turn on the TV.

Are you looking forward to that challenge?

Of course - although my main challenge is getting the audience in a good mood again after my support act, Boothby Graffoe, has been on. Sometimes people haven't finished booing until a few minutes into my act!

You produced a show known as the Iraq Out & Loud Project at the Edinburgh Fringe, which involved reading the Chilcot report in full, 24 hours a day. How did the idea come about?

I was on the phone to Boothby in July and said, "We should do a show at next year's Edinburgh Festival where we just read the Chilcot report 24 hours a day." He mentioned it to a promoter called Bob Slayer, rang me back and said, "There's a guy called Bob who's mad enough to do it this year." So while Bob was building a shed to stage it in, we were contacting all our friends in comedy to read it and kick the idea off. It took 285 hours and 1,444 people to read it. I read too. It was a truly one-off experience.

It was a great idea. The Edinburgh Comedy Awards judges certainly thought so, awarding it the Panel Prize.

At my age, winning an award! What a pleasant surprise - although I've found that when an idea is really good, it's no longer your idea. The idea belongs to the collaborators. In fact, the idea felt like it belonged to the comedy industry. Comics do nutty things all the time at the festival. Sometimes it's a 24-hour show, sometimes mad benefit gigs, but sometimes an idea really captures the zeitgeist. Comedians are very adept at smelling bs - by which I mean sensing when we're being fobbed off - so it was important to us that the readings were a simple, non-political, people-powered public service.

Did you find anything funny in such a serious report?

Yes. It was in the final moments of the readings, after 285 hours and 1,444 people. The very last paragraph of the Chilcot report is: 'How to read the Chilcot report!' It was a great punchline.

You were involved as executive producer on another project about similar subject

matter. The documentary We Are Many was about the 2003 protests against the war in Iraq. Are you proud of the film?

It's not a comedy, but you could easily say it's my crowning achievement so far. I've worked on the project for the last five years - countless edits, screenings, meetings, discussions. The fact that Universal Pictures bought it, that it's been so well received and hit number one on iTunes in about 10 different countries, you could say I'm very proud of it. A film promoting worldwide public opinion as a 'second superpower' has got to be doing good.

Will the film and the Chilcot report reading make a difference, do you think?

You can never quantify the impact of such things, but certainly it felt like they were important projects to be part of. In this life you're either a problem or a solution. I'd like to think these projects - which raise more questions than answers - are firmly entrenched in the solution camp. Or at least trying to be!

Your stand-up isn't particularly political or agenda-based, though...

Well, yes and no. I'm not party political, if that's what you mean. I have no party political agenda. But I'll talk about what's going on around us, trying to contribute to the discourse. In fact, that's what the show should have been called: Schmuck Talks About What's Going On Around Him, Trying To Contribute To The Discourse.

You've just been cast in The Nutcracker with Morgan Freeman and Keira Knightley. How's it going to feel, filming and then showing up at a theatre to do stand-up?

You'd think it'd be weird, but it has never fazed me. Once, in Barnet years ago, I was late, so didn't change and came straight to the theatre from the set of The Mummy at

Shepperton Studios. I walked straight on stage in my film costume. I went on stage in full 1930s Egyptian prison warden garb. I even heard an audience member say, "Well at least he's making an effort."

Away from stand-up, you have an impressive acting CV, having worked with Russell Crowe, Brad Pitt, Robert Redford, Johnny Depp, Mike Myers and Sarah Jessica Parker. Who's been the most fun to work with?

That's a tough one. I'd say - and anyone who's worked with him as an actor would agree - that Keith Richards from the Rolling Stones was probably the most extraordinary. He played the father of Captain Jack Sparrow - Johnny Depp - in Pirates Of The Caribbean 3. His character shoots and kills my character for no reason. This seemed to bother him. In fact, he shot me about 14 times, and after each take he'd come up to me and say, "Listen, you do know I don't mean this?" After every take. It was almost like a joke, but it wasn't. Bang! and he'd shuffle up and say, "Nothing personal mate, I hope you realise." Then, after another take, with the same sincerity and intensity, "It's all acting. You know that? You're not upset with me, are you?" On one occasion he shot me and just said, "Forgive them, Lord, they know not what they do." The final time he shot me, he just stood over me and mumbled, "We've all got issues. It's all about mummy, innit?" How right he was.

.....
Omid Djalili brings his Schmuck For A Night tour to Civic Hall, Wolverhampton on Sat 22 October; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa on Sat 29 October; Palace Theatre, Redditch on Fri 4 November and Huntingdon Hall, Worcester on Tues 15 November.

More dates at whatsonlive.co.uk

The Yockleton Arms

RESTAURANT - BAR - EVENTS & OUTSIDE VENUE

The Yockleton Arms is under new management, offering a new and exciting venue in the countryside. We offer a locally sourced menu and use as many local products as possible using Lamb, Beef & Pork from local farms.

OPENING TIMES:
MON, TUES - CLOSED
WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY 12-9
SUNDAY 12-4



Tel: 01743 821 491

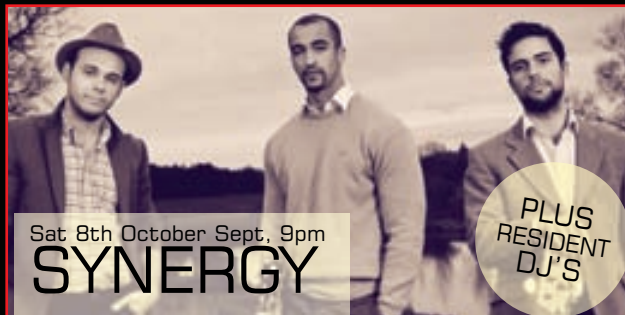
www.facebook.com/theyockletonarms

hello@yockletonarms.co.uk

UNDER NEW MANGEMENT



Live Music - October



Sat 8th October Sept, 9pm

SYNERGY

PLUS
RESIDENT
DJ'S

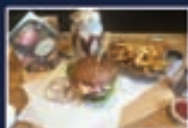
LUNCH	GRILL NIGHT	PIZZA NIGHT	TAPAS FRIDAYS	SUNDAY ROASTS
2 COURSES FOR £10	EVERY WEDNESDAY 12PM - 4PM	EVERY THURSDAY 12PM - 4PM	SPANISH TAPAS HOMEMADE SANGRIA	EXOTIC SUNDAY SERVED FROM 12PM - 9PM

CHRISTMAS 2016  AT THE RIVERBANK
 NOW TAKING BOOKINGS

Victoria Quay, Victoria Avenue, Shrewsbury, SY1 1HH
 Tel: 01743 233244 www.visitriverbank.co.uk

BROOKLYN CRAFT

Gourmet Burgers, Fries & Shakes



4 Castle Gates, Shrewsbury SY1 2AQ. / 01743 600417



[brooklyn craft-shrewsbury](https://www.facebook.com/brooklyn-craft-shrewsbury)



[brooklyn-craft](https://www.instagram.com/brooklyn-craft)

THE UGLY DUCKLING

BAR & GRILL



Now Open

To book a table call 01952 257979
 or email: info@theuglyduckling.co.uk

www.facebook.com/Theuglyducklingshr

A cornucopia of vegan delights...

The ninth annual West Midlands Vegan Festival takes place at Wolverhampton's Civic Hall this month (Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 October). The two-day event will feature 120-plus stalls offering hot and raw food, cakes, confectionary, footwear,

clothing, cosmetics and toiletries. The festival also includes 10 cookery demonstrations, 40 talks, a selection of live, on-stage entertainment throughout the weekend, a vegan bar, alternative therapies and numerous kids' activities.

West Midlands pub comes out top

A Birmingham pub which hosts theatrical performances in its upstairs room has been voted one of the West Midlands' top hostellers. The Old Joint Stock on Temple Row West is the only Birmingham pub to be included in The Good Pub Guide 2017. Commenting on the success, Jonathon Swaine, Managing

Director of Fuller's Inns, which owns the pub, said: "This is an amazing accolade for The Old Joint Stock. Being crowned one of the best pubs in the country is fantastic, but to be the only Birmingham pub to be recognised demonstrates just how much hard work, enthusiasm and passion the team have put into ensuring that the pub is a cut above its competitors.

REVIEW: The Ugly Duckling, Telford, Shropshire Fantastic service and desserts to die for...



Located in Telford, The Ugly Duckling is one of numerous recent additions to Shropshire's long list of high-quality eateries. The new bar & grill opened its doors to the public back in August after undergoing a much-needed refurbishment.

On arrival there, we were greeted with broad, welcoming smiles from all the staff. The restaurant boasted cosy yet stylish décor and a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere. It was packed out too - always an encouraging sign when you're visiting somewhere for the first time.

To start, I opted for the whiskey and orange cured sea trout, served with charred and pickled fennel and dill and caper crème fraîche - a flavour combination I'd never come across before. It was a very tasty plate of food

indeed. The whiskey and orange created a flavour that was subtle enough to ensure it didn't overpower the taste of the fish. The fennel and crème fraîche was a perfect accompaniment, helping to bring the dish together.

My partner chose the braised beef and horseradish bon bons, served with roast garlic mayonnaise. The bon bons were made up of lightly battered shredded beef - a nice idea, and one which, again, I'd never previously encountered. I'd have liked a touch more seasoning in the beef, but that's down to personal preference. My partner thought the dish was delicious.

The starters were certainly a success, and with that in mind, we couldn't wait for our mains to arrive.

I chose the roast breast of duck,

served with celeriac puree, shallot fondant and vanilla cream. The duck was cooked well and to my taste; the celeriac puree was rich, creamy and complemented the meat nicely. The vanilla cream added significantly to the sweetness of the dish. It was a flavour combination that may not suit all palates but it certainly suited mine. My only criticism was that I'd have liked crispy duck skin, but overall it was a tasty and well-thought-out dish.

My partner chose the slow braised lamb shank served with roast garlic mash and rosemary and redcurrant sauce. The lamb was cooked perfectly and melted in the mouth - I'd even go so far as to say that it was the nicest lamb shank I've ever tasted. The redcurrant sauce proved to be a fantastic accompaniment, as did the creamy garlic mash. It was

definitely the best dish of the evening... At least until the desserts arrived.

Being a fan of savoury dishes, I rarely get excited about desserts - but these were to die for. The sticky baked meringue served with grilled banana and salted caramel was as naughty as it sounds, as was the sticky toffee pudding with clotted cream and toffee sauce. I'd return to The Ugly Duckling just for the desserts alone!

As well as the a la carte menu, The Ugly Duckling offers a grazing menu, a Sunday lunch menu and a 'grilled over the pine' menu, which consists of a variety of beef and pork steaks and skewers.

The service was fantastic. Alongside the tasty, well-presented food and modern surroundings, it certainly played its part in making the evening a thoroughly enjoyable one.

I very much look forward to returning to the venue in the future to further investigate its mouthwatering menu.

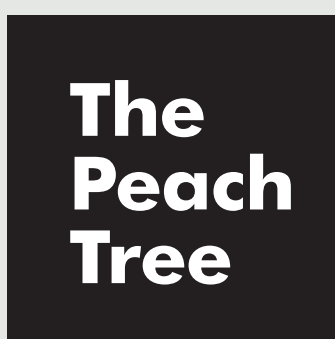
Lauren Foster

Food:
Service:
Ambience:
Overall value:
OVERALL

The Ugly Duckling
Long Lane
Telford
TF6 6HA
Tel: 01952 257979

3 OF SHREWSBURY'S BEST RESTAURANTS AND BARS

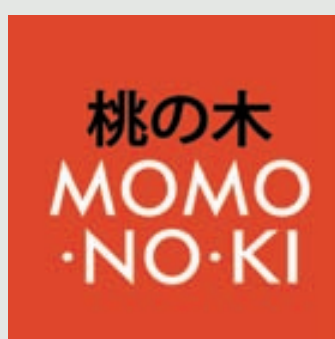
all located opposite the
historic and beautiful Shrewsbury Abbey!



Cafe Bar & Restaurant

BOOK ONLINE OR MORE INFO

www.thepeachtree.co.uk



Ramen Noodle Bar

BOOK ONLINE OR MORE INFO

www.momonoki.co.uk



Bar & Restaurant

BOOK ONLINE OR MORE INFO

www.havanarepublic.co.uk

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

READERS OFFER: GET 20% OFF ALL FOOD WHEN QUOTING 'WHAT'S ON 20'

Valid on the Peach Tree Restaurant 'a la carte' menu only when dining Sunday to Thursday. Booking essential. Offer ends 30/11/17.

18-21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury. SY2 6AE. Tel: 01743 355055

Green accolade for Shrewsbury Food Festival

Shrewsbury's annual food festival is one of the greenest in the UK, according to a new report by environmental auditors Credibly Green. The festival recycles 81 per cent of its waste, an amount that saves sufficient energy to boil a kettle 37,382 times.

The report also reveals that the 2016 event generated 6.37 tonnes of waste and managed to recycle 5.17 tonnes, with only 1.2 tonnes being sent for energy recovery.

Total carbon dioxide equivalent emissions associated with waste management activities were 1.9 tonnes of CO₂, which Credibly Green described as 'a fantastic recycling performance'.

Glynn Purnell to become 'Secret Chef'

Michelin-starred Birmingham chef Glynn Purnell will host his own television show on ITV1 next year.

Secret Chef will see Glynn teaching a complete novice how to cook and prepare a lavish meal for their family and friends, entirely from scratch. "This was probably the most difficult TV job I've had," says Glynn. "I've taught my children to chop vegetables and help out in the kitchen - and they are better cooks than the person I was teaching! I had six weeks to teach this person to cook. At the end of it, he had to surprise his friends and family with a meal they thought that I'd cooked!"

As well as his new TV show, Glynn is making a welcome return to BBC's Saturday Kitchen next month. He's also published a new cookery book, Rib Ticklers And Choux-Ins - available now, priced £19.99.



REVIEW: The Littleton Restaurant, Walsall Stylish, informal and exceptional value for money...

A college isn't somewhere you'd typically think of visiting if you fancied a meal out - or so I thought... But then I visited The Littleton.

The Littleton is a professionally led kitchen boasting two chefs of an AA-rosette background who train level two and three diploma students first hand, helping to give them an insight into a real working environment. The venue combines modern surroundings, friendly service and high-quality British food.

Although part of Walsall College, the restaurant itself is situated in The Hub - a commercial building which is open to external guests all year round.

For £19.95 you can enjoy five, yes five, courses: an amuse bouche, a starter, a main, chef's pre-dessert and a dessert. Not surprisingly, my partner and I opted to give it a try.

The amuse bouche consisted of mango chutney and sesame houmous, a cheese stick and mixed herb popcorn - a fun and quirky dish which worked well. The houmous was especially tasty and something I hadn't encountered before. Next up was the pressed ham hock served with pineapple textures and cheese bon bons, alongside the blackened

salmon served with marinated cucumber, roasted peppers and lemon crème fraîche. Both dishes were full of flavour and seasoned perfectly.

For the main course, I opted for the sirloin steak served with balsamic vine cherry tomatoes, a baked field mushroom, triple cooked chips and garlic & thyme butter. The steak was cooked beautifully and to my taste, with the other elements helping to create a very enjoyable dish. I was blown away by the quality of the meat - it certainly didn't reflect the budget price tag in any way whatsoever.

My partner opted for the seared fillet of stone bass accompanied by a mussel chowder, buttered spinach and fish croquette, which again was a really delicious plate of food. The fish was stunning, with the other ingredients complementing it perfectly. The quality of the ingredients really shone through in the main courses.

The chef's pre-dessert was a mini sticky toffee pudding, much to my partner's delight. It was very tasty and of a perfect consistency. It was served with a popcorn foam - a welcomed and inventive addition. For our main desserts, we opted for the chocolate and

pistachio brownie with coconut ice cream and the glazed lemon tart with lavender honeycomb and raspberry textures. They arrived beautifully presented, imitating what you might see in an upmarket restaurant. They tasted wonderful too. The brownie was cooked nicely, hard on the outside yet gooey in the middle, and the flavours in the lemon tart were a spot-on balance of sharp and sweet.

All in all, The Littleton is an ideal restaurant for just about everyone. Due to its exceptional value for money, it's a perfect place for students and families as well as couples and groups of friends. The price certainly doesn't reflect the quality of the food, so if you fancy an informal bite to eat experienced in a stylish surrounding, The Littleton is the place for you.

Lauren Foster

Food:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Service:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Ambience:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Overall value:	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
OVERALL	■ ■ ■ ■ ■

The Littleton Restaurant
The Hub
Littleton Street West
Walsall
WS2 8ES
Tel: 01922 657061

The Sunshine Underground

The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Thurs 13 October; O2 Academy, Birmingham, Thurs 20 October

It's 10 years since Shropshire band The Sunshine Underground released their debut album, *Raise The Alarm*. Although both that and second album *Nobody's Coming To Save You* showcased an indie rock sound, the boys took a different direction a couple of years back and focused on their first love - electronic music. Following the release of their fourth (and last) album, *Luminescent*, the band is this month embarking on their farewell tour. Commenting on the split, lead singer Craig Wellington said: "Musically, we've become a very different band to the one we started out as, and 10 years since the debut album felt like the right time to say 'that was a good progression from album one to four, and now it's time to do something different'." *Read the full interview at whatsonlive.co.uk*



Ezio

Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury, Sun 16 October



Italian-born Ezio Lunedei and Mark 'Booga' Fowell mix rock and folk with intelligent lyrics, rhythmic power and acoustic melodies.

Lead singer and composer Lunedei's line in perceptive songs, many of which contemplate such subject matter as the male condition, temptation and vulnerability, have established the duo as a real force to be reckoned with on the acoustic scene. Formed 26 years ago, their career famously received a boost in 1996 via the then-prime minister, Tony Blair. While being interviewed on Desert Island Discs, Blair revealed that he would listen to *Cancel Today* - a track from second album *Black Boots On Latin Feet* - before facing the weekly ordeal of Prime Minister's Questions in the House of Commons.

Jean-Michel Jarre

Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, Sat 8 October

The godfather and pioneer of electronic music makes a welcome return, six long years after his last live show. Jarre came to prominence back in 1976, following the release of debut album *Oxygène*, and has since sold hundreds of millions of albums worldwide. Famed for staggering visuals and the use of cutting-edge digital technology, his new live show promises to be a truly immersive musical journey, with Jean-Michel performing brand new music from two-part LP *Electronica* alongside classic material from previous albums. *Read our interview with Jean-Michel at whatsonlive.co.uk*



Nickelback

Genting Arena, Birmingham, Fri 14 October

Comprising guitarist and lead vocalist Chad Kroeger, guitarist, keyboardist and backing vocalist Ryan Peake, bassist Mike Kroeger and drummer Daniel Adair, multi-platinum-selling Canadian rock band Nickelback bring their *No Fixed Address* world tour to Birmingham.

The band were originally due to play the city last November but were forced to cancel due to Chad needing an extended period of vocal rest following voicebox surgery. Having sold more than 50 million albums worldwide and notched up the fourth best-selling song of the 21st century's first decade - 2001's *How You Remind Me* - the fellas are a must-see experience for any rock fan.

Wishbone Ash

The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton,
Thurs 20 October



Although Wishbone Ash have always been admired for their unique blend of blues, jazz and English folk, it was the way their guitars played melodic leads together that became their trademark, inspiring bands such as Thin Lizzy and Iron Maiden. Formed in 1969 and named the 'brightest hope' and 'best new group' in the influential music publications Melody Maker and Sounds, the band's following and ability to influence remain very much intact.

Jamie T

O2 Academy, Birmingham,
Sat 1 October

One of the most distinctive voices in British music, Jamie T released his debut album, *Panic Prevention*, in 2007 to great critical acclaim. Best known for singles such as *If You Got The Money, Sheila and Sticks'n'Stones*, the London-born singer-songwriter has since released a further three albums - *Kings & Queens* (2009), *Carry On The Grudge* (2014) and this year's *Trick*, a highly praised fusion of rock, punk, reggae, rap and pop, in support of which he's playing this gig and touring the UK.



Lady Maisery

The Hive, Shrewsbury, Sat 29 October

Bringing together Hannah James (Kerfuffle), Hazel Askew (The Askew Sisters and The Artisans) and Rowan Rheingans (Fidola), Lady Maisery's fresh interpretations of songs and ballads explore vocal harmony to

breathhtaking effect.

Having been nominated for the Horizon BBC Folk Award of 2012 and in the Best Debut category at the Spiral Awards that same year, the three-piece have spent the last five years performing sell-out shows across the UK and Europe.

Lee Mead

The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
Fri 21 October



Lee Mead shot to fame when he won BBC TV casting show *Any Dream Will Do*, a contest to find Andrew Lloyd Webber a new leading man for his 2007 West End revival of *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Since then, Lee's made steady progress with his career, appearing in numerous other West End shows as well as bagging himself a regular role in long-running TV series *Casualty*.

He visits the Midlands this month with *Some Enchanted Evening*, a touring show featuring music from his bestselling studio album of the same name.

Level 42

Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent,
Thurs 6 Oct; Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
Tues 11 October

To say '80s pop legends Level 42 have had a successful career would be an understatement. The band have released 27 albums, had 18 top-40 singles, sold out Wembley Arena for 21 nights and sold over 30 million albums worldwide.

This month's Birmingham gig comes in support of their recently released EP, *Sirens II*, and showcases new material alongside a selection of their greatest hits.

Nell Bryden

The Glee Club,
Birmingham,
Sun 9 October



In 2012, Brooklyn-born singer-songwriter Nell Bryden released *Sirens* - a song based on her experiences of living in New York in the aftermath of 9/11. The track caught the attention of many an artist - Gary Barlow, Jools Holland and Counting Crows, to name but a few.

Nell has since become a Radio Two listeners' favourite, gaining plenty of acclaim for her powerful, soaring vocals and accomplished songwriting.

Jean-Michel Jarre

The godfather and pioneer of electronic music this month stops off in Birmingham as part of his world tour. What's On recently caught up with the music icon to find out more...



You're bringing your tour to Barclaycard Arena this month, Jean-Michel. What can your Birmingham audience expect from your upcoming show?

I've spent a lot of time working on what I believe to be an exciting stage design. I've always been involved in the visual aspect of my work. It's very important nowadays, with technology allowing us to push the boundaries even more than when I started out. It's a very exciting challenge to be able to explore different directions. On this new production, I want to share with the audience a totally different experience from what I've done in the past, and also, hopefully, a totally different experience from a usual electronic or rock music show. I want to immerse the audience in my music and performance. I'm going to do my best to deliver a show that will satisfy them beyond their expectations. I know how big their expectations are, so I'm going to try not to disappoint them.

This is your first live show for six years. Why the break?

Quite simply, I've spent the last few years in the studio and travelling the world to compose and produce my double Electronica album, with over 30 collaborators from the electronic music scene who are legends and/or newcomers, and with whom I share a common music DNA. Believe me, it was far from a break! The Electronica project took over my life these past few years, and I'm delighted to have worked with so many wonderful musicians and to have made great friends along the way.

“ *I’m addicted to making and performing my music - it consumes my life daily* ”

Your recent releases, *Electronica 1: The Time Machine* and *Electronica 2: The Heart Of Noise*, have seen you collaborate with an eclectic mix of artists, including Hans Zimmer, Moby, Massive Attack, Pet Shop Boys and Edward Snowden. Can you tell us a bit about how that came about?

The project came from an idea I started some time ago, gathering around me musicians, artists and collaborators who’ve been and who are an ongoing source of inspiration to me - linked, directly or indirectly, to technology and electronic music covering different generations. Because everyone said yes, the project became much bigger than I had imagined, and I decided to divide *Electronica* into two separate albums. Volume one was released in October 2015, and volume two in May 2016 with another bunch of great collaborators. The essence of the double album was to physically travel to meet with those artists I’d invited on board, spending time in their working environment and sharing a creative process physically - merging our DNA through a piece of music. I composed the first demo for every artist with my fantasy of their music and touch in mind, to start from something as a platform, while leaving enough space for him or her to add their part.

Electronic music festival Sónar saw the world premiere of your new show back in June this year. Why Sónar?

Sónar is one of the most renowned electronic music festivals in the world, and they kindly invited me to headline this year’s edition, showcasing my new music and kicking off my brand new stage production.

You’re the pioneer of electronic music and were the first to create the experi-

ence of the multimedia concert as we know it today. What was the original inspiration behind the idea?

With electronic music, you are not confined to the acoustics of a concert hall, and that inspired me to bring my music performance outdoors. Also, I’ve always been inspired by architecture and how we perceive our environment, whether man-made or natural.

That’s where the idea initially came from for my *Cities In Concert* concept - hijacking a public space for a night and deploying all the tools available to me to create a unique sound-and-vision spectacle and experience.

Before your professional career, you studied classical musical composition and fronted punk act The Dustbins. Classical, electronic and rock/punk are all completely different sounds. Why did you choose to go down the electronic music route?

I am an explorer, a sound-hunter. I love all genres of music, but with technology, I discovered that I could also create something new sound-wise. My classical education was a great foundation to compose with sounds I could record from nature, voices and other means, creating my own notes and personal sound.

You’ve played a countless number of concerts throughout your four-decade career. Can you name some particularly memorable shows and venues?

That’s not easy to answer for me, as all of my concerts and shows are quite singular and memorable, but this year is the 30th anniversary of the Houston concert which I did with NASA in front of the amazing downtown skyline of skyscrapers. The London Docklands concerts were also a most memorable moment, as was Millennium Night at

the Great Pyramids. Now Birmingham hopefully will be another great moment!

Your album, *Oxygène*, was released by a French independent label, having previously been turned down by every major record label. What were their reasons for rejecting it?

At the time, *Oxygène* was considered a totally ‘far out’ concept. What was ‘in’ at the time was disco, hard rock and the early days of punk. And moreover, *Oxygène* was instrumental. And I was French!

The album has since gone on to sell 12 million copies and was presumably one of the pinnacle moments of your career...

Oxygène was the meteorite that indeed launched my career, and this year is its 40th anniversary, for which I have plans to celebrate, but cannot say more at this moment. Watch this space!

You’ve compared music to a ‘hard drug’. Can you explain what you mean by this?

I’m addicted to making and performing my music - it consumes my life daily.

Your live concert is something spectacular, featuring synthesizers and large-scale audio-visual shows. Are there any plans to evolve it further?

I invite you to see the evolution on this tour!

And finally, what does the future hold for Jean-Michel Jarre?

The future is here and now.

.....
Jean-Michel Jarre plays Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, on Saturday 8 October.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sun 30 October

Since its formation in 1946, the RPO has operated under the directorship of some of the world's most respected conductors, Rudolf Kempe and Andre Previn included.

Based in the beautiful surroundings of Chelsea's Cadogan Hall, the orchestra is no stranger to the recording studio, regularly laying down soundtracks for films and enjoying a long partnership with many of the major commercial record companies.

The RPO's visit to Shropshire this month - forming part of its 70th anniversary schedule of concerts - sees it presenting a programme that includes the opening of Rossini's William Tell Overture and Sibelius' hugely engaging Symphony No 2. Solo violinist Carolin Widmann also makes a contribution to the evening, performing Mendelssohn's highly praised Violin Concerto.

The RPO's principal associate conductor, Alexander Shelley (pictured), is the man with the baton.



BBC Philharmonic

Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Fri 14 October



The BBC Philharmonic is no stranger to Stoke-on-Trent, regularly presenting Victoria Hall concert-goers with much-loved works from its impressive repertoire.

This season-opening performance sees talented young conductor Ben Gernon being joined by virtuosic violinist Jennifer Pike (pictured), who plays Sibelius' Violin Concerto.

The programme also features Mozart's Symphony No 25 in G minor and Dvorak's Symphony No 8 in G major...

The orchestra returns to Victoria Hall on 9 December to play Dvořák, Chopin, Mussorgsky and Tchaikovsky. Their early-2017 visits see them playing Haydn, Mozart and Sibelius on 10 February and Berlioz, Elgar and Mussorgsky on 3 March.

The Swingles

Allington Hall, Shrewsbury School, Sat 8 October

The Swingles originated in the early 1960s, when American-born vocalist and jazz musician Ward Swingle brought together a number of Parisian session singers to perform Bach's keyboard music.

In the 50-plus years which have followed, the group have inevitably undergone numerous personnel changes. They've also extended their musical repertoire to include pop songs and contemporary music, released more than 50 recordings, won five Grammy awards and contributed to numerous film and television soundtracks, including Glee, Grey's Anatomy, Milk and Sex And The City.

They visit Shrewsbury having recently performed in San Francisco and prior to shows in Sweden and Italy.



The King's Singers

Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Wed 19 October



The Grammy Award-winning King's Singers are no strangers to a busy concert schedule, regularly touring to countries across the globe and in the process performing at some of the world's greatest concert venues, including Sydney Opera House and Carnegie Hall.

Always looking to create programmes both to perform and record, they've commissioned over 200 works, including landmark pieces from numerous leading contemporary composers. They've also commissioned arrangements of everything from jazz standards to pop chart hits, exploring medieval motets and Renaissance madrigals along the way.

City Of London Sinfonia

Lichfield Cathedral, Fri 7 October



With its mission to 'create dynamic, engaging and outstanding musical experiences for people of all ages and backgrounds', the City Of London Sinfonia this month touches down in Lichfield's cathedral to perform a programme of Great British Choral Anthems, including Handel's widely admired Zadok The Priest. The ensemble is joined for the occasion by the cathedral's very own choir. It also performs Bach's Suite No. 3 in D, which contains possibly his best-known piece of music, Air On The G String.

An anthem especially written for the Sinfonia's tour by renowned British composer James MacMillan completes the programme.

Stephen Layton and Ben & Cathy Lamb conduct.

★ ★ ★
Christmas
 At The Shropshire

OUR FAMOUS PARTY NIGHTS
 from £19.95 Including
 3 course meal, Disco until 1am
 Casino Tables and Photo Booth

Christmas Day Luncheon
 Adults £54.95, Children £22.95

Boxing Day Carvery
 Adults £16.95, Children £9.95

New Years Eve £44.95 per person
 Including 3 course meal, Disco until 1am
 Casino Tables and Photo Booth

The Shropshire Golf Centre
 Granville Park, Muxton, Telford,
 Shropshire, TF2 8PQ.

Telephone: **01952 671968**
a.goodban@theshropshire.co.uk

www.theshropshire.co.uk



THE 2016 BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL TATTOO



Experience the Pageantry & Spectacle of Britain's Biggest Indoor Tattoo

Massed International Bands
 Massed Parade of Standard Bearers
 Exciting Displays & Thrilling Performances
 Three hours of spectacle for all the family
FEATURING OVER 1,000 PERFORMERS IN THE SPECTACULAR GRAND FINALE

Saturday 26th November 2016 at 6pm
 Sunday 27th November 2016 at 2pm
Box Office 0844-338-8000
 Special discounts available for groups of 10+
Group bookings: 0800-358-0058

www.birminghamtattoo.co.uk




 **barclaycard arena**
 Birmingham

formerly
 The NIA
 Birmingham

 **EX CATHEDRA**
Jeffrey Skidmore
 Vocal excellence made in Birmingham

Bach
Mass in B Minor

From moments of majesty, ablaze with trumpets and drums, to movements of serenity, Bach's epic setting of the Mass is a breathtaking achievement – not to be missed.

Sunday 6 November, 4pm
 Town Hall, Birmingham

Call 0121 780 3333
 or book online
www.excathedra.co.uk




 **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**

 **Birmingham City Council**

WORLD CLASS ENTERTAINMENT



COMEDIC TOUR DE FORCE

ADAM HILLS: CLOWN HEART

SAT 1 OCT



POP OPERA SENSATIONS

LA VOCE

FRI 21 OCT



THE UK'S NO. 1 ROCK 'N'
ROLL VARIETY SHOW

THAT'LL BE THE DAY

WED 5 OCT



FORMER WESTLIFE
FRONTMAN

SHANE FILAN

SUN 23 OCT



ONE OF THE UK'S MOST
SUCCESSFUL BANDS

LEVEL 42

THU 6 OCT



CALL ME PSYCHIC

SALLY MORGAN

MON 24 OCT



PUBLICAN. POLITICIAN.
PHILOSOPHER

AL MURRAY

SUN 9 OCT



JOURNEY THROUGH
SPACE AND TIME WITH

PROFESSOR BRIAN COX

WED 26 OCT



THE GREATEST
TRIBUTE OF ALL

WHITNEY: QUEEN OF THE NIGHT

THU 13 OCT



AUTHENTIC, TENDER
AND PASSIONATE

LA BOHÈME

THU 27 OCT



THAT GUY FROM THE
TV COMEDY SHOWS

JOSH WIDDICOMBE

SAT 15 OCT



GET READY
TO ROCK WITH

THE ILLEGAL EAGLES

THU 27 OCT



UNANIMOUSLY ACCLAIMED
SPINE-CHILLER

THE WOMAN IN BLACK

TUE 18 - SAT 22 OCT



BARRY STEELE &
FRIENDS IN

THE ROY ORBISON STORY

FRI 28 OCT

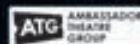


REGENT THEATRE & VICTORIA HALL
STOKE-ON-TRENT

ATG TICKETS 0844 871 7649 (Fees apply)

www.atgtickets.com/stoke (Fees apply)

Calls cost 7p per minute plus your phone company's access charge



Aneckxander

DanceXchange, The Patrick Centre,
Birmingham Hippodrome,
Fri 7 October

Cartwheels and nudity combine in this solo performance by Belgian dancer and circus artist Alexander Vantournhout.

"Aneckxander questions the way in which identity can be reduced to physical characteristics," explains Vantournhout. "I have two short legs, two short arms and a long neck, and it's these disproportions that I make use of to provide a creative answer to the reduction of identity."

The piece sees Vantournhout performing all manner of gymnastics as a means of conveying the way in which the body exposes itself to prying eyes; eyes from which it also tries to escape...



Jasmin Vardimon: Pinocchio

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sat 29 October



"I find unique curiosity in rediscovering this original 1883 classic tale," says Jasmin Vardimon in speaking about Carlo Collodi's famous story of Pinocchio. "The original novel allows us to critically examine the assumptions of ourselves and others about what it means to be human."

Jasmin's company here combines physical theatre and quirky characterisation with innovative technologies, text and dance to create a hugely accessible work.

"We have so many audience members telling us it's the first time they've ever seen dance, and that they didn't realise they'd enjoy it so much," says Jasmin. "You can see that they're emotionally attached or intellectually engaged and want to speak and talk about it more. And that's exactly what I always hope to do with my art. I want to make people think and ask questions; I don't want to give answers. At the end of the day, I see myself as a storyteller and communicator about things that are important to me."

Aditi Mangaldas Dance Company: Interrupted

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry,
Sun 30 October

"For kathak dance to be appealing to new audiences and young people," explains Indian dance revolutionary Aditi Mangaldas, "it's essential that their minds and their pre-conceived notions of classicism are challenged."

Mangaldas' latest kathak work is an exploration of 'fragility, disintegration and renewal'. Featuring seven dancers, it perfectly exemplifies the choreographer's ongoing commitment to the task of infusing traditional dance with modern sensibilities, combining 21st century sound, rhythm and light with an art form that's existed since at least 400 BCE.

"New audiences, young audiences, need to be drawn into a world of imagination," Aditi continues, "a world which engages them and demands their immediate attention. Dance is different from a book, a painting or a piece of music in that it's intangible - it's presented and then it's over and finished with. That's why it's so important to transport young viewers and transform their minds. One of the best ways to do that is to refashion a traditional dance form like kathak by producing contemporary work which is based upon it."



Romeo And Juliet

Albany Theatre, Coventry, Thurs 20 October;
Palace Theatre, Redditch, Sat 22 October;
The Core Theatre, Solihull, Wed 26 October;
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, Thurs 27 October;
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Wed 9 November;
Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, Thurs 19 January



Innovation is definitely the name of the game for Leicestershire dance company Ballet Theatre UK. The ensemble draw their inspiration from classical dance, theatre, popular culture and literature, all of which feed into their critically acclaimed productions of timeless ballets.

The company is this season joining the year-long celebrations to mark four centuries of Shakespeare's legacy by presenting this brand new version of Romeo And Juliet. Expect exquisite dancing, stunning costumes and imaginatively designed stage sets.

MICHAEL MORPURGO

talks about *Adolphus Tips*, the story of how 946 American soldiers lost their lives during World War Two...



At first glance *Adolphus Tips* seems a pretty grim story for a family audience. What made you choose it?

At first glance you're right. One of the great challenges of writing about serious subjects for young people is to find a way of telling the story without patronising, and without sentimentalising. In this case, I came across the story of a cat called Adolphus Tips who was owned by a farmer's daughter at Slapton. This cat had to be left behind when the family, along with hundreds and thousands of others, were moved from their homes and farms and villages so that the Americans could practise life-like landings from the sea on the beach at Slapton sands. The true story is that the families were gone from their houses over a year, and all that time Adolphus Tips, the family cat, was left in a live exercise area with bombs falling all around. The cat survived and was found again by the family when they came home after the D-Day landings, after all the American soldiers were gone. During these exercises, the US soldiers and local people got to know one another and to like one another, and it was during that year of exercises that Operation Tiger happened, during which German e-boats surprised the American ships and landed craft at sea and attacked them. Nine hundred-and-forty-six died, and this event was hushed up by the US and the British for a long time. So yes, a grim story, but on the other hand, a time when people from different lands and different cultures got to know one another well and when friendships were made. I concentrated my story on that family and the relationship between them and two black American GIs and their search for the missing cat, for the farmer's daughter. It was a way into telling the story, I felt, maintaining the seriousness of what happened, about the loss, but also about the love and the triumph of love over loss.



Michael Morpurgo



The story's about displaced people. Given the current situation regarding migrants and refugees, is there any significant message within Adolphus Tips that we may do well to heed in 2016?

Everyone in the story of Adolphus Tips is, for one reason or other, obliged to leave home. The Americans over here, thousands of miles from home and family. The farming families expelled from their houses and the evacuee children finding refuge in the village. So everyone in the story is in one sense a migrant, and everyone is supporting everyone else. Is there a message in that? I hope so.

Why Kneehigh?

What I love about Kneehigh is their wonderful inventiveness and the way they weave together wonderful acting and glorious music and song. And terrific dance, and a script that never puts a foot wrong.

Are the techniques and devices you use to engage a young reader different from the ones used to engage a young theatre-goer?

No difference. When you write or make a play for whatever audience, all that's important is that you mean it and that you write and act with total commitment, that you never talk down to any audience and treat them with the respect and sensitivity they deserve.

Earlier this year, Adolphus Tips was the first ever family-friendly production to be staged at the Globe, a theatre more usually associated with Shakespeare plays. What prompted the venue to choose the story for its first foray into family entertainment?

Emma Rice created the play last year for at

the Asylum at the wonderful Heligan Gardens in Cornwall, where Kneehigh put on some of their shows. It was a huge hit there, wonderfully received and universally acclaimed. Shortly afterwards, she was appointed as artistic director at the Globe, and I believe felt it important to reach out to a wider audience at that theatre, a brave and important decision. There will be many families who saw 946 at the Globe and loved the spirit and energy of it and will no doubt be back to see Shakespeare there.

For people who loved the stage version of War Horse and might be hoping that Adolphus Tips is a similar experience, in what ways will the production satisfy their desire?

In every way, but it is significantly different as a show, smaller in scale, more intimate, funnier, but like War Horse deals with serious issues. In War Horse, the puppets took centre stage and were huge. In 946, the puppets were important but not so significant in the production. They were also infinitely smaller, especially the sheep and the mice!

As with Adolphus Tips, you feature animals in a number of your stories. What do you feel they bring to your books?

I think for many children, an animal helps them go to places they would otherwise not venture into. With a dog, horse or cat as a companion, a young reader can empathise more readily, and so for a writer it does allow me to engage with subjects that might otherwise be too difficult or traumatic for younger readers. Also, I am fascinated by the relationship between animals and humans and how it affects us. How we can give and receive affection and trust.

Which of your books is your favourite?

All my books are special to me - they are all my babies if you like. Often it's the latest one that I've written that's my favourite. I'd been dreaming it for so long, living and breathing its story, so that when it finally arrives as a newly published book, smelling wonderful and fresh out of the box, there is nothing like it. However, if I was to mention some favourites, War Horse would be up there, and the prequel to War Horse - Farm Boy - and Private Peaceful. War Horse is my wife's favourite too and that means a lot.

Is there a children's book that you wish you'd written?

I wish I'd written The Iron Man, which I admire because of its epic quality, its economy of writing and the beauty of the language.

What advice would you give to a would-be writer of children's stories?

Write from the heart and get it down, without worrying too much. Settle on an idea that you care about, that you're really passionate about, then research around it and dream it out in your mind. Don't plan out the plot too much, rather let it emerge as you write. Try and live inside your story, hear and feel it all around you and become the characters.

.....

946: The Amazing Story Of Adolphus Tips is at Birmingham Rep from Thursday 6 until Saturday 15 October and Warwick Arts Centre from Tuesday 8 until Saturday 12 November

Dane Baptiste

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Sat 8 October;
Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Sun 30 October

With a new sitcom hitting TV screens recently and this touring show enjoying a positive response from critics and audiences alike, it's fair to say 2016 is working out well for Dane Baptiste.

It's certainly been a whirlwind couple of years for the London-born funnyman. In 2014, he became the first ever black comedian to be nominated for the Foster's Best Newcomer Award at the Edinburgh Fringe, a success achieved with his debut solo show, *Citizen Dane*.

"This is my second show," says Baptiste of the currently touring *Reasonable Doubt*, "so essentially it's like my second album. And the pressure's cranked up because the first show did so well. I've pretty much always wanted to be a comic, so there's no alternative for me - I've got to make sure this goes well..."



Six of the best...

Kerry Godliman

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 8 October; The Glee Club, Birmingham, Fri 14 October

Comedian and actress Kerry Godliman's new

touring show, *Stick Or Twist*, zeroes in on why people take certain decisions and make particular choices - especially when it comes to that potentially life-transforming (or ruining) moment when they start to think about moving house, city or country.

"I was prompted by whether I should move out of London with my family," explains Kerry, "but it opens up beyond that to why people live where they live. Some people choose it, others are forced to stay where they are or forced to move. Whether I'm happy where I live is the \$64million question."

Kerry's TV work includes the Ricky Gervais comedies *Extras*, *Life's Too Short* and *Derek*. She appeared in the latter as care home manager Hannah.



Sam Simmons

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 14 October

Junkie seagulls, cherry tomatoes on a train station platform and the heavily medicated years of Brian Wilson featured among the subjects visited by Aussie funnyman Sam Simmons when he performed his latest show, *Not A People Person*, in Edinburgh this summer.

Having last year bagged the Foster's Edinburgh Comedy Award and the Barry Award at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, great things were understandably expected at the 2016 Fringe - although the show did prompt a surprisingly mixed bag of reactions.

Sam's style of comedy is off the wall, to say the least. If you've enjoyed him before, this Midlands gig is an event not to miss; if you're a first-timer, get yourself along, take a suitably open mind with you and, in accordance with Sam's motto, embrace the chaos.



Miles Jupp

Birmingham Town Hall, Sat 29 October

Once described by the Evening Standard as having the distracted air of bewildered you might expect of a man 'who'd fallen asleep in the 1950s to the sound of cricket on the village green and had only very recently woken up', Miles Jupp wears tweeds and is posh. He's also a hugely popular stand-up comedian, entertaining his audience with a style of presentation that's disarmingly polite (given which fact, it's perhaps a little surprising that one of his best chums on the circuit is the bile-spewing Frankie Boyle!). Miles is visiting the Midlands with his latest touring show, *Songs Of Freedom*. Expect ungainly attempts at being laddish and opinions on all manner of subjects, from astronauts and poo to lost stuff and other stuff.



Rich Hall

New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme; Mon 3 October; The Glee Club, Birmingham, Tues 4 October; William Aston Hall, Wrexham, Thurs 6 October; Theatr Hafren, Newtown, Powys, Fri 7 October; The Place, Telford, Shropshire; Thurs 13 October; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 21 October

His official biography somewhat less than modestly describes American funnyman Rich Hall as 'a comic genius', albeit a 'grouchy, deadpan' one. It also explains that he 'quit his job as a hurricane-namer for the United States meteorological service' more than two decades ago - since which time, it's fair to say, the sun has been smiling rather warmly on the hugely talented Virginian.

With much of his comedy centring on making fun of life across the pond in his homeland, Rich is perhaps best known for his creation of Otis Lee Crenshaw, a bourbon-swilling red-neck jailbird from Tennessee whose many wives have all been named Brenda.

Rich's jokes include: "A hotel mini-bar allows you to see into the future and find out what a can of Pepsi will cost in 2020".



Mark Watson

Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent, Fri 7 October; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa, Thurs 13 October

A regular contributor to the

Edinburgh Fringe, Mark Watson has the curious distinction of having performed stand-up shows which have lasted for a period in excess of 24 hours.

"Comedy is certainly a time-consuming element of my life," he admits, "but then while I'm out touring and on stage, I'm not having to do the far less glamorous things at home. There have certainly been times when I've been very happy to say, 'Of course I'd like to stay and help out with that plumbing crisis, but Burton awaits!'"



Zoe Lyons

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Thurs 27 October

High on confidence and blessed with a razor-sharp wit, Zoe Lyons creates funny routines based on astute observation of life's absurdities.

Her latest show, titled Little Misfit, looks back on her experiences as the 'awkward gay kid at school' whose feeling of being different was heightened by a severe bout of alopecia and, consequently, a less-than-attractive comb-over. She also harboured secret desires for Charlie's Angels - "The blonde one mostly," she admits, "but with a comb-over, who can afford to be fussy? Described by one reviewer as 'Alan Bennett on speed', Zoe's jokes include: 'The old blind fisherman liked nothing more than coming home and putting on a pair of his favourite kippers.'"



Joel Dommett

The Glee Club, Birmingham, Fri 21 October; Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Sat 29 October

"I absolutely love performing in small, intimate

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

Joe's extremely committed to the business of keeping his act fresh. "I'm working on material pretty much all the time," explains the one-time warm-up act for Justin Bieber whose television work includes Skins, Live In Chelsea and Impractical Jokers UK. "In fact, I try to put in something new every time I go on stage. If there's something new in there, it brightens up the whole set and gives it more energy and excitement."



FESTIVE DAYS OUT

From 32 boarding points

BLenheim PALACE & CRAFT FAIR

Fri 18 November £47.50 per person

TISSINGTON HALL DRESSED FOR CHRISTMAS

Tue 22 November £54.50 per person

LONDON CHRISTMAS CRUISE & LONDON EYE

Mon 21 November £68.50 per person

WORCESTER VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Fri 25 November £26.50 per person

LONDON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & SIGHTS

Mon 28 November £65.50 per person

CHRISTMAS AT ROCKINGHAM CASTLE

Tue 29 November £46.50 per person

CHRISTMAS WITH MR SELFRIDGE

Thu 1 December £60.50 per person

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN AT KINGS CROSS THEATRE

Thu 1 December £72.50 per person

MELTON MOWBRAY VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Sun 4 December £53.50 per person

LONGLEAT FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

Tue 6 December £56.50 per person

WURLITZER CONCERT & MUSICAL MUSEUM

Wed 7 December £57.50 per person

EAST LANCs RAILWAY & CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Thu 8 December £73.50 per person

TOWER OF LONDON MEDIEVAL CHRISTMAS

Mon 12 December £68.50 per person

CHATSWORTH HOUSE DRESSED FOR CHRISTMAS

Wed 14 December £47.50 per person

HARDWICK HALL DRESSED FOR CHRISTMAS

Fri 16 December £41.50 per person

CHRISTMAS CRACKER AT CADOGAN HALL, LONDON

Sun 18 December £64.50 per person

CINDERELLA PANTO AT LONDON PALLADIUM

Sat 14 January £79.50 per person

Call for
your FREE
copy of our
brochure



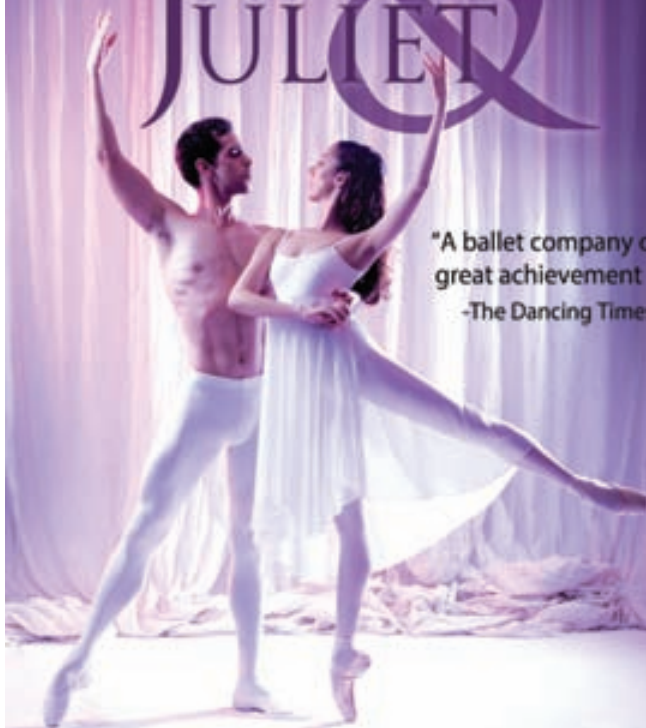
JOHNSONS
QUALITY COACH TRAVEL

Call now to book or book online

0845 485 7365

www.johnsonskoaches.co.uk

BALLET THEATRE UK ROMEO & JULIET



"A ballet company of
great achievement"
-The Dancing Times

Palace Theatre, Redditch - Sat 22nd Oct 7.30pm - 01527 65203

The Core Theatre, Solihull - Wed 26th Oct 2.30 & 7.30pm - 0121 704 6962

The Albany, Coventry - Thurs 20th Oct 7.30pm - 024 7699 8964

Prince Of Wales Theatre, Cannock - Thurs 27th Oct @ 7.30pm - 01543 578762

SHOUT FESTIVAL OF QUEER ARTS AND CULTURE BIRMINGHAM



10-20 NOVEMBER 2016
FOR FULL LISTINGS VISIT
WWW.SHOUTFESTIVAL.CO.UK

Birmingham Comedy Festival

Tickling the ribs of Midlanders since 2001, this annual event is one of the longest-running comedy festivals in the UK. Previous contributors include Peter Kay, Lee Evans, Michael McIntyre, Lenny Henry, John Bishop, Miranda Hart and Jimmy Carr. The festival returns this month to provide another 10 days of marvellous mirth across the city, and features performances by Justin Moorhouse, Simon Munnery, Kerry Godliman, Tony Law, Jason Byrne and many more... Birmingham Comedy Festival runs from 7 to 16 October at various venues across the city.

Here are just a few of our festival favourites. For full listings visit whatsonlive.co.uk

Birmingham Comedy Festival Breaking Talent Award

The Glee Club,
Fri 7 October

Birmingham comedy legend Jasper Carrott is among the judges running the rule over a hand-picked selection of emerging acts from across the West Midlands. The competitors have been selected for their 'gag-writing skills, observational chops, deft delivery and potential to break out'.



STAND-UP

Barry Bling, Mr Velvet And The Orchestra Of Chaos

The Spotted Dog,
Digbeth, Fri 7 October

Local lads Barry Bling (on keyboards) and Mr Velvet, pictured, (on drums) are the rather small Orchestra Of Chaos, presenting an act that's often been described as 'Pulp Fiction meets Phoenix Nights'. Their Birmingham Comedy Festival appearance sees the boys performing their first ever musical odyssey, from the Swinging '60s to the 21st century.



MUSICAL ODYSSEY

Rough Works

The Glee Club,
Sun 9 October

A presentation of new material from Midlands comics, Rough Works is curated by Birmingham's very own Jo Enright. Alongside her stand-up career, Jo's also an actor, appearing in television comedy series including Phoenix Nights, I'm Alan Partridge and Life's Too Short.



STAND-UP

Neighbourhood Watch

Cherry Reds,
Tues 11 October

The official publicity for Neighbourhood Watch carries the warning that 'this show will make you laugh out loud a lot!' Described as 'an eccentric, madcap, character comedy show', the production features Brassy Brenda, the Bumsville villagers, bingo, songs and ample opportunities for audience participation.



COMIC THEATRE

LoveHard: Murdered By Murder

The Victoria,
Tues 11 October

No strangers to the Birmingham Comedy Festival, madcap double-act LoveHard make a welcome return with a 1930s-set tale of a murder-mystery party that goes horribly wrong. Expect an absorbing night of laughter-inducing mayhem.



COMIC THEATRE

Simon Munnery

The Victoria,
Tues 11 October

Simon Munnery's latest show features 'an opening to die for, seven wry observations, a tone poem, four fresh skits and two new commandments'.

His bag of gags include: "Beware the smile of a waiter. It means he's pissed in your soup," and "In love, as in fighting, the winner has an eight-foot pole".



STAND-UP

Atomic Magic

The Electric Cinema,
Thurs 13 October

Thom Peterson's alter ego of The Amazing Guy isn't to be confused with your common-or-garden superhero. There's no catching of speeding bullets in his bare hands. What there is, however, is a level of mind-twisting, wow-factor magic that's seen him become a regular performer at Hollywood's world famous Magic Castle. And this being the BCF, you can expect plenty of 'uproarious comedy' too.

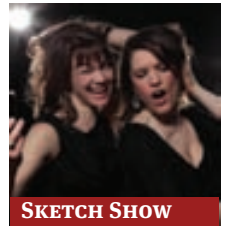


STAND-UP

Croft And Pearce

Old Joint Stock
Theatre,
Sat 15 October

Hannah Croft and Fiona Pearce are certainly creating a splash in the sketch-show world at the moment. Much admired at the Edinburgh Fringe, the duo last year won the BBC Audio Drama Award for Best Scripted Comedy after participating in Radio Four's Sketchorama, a success that earned them their very own show.



SKETCH SHOW

Tony Law

The Station Pub,
Suttoncoldfield,
Fri 14 October

Zany alternative comedy is Canadian funnyman Tony Law's stock-in-trade, a fact which means his audience is guaranteed an evening of truly off-the-wall, boundary-defying stand-up. Jokes include: "My kid was looking at me with doey eyes - we'd been baking that morning".



STAND-UP

Memories Are Made Of This

Million Dollar Quartet, the Vegas, West End and Broadway hit, arrives in the Midlands

The fourth of December 1956. Record producer Sam Phillips makes musical history by uniting four rock'n'roll icons at his Sun Records Studio in Memphis, Tennessee.

Inspired by an astonishing real-life event, Million Dollar Quartet brings to life on stage the legends that are Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins.

Following successful runs in Vegas, the West End and on Broadway, this smash-hit musical is visiting Malvern Theatres and Birmingham Hippodrome this month as part of a new UK tour directed by Ian Talbot. We spoke to Talbot to find out more.

"What I've tried to do with this version is make it less like a concert and more like a play with music," he says. "In previous productions on Broadway and in the West End, they've had stand mics down the front, which they'd go to every time they came to do a number. They don't do that in this version - it's more about exploring the relationships between the four singers and Sam Phillips. One of our cast members has been in the show in Vegas for four years, and our Musical Director, John Mayer, worked on it in London, and they both say that this production is entirely different."

By placing the relationships between the characters centre stage, Talbot is able to explore each one individually in greater depth, drawing out the personalities behind the public personae.

"What I've tried to cultivate is distinct personalities. Carl is kind of the moody one, Johnny is the silent one, Jerry is really

bumptious and never shuts up, and at this point in his career, Elvis is still an extremely polite, shy young man. It's almost hard to believe it when you think of all those pictures of him at the end of his career, bloated and addled with drugs and so on. But that's what he was like at this point. Sam Phillips I see as quite a grisly, tough guy who wants to control them all. He's very possessive."

It might create moments of inspiration or even genius, but to some extent, putting four megastars together in one room is bound to lead to clashes. For the most part, this is a laid-back jamming session where all of the musicians get their chance to shine, but it's certainly not without its tensions.

"I actually didn't know until I came to direct the play that Blue Suede Shoes was originally written and recorded by Carl Perkins, and that he'd already had a hit with it before Elvis did. One day, when Carl was on his way to perform the song on The Perry Como Show, he got caught in a really bad car accident. Later, while he was still lying in hospital, he was watching television and up came Elvis singing Blue Suede Shoes on The Ed Sullivan Show. Pretty much from then on, whenever Carl sang it, everybody thought he was covering Elvis. So there's quite a bit of animosity between them."

Nevertheless, if there's one thing to unite people, it's a common grievance, and even Carl and Elvis are brought together by their mutual irritation with another member of the quartet.

"I think all of them would quite like to



bump Jerry Lee Lewis on the head,” laughs Talbot. “He’s just so cocky - any opportunity, he’ll pop up and say, ‘Oh, shall I play you another song?’ or ‘I’ve done this...’ or ‘I’m gonna be the best!’ And indeed he was, but he creates quite a lot of the humour in the piece.”

Nicknamed ‘The Killer’, Lewis was once described as ‘rock & roll’s first great wild man’ and is widely acknowledged to be one of popular music’s most influential pianists. At the age of 80, he’s now the one surviving member of the quartet, and remains musically active to this day.

“Apparently he’s still as erratic as ever. I think he’s cultivated that. From what I hear, he’s quite deaf, and when he’s waiting to give a performance he just sits in a corner quietly, until somebody comes and says, ‘Okay Jerry, you’re on’. Then suddenly this miracle happens and he leaps to the floor, plays the piano and then scuffles back and sits in his corner again.”

Lewis might ruffle a few feathers in his way, but there’s deeper trouble brewing at Sun Records. As an independent producer with relatively limited resources, Sam Phillips made himself the envy of the big guns like RCA and Columbia with his talent-spotting ability. Unfortunately, his work was such a soaring success that it wasn’t long before his boys became too big for him.

“The story really revolves around how Sam Phillips built Sun Records. At this point, he’s hoping to get Johnny Cash to renew his contract, but what he doesn’t know is that both Cash and Perkins are going off to Colombia

Of course, we also know that Elvis left Sun Records too, at which point the Colonel took over his career, and he started making what many people see as pretty awful movies - a lot of people would say that he sold out.

“Sun Records is very small in comparison with RCA and Columbia, but Phillips hangs on to it like a terrier with a bone. He really did discover all these stars, and during the play he also mentions that he’s just signed up a guy called Roy Orbison, so he obviously had this great knack for spotting people. All the big record companies want to know how he does it, and of course he won’t tell them, which amuses him no end.”

In addition to the five men, there’s also a sixth, female character - Elvis’ girlfriend who, within the context of the show at least, is a singer called Dyanne.

“Dyanne has come with Elvis because she’s going to meet his parents, and my take on her is that she’s the most sensible of the lot of them. When you get these five men together, there’s an element of them all behaving like overgrown schoolboys, whereas she’s got a wise head on her shoulders. It’s her that’s able to get Sam Phillips to calm down, and when Jerry Lee tries to come on to her, she gives him this withering put-down and he immediately sits down and feels rather silly. But she’s still ‘one of the boys’ in the sense that she’s got a fantastic voice, and she sings two hit numbers, Fever and I Hear You Knocking.”

This isn’t strictly true to life. In reality, the girlfriend Elvis brought with him to the recording session was a dancer from Vegas

called Marilyn Evans.

“I think she was probably more of a showgirl than the play indicates, but she stayed very quiet and never used the publicity. There’s an iconic photograph of her sitting on the piano, but after that she just sort of disappeared.”

But if Million Dollar Quartet takes some liberties with the truth, it’s all in the name of good storytelling and creating an exhilarating live experience that has thrilled audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. It might not be the first jukebox musical of recent years, but it might just be one of the most irresistible.

“I think a lot of [the rise of jukebox musicals] is about nostalgia - I know I love Jersey Boys because that was my era. But I think when they fail is when they take all those songs and try to pin them to a story that isn’t very good. This show has a great book, but also every song that’s sung is a huge hit. There’s a great sort of mega mix at the end which is in the form of a concert, culminating in Jerry Lee Lewis doing Whole Lotta Shakin’ Goin’ On, and I defy anybody to stay in their seat by the end. Above all, this is the sort of show that you can’t help coming out of with a big smile on your face, which I think is quite a nice thing in this time we live in.”

.....

Million Dollar Quartet is at Malvern Festival Theatre from Monday 17 until Saturday 22 October, and Birmingham Hippodrome from Monday 24 until Saturday 29 October.

946: The Amazing Story Of Adolphus Tips

The REP, Birmingham, Thurs 6 - Sat 15 September;
Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Tues 8 - Sat 12 November

Lily Tregenza's life on a farm in Slapton is pretty idyllic, even though beyond the picturesque seaside village's boundaries the Second World War is raging. Lily's dad is away and her school is being attended by evacuee children - but other than that, her world remains untouched by the terrible conflict. Until, that is, the villagers are told to leave their homes so that the allies can use Slapton to practise their landings for D-Day. When Lily's cat finds her way beyond the 'keep out' signs and through the barbed wire, the 12-year-old girl thinks little of her own safety as she searches for her beloved pet...

Michael Morpurgo's delightful story is here presented by the ever-inventive Kneehigh theatre company, who cleverly combine music, puppetry and 'foolishness' to recount a tale that's been described by The Times as a life-affirming piece of theatre.



Method In Madness

The Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham,
Thurs 20 - Friday 21 October



Any actress who accepts the role of Hamlet's Ophelia needs to be ready and able to undertake a necessary plunge into her own psyche. So when a young Hollywood starlet in Blitz-ravaged London struggles to connect with Shakespeare's enigmatic and ultimately tragic character, she turns for salvation to 'method acting', a technique that sees the actor aspire to complete emotional identification with the role they're playing. Her resulting performance is sensational - but it isn't long before the boundaries between theatre and her own reality become disturbingly blurred...

Fusing Shakespearean text and new writing with physical theatre, dance and mask/puppetry work, Method In Madness is presented against a soundtrack of haunting music by folk singer-songwriter Laura Marling.

The Rocky Horror Show

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham,
Mon 10 - Sat 15 October

Hook up your fishnets, tighten your corsets and prepare to 'do The Time Warp again' - The Rocky Horror Show is returning to Birmingham.

Richard O'Brien's cult production tells the tale of the straight-laced Brad and the deliciously corruptible Janet, who arrive at the castle of alien transvestite Frank N. Furter and witness the birth of the monster, Rocky. Along the way, they take the audience through a selection of love-'em-or-loathe-'em musical numbers, including Sweet Transvestite, Damn It Janet and The Time Warp.

Great fun's a guarantee - particularly if you get into the spirit of things and attend the show dressed in your very best stockings and suspenders (as many patrons do)!

This touring production stars The Voice's Liam Tamne as Frank N. Furter, S Club 7's Paul Cattermole as Eddie/Dr Scott and comedian Steve Punt as the Narrator.



Fall Out

mac, Birmingham, Tues 11 - Wed 12 October;
Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, Wed 19 - Thurs 20 October



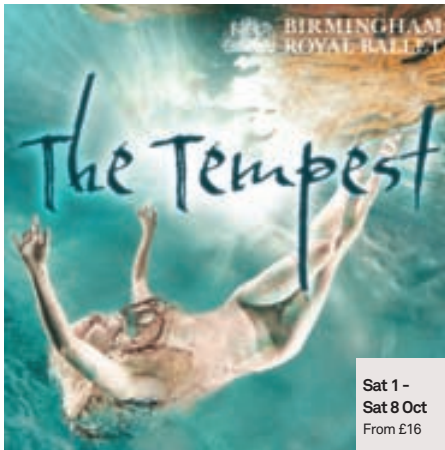
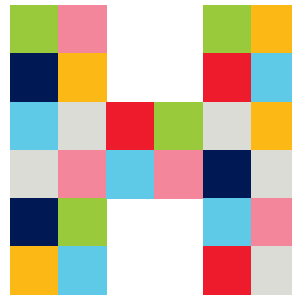
This latest work from Midlands-based Highly Sprung Performance Co has been produced in response to what the company describes as a growing concern about young people becoming disempowered - 'no longer having a voice, or control over their own future'. The story focuses on three teenagers on the roof of a nightclub, thrown together through circumstance, who're all searching for an answer to the same question - who, if anybody, cares? A young revolutionary named Jay thinks he knows how to bring about change: "Thousands of us," he says, "on the last day of exams - we're all gonna jump. They'll have to listen to us then, they'll have no choice..."

Set in empty studio spaces, Fall Out combines physical theatre performance with the experience of a club night.

"Audiences are invited to enter a nightclub," Highly Sprung explain. "Dance becomes interspersed with story, movement and dialogue, and action takes place around and above the audience. It's a self-contained, interactive, promenade experience."



BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME



H BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME

Everyone's Welcome

0844 338 5000 birminghamhippodrome.com

Calls cost 4.5p per min plus access charge. 5% transaction charge applies excluding cash sales in person.

The Sound Of Music

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
Tues 4 - Sat 8 October

One of the most popular family musicals of all time, Rodgers & Hammerstein's *The Sound Of Music* is best known, of course, from its mid-1960s film version starring Julie Andrews. It tells the story of the Von Trapp family's World War Two flight across the mountains of Austria, along the way featuring hit songs including *My Favourite Things*, *Do-Re-Mi*, *Climb Every Mountain* and *The Lonely Goatherd*.

This touring version of the show stars The Voice's Lucy O'Byrne as Maria and former Coronation Street actor Andrew Lancel as Captain Von Trapp.



On The Edge Of Me

Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton,
Thurs 13 October

"Stigmas such as gender, race and class are transcended by mental health issues," explains Yolanda Mercy, who fuses storytelling, poetry, live music and audience participation in this one-woman show. Although the production focuses on the subject of mental health in the context of graduate unemployment, Yolanda is keen to point out that she hopes the piece speaks to a wide audience. "It isn't a play that's exclusively for unemployed graduates," she says. "I hope *On The Edge Of Me* doesn't just re-educate but gives people something to identify with."



A Tale Of Two Cities

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
Wed 19 - Sat 22 October

Charles Dickens' name is probably best known to the wider population via all manner of Christmas Carol adaptations and the hugely successful stage musical version of *Oliver Twist*. But it's *A Tale Of Two Cities* - an epic story of love, sacrifice and redemption set during the turbulent days of the French Revolution - which the author himself con-

sidered to be his finest work.

Using the struggles of one particular family as a focal point, Dickens' explores the human drama of the revolution in all its myriad forms. And having had such rich and dramatic subject matter at his disposal, it's hardly surprising that the resulting story makes for compelling theatre. The show's music is provided by Oscar-winning composer Rachel Portman.

Seriously Dead

The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Shropshire,
Sat 15 October

Benidorm favourite Crissy Rock takes top billing in a new comedy that she co-wrote with Leah Bell, who also stars. When bank robber Albert Blunderstone returns home from abroad to attend a funeral, he runs into Betty, the former wife of his accomplice, a small-time crook called Nodger Wilson. Suddenly alert to the possibility of finally finding out what happened to his share of the loot, Albert befriends Betty and her husband, Billy Blenkinsopp. But as you might expect, the course of true crime never runs smooth... One-time *Emmerdale* actor Frazer Hines and comedian Billy Pearce co-star.



Henceforward...

New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme,
Tues 11 - Sat 29 October

Not exactly one of Alan Ayckbourn's best known or most performed plays, *Henceforward...* is a curious offering that's set in a futuristic world devoid of human contact.

With both his family and his inspiration gone, lonely composer Jerome Watkins is a desperate man - and it's hard to imagine that his deranged android childminder is ever likely to help him regain the person who matters most to him...

Alan Ayckbourn himself directs this much-anticipated revival of the 1987 comedy. It's presented by Scarborough's Stephen Joseph Theatre, of which Ayckbourn is the long-standing artistic director.

The Hound Of The Baskervilles

Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock,
Thurs 13 - Fri 14 October

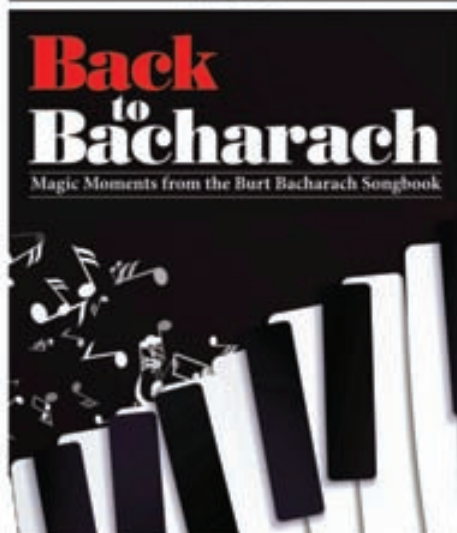
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes is one of literature's most enduring characters, *The Hound Of The Baskervilles* his most famous adventure. Yet no matter how many actors don the deerstalker and solve the mystery of the monstrous moorland beast, the story remains a popular choice for both stage and screen adaptation.

This latest version finds the ever-reliable Ambient Night Productions bringing a welcome dose of humour to the lonely wasteland of the desolate moors...

THU 27 OCT



FRI 28 OCT



SAT 29 OCT



TUE 1 - SAT 5 NOV



TUE 8 NOV



THU 10 NOV



FRI 11 NOV



SAT 12 NOV



TUE 15 - SAT 19 NOV



Follow us on @WolvesGrand Like us on Facebook: Wolverhampton Grand

Theatre

Blood Brothers

Birmingham Hippodrome,
Mon 10 - Sat 22 October

Although it's effectively a class-driven 'scouse melodrama', to describe Blood Brothers as such is to greatly underestimate the emotional response it produces within its audience.

This touring production stars one-time New Seeker Lyn Paul as Mrs Johnstone, an unfortunate mother compelled to give away one of her twins. The show also features adult actors playing children, a narrator who wanders through the scenes with warnings of impending doom, a good helping of sharp social awareness to counteract the sticky sentimentality and a raft of much-loved musical numbers, including Bright New Day, Marilyn Monroe and the emotionally charged Tell Me It's Not True.



Paradise Of The Assassins

Belgrade Theatre,
Coventry,
Thurs 13 - Sat 15
October

The former associate artistic director of Birmingham Repertory Theatre, Anthony Clarke, is the man behind this chillingly resonant stage adaptation of a century-old tale. Clarke's company, Theatre Accord, has teamed up with Tara Arts to present the story, written by Abdul Halim Sharar in 1899. Sharar's novel focuses on a young man named Hussain who finds himself faced with the decision of a lifetime - whether to live without his beloved Zamurrud or to join her in Paradise. But choosing the latter comes with a heavy price attached - if he wishes to be reunited with her, he must first join The Assassins...

This thought-provoking reflection on the price people are willing to pay for Utopia contains scenes of a violent nature and sexual references. As such, it's not recommended for anybody under the age of 12



described by the RSC as 'A Midsummer Night's Dream meets Fight Club', and with troubled lovers, woodland scenes and mortal combat all playing a part, it's easy to see why.

When Duke Theseus of Athens is victorious in battle with King Creon of Thebes, the 'two noble kinsmen' - cousins and Thebans Palamon and Arcite - find themselves imprisoned. Looking from their window, they see a beautiful woman with whom they both fall instantly in love. In so doing, they set in motion a chain of events that will see one of them win her hand in marriage and the other lose his head...

Women's Hour

Warwick Arts Centre,
Coventry,
Tues 25 - Wed 26
October

The female-led Sh!t Theatre are quite open about the fact that their on-stage product is intentionally a little bit, er, sh!t. Their style of presentation aims to be reflective of life - and life, too, can sometimes be a little bit... well, you get the drift.

A cabaret piece of 'giddy, freewheeling silliness', Women's Hour takes the format of Radio Four's morning magazine programme of a similar name. Along the way it makes the point that dedicating 60 radio minutes per day exclusively to women hardly constitutes a prime example of equality in action...



The show was a massive success in Edinburgh this summer, where it made fun of the radio programme its name recalls - "Next: Judi Dench talking about her menstrual cycle" - and presented such concepts as the pink, gender-specific Kinder Egg, complete with the surprise 'gift' of a message informing the not-so-lucky recipient that she's fat.

Commissioned by Camden People's Theatre, the show promises an evening of imaginative sketch-based comedy that hits the funny bone far more times than it misses.

Shooting With Light

Bridge House Theatre, Warwick,
Tues 11 October

The long-neglected story of pioneering photojournalist Gerda Taro is here presented via the use of innovative staging, physicality and multimedia.

Fleeing from Germany to Paris in the early 1930s, Taro soon found herself using her camera to record the tyranny of fascism in the Spanish Civil War. But it was the fellow refugee with whom she undertook the dangerous project, a man called Robert Capa, whose name would become synonymous with compelling and provocative war photography. Taro, meanwhile, would be all but forgotten...

Presented by the highly rated Idle Motion theatre company.



The Two Noble Kinsmen

Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon,
until Tues 7 February

Chaucer's Knight's Tale was Shakespeare's inspiration for this rarely performed tragicomedy, written in collaboration with John Fletcher only a couple of years before the Stratford bard's death.

This latest version of the play is being

JOHN BARROWMAN

as Dick Whittington

STEVE MCFADDEN THE KRANKIES

as King Rat

as Councillor & Jimmy Krankie

MATT SLACK JODIE PRENGER

as Idle Jack

as Fairy Bow Bells



The Magical Pantomime Adventure!

Mon 19 Dec 2016 - Sun 29 Jan 2017



BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME

0844 338 5000

Calls cost 4.5p per min, plus access charge

birminghamhippodrome.com



theatre for younger audiences...



Disney On Ice: Frozen

Disney On Ice: Frozen

Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham,
Tues 25 - Sun 30 October

Disney On Ice's latest extravaganza brings the snowy wastelands of the hugely popular movie Frozen to the Midlands this month. The company promises a production replete with 'dazzling' special effects and 'astonishing' skating - not to mention, of course, the cast of ever-popular characters from the Academy Award-winning film. But wait, there's more; Mickey and Minnie are on hand to host proceedings, with the Mouse House's beloved Princesses making guest appearances too. With characters from all-time favourites like Toy Story, Finding Nemo and The Lion King also getting their skates on, this is one winter wonderland that should definitely warm the cockles of any youngster's heart.

We're Going On A Bear Hunt

Old Rep, Birmingham,
Thurs 20 - Sat 22 October

Suitable for children aged two-plus, this Little Angel Theatre adaptation of Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury's popular picture book follows the exciting adventures of a family as they head out on an intrepid quest to find a bear. Catchy songs and enchanting puppets are combined with no shortage of swishy swashy grass and oozy, squelchy mud in a show that seems certain to keep youngsters entertained.

Dan TDM Tour

Birmingham Hippodrome, Sun 23 October

Coventry-based Daniel Middleton is one of the world's most viewed YouTube creators. A professional gamer who goes by the handle The Diamond Minecart (DanTDM), he has over 12 million subscribers and has accumulated around seven billion views across his two YouTube channels. Given such massive popularity, it's hardly



The Curious Adventures Of Pinocchio

surprising to find him embarking on his first ever live tour, bringing along with him his pugs, his close friend Dr Trayaurus and lots of other characters from his children-focused Diamond Minecart gaming channel. Plenty of bums on seats at these touring shows is pretty much a guarantee and will further swell an annual income that's estimated to be somewhere between £160,000 and £1.6million. Daniel's also got a graphic novel coming out this month - DanTDM: Trayaurus And The Enchanted Crystal.

The Adventures Of Walter Lemonface

mac, Birmingham, Sun 23 October

If you're looking for something a little different for your kids to enjoy, check this out. Walter Lemonface is a fun and friendly character with a lemon for a head. An older-than-the-hills adventurer, fearless inventor, connoisseur of carrots and hunter of rhubarb ogres, he lives in a purple shed at the bottom of a waterfall. And his adventures very much depend on the suggestions called out by the youngsters in the audience. The refreshingly imaginative 154 Collective are the company behind this hit show, a winning blend of live animation, music and storytelling that's suitable for children 'aged three to 93'.

The Curious Adventures Of Pinocchio

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry,
Fri 28 - Sat 29 October

A singular visual flair, an inventive use of props and an interactive approach to performance are the trademark features of Lyngo theatre company's productions for children.

This latest show brings to life the much-loved tale of the puppet-boy whose nose grows whenever he tells a porky-pie. CBeebies' Patrick Lynch is the man pulling the strings.



Penguin! Elephant!

Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton,
Sun 2 October; Bridge House Theatre,
Warwick, Sun 16 October

"Goblin theatre company believes that imagination inspires imagination," says its founder and producer, Matt Borgatti, "so we aim to create shows that will make young people want to tell stories, be characters, make up songs and remember the experience long after the performance finishes." Goblin's currently-touring show for children aged three-plus is an energetic celebration of 'difference', telling the story of a selfish penguin that has its black-and-white world turned upside down by the arrival of a big, messy, colour-loving elephant. Food based-mess, a 'magical' balloon ride and a fish-finger rap add to the fun.

Gangsta Granny

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
Wed 12 - Sun 16 October; Grand Theatre,
Wolverhampton, Wed 22 - Sun 26 March

The ever-popular Birmingham Stage Company make a welcome return with their critically acclaimed adaptation of David Walliams' best-selling book. Ben's no lover of Friday nights - and why would he be? After all, Friday night means having to stay at Granny's house, where he's not only bored senseless but also has to eat an unholy trinity of cabbage dishes - cabbage soup, cabbage pie and cabbage cake. But experiences can sometimes be deceptive, and Ben soon finds out that there's way more to his boring old Granny than he'd ever imagined...



Gangsta Granny

Saturday 12 November at 2.30 & 7.30pm

RETURNS AFTER TWO SELL OUT PERFORMANCES

CLASSIC . . . AFTER CLASSIC . . . AFTER CLASSIC

SPECTACULAR CLASSICS

MUSIC • LASERS • FIREWORKS

ELGAR *Nimrod*
GREIG *Morning and In the Hall of the Mountain King*
ORFF *O Fortuna! from Carmina Burana*
HANDEL *Zadok the Priest*
BRAHMS *Hungarian Dance No. 5*
BIZET *Duet from The Pearl Fishers*
RAVEL *Bolero*
ROSSINI *Largo al factotum from The Barber of Seville*
VERDI *Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves*
TCHAIKOVSKY *Finale from Swan Lake*

NESSUN DORMA *RULE, BRITANNIA!*
LAND OF HOPE AND GLORY

AND AN EXPLOSIVE
1812 OVERTURE

COMPLETE WITH CANNON EFFECTS
AND
INDOOR FIREWORK FINALE

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra City of Birmingham Choir
Alexander James Edwards *tenor* James Cleverton *baritone*
Anthony Inglis *conductor*

Sunday 13 November at 2.30pm

Simply GERSHWIN

MUSIC SONG DANCE

Broadway glamour and toe-tapping tunes
in an all-Gershwin extravaganza

RHAPSODY IN BLUE ♦ 'S WONDERFUL

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME ♦ FASCINATIN' RHYTHM

A FOGGY DAY IN LONDON TOWN ♦ LADY BE GOOD

I'VE GOT A CRUSH ON YOU ♦ STRIKE UP THE BAND

PORGY AND BESS EXCERPTS

GWENETH-ANN JEFFERS *guest singer* NJABULO MADLALA *guest singer* VIV MCLEAN *piano*
Plus a glamorous ballroom duo and two sensational tap dancers
GAVIN SUTHERLAND *conductor* LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA

SH SYMPHONY
HALL
BIRMINGHAM

SYMPHONY HALL - BIRMINGHAM

BOX OFFICE 0121 345 0600

thsh.co.uk

ENTERTAINMENT

CANNOCK CHASE

at the PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE

DECEMBER



George Critchley in association
with WLCT presents...



PSMA Productions

Jack

and the Beanstalk

22nd – 30th
December



KEITH DE' WINTER
as Dame Dolly



CBBC WOLFBLOOD'S
SHORELLE HEPKIN
back by popular demand as
The Fairy

Written and Directed by George Critchley
Musical Direction by Andrew Morrison

Supported by
STUDIO 5 DANCE
STUDIO (Rugeley)

Inspiring
healthy
lifestyles



Box Office
01543 578 762
princeofwales.live

For A Fabulous Festive Feast
Book Now For Beauty And The Beast!

EastEnders & Dancing on Ice Winner
SAM ATTWATER*

PSMA

Adam Daye
The Return of
TONY RUDD
Bad Girls & Emmurda
NICOLE FARADAY
NATALIE
TURNER
JAMES
MEUNIER

Beauty and the Beast

Monday 5 - Saturday 31 December 2016

Box Office:
01527 65203
www.redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk

Director Peter Rogers Musical Director Sam Banks

For full details of performance schedule & ticket
prices please go online or pick up a
leaflet/brochure from the theatre

THE
CORE

theatre solihull
formerly Solihull Arts Complex

Dick Whittington

TRADITIONAL
PANTOMIME
FUN FOR ALL
THE FAMILY!

GREAT
VALUE!
TICKETS
£16 - £19

Starring
Malcolm Stent
Sponsored by GALLAGHER
ESTATES

FRI 9 - SAT 31 DEC '16

www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk
Book: 0121 704 6962 (10.30am-4pm Mon to Sat)

A New Vic Theatre production

NEW VIC THEATRE

The SNOW QUEEN

A fairytale family christmas!

Family ticket just £66!

SAT 19 NOV - SAT 28 JAN
BOX OFFICE: 01782 717962
www.newvictheatre.org.uk

BLACK COUNTRY LIVING MUSEUM

Christmas Season

A season of events from 19 Nov - 24 Dec
West Midlands, DY1 4SQ
0121 520 8054

bclm.com/Christmas

Lichfield Garrick Theatre & Studio in association with Evolution Pantomimes present

Rebecca Keatley (CBeebies)
Ben Thornton
Sam Rabone
Ian Billings

Sleeping Beauty

1st - 31st December 2016
Our Most Spectacular Pantomime Ever!

PROUD SPONSORS

www.lichfieldgarrick.com | Box Office 01543 412121

BIRMINGHAM

Storms, spells & shipwrecks: Birmingham Royal Ballet present the world premiere of David Bintley's *The Tempest*

With 2016 marking one of the biggest Shakespeare milestones to date, it's little wonder that just about everyone's been getting stuck in to the 400th anniversary celebrations, particularly in the playwright's native West Midlands. Back in April, Birmingham Royal Ballet dancers Elisha Willis and Tyrone Singleton performed a preview from David Bintley's brand new Shakespeare Suite, which sets snapshots of Shakespeare's best-loved couples to a swinging Duke Ellington soundtrack. Then in July, the company revived John Cranko's lively 1969 ballet of *The Taming of the Shrew* to rave reviews

Now the BRB continues its focus on the Bard with a full season of shows inspired by some of Shakespeare's most iconic plays. Two sets of three short ballets sandwich the autumn season with a mix of new and established works by Bintley, José Limón, Frederick Ashton and Jessica Lang, but the jewel in its crown will be the world premiere of Bintley's full-length adaptation of *The Tempest*.

In some respects, it's hard to conceive a better choice to translate into a physical medium. Wild, wonderful and a little bit weird, Shakespeare's last solo play is set on an isolated island where Prospero, the former Duke of Milan, lives in banishment with his daughter, Miranda. There, he practises magic, conjuring island spirits to do his bidding, foremost among them the mysterious Ariel, whom Prospero rescues from captivity. Also under his command is the earthy island child Caliban, a "thing of darkness" born to the cruel witch Sycorax. Yet at the same time, *The Tempest's* complexity can make it an unwieldy and difficult piece to stage even as a play, let alone in other forms. Fortunately, the company's ever-inventive artistic director is well-equipped for the challenge.

"David is like a dramaturg as well as a

choreographer," says Iain Mackay, who plays the ageing magician Prospero. "He does allow us to find our own way, but he's so aware of the text and how he's going to bring out the story in dance that sometimes I think the best thing to do is just be led by him. If you want to understand how he wants it, one of the best things to do is just to watch him. He's amazing, especially with the acting: all of a sudden he just gets up and completely becomes the character – and then he does the other ones as well!"

"I think with a production like this, because the play is so complicated, probably half the people in the company have no idea what's going on for some of it!" says Jenna Roberts, who plays Miranda. "But when you're a lead character, you definitely need to know what the part entails and the emotions they're feeling. David did explain some of it – in the very first rehearsal we discussed what kind of person Miranda was, but I don't think he did that with everyone. I like to read about it, watch the play and watch movies so I can get a really good idea of them."

The storms, spells and shipwrecks that fill *The Tempest's* scenes demand bold creative choices – something at

which Bintley has always excelled. Among the more unusual aspects of this production is its extensive use of aerial choreography.

"We've done flying ballet before, but I guess that's what you'd call quite basic stuff. Generally you're up and off, like in *Aladdin* or *The Nutcracker*, whereas in this, it's very choreographic and there's the whole element of the character still moving in the way that he should," says Mackay.

"It seems difficult at first, but actually it's easier than I thought it was going to be. We have really, really good instructors," says Joseph Caley, who plays Prospero's shipwrecked nephew Ferdinand. "It's all about where you put your weight – the harness can really rub on your hips, but once you get the technique down, it's quite fun. I think for the Ariels, they have to do this sort of dive which can be quite difficult to control, just tipping your body and holding it there, whereas I do tumbling, so it's just somersaults."

"After I've done all my tumbling, we have these strange fish characters that grab on to me and start rocking me and moving me around. They've also put some bungee cord in so there's a kind of buoyancy effect to it. I'm sup-

ROYAL BALLET

posed to be drowning, basically – that's how I start," he adds.

"Just the thought of it's making me feel sick!" laughs Mackay. Fortunately for him, Prospero doesn't have to do any flying. In fact, as often as not, he's the one who's making other people fly.

In addition to the choreography, there's also the design to consider, and for this production, Bintley has assembled a stellar team, at the heart of which is award-winning War Horse designer Rae Smith.

"The designs are stunning. Hands down this is the best costume I've ever had!" says Mackay. "The first thing she showed me was a picture from a movie with Clive Owen in it, and I thought it was brilliant. I've got an amazing cloak, and there are all these incredible masks in it too. I think the guy who made them does things for Doctor Who and stuff like that. They're unbelievable!"

"I think they've tried to keep it sort of period-ish, but it's a stylised take on that," says Caley. "It can't be exact, because I've got to be able to move around and lift my arms up in it, but they're going for that look."

For most ballet dancers, starring in a world premiere would be something that happens only on an occasional basis, but at BRB, the company is accustomed to regularly taking on new creations and new challenges, keeping the dancers (quite literally) on their toes.

"It's part of what makes it good to be in this company – it's exciting, it's new and the rep's constantly changing," says Mackay. "If we did Swan Lake from now until next August we'd all be pulling our hair out, and I think so would the audiences."

"We've done quite a lot recently – we've had Cinderella and Aladdin too, but generally I guess it's not that common. We're really lucky to have David," Roberts agrees.

"The thing is, with a new production like this, we don't know how it's going to be. It's a journey for us as well. With anything else, you can go and watch YouTube videos of the dancers you love so you can see their take on it – I could go and look up how Carlos did something and wish that I could do it like him. Whereas if you've got something new that's come straight from the man at the front of the studio, you've got no idea what you're going to be doing," Mackay adds.

In this regard, the opportunities that BRB presents for young talent are almost unparalleled. Not only does being part of the company provide them with a steady position and a chance to work with one of Britain's most celebrated living choreographers, it's also a relatively small, tight-knit team where everyone gets a chance to shine on stage.

"We're not like the Royal Ballet – there's only 60 of us, and David often brings through young dancers. I've been here for 17 years now – I got my first principal role when I was 20," says Mackay. "It's a really talented company, and while David always picks whoever he thinks will be best for a role, he's got the luxury that everyone in the company is really strong. There are a lot of young members who are phenomenal, but also dancers that have been here a long time who are better than ever now."

.....
**Birmingham Royal Ballet perform
The Tempest at Birmingham Hippo-
drome from Saturday 1 until Satur-
day 8 October.**



Win!

To enter all competitions go to whatsonlive.co.uk

Tickets to Cabaret XXL: East End Cabaret



Closes Friday 14 October

Tickets to Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers



Closes Friday 14 October

A meal for 2 at Sabai Sabai, Stratford-upon-Avon



Closes Friday 28 October

Tickets to Gangsta Granny



Closes Wednesday 5 October

Tickets to A Tale of Two Cities



Closes Wednesday 12 October

Tickets to What Shadows



Closes Monday 24 October

Tickets to Ice Skate Birmingham



Closes Monday 14 November

A meal for 2 at Zen Metro, Birmingham



Closes Friday 28 October

A meal for 2 at El Borracho de Oro, Birmingham



Closes Friday 28 October

Tickets to The Mousetrap



Closes Monday 24 October

Tickets to Motorcycle Live



Closes Monday 7 November

Tickets to Vamos Cuba!



Closes Friday 21 October

**To enter all competitions go to whatsonlive.co.uk
also follow us on [Twitter](#) for more great competitions**

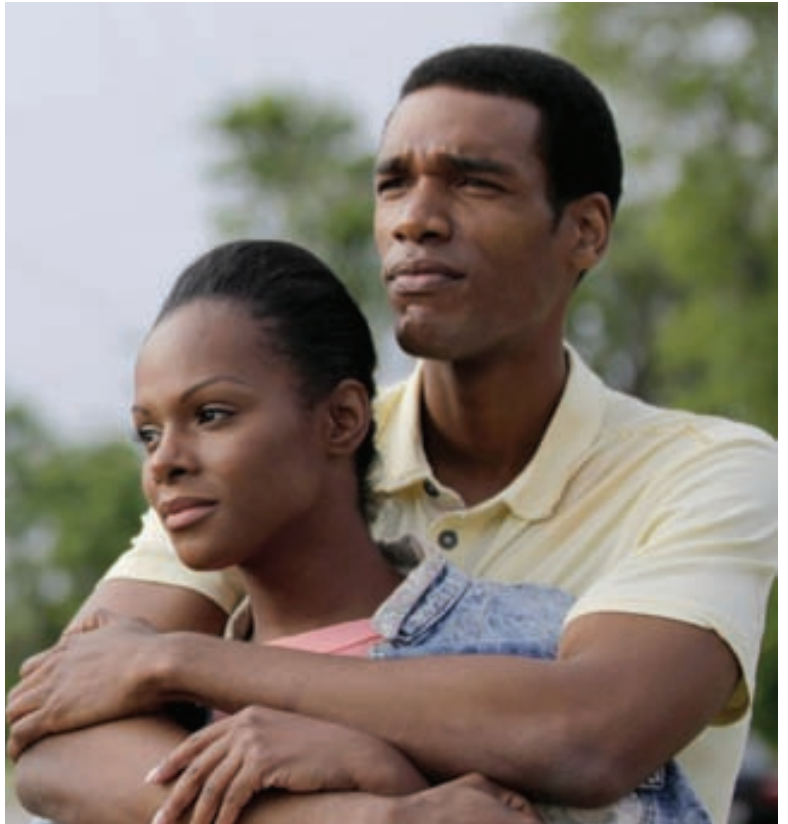
Film

Southside With You CERT 12a (84 mins)

Starring **Parker Sawyers, Tika Sumpter, Vanessa Bell Calloway** Directed by **Richard Tanne** (USA)

With just one month to go before the presidential blood-bath, this is one film that fans of the current administration will want to seek out. If you can imagine Richard Linklater's *Before Sunrise* trilogy peopled not by Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy but by Barack Obama and Michelle Robinson, then you will get the picture. It is 1989 on Chicago's Southside and the future commander in chief is working as a young law associate alongside the beautiful attorney Michelle. The young man is obviously smitten with his colleague and invites her out on a date disguised as a trip to a local community assembly. Throwing in a visit to an exhibition of Afro-Centric art and a picnic in the park, Barack has just a few hours to win the attorney's heart. If there's any justice in Hollywood, newcomer Parker Sawyers should be heading for an Oscar nomination for his performance as Obama - he not only nails the man's mannerisms but gives him a credible humanity, vulnerability and passion, to boot. The film - superbly written and directed by Richard Tanne - is also an intelligent look at what it was to be black and motivated in 1989 with no idea of what the future held.

Now showing



CRITIC'S CHOICE

Film highlights released in October...

The Girl On The Train

CERT 15 (112 mins)

Starring **Emily Blunt, Rebecca Ferguson, Haley Bennett, Justin Theroux, Luke Evans, Edgar Ramirez** Directed by **Tate Taylor** (USA)

Not to be confused with the 2009 French film of the same name, this thriller is based on the 2015 novel by Paula Hawkins. Emily Blunt plays a divorcee who, on the same train each day, fantasises about the couple just down the street from where she and her ex-husband used to live together. Then she witnesses something quite shocking...

Tate Taylor previously directed the award-winning *The Help* (2011).

Released Wed 5 October



Blood Father

CERT 18 (88 mins)

Starring **Mel Gibson, Erin Moriarty, Diego Luna, Michael Parks, William H Macy, Elisabeth Röhm** Directed by **Jean-François Richet** (France)

It all sounds rather familiar. An ex-con on parole attempts to bond with his estranged 17-year-old daughter while saving her from the clutches of some very nasty drug dealers. Although the film is technically French, it was shot in English in New Mexico.

Released Fri 7 October

War On Everyone

CERT 15 (112 mins)

Starring **Alexander Skarsgård, Michael Peña, Theo James, Tessa Thompson, Caleb Landry Jones, Paul Reiser** Directed by **John Michael McDonagh** (UK/Ireland)

The corrupt cops Terry Monroe (Skarsgård) and Bob Bolaño (Peña) don't mess around. If they can't catch their man, they'll frame him. Then they come across an adversary who's even meaner than they are. Possibly. We expect great things from this, as the director previously brought us *The Guard* and *Calvary*. Shot in New Mexico.

Released Fri 7 October



American Honey

CERT 15 (164 mins)

Starring **Sasha Lane, Shia LaBeouf, Riley Keough, Raymond Coalson, Arielle Holmes**
Directed by **Andrea Arnold (UK/USA)**

A new film from Andrea Arnold (Red Road, Fish Tank) is always worth seeking out. Here, she cast the waitress Sasha Lane as Star, a teenager from an abusive home who links up with a magazine subscription sales team. As they travel across the American Midwest, Star falls in with their hard-partying antics and brushes with petty crime... As usual with Arnold, much of the film was improvised. Winner of the Jury Prize at Cannes.

Released Fri 14 October



CRITIC'S CHOICE

Doctor Strange

CERT tbc

Starring **Benedict Cumberbatch, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Rachel McAdams, Benedict Wong, Mads Mikkelsen, Tilda Swinton, Michael Stuhlbarg, Benjamin Bratt**
Directed by **Scott Derrickson (USA)**

Scott Derrickson has made some pretty duff movies (The Day The Earth Stood Still, Deliver Us From Evil) but Doctor Strange is likely to change his fortunes. The film has certainly got an intriguing cast, with Benedict Cumberbatch as

Marvel Comics' Stephen Vincent Strange, the neurosurgeon-turned-sorcerer. And with Chiwetel Ejiofor and Tilda Swinton in the mix, it should certainly be more lively than Batman v Superman. Indeed, when the film's trailer was first released, it caused a storm in nerdland. Apparently, even Benedict says he got the shakes watching it. Benedict Wong plays Wong, Doctor Strange's valet. In 3D.

Released Fri 28 October

Inferno

CERT 12a (121 mins)

Starring **Tom Hanks, Felicity Jones, Irrfan Khan, Omar Sy, Ben Foster, Sidse Babbett Knudsen** Directed by **Ron Howard (USA)**

Dan Brown's Robert Langdon, Professor of Religious Iconology and Symbolology, is back in a new adventure. This time Langdon (Tom Hanks, for the third time) follows in the footsteps of Dory and Jason Bourne and wakes up with amnesia in an Italian hospital. Then, like Jason Bourne, he discovers that he is the target of a major manhunt. Luckily, our very own Felicity Jones is on hand to help out. In 3D.

Released Fri 14 October



Storks

CERT U (90 mins)

With the voices of **Andy Samberg, Katie Crown, Kelsey Grammer, Keegan-Michael Key, Jordan Peele, Jennifer Aniston** Directed by **Nicholas Stoller and Doug Sweetland (USA)**



While Amazon is revving up its drone infrastructure, this computer-animated fable has the eponymous birds delivering packages for the global internet giant Cornerstore.com. Then, when a mishap produces a real live baby, Junior (voiced by Andy Samberg) is forced to deliver the infant. Like in the old days. In 3D.

Released Fri 14 October

Queen Of Katwe

CERT PG (124 mins)

Starring **David Oyelowo, Lupita Nyong'o, Madina Nalwanga**
Directed by **Mira Nair (USA/South Africa)**

Just the presence of David Oyelowo (Selma) and the Oscar-winning Lupita Nyong'o (12 Years a Slave) alone should make this film worth seeking out. But the true-life story of Phiona Mutesi (Nalwanga), a poor girl from Uganda whose father died of Aids, sounds simply inspirational. With her family unable to afford her schooling, Phiona, aged nine, enrolled in a chess programme organised by the Sports Outreach Institute. And she turned out to be rather good at the game...

Released Fri 21 October



Jack Reacher: Never Go Back CERT tbc

Starring **Tom Cruise, Cobie Smulders, Danika Yarosh, Robert Knepper** Directed by **Edward Zwick** (USA)

In spite of the first film's disappointing box-office (for a Tom Cruise vehicle, that is), Jack Reacher is back and in trouble. Here, he's accused of a 16-year-old homicide and must clear his name and uncover a major government conspiracy. Edward Zwick previously directed Cruise in *The Last Samurai* (2003).

Released Fri 21 October



Ouija: Origin Of Evil CERT tbc

Starring **Elizabeth Reaser, Annalise Basso, Lulu Wilson, Henry Thomas, Kate Siegel** Directed by **Mike Flanagan** (USA)

Time for another horror film, and a sequel at that. Set almost 50 years prior to the events featured in *Ouija* (2014), a mother and her two daughters introduce a new scam into their séance sessions. And, lo and behold, the younger daughter finds herself possessed by a very real entity...

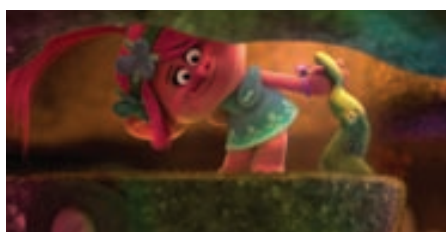
Released Fri 21 October

Trolls CERT tbc

With the voices of **Anna Kendrick, Justin Timberlake, Zooey Deschanel, Russell Brand, James Corden, Gwen Stefani** Directed by **Mike Mitchell and Walt Dohrn** (USA)

After *The Boxtrolls* of 2014 we now just have *Trolls*. This cartoon musical animates the plastic so-called 'gonk trolls' available in every good toyshop. Here, a grouchy troll called Branch (voiced and sung by Justin Timberlake) teams up with the flighty Poppy (Kendrick), princess of the *Trolls*, to help save the future of Troll Town. In 3D.

Released Fri 21 October



Daniel Blake

CERT 15 (100 mins)

Starring **Dave Johns, Hayley Squires, Dylan McKiernan, Briana Shann** Directed by **Ken Loach** (UK/France/Belgium)



Winner of this year's Palme d'Or at Cannes, Ken Loach's latest film features Dave Johns as the titular carpenter. When Daniel Blake falls foul of heart disease, he attempts to untie the red tape that would enable him to benefit from Employment and Support Allowance. And, along the way, he befriends a single mother who is also battling the system. Typical Ken Loach fare who, amazingly, is now 80 years old.

Released Fri 21 October

Keeping Up With The Joneses CERT tbc

Starring **Jon Hamm, Zach Galifianakis, Gal Gadot, Isla Fisher, Maribeth Monroe** Directed by **Greg Mottola** (USA)



Neighbours ain't what they used to be. Suburban couple Jeff and Karen Gafney (Galifianakis, Fisher) find themselves caught up in a world of espionage when they discover that their new neighbours are secret agents. Not to be confused with *The Joneses* (2009) in which Demi Moore and David Duchovny played suburbanites who were not entirely who they said they were...

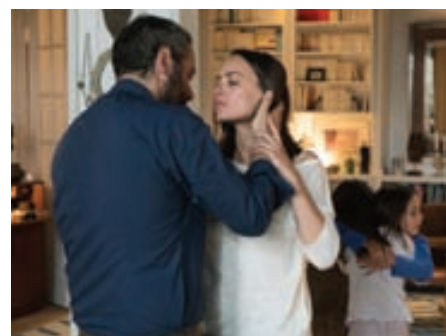
Released Fri 28 October

After Love CERT tbc

Starring **Bérénice Bejo, Cédric Kahn, Marthe Keller, Catherine Salée** Directed by **Joachim Lafosse** (Belgium/France)

It's a tricky situation. After 15 years of marriage, Boris and Marie are in the process of divorce. However, they are forced to stay in the same house - until they can resolve their differences over the property. The Belgian writer-director Joachim Lafosse previously brought us the intelligent and absorbing *Our Children* (2012), which also dealt with people from different backgrounds sharing a confined space under unusual circumstances.

Released Fri 28 October



Burn Burn Burn CERT tbc

Starring **Laura Carmichael, Chloe Pirrie, Jack Farthing, Joe Dempsie, Hannah Arterton** Directed by **Chanya Button** (UK)

Marking the directorial debut of Chanya Button, this is a bittersweet road movie in which Seph and Alex set out across Britain with a singular mission in mind. They are accompanied by the ashes of their friend Dan, who has instructed them to scatter his remains across his favourite old haunts.

Released Fri 28 October





Jeremy Deller

The Battle of Orgreave

Until 26th November 2016

Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum
Foregate Street • Worcester WR1 1DT • Tel: 01905 25371

Open Monday - Saturday 10.30am - 4.30pm
Free Entry

Jeremy Deller, *The Battle of Orgreave (An Injury to One is an Injury to All)*, 2001.
Courtesy The Artangel Collection. Photo: Martin Jenkinson

The Battle of Orgreave (*An Injury to One is an Injury to All*) is part of The Artangel Collection, an initiative to bring outstanding film and video works, commissioned and produced by Artangel, to galleries and museums across the UK.

For more information visit
www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk

 Artangel  ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND  FONDATIONE PIRELLA  MUSEUM WORCESTER

Žilvinas Kempinas

23 September – 27 November 2016



Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HS
www.ikon-gallery.org / 0121 248 0708
Tuesday – Sunday, 11am–5pm – free entry

IKON

Exhibition organised in collaboration with Galerija Vartai and supported by the Lithuanian Council for Culture. Ikon Gallery Limited trading as Ikon. Registered charity no. 528892.

BELLOWS AND THE BODY

THE REAL, THE IDEAL AND THE NUDE

21 October 2016 – 22 January 2017

THE
BARBER
INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS

ADMISSION FREE

Visit by train:
University Station

www.barber.org.uk
0121 414 7333



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Supported by **TERRA**
FOUNDATION FOR AMERICAN ART

ARTIST ROOMS: Roy Lichtenstein



22 October 2016 - 26 February 2017
Wolverhampton Art Gallery

www.wolverhamptonart.org.uk

Roy Lichtenstein, Reflections on Girl 1990.
ARTIST ROOMS Tate and National Galleries of Scotland.
Lent by The Roy Lichtenstein Foundation Collection 2015.
© Estate of Roy Lichtenstein/DACS 2016.

ARTIST ROOMS On Tour is supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England, Art Fund and the National Lottery through Creative Scotland.

Visual Arts

Roy Lichtenstein

Wolverhampton Art Gallery,
Sat 22 October - Sun 26 February

Renowned for works based on comic strips and advertising imagery coloured with his signature Benday dots, Roy Lichtenstein was one of the most radical and influential artists of the 20th century and a leading figure in the Pop Art movement. This exhibition of his art is drawn from Artist Rooms, a collection of international modern and contemporary art owned by National Galleries of Scotland and Tate on behalf of the public.

Commenting on the show, Wolverhampton councillor John Reynolds, cabinet member for City Economy, said: "This is the fourth time the art gallery has hosted an Artist Rooms exhibition, and we're delighted the Lichtenstein works, newly added to the collection, are coming here this month. They were first displayed at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in Edinburgh in 2015, and this will be the first opportunity for visitors to see the works at an Artist Rooms associate venue."



Roy Lichtenstein Reflections on Crash 1990. ARTIST ROOMS, Tate and National Galleries of Scotland. Lent by The Roy Lichtenstein Foundation Collection 2015

Sara Barker

Ikon Gallery, Birmingham,
until Sun 27 November



The boundary between sculpture, painting and drawing is the place where Sara Barker makes her art.

The Glasgow-based artist often draws on the written word for inspiration, dipping time and again into the works of Virginia Woolf, Gertrude Stein and Doris Lessing, authors who write about their own creative space. "It's also a crutch to coax the work," Sara told The List, "to distract away from the work, to allow my mind to think more clearly about what I need to do. It's very multiple." Sara here presents existing installations as well as a new work made especially for Ikon.

Peter Kennard: Off Message

mac, Birmingham, until Mon 27 November

"The point of my work," explains Peter Kennard, "is to use easily recognisable iconic images, but to render them unacceptable; to break down the image of the all-powerful missile, in order to represent the power of the millions of people who are actually trying to break them."

The image of the Broken Missile to which Kennard refers is perhaps the artist's most famous work, a 1980 photomontage he produced for the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND).

Kennard is widely considered to be Britain's most important political artist, producing, for nearly half a century, images which have been deployed on placards and banners by activist groups and organisations throughout the UK. His distinctive photomontages have been published extensively in newspapers and magazines, while his collaborations with artists including Banksy offer evidence of a persisting desire to present art which is relevant and topical.

This new retrospective exhibition, produced by mac birmingham and curated by Craig Ashley, features examples of Kennard's work between 1968 and the present day.

The Human Document

Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry,
Fri 7 October - Sat 10 December



When it was created in 1937, the primary objective of the US's Farm Security Administration (FSA) was to combat Depression-era rural poverty. The agency attempted to do this by means of rural rehabilitation, farm loans and subsistence homestead programmes. For all of its good work in this regard, the FSA during this period is perhaps best known for its collection of photographs documenting rural conditions. The photos not only promoted the agency's programmes but also provided a record of the people, cultures and landscapes of rural America.

As well as presenting a selection of these famous photographs, The Human Document also explores the fascination of modern-day photographers with the FSA images - a collection created as much to awaken human emotions as to provide a historical record of a desperate period in 20th century American history.

THURS 3 - SUN 6 NOVEMBER 2016

9.30am - 5.30pm (5pm Sun)

4 SHOWS FOR THE PRICE OF 1

Christmas at the NEC Birmingham



- * WORKSHOPS
- * JEWELLERY & BEAD MAKING
- * PAPERCRRAFTS
- * DEMONSTRATIONS
- * KNITTING & STITCHING



- * FESTIVE FOOD & DRINK
- * GIFT WRAPPING
- * CHRISTMAS PRODUCT SHOWCASE
- * BAUBLE MAGIC!
- * LIVE MUSIC



- * DEMONSTRATING ARTISTS
- * PYROGRAPHY WORKSHOPS
- * ART SUPPLIES
- * SAA WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT!
- * ARTISTS, GUILDS & SOCIETIES



- * WORLD'S LARGEST CAKE COMPETITION
- * CAKE INTERNATIONAL THEATRE
- * BAKING, DECORATING & SUGARCRAFT SUPPLIES
- * APPEARANCES FROM TOP CAKE ARTISTS



Adults £12 in advance, £14 on the door
Seniors £11 in advance, £13 on the door

*Children under 16 go free when accompanied by a parent

Buy tickets online www.ichfevents.co.uk
or phone 01425 277988

*Cake International is open from Friday 4 - Sunday 6 November.
Thursday visitors will be able to attend Cake International on the Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

BOOK NOW AND
SAVE £2
OFF EACH ADULT
AND SENIOR TICKET

Events



Grand Designs Live

NEC, Birmingham, Wed 19 - Sun 23 October

The UK's leading contemporary home show makes its annual visit to Birmingham this month, with design guru Kevin McCloud once again presiding over proceedings.

Kevin hosts various events in the show's Grand Theatre, where guest speakers offer tips and advice on a variety of homebuilding issues. This year's show also features tons of inspiring ideas to help visitors create stylish interiors for their homes, state-of-the-art bathroom products, suggestions for making the most of available kitchen space, and 'must have' products for gardens and outdoor spaces.

Weston Park Horse Trials

Weston Park, Staffordshire,
Sat 18 - Sun 19 October

This annual two-day event features the Blue Chip Central North West BE80(T) Challenge and the Mitsubishi Motors Cup BE90 & BE100 Regional Finals.

Commenting on the show, internationally renowned course designer and Weston Park Horse Trials organiser Janet Plant said: "Every year we're faced with a slightly different course depending on the weather during V Festival in August, which always keeps the course interesting and different!"



Flame And Thunder

Santa Pod Raceway, Northants,
Sat 29 October



A regular on the Santa Pod calendar, the family-focused Flame And Thunder show brings together monster trucks, jet cars and drag cars for plenty of spectacular main-track action. Away from the circuit, entertainment comes courtesy of (alongside numerous other attractions) a wall of death, a funfair, helicopter pleasure flights and a kids' Halloween disco. The event is brought to a close with a 'huge' firework display and 'massive' bonfire.

Brick Live

NEC, Birmingham, Thurs 27 - Sun 30 October

This haven for LEGO fans boasts numerous interactive features. Attractions include brick pits - enabling visitors to showcase their inner master builder - a movie zone, a fan zone, LEGO Minecraft, a museum of LEGO history, a collection of well-known film and television characters recreated in LEGO, and race ramps on which to test custom-built cars.

New for 2016 is the LEGO League - in which teams compete to design, build and program an autonomous robot to solve a series of missions - and LEGO Mindstorms, demonstrating how to build a robot.



Events



The Horse Of The Year Show

Genting Arena, Birmingham,
Wed 5 - Sun 9 October

A spectacle reminiscent of the traditional driving tasks asked of heavy-breed horses in a bygone era is making a welcome return to the Horse Of The Year Show.

The Musical Drive sees the jingling of the chains created by the heavy horses' majestic footing providing a harmonious accompaniment to military-style drill music. Last seen as

a display at the show in 2008, the Drive performance had previously been presented from the 1950s until 1999.

This year's Horse Of The Year Show also features international showjumping, the finals of the national Showing and Showjumping Championships, a line-up of equestrian entertainment and a performance by the West End cast of hit Abba musical Mamma Mia!

For more information, visit hoys.co.uk

Motorhome And Caravan Show

NEC, Birmingham, Tues 11 - Sun 16 October

Attracting huge crowds and filling numerous halls of the NEC, the Motorhome And Caravan Show is this year being opened by cyclist and Olympian Sir Bradley Wiggins.

The six-day event offers visitors the chance to check out all the new 2017 caravan, motorhome, holiday home, trailer tent and folding caravan models, as well as to access plenty of free help and advice on all aspects of touring.

The show also features a space in which visitors can enhance their motorhome manoeuvring skills, the opportunity to sample a virtual reality zipwire experience, and the chance to check out a wide range of accessories - many of which will be available at show-only prices.



World War One History Weekend

British Motor Museum, Gaydon, Warwickshire,
Sat 1 - Sun 2 October



The British Motor Museum this month joins in with the ongoing national World War One commemorations via this family-friendly weekend. Attractions include the opportunity to check out a 'Battle Bus' on loan from London Transport Museum, and to find out from a 'tommy' in the trenches what life was like for soldiers on the Front Line. There's also the chance to visit a Field Hospital and discover how injuries sustained in battle led to the discovery of new medical techniques, including plastic surgery. Numerous 'dynamic' displays and re-enactments also take place across the weekend, presented by the Royal Warwickshire Regiment 1914-1918 Living History Group.

Birmingham Oktoberfest

Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham,
Wed 12 - Sun 16 October

Munich is coming to Birmingham this month. Well, sort of. Oktoberfest is the legendary Munich beer festival providing the inspiration behind this popular annual event, which organisers promise will be a 'truly unique' experience. Expect huge steins, Bavarian lager, German games, authentic German food and plenty of lederhosen...



Festival Of Flight Spectacular

Ragley Hall, Warwickshire,
Sat 1 - Sun 2 October

Top display pilots from around the world will be flying into the Midlands for this two-day family air show.

Featuring aerobatic displays on both days and a World War Two pyrotechnics display, the event also includes a craft fair, a small funfair for children, an on-site camping facility and a 'spectacular' fireworks and light show, illuminating the skies on the Saturday night.



Birmingham Literature Festival

Various locations across Birmingham, Thurs 6 - Sun 16 October

This annual event features appearances by a host of well-known names, this year including Hans Rosenfeldt - writer of hit Nordic noir television series *The Bridge* - and Elif Shafak, the most widely read woman writer in Turkey. The 2016 festival celebrates an impressive range of subjects - from the creativity of concrete to what makes Birmingham a great speech-making city.

Other festival highlights include an appearance by Waterstones Children's Laureate Chris Riddell and the National Poetry Day Gala. Launching the 11-day event, the gala features the announcement of the new Birmingham Poet Laureate and Young Poet Laureate.



Destination Star Trek Europe

NEC, Birmingham, Fri 7 - Sun 9 October



Birmingham is surely offering a special kind of heaven on earth for Trekkers this month. This homage to all things Star Trek beams into the city's NEC complete with interactive exhibits, two 50th anniversary parties and all manner of fascinating information about the long-running franchise's impact on science, space and technology.

The absolute highlight of the three-day event, though, must surely be the appearance of Captain James Tiberius Kirk himself, aka actor William Shatner...

'The Shat', as he's affectionately known by his legion of fans, will be taking to the stage on the Saturday night to present his hit one-man Broadway show, *Shatner's World*.

Other well-known actors from the Star Trek universe who're scheduled to appear at the event include Walter Koenig and George Takei (Mr Chekov and Mr Sulu in the original series) and Gates McFadden, Marina Sirtis and Will Wheaton (Dr Beverley Crusher, Deanna Troi and Wesley Crusher in *Star Trek: The Next Generation*).

Museums At Night

Various locations across the Midlands, Thurs 27 - Sat 29 October

This annual after-hours celebration of arts, history and heritage sees hundreds of museums and galleries across the UK staying open late and hosting special events.

Midlands highlights include a spooky trail around St John's House Museum in Warwick, code-cracking fun at Worcester's Infirmary Museum, and a line-up of ghoulish characters appearing and disappearing in the ghostly gaslight of Blists Hill Victorian Town in Shropshire.

For a full run-down on events taking place in the region, visit museumsatnight.org.uk



Dive Show

NEC, Birmingham, Sat 22 - Sun 23 October

Boasting over three hundred exhibitors - including manufacturers and retailers of diving equipment and travel agents offering dive holiday options - the Dive Show also features an unrivalled programme of guest speakers. Popular in-hall features include the Try Dive Pool, the Rebreather Pool, a photo zone and a new-product showcase.

Themed travel and dive training areas are also included.

The International Astronomy Show

Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, Fri 14 - Sat 15 October

"We have a full lecture programme running both days of the show," says Martin Stirland, one of the organisers of this annual event. "We also have over 30 trade vendors from Europe and the UK selling all things astronomy - telescopes, binoculars, eye pieces, mounts, cameras, clothing. We even have meteorites and astro images available for sale - framed and ready to hang on your wall. There are also kids' booths, the purpose of which is to make space simple, and vendors selling space jewellery." Martin has been running the event with his friend, Graham Smith, since 2012. "It's very much a show organised by astronomers for astronomers," says Graham, "I've been an amateur astronomer for nearly 40 years and I've attended a lot of events, most of which are in London or near Scotland. We're proud to have created something that's far more central."

Diwali

Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, Sun 16 October

Diwali (the festival of lights) celebrations will be much in evidence across the Midlands this month, with the biggest event taking place in Handsworth, Birmingham.

Diwali is an ancient Indian festival which celebrates the triumph of good over evil. Its dates change each year in accordance with the Hindu lunar calendar. This Diwali celebration will include live performances from Punjabi artist Roshan Prince and local artist Jaz Dhani. As well as a variety of street food and Indian cuisine on offer, a fun fair and a range of family activities to enjoy.

LITTLE MONSTERS FUNFEST

24th - 30th October

Get your gory glad rags on and join us for some Halloween half term fun!

There will be: pond dipping, spooky trails, arts & crafts, bug hunting, live animals on Tuesday & Thursday and a bouncy castle on Sunday.

For more information please contact reception or visit birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk

Find us on:



Your support keeps the Gardens growing

BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS
AN EDUCATIONAL CHARITY

BLISTS HILL VICTORIAN TOWN

TICKETS FOR BOTH EVENTS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE, EITHER ONLINE OR FROM MUSEUM SHOPS

GHOSTLY GASLIGHT

SAT 29 OCT
6PM - 9PM

See the giant MARSHMALLOW MAN and replica ECTO-1 CAR from the cult 80s film GHOSTBUSTERS

FIREWORKS NIGHT

SAT 5 NOV
6PM - 9PM

IRONBRIDGE.ORG.UK
10 AWARD WINNING ATTRACTIONS IN A WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Tamworth Castle



Curios, spooky fun and a bonfire night to remember...

Castle Collections Weekend

'Cabinets of Curiosities'
Sat 24th & Sun 25th September
11.30am-4.00pm

We have a superb Museum collection and this weekend we are bringing out some of the more curious and unusual pieces gathered from around the world.

Haunted Castle

Mon 24th to Fri 28th October
11.30am-4.00pm

A week full of ghostly goings on at the spooktacular haunted Castle. Come and be challenged by the hags to play ping pong eyeballs, make spells and much more.

Children's Halloween Evening

Sat 29th October 5.00pm-8.30pm
Bring all the family, get dressed up in your spookiest costume and enjoy the ghostly goings on around the Castle. Free pumpkin lantern for all paying children.

Ghost Search

Mon 31st October 7.30pm-Midnight
Join us for a night with a difference on our ghost walk around the Medieval Castle, with vigils conducted in reputedly haunted rooms.

Bonfire Night

Sat 5th November
from 5.30pm
(Fireworks 8.00pm)

This is a chance to visit Tamworth Castle after dark, before enjoying the ever popular breathtaking firework display in the Castle grounds.

Castle by Candlelight

Sat 12th November 5.30pm-8.00pm

Walk through the period rooms and meet the Castle characters who will explore the use of light through the ages.



Tamworth
Borough Council



For more information please call 01827 709 618
www.tamworthcastle.co.uk

Tamworth Castle, The Holloway, Tamworth, Staffordshire B79 7NA

Halloween

spooky goings-on around the region

As the late American children's author Harry Behn observed in his famous poem, Halloween is the night 'when dead leaves fly like witches on switches across the sky'...

And it wasn't just broomstick-riding witches that Harry made reference to either, pointing out that 'ghoul and ghost and goblin host' were other supernatural entities that featured prominently in the All Hallows' Eve mix.

As you'd expect, there'll be no shortage of freaky and frightening other-worldly creatures and characters in evidence at Halloween happenings across the Midlands this month. Check out some of the region's eeriest events in the following few pages...

The Haunting

**The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham,
Sat 29 October**

Organisers of The Haunting are promising that their show will feature a haunted circus, a ghost train, a haunted house, black magic, voodoo witchcraft and more 'terrifying treats' than you can shake a witch's broomstick at.

More than 50 actors, acrobats and performers will ensure a real sense of the theatrical is much in evidence, while an impressive line-up of DJs is headed by Wilkinson. Attending in fancy dress is very much encouraged.



Ghostly Gaslight

**Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge,
Shropshire, Sat 29 October**

A spine-tingling but family-friendly experience awaits visitors to Ironbridge Gorge's Blists Hill Victorian Town this half-term holiday. Included among the popular venue's Halloween-related attractions is a ghost story trail, providing participants with the chance to learn about the supernatural tales that were so beloved of the God-fearing Victorians. There's also the chance to find out about curious Halloween customs of the Victorian era, and to enjoy a selection of Shropshire ghost stories and spooky scenes from Sweeney Todd, courtesy of the Prince Albert Players.



Haunted Castle

**Tamworth Castle, Staffordshire,
Mon 24 - Fri 28 October**



Castles are great settings for spooky Halloween capers, as Tamworth's proves every October.

End-of-month visitors to the venue will find themselves challenged by hags to make spells and play ping pong eye-balls. Ghoulish characters making their presence felt include St Editha and the eerie executioner.

Halloween Nights

**Black Country Living Museum, Dudley,
Fri 28 - Sat 29 October**

With a well-established reputation for effectively evoking whatever atmosphere any one of its numerous themed events may require, the Black Country Living Museum is an obvious place to visit if you're looking for some hair-raising, spine-tingling, knee-trembling and utterly ghoulish fun this Halloween.

Highlights of the event include the chance to descend into the depths of the venue's 'spooky' mine, a competition to decide who's the best-dressed ghoul in the Halloween costume parade, and performances by street entertainers, fire jugglers and magicians.



Halloween



Alton Towers Scarefest

Alton Towers Resort, Staffordshire, Sat 8 - Sun 9, Sat 15 - Sun 16 and Fri 21 - Mon 31 October

Alton Towers' hugely popular Halloween attraction makes a welcome return this month. Highlights of this year's Scarefest include Altonville Mine Tours - presenting 'the chilling tale of the Skin Snatchers' - Sub-Species: The End Games - featuring a post-apocalyptic, sewer-dwelling community infested by a species from another world - and Terror Of The Towers,

in which small groups venture through the darkened corridors of a forgotten ruin and discover the terrifying secret of 'what lies within'. Featured alongside the three mazes are two equally spine-tingling scare zones. Dark Apocalypse sees quarantine procedures implemented as a deadly virus gets out of hand. Freak Show, meanwhile, dares visitors to walk among the freakishly fascinating misfits of a travelling circus sideshow.

Dudley Canal Trust

Dudley Canal Tunnel and Limestone Mines, Dudley, Fri 28 - Mon 31 October

What better way can there be to get into the Halloween spirit than by exploring Dudley Canal Trust's naturally spooky tunnels and caverns?

The Trust is running special children's boat trips lasting between 45 minutes and an hour this half-term holiday (28 to 31 October), during which youngsters will encounter some truly impressive glow-in-the-dark Halloween puppets. The boat trips are 'spooky' but not scary, and should be suitable for children over three years of age.

And the fiendish fun doesn't end there. On the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings of half-term week (25 - 27 October), families can enjoy a 45-minute heritage boat trip and get creative with a selection of Halloween-themed craft activities. Each child will get to make a witch or wizard hat, have a go at creating an animal superpower potion and add a spooktacular creation to the Trust's truly ghastly ghostly gallery.

Lockdown II - Sanatorium

Dana Prison, Shrewsbury, Thurs 27 - Sun 30 October

If you fancy scaring the living daylights out of yourself, Shrewsbury's former prison, the Dana, could well be the venue for you this Halloween. Part of a three-event story arc called Lockdown, Sanatorium presents participants with the challenge of finding the formula for a 'cure', after the country has been plunged into a post-apocalyptic nightmare. The only trouble is, the clues to the formula's whereabouts lie with the inhabitants of Sanatorium, all of whom have been driven to insanity...

This 90-minute zombie fest is followed by a short Scare Maze experience, bringing to life the origins of the Lockdown story arc.



Creepy Carnevil

Waterworld, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Thurs 27 - Fri 28 October

Waterworld is evidently intending to make a big splash this Halloween - and judging by its line-up of creepy characters, the popular Stoke-on-Trent visitor attraction has every chance of doing just that.

Killer clowns, insane ringmasters, psychotic puppet masters, supernatural puppets, zombie showgirls and crazy fortune-tellers are all present and correct in a show that's being advertised as 'not for the fainthearted'.

Halloween at Hickman Park

Hickman Park, Bilston, Sat 29 October

It's time to get out your needle and thread and start sewing - the organisers of Hickman Park's Halloween event will be on the lookout for the best-dressed ghouls, ghosts or witches when they host this family-friendly get-together at the end of the month. The best costume will win a prize, with categories for under eights, under 16s and adults. Other highlights of the event include a pumpkin parade for youngsters and their families, the lighting of a dozen cauldrons prior to an 'impressive' firework display, and plenty of family entertainment from Signal FM breakfast show host Dicky Dodd and his team.

Red Ditch Halloween Film Festival

Palace Theatre, Redditch, Fri 28 - Sat 29 Oct

Big Frog Films are the organisation behind this cinematic spookfest, promising not one but two evenings of 'the best short horror films from around the world'. The event is hosted by Redditch undertaker Weird Mortimer Balmer. Guests who dress to scare 'may be rewarded'...

Seance

Centenary Square, Birmingham,
Tues 18 - Sat 29 October

"We won't prey upon the paranoid, the bereaved, the credulous, the wide-eyed, the weak or the inbred," promise performers David Rosenberg and Glen Neath of Seance, their third collaboration, "but in return we ask that you proceed with an open mind. Seance is an *entertainment only*, and we cannot hold the medium responsible for the outcome." Having previously scored successes with projects Ring and Fiction, Rosenberg and Neath present this 15-minute 'event' (for up to 20 people) in a shipping container, in complete darkness. Expect a tingle or several in the region of your spine...

Note: Seance is recommended for ages 18-plus and, as stated above, is an entertainment only.

Spooky Science Night

Thinktank Science Museum, Birmingham,
Sat 29 October

Thinktank is calling on all mad scientists, witches and wizards to come together for a spooky party featuring tricks, treats and optical illusions.

Highlight of the venue's Halloween offering is its Science Of Fright show, 'where making a monster is all a matter of choosing the right ingredients'. Visitors can also make their own family light photos and create their own sample of blood to take home, while those in fancy dress have the opportunity to be entered into a 'fantastic' prize draw.



Spookfest

Lower Drayton Farm, Nr Stafford,
Sat 22 - Sun 30 October

Award-winning horror-maze creators Twisted Attractions have designed a Halloween show especially for very young children to enjoy. SpookFest is a daytime event with a 'boo factor' designed to keep little ones happy and engaged, but without running the risk of keeping them awake at night. Highlights of the show include three 'scary' attractions, children's entertainers, a soft-play area and the chance to enjoy the popular Halloween practice of pumpkin carving.



Drayton Manor More Trick Than Treat

Drayton Manor Theme Park, Staffordshire, Sat 15 - Sun 30 Oct

Drayton Manor Park is inviting families to dust off their broomsticks and batwings and treat themselves to some ghoulish Halloween fun this month.

As well as providing 'creepy arts and crafts, spooky sweet treats and pumpkin donuts', the Staffordshire venue is also staging a fireworks spectacular, presenting 'the animals of the night' and transforming its popular Thomas Land attraction into the 'spooktacular' Island of Sodor. And if that little lot isn't enough to give you the heebie jeebies, you can always give yourself the fright of your life by trying out one of the theme park's stomach-churning white-knuckle rides!

Halloween Pokemon Go

Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham,
Sat 29 October

This Halloween-themed charity fundraiser follows on from the Pokémon Go-inspired walk that took place in July. As with the inaugural walk, donations are in aid of Birmingham Children's Hospital.

"We love how the Pokéwalk team have taken the latest social media craze and ingeniously turned it into a fundraiser," says Miranda Williams, Public Fundraising Manager at Birmingham Children's Hospital Charity. "The money donated from the last Pokémon Go walk will make a massive difference to our brave young patients and their families, so we're certainly excited about this Halloween event!"

The Halloween Pokéwalk takes place in Birmingham on Saturday 29 October from 1pm, with an open-to-all, family-friendly after-party at Second Cup cafe from 5pm until midnight.

For more information about the event, visit birminghampokewalk.com

The Haunting

Heart of England Conference and Events Centre, Coventry, Fri 28 - Sat 29 October

With an arrival cocktail, three-course carvery meal, music and party games all featuring on The Haunting's programme of entertainment, there's certainly more than a ghost of a chance that you'll head for home at the end of the night having had a thoroughly enjoyable experience. And in true Halloween spirit, the event also features a seance. Guests are invited to help a medium make contact with the restless spirit of a lady who drowned her children in the lake, burying them somewhere in the grounds before hanging herself in the boathouse. Fancy dress, by the way, is compulsory...





THE UK'S BIGGEST & BEST CLASSIC MOTOR SHOW

11-13 NOVEMBER 2016

Over 2,000 stunning classic cars | 250 car clubs
Celebrity guests | Wheeler Dealers Live Stage
The UK's biggest indoor autojumble & trader village
Classic cars for sale | Meguiar's Club Showcase
Silverstone Auctions | Lancaster Insurance Pride of Ownership
Restoration Theatre | Dream Rides
A Tribute to Can-Am by Motor Sport Magazine
Free entrance to the Classic Motorbike Show
NEW! The Lancaster Insurance Classic Motor Show Tour

WIN A ZENITH WATCH!
WORTH £7,000
LIMITED EDITION OPEN FACE CHRONOMASTER



TICKETS ON SALE NOW! CALL 0871 230 1088*

NECCCLASSICMOTORSHOW.COM QUOTE CMS16L247

Official Show Partners



Headline Sponsor



Official Show Partners



*Book before Monday 31st October 2016 at midnight and you will automatically be entered into our free prize draw to win a HERO Cup limited edition Zenith Open Face Chronometer watch worth £7,000 courtesy of Hero Events. Full T's & C's online: www.necclassicmotorshow.com/ticket-packages. *Calls cost 10p/min plus standard network charges. All bookings are subject to a single transaction fee of £1.50. Tickets include a show guide to the value of £7.50. Entry to the auction requires purchase of a catalogue. See website for all information. All information correct at time of publishing.

All Saints

RED FLAG TOUR

PLUS GUEST

HANNE

FRI 14 OCTOBER
O₂ ACADEMY
BIRMINGHAM

GIGSANDTOURS.COM | TICKETWEB.CO.UK
ALLSAINTSOFFICIAL.CO.UK

AN SJM CONCERTS PRESENTATION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH COOA



BRAND-NEW ALBUM
RED FLAG
OUT NOW

IS THIS LOVE - NO WOMAN, NO CRY - COULD YOU BE LOVED - BUFFALO SOLDIER



THE
WHALEERS

PERFORMING THE ALBUM
LEGEND

IN ITS ENTIRETY PLUS OTHER GREATEST HITS

SAT 12 NOVEMBER
O₂ INSTITUTE
BIRMINGHAM

GIGSANDTOURS.COM | TICKETMASTER.CO.UK
TICKETWEB.CO.UK

AN SJM CONCERTS PRESENTATION

I SHOT THE SHERIFF - WAITING IN VAIN - REDEMPTION SONG - SATISFY MY SOUL - EXORCIS - JAMMING

THE WHALEERS - IS THIS LOVE - NO WOMAN, NO CRY - COULD YOU BE LOVED - BUFFALO SOLDIER

*Your week to week
listings guide*
October 2016

the list



Austenatious at Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury - Sat 15 October

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

What's On

Sat 1 to Sun 9 October



Lennon Through A Glass Onion
at Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
Wed 5 October

Mon 10 to Sun 16 October



Felicity Ward at Wolverhampton
Art Gallery
Sun 16 October

Mon 17 to Sun 23 October



The Eulogy Of Toby Peach at
Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton
Fri 21 October

Mon 24 to Mon 31 October



Halloween Ceramic Workshops
at Coalport China Museum,
Ironbridge
Sat 22 - Sun 30 October

THROUGHOUT OCTOBER

Visual Arts

Bilston Craft Gallery

WORK IN WARTIME An exploration of the key part played by local industries in military-related production in the First and Second World Wars. Featuring archive images, Villiers engines, a motorcycle and bicycle used in combat, and a rare Sunbeam V12 aero-engine on special loan from the Black Country Living Museum, until Sun 13 Nov

Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

A BRUSH WITH NATURE The Wildlife Art Society International present a national exhibition of animal illustrations. Includes some recent works from Dudley Zoo, until Sat 19 Nov

TREASURES FROM THE GLASS COLLECTION until Sat 31 Dec

Museum of Cannock Chase

NEW EVERYBODY'S DARLING: THE FIRST WORLD WAR, NURSE Exhibition paying homage to the nursing organisations that served during the war, Mon 24 Oct - Fri 16 Dec

New Art Gallery - Walsall

OLIVER JONES: DIVINE Photorealist chalk drawings which consider how the media advertises, manipulates and exploits imagery of flesh, until Sun 20 Nov

RECENT ACQUISITIONS PART 2: LANDSCAPE AND THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Showcasing works which complement the themes of Metropolis and Landscape by Willie Doherty, John Newling, David Rowan, Paul Seawright and Emma Stibbon, until Sun 12 Feb 2017

Potteries Museum & Art Gallery - Stoke-On-Trent

NEW EUROPEAN CULTURAL LIFESTYLE IN CERAMICS: FROM BAROQUE UNTIL TODAY An international touring exhibition of about 200 works from nine European ceramic museums covering the history of ceramic design from the 17th century to the present, Sat 1 Oct - Sun 8 Jan

NEW MASTERS OF ART & SPORT

Celebrating the abstract similarities and differences between the Masters of Art and the Masters of Sport. Featuring paintings by artist Philippe Aird and one produced with Gold Olympic medalist Darren Campbell, Sat 29 Oct - Sun 12 Feb

Shire Hall Gallery - Stafford

SWEETHEARTS - MORWENNA CATT Featuring a textile installation of out-sized Sweetheart cushions by Morwenna Catt which mimic the pin-cushions that were often created by wounded soldiers recovering in hospitals during WWI, until Sat 29 Oct

Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery

'HEAVENLY LIGHTS: THE UNTOLD STORY OF STAINED GLASS ARTIST MARGARET AGNES ROPE' Celebrating the life and times of Shrewsbury stained-glass artist Margaret Agnes Rope, until Sun 15 Jan 2017

The Willow Art Gallery, Oswestry

MARCHES INDEPENDENT PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION A photographic exhibition by a group of independently minded photographers living in Shropshire, The Marches and beyond, until Sat 29 Oct

Weston Park

NEW CAPABILITY BROWN: DIGITAL INTERPRETATIONS Exhibition by the Transatlantic Digital Print Group exploring Capability Brown's legacy through digital prints, Sat 1 Oct - Fri 28 Oct

Wolverhampton Art Gallery

NEW UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON MA SHOW Showcase of work by over 50 MA Students from the Fine Art, Applied Arts and Digital & Visual Communication programmes, as well as artists in residence, Sat 1 Oct - Sun 9 Oct

NEW YOUNG ARTIST ROOMS Artworks made by students attending creative courses at the City of Wolverhampton College, Mon 3 Oct - Mon 3 Oct

NEW BACK TO BLACK An exhibition of artwork by contemporary Black British artists for Black History Month, Thurs 6 Oct - Sun 4 Dec

NEW WOLVERHAMPTON SOCIETY OF ARTISTS - AUTUMN EXHIBITION A chance for members to showcase new work, including responses to the theme of 'Metamorphosis', Sat 8 Oct - Sun 13 Nov

NEW CULTURAL CURIOSITIES FROM THE COLLECTION Display of seldom-seen objects held in the gallery's collection, Mon 17 Oct - Sun 11 Dec

Other VISUAL ARTS

NEW WOMAN'S WORK Exhibition seeking to make visible the hidden and unsung labour carried out by women in the home, the workplace and public life, Fri 30 Sep - Sat 5 Nov, AirSpace Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

NEW UNSEEN WORKS FROM THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR BERRY Berry painted his own unique version of the Potteries and is now considered to be one of the most important industrial landscape artists of the 20th century, Sat 1 Oct - Sat 12 Nov, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek

NEW LANGUAGE OF ART Exhibition presented by Art International Group. Celebrating new cultural alliances between UK and Russian artists from the group, Tues 4 Oct - Sat 29 Oct, VAN Gallery, Shrewsbury

Gigs

OTIS GIBBS Sat 1 Oct, Birchmeadow Centre, Broseley, Shropshire

THE ENGLISH BEAT Sat 1 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

STOP STOP Sat 1 Oct, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

AGAINST THE CURRENT Sat 1 Oct, The Asylum, Birmingham

GORDIE MACKEEMAN & HIS RHYTHM BOYS Sat 1 Oct, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

FLEETWOOD BAC Sat 1 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

THE BILLY JOEL SONGBOOK Sat 1 Oct, William Aston Hall, Wrexham

THE MAGIC GANG Sat 1 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

GEOFF RODGERS Sat 1 Oct, Havana Republic Bar and Restaurant, Shrewsbury

THE REAL THING Sat 1 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

JAMIE T Sat 1 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

POP WILL EAT ITSELF Sun 2 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

RED FANG Sun 2 Oct, O2 Institute, B'ham

RALPH MCTELL Sun 2 Oct, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

NANCY KERR AND THE SWEET VISITOR BAND Sun 2 Oct, mac, Birmingham

LOYLE CARNER Sun 2 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

MOOSE BLOOD Mon 3 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

CLARE MAGUIRE Mon 3 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

MARIANAS TRENCH Mon 3 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

HANNAH SANDERS & BEN SAVAGE Mon 3 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

THE BIRTHDAY MASSACRE, THE RED PAINTINGS, AMONG THE ECHOES & THE DEAD Tues 4 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

BETAS Tues 4 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

WILLE & THE BANDITS Tues 4 Oct, Hare &

Hounds, Birmingham

BLUE ROSE CODE Tues 4 Oct, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

CARL SINCLAIR DUO Tues 4 Oct, The Jam House, Birmingham

FEEDER Tues 4 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

THE HUNNA Tues 4 Oct, O2 Academy, B'ham

JAKE QUICKENDEN Wed 5 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

BOO HEWERDINE Wed 5 Oct, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

FIREBALL - FUELLING THE FIRE TOUR Wed 5 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

THE UNIQUE KOMEDY UKULELE ORCHESTRA Wed 5 Oct, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

GREGORY PECK'S JAZZ, FUNK AND SOUL OPEN MIC NIGHT Wed 5 Oct, The Night Owl, B'ham

GABRIEL BRUCE Wed 5 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

LEVEL 42 Thurs 6 Oct, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

THE KILLS Thurs 6 Oct, O2 Institute, B'ham

ERJA LYYTINEN WITH HER BAND Thurs 6 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

ROSE-MARIE Thurs 6 Oct, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

FOUR LAST SONGS Thurs 6 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

TOYAH WILLCOX Fri 7 Oct, Eniguitu Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

THE ELO EXPERIENCE Fri 7 Oct, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

BILLY MITCHELL AND RAY LAIDLAW: THE LINDISFARNE STORY Fri 7 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

THE RUTS DC Fri 7 Oct, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

SECRET AFFAIR Fri 7 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

HUNTER AND THE BEAR Fri 7 Oct, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

HANNAH & BRIAN Fri 7 Oct, Havana Republic Bar and Restaurant, Shrewsbury

ROXY MAGIC Fri 7 Oct - Sat 8 Oct, Theatre On The Steps, Bridgnorth, Shropshire

SALLY BARKER Fri 7 Oct, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

STEVE MASON Fri 7 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

AURORA Fri 7 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

MOTOR CITY DRUM ENSEMBLE Fri 7 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

THE WEDDING PRESENT Sat 8 Oct, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

HEIDI BROWNE Sat 8 Oct, Havana Republic Bar and Restaurant, Shrewsbury

ELO AGAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT ORCHESTRA TRIBUTE SHOW Sat 8 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

THE WHITNEY HOUSTON SHOW Sat 8 Oct, William Aston Hall, Wrexham

RHINO AND THE RANTERS Sat 8 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

JEAN-MICHEL JARRE Sat 8 Oct, Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham

THE IMPOSSIBLE GENTLEMEN Anglo-American jazz super-group Sat 8 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

THE REGULARS Sat 8 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

GARAGE GATHERING Sat 8 Oct, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

MISHKA RUSHDIE MOMEN Sat 8 Oct, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

TAIL FEATHER Sat 8 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

TALON - THE BEST OF EAGLES Sun 9 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

DERVISH Sun 9 Oct, Lichfield Guildhall

FOCUS Sun 9 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

JANE MCDONALD Sun 9 Oct, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

NELL BRYDEN Sun 9 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

AUSSIE WRECKING CREW Sun 9 Oct, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

Classical Music

THE PAULUS SCHAFFER TRIO Sat 1 Oct, Theatre On The Steps, Bridgnorth, Shropshire

ARCADIA MUSIC FESTIVAL Featuring Jeremy Huw Williams (baritone & reciter), Thomas Bowes & Patrick Kiernan (violins), Louise Williams (viola), Sally Pendlebury (cello), Eleanor Alberga (piano & composer) & Adam Gorb (composer). Sat 1 & Sun 2 Oct, St Michael & All Angel, Ludlow, South Shropshire

CARMEN Russian State Ballet & Opera House present Bizet's passionate opera, in which Carmen shifts her passion from one lover to another with tragic consequences, Sun 2 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERT WITH THOMAS TROTTER Programme includes works by Bach (arr. M. Dupre), Bach, J. Francaix, C.H Parry & Rossini (arr. Trotter), Mon 3 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

TAMSIN WALEY-COHEN IN RECITAL Featuring Huw Watkins (piano). Programme includes works by Beethoven, Elgar, Ravel & Gershwin (arr. Heifetz), Mon 3 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

CBSO: FOUR LAST SONGS Featuring Alpesh Chauhan (conductor) & Talise Trevigne (soprano). Programme includes works by Humperdinck, R. Strauss & Bruckner, Thurs 6 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA: GREAT BRITISH CHORAL ANTHEMS Programme includes works by Handel, Vivaldi, James MacMillan & Bach, Fri 7 Oct, Lichfield Cathedral

ORGAN PROMS Featuring Jonathan Scott Concert Organist (Manchester) Sat 8 Oct, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

THE SWINGLES IN CONCERT Sat 8 Oct, Alington Hall, Shrewsbury School

MISHKA RUSHDIE MOMEN (PIANO) Programme includes works by Mozart, Janacek, Beethoven, Schumann & Schubert, Sat 8 Oct, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

CARMEN Russian State Ballet & Opera House present Bizet's passionate

opera, in which Carmen shifts her passion from one lover to another with tragic consequences, Sun 9 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

THE LEGEND OF ZELDA: SYMPHONY OF THE GODDESSES Sun 9 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

Comedy Gigs

ADAM HILLS Sat 1 Oct, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

PAUL TONKINSON, PHIL NICHOL, LLOYD GRIFFITH & ALLYSON SMITH Sat 1 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

PAUL MCCAFFERY, JARLETH REGAN, GARETH RICHARDS & KANE BROWN Sat 1 Oct, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

LLOYD GRIFFITH, ALLYSON JUNE SMITH, BEN NORRIS & DAN NIGHTINGALE Sun 2 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

RICH HALL Mon 3 Oct, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

ADAM HESS & MAE MARTIN Tues 4 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

RICH HALL Tues 4 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

THE UNIQUE KOMEDY UKULELE ORCHESTRA Wed 5 Oct, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

JAMES ACASTER Wed 5 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

MANILLA ROAD COMEDY Thurs 6 Oct, The Victoria, Birmingham

WAYNE DEAKIN, ANDREW WATTS, PETE TECKMAN, BEN BRIGGS & KEVIN DEWSBURY Thurs 6 Oct, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Staffordshire

THE NOISE NEXT DOOR, ALISTAIR BARRIE, TOM LITTLE & JAMES MEEHAN Thurs 6 Oct, The George Hotel, Lichfield

PAUL F TAYLOR, ANDY ASKINS & COMEDY CAROUSEL WITH ANDY ROBINSON Thurs 6 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

MARKUS BIRDMAN, NOEL JAMES, JAMES COOK & DAVE BRYON Thurs 6 Oct, Branston Golf & Country Club, Burton-upon-Trent

EARL OKIN, DANNY HURST Thurs 6 Oct,

Stourbridge Town Hall

MARK WATSON Fri 7 Oct, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

JUICE COMEDY Fri 7 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

MATT FORDE Fri 7 Oct, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

RICH HALL Fri 7 Oct, Theatr Hafren, Powys

PAUL F TAYLOR, ANDY ASKINS, ANDRE VINCENT, DARIUS DAVIES & GUZ KHAN Fri 7 Oct, The Glee Club, B'ham

BIRMINGHAM COMEDY FESTIVAL BREAKING TALENT AWARD Fri 7 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

ROGER MONKHOUSE, SCOTT BENNETT, BRENNAN REECE Fri 7 Oct, Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

OH DEAR DIARY Fri 7 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

JOHN HEGLEY Fri 7 Oct, mac, B'ham

BARRY BLING MR VELVET AND THE ORCHESTRA OF CHAOS Fri 7 Oct, The Spotted Dog, Birmingham

SCOTT BENNETT, DANNY BEET, JON PEARSON, COLIN HAVEY & RED RDMOND Fri 7 Oct, The New Inn, W'hampton

DAN NIGHTINGALE, THE NOISE NEXT DOOR, MARLON DAVIS & BEN BRIGG Fri 7 - Sat 8 Oct, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

RICE N PEAS N CAVIAR (SECOND HELPINGS!) Sat 8 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

PAUL F TAYLOR, ANDY ASKINS, ANDRE VINCENT & DARIUS DAVIES Sat 8 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

SIMON MUNNERY Sat 8 Oct, mac, Birmingham

DANE BAPTISTE Sat 8 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

ROMESH RANGANATHAN Sun 9 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

PAUL RICHARDS Sun 9 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

THE BIRMINGHAM COMEDY FESTIVAL HALF-DAYER - PART 1 Sun 9 Oct, The Victoria, Birmingham

ADHAM FISHER, Sun 9 Oct, Six Eight Cafe, Birmingham

Theatre

DIAL M FOR MURDER Blue Orange Arts present Frederick Knott's erotic tale of betrayal, passion and murder - best known from its 1954 Alfred Hitchcock-directed film version starring Ray Milland and Grace Kelly, until Sat 1 Oct, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

DEAD SHEEP Steve Nailon and Graham Seed star in Jonathan Maitland's tale of love, honour, loyalty and revenge, which charts the story of how Mrs Thatcher, once the most powerful woman in the world, was brought down by Geoffrey Howe, her one-time friend and political soul mate, with one of the greatest speeches ever made, until Sat 1 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION Examination of desperation, injustice, friendship and hope in the claustrophobic setting of a maximum security facility. Based on Stephen King's 1982 novella, until Sat 1 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

DISCO PIGS A furious, funny and violent dash through a lifelong friendship at the moment of its savage destruction, until Sat 1 Oct, The REP, Birmingham



THE KITCHEN SINK Tom Wells' huge-hearted play about marriage, families and making ends meet, until Sat 8 Oct, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

CYMBELINE Melly Still directs Shakespeare's rarely performed romance, until Sat 15 Oct, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

KING LEAR RSC Artistic Director Gregory Doran directs Antony Sher in the title role, until Sat 15 Oct, Royal Shakespeare Theatre,



LIVE COMEDY XMAS PARTIES

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH GLEE

We'll have you in stitches.

CONTACT US TO DISCUSS YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

0871 472 0400

CHRISTMAS@GLEE.CO.UK

GLEE.CO.UK

THE ARCADIAN BIRMINGHAM • 05 470

Stratford-upon-Avon

THE TWO NOBLE KINSMEN Based on Chaucer's *The Knight's Tale*, *The Two Noble Kinsmen* is attributed to John Fletcher and William Shakespeare and is best described as a tragicomedy exploring the intoxication and strangeness of love, until Tues 7 Feb, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

THE ROVER Aphra Behn's anarchic restoration comedy, rich with seduction, intrigue and danger, is set in the topsy-turvy world of the carnival, until Sat 11 Feb, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

ROMEO & JULIET Amateur staging of Shakespeare's classic tale, Fri 30 Sept - Sat 8 Oct, Hall Green Little Theatre, Birmingham

THE HARBINGER OF HUSSAIN Ridhayatullah Theatre present a two-part play exploring the life and times of the seventh century CE Muslim ibn Aqeel, who served as a selfless emissary to deliver a message of peace and unity to lands in Mesopotamia, Sat 1 Oct, The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

URBAN ASTRONAUT Highly Sprung combine a unique travelling flying machine with simple storytelling to provide a glimpse of a possible future... Sat 1 Oct, University Square, Coventry

MY BIG FAT COWPAT WEDDING Kali Theatre & Black Country Touring present a light-hearted look at mixed marriages and rural weddings, Sat 1 Oct, Meole Brace Peace Memorial Hall, Meole Brace, Shrewsbury

ROSA PARKS: THE HIDDEN JOURNEY Thought-provoking exploration of the civil rights movement, performed by a community cast, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Oct, mac, Birmingham

MY BIG FAT COWPAT WEDDING Kali Theatre & Black Country Touring present a light-hearted look at mixed marriages and rural weddings, Sun 2 Oct, Conquest Theatre, Hereford

CARMEN Russian State Ballet & Opera House present Bizet's passionate opera, in which Carmen shifts her passion from one lover to another with tragic consequences, Sun 2 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

THIS MIGHT HURT John Godber's take on the National Health Service, told in a physical theatre style, Mon 3 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

FRANKENSTEIN A brand new adaptation of Mary Shelley's Gothic horror masterpiece, fusing ensemble storytelling, puppetry, live music and theatrics. Presented by Blackeyed Theatre Company, Mon 3 - Thurs 6 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

DEAD SHEEP Steve Nailon and Graham Seed star in Jonathan Maitland's tale of love, honour, loyalty and revenge, which charts the story of how Mrs Thatcher, once the most powerful woman in the world, was brought down by Geoffrey Howe, her one-time friend and political soul mate, with one of the greatest speeches ever made, Mon 3 - Sat 8 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

THE SOUND OF MUSIC Timeless family musical starring Lucy O'Byrne from BBC's *The Voice* and former Coronation Street actor Andrew Lancel, Tues 4 - Sat 8 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

SUNSET BOULEVARD Amateur production presented by Lichfield Garrick Youth Theatre, Tues 4 - Sat 8 Oct, Lichfield Garrick

LENNON: THROUGH A GLASS ONION Part concert, part biography, this off-Broadway success celebrates the genius and music of John Lennon, Wed 5 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

STRICTLY MUSICALS Featuring hits from over 25 of the world's most famous musicals, Wed 5 - Sat 8 Oct, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

RHUM & CLAY: 64 SQUARES A story about memory, free will and how the choices of our past define who we are in the present. Accompanied by a live jazz percussive score, Thurs 6 Oct, mac, Birmingham

THE COUNTRY DOCTOR Noctium Theatre take audiences on a journey into a world of gruesome operations, taking place deep in the isolated, frozen wastes of the Russian countryside, Thurs 6 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

THE RUBY DOLLS The acclaimed cabaret ensemble here use unique arrangements of songs by Nick Cave, Amy Winehouse and Rage Against The Machine to tell the centuries-old folk tale of Bluebeard, Thurs 6 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

HIM Actor Tim Barlow reflects on life at 80 in a new collaborative work by writer/theatre-maker Sheila Hill and photographer/videographer Hugo Glendinning, Thurs 6 - Sat 8 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

946: THE AMAZING STORY OF ADOLPHUS TIPS Kneehigh Theatre fuse music, puppetry and foolishness to tell Michael Morpurgo's tale of war, prejudice and love, based on his novel of the same name, Thurs 6 - Sat 15 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

THE HAUNTING OF EXHAM PRIORY Spine-chilling drama which follows the fate of Mr Delapore, who retires to England to restore his ancestral home only to discover there's more to its past than he could ever have imagined, Fri 7 Oct, Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

BEDTIME STORIES Tucked up with your family and friends in a bedroom installation, unwind and be dazzled by circus, theatre, dance and projections, Sat 8 Oct, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

SETH KRIEBEL: A HOUSE REPEATED Interactive performance-game combining the simplicity of bare-bones storytelling with the limitless possibilities of contemporary open-world computer games, Sat 8 Oct, mac, Birmingham

THE RUBY DOLLS The acclaimed cabaret ensemble use unique arrangements of songs by Nick Cave, Amy Winehouse and Rage



The Country Doctor - Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

Against The Machine to tell the centuries-old folk tale of Bluebeard, Sat 8 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

RICE N PEAS N CAVIAR (SECOND HELPINGS!) Character comedy taking a satirical look at the lives of ladies from the British Afro-Caribbean community and a little further afield, Sat 8 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, B'ham

TEENSPOTTING Key Theatre Academy explore all aspects of teenage life, Sun 9 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

MONSTERSAURUS New show from the creators of *Aliens Love Underpants*, packed with 'thrills, spills, magic and mayhem', Sun 9 Oct, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Shropshire

CARMEN Russian State Ballet & Opera House present Bizet's passionate opera, in which Carmen shifts her passion from one lover to another with tragic consequences, Sun 9 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Box Tale Soup presents its version of Shakespeare's enchanting story, Sun 9 Oct, Kinokulture, Oswestry, North Shropshire

Dance

HUMANHOOD: ZERO New full-length work exploring the relationship between memory, space and time and choreography, lighting and sound, Sat 1 Oct, mac, Birmingham

BRB: THE TEMPEST An original new ballet in celebration of Shakespeare's 400th anniversary, Sat 1 - Sat 8 Oct, Birmingham Hippodrome

ANECKXANDER Choreographed by Alexander Vantournhout & Bauke Lievens, this is a solo show in a minimal setting for one acrobatic body, a handful of carefully selected objects and three variations on a piece of piano music by Arvo Pärt, Fri 7 Oct, DanceXchange, Birmingham

WRIGGLE DANCE THEATRE: THE COLOUR OF ME Interactive dance theatre performance for young audiences, Sun 9 Oct, mac, Birmingham

Talks / Spoken Word

DAN CRUICKSHANK: A HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE IN 100 BUILDINGS Dan Cruickshank talks about the most inspirational and characterful world buildings, Sat 1 Oct, Festival Drayton, Market Drayton, North Shropshire

NICHOLAS PARSONS Join raconteur Nicholas Parsons for an evening of anecdotal entertainment based on his life and a career spent in an unpredictable and always fascinating profession, Sat 1 Oct, Lichfield Garrick

BIRMINGHAM - BRICK LANE - BANGLADESH Emerging local writers share their narratives, exploring their family lives and personal journeys, Sun 2 Oct, mac, Birmingham

JOHN HEGLEY - NEW & SELECTED POTATOES Performance poet, comedian and musician John hits the road, mandolin in hand, to present meditations on subjects such as family, celery and happier Daleks, Fri 7 Oct, mac, Birmingham

IN THE SPACE WITH NIKKI TAPPER BBC radio presenter Nikki Tapper hosts an evening of live music and conversation accompanied by dance and poetry, Fri 7 Oct, mac, Birmingham

Film

INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE (12a) Ricky is a defiant, trash-talking misfit sent by child services to start a new life in rural New Zealand with a foster family: aunt Bella, gruff uncle Hec and dog Tupac. But when events threaten his return, Ricky runs into the bush, with Hec in pursuit. Stars Sam Neill & Julian Dennison. mac, Birmingham, until Thurs 6 Oct

THE CLAN (15) In an affluent suburb of Buenos Aires in the early '80s, a seemingly normal family makes its

living off kidnapping and murder. Welcome to the home of the Puccios - and the astonishing true story of Argentina's most notorious crime family. Stars Guillermo Francella, Peter Lanzani. Foreign language, subtitled. mac, Birmingham, until Thurs 6 Oct

KIRIKOU & THE SORCERESS (U)

Drawing elements from West African folk tales, this is the story of a very small but very brave boy. When his village is terrorised by an evil sorceress, baby Kirikou sets off on an intrepid quest to save his friends and neighbours. With the voices of Antoinette Kellermann & Fezele Mpeka. mac, Birmingham, Sat 1 Oct

BLACK BRITAIN ON FILM A specially curated archive compilation looking at the black experience in Birmingham. Drawing on a superb collection of original 16mm film shot by ATV and Central Television from the 1960s to 1980s that's cared for by the Media Archive for Central England at the University of Lincoln. mac, Birmingham, Sat 1 Oct

BADDDDD: SONIA SANCHEZ An intimate and revealing portrait of the poet and educator Sonia Sanchez. Amongst other events it recalls her days as a Black Panther and as a leading figure in developing black studies and the black arts movement of 1960s America. mac, Birmingham, Sun 2 Oct

ROOM (15) Held captive for years in an enclosed space, a woman (Brie Larson) and her young son (Jacob Tremblay) finally gain their freedom, allowing the boy to experience the outside world for the first time. Forest Arts Centre, Walsall, Fri 7 Oct

MUSTANG (15) When five orphan girls are seen innocently playing with boys on a beach, their scandalised conservative guardians confine them while forced marriages are arranged. Stars Günes Sensoy & Doga Zeynep Doguslu. Foreign language, subtitled. The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 7 Oct

THE GIRL WITH ALL THE GIFTS (15) Adapted by MR Carey from his own novel, this is another sci-fi thriller set in a post-apocalyptic dystopian future. When a fungal infection wipes out most of mankind (check your toenails!), a teacher and a scientist set out on a journey of survival - with a young teenage girl (Nanua) unlike normal human beings... Stars Gemma Arterton & Paddy Considine. mac, Birmingham, Fri 7 - Thurs 13 Oct

LITTLE MEN (PG) Jake is a quiet, sensitive middle schooler with dreams of being an artist. He meets the affably brash Tony at his grandfather's funeral, and the unlikely pair soon hit it off. The budding friendship is put at risk, however, when a rent dispute between Jake's parents threatens to become contentious. Stars Jennifer Ehle & Alfred Molina. mac, Birmingham, Fri 7 - Thurs 13 Oct

NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE:

Released from Wed 5 Oct, showing at selected cinemas

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN (15)

Released from Fri 7 Oct, showing at selected cinemas

THE GREASY STRANGLER (tbc)

MY SCIENTOLOGY MOVIE (15)

WAR ON EVERYONE (15)

Events

THE NATIONAL WEDDING SHOW With over 300 wedding specialists from bridal boutiques and florists to jewellers and photographers, this event is the ultimate wedding shopping experience, until Sun 2 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

STONE FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL until Sun 2 Oct, Westbridge Park, Staffordshire

SHAKESPEARE RE-FASHIONED until Sun 2 Oct, The Bullring Shopping Centre, Birmingham

FLATPACK FESTIVAL - BIRMINGHAM ON FILM until Sat 15 Oct, Various locations throughout Birmingham

4X4 IN THE FOREST Join the rangers in your 4x4 to explore Cannock Chase. Meet at Birches Valley Forest Centre, Sat 1 Oct, Cannock Chase Forest, Staffordshire

MURDER-MYSTERY DINNER EXPERIENCES Performed by the Creative Arts Theatre Company, Sat 1 Oct, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Staffordshire

COILED POT MAKING Create a decorative pot to take home with you by handbuilding and coiling clay, Sat 1 Oct, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

THE SOOTY SHOW: SOOTY IN SPACE Sat 1 - Sun 2 Oct, Cadbury World, Bournville, Birmingham

BIRMINGHAM LITERATURE FESTIVAL 2016 Sat 1 Oct - Sun 16 Oct, various locations, Birmingham City Centre

#LOSTANDFOUND: AN EVENING WITH BRILLIANT YA TALENTS KATHRYN EVANS, EUGENE LAMBERT, PATRICE LAWRENCE, OLIVIA LEVEZ AND SUE WALLMAN A discussion of identity, loss, and the darkness inside, of self-discovery, friendship, and hope for a better tomorrow as part of the #LostandFound Book Tour, Sat 1 Oct, Waterstones, High St, Birmingham

LITTLE SWITZERLAND'S OKTOBERFEST Sat 1 - Sun 2 Oct, Churnet Valley Railway, Staffordshire

TRENTHAM FERN TRAIN TRIPS Take a trip on the Trentham Fern, the resident diesel engine that chuffs along the lakeside on a light gauge railway, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Oct, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent

MINIATURA - THE INTERNATIONAL DOLLS' HOUSE MODELLING SHOW Featuring workshops, old favourites

and skilled exhibitors from the UK and further afield, Sat 1 Oct - Sun 2 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

HARVEST WEEKEND Special activities include a traditional apple pie being baked in the Back to Back House, Sat 1 - Sun 2 Oct, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

SPOOKY SKULL TRAIL Tuesdays to Saturdays during October. Can you find the spooky skulls hidden all around the museum? Sat 1 - Sat 29 Oct, Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

AUTUMN FILM FESTIVAL A month of great films including Academy Award winning Spotlight, Sat 1 - Sat 29 Oct, The Belmont Hall, Wellington

ANTIQUE AND COLLECTORS FAIR Sun 2 Oct, Bantock House & Park, Wolverhampton

WORKSHOP: HOW TO TELL A GREAT GHOST STORY Sun 2 Oct, The Custard Factory, Digbeth, Birmingham

WARTIME WANDER Re-discover the legacy of World War Two via a guided walk, Sun 2 Oct, Attingham Park, Shropshire

RELAXED @ NEWMAN BROTHERS A factory tour designed specifically for people on the autistic spectrum and their families, Sun 2 Oct, Coffin Works, Birmingham

BRIDAL FAYRE Including three fashion shows, Sun 2 Oct, Himley Hall & Park, Dudley

FLATBREAD MAKING Fun and informal baking class, Sun 2 Oct, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

WEDDING FAYRE Sun 2 Oct, The Snowdome, Tamworth

TUESDAY TILE DECORATING WORKSHOPS Tues 4 Oct, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

CRAFTPLAY EXPLORERS Discover, play and create with your child. For children from under one to five years of age, Tues 4 Oct, Bilston Craft Gallery, Wolverhampton

ARTFORUM A range of art activities for 14 to 25-year-olds using different materials and methods, Wed 5 Oct, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

CRAFTPLAY LITTLE EXPLORERS For young children and babies, Wed 5 Oct, Bilston Craft Gallery, Wolverhampton

"NOT A PUB" PUB QUIZ Waterstones' monthly quiz, Wed 5 Oct, Waterstones, High St, Birmingham

HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW Wed 5 Oct - Sun 9 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR Unique event showcasing the world's most amazing ocean films, filmed above and below the water's surface, Fri 7 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

DESTINATION STAR TREK Featuring special guests, props, sets, talks, photo shoots, autographs and more, Fri 7 - Sun 9 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

OPEN DRAWERS AND DOORS Explore the life of the Lander family, Fri 7 - Mon 10 Oct, Sunnycroft, Wellington

WELLINGTON FESTIVAL Three-week celebration of arts and culture, Fri 7 - Sun 30 Oct, Various venues across

Wellington

KINGS NORTON FARMERS' MARKET Sat 8 Oct, The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham

DUDLEY LIBRARIES' DIGITAL FESTIVAL Sat 8 Oct, Halesowen Library, Dudley

THE FACTS BEHIND THE SHROPSHIRE MAMMOTH BY DR ADRIAN LISTER Find out more about the Shropshire Mammoth found in the gravel quarry in Condover, Sat 8 Oct, Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms, South Shropshire

STARS IN YOUR SKIES - THE COMET'S TALE What are comets, where do they come from and what has the Philae/Rosetta mission taught us? Find out with Dr Alan Longstaff, Sat 8 Oct, Carding Mill Valley & The Shropshire Hills

BAVARIAN EVENINGS Featuring a Bavarian Oompah band and a Bavarian buffet feast, Sat 8 Oct, West Midland Safari and Leisure Park, Bewdley, Worcestershire

A LITTLE BOOK OF LEAVES Day course for those looking to return to hand-stitching, Sat 8 Oct, Sunnycroft, Telford, Shropshire

AZTEC WEEKEND Sat 8 - Sun 9 Oct, Cadbury World, Bournville, Birmingham

TOWN WALLS TOWER OPEN DAY Discover Shrewsbury's last remaining watchtower, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Oct, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

SCAREFEST Sat 8 - Sun 9 Oct, Alton Towers, Staffordshire

BRING IN THE HARVEST WEEKEND Harvest-themed craft activities to take part in - from making corn dollies to gathering straw into traditional bales utilising old-fashioned techniques, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Oct, Lower Drayton Farm, Stafford

WESTON PARK HORSE TRIALS Featuring both FEI International classes and National classes under British Eventing, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Oct, Weston Park, Staffordshire

TRENTHAM FERN TRAIN TRIPS Take a trip on The Trentham Fern, the resident diesel engine that chuffs along the lakeside on a light gauge railway, Sat 8 - Sun 9 Oct, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent

MUSHROOM MOSEY AND MUNCH Fungi forage with local mushroom expert John Hughes from the Shropshire Wildlife Trust. Enjoy a two-course, mushroom-themed lunch after your walk, Sun 9 Oct, Fordhall Organic Farm, Market Drayton, North Shropshire

KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE 10K RUN AND 5K RUN Sun 9 Oct, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Staffordshire

WEDDING OPEN HOUSE A special wedding party providing visitors with the chance to take a look inside the beautiful Victorian Orangery and check out the jaw-dropping dining room, sophisticated library and some of the luxurious 28 bedrooms, Sun 9 Oct, Weston Park, Staffordshire

Gigs

DERVISH Mon 10 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

RYAN MCGARVEY BAND Mon 10 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

PETULA CLARK Mon 10 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

ADY SULEIMAN Mon 10 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY Mon 10 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

OCTOBER DRIFT Mon 10 Oct, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

TWIN ATLANTIC Tues 11 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

LEVEL 42 Tues 11 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

FRANKIE BALLARD Tues 11 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

GAVIN JAMES Tues 11 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

BEACH BABY Tues 11 Oct, Hare & Hounds, B'ham

O'HOOLEY & TIDOW Tues 11 Oct, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

LISA MILLS Wed 12 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

LLOYD COLE Wed 12 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

FIFTH HARMONY Wed 12 Oct, Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham

GREGORY PECK'S JAZZ, FUNK AND SOUL OPEN MIC NIGHT Wed 12 Oct, The Night Owl, B'ham

KERBDog Wed 12 Oct, O2 Institute, B'ham

ROYAL REPUBLIC Wed 12 Oct, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

THE ELO EXPERIENCE Thurs 13 Oct, William Aston Hall, Wrexham

CHRISTY MOORE WITH DECLAN SINNOTT & JIM HIGGINS Thurs 13 Oct, Symphony Hall, B'ham

SUZANNE VEGA Thurs 13 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

ANTI-NO WHERE LEAGUE Thurs 13 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

AKALA Thurs 13 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

WHITNEY - QUEEN OF

THE NIGHT Thurs 13 Oct, Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

THE SUNSHINE UNDERGROUND Thurs 13 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

1-EYE REGGAE REVIEW Thurs 13 Oct, The Jam House, Birmingham

NINA NESBITT Thurs 13 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

WHILE & MATHEWS Thurs 13 Oct, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

GOO GOO DOLLS Thurs 13 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

MUSO JAM NIGHT Thurs 13 Oct, The Roadhouse, B'ham

THE BIRMINGHAM COMEDIANS CHOIR Thurs 13 Oct, mac, B'ham

RACKHOUSE PILFER Thurs 13 Oct, The Wightman Theatre, Shrewsbury

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Thurs 13 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

THE AUSTRALIAN PINK FLOYD SHOW Fri 14 Oct, Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham

LEFTFOOT & MOSTLY JAZZ FESTIVAL Fri 14 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

THE JANOSKIANs Fri 14 Oct, The Asylum, Birmingham

KANO Fri 14 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

NICKELBACK Fri 14 Oct, Genting Arena, B'ham

ALL SAINTS Fri 14 Oct, O2 Academy, B'ham

STEVE 'BIG MAN' CLAYTON Fri 14 Oct, Blue Piano Restaurant And Bar, Birmingham

THE LAPELLES Fri 14 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

JONES Fri 14 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

KARKOSA Fri 14 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

BOSTIN' DAYS 2 FESTIVAL live Fri 14 - Sat 15 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

ALL TVVINS Fri 14 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

WILKO JOHNSON Sat 15 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

BROKEN WITT REBELS Sat 15 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

TONY HADLEY Sat 15

Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

THE RESCUE BLUES Sat 15 Oct, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

ANDY MILLS Sat 15 Oct, Havana Republic Bar and Restaurant, Shrewsbury

MO Sat 15 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

JUDY TZUKE: SONGS & STORIES Sat 15 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

BABBU MAAN Sat 15 Oct, Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham

THE LOST NOTES Sat 15 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

THE GIRL FROM MARS Sat 15 Oct, The Roadhouse, B'ham

FALL FESTIVAL Sat 15 Oct, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton

MC TRIGGA BIRTHDAY BASH Sat 15 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

DEAD LETTER CIRCUS Sat 15 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

WILLE AND THE BANDITS Sun 16 Oct, The Wightman Theatre, Shrewsbury

SONIC BOOM SIX Sun 16 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

RAGLANS Sun 16 Oct, O2 Institute, B'ham

JAMIE LAWSON Sun 16 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

EZIO Sun 16 Oct, Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

THE FEELING Sun 16 Oct, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton



THE WHITNEY HOUSTON SHOW Sun 16 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

GILMORE & ROBERTS Sun 16 Oct, Kitchen Garden Cafe, B'ham

LE BUTCHERETTES Sun 16 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

STREAM OF PASSION Sun 16 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

SAINT LEONARDS HORSES Sun 16 Oct, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

Classical Music

ZOE BEYERS (VIOLIN) Programme includes works by J.S Bach & Ysaye, Mon 10 Oct, The Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN Featuring Lucia Caruso (piano) & David Curtis (conductor). Programme includes works by Salieri, Mozart & Haydn, Wed 12 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

TCHAIKOVSKY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Programme includes works by Borodin & Tchaikovsky, Fri 14 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

BBC PHILHARMONIC Featuring Ben Gernon (conductor) & Jennifer Pike (soloist). Programme includes works by Mozart, Sibelius & Dvorak, Fri 14 Oct, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

SHAKESPEARE AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES Featuring Joel Williams (tenor) & Duncan Appleby (piano). Programme includes works by Dowland, Purcell arr. Benjamin Britten, Britten, Parry, Robert Busiakiewicz & Quilter, Fri 14 Oct, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

REGER CENTENARY FESTIVAL: FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT Members of Birmingham Conservatoire Organ Department perform works by JS Bach, Mendelssohn Schumann & Reger, Fri 14 Oct, St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham

MAX REGER CENTENARY FESTIVAL Visit bcu.ac.uk for full listings, Fri 14 - Tues 18 Oct, Birmingham Conservatoire

LEN RAWLE MBE ORGAN CONCERT Sun 16 Oct, The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury

BIRMINGHAM PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Featuring Michael Lloyd (conductor) & Alison Roddy (soprano). Programme includes works by Wagner, Cantaloube & Bartok, Sun 16 Oct, Bramall Music Building, Elgar Concert Hall, Birmingham University

FRICK & MAUREEN YOUNGER Wed 12 Oct, Kitchen Garden Cafe, B'ham

DIRTY WHITE BOYS Wed 12 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

ALEX AND SARAH Wed 12 Oct, Cherry Reds Cafe-Bar, Birmingham

JACOB LOVICK Wed 12 Oct, Cherry Reds Cafe-Bar, Birmingham

RICH HALL Thurs 13 Oct, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire

NATHAN CATON Thurs 13 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

TOM WRIGGLESWORTH, MICHAEL LEGG & COMEDY CAROUSEL WITH ANDY ROBINSON Thurs 13 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

PATRICK MONAHAN Thurs 13 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

SEAN PERCIVAL, STEPHEN DODD, NIPPER THOMAS & RYAN GOUGH Thurs 13 Oct, Dawley Town Hall, Shropshire

THE BIRMINGHAM COMEDIANS CHOIR Thurs 13 Oct, mac, Birmingham

ALEX HYLTON Thurs 13 Oct, Cherry Reds Cafe-Bar, Birmingham

SEAN PERCIVAL, STEPHEN DODD, NIPPER THOMAS & RYAN GOUGH Thurs 13 Oct, Dawley Town Hall

ZOE LYONS, EDD HEDGES, TAMAR BROADBENT & CHRIS PURCHASE Fri 14 Oct, Lichfield Garrick

KERRY GODLIMAN Fri 14 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

NAOMI PAUL Fri 14 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

BEST OF BRUM COMEDY SHOWCASE Fri 14 Oct, Cherry Reds Cafe-Bar, Birmingham

CANNON & BALL Fri 14 Oct, Bedworth Civic Hall

TOM WRIGGLESWORTH, MICHAEL LEGG, HARRIET DYER & JOE WELLS Fri 14 - Sat 15 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

RUDI LICKWOOD, JIM SMALLMAN, BARRY DODDS & ANDY ASKINS Fri 14 - Sat 15 Oct, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

LOL COMEDY CLUB Sat 15 Oct, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

JOSH WIDDICOMBE Sat 15 Oct, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

SEANN WALSH Sat 15 Oct, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

PHIL ELLIS, AARON TWITCHEN & THREE COMICS TBC Sat 15 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

LEE NELSON Sun 16 Oct, The Mockingbird, Birmingham

JASON BYRNE Sun 16 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

FELICITY WARD Sun 16 Oct, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

KANE BROWN Sun 16 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

PANEL BEATERS Sun 16 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

THE BIRMINGHAM COMEDY FESTIVAL HALF-DAYER: PART 2 Sun 16 Oct, The Victoria, Birmingham

Comedy Gigs

LOUDEEMY SOUP COMEDY NIGHT Mon 10 Oct, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

ROADHOUSE COMEDY NIGHT: BIRMINGHAM COMEDY FEST' SPECIAL Mon 10 Oct, The Roadhouse, Birmingham

FREEWHEELERS IMPROV COMEDY NIGHT Mon 10 Oct, Cherry Reds Cafe-Bar, Birmingham

GRIMM UP NORTH PRESENTS - NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Tues 11 Oct, Cherry Reds Cafe-Bar, Birmingham

VODKA, KGB AND MIND TICKLES Tues 11 Oct, Everyman Theatre, B'ham

LOVEHARD - MURDERED BY MURDER Tues 11 Oct, The Victoria, B'ham

ROMESH RANGANATHAN Wed 12 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

ANNETTE FAGON, JOANNA NEARY, ALICE

Theatre

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW Starring Diana Vickers as Janet, Ben Freeman as Brad, Richard Meek as Eddie/Dr Scott and Kristian Lavercombe as Riff Raff, Mon 10 - Sat 15 Oct, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's acclaimed musical, set in his native Liverpool and starring Lyn Paul in the iconic role of Mrs Johnstone, Mon 10 - Sat 22 Oct, Birmingham Hippodrome

CABARET & COMEDY Featuring husband-and-wife duos Dandy and Eternity, Tues 11 Oct, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

FALL OUT Highly Sprung Theatre explore the story of three young people whose night out leads to a journey of self-discovery that tests friendships and questions notions of identity and loyalty, Tues 11 - Wed 12 Oct, mac, Birmingham

GUYS AND DOLLS Amateur production presented by Lichfield Operatic Society, Tues 11 - Sat 15 Oct, Lichfield Garrick

9 TO 5 - THE MUSICAL South Staffs Musical Theatre Company celebrates its 80th birthday with this stage version of the hit Dolly Parton movie, Tues 11 - Sat 15 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

HENCEFORWARD Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough, present a revival of Alan Ayckbourn's classic comedy, directed by Ayckbourn himself, Tues 11 - Sat 29 Oct, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

CLOAKS Fishhouse Theatre present Alison Dunne's 'tender journey of love, hope and disappointment', Wed 12 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA Birmingham School of Acting presents an amateur production of Shakespeare exuberant romantic comedy, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Oct, The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

STARTING OUT New piece of political theatre that shines a light on the experiences of young women entering the world of work in 2016, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

MERCHANT OF VENICE Amateur production presented by Birmingham School of Acting, Wed 12 - Sat 15 Oct, The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham

GANGSTA GRANNY Birmingham Stage Company bring David Walliams' best-selling book to the stage, Wed 12 - Sun 16 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

CANTERBURY TALES Blast From The Past present six of the best-loved tales, told in a variety of styles, Thurs 13 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

ON THE EDGE OF ME Yolanda Mercy performs a solo comedy exploring the subjects of mental health and

graduate unemployment, Thurs 13 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

FRANKO B: MILK & BLOOD An uncompromising performance that responds to personal traumas, societal ills, corrupt politics and barbaric conflict, Thurs 13 Oct, mac, Birmingham

SCARABEUS AERIAL THEATRE Immersive theatre show combining 'breathtaking' aerial skills, a pulsating soundtrack and 'stunning' projections, Thurs 13 - Fri 14 Oct, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES Ambient Night Productions bring a dash of humour to the classic Sherlock Holmes tale, Thurs 13 - Fri 14 Oct, Prince of Wales Centre, Cannock

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR Amateur production of the tale of lost love, infidelity, romance and punch-ups, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 Oct, Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire

HOUSE OF ORPHANS: A BED OF SHARDS The story of Ronnie and Button, two tower-block residents whose eviction to a brand new bungalow reveals dark truths about their relationship, Fri 14 Oct, mac, Birmingham

ROMEO & JULIET Traffic Of The Stage Touring presents its version of the greatest love story ever told, Fri 14 - Sat 15 Oct, Theatre On The Steps, Bridgnorth, South Shropshire

ALAN AYCKBOURN'S KARAOKE THEATRE COMPANY Fast-moving concoction of farce, comedy, drama and melodrama, all topped off with a dash of good old-fashioned stage magic, Fri 14 - Sat 29 Oct, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

GRAEME SWANN'S GREAT BRITISH SPIN OFF With Henry Blofeld, Sat 15 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

AUSTENTATIOUS An all-star cast in period costume improvise a brand new Jane Austen work, based on a single audience suggestion, Sat 15 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury



SERIOUSLY DEAD Brand new comedy play starring Crissy Rock, Frazer Hines, Paul Dunn, Billy Pearce and Leah Bell, Sat 15 Oct, The Place, Oakengates, Shropshire

LET'S TWIST AGAIN A full company of acclaimed artists and musicians deliver a show combining music, fun and laughter, Sun 16 Oct, Lichfield Garrick

WHAT'S ON AT THEATRE SEVERN...

<p>SAT 8 OCT</p> <p>DANE BAPTISTE REASONABLE DOUBTS</p> <p>Original, provocative and already hailed as one of the most exciting comic talents to break in years.</p>	<p>FRI 21 OCT</p> <p>MOTOWN'S GREATEST HITS <i>How Sweet It Is</i></p> <p>THE ULTIMATE CELEBRATION OF THE SWEET SOUND OF MOTOWN IS BACK!</p>
<p>SAT 22 OCT</p> <p>JIMMY OSMOND MOON RIVER AND ME</p> <p>Relive the dream with Jimmy Osmond singing the songs of Andy Williams.</p>	<p>TUE 25 OCT</p> <p>MARK RADCLIFFE</p> <p>Expect songs and stories of middle aged angst, tales of ineptitude and encounters with some of music's most famous names.</p>
<p>SAT 29 OCT</p> <p>pinocchio</p> <p>A brand new adaptation of the classic fairy tale, from acclaimed choreographer Jasmin Vardimon</p>	<p>SUN 30 OCT</p> <p>PAUL FOOT 'TIS A PITY SHE'S A PIGLET</p> <p><i>'Sublime, original and brilliant'</i> Independent</p>

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR FULL LISTINGS



BOX OFFICE 01743 281 281
BOOK ONLINE WWW.THEATRESEVERN.CO.UK
THEATRE SEVERN, PRINCEWILL GARD, SHREWSBURY SY3 6ET

Dance

RUN 2Faced Dance present a triple bill choreographed by Tamsin Fitzgerald, Lenka Vagnerova and Rebecca Evans, with original music by Angus MacRae and Tomas Vychytil, Thurs 13 - Fri 14 Oct, DanceXchange, Birmingham

ROSIE KAY DANCE COMPANY: DOUBLE POINTS: K & MOTEL Featuring two athletic, intelligent and technical dance duets - Double Points: K, a study of synchronicity and stamina set to a soundtrack of Bach, dub step and electronica, and Motel, a dark and sexy piece inspired by the paintings of visual arts duo Huntley Muir, Fri 14 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

MAY CONTAIN FOOD Award-winning dance company Protein present a specially adapted version of their playful show about the sensory, cultural and social implications of food, Sat 15 Oct, Wem Town Hall, Shropshire

Film

INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

WHITE MATERIAL (15) Amidst turmoil and racial conflict in Africa, a French woman fights for her coffee crop, her family and, ultimately, for her life. Stars Isabelle Huppert & Christopher Lambert. Foreign language, subtitled. The Hive, Shrewsbury, Wed 12 Oct

BRIDGET JONES'S BABY (15) Twelve years on and Bridget is still composing her diaries. And this time she really does have something to write about: her bump. Scripted by the redoubtable triumvirate of Emma Thompson, Helen Fielding and Dan Mazer, the romcom sees Bridget battling with her 40s but settling down to a contented routine with her reliable circle of friends. And then a dashing American enters her life... Starring Renée Zellweger & Colin Firth. Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Thurs 13 - Sun 16 Oct; mac, Birmingham, Fri 14 - Tues 18 Oct

LOSING GROUND Losing Ground by Kathleen Collins, one of the first African-American women to direct a feature film, will be a revelation to audiences denied the opportunity to see it on its completion in 1982. A picture of a romance at the crossroads of a New York summer, it's also a story of black lives, presented with a sensitivity rarely seen even today. mac, Birmingham, Fri 14 Oct

BLACKBIRD (NC) Seventeen-year-old Randy tries very hard to be a good person. Since his father left, Randy takes care of his emotionally disturbed mother, and he's the kind of friend all of his classmates can depend on. As strong as he seems on the outside, Randy is hiding a secret inner struggle and denial of his true self. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 14 Oct

GONE TO EARTH (PG) This brooding romantic drama was filmed on location in Shropshire in 1950 and featured many extras drawn from the local area. Adapted from the 1917 novel of the same name by Shropshire's celebrated author Mary Webb, the film is still fondly remembered locally as a moment when Hollywood came to the county and brightened the post-war gloom. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 14 Oct

GOSTA GREEN REVISITED (PG) When BBC Birmingham outgrew its first base on Broad Street, television production moved to the old Delicia Cinema on Gosta Green. This afternoon's screening is a rare chance to sample a selection of Gosta Green's output, introduced by TV historian Lez Cooke. mac, Birmingham, Sat 15 Oct

WOMEN LIKE US/WOMEN LIKE THAT First screened in 1989 as part of Channel Four's groundbreaking TV series Out On Tuesday, these two documentaries explore and revisit the lives of older lesbians in the UK from different cultures, classes and backgrounds, from the 1920s to that present day (1989). Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sat 15 Oct

REAL BOY Bennett Wallace is a charismatic teenager on the brink of adulthood. As he navigates the ups and downs of gender transition and grapples with a history of substance abuse, he embarks on a journey to find his voice - as a musician, a friend, a son, and a man. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sat 15 Oct

SUMMERTIME (15) Two women from entirely different worlds - Carole is a militant feminist teaching Spanish in Paris and Delphine is a farmer's daughter committed to her parents in rural southwest France - fall passionately in love. Stars Cécile de France & Izia Higelin. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sat 15 Oct

LAUREL & HARDY ALL AT SEA (PG) Three classic films with a nautical theme from one the greatest double-act of all time, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy... mac, Birmingham, Sat 15 Oct

EMPIRE ROAD (PG) Empire Road was the first serious attempt at a long-running drama on British television addressing Britain's growing multi-racial society. This screening offers a rare opportunity to see two episodes of the show on the big screen. Followed by Q&A with actress Corinne Skinner-Carter. mac, Birmingham, Sat 15 Oct

SWEET BEAN (PG) Sweet Bean is the name given to a delicious red paste in the middle of the dorayaki pancakes that Sentaro sells from his bakery to a small but loyal clientele. He's a remote man, for whom things change when the eccentric, 76-year-old Tokue responds to his ad for an assistant. Stars Kirin Kiki & Masatoshi Nagase. Foreign language, subtitled. mac, Birmingham, Sat 15 - Sun 16 Oct

DESERT HEARTS (18) In 2016, the appeal of Desert Hearts may be less



Protein Dance Company: May Contain Food - Wem Town Hall

in the story and more in the landmark staging of the first on-screen lesbian love story that didn't end up in suicide or ménage à trios! Stars Helen Shaver & Patricia Charbonneau. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sun 16 Oct

ALIGARH (NC) An Indian professor is humiliated and expelled. His plight is recognised by a rookie journalist. The story is set against a background of the repeal and reinstatement of notorious para. 377 of the Indian Penal Code. Foreign language, subtitled. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sun 16 Oct

GERONTOPHILIA (18) This Canadian romantic comedy, directed by sometimes-controversial director-writer Bruce LaBruce, sees Lake, an 18-year-old sports-centre poolside attendant, discover that he has an unusual attraction for the elderly. Fate lands him a job at an assisted-living care home, where he develops an intimate relationship with Mr Peabody. Stars Pier-Gabriel Lajoie & Walter Borden. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sun 16 Oct

NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE:

Released from Fri 14 Oct, showing at selected cinemas

AMERICAN HONEY (15)

INFERNO (tbc)

KATE PLAYS CHRISTINE (tbc)

STORKS (U)

Events

BAKE AND MAKE - THE ART OF BREAD AND BUTTER Learn a 17th century skill to take home. Make a loaf of bread

and butter from scratch and have a tour of the house, Mon 10 Oct, Moseley Old Hall, Wolverhampton

TUESDAY TILE DECORATING WORKSHOPS Tues 11 Oct, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

RICK STEIN SIGNING Rick's in store to sign copies of his new book, Long Weekends, Tues 11 Oct, Waterstones - High St, Birmingham

THE MOTORHOME AND CARAVAN SHOW Tues 11 - Sun 16 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

GREGORY LEADBETTER: LAUNCH OF THE FETCH Wed 12 Oct, Waterstones - High St, Birmingham

OKTOBERFEST Wed 12 - Sun 16 Oct, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham

THE AUTUMN VEGETARIAN COOKERY COURSE Hands-on cookery session, Thurs 13 Oct, Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms, South Shropshire

REVEREND RICHARD COLES SIGNING The Reverend Richard Coles signs copies of his new book, Bringing In The Sheaves, Thurs 13 Oct, Waterstones, High St, Birmingham

BOOK TO THE FUTURE University of Birmingham's annual festival of the written and spoken word, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 Oct, The University of Birmingham

HARRY HOOK: ABOUT AFRICA Fri 14 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

INDEPENDENT BREWERS FESTIVAL Taste around 50 real ales and keg beers, sourced from small independent UK brewers, Fri 14 - Sat 15 Oct, National Brewery Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

THE VAPER EXPO Europe's biggest and best vape convention, attracting exhibitors worldwide, Fri 14 - Sat 15 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

FORGE EXPERIENCE DAY Hands-on

thelist

experience of blacksmithing under the experienced guidance of a locksmith demonstrator, Sat 15 Oct, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

VILLAGE WATER OLYMPIC CHALLENGE Meet and challenge Debbie Flood, silver medallist at the 2004 and 2008 Olympic games, Sat 15 Oct, The Square, Shrewsbury

JEWELLERY QUARTER HERITAGE WALK Sat 15 Oct, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

WILDLIFE WATCH GROUP: FURRY CREATURES Under the guidance of the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, catch some of the mini creatures who like to call the Arboretum home, Sat 15 Oct, National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire

CVR DIESEL DAY Sat 15 Oct, Churnet Valley Railway, Staffordshire

CRAFTPLAY SATURDAY FAMILY STAY AND PLAYS Create, explore and play along with your child. For children from under one to seven years old, Sat 15 Oct, Bilston Craft Gallery, Wolverhampton

CADBURY CHARACTER WEEKEND Sat 15 - Sun 16 Oct, Cadbury World, Bournville, Birmingham

SPOOKLEY PUMPKIN FESTIVAL Sat 15 - Sun 16 Oct, Apley Farm Shop, Shifnal, Shropshire

SCAREFEST Sat 15 - Sun 16 Oct, Alton Towers, Staffordshire

APPLE WEEKEND Sat 15 - Sun 16 Oct, Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens, Birmingham

THE BIG BANG SNOWBOARD SHOW WEEKENDER Sat 15 - Sun 16 Oct, The Snowdome, Tamworth

TRENTHAM FERN TRAIN TRIPS Take a trip on The Trentham Fern, the resident diesel engine that chuffs along the lakeside on a light gauge railway, Sat 15 - Sun 16 Oct, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent

ORCHARD DAY Celebrate the apple harvest with dancing, apple pressing, competitions and more, Sun 16 Oct, Dudmaston Estate, Shropshire

CAPABILITY BROWN TOUR Overview of Brown's landscape, with a focus on the new perennial plantings, Sun 16 Oct, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent

BREADMAKING WORKSHOP Sun 16 Oct, Fordhall Organic Farm, Market Drayton, North Shropshire

AUTUMN RUNNING DAY Sun 16 Oct, Aston Manor Road Transport Museum, Walsall

TREES IN THE PARK WALK Rediscover the parkland with a guided walk, Sun 16 Oct, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

Wellington Arts Festival

various venues, Wellington, South Shropshire, Sat 1 - Sun 30 October

This annual autumn festival may have lost the word 'literary' from its title, but it's made several gains in the process, with comedy, photography, dance and culture all being added to the programme of events. There's plenty for literature lovers to enjoy too, including travel writing workshops, poetry and performance writing. This year's festival is a spectacular three-week celebration of arts and culture," says new chair Councillor Cindy Mason-Morris. "Opening the event will be Eddie 'the eagle' Edwards, who'll be talking about when he became the first competitor to represent Great Britain in Olympic ski jumping in 1988. The following day will see a Comedy Club night with award-winning comedian

Hannah Sylvester (pictured) and five further acts. Another major highlight of the programme is an appearance by Tom Watt, the ghost writer of David Beckham's autobiography. Tom's also an actor, broadcaster and filmmaker, and returns to the festival following a successful appearance in 2015."



BARRACKS PASSAGE
SHREWSBURY
SY1 1XA
01743 361666

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

SUNDAY 16th OCTOBER



EZIO

SUNDAY 23rd OCTOBER



JO
HARMAN

SUNDAY 30th OCTOBER



MARTIN
SIMPSON

SUNDAY 6th NOVEMBER



CARRIE
RODRIGUEZ

THE AWARD WINNING
MUSIC & COMEDY
VENUE
IN SHROPSHIRE

Gigs

BARS AND MELODY Mon 17 Oct, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

STEVE MASON Mon 17 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

FIELD STUDIES Mon 17 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

JUSTIN BIEBER Mon 17 Oct - Tues 18 Oct, Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham

THE TUBES Tues 18 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

WE ARE SCIENTISTS Tues 18 Oct, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

SPRING KING Tues 18 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

JAY BRANNAN Tues 18 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

BARB WIRE DOLLS Tues 18 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

AMBER ARCADES Tues 18 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III Tues 18 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

STEEL PANTHER Wed 19 Oct, Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham

THE STRAY BIRDS Wed 19 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

BEN POOLE Wed 19 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

TOM WALKER TRIO Wed 19 Oct, The Jam House, Birmingham

THE VRYLL SOCIETY Wed 19 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

BILLY TALENT Wed 19 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

BELINDA O'HOOLEY & HEIDI TIDDOW Wed 19 Oct, The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham

AUSTIN LUCAS & DREAMING SPIRES Wed 19 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

KIKI DEE AND CARMELO LUGGERI Thurs 20 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

WISHBONE ASH Thurs 20 Oct, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

THE CRAZY WORLD OF ARTHUR BROWN Thurs 20 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

VOICE OF THE HEART -

KAREN CARPENTER Thurs 20 Oct, Lichfield Garrick

THE SENSATIONAL 60'S EXPERIENCE Thurs 20 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

KEYWEST Thurs 20 Oct, O2 Academy, B'ham

THE SUNSHINE UNDERGROUND Thurs 20 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

FAUSTUS Thurs 20 Oct, Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire

POLICA Thurs 20 Oct, O2 Institute, B'ham

SPRING KING Thurs 20 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

FIELD STUDIES Thurs 20 Oct, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

HEAVEN 17 Fri 21 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

MIDGE URE Fri 21 Oct, Stratford Artshouse

SOUL'D OUT Fri 21 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

LONELY THE BRAVE Fri 21 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

LEE MEAD Fri 21 Oct, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Shropshire

NINA KRAVIZ PLUS BODDIKA & ADAM SHELTON Fri 21 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

HOW SWEET IT IS - MOTOWN'S GREATEST HITS Fri 21 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

VIVA NEIL DIAMOND Fri 21 Oct, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

DOMINIC KIRWAN Fri 21 Oct - Sat 22 Oct, Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, North Shropshire

A VISION OF ELVIS Fri 21 Oct, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

NIBBS & EDDY Fri 21 Oct, Havana Republic Bar and Restaurant, Shrewsbury

THE CLONE ROSES Fri 21 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

AQUILLO Fri 21 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

MICHAEL KIWANUKA Fri 21 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

BAD COMPANY Fri 21 Oct, Genting Arena, Birmingham

BROTHERS OF THE MOMENT Fri 21 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

ROBERT CRAIG OULTON Fri 21 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

ALL TVVINS Fri 21 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

BOOTLEG BLONDIE Sat 22 Oct, The Roadhouse, B'ham

THE CHRISTIANS 30TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR Sat 22 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

ANTARCTIC MONKEYS Sat 22 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

GORGON CITY Sat 22 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

BARS AND MELODY Sat 22 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

BAY CITY ROLLERS STAR-RING LES MCKEOWN Sat 22 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

HENRY PRIESTMAN Sat 22 Oct, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

JIMMY OSMOND Sat 22 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

MAXIMUM RNB WITH THE MANFREDS Sat 22 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

AT DAWN WE ATTACK Sat 22 Oct, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

JO HARMAN & COMPANY Sun 23 Oct, Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

JOANNE SHAW TAYLOR Sun 23 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

KIKO BUN Sun 23 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

SHANE FILAN Sun 23 Oct, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

THE ROOM Sun 23 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

BIRDY Sun 23 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

TOM WOODMAN BAND Sun 23 Oct, Lichfield Guildhall

GEORGE MONBIOT AND EWAN MCLENNAN Sun 23 Oct, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

FLASH OF THE BLADE Sun 23 Oct, The Slade Rooms, W'hampton

BLACK FOXES + BIG SPRING Sun 23 Oct, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

Classical Music

CBSO SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE

Featuring Nicholas Collon (conductor) & Vilde Frang (violin). Programme includes works by Ravel, Couperin, Korngold & Berlioz, Wed 19 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

THE KING'S SINGERS Wed 19 Oct, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

BERLIN PHILHARMONIC WIND QUINTET Programme includes works by Mozart (arr. Hasel), Kalevi Aho, Tomasi & Paul Taffanel, Wed 19 Oct, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

LA VOCE Thurs 20 Oct, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

ELGAR'S STRING QUARTET Programme includes works by Bax & Elgar, Thurs 20 Oct, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

LA VOCE Fri 21 Oct, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

FRONTIERS TRIO Featuring David Le Page (violin), Mark Ashford (guitar) & Nick Stringfellow (cello). Programme includes works by Vivaldi, Paganini, Monti & Piazzola, Fri 21 Oct, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

RICHARD JENKINSON & DAVID LE PAGE Programme includes works by Kodaly & Ghys/Servais, Fri 21 Oct, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

LA BOHEME Ellen Kent present a brand new production of Puccini's tragic tale, Sat 22 Oct, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

CBSO: THE SPIRIT OF ENGLAND Programme includes works by Ravel, Elgar & Berlioz, Sat 22 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

THE SONGS OF BENJAMIN BRITTEN Pianist Elizabeth Rossiter presents an afternoon recital of Benjamin Britten, Purcell & Quilter, Sat 22 Oct, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

PAUL DRAKELEY ALL-STAR ORCHESTRA Sat 22 Oct, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

THE SONGS OF BENJAMIN BRITTEN Featuring Frances Israel and Elizabeth Rossiter Sat 22 Oct, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

THE SPIRIT OF ENGLAND Programme includes works by Ravel, Elgar & Berlioz, Sat 22 Oct, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

THE BARBER OF SEVILLE Pop-Up Opera present a fast-paced version of Rossini's sparkling opera, Sun 23 Oct, Alington Hall, Shrewsbury School

Comedy Gigs

TOADALLY FREE COMEDY! Mon 17 Oct The Blue Orange Theatre, B'ham

ELIS JAMES & JOHN ROBINS EXPERIENCE Wed 19 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

JOJO SMITH, MIKE WILMOT & COMEDY CAROUSEL WITH ANDY ROBINSON Thurs

20 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

NIGEL NG, ROBYN PERKINS, DAVE POLLARD, JOHN MEAGHER, JOSEPH BLOGGS & SPIKY MIKE Thurs 20 Oct, The Alfred, Burton-upon-Trent

RH COMEDY PRESENTS HOSTED BY LAURA MONMOTH Thurs 20 Oct, The Roadhouse, Birmingham

TOM ALLEN, SUZI RUFFELL Fri 21 Oct, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

JOEL DOMMETT Fri 21 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

RICH HALL Fri 21 Oct, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire



MONTY BURNS, DANNY BEET, FREDDIE FARRELL & JIM BAYNES Fri 21 Oct, The MPV, Walsall

JOJO SMITH, MIKE WILMOT, JONNIE PRICE & MATT PRICE Fri 21 - Sat 22 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

STEVE ROYAL, DANNY MCLOUGHLIN, STEPHEN BAILEY & TUDOR OWEN Fri 21 - Sat 22 Oct, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

COMEDY IN THE MET Sat 22 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

Theatre

DOMESTICA Highly anticipated new work from Sleepwalk Collective which asks what we might cling to and what we might love in an ever-louder, ever-accelerating new century the we already seem to be leaving, Mon 17 Oct, The REP, Birmingham


SORRY! NO COLOURED, NO IRISH, NO DOGS Gazebo returns with one of its most powerful plays - an exploration of racism and migration, presented in response to events taking place across the UK and internationally, Tues 18 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

HUBBUB A MUSICAL ADVENTURE Musical journey which sees five friends follow the trail of the mysterious blue beetle in the quest for a lost voice. Presented by Mishmash Productions, Tues 18 Oct, The Brewhouse Arts Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

LIVING WITH LUKE Critically acclaimed play about a father coping with his son's autism, Tues 18 Oct, The Place, Oakengates, Shropshire


THE WOMAN IN BLACK Stephen Mallatratt's stage adaptation of Susan Hill's acclaimed ghost story, Tues 18 - Sat 22 Oct, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

THE EXORCISM Supernatural thriller




the
brewhouse
arts centre & café bar


COMING SOON...




1 October, 8pm
Gordie MacKeeman & his Rhythm Boys
Tickets: £14 otd, £12 adv




6 October, 4.30pm & 7.30pm
Zest Theatre presents:
Thrive
Tickets: £9 (18+) £6 (14+) £25 family of 4




7 October, 8pm
Mark Watson: I'm Not Here
Tickets: £17



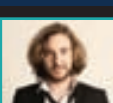
12 October, 8pm
Nottingham Playhouse presents:
Tony's Last Tape
Tickets: £12, £10 concessions




18 October, 1.30pm & 5pm
MishMash Productions:
Hubbub
Tickets: £8, £6 Concessions, £25 family of 4



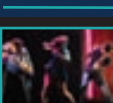
29th October, 12pm
GEM Recitals
A Celebration of English Song
Tickets: £5



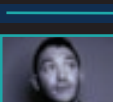
2 November, 7.30pm
Seann Walsh: One for the Road
Tickets: £14



3 November, 8pm
Nimble Fish:
Lost in Blue
Pay What You Think It's Worth!



8 November, 1pm & 7pm
Highly Sprung:
Fall Out
Tickets: £9 (18+) £6 (14+) £25 family of 4



23 November, 8pm
Jon Richardson: Work in Progress
Tickets: £14

Box office:
01283 508100
BOOK ONLINE AT
www.brewhouse.co.uk

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

LICHFIELD GARRICK
Thrills & Style

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS



SAT 1 OCT, 7.30PM
NICHOLAS PARSONS
Join raconteur Nicholas Parsons for an evening of anecdotal entertainment based on his experience of life and working in the various media of an unpredictable and always fascinating profession.
£21.50



TUE 4 - SAT 8 OCT, 7.30PM SAT MAT 2.30PM
LICHFIELD GARRICK YOUTH THEATRE PRESENT
SUNSET BOULEVARD
featuring music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Christopher Hampton.
£21 - £17, £11 Students



SAT 8 OCT, 1.00PM & 3.30PM
BLUNDERBUS THEATRE COMPANY
THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE
Charlie Hubble is a little boy with a very big dream, he wants to be a world-class magician.
£10, £7.50 Child



TUE 11 - SAT 15 OCT, 7.30PM SAT MAT 2.30PM
LICHFIELD OPERATIC SOCIETY
GUYS AND DOLLS
With songs such as Guys and Dolls, Luck Be A Lady and the show-stopping Sit Down You're Rocking The Boat.
£17.00 - £19.50



TUE 18 - SAT 22 OCT, 7.45PM
LICHFIELD PLAYERS
THE EXORCISM
Terrifying events unfold when Rachel and Edward invite their friends to stay at their secluded cottage for Christmas.
£13, £11 Students



THURS 20 OCT, 7.30PM
VOICE OF THE HEART - KAREN CARPENTER
With superb vocals from CAROLE GORDON and outstanding talent from the brilliant BLUE JEANS BAND & SINGERS.
£22 - £20.50





TUE 25 - SAT 29 OCT, 7.30PM, MATS 2.30PM
SUTTON COLDFIELD MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY
THE WIZARD OF OZ
Join Dorothy as she makes her way through Oz with the help of the Scarecrow, Lion and Tinman.
£12 - £19, £55 Family




FRI 28 OCT, 7.45PM
KICKING & SCREAMING
An honest, funny and touching show about when a baby arrives and suddenly the world you know becomes a different place entirely. With a live score played on children's instruments.
£12, £8 Students


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

What's on...








Thursday 13th October
RICHARD HALL
Time: 8.00pm 14+




Saturday 15th October
SERIOUSLY DEAD
Time: 7.30pm




Sunday 16th October
GRIMETHORPE COLLIERY BAND
Time: 3.00pm




Friday 21st October
LEE MEAD
Time: 7.30pm




Saturday 22nd October
BEYOND THE BARRICADE
Time: 8.00pm




Wednesday 2nd November
ISLE OF WOMAN
Time: 7.30pm



Tuesday 8th November
MAGICAL MOZART BY CANDLELIGHT
Time: 7.30pm





Friday 11th November
PADDY
Time: 7.30pm



Wednesday 23rd November
THE ILLEGAL EAGLES
Time: 7.30pm

01952 382382
www.theplacetelford.com

Telford & Wrekin
COUNCIL
TWC GP 01050

presented by the Lichfield Players, Tues 18 - Sat 22 Oct, Lichfield Garrick

SÉANCE Tues 18 - Sat 29 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

FALL OUT Highly Sprung Theatre explore the story of three young people whose night out leads to a journey of self-discovery, one which tests friendships and questions notions of identity and loyalty, Wed 19 - Thurs 20 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

A TALE OF TWO CITIES The Touring Consortium Theatre Company presents its version of Charles Dickens' French Revolution-set story of love, sacrifice and redemption, Wed 19 - Sat 22 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

THE HOLLOW A Mad Cow production of Agatha Christie's classic English country-house murder-mystery, Wed 19 - Sat 22 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

CYMBELINE Birmingham School of Acting present Shakespeare's little-performed tale of adultery, betrayal and banishment, Wed 19 - Sat 22 Oct, The Crescent Theatre, B'ham

TITANIC THE MUSICAL Amateur production of Maury Yeston & Peter Stone's ensemble musical, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 Oct, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

WE'RE GOING ON A BEAR HUNT Little Angel Theatre bring Michael Rosen's much-loved children's book to life in a new puppetry production featuring music and lyrics by renowned singer-songwriter Barb Jungr, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 Oct, The Old Rep, Birmingham

METHOD IN MADNESS Fusion of Shakespearean text and new writing with physical theatre, dance and mask/puppetry work, Thurs 20 - Fri 21 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

ROUNDAABOUT SEASON: GROWTH A comedy about growing up and manning up, Thurs 20 - Fri 21 Oct, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

ROSES OF EYAM True story of a village in Derbyshire in the aftermath of the English Civil War, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 Oct, The Belfrey, Wellington, Shropshire

THE EULOGY OF TOBY PEACH Exploration of modern science and the human body, self-mortality and the celebration of life, presented through the story of one man's journey with cancer, Fri 21 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton



MONOLOGUESLAM UK Check out the brightest new acting talent and see actors go head-to-head to be crowned the winner of their respective rounds, Fri 21 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

CABARET XXL - EAST END CABARET Featuring alternative, filth-mongering musical comedy duo, Bernie & Vicky, Fri 21 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

LOST DOG: PARADISE LOST (LIES UNOPENED BESIDE ME) One-man staging fusing theatre, comedy and movement to retell Milton's epic poem in just 75 minutes, Fri 21 - Sat 22 Oct, mac, Birmingham

ROUNDAABOUT SEASON: I GOT SUPER-POWERS FOR MY BIRTHDAY Three almost-teens go on an epic quest to save the planet, Fri 21 - Sun 23 Oct, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

THE EXORCIST Unleashed for the first time in a uniquely theatrical experience, Fri 21 Oct - Sat 5 Nov, The REP, Birmingham

LOVERS ROCK MONOLOGUES Janet Kay, Carroll Thompson and Victor Romero Evans fuse timeless music and theatrical storytelling to present an account of the Lovers Rock lifestyle, Sat 22 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

THE MAGNETIC DIARIES Contemporary exploration of one woman's depression, Sat 22 Oct, mac, Birmingham

ROUNDAABOUT SEASON: LOVE LIES AND TAXIDERMY An offbeat love story by Alan Harris, Sat 22 Oct, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

THE COLOURS OF KENNY ROACH A warm, funny and deeply moving drama about creativity, the nature of the artist and the self-destructive impulse of addiction, Sat 22 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

JANAK DULARI SITA Subrang Arts present a dramatic staging of India's timeless epic, told through musical storytelling, choreography and dance, Sat 22 Oct, The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

BEYOND THE BARRICADE Concert presentation of some of the greatest songs in musical theatre, performed by Andy Reiss, David Fawcett, Katie Leeming, Rebecca Vere and an ensemble of talented musicians, Sat 22 Oct, The Place, Oakengates, Shropshire

LA BOHÈME Ellen Kent present a brand new production of Puccini's tragic tale, Sat 22 Oct, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

SING-A-LONG-A GREASE Interactive screening of the classic film starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John, Sun 23 Oct, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

DAN TDM ON TOUR One of the world's biggest YouTubers takes to the road with his pugs, Dr Trayaurus and lots of other friends, Sun 23 Oct, Birmingham Hippodrome

THE ADVENTURES OF WALTER LEMON-FACE 154 Collective present a mix of live animation, music and storytelling for children aged three-plus, Sun 23 Oct, mac, Birmingham



Fagin's Twist - The Patrick Centre, Birmingham Hippodrome

Dance

FAGIN'S TWIST Avant Garde Dance Company shed new light on Dickens' Oliver Twist, Thurs 20 - Fri 21 Oct, Birmingham Hippodrome

ROMEO AND JULIET Ballet Theatre UK present a passionate and innovative recreation of the world's greatest love story, Thurs 27 Oct, Prince of Wales Centre, Cannock

PINOCCHIO: JASMIN VARDIMON COMPANY A brand new adaptation of the classic tale, based on the original book by Collodi and performed by Vardimon's multi-talented dancers, Sat 29 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

Talks / Spoken Word

CHRIS PACKHAM: TADPOLES NOT INCLUDED The popular presenter of Springwatch and The Really Wild Show talks about his encounters with large hungry carnivores, his close shaves with extinction and his views on conservation, Mon 17 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

AN EVENING WITH SIMON GARFIELD Simon takes a look at the worldwide obsession with keeping time, Tues 18 Oct, Waterstones, High St, Birmingham

AN EVENING WITH MONTY DON The gardening expert talks about his life and travels, Tues 18 Oct, Lichfield Garrick, Staffordshire



Film

INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

THINGS TO COME (12a) Nathalie teaches philosophy at a high school in Paris. Married with two children, she divides her time between her family, former students and her very possessive mother. One day, Nathalie's husband announces he's leaving her for another woman. With freedom thrust upon her, Nathalie must reinvent her life. Foreign language, subtitled. Old Market hall, Shrewsbury, Mon 17 - Thurs 20 Oct

HELL OR HIGH WATER (15) Chris Pine has already been through hell and high water this year (in the water-logged *Finest Hours*), but here the title proves to be a little more metaphorical. He plays a Texan farmer whose business is facing foreclosure, so he and his brother, an ex-con, set about acquiring some major cash by somewhat unorthodox means... Also stars Jeff Bridges. mac, Birmingham, Mon 17 - Thurs 20 Oct

TICKLED (15) Journalist David Farrier stumbles upon a mysterious tickling competition online. As he delves deeper, he comes up against fierce resistance - but that doesn't stop him getting to the bottom of a story stranger than fiction. mac, Birmingham, Wed 19 Oct

PRIMARY COLOURS (15) John Travolta leads an all-star cast (including Oscar-winners Emma Thompson, Kathy Bates and Billy Bob Thornton) on a wild race to the presidency in this savagely funny comedy. mac, Birmingham, Thurs 20 Oct

PARADISE NOW (15) Two Palestinian garage mechanics and best friends living on the West Bank are recruited to cross into Israel for a suicide bombing. Can anyone or anything change their minds? Foreign language, subtitled. The Hive, Shrewsbury, Fri 21 Oct

THE INFILTRATOR (18) Based on the autobiography of US Customs agent

Robert Mazur (Cranston), this is the story of an undercover operation in which Mazur pretended to be a corrupt businessman. His aim was to expose a Colombian money-laundering drug cartel run by none other than Pablo Escobar. Stars Bryan Cranston & Diane Kruger. mac, Birmingham, Fri 21 - Wed 26 Oct

THE BLUE ROOM (15) An adaptation of George Simenon's taut 1964 novel of the same name. It follows the fortunes of Julien, a modestly successful man in provincial France running his own agricultural business, living in a designer house with a young family, who finds himself in the depths of an affair. Stars Mathieu Amalric, Léa Drucker. mac, Birmingham, Fri 21 - Mon 24 Oct

FREE STATE OF JONES (15) Set shortly after 1862, after the Battle of Corinth in Mississippi, this true-life drama stars Matthew McConaughey as Newton Knight, a poor farmer. It was he, during the American Civil War, who gathered together a ragbag of local farmers and slaves and led an armed rebellion against the Confederacy. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 21 - Thurs 27 Oct

FINDING DORY (U) Since it opened in 2003, Finding Nemo has become the sixth highest-grossing cartoon of all time. So, here is the sequel. Dory is the forgetful Pacific regal blue tang from the first film which, in case you've been away, is a fish. She (voiced by Ellen DeGeneres) suddenly remembers the events of her childhood and so sets off to find her family - along with the clownfish Nemo (Albert Brooks) and Marlin (Hayden Rolence). There will be adventure along the way... Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sat 22 - Sat 29 Oct

JIMI: ALL IS BY MY SIDE (15) Outkast's André Benjamin stars as Jimi Hendrix in this revealing biopic from Academy Award-winning writer-director John Ridley (12 Years A Slave). The film covers a year in Hendrix's life, from 1966 to '67; from being an unknown back-up guitarist playing New York's Cheetah Club to making his mark on London's music scene, up until his Monterey Pop triumph. Also stars Imogen Poots. mac, Birmingham, Sun 23 Oct

NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE:

Released from Fri 21 Oct, showing at selected cinemas

I, DANIEL BLAKE (15)

IN PURSUIT OF SILENCE (tbc)

JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK (tbc)

OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL (tbc)

PHANTOM BOY (PG)

THE QUEEN OF KATWE (PG)

TROLLS (PG)

Events

TUDOR THREADS AND STUART SEWING Meet the costumed volunteers as they sew, embroider and stitch their way back to the 17th century, Sun 16 - Mon 17 Oct, Moseley Old Hall, Wolverhampton

TUESDAY TILE DECORATING WORKSHOPS Tues 18 Oct, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge

CRAFTPLAY EXPLORERS Discover, play and create with your child. For youngsters under one to five years old. Tues 18 Oct, Bilston Craft Gallery, Wolverhampton

ATTINGHAM RE-DISCOVERED TOUR: A MAGNIFICENT DISPLAY Join experienced guides as they explore the story of a silver collection, Tues 18 Oct, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

GRAND DESIGNS LIVE Wed 19 - Sun 23 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

SPEED-DATING SPECTACULAR - CELEBRATING 500 VERY SHORT INTRODUCTIONS Learn about six subjects from experts in a variety of fields, including Shakespeare, 'leadership' and 'sound', Thurs 20 Oct, Waterstones, High St, Birmingham

BIG FICTION NIGHT IN A special event with four authors: Miranda Dickinson, Lucy Diamond, Cathy Bramley and Cressy McLaughlin, Thurs 20 Oct, Waterstones, High St, Birmingham

MARTINA COLE SIGNING Martina Cole signs copies of her latest book, Betrayal, Fri 21 Oct, Waterstones, High St, Birmingham

HALLOWEEN SCREAM NIGHTS Uncover the haunting mystery of the Priory Fields, discover the gory secret of Mrs Piggot's Pie Shop, feel the fear on the 'Destruction' trailer ride, and risk never sleeping with the lights off again when you visit the House of Insomnia, Fri 21 - Sat 22 Oct, Lower Drayton Farm, Stafford

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR Pick a free pumpkin, take part in broomstick training and explore the spooky haunted house, Fri 21 - Sun 30 Oct, National Forest Adventure Farm, Burton-on-Trent

SCAREFEST Fri 21 - Mon 31 Oct, Alton Towers, Staffordshire

BEAR GRYLLS PRESENTS ENDEAVOUR Sat 22 Oct, Genting Arena, B'ham



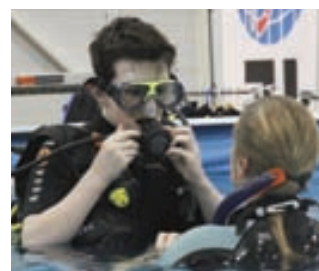
A NIGHT IN THE DANA An insight into the nightlife of a 200-year-old prison, Sat 22 Oct, The Dana Prison, Shrewsbury

PUMPKINFEST Featuring pumpkin carving, apple bobbing, marshmallow toasting and games for all the family to enjoy, Sat 22 Oct, The Cut Visitor Centre, Shrewsbury

TRAFALGAR SUPPER A special homage to Lord Nelson, complete with traditional naval food and entertainment, Sat 22 Oct, Churnet Valley Railway, Staffordshire

GCCF 40TH SUPREME CAT SHOW Sat 22 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

DIVE 2016 The UK's biggest event for divers, Sat 22 - Sun 23 Oct, NEC, Birmingham



HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR Ghoulish fun and eerie entertainment, Sat 22 - Sun 30 Oct, Cadbury World, Bournville, Birmingham

HALLOWEEN CERAMIC WORKSHOPS Sat 22 - Sun 30 Oct, Coalport China Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

CREEPY CRITTERS Go on the hunt for all things gruesome as the museum disgorges and delights you over half term, Sat 22 - Sun 30 Oct, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

SPOOKLEY PUMPKIN FESTIVAL Sat 22 - Sun 30 Oct, Apley Farm Shop, Shifnal, Shropshire

FAMILY FUN DAYS - HALLOWEEN 2016 Spooky outdoor trail with take-home activities, Sat 22 - Sun 30 Oct, Baddesley Clinton, Solihull

MORE TREAT THAN TRICK Ghoulish fun, Sat 22 - Sun 30 Oct, Drayton Manor Theme Park, Staffordshire

TRENTHAM FERN TRAIN TRIPS Take a trip on The Trentham Fern, the resident diesel engine that chuffs along the lakeside on a light gauge railway, Sat 22 - Sun 30 Oct, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent

SPOOKFEST A traditional pumpkin carving and three spooky attractions, Sat 22 - Sun 30 Oct, Lower Drayton Farm, Stafford

SPOOKY SEAS Sat 22 - Mon 31 Oct, National Sea Life Centre, Birmingham

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR Sat 22 - Mon 31 Oct, Park Hall Farm, Oswestry, South Shropshire

WICKED WILD ART Halloween-inspired half-term activities, Sat 22 - Sun 6 Nov, Erddig Hall, Wrexham

ATTINGHAM IN FOCUS WALK check out some of the best spots around the park for photography - bring your camera, Sun 23 Oct, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

WEDDING FAIR AT DRAYTON MANOR HOTEL Sun 23 Oct, Drayton Manor, Tamworth

BANKS'S Robin 2
www.therobin.co.uk

SAT 1 OCT	FLEETWOOD BAC	
SUN 2 OCT	POP WILL EAT ITSELF	
WED 5 SEP	CANCELLED MELANIE	
THU 6 OCT	FROM FINLAND ERJA LYYTINEN	
FRI 7 OCT - RI TROGA - THE FAR NORDSELS	SECRET AFFAIR	
SAT 8 OCT	ON STAGE 8.30pm ELO AGAIN	
SUN 9 OCT	11.50pm - 4.00pm RECORD & CD FAIR	
SUN 9 OCT	FROM HOLLAND FEAT THUIS VAN LEER FOCUS	
MON 10 OCT	US BLUES GUITARIST RYAN MCGARVEY	
TUE 11 OCT	ALL SEATED SHOW CLAIRVOYANCE & MEDIUMSHIP PHILIP SOLOMON	
WED 13 OCT	FROM MISSISSIPPI LISA MILLS	
THU 13 OCT	PUNK LEGENDS ANTI-NOWHERE LEAGUE	
FRI 14 & SAT 15 OCT	BOSTIN' DAYS 2 FESTIVAL	
SUN 16 OCT	TOY & COLLECTORS FAIR	
SUN 16 OCT	DOORS OPEN 4.30pm STREAM OF PASSION	
MON 17 OCT	CANCELLED GUN	
TUE 18 OCT	FROM SAN FRANCISCO THE TUBES	
WED 19 OCT	+ BIG WOLF BAND BEN POOLE	
THU 20 OCT	THE GOD OF HELLFIRE THE CRAZY WORLD OF ARTHUR BROWN	
FRI 21 OCT	SOUL'D OUT	
SAT 23 OCT	LES McKEOWN'S BAY CITY ROLLERS	
SUN 23 OCT	THEROOM	
TUE 25 OCT	BUY 1 TICKET GET 1 FREE BLU & JAM LEGENDS TYGERS OF PAN TANG	
WED 26 OCT	BLUES, FOLK & ROOTS BABAJACK	
THU 27 OCT	IAN PARKER & HIS BAND	
FRI 28 OCT	+ JACK FLETCHER THE DOORS ALIVE	
SAT 29 OCT	+ DAYLIGHT ROBBERY Y&T	
SUN 30 OCT	LIVE & UNSIGNED DEVIL'S DICE, BUZZARD, CANCEL TOMORROW, RKB	

BOX OFFICE 01902 401211
MOUNT PLEASANT - BILSTON
WOLVERHAMPTON - WV14 7LJ

Gigs

JAKE BUGG Mon 24 Oct, O2 Academy, B'ham

10CC Mon 24 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

ABC Mon 24 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

JUSTIN BIEBER Mon 24 Oct, Genting Arena, Birmingham

THE DIVINE COMEDY Mon 24 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

JAPANESE BREAKFAST Mon 24 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

MATT BERRY & THE MAYPOLES Tues 25 Oct, O2 Academy, B'ham

BLIND BOY PAXTON Tues 25 Oct, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

THE ACOUSTIC SESSIONS Tues 25 Oct, The Jam House, Birmingham

MADDIE & TAE Tues 25 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

LISA HANNIGAN Tues 25 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

MARTHA FFION Tues 25 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

TYGERS OF PAN TANG Tues 25 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

NASTY + AVERSIONS CROWN + MALEVOLENCE + VITJA + SAND Tues 25 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

PAIN Tues 25 Oct, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

BABAJACK Wed 26 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

MIDGE URE Wed 26 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

COOPE, BOYES AND SIMPSON Wed 26 Oct, The Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham

FOUR TOPS AND THE TEMPTATIONS Wed 26 Oct, Genting Arena, Birmingham

DMA'S Wed 26 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

EMMA BLACKERY Wed 26 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

LEO GREEN'S SOUND OF THE 50'S Wed 26 Oct, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

IAN PARKER & HIS BAND Thurs 27 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

THE ILLEGAL EAGLES Thurs 27 Oct, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

SIMONE FELICE Thurs 27 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

VULA VIEL Thurs 27 Oct, mac, Birmingham

THE SHIMMER BAND Thurs 27 Oct, The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

LADY LESHURR Thurs 27 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

CHRIS BOURNE Thurs 27 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

PUBLIC ACCESS TV Thurs 27 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

THE WICKED WHISPERS Thurs 27 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

FOLK & ROOTS CLUB Thurs 27 Oct, The Roadhouse, B'ham

FORT HOPE Thurs 27 Oct, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

TRUDY AND THE ROMANCE + FOX CHAPEL + SPILT MILK SOCIETY Thurs 27 Oct, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

OZZMOSIS Fri 28 Oct, Route 44, Birmingham

THE ILLEGAL EAGLES Fri 28 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

GEKO Fri 28 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

SUNSET SONS Fri 28 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

THE DOORS ALIVE Fri 28 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

FLATLANDS Fri 28 Oct, Havana Republic Bar and Restaurant, Shrewsbury

ASYLUMS Fri 28 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

BACK TO BACHARACH Fri 28 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

RAT PACK VEGAS SHOW Fri 28 Oct, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

TAIL FEATHER Fri 28 Oct, The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

BONDAX Fri 28 Oct, The Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

JP COOPER Sat 29 Oct, O2 Institute, B'ham

LADY MAISERY Sat 29 Oct, The Hive, Shrewsbury

BARS AND MELODY Sat 29 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

WILDHEARTS HALLOWEEN HOOTENANNY 3 Sat 29 Oct, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

GEHTIKA Sat 29 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

DAVID HAMILTON'S ROCK 'N' ROLL BACK THE YEARS Sat 29 Oct, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

TSB - HALLOWEEN SPECIAL Sat 29 Oct, Havana Republic Bar and Restaurant, Shrewsbury

OBITUARY & EXODUS Sat 29 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

TOM JONES TRIBUTE BY MARTIN JARVIS Sat 29 Oct, Genting Club, Star City, Birmingham

MAXWELL & MARY J BLIGE Sat 29 Oct, Genting Arena, B'ham

Y&T Sat 29 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

THE DELRAY ROCKETS Sun 30 Oct, The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

THEATRE OF HATE Sun 30 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

BEN MONTAGUE Sun 30 Oct, Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

JAH WOBBLE'S INVADERS OF THE HEART Sun 30 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

AKALA Sun 30 Oct, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

ALIEN ANT FARM Sun 30 Oct, The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

LIVE & UNSIGNED FEATURING DEVIL'S DICE, BUZZARD, CANCEL TOMORROW, RKB Sun 30 Oct, The Robin, Bilston

MAXIMUM RNB WITH THE MANFREDS Sun 30 Oct, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

ULTIMATE BOWIE Sun 30 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

THE LUMINEERS Sun 30 Oct, O2 Academy, Birmingham

BEN POOLE BAND Sun 30 Oct, Lichfield Guildhall

TOM CHAPLIN Sun 30 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

SKYE AND ROSS FROM MORCHEEBA Sun 30 Oct, Bramall Music Building, Birmingham

THE JAPANESE HOUSE Mon 31 Oct, O2 Institute, Birmingham

Classical Music

CBSO: SHOSTAKOICH'S EIGHT Featuring Cristian Măcelaru (conductor) & Akiko Suwanai (violin). Programme includes works by Liadov, Mendelssohn & Shostakovich, Wed 26 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

THE ENGLISH CONCERT: BAROQUE MASTERS Programme includes works by Purcell, Corelli, Telemann, Vivaldi, Handel & JS Bach, Wed 26 Oct, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

LA BOHEME Ellen Kent Opera present Puccini's romantic opera. Sung in Italian with English surtitles, Thurs 27 Oct, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

FRIDAY NIGHT CLASSICS: CLASSIC FM HALL OF FAME Featuring Michael Seal (conductor), John Suchet (presenter), Mihkel Poll (piano) & Zoë Beyers (violin). Programme includes works by Vaughan Williams, Uematsu, Rachmaninov, Elga, Sibelius, Grieg, Bruch & Shore, Fri 28 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

LUNCHTIME CONCERT WITH DANIEL LEBHARDT Programme includes works by JS Bach, Ades & Beethoven, Fri 28 Oct, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

CBSO YOUTH ORCHESTRA: THE WOODEN PRINCE Featuring Cristian Măcelaru (conductor), Martin James Bartlett (piano) & the CBSO Youth Orchestra. Programme includes works by Copland, Gershwin & Bartok, Sun 30 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Programme includes works by Rossini, Mendelssohn & Sibelius, Sun 30 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERT - THOMAS TROTTER: HAPPY HALLOWEEN Programme includes works by Bach, A. Guilman, G. Edmundson, C. Saint-Saens (arr, Lemare) & L. Boëllmann, Mon 31 Oct, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

Comedy Gigs

HANS TEEUWEN Mon 24 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

NICK DIXON, COMEDY CAROUSEL WITH ANDY ROBINSON & COMIC TBC Thurs 27 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

DAMIEN CLARK & LARRY DEAN Fri 28 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

NICK DIXON, PHIL ELLIS, EDDY BRIMSON COMIC TBC Fri 28 - Sat 29 Oct, The Glee Club, Birmingham

ALISTAIR BARRIE, MIKE NEWALL, CAIMH MCDONNELL & IVO GRAHAM Fri 28 Oct, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

ROMESH RANGANATHAN Sat 29 Oct, Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent

JOEL DOMMETT Sat 29 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

MILES JUPP Sat 29 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

ALISTAIR BARRIE, CAIMH MCDONNELL & IVO GRAHAM Sat 29 Oct, The Comedy Loft, Birmingham

NINA CONTI Sun 30 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

Theatre

PSYCHIC SALLY - CALL ME PSYCHIC Mon 24 Oct, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

HEADS WILL ROLL Told By An Idiot explore the themes of delusion, vanity and the corruption of power, Mon 24 - Wed 26 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

BRUMMEGEM PALS New play written by Malcolm Stent and Don Maclean about two ordinary boys caught up in the horrors of war, Tues 25 - Wed 26 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET Smash-hit musical starring Jason Donovan as record producer Sam Phillips. The story of how four stars made rock-'n'-roll history, Mon 24 - Sat 29 Oct, Birmingham Hippodrome

HIGH JINX Fast-paced fusion of magic, illusions, escapology and music, Tues 25 Oct, Stourbridge Town Hall

MARK RADCLIFFE... SHOULD YOU BE INTERESTED Tales of ineptitude and encounters with some of music's most famous names, Tues 25 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

THE SOUND OF MUSICALS New programme of show-stopping music and songs from the greatest Broadway and West End musicals, Tues 25 - Sat 29 Oct, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

THE WIZARD OF OZ presented by Sutton Coldfield Musical Theatre Company, Tues 25 - Sat 29 Oct, Lichfield Garrick

DISNEY ON ICE: FROZEN Tues 25 - Sun 30 Oct, Barclaycard Arena, B'ham

PROFESSOR BRIAN COX LIVE Wed 26 Oct, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

FINDERS KEEPERS Hot Coals Theatre present a highly visual piece inspired by the story of Moses. Suitable for children aged eight-plus, Wed 26 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

THE TELL-TALE HEART Tin Robot Theatre present a new adaptation of Edgar Allen Poe's psychological thriller, Wed 26 - Sat 29 Oct, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

MIDLAND OPERA PRESENT CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA & I PAGLIACCI Wed 26 - Sat 29 Oct, The Old Rep, Birmingham

CINDERELLA THE MUSICAL Tadlop present an amateur staging of the Rodgers & Hammerstein musical classic, Wed 26 - Sat 29 Oct, The Place, Oakengates, Shropshire

LA BOHEME Ellen Kent Opera present Puccini's famous romantic work. Sung in Italian with English surtitles, Thurs 27 Oct, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

A BLACK COUNTRY FAIRYTALE... AY IT! Fizzog Productions weave together various fairytales in one 'spectacular' production, Thurs 27 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

A MUSICAL MEDLEY An evening of entertainment and laughter inspired by Dr Terry Gasper, Thurs 27 Oct, Stratford Artshouse

AN EVENING OF DIRTY DANCING: THE TRIBUTE SHOW Homage to 'the greatest movie soundtrack of all time', Thurs 27 Oct, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

PENGUINI! ELEPHANT! New show combining original songs, physical comedy and dance. Suitable for young audiences, Thurs 27 Oct, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

FIRST STAGES: MAVIS SPARKLE M6's cosmic new production, mixing magic, animation and laughter, urges its audience to dust away doubts, follow their dreams and reach for the stars. Age recommendation is four-plus, Thurs 27 - Sat 29 Oct, The REP, Birmingham

WHAT SHADOWS Roxana Silbert-directed play starring Ian McDiarmid as Enoch Powell, Thurs 27 Oct - Sat 12 Nov, The REP, Birmingham *Read more on page 26*

THE NOSE THAT NOBODY PICKED Surreal yarn for all the family, with songs and, we're reliably informed, 'snot'! Suitable for children aged five-plus, Fri 28 Oct, mac, Birmingham

DOREEN'S FINAL GRAND NIGHT OUT Satirical stand-up, music and video surprises as Doreen assesses the state of the nation, Fri 28 Oct, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall

SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL Popular musical visiting the magical world of Dr Seuss and featuring much-loved characters including The Cat In The Hat, Horton The Elephant, Gertrude McFuzz, Amazing Mayzie and JoJo, Fri 28 & Sat 29 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

KICKING & SCREAMING An 'honest, funny and touching' show with a live score played on children's instruments, Fri 28 Oct, Lichfield Garrick

DRACULA: THE MUSICAL Amateur production presented by Blue Orange Arts and Night Project Theatre, Fri 28 Oct - Sat 5 Nov, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

PAJAMA MEN: 2 MAN 3 MUSKETEERS Two comedians attempt to stage an epic historical romance novel in under an hour, Sat 29 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

A CORUCOPIA OF GILBERT & SULLIVAN Sat 29 Oct, Festival Drayton, Market Drayton, North Shropshire

MANDELA: LET FREEDOM REIGN Nelson Mandela returns to earth to retell his remarkable story, Sat 29 Oct, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

SPILLKIN: A LOVE STORY Pipeline Theatre Company present a love story with a difference, Sat 29 Oct, SpArc Theatre, Bishops Castle, Shropshire

KNIGHTMARE LIVE: THE GAME HAS

CHANGED Critically acclaimed comedy stage adaption of the cult TV classic, Sat 29 Oct, mac, Birmingham

VAMPIRES ROCK: GHOST TRAIN Sequel to the phenomenally successful Vampires Rock Musical Concert, Sat 29 Oct, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

CAPTAIN FLINN AND THE PIRATE DINOSAURS 2: THE MAGIC CUTLASS Les Petits present an action-packed adventure for children, a sequel to Captain Flinn And The Pirate Dinosaurs, which, in turn, is based on the popular book by Giles Andarea and Russell Ayto, Sun 30 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

FEMALE GOTHIC Rebecca Vaughan (Dalloway, Austen's Women) stars in this chilling one-woman show which celebrates three lost Gothic works from Victorian-era female writers, Mon 31 Oct, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

THE MOUSETRAP Touring production of Agatha Christie's famous thriller - the longest-running show in the history of British theatre, Mon 31 Oct - Sat 5 Nov, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

Dance

ROMEO AND JULIET Ballet Theatre UK present a passionate and innovative recreation of the world's greatest love story, Thurs 27 Oct, Prince of Wales Centre, Cannock

PINOCCHIO: JASMIN VARDIMON COMPANY A brand new adaptation of the classic tale, based on the original book by Collodi and performed by Vardimon's multi-talented dancers, Sat 29 Oct, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

Talks

LEVEL UP SEASON 4.5 VS TONGUE FU Featuring some of the sharpest poets, storytellers, rappers and comedians around, accompanied by a live soundtrack from the Tongue Fu Band, Tues 25 Oct, The REP, B'ham

KEN CLARKE IN CONVERSATION Join the Tory Grandee as he talks about his autobiography, Kind Of Blue, which charts his rise from a working-class background and 46 years as an MP, Fri 28 Oct, Stratford Artshouse

AN AUDIENCE WITH MARTIN KEMP Fri 28 Oct, Stourbridge Town Hall

MICHAEL PORTILLO - LIFE: A GAME OF TWO HALVES Mon 31 Oct, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton



The Fizzogs: A Black Country Fairytale...Ay It! - Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

Film

INDEPENDENT LISTINGS:

BAFTA SHORTS 2016 (15) Seven short live-action and animated films from BAFTA. The Hive, Shrewsbury, Wed 26 Oct

THE DRESSMAKER (12) Jocelyn Moorhouse directs this Australian revenge comedy starring Kate Winslet as Myrtle Dunnage, a woman who returns to her hometown to take care of her ailing mother, Molly (Judy Davis). Forest Arts Centre, Walsall, Thurs 27 Oct

HALLOWEEN SHORTS This collection of silent horror shorts celebrates the inventive and the imaginative in early cinema with a selection of rarely seen films on the lighter side of horror and, forming the programme's centrepiece, one of the truly dark but little-known masterpieces of the avant-garde in silent cinema. Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Sat 29 Oct

NEW FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE:

Released from Fri 28 Oct, showing at selected cinemas

I, DANIEL BLAKE (15)

IN PURSUIT OF SILENCE (tbc)

JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK (tbc)

OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL (tbc)

PHANTOM BOY (PG)

THE QUEEN OF KATWE (PG)

TROLLS (PG)

Events

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES - HALLOWEEN FUN Meet Dusty, Dudmaston's spooky cat and take her trail around the garden. Can you answer all her questions to win a prize? Venture back to the marquee to make a scary puppet or Jack O'Lantern to take home, Mon 24 Oct, Dudmaston Estate, Shropshire

HAUNTED CASTLE Ghostly goings on

at the spooktacular haunted castle, Mon 24 - Fri 28 Oct, Tamworth Castle, Staffordshire

MONSTER MAYHEM Halloween-themed activities make a paper bag puppet, monster bookmark and a monster mask. Join in the trail, play games and delve into 'yucky' boxes, Mon 24 - Fri 28 Oct, Selly Manor, Bournville, Birmingham

MAMMOTH MYSTERIES FAMILY WORKSHOP Make a replica cast of a mammoth bone, Mon 24 - Fri 28 Oct, Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms, South Shropshire

SPOOKY TALES & CRAFTS Mon 24 - Fri 28 Oct, Stokesay Castle, Craven Arms, South Shropshire

HALLOWEEN SCREAM NIGHTS Uncover the haunting mystery of the Priory Fields, discover the gory secret of Mrs Piggot's Pie Shop, feel the fear on the 'Destruction' trailer ride, and risk never sleeping with the lights off again when you visit the House of Insomnia, Mon 24 - Mon 31 Oct, Lower Drayton Farm, Stafford

TUESDAY TILE DECORATING WORKSHOPS Tues 25 Oct, Jackfield Tile Museum, Ironbridge, Shropshire

ZOMBIE DAY Arrive dressed as a zombie and enjoy scary stories, craft activities and glassmaking, Wed 26 Oct, Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES - HALLOWEEN FUN Meet Dusty, Dudmaston's spooky cat and take her trail around the garden. Can you answer all her questions to win a prize? Venture back to the marquee to make a scary puppet or Jack O'Lantern to take home, Wed 26 Oct, Dudmaston Estate, Shropshire

HALLOWEEN HOCUS POCUS Thurs 27 - Fri 28 Oct, Dudley Zoological Gardens

BIRMINGHAM BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL Thurs 27 - Sat 29 Oct, New Bingley Hall, Birmingham

BRICKLIVE Celebrating all things LEGO, Thurs 27 - Sun 30 Oct, NEC, Birmingham

LOCKDOWN III - SANATORIUM Thurs 27 - Sun 30 Oct, The Dana Prison, Shrewsbury

HALLOWEEN NIGHTS The popular visitor attraction gets into the Halloween 'spirit', Fri 28 - Sat 29 Oct, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

THE MONSTER BALL Fri 28 - Sat 29 Oct, West Midland Safari and Leisure Park, Bewdley, Worcestershire

THE MURDEROUS MANSION: SPOOKY ENCOUNTERS Meet the Master of the Mansion, hear his spooky tale and take on his tricky task, Fri 28 - Sun 30 Oct, Attingham Park, Shrewsbury

STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS Outdoor screening followed by a 'galactic' firework and laser show, Fri 28 - Sun 30 Oct, Drayton Manor Theme Park, Staffordshire

PUMPKIN FLOTILLA Watch pumpkins float across the Mill Pond at twilight, Fri 28 - Sun 30 Oct, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN Special kids' boat trips through Dudley's underground caverns, Fri 28 - Mon 31 Oct, Dudley Canal Tunnel and Limestone Mines

HALLOWEEN GHOST TOURS AND BALL Hear about Burton's resident ghosts and listen to their tales of passion, scandal and tragedy, Fri 28 - Mon 31 Oct, National Brewery Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

GHOSTLY GASLIGHT Dress up in your most scary costume and discover

Blists Hill Victorian Town transformed into an eerie place filled with ghosts, ghouls and monsters, Sat 29 Oct, Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire

CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN EVENING Get dressed up in your spookiest costume and enjoy the ghostly goings-on around the castle, Sat 29 Oct, Tamworth Castle

STEVE BACKSHALL'S WILD WORLD Illustrated with photos and films from his expeditions, Sat 29 Oct, Birmingham Town Hall

THE WEST MIDLANDS VEGAN FESTIVAL Celebrating and promoting vegan lifestyles, Sat 29 - Sun 30 Oct, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

ELIZABETHAN LIVING HISTORY EVENT Reenactments of Elizabethan life, with costumes, music and dancing, Sat 29 - Sun 30 Oct, Harvington Hall, Kidderminster

FEMALE KING: THE LIFE & TIMES OF HATSEPSUT Profile of a woman who, 3,000 years ago, took the throne of Egypt, Sat 29 Oct, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

THE LOCKSMITH'S HOUSE - HORRIBLE HISTORIES Horrible Willenhall Histories, a spooky, themed trail and family-friendly ghost stories, Sat 29 Oct, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

TRICK OR TREAT Sat 29 - Sun 30 Oct,

Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge

SPOOKY HALLOWEEN Dress in your best costume and be prepared for some spine-tingling fun, Sun 30 Oct, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

DIWALI - CELEBRATION MUSIC, FOOD & DANCE FESTIVAL Sun 30 Oct, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

PHOTOGRAPHY WALK Photographer-led walk around the estate, Sun 30 Oct, Dudmaston Estate, Shropshire

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES - HALLOWEEN FUN Meet Dusty, Dudmaston's spooky cat and take her trail around the garden. Can you answer all her questions to win a prize? Venture back to the marquee to make a scary puppet or Jack O'Lantern to take home, Sun 30 Oct, Dudmaston Estate, Shropshire

MIND BODY SPIRIT FESTIVAL Featuring alternative therapies, psychic one-to-one readings, complementary healing, mediumship, tarot, angel cards, well-being and beauty products, ethical cosmetics, crystals, incense, fair-trade gifts and alternative crafts, Sun 30 Oct, Royal International Pavilion, Llangollen

KICK ASS ENDURANCE Hardcore outdoor physical events including mud runs, obstacle courses, 10k road/off-road runs, half-marathons and marathons, Sun 30 Oct, Weston

Park, Staffordshire

HALLOWEEN NIGHTS The popular visitor attraction gets into the Halloween 'spirit', Mon 31 Oct, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

STEVE BACKSHALL'S WILD WORLD Illustrated with photos and films from his expeditions, Mon 31 Oct, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

GHOST SEARCH A ghost walk around the medieval castle, with vigils conducted in reputedly haunted rooms, Mon 31 Oct, Tamworth Castle



CHRISTMAS PARTY PACKAGES 2016

Come celebrate with us in the beautiful surroundings of Lilleshall Hall, the former home of the Duke of Sutherland. Enjoy our range of Christmas packages including our 1920's Great Gatsby night or have Lunch with Santa.

We have the ideal Christmas venue, whether you are looking to come as a large work group or with your friends and family. Accommodation is also available at special rates.

Lilleshall National Sports & Conferencing Centre,
Near Newport, Shropshire, TF10 9AT

W: lilleshallnsc.co.uk T: 01952 603 003 E: Bookings.Lilleshall@serco.com

f [LilleshallNSC](https://www.facebook.com/LilleshallNSC) @LilleshallNSC

Lilleshall 

Sandwell FIREWORKS FESTIVALS

Victoria Park - Smethwick

FRIDAY 4 November
Gates open 5.30pm – 9pm
Stage with entertainment and hot and cold food
Large Fireworks Display 8.15pm
Free admission
No car parking available on site

Dartmouth Park - West Bromwich

SATURDAY 5 November
Gates open 5.30pm – 9pm
Giant Bonfire lit at 6.15pm
Giant Inflatables, glow lights, hot and cold food, stage with entertainment, licensed bar
Childrens Fireworks Display 7.15pm
Large Fireworks Display 8.15pm
Charges - Adults £3.00, Children £1.50, Family Ticket £7.50
No car parking available on site, parking available in the town centre

For more information contact:
www.sandwell.gov.uk/bonfirenight



Huge 2 day extravaganza! **Only £1 entry!**
Under 16's FREE

West Midlands VEGAN FEST 2016

Vast array of delicious hot food, cakes, clothing, cosmetics, chocolate & more!

- 120+ stalls & caterers
- 40 talks & workshops
- 10 cookery demos
- Live entertainment
- Vegan bar
- Kids activities
- Alternative therapy
- After party on Saturday

FREE
Goodie Bag
for first
100 visitors
each day!

**Saturday 29th
& Sunday 30th
October**
**10am - 6pm @
Wolves Civic,
North Street,
Wolverhampton
WV1 1RQ**






Midlands biggest ever celebration & promotion of compassionate, healthy, planet-friendly vegan lifestyles!

For further info, stall bookings etc info@veganmidlands.org.uk 01527 458395

www.midlandsveganfestival.org.uk  

Brownhills Musical Theatre Company
at the
Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock,



**The
Addams
Family**
A NEW MUSICAL
COMEDY

November 2nd - 5th 2016

www.positickets.co.uk

Supported by **JOHN LOMAS**
Removals & Storage
01543 37003

THE GRANGE PLAYERS
present

BRACKEN MOOR

BY ALEXI KATE CAMBELL
DIRECTED BY RACHEL WATERS



16TH - 26TH
NOVEMBER
2016

BOX OFFICE: 07909 036 835

Broadway North, Walsall
West Midlands WS1 2QB

**From
18th NOV
-31st DEC**

**12th
FANTASTIC
YEAR!**
Working with Santa
since 2004

SANTA'S

Winter Wonderland



THE REAL SNOW ADVENTURE FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

**Play in
Real Snow**

**Meet Santa's
Real Reindeer**

**All New Santa
Show for 2016**



**Book online NOW at SNOWDOME.CO.UK
or call 03448 000011**