

# THE MIDLANDS ESSENTIAL ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

MIDLANDS

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ISSUE 330 JUNE 2013



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LISTINGS GUIDE

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MALVERN  
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TELFORD  
STAFFORD  
STOKE

INSIDE:

**Bruce Joel Rubin**

creator of *Ghost*  
interview inside

**Sean Foley**

brings Jacobean comedy  
to the RSC  
interview inside

**Peter Lord**

co-founder of Aardman  
talks pirates  
interview inside

*Rihanna*

**What's On**  
MAGAZINE GROUP



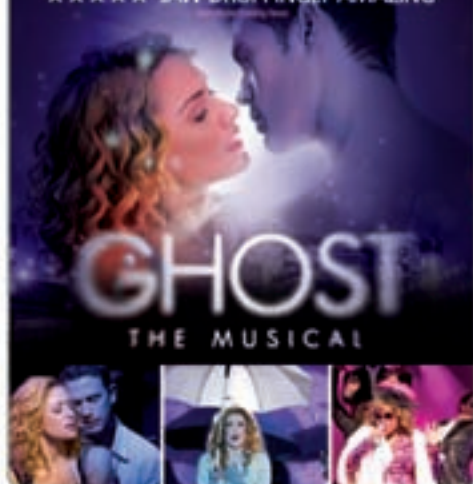
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# Great Theatre at the Grand!

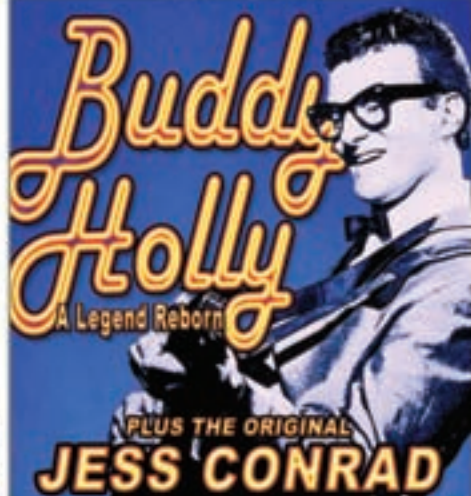
MONDAY 3 - SATURDAY 15 JUNE

★★★★★ 'JAW-DROPPINGLY AMAZING'



## GHOST THE MUSICAL

SUN 16 JUNE



## Buddy Holly A Legend Reborn PLUS THE ORIGINAL JESS CONRAD

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## Grandpa in my POCKET

## Teamwork!

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## MURDER IN PLAY BY SIMON DRETT



DAVID GIFFNEY



GEMMA DOOZE



ASTY FLAMINGO



DAVID COLLIER

TUES 2 - SAT 6 JULY

IDP Trading Ltd Presents

## Steaming

BY NELL DUNN



REBECCA WHARTLEY

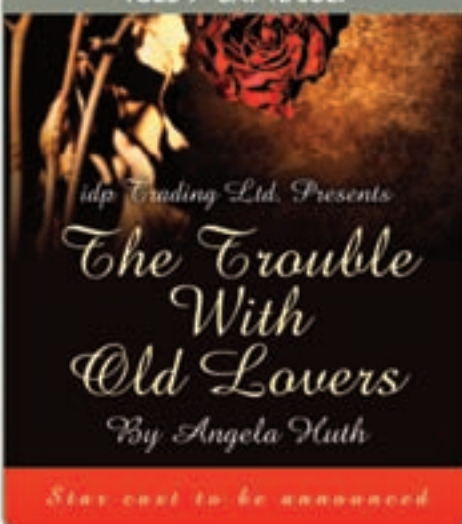


KIM TYLEFORTH



MICHELLE MORRIS

TUES 9 - SAT 13 JULY



IDP Trading Ltd. Presents

## The Trouble With Old Lovers

By Angela Huth

Star cast to be announced

TUES 16 - SAT 20 JULY



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MON 8 JULY  
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SUN 14 JULY  
THE RAT PACK VEGAS  
SPECTACULAR

SUN 21 JULY  
WOLVERHAMPTON ORPHEUS  
MALE VOICE CHOIR

TUES 13 AUGUST  
CENTRAL YOUTH THEATRE  
BURNT BY THE SUN

SAT 14 - SUN 15 SEPTEMBER  
THE THREE PHANTOMS

MON 16 - SAT 21 SEPTEMBER  
DREAMBOATS AND PETTICOATS

SAT 7 DEC - SUN 19 JAN  
JOE PASQUALE IN  
SLEEPING BEAUTY

MONDAY 19 - SATURDAY 31 AUGUST



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**What's On**  
MAGAZINE GROUP



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## ATG buys Broadway theatre

Ambassador Theatre Group (ATG), which owns the New Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham, as well as the Regent Theatre and Victoria Hall in Stoke-on-Trent, has announced that it's acquired the largest theatre on Broadway. Situated in a prime position on New York's 42nd Street, The Foxwoods Theatre is currently home to the most talked-about show on Broadway - Spider-Man: Turn Off The Dark. This latest purchase brings the number of theatres in ATG's portfolio to forty.

## Fierce Festival announces return of Franko B

One of the most provocative performers ever to appear at Fierce Festival is to make a welcome return to the event this year. Franko B will join forces with a dancing animatronic polar bear to present a large-scale theatrical performance, combining dance and film, at Warwick Arts Centre in Coventry. Other Fierce highlights include French artist Denis Tricot creating a giant Birmingham City Centre sculpture from strips of wood, and culinary fun with Blanch and Shock, who'll be creating a feast using produce grown in Edible Eastside. Fierce runs at various locations around Birmingham from 4 to 6 October, with full programming details due to be announced in August.



Franko B

## Grand Union gets a £100,000 birthday present

Birmingham's Eastside gallery and artists' studio Grand Union has been awarded a grant of £100,000 by Arts Council England.

The funds will enable the artist-run space in Digbeth, which is celebrating its third birthday, to increase its programming and bring more international artists to the city. A Small Hiccup, a group presentation featuring eight new commissions that include performance, video, sculpture and digital media, will continue to show at the venue until Saturday 29 June.



## Midlands' youngsters to take to the stage

An eclectic programme of plays, including Carlo Goldoni's A Servant Of Two Masters, Shakespeare's Twelfth Night and Mark Ravenhill's Totally, lies at the heart of a July festival for budding performers. Inspired by Birmingham Rep's centenary and its exploration of both new and classic literature, The Young Rep Summer Festival of Theatre takes place at Birmingham's Old Rep venue. The two-week-long mini-festival will see more than two hundred young people from across Birmingham and the West Midlands (aged between nine and twenty-five) come together to perform. A highlight of the festival will be the world premiere of Evan Placey's Girls Like That, a play written especially for young people which explores 'the perilous consequences that can happen when teenagers and technology join forces'. The Young REP Summer Festival of Theatre plays at Birmingham's Old Rep from 1 to 13 July.

## More folk for Shrewsbury

In addition to hosting a highly regarded annual folk festival every August, the Shropshire market town of Shrewsbury is also earning itself a mighty fine reputation for attracting quality folk performers throughout the year. American singer-songwriter Richard Shindell, Cara Luft, Katriona Gilmore, Jamie Roberts and Belshazzar's Feast have all been booked to appear at the town's Hive venue between August and December. Check out [whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk) for further information.

## Spice Girl urges children to raise funds for UNICEF

Former Spice Girl Emma Bunton has launched a nationwide initiative to tempt UK children to take part in the Giant Sleepover - the largest event of its kind in the world - and in the process raise money for UNICEF. Children are also being invited to try their luck at winning the chance to enjoy 'the ultimate sleepover' at one of six special venues up and down the country - with Eastnor Castle in Herefordshire and Trentham Monkey Forest in Staffordshire the two venues on offer in the Midlands. To have a

chance of taking part in the initiative, children must submit a story or drawing of their dream sleepover. UNICEF supporter Emma will be one of the judging panel and has stated that she'll "be looking for those who have written or drawn a truly creative story or picture, and someone who has really used their imagination". For more information, visit [www.giantsleepover.com](http://www.giantsleepover.com)

## Coventry theatre takes the show on the road

The Belgrade Theatre in Coventry has launched an initiative designed to reach out to new audiences. The theatre's Unplugged series will feature numerous scenes and readings performed by professional actors, with excerpts from Charlie Peace: His Amazing Life And Astounding Legend, One Night In November and The Prodigals all featuring. The events will take place in some very unconventional settings around Warwickshire, including Coventry's medieval Charterhouse, Draycote Water, The Butcher's Arms Restaurant in Priors Hardwick, Rugby School's Lewis Art Gallery, Foleshill Road's Edgewick Play Centre and Compton Verney Art Gallery, which will stage the first event on Sunday 9 June.

## Brindleyplace to host second Outdoor Film Festival

The second Brindleyplace Outdoor Film Festival takes place in the heart of Birmingham next month, with organisers of the week-long event asking people from across the city to vote for their favourite film at [www.brindleyplace.com](http://www.brindleyplace.com). The free event will showcase a total of nine films between 8 and 14 July, all of which have a PG certificate or below. Free popcorn will be on offer courtesy of Brindleyplace, while takeaway options will be available from local restaurants including Wagamama, Thai Edge, Piccolino and Bank.



## Top acts announced for the return of the Godiva Festival

Echo And The Bunnymen, Maximo Park and The View, together with X Factor star Amelia Lily, the Loveable Rogues and Titch, are just some of the names announced for this year's Godiva Festival. The weekend event is the biggest free family festival in the Midlands, and features a line-up that includes live music and comedy. The Godiva Festival takes place at Coventry's War Memorial Park from 5 to 7 July.



## Shakespeare's bloodiest play gives chef food for thought

A new production of Shakespeare's rarely performed and bloodiest play Titus Andronicus has stirred the creativity of two Royal Shakespeare Company employees. In a lighthearted nod to the cooking that goes on in the play's final act, RSC chef Nick Funnell has created the Titus Pie - a puff pastry crust filled with steak and kidney, vegetables and herbs. Meanwhile, showing off her mixologist skills, Bar Manager Alice Cook has concocted The Bloody Tamora, which, named after the play's Queen of the Goths character, relates to some of Titus' bloodthirsty scenes. The Titus Pie will feature on the menu in the RST Rooftop Restaurant for the duration of Titus Andronicus's Stratford run (until 26 October). Alice's cocktail will be available from the theatre bar.



Nick Funnell in action



## Theatre announces new senior role

Birmingham Hippodrome has appointed Paul Kaynes as its Director of Creative Programmes. Paul, who has twenty-five years' experience working within the Midlands arts scene, previously worked as the West Midlands Creative Programmer for the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad, overseeing such major projects as The Voyage - the huge outdoor spectacular which launched the London 2012 Festival's opening weekend. Paul, whose new role will see him working with the Hippodrome's Education and Creative Programming team to enable more people to experience all that the arts has to offer, says of the theatre's future aims: "We want to give visitors to the theatre and Southside an unforgettable cultural experience, attracting new people to the area through a programme of outdoor performances. In addition, many thousands of young people witness the magic of theatre at Birmingham Hippodrome every year, and it's our aim to expand the numbers of young people we reach, enhancing the live theatre experience through talks, workshops and other activities."

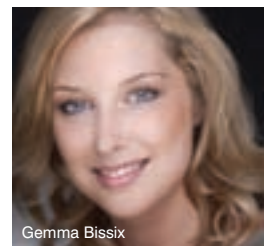
### IN BRIEF

#### Opera company announces new competition for young UK artists

Internationally acclaimed opera company Glyndebourne have announced the launch of their first national art competition, and are inviting talented young artists from across the UK to design the cover of their 2013 programme. Glyndebourne, who're regular visitors to Stoke's Regent Theatre, are requesting that all submissions be inspired by one of the three operas in their 2013 repertoire - Hansel And Gretel, L'elisir d'amore and The Rape Of Lucretia. The winning artist will see their artwork grace the cover of ten thousand copies of the Glyndebourne Tour Programme. For full entry criteria and online registration, visit [www.glyndebourne.com/tour](http://www.glyndebourne.com/tour)

#### The stars are out in Wolverhampton

A sizzling summer of star turns awaits visitors to Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre. At a time of year when many theatres go dark, the Grand is once again presenting a line-up of high-quality dramas and comedies starring some of the UK's best known actors. The season features Simon Brett's knockabout theatrical comedy Murder In Play, Nell Dunn's all-female romp Steaming, marital comedy The Trouble With Old Lovers and edge-of-the-seat period thriller A Murder Has Been Arranged. Ex-EastEnder Dean Gaffney, Hollyoaks' Gemma Bissix, one-time Dr Who assistant Katy Manning, former Emmerdale schemer Peter Amoury and Coronation Street's dishy doctor Oliver Mellor head the summertime cast list, which also includes Karen Ford, Rebecca Wheatley and Kim Taylforth. For more information, including dates and start times, visit [whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk) or [grandtheatre.co.uk](http://grandtheatre.co.uk).

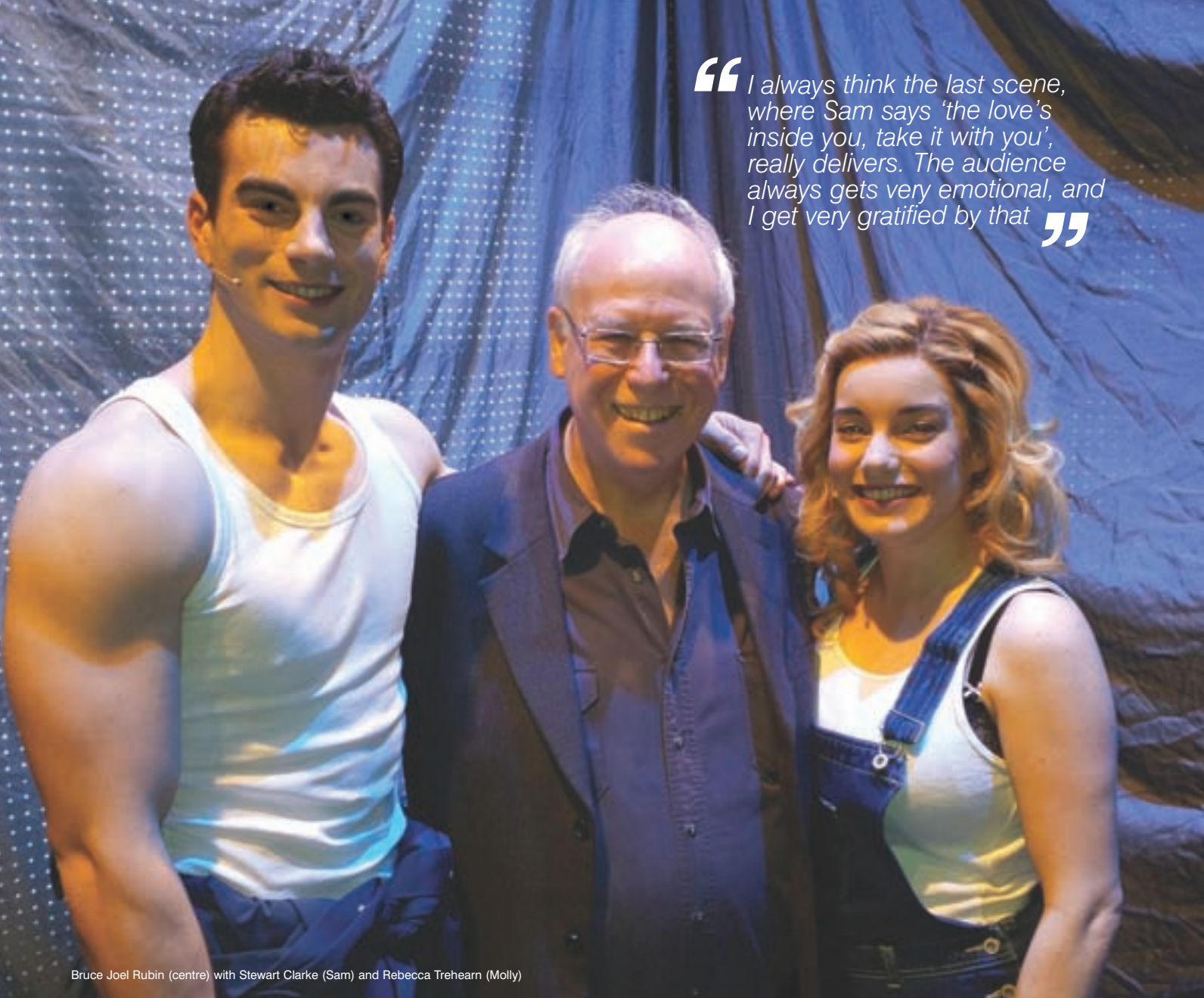


Gemma Bissix

#### REP initiative receives financial boost

The Birmingham Repertory Theatre's Rep Foundry artist development programme has received a significant boost to its funds. An Arts Scholarship in excess of £136,000 over a three-year period has been awarded by the Leverhulme Trust, and will enable the programme to continue until 2016. Created earlier this year under the guidance of the theatre's Artistic Director Roxana Silbert, the Rep Foundry aims to discover and promote the West Midlands' most promising burgeoning talent, with a group of eighteen writers, directors and theatre-makers receiving mentoring and professional support from staff at The Rep and leading theatre practitioners. As well as master classes with theatre professionals, Rep Foundry artists have the opportunity to present work in progress in front of an audience at monthly scratch performance nights.





“ I always think the last scene, where Sam says ‘the love’s inside you, take it with you’, really delivers. The audience always gets very emotional, and I get very gratified by that ”

Bruce Joel Rubin (centre) with Stewart Clarke (Sam) and Rebecca Trehearn (Molly)

# Bruce Joel Rubin

The creator of *Ghost*, in conversation...

**When Bruce Joel Rubin’s *Ghost* first hit cinema screens in July 1990, the romantic fantasy about the power of love became an overnight box office success, winning an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay. After years of deliberation, Bruce finally gave the go-ahead for the movie to be adapted into a stage musical, a touring version of which arrives in the region this month...**

**So Bruce, what provided the initial inspiration for the movie *Ghost*?**

I guess I was a creature of the '60s, and the psychedelic revolution made me very aware of life, death and, I guess, different terms. So I started to explore this idea that we exist before we are born and that we exist even after we're dead. I believe there's a continuum at play. I wanted to explore that, and talk about it in a mass-audience arena. I don't know why, but I was given the opportunity to do that. Somewhere along the way I wanted to do a movie about a ghost, told from the side of the ghost. I thought it would be an important story, but I didn't

have a way in. I didn't know how to tell that story. Then, by chance, I was watching a production of *Hamlet*, and in the second scene the ghost of his father appears on the parapet and says 'avenge my death'. I knew at that moment that that was the access point, and that I wanted to tell that story in twentieth century New York. It moved forward from that.

**Was it a difficult storyline to sell?**

Nothing's immediate. I pitched the idea for about two years around Hollywood. What happened - which was a really wonderful gift - was that people's eyes would glaze

over. So I'd keep changing the story to make it more interesting, and it kept getting better and better. Finally, in about the last week of pitching, I went to five different places. Everyone I pitched to during that last week wanted it, but it had taken two years.

**And the rest, as they say, is history. So when did the idea to adapt it for the stage first come about?**

People have talked to me about it over the years, and I kept saying no, I had no interest. I really had a fear, actually, that they'd be singing these little tinkly songs which, for me, is the case with many

musicals, and I just didn't want that. Then the producers for the show invited themselves to upstate New York where I lived and tried to sell it to me. They came to my house and we talked and talked, so much so that they missed their trains to New York City and ended up staying over at my house. During that very long night, I began to see that these songs really could begin to take the emotions in the material and deepen them, and give the characters a chance to sing about how they feel, and about much that was left unspoken in the movie. And that began to get me excited. So I committed to it and I said, 'let's just try it and see where it goes'. We attracted amazing talent, people like Dave Stewart and Glen Dower, to do the music and insert lyrics, and Matthew Warchus and Tom Powell. We have such amazing people on this show. It just continued to come together and get better and better. All I wanted at that point was to bask in it and be part of it. I mean, how many times do you get the chance to be part of a musical?

**So have you worked hand-in-hand with Matthew since those very early stages?**

Very much so. Even today, we're all here working on the tour. This is a tour of a West End production and it really is quite astounding. I'm amazed as to what we've been able to achieve. We've had to cut back on some levels to bring the show to certain theatres, but I don't think people will even notice that. They'll just be blown away.

**It's certainly very ambitious. Were you ever concerned that it wasn't achievable to the level that you wanted?**

Of course - everyone fears that. When you're working on any kind of production there's very often a fear that it won't rise to the occasion. I don't have that fear with Ghost. I think there's a certain truth to the movie, and I love what's happening on stage. I love watching the show grow, and the actors finding their way into the characters, and watching it emerge as a great piece of work. It's an organic process, and the result is that the play delivers - it's touching people in so many ways.

**Sam and Molly were iconic roles for Patrick Swayze and Demi Moore. Was it ever difficult to envisage anyone else in those roles?**

Yeah, a little bit. That is, until I saw Richard and Casey, who appeared in the West End and who were in Manchester where it started. Straight away they stole my heart. I knew then that this could be anybody, and that people can move into those parts relatively easily. The hardest role, in a way, is that of Oda Mae Brown. I'm amazed we've found such amazing people to take on that character, because Whoopi is truly iconic. For people to take it on and make it their own is really hard. We've had great people, and now we have a new Oda Mae in Wendy Mae Brown, and she really is quite extraordinary.

**How spooky is that! A Wendy Mae Brown playing Oda Mae Brown...**

Yeah, that's quite extraordinary. I think she was probably born to play the role.

**Having seen the show, I found all the principal characters were spot on, but Wendy Mae certainly has something that's very special...**

I agree. I was thrilled to discover her when I sat down to watch this new production for the first time. I'd seen casting tapes but you don't know until you see people on stage how real they are and how good they are. In the movie, too, the Whoopi character kind of saves the show. The whole show couldn't just be about two people who are pining for each other. I knew we needed to level it with some kind of honest humour, and having a fake psychic having to deal with this terrifying situation of actually meeting a dead man was such a merciful idea. It saves the movie and it saves the show and brings a different level.

**The West End show was a great success, but the touring version is said to be more like the Broadway version. Why?**

Mostly because Matthew had a sense of things he wanted to change. There's one moment in the movie where Sam meets a ghost, who tells him a little bit about what it means to be a ghost. It's at a point where Sam's still fighting with the idea that he's even dead. We created a version of that guy for the London show which was a kind of tap-dancing guy, and a lot of people couldn't make the switch easily enough to go suddenly into 'I'm dead, and there's a tap-dancing guy telling me about what death is'. So we thought we'd go for more of a New Orleans style, because they do have a kind of funeral-style singing which is quite powerful. We tried it to see how it worked and we loved it. And here we've tried something more interesting. We've taken the character out altogether as a single person and we've made him other ghosts. We divided the part up, and that, to me, is the most successful version of all. It's very effective.

**It's a very full-on production, with some amazing illusions. Were you concerned that it might be a bit excessive in parts?**

Matthew and the whole creative team have been in New York working on Matilda, so it's only been the last couple of days that we've seen the production come together. We've all made our notes on how to calm it down a little, so to speak.

**The special effects are simply amazing, and it must have been quite difficult to bring some of the illusions from the movie to the stage. Did you have a firm idea about what you wanted to have happen?**

Well, we knew he had to walk through a door. That was one thing that had to happen. We also knew that we had to create a moment where he convinces Molly that he's there with her. We went from the penny on the door, which was just too small to register with those at the back of an auditorium, to the folding of a letter by itself in her hand.

**The spirits rising from the body is also a spectacular sight...**

Yeah, just the idea that these guys die and within seconds of them being dead you see their body on the stage at the same time as they're rising above the stage!

**The pottery scene is probably the most famous part of the film, but the stage show doesn't major on that very much. Is there a reason why it was played down?**

In a sense we wanted to give it a certain emotionality - for the pottery wheel to be there after Sam died, rather than before. We felt that to play it upfront slowed down the progression of the show. Having him being there with a pottery wheel, trying to hold her when he couldn't, was quite powerful. For me, it was an interesting choice, but I can see that some people would want to see it as it was in the film. But it's still there.

**Do you have a favourite scene in the stage show?**

Probably not. I'm amazed by so many of the things that happen. The subway scene is quite extraordinary; the Oda Mae scene is so vibrant and so funny. I always think the last scene, where Sam says 'the love's inside you, take it with you', really delivers. The audience always gets very emotional, and I get very gratified by that.

**So why do you think Ghost remains so successful?**

It addresses probably the central desire of human beings for fulfillment. One, that life goes on, which is something that I truly believe personally, and two, that you could possibly have one more moment with someone you love. The latter is something which probably drives more people's fantasy lives than anything. There's this story about a man who was in a plane that crashed into the Hudson River a couple of years ago. When he was rescued, he was standing on the wing, and later told the New York Times that all he could think about when he was getting off the plane was the movie Ghost. He said, "I wondered if, in fact, I was like Patrick Swayze, and my body was on the plane and I was there as a spirit on the wing". I remember thinking to myself when I read that, 'Oh my God, if the first thing that someone thinks about when they're involved in something like that is your movie, then you've made some sort of an impact'.

**Out of all the work you've created - because, as we know, this isn't your only success - would you say Ghost is your greatest achievement?**

I've loved working on it more than anything, and Ghost has served me very well. But there's a very underrated film that I did called Jacob's Ladder, which I think may be more important in terms of capturing some of what it is that I want to say. I really love Jacob's Ladder. I love all of the work that I've created, but Ghost has definitely been the most joyful ride that I've had.

**So would you ever look at adapting any of your other creations for the stage?**

Oh, no, no, no. I've gotten old. I've had my one musical. I'm grateful for the chance to be involved all the way, though. I'll leave the others to someone else.

Ghost The Musical shows at the **Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton**, from Tues 4 to Sat 15 June, and at the **New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham**, from Tues 17 December to Sun 5 January.



A Mad World My Masters in rehearsal



Sean Foley

# Sean Foley

brings Jacobean comedy to the RSC

**Actor, writer and director Sean Foley has created numerous original comedies, including the Olivier Award-winning *The Play What I Wrote*. His credits as a director include the stage version of *The Ladykillers*. Sean's currently working on numerous projects, including Harry Hill's *X Factor The Musical* and an imminent RSC production of Thomas Middleton's *A Mad World My Masters*. Sean recently took time out of his busy schedule to talk about his career, and to explain what audiences can expect from his re-working of this relatively unknown Jacobean comedy.**

**You're currently directing *A Mad World My Masters*. How did your involvement with this RSC production come about?**

The RSC approached me and said, "You're a likely sort of cove to direct a comedy, so what do you want to do?". I said, "Well, I'm not going to do a Shakespeare comedy". Not because I don't think they're brilliant but because there are already plenty of great versions of *Comedy Of Errors* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. I thought it might be fun to take a look at one of Shakespeare's contemporaries and see if there was something there that took my fancy. So I ended up looking at various plays, and this one seemed to me to be an undiscovered masterpiece. To his credit, when I told Michael Boyd that I'd like to do a piece by Thomas Middleton, he said: "Absolutely fantastic. You must do it!".

**What lay behind the decision to transpose the story to 1950s Soho?**

Well, it's a London play. It's full of prostitutes, scoundrels and scamsters. That kind of post-war Soho world - before everything changed in the '60s - seemed like a really good

transposition of the Jacobean world. The same things have happened throughout human history, but I've always thought the look was fantastic in the 1950s. The show is based very much around women and what's expected of them; that need to be conformist. Men's fear of women, and everything about the play, made me feel that you could set it in the 1950s and it would be just the same as it was in 1608, when it was written.

**Would it have easily fitted into the '60s?**

No, in the '60s we've got the feeling of what we used to call *Women's Lib*, but in the '50s that's all still brewing up. The play has some wonderfully strong female characters who're determined to shape their own lives but who face - I guess what women still face - a society that won't let them. One of the huge things in the play is sex, and it's worth pointing out that this is the filthiest play - in its original form - that I've ever seen. I kept looking back at the notes, thinking, "he can't possibly mean that. That's another pun on the word penis!". Let me put it this way. If it wasn't so funny, it would be shocking.

**You made reference to the play being based around strong female characters. Would the piece be better in the hands of a female director?**

We've got brilliant actresses in the company and a great female designer. The strength of the women characters was one of the reasons I wanted to do the play, and - I'll probably get shot for saying this - I think there are greater roles for women in this than there are in Shakespeare's plays, with the exception of *Rosalind in As You Like It*. The play has two major themes - sex and money - and it's brilliantly satirical. It's got a wonderful mix of classic goodness and comic genres. There's a lot of slapstick, plenty of character comedy, and it's very naughty. It's cynical in one sense but it's also very festive and celebratory.

**You're making use of 1950s music. Will there be recognisable numbers?**

Some will be quite well known, others not so.

**How is the music used in the show?**

Each of the main characters has a theme



tune, as it were. We've got a live band, and there are six or seven numbers. The show starts as if the audience is in a cafe/nightclub in Soho in 1958, where there's a brilliant jazz/blues singer called Linda Jon Pier. There's music accompanying the action throughout, and occasionally we break into actual song.

**Do you see the production appealing to a wide audience?**

Definitely. If this was written now, I wouldn't say that people would be outraged, but it's full of the sort of stuff that you're not supposed to laugh at but everyone does.

**So you can hide behind that...**

That's the brilliance of Middleton's writing. It's so full of innuendo that you could never actually say 'hang on a minute, he's talking about a woman's parts, isn't he?'. Thomas Middleton would say, "No, she's just saying that she wants to visit the man next door". It's full of brilliantly written innuendo. It's a bit like Max Miller coming on stage and saying, "I've got all sorts of material. Where do you want it from, the blue book or the red book?". Basically, everyone, if they're honest, would say they wanted it from the blue book. So it's full of that, but it's not the only thing in the play. It also tells this great story about these wonderful characters who strive to find love and fortune in 1950s London.

**A Mad World My Master marks your RSC debut. What does it mean to you to be performing at the home of the Bard?**

For me, it was completely unexpected. I've written and performed in a lot of my own work. I had my own theatre company, so I wrote and was part of creating original comic theatre shows which ended up in the West End. It's only more recently I've started directing. So it's a surprising delight to be invited to work with this world-famous theatre company. I was surprised when they asked me, and was equally surprised when they said yes to me doing *A Mad World My Master*. Also, as I've been working on the play, I'm surprised as to how great it is as a comedy. It's just full of the most brilliant comic situations, and points out just how hypocritical many of us are, but does so in the most delicious way.

**You've touched on moving from acting to directing. Did you see this as a natural progression?**

In my own company, I did writing within the shows, and, inevitably, because we ran the company, I was also one of the artistic directors. So I was actually making loads and loads of decisions by comparison with what a more traditional theatre director would do. So it wasn't a huge leap to decide to direct. I wouldn't say it was inevitable, but it was an easier step than it would have been if I'd just been an actor-for-hire.

**What do you consider to have been the bravest thing you've ever done professionally?**

Probably going on stage in Calcutta with a self-written show in front of about ninety Indian nuns. I was on tour with my own show, a comedy about a double-act entitled *Stop Calling Me Vernon*.

How did the show go down with the nuns?

It was brilliant, they loved it. There was a blackout for about ten minutes where we had to improvise, but it worked out okay. We also took the show to a town in Northern Syria which is currently being bombed to hell, called Illepo, and all of our props went missing. We had to run around the whole town trying to gather props for the evening performance. That was pretty scary as well. Those are the brave moments. My first official directing gig was an evening of Harold Pinter's comic sketches, of which he wrote a lot, and I suppose I was a little bit nervous the night he came to see it. But thankfully he loved it.

**So what would be your proudest moment?**

What Harold Pinter said to me after the show...

**Which was?**

Well, let's just say it was my proudest moment... that, and the opening night of *The Play What I Wrote*.

**And what about *The Ladykillers*?**

Yeah, that was another proud moment. That makes it three! I suppose getting an Olivier Award nomination for Best Director was a proud moment because it was the first play I'd directed in the West End. I was very proud of that show, and one of the things that I'd like to communicate is that lots of people in the business told me that they'd go to see it; they'd got their friends, they'd got their families and people who don't normally go to the theatre to go along and see it also. These were people who don't normally go to the theatre because they don't think it's entertaining enough. Almost universally it came back that they'd loved it. I think, if anything, that's what I'm about - trying to create theatre that will be liked by people who don't like theatre. You can have an incredibly entertaining evening, but it doesn't mean it's not intelligent. It doesn't mean it doesn't have a plot or a story - all of the shades that are necessary in a piece of theatre. But first of all it has to be a good night out for people, and I'm sure that's what we're creating here with Middleton's comedy.

**Did the success of *The Ladykillers* surpass your expectations?**

You never know something's going to be a massive hit. I've made shows which are equally as good, but they've never become massive hits, and you never know why. Some things audiences take to, and it's the audience that makes it a hit. It can be a good show but they make it a hit. The only thing you're in control of is putting on a good show and giving people a good time.

**Which playwright do you most admire?**

Samuel Beckett. I think he's much, much funnier than most people give him credit for. I also really like Shakespeare and Bertolt Brecht.

**Is there a particular up-and-coming playwright you'd like to 'big up'?**

There's a guy who I've been working with on this adaptation named Phil Tarter. He's a young guy who's recently been commissioned by the RSC to write something. I'm going to say him, because he

was great to work with and he's done a really great job with me on *A Mad World My Master*.

**You're directing Harry Hill's parody of *The X Factor*. Where are you with that at the moment?**

Well, it's been confirmed that we're going to do it and that it's going to be early next year. We've done quite a lot of work on it already - lots of workshops and writing, and we've got all the songs - so I guess it's quite advanced, really. We had a big showing when Simon Cowell came along, and he loved it.

**Does Simon have any input into the musical?**

He's actually been brilliant, and sort of clever, inasmuch as he saw that it was a great idea and let us get on with it. He's very occasionally come along and offered a few little thoughts; generally, though, he's been very hands-off but supportive.

**Any hints on casting yet?**

That's all under wraps at the moment. I'll tell you when I know...

**You're also going to be directing a new adaptation of PG Wodehouse's *Jeeves And Wooster*, entitled *Perfect Nonsense*...**

Yeah. Funnily enough, we're planning to make some announcements on that one very soon. We'll workshop it initially and then we're hoping to get it into the West End.

**You're juggling quite a lot of projects at the moment. Is it sometimes difficult to stay focused when there's so much going on?**

Actually, I think it helps. I quite like it this way.

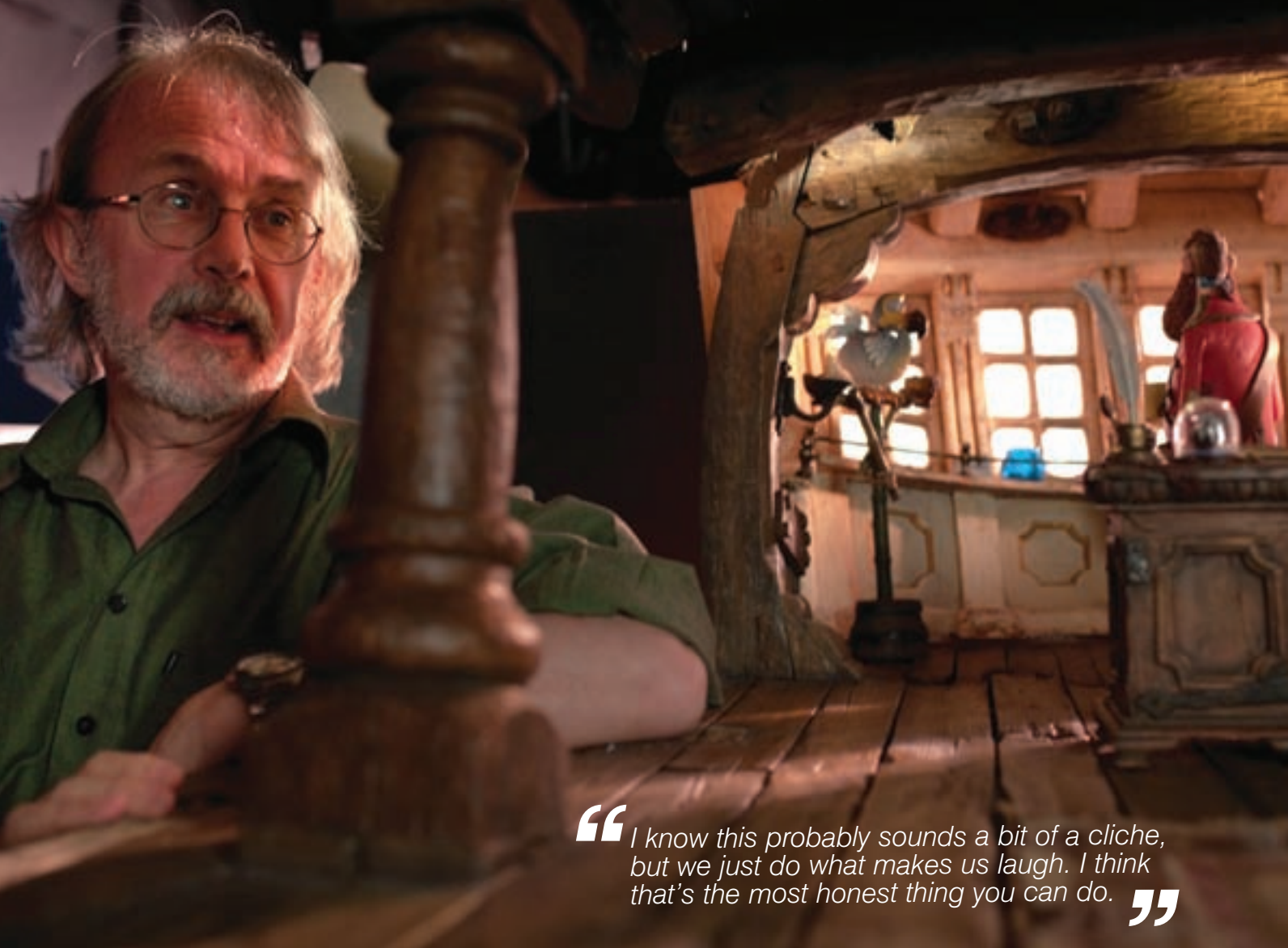
**So is it normal for you to have so many different projects on the go at any one time?**

Well, there are quite a few at the moment, I have to admit. I've actually been working *X Factor The Musical* since last April, so that's just over a year already, and we don't go into rehearsal until January next year. In the meantime, you're working with the writers and the designers. So you're not full-time on anything. It's a bit like cooking - things come to the boil at different times. Let's just say I've got a few things on the stove and I'm hoping that I'm going to manage to get them to the table at various points in time.

**Was a career in theatre something to which you'd always aspired?**

I'm always astounded that I'm, one, employed, and two, employable! But 'no' is the answer to that. It wasn't until I was in my twenties that I started to make a go of it, albeit in a curious way. I invented a company with a couple of other people and we started making our own shows. It wasn't like I was going to be an actor on the RSC stage. It wasn't like I wanted to play Hamlet - and I guess no one's going to ask me to now either! It wasn't that kind of ambition. It was more about creating work, creating theatre shows to make people laugh, which is essentially what I'm still doing now.

**A Mad World My Master shows at The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, from Thurs 6 June to Fri 25 October.**



“ I know this probably sounds a bit of a cliché, but we just do what makes us laugh. I think that’s the most honest thing you can do. ”

# Peter Lord

talks about the world of animation...

As co-founder of Aardman Animations, Peter Lord is responsible for some of the best clay animations ever to grace TV and cinema screens. His popular creation *Morph* made his debut on *Take Hart* in 1977 and was an instant success. Since then, Aardman has garnered worldwide praise thanks to such undertakings as *Wallace And Gromit*, *Chicken Run*, *Shaun The Sheep* and *Pirates! In An Adventure With Scientists*, the latter of which has inspired a touring exhibition that’s currently showing at Birmingham’s Thinktank. What’s On recently caught up with Peter to find out more about the world of animation.

**What was behind the decision to take *The Pirates! In An Adventure With Scientists* out on tour as an exhibition?**

We’ve always really wanted to do exhibitions. It was always very high on our list with *Pirates*, because the whole thing looks so lovely. We know that people love looking at the stuff that we do - the models and props are so beautiful. We love doing exhibitions and we’re always looking for opportunities, but you do need a good partner because it’s quite expensive. Even though we have all the sets ready-made, they’re big and quite cumbersome to get about.

**It’s not just the visual side of things, there are also a good many hands-on activities associated with the exhibition. Do you offer advice to venues on how they should proceed on that level?**

It’s all very collaborative, and I’ve been quite involved over the months, making sure that it’s what we wanted it to be. We depend on advice from the people who put on the exhibitions, because it’s a special art form and quite different from film making. But then again, we’ve done quite a lot ourselves over the years. Part of the exhibition is so that the kids can get some hands-on experience, which is fun while they’re at the exhibition and hopefully inspires them to go away and do their own thing with animation.

**And creating your own movies at home is far more viable nowadays...**

Yes, it’s hilarious, really. It’s so much easier now than when I started out a very long time ago. Then it was a highly esoteric activity for a few enthusiasts. Nowadays, everyone can do it. All you need is access to a computer. It’s partly technology and partly psychological, inasmuch as people think that they can do it, which is great, because they can do it. As schoolboys, we didn’t know anybody else of our age who was creating animation. We just appeared to be doing some weird, freakish thing that was seen as highly specialist.

**Were you seen as a geek?**

No, I think people then, as they are now, were quite impressed. They were amazed by it, and the fact that it could be done. Our films were first shown on TV when we were about seventeen, which I suppose was rather cool.

**Back to Pirates: In An Adventure With Scientists. It all began with Gideon Defoe's Pirates book. What was it that you initially found so appealing about his work?**

What jumped off the page instantly was the comedy, and a sense of fun which I'd never seen before. The story's got a particular tone of comedy which is quite surrealist, a bit absurdist and very modern, even though it's set in the past. It's also very playful and quite mischievous, and I loved the way that the book, and the film, took an enormous comedy swing at Charles Darwin.

**So you chose the story that the film was going to be based upon. Where did you go from there?**

We spent a long, long time on the story with Gideon in the room, because it's difficult to get a very good story into a defined space of time, which is what you're stuck with when producing a movie. I think we all agreed that, as written, it didn't really add up conveniently to a movie. So first of all we worked on the story, and then we moved on to the designs. You try to imagine what the world looks like, because obviously, in animation, nothing exists. So you have to create everything, from the sky down to the water. Then you start storyboarding, which is a classic animation thing where you turn your script into a visual document. This then adds a whole new layer of humour.

**Is there a character in the film with whom you have an affinity?**

The Captain, who's obviously very visible. He's on the screen the whole damn time, talking away. He's a very central character, and I like him because he's insanely optimistic and very cheerful, but at the same time has a great lack of foresight, which I guess helps him storm cheerily through life. On the downside, he's very thoughtless and selfish. I like a character who's extreme and by no means perfect. I love his crazy go-ahead energy, and I loved working with Hugh Grant.

**Do you have full creative control when working with Sony, or do you have a spec to which you have to adhere?**

It's not either of those. They did give us a free hand, but to be quite frank, that's something that you earn. If they like the script, like the design, and like what you're doing, they give you a free hand. It all worked out really well with Sony, and they just kind of got it. They knew straight away it was quite different to the average film. They knew it was never going to be mainstream, that it was going to be more English, and they loved the fun and the humour that came with it.

**Are there any plans to adapt any more of Gideon's books?**

Not at the moment. We started work on one, but it's not moved on.

**So would you credit Aardman with bringing animation to a wider adult audience?**

I think we do - and we delight in that - but we wouldn't take all the credit for it. Creature Comforts and Wallace And Gromit were made for an adult audience - well, a family audience - and I know this probably sounds a bit of a cliché, but we just do what makes us laugh. I think that's the most honest thing you can do.

**When you started out, could you ever have imagined that Aardman would become this huge, internationally recognised brand?**

No, definitely not. When we started out in the mid-'70s, the world was so different. In those days there were just three TV channels, there was no animation on TV for adults, and nobody made animated movies except Disney. When we started out, what was on offer was probably the summit of our ambition. So a company doing so much, and for so many different audiences, and selling all around the world, was unimaginable.

**I remember watching your Morph character being created out of plasticine. Do your creations still start out that way?**

The final characters that you see on screen are constructed from steel curtains. Their bodies are made from foam latex, silicone, resin, and a little bit of plasticine, but when they're first made we still use plasticine. You can't really sculpt using any other material. Morph works because he's the size he is, so is easy to construct from solid plasticine. He's the cheapest possible animation puppet. When things begin to get more complicated, the whole thing breaks down and the puppet doesn't work anymore. Our puppets are designed for looks first and foremost, and then very skillful modelmakers do the job to make them fit for purpose.

**Do you try to push boundaries as far as technology and the art form is concerned?**

With the boundaries thing, we always think there's a solution if you want it. So if you come up with an idea for, say, your characters to be transparent, we may say 'that's a stupid idea', or we may say 'we'll go with this idea because there's always a way you can make it work'. When we make films, it's fundamentally done the same way as it's always been done, with puppets and cameras in the studio. That said, we do use a lot of digital technology to help us, especially around the edges.

**Which has been the most challenging character you've worked on?**

Big characters are always a challenge, purely because of their size. In Chicken Run, you have humans interacting with chickens, so the scale of things is very important. We had this massive Mr Tweedy character, who wasn't much bigger than some of the chickens, and that was a bit of a challenge.

**Which is your favourite character?**

I'd say Morph, because he was the first-born, as it were.

**Are you still very hands-on with the company?**

When you're directing, then yes, you're still

very much hands-on - but that doesn't mean that I touch much plasticine!

**What's been the most difficult decision you've had to make professionally?**

Making Chicken Run was incredibly difficult, because it was on a much bigger scale than anything we'd ever done before. The studio doubled in size in the space of year. We had to split it in half, because you need a lot of space to do a movie, and space was something we didn't have. Splitting up teams and people was difficult. I personally went off to the feature studio, which is in the north of Bristol, away from headquarters, and I lost, or should I say missed, a lot of people and friends who I'd been working with for years. That decision put a huge strain on the company at the time, but it proved worthwhile in the end.

**So we've got the Shaun The Sheep movie coming in 2015. Any plans for any more Wallace And Gromit?**

Nothing live at the moment. I always assume they'll be back, because there's lots that we can do with them. Nick's working on another film at the moment, which isn't Wallace And Gromit.

**What is it?**

A deadly secret project...

**Sounds interesting! So what's taking up most of your time at the moment?**

I'm working on development, which is when you take an idea through to production. I don't know whether I'll actually direct one, but we've got three or four things, including Nick's film, on the boil. We're trying to get them off the ground and into production, and that's a big deal. It means you've got to get all the money in place, all the team in place, and you've got to get the studios to believe in your project. It's what we work for. It normally takes a couple of years for that thumbs-up or green light, as it's called.

**And your greatest achievement; would that be Wallace And Gromit?**

It would have to be the studio, I think, because, as I said earlier, we could never have imagined achieving this, and there wasn't any other model to follow. So to have built this studio, which everyone knows the name of and everyone wants to work at, is great. We employ a lot of people, and that's what I'm most proud of.

**And that you're still very British...**

Absolutely, and that isn't very easy either, I can tell you. We try to make it look easy, but it's tricky out there in the big world.

**You've worked closely with both Dreamworks and Sony. Have they ever tried to tempt you to relocate to the US?**

They've tried, but we've never, ever been tempted.

As well as showcasing crafted sets and puppets from the film, *The Pirates! In An Adventure With Scientists* exhibition also includes hand-on activities for all ages and the chance to see the renowned Oxford Dodo. *Pirates!...* shows at **Thinktank, Birmingham**, until end of September 2013

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# Music

## Bonnie Raitt

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Tues 11 June

American blues singer-songwriter, slide guitar player and lifelong political activist Bonnie has racked up over forty years of musicmaking, her early-career roots-influenced albums giving way in the 1980s and '90s to more commercially accessible recordings. A ten-time Grammy Award-winner, she's perhaps best known for 1990s numbers Nick Of Time, Something To Talk About, Love Sneakin' Up On You and I Can't Make You Love Me.



## Rihanna

LG Arena, Birmingham, Mon 17 June & Thurs 18 July

Barbadian-born Rihanna has enjoyed a meteoric rise to stardom since bursting onto the scene with her debut studio album Music Of The Sun in 2005. Two years later things really took off for her, courtesy of Good Girl Gone Bad and its chart-topping singles Umbrella, Take A Bow, Disturbia and Don't Stop The Music. In 2012, American magazine Time named Rihanna one of the world's most influential women. Proving her international popularity, the Rude Boy star has no fewer than five American Music Awards, eighteen Billboard Music Awards, two BRIT Awards and five Grammy Awards under her belt.

## I See Hawks In LA

Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury, Mon 24 June; Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham, Sun 7 July

This laidback country rock group hail from sunny California. Promoting their own brand of Americana across the globe, from SXSW to not-so-sunny Shrewsbury, they've released six albums since 2001. Influenced by country artists such as Merle Haggard, George Jones and Buck Owens, and folkier singer-songwriters such as Bob Dylan, they've been called "a talented, literate bunch of soulful musicians (that) create honest and wise roots music for the ages." They stop off in the Midlands as part of an eighteen-date UK tour.



## The Who: Quadrophenia

LG Arena, Birmingham, Fri 28 June

This concert sees The Who perform their iconic Quadrophenia double album in its entirety as part of a twelve-date UK tour. Released in 1973, Quadrophenia was the band's second rock opera (after Tommy) and went on to become one of the most influential albums in the history of rock music. The new concert version has been personally directed by Roger Daltrey. Focusing on the original album, it replaces the narrative used in previous stage incarnations with powerful imagery projected on an array of massive screens. The Who's founding members Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend will be joined for the show by Zak Starkey (drums), Pino Palladino (bass), Simon Townshend (guitar/backing vocals), John Corey (keyboards), Loren Gold (keyboards/backing vocals) and Frank Simes (musical director, keyboards/backing vocals).



## Whole Lotta Led

The Place, Oakengates, Telford, Sat 22 June; Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Sat 27 July

If Whole Lotta Led don't reign supreme when it comes to high-quality tribute acts, they're certainly up there vying for top spot with the very best of 'em. Dedicated to recreating the classic studio and live albums of the legendary Led Zeppelin, they've chalked up a staggering one thousand-plus concerts since forming in 1993 - irrefutable evidence, were any to be needed, of just how fantastic a job they do of paying homage to one of rock music's greatest ever bands.

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## Peter Murphy

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Mon 17 June

Nicknamed the Godfather of Goth, Peter Murphy is best known for his work with Bauhaus, with whom he performed before going solo. The group formed in 1978, and were influential in the field of gothic rock, achieving UK chart success and worldwide cult status before disbanding in 1983, since which time they've reformed on a couple of occasions. In celebration of the band's thirty-fifth anniversary, Murphy will play only Bauhaus material on this new Mr Moonlight tour, which takes in a whopping forty-nine dates in North America and Europe over a three-month period.



## Josh Groban

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Mon 17 June

Josh Groban has become something of a classical music darling, selling over twenty-five million albums in the last twelve years. Renowned for his stunning vocals, Josh is also an actor, and has appeared on US TV show *Ally McBeal* and in the movie *Crazy.Stupid.Love*. With his curly hair and boyish looks, the thirty-one-year-old star has captured the hearts of fans worldwide, and even snared *Mad Men's* January Jones. He's touring in support of sixth studio album *All That Echoes*, which hit the number one spot on the Billboard charts last November.



## Lambchop

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Wed 26 June

Playing country music since the 1990s, Lambchop are fronted by Kurt Wagner, have a fluid line-up, and released their eleventh studio album, *Mr M*, last year (the album was dedicated to Wagner's late friend and collaborator, singer-songwriter Vic Chesnutt). Kurt is famed for his songwriting, his lyrics having been described as "witty and deeply insightful". The band's use of multiple backing musicians creates a big sound, presenting a sharp contrast with the often-stripped-back approach to country music.



## Neil Young And Crazy Horse

LG Arena, Birmingham, Tues 11 June

One-time Crosby, Stills & Nash member Neil Young has been playing music for forty-plus years, a period during which he's released thirty-plus albums, garnered a reputation as one of rock'n'roll's greatest songwriters and performers, and twice been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; in 1995 for his solo work and in 1997 as a member of Buffalo Springfield. Although he's experimented with various musical styles, he's best known for playing acoustic and electric music, the latter very often in collaboration with American rock band Crazy Horse, with whom he's here reuniting for the first time in nine years.

## John Lee Hooker Jr And His All American Band

The Robin, Bilston, Tues 18 June

Blues musician John is perhaps best known for being the son of highly influential twentieth century singer-songwriter and guitarist John Lee Hooker. That's not to say the Detroit-born Junior hasn't made a significant mark of his own, earning Grammy award nominations for his engagingly contemporary arrangements. A one-time resident of San Quentin jail, Hooker Jr's found God and cleaned up his act during the last few years, but brings a real sense of his hard-livin' past to his modern-day business of musicmaking.



## Sir Cliff Richard

Warwick Castle, Sat 8 June

If you add up all the time that Cliff's songs have spent in the charts, the total comes to a staggering twenty years. No wonder the Peter Pan of Pop remains one of the UK's most-loved performers! Expect all the old favourites from five decades-worth of song, including *Move It!*, *Livin' Doll*, *Congratulations*, *Devil Woman*, *We Don't Talk Anymore*, *Wired For Sound*, *Mistletoe And Wine* and heaven knows how many other memorable hits.



## Chapel Club

The Institute, Birmingham, Mon 3 June

After recently selling out London's Electrowerkz, Chapel Club are kicking off a five-date UK tour with this Birmingham show. The London quintet's new album, *Good Together*, will be released on the same day as this Institute gig, and, in a move away from the indie rock sound of debut offering *Palace*, boasts a far more electronic feel. The psychedelic video for the title single has been directed by Ollie Murray, the man behind videos for both *The Horrors* and *Totally Enormous Extinct Dinosaurs*.



## Cara Luft

The Hive, Shrewsbury, Sun 16 June; Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham, Tues 18 June

Founding member of Canadian folk trio *The Wailin' Jennys*, Cara's solo sound has been moulded by such diverse influences as '80s pop music, folk music, church music and, er, *Led Zeppelin*! She kick-started her musical career at the tender age of eleven when she decided to teach herself how to play the guitar, since which time she's taken massive strides both as a musician and a performer. Presenting what she describes as 'rockin' folk for the discerning listener', Cara's natural warmth and delicious sense of humour ensure that an evening in her company offers much, much more than some spellbindingly good musicianship.

**THE INSTITUTE**

**TYGA PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS**  
Wednesday 29 May

**THE ENID**  
Thursday 30 May

**SWIM DEEP**  
Friday 31 May

**KEYSHIA COLE PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS**  
Saturday 1 June

**CHAPEL CLUB**  
Monday 3 June  
**RESCHEDULED DATE**

**THE FAMILY RAIN**  
Tuesday 4 June

**MUDHONEY + METZ**  
Monday 10 June

**JAMES SKELLY & THE INTENDERS + SPECIAL GUESTS**  
Tuesday 11 June

**TEGAN AND SARA + WAXAHATCHEE**  
Wednesday 12 June

**DANNY BROWN PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS**  
Friday 14 June

**MD7 & THE UK HIP-HOP LEGENDS**  
Friday 28 June

**VINCE KIDD THE ZOO TOUR**  
Friday 28 June

**AMANDA PALMER & GTO**  
Tuesday 16 July  
**RESCHEDULED DATE**

**MS MR + CHARLI XCX (DJ)**  
Tuesday 16 July

**MODEST MOUSE**  
Thursday 18 July

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<b>SUN 2 JUN</b> DOUBLE HEADER THE EARTH + REON ZEN	<b>TUE 18 JUN</b> From The USA, A True Blues Legend JOHN LEE HOOKER jr & HIS ALL AMERICAN BAND
<b>MON 3 JUN</b> DAVE NINE MCPHERSON	<b>WED 19 JUN</b> A BLUES BOSS OFFICIAL DOUBLE FEATURING SKINNY MOLLY + MITCH LADDIE
<b>TUE 4 JUN</b> ROCK REDEMPTION MIVVI	<b>THU 20 JUN</b> PUNK'S XPO200 RAMONAS
<b>WED 5 JUN</b> IAN PARKER Full Electric Band Show + support DeepFossilJamming	<b>FRI 21 JUN</b> THE LEGENDARY SLADE + JOANNEVARC + 4Q
<b>THU 6 JUN</b> REFLECTING HIS DISTINGUISHED WORK FROM VETERAN + BAMB AID AND HIS THRIVING SOUL CAREER MIDGE URE ALSO FEATURING VIENNA	<b>SAT 22 JUN</b> LIMEHOUSE JIZZY
<b>FRI 7 JUN</b> Small 400 capacity double header featuring NEW AMEN CORNER (SOUL) SOUL SURVIVORS	<b>SUN 23 JUN</b> Bookends: Simon & Garfunkel Through The Years
<b>SAT 8 JUN</b> THE GREAT TRIBUTE JOHNNY 2-BAD	<b>TUE 25 JUN</b> THE SAM DRAISEY SESSIONS A free evening of quality acoustic music from around the Midlands, including open mic slots
<b>SUN 9 JUN</b> A Triple bill of modern prog masters: ALSO EDEN + MANNING + JUMP	<b>WED 26 JUN</b> VAN DER GRAAF GENERATOR
<b>TUE 11 JUN</b> MICHAEL KATON	<b>THU 27 JUN</b> THE HENDRIX TRIBUTE ARE YOU EXPERIENCED?
<b>WED 12 JUN</b> Eve Selis WITH HER BAND	<b>FRI 28 JUN</b> BIG UP THE 90'S
<b>THU 13 JUN</b> UK SUBS	<b>SAT 29 JUN</b> - AFT DOORS 12noon ONE DIRECTION ALL AGES WELCOME! LITTLE MIX JUSTIN BIEBER THAT DOBER FAYDE
<b>FRI 14 JUN</b> ROCK DOUBLE FEAT FAT FIGHTERS + THE BOMBAY MONSTERS + THE FOO FIGHTERS PLUS UNDER THE FRIDGE TRIBUTE TO RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS	<b>SAT 29 JUN</b> - EVE THE NAKED BEATLES + (Not So) Acoustic Who + support Troubadour
<b>SAT 15 JUN</b> 80'S POP/ROCK LEGENDS T'PAU FEATURING CAROL DECKER DINA KIN COOK BIRDY SHAYL ALGAR	<b>SUN 30 JUN</b> 'LIVE & UNSIGNED' WITH JUMP THE SHARK THE LIMELIGHT THE MAKING, ROSARY AND TINNED ASTRONAUT

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## Funmi Olawumi

mac, Birmingham, Sat 8 June

A Nigerian singer, and leader of the Yoruba Women Choir, Funmi Olawumi brilliantly mixes afrobeat, juju, highlife and fuji music - and all in the name of faaji. Faaji is a Yoruba word for 'having a good time', and Funmi certainly knows how to give her audiences just that, courtesy of a show that also features high-energy dance routines.



## Bo Bruce

The Glee Club, Birmingham, Tues 25 June

You'd be forgiven for thinking Bo Bruce was the winner of The Voice 2012, as in some ways she was. Despite finishing in second place, the speculation surrounding her relationship with mentor Danny O'Donoghue kept her in the spotlight. With a cover of Kate Bush classic Running Up That Hill receiving praise from the lady herself, it's no surprise her album, Before I Sleep, made the top ten.



## Tegan And Sara

The Institute, Birmingham, Wed 12 June

Bringing together indie rock, New Wave, indie pop, indie folk and synthpop, Canadian-born identical twin sisters Tegan Rain Quin and Sara Keirsten Quin started writing and playing songs together at the tender age of fifteen. Their first independent full-length album, 1999's Under Feet Like Ours, caught the attention of Neil Young's iconic manager Elliot Roberts, and it wasn't long before the twins were making big waves on the international music scene. Their current tour comes in support of seventh studio album Heart-throb.



## Orange

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Sat 22 June

Pop punk band Orange were signed by Tim Armstrong of Rancid and have toured with numerous groups, including Reel Big Fish and Bowling For Soup. Their tracks have been used on TV shows The OC and The Hills, and their song Revolution is the theme tune to Cartoon Network's hit show Generator Rex. In short, they've enjoyed no little success since coming together in 2004, since which time they've released three albums (and have just released the video to new song Elektron Gun). The band are currently asking fans to create the tour setlist, so vote quickly if you want to hear your favourite songs live!

## Primal Scream

Kasbah, Coventry, Fri 28 June

It was when Bobby Gillespie made the transition from drummer in the Jesus And Mary Chain to lead singer in Primal Scream that the latter group really took off, establishing themselves as a cornerstone of the mid-1980s indie pop scene. They're perhaps best known for 1991 album Screamadelica, with Country Girl, from 2006's Riot City Blues, also enjoying a day in the sun, having been widely used on TV sports coverage. Making a comeback with tenth album More Light - described as 'a rock'n'roll record, but modern rock'n'roll' - they're playing Coventry as a warm-up for a summer of festivals, with Glastonbury and Benicassim among the stop-offs on their itinerary.

## Bilal

Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, Sun 30 June

Raised in Philadelphia, with a Christian mother and Muslim father, it was in church that Bilal developed an interest in music and singing. Defying his original 'neo-soul' tag, he constantly pushes the boundaries, with experimental album Airtight's Revenge crossing jazz, hip-hop, electronic, rock and blues. He recently found some longed-for commercial success with latest album A Love Surreal, the 'warm and sensual' release debuting at number one on the iTunes R&B Chart. Bilal will be playing with his full band at the Hare & Hounds. The gig, his Birmingham debut, closes this year's Bass Festival.



## MK1

The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 24 June

Contestants on last year's X Factor, Charlotte Rundle and Simeon Dixon were never short of an outspoken viewpoint, letting their feelings be known on a variety of subjects - from Christopher Maloney's diva behaviour to judges Gary Barlow and Nicole Sherzinger's whispering during their performance. Fusing traditional dubstep with mainstream production, they'll be playing ten dates on the MK1 Alive tour, premiering new tracks from their forthcoming debut album and accompanied by a full live band. New City Kings also feature on the bill, with further support to be announced.



## The Chapman Family

The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, Wed 5 June; Taylor Johns House, Coventry, Fri 7 June

One of the best things ever to come out of Stockton-On-Tees, this five-piece were one of NME's top tips for 2009, their music being praised for its 'angsty, cliché-free brilliance'. They released debut album Burn This Town a couple of years later. On something of a crusade, the band has said: "We are determined to finally wake people out of their bland middle-of-the-road Cameron and Brit School-endorsed cultural coma...". They're playing eleven UK dates on their current tour, with new single This One's For Love being released ahead of the free download release of Adult.

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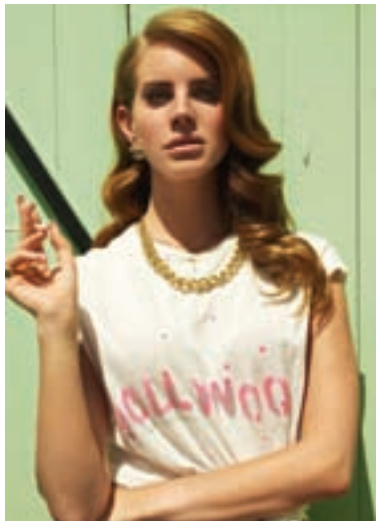
# Music GIG REVIEWS

For further reviews, visit [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## Lana Del Rey

O2 Academy, Birmingham

Despite hailing from our side of the pond, support act Cassidy seemed to confuse the crowd. A hairier version of Kings Of Leon, the Glasgow boys looked like they could've been extras in the Just Ride video. However, their gruff country sound was perfectly evocative of the faded heyday of Americana that Lana Del Rey sells so well. Onto a stage decorated with lion statues, palm trees, candelabras and columns, Lana meekly stepped forward. Dressed in an innocent white lace dress and sneakers, she oozed allure from every pore as she sang those immortal lines from Cola. Sliding against the guitarist during the dark and sultry Body Electric, she was showered with compliments by the audience, from the flattering to the crude. Answering their calls with fluttering eyelashes and a breathy voice that could've come straight from the mouth of Gatsby's Daisy Buchanan, as played by Carey Mulligan, it was evident the 'gangsta Nancy Sinatra' years were well and truly behind her. Sauntering cat-like and delicately around the stage, she left the crowd breathless with renditions of Carmen, Summertime Sadness and Born To Die, whilst a lead up of Without You into Knockin' On Heaven's Door added plenty of street cred. With a hush descending upon the crowd for Young And Beautiful and Ride, her voice shining against the string quartet and piano, she played the part of lovelorn glamour queen to perfection. Having gained confidence since her early performances, Lana really is a picture-perfect American queen. From channelling Nancy Sinatra to Daisy Buchanan, her sweet voice and ethereal beauty have kept fans captivated. I can't wait to see what she does next. **Alev Dervish** ■■■■■



## Steve Earle

Symphony Hall, Birmingham

Three times Grammy Award-winning musician, actor, author and activist Steve Earle is one of the greatest singer-songwriters of his generation, and regarded by many to be the Godfather of alt-country. Equally at home as solo artist or band member, Earle's recent gig in Birmingham, with his highly acclaimed electric band The Dukes, was nothing short of superb. It was the first night of the British leg of his European tour, and what a way to start. Opening with the title track from new album The Low Highway, Earle launched into what's best described as a road trip of America. Old favourites Copper Head Road, The Galloway Girl, My Old Friend The Blues and the achingly rendered Remember Me, written for his autistic, three-year-old son, were amongst the highlights, with a rousing encore of The Revolution Starts Now bringing proceedings to a close. Special mention must go to Chris Masterson (guitar and pedal steel) and wife Eleanor Whitmore (vocals and fiddle), integral members of The Dukes. Collectively known as The Mastersons, their opening set was extremely well received. A long career beckons for the duo.

**David Davies** ■■■■■



# Music LISTINGS

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

## SAT 1 JUN

**VOICES UNLIMITED - THE WAY WE WERE** The Swan Theatre Worcester  
**THE 2013 WEEKEND OF ENGLISH SONG** Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire  
**TWENTY ONE PILOTS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ROCKET** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**RAT PACK VEGAS SPECTACULAR** Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford  
**JULIAN SMITH** Lichfield Garrick  
**FLEETWOOD BAC** The Robin, Bilston  
**THE BEAT** The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury  
**CLOSE TO YOU** Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**THE SEX PISTOLS EXPERIENCE** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**BOOTLEG BLONDIE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**VOULEZ VOUS** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**THE ORGANIC LAWN MANAGEMENT** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**KICK UP THE 80'S** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**ABBA REUNION** Crewe Lyceum  
**THE FLOYD SOUND** Route 44, Acocks Green, Birmingham  
**THREE MANDING STARS** Featuring Djiby Drame, JaliMouso Mama Cherie and JaliMadi Kante The Drum, Birmingham  
**KEYSHIA COLE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**KING YOOF** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**GREAT CYNICS & SINCE MONROE** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**MILES KANE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**POST DESCARTES, JAPANESE FIGHTING FISH & THOSE AMONGST US ARE WOLVES** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**THE DEAD FAMOUS** Kasbah, Coventry  
**ICICLE, KRYPTIC MINDS & COMMODO** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**SWINGING AT THE COTTON CLUB** Feat: The Jiving Lindy Hoppers & Harry Strutters Hot Rhythm Orchestra, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford  
**THE FATHER TEDS** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**GUCCI PIMP** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**FAMILY AFFAIR** The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

## SUN 2 JUN

**SEXY WEIRDOS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**AFRO MIO** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**VALOUS, HUNTED, SALVATION** The Asylum, B'ham  
**CLIVE GREGSON** Kitchen Garden Cafe, B'ham  
**SPLASHH & POP-STRANGERS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**IO EARTH & AEON ZEN** The Robin, Bilston  
**BILLY BRAGG: TOOTH & NAIL TOUR** Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon  
**THE 2013 WEEKEND OF ENGLISH SONG** Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire  
**STANGALA & STONEBIRDS** UK TOUR The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**SPOTLIGHT KID** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**DAN GREENAWAY** The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove  
**BURTON CONCERT BAND** Birmingham Botanical Gardens

## MON 3 JUN

**THE KENNEDYS** Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury  
**NELL BRYDEN** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**THE TREVOR BURTON BAND** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**DAVE MCPHERSON** The Robin, Bilston  
**CHAPEL CLUB** (rescheduled date) The Institute, Birmingham  
**HEADPHONE PARTY** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**THE DUNNET BAXTER BIG BAND** The Yardbird, Birmingham

## TUES 4 JUN

**THE DARKNESS** Kasbah, Coventry  
**THE KENNEDYS** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**GIDEON, FATHOMS, HERE LIES A WARNING, CONDUIT AND SABOTEUR** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**DRENCE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE FAMILY RAIN** The Institute, Birmingham  
**NO ZODIAC, ABLAZE, BURNT EARTH, DESTROYER BC, KAIZEN & HAUNTED** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**IN MEMORY OF ABRAM WILSON** Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**THE BLATHERSKITES** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**NICK JACKSON, YOJI AND AQUILA** The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**ROCK REDEMPTION** The Robin, Bilston

## WED 5 JUN

**IAN PARKER & HIS BAND** The Robin, Bilston  
**PATSY FULLER & THE REVELATORS** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**SEAPONY & SPECIAL GUESTS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**STEVE KNIGHTLEY** Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
**THE CHAPMAN FAMILY PLUS VICTOR** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**NICK JACKSON** The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**IAN PARKER WITH FULL ELECTRIC BAND** The Robin, Bilston

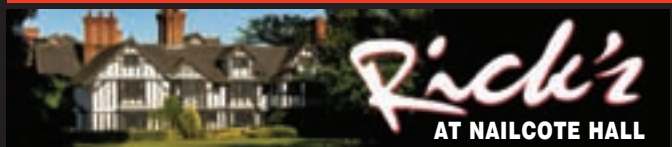
## THUR 6 JUN

**JOOLS HOLLAND & HIS RHYTHM & BLUES ORCHESTRA** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE OFFICIAL RECEIVERS BAND** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**EMILY BROWNE** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**LULO REINHARDT** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**THE MUSIC OF THE HOLLIES** Two-hour show by The Hollywood Bees, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire  
**STACEY KENT** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**A VISION OF ELVIS - ROB KINGSLEY** Lichfield Garrick  
**TRADITIONAL SONG SESSION** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**MIDGE URE** The Robin, Bilston  
**FOLKS & SOLDIER** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**MALICK PATHE SOW & BAO SISSOKO** The Ironworks, Oswestry, North Shropshire  
**NICK HARPER** Taylor John's House, Coventry  
**PETE HYDE & THE VIELLARDS** The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove  
**SAM JONES TOY SHOP** The Yardbird, Birmingham

## FRI 7 JUN

**TALON - THE BEST OF THE EAGLES** Solihull Arts Complex  
**THE NEW AMEN CORNER PLUS SOUL SURVIVORS** The Robin, Bilston  
**BUDDY AND THE BOOTLEG CRICKETS** Belgrade Theatre, Coventry  
**CONSERVATOIRE FOLK ENSEMBLE** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

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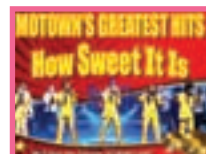
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**JULY**

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**JOE LONGTHORNE**



**OCTOBER**

Wednesday 2nd October, 7.30pm  
**MARTY WILDE & THE  
WILDCATS**



Thursday 3rd October, 7.30pm  
**PAUL DANIELS**



Friday 14th October, 7.30pm  
**ANN BREEN**



Thursday 24th October, 7.30pm  
Ballet Theatre UK presents  
**THE NUTCRACKER**



Friday 25th October, 7.30pm  
**CLASSIC CLAPTON**



Saturday 26th October, 7.30pm  
**ROLLERMANIA -  
BAY CITY ROLLERS**



Sunday 27th October, 7.30pm  
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# Music LISTINGS

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**ALBERT LEE & HOGAN'S HEROES** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**QUILL** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**GARY NUMAN** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**CAT CHINN & SNOOTY BOBS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**TIPITINA** Shanghai Blues Restaurant, Birmingham  
**THE UKULELE ORCHESTRA OF GREAT BRITAIN** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**C'MON EVERYBODY** Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock  
**TUBULAR BELLS FOR TWO** Featuring multi-instrumentalists Aidan Roberts and Daniel Holdsworth, Birmingham Town Hall  
**DETROIT SOUL** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THE RAGDOLLS** Crewe Lyceum  
**LULO REINHARDT** Wem Town Hall, North Shropshire  
**MMX & SPECIAL GUESTS** The Rainbow, B'ham  
**TORO Y MOI** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE NEW AGES PLUS SUPPORT** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**THE QUO AKA THE 4 ROSSIS** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**JUNCTION 16, RECKLESS LIKE THE REST, THE JOHN MACLEOD BAND & LIFE-COLOUR** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**DIAMOND LIL** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**THE CHAPMAN FAMILY, BORED SPIES & SMALL-GANG** Taylor John's House, Coventry  
**STEVE AJAO AND THE BLUE GIANTS** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**MATT ANDERSEN** Birchmeadow, Broseley, Shropshire  
**RUBICAVA & HEATHEN ZOO** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**THE REFLECTIONS** The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove  
**SCREAMIN' ABDABZ** Route 44, Birmingham

## SAT 8 JUN

**ON TOUR WITH ELVIS** Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**THE MOTELLAS** The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire  
**SIMON SPILLET WITH TOM HILL TRIO** The Hive, Shrewsbury  
**DETROIT SOUL** The Jam

House, Birmingham  
**CLIFF RICHARD** Warwick Castle  
**JOHNNY 2 BAD** - 9 piece live tribute to UB40, The Robin, Bilston  
**ZERO AMIGO PLUS MAXIMUM ZERO, CLUB PHOBIA, THE DOWNFALLS AND LOVATS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**WE ARE SAVIOURS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**THE JERSEY BOYS** Tribute to Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons plus the Motown Greatest Hits Show, The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**BACK TO BROADWAY** Crewe Lyceum  
**MOTOWN'S GREATEST HITS - HOW SWEET IT IS** Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock  
**ROCK N ROLL PARADISE** Featuring songs by Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Buddy Holly and Roy Orbison, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**MOODY BLUES** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**FLEETWOOD BAC** Tribute to Fleetwood Mac, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**TALON - THE BEST OF THE EAGLES** Bedworth Civic Hall  
**FUNMI OLAWUMI** mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**BRUK UP!** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**FORLOCO, KASTELLA & CHAOS PARADE** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

**THOSE WITHOUT HOPE & ALL ENDS BENEATH** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**TRC** Kasbah, Coventry  
**LIKELY LADS, BORDERS & THE CURRENT** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**SMOOTH JAZZ WITH NORTHBYNORTHWEST** Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs  
**FALSE PRETENCE & HEADWIRES** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**ONLY THE GOOD, DRIVEN & BULLITSTORM** The Asylum, Birmingham

## SUN 9 JUN

**FESTIVAL OF BRASS** Featuring the Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band and Amington Band, Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**ROCK AROUND THE SIXTIES** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**THE GRIMETHORPE COLLIERY BAND** Birmingham Town Hall



Etran Finatawa - Ikon Gallery, Birmingham & The Ironworks, Oswestry, North Shropshire

**ROB HALLIGAN & MUMBO JUMBO** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**ROY ORBISON AND FRIENDS** Crewe Lyceum  
**MONEY & EPIC 45** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**LUKE WYLDE AND THE JAPES** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**ALSO EDEN, MANNING & JUMP** The Robin, Bilston  
**THIS IS THE KIT** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham  
**TREVOR BURTON BAND** Birmingham Botanical Gardens  
**ETRAN FINATAWA** Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

## MON 10 JUN

**MUDHONEY & METZ** The Institute, Birmingham

## TUES 11 JUN

**PHIL BEER** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**JURASSIC 5** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BONNIE RAITT** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**NEIL YOUNG AND CRAZY HORSE** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**SOUL ACOUSTIC** Featuring Terri Walker, Shakka, Shea, Shezar, The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**IAN PARKER** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**THEY WROTE THE SONGS** Barry Walker brings together the music of four great piano singer songwriters of the last decades of the 20th century, Dudley Town Hall  
**JAMES SKELLY & THE INTENDERS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**BLOBBIE WILLIAMS & BALDY MURS** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**MICHAEL KATON** The Robin, Bilston  
**SEAN STEWART, IAN BOURNE BAND AND MEZ-ZOTONIE** The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**SCHOLARS PLUS LAYERS**

**AND THE YOUNG** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**MICHAEL KATON** The Robin, Bilston

## WED 12 JUN

**EVE SELIS** The Robin, Bilston  
**DANNY BRYANT** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE BIG CHRIS BARBER BAND** Solihull Arts Complex  
**TEGAN AND SARA PLUS WAXAHATCHEE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**TODD RUNDGREN** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MUNRO, O'CALLAGHAN & TITCHENER** Taylor John's House, Coventry  
**IRENE AND TOM** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**BOXES** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE JOHN MORRIS TRIO** The Yardbird, Birmingham

## THUR 13 JUN

**UK SUBS** The Robin, Bilston  
**PUNK REGENERATION TOUR 2013** Featuring GBH, Barb Wire Dolls, Louise Distras, Not The Only Clown In The Village and Charred Hearts O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**JOE SATRIANI** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THE JOHNNY CASH STORY** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**DR TEETH BIG BAND** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**IAN HILL TRIO FEATURING CHRIS WATTS AND TOM BULL** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**DICK GAUGHAN** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**NIGHT ENGINE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**ETRAN FINATAWA** The Ironworks, Oswestry, North Shropshire  
**PHIL ROBSON TRIO** Birmingham Town Hall  
**PAT HAYES QUARTET** The

Yardbird, Birmingham

## FRI 14 JUN

**DENNIS LOCORRIERE** Solihull Arts Complex  
**THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE** The Place, Oakengates Theatre  
**STAFFORDSHIRE BAND** Forest Arts Centre, Walsall  
**DJANGO BATES' BELOVED** CBSO Centre, B'ham  
**THE RED LEMONS** The Jam House, B'ham  
**2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY** Symphony Hall, B'ham  
**ELKIE BROOKS** Lichfield Garrick  
**FAT FIGHTERS** Tribute to the Foo Fighters, The Robin, Bilston  
**MANAKIN, BLACK ROSE VILLAIN PLUS RIOT CITY, LIKEWISE & A SUITCASE FULL OF OWLS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**TONY WOODS AND LYRIC ENSEMBLE** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**YUSSEF AHMED** The Drum, Birmingham  
**BLACK CELEBRATION - DEPECHE MODE TRIBUTE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**IAN HUNTER & THE RANT BAND** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**INTO THE SHADOWS** Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton  
**MARK OWEN** The Institute, Birmingham  
**DANNY BROWN** The Institute, Birmingham  
**VISIONBOMBING** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**PROPAGANDA FEAT SWISS LIPS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**RID PLUS SUPPORT** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**GRAVITIES & PLASTIC ROSE** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**THE STRINGER/BESSANT BAND** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**SANKARA, NOTERMINUS & RYAN JAMES** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**58 DELUXE** The Water's Edge Bandstand,

Brindleyplace, Birmingham  
**JOHN TAYLOR PRESENTS...** Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire  
**BIG DEAL** The Rainbow, Birmingham  
**THE MAD GEESE** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**BOYS MAKE NOISE AND SHINING STARS** Artrix, Bromsgrove

## SAT 15 JUN

**THE RED LEMONS** The Jam House, B'ham  
**LET'S HANG ON - THE MUSIC OF FRANKI VALI & THE FOUR SEASONS** Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock  
**THE MANFREDS** Lichfield Garrick  
**JACKSON LIVE IN CONCERT** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**PERMISSION TO ROCK** Route 44, Acocks Green, Birmingham  
**MAETLOAF - MEAT LOAF TRIBUTE** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**RAINY DAYS & MONDAYS - THE CARPENTERS STORY** New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham  
**STEVE HOWE** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**THE GRIMETHORPE COLLIERY BAND** Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa  
**THE BARRON KNIGHTS** Solihull Arts Complex  
**T'PAU FEATURING CAROL DECKER** The Robin, Bilston  
**THE SKIRR, LUKE WYLDE & THE JAPES** SPACEMET APES BIGGER THAN SEATTLE The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**SUMMER SESSION FEAT. ESKMAN, GUV, EVIL B, ANNIX, TURNO, TOTAL RECALL & DIALOGUE** The Institute, Birmingham  
**REBELLIOUS JUKEBOX, SECRET OKTOBER & THE BORGAS** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**FIGHT THE DICE, MILLION**

# Music LISTINGS

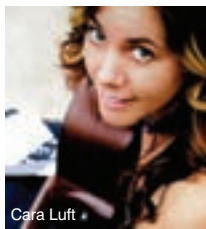
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**EMPIRE, DUCHAMP PILOT, ALEX KID & DAN THE THIEF** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**OPM Kasbah**, Coventry  
**ELLIOT WILCOX, PLAYING ARMY, MADDY GREGORY, DOMINIC MORGAN & GREG LAWSON** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**PANACEA, AGAINST THE WHEEL & MINIMUM** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**TEMPTING ROSIE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**VISIONBOMBING LAUNCH PARTY** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

## SUN 16 JUN

**LEZ ZEPPELIN** Female tribute, The Robin, Bilston  
**LISA STANSFIELD** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**BUDDY HOLLY - A LEGEND REBORN** The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton  
**JASMINE KENNEDY, RHYS DAVID MORRIS & JONNY RAI** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham

**CARA LUFT** The Hive, Shrewsbury



**HIGHLEY COLLIERY BAND** Birmingham Botanical Gardens  
**THE MARTIN HARLEY BAND** The Ironworks, Oswestry

## MON 17 JUN

**PETER MURPHY** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**JOSH GROBAN** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**RIHANNA** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**WALSALL JAZZ ORCHESTRA** Forest Arts Centre, Walsall  
**RON SEXSMITH** Birmingham Town Hall

## TUES 18 JUN

**HUGH LAURIE** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**KEVIN FIGES QUARTET** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**RAINY DAYS & MONDAYS - THE CARPENTERS STORY** Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent  
**CARA LUFT** Kitchen Garden Cafe  
**JOHN LEE HOOKER JR** The Robin, Bilston  
**JOSH KEMP, SUPER 6 AND BINTAGS** The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**WE'LL DIE SMILING** The Flapper, Birmingham

## WED 19 JUN

**TALON** The Swan Theatre Worcester  
**ROD STEWART** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**NEW SCHOOL FUTURES** Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury  
**LUCAS D & THE GROOVE GHETTO** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**TEMPLES, CHARLIE BOYER & THE VOYEURS** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE MONGOLOIDS, WRONG ANSWER, BRUTALITY WILL PREVAIL, BROKEN TEETH, FORSAKEN & TIMES TOGETHER** The Flapper, Birmingham

**SKINNY MOLLY FEAT: MIKE ESTES & MITCH LADDIE** The Robin, Bilston

## THUR 20 JUN

**BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN** Ricoh Arena, Coventry  
**HUSKIES, LEOPARD, REEFER & FLOWERS** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**ROD STEWART** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**DANZIG PLUS SPECIAL GUEST DOYLE** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**LOVELESS LUCK, AUDIO DISEASE, THE BLACKLIST SAINTS, EXIDE & L.O.S.T** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**ASWAD** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**JULIA FORDHAM** Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**RAMONAS** The Robin, Bilston  
**DRY THE RIVER** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**GIRLS ON STAGE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**PUNKS XPOSED WITH RAMONAS** The Robin, Bilston  
**1EYE** The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**VALENTINE** The Asylum, Birmingham

## FRI 21 JUN

**THE 2TONICS** Tribute to The Specials, Bodysnatcher, The Beat, Bad Manners, Madness and The Selector... The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**ROY ORBISON AND FRIENDS** The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford, Shropshire  
**SLADE** The Robin, Bilston  
**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**BENNY GOODMAN'S 1938 CARNEGIE HALL CONCERT** Recreated sensationally by The All-Star Goodmen Orchestra featuring Joan Viskant, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire  
**AFRO MIO** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**MR BEN** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**TAKE IT EASY** Eagles Tribute Band, Dudley Town Hall  
**GBH, BARB WIRE DOLLS, LOUISE DISTRAS, NOT THE ONLY CLOWN IN THE VILLAGE & CHARRED HEARTS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**MSFITZ - FEMALE FRONTED TRIBUTE TO THE MISFITS** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**THE UNDERCOCKS** The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

**RICKY COOL** O'Neills, Solihull  
**ROY FORBES** The Water's Edge Bandstand, Brindleyplace, Birmingham  
**STEVE DAY BLUES BAND** Woodberry Down Inn, Bridgnorth, Shropshire  
**CAIRDE, THE CROOKED HOOKS, NISHI AND CYNIC** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**WILDSIDE RIOT, MARY'S RUIN AND LEFT FOR RED** Route 44, Birmingham  
**MR GEORGE'S FAMOUS LAST WORDS** The Actress & Bishop, Birmingham  
**BETRAYAL** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

## SAT 22 JUN

**ROY ORBISON AND FRIENDS** Tamworth Assembly Rooms  
**MARTIN JOSEPH** Birmingham Town Hall  
**GEORGIA MANCIO AND NIGEL PRICE** In association with Worcester Jazz, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester  
**MR BEN** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**LIMEHOUSE LIZZY** The Robin, Bilston  
**ORANGE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BOLLYWOOD 100 MEMORIES** Birmingham Town Hall  
**THE 7 TEEZ** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**A WHOLE LOTTA LED** The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford  
**THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**10CC** Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire  
**BIG BAND LEAVERS GIG** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**MARTIN HAYES AND DENNIS CAHILL** Wem Town Hall, Shropshire  
**SARAH GILLESPIE** The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire  
**SOMEONE SAID FIRE & ALREADY GONE** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**JOURNEY TO TOTO** Route 44, Acocks Green, Birmingham  
**SANJU SAHAI** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**HELLER AND FARLEY** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE STACKS & SAHARA SKIES** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**RICKY COOL** The Three Tuns Inn, Bishop's Castle, Shropshire  
**RUDY AND THE REVOLVERS** The Water's Edge Bandstand, Brindleyplace, Birmingham  
**THE FINAL CROSS, MEMORICS, LIFE UNWRITTEN** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**BELLA DIEM AND LINERUNNERS** The Sun-

flower Lounge, B'ham

## SUN 23 JUN

**GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**TEWKESBURY TOWN BAND** The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**BLUE MOSQUITOES** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**BOOKENDS - TRIBUTE TO SIMON & GARFUNKEL** The Robin, Bilston  
**FRANKIE VALLI AND THE FOUR SEASONS** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**JAZZ BRUNCH** Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire  
**LUKE JACKSON** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**RUMOURS OF SPRING, MELLOW PEACHES & EMMA CROWDER** The Yardbird Jazz Club, Birmingham  
**THE BEAUTIFUL SOUND** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**ALVELY VILLAGE BAND** Birmingham Botanical Gardens

## MON 24 JUN

**KERRY ELLIS AND BRIAN MAY - THE BORN FREE TOUR** Birmingham Town Hall  
**MK1, NEW CITY KINGS & SPECIAL GUESTS** The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent  
**BOB WAYNE** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**I SEE HAWKS IN LA** Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury  
**DEERHOOF & GUESTS** Hare & Hounds, B'ham

## SAT 8 JUN

**BO BRUCE** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**THE SAM DRAISEY SESSION** The Robin, Bilston  
**RICH THOMPSON AND VIOLET CITIES** The Yardbird, Birmingham

## WED 26 JUN

**VAN DER GRAAF GENERATOR** The Robin, Bilston  
**LUCINDA WILLIAMS** Birmingham Town Hall  
**LAMBCHOP** Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry  
**NOUCOUCOUNDA CIS-SOKO & BAND** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**MAIDEN** The music of Metallica & Iron Maiden, Forest Arts Centre, Walsall  
**DERMOT HEGARTY** Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**THE JOHN MORRIS TRIO** The Yardbird, B'ham

## THUR 27 JUN

**STEVE GIBBONS SINGS DYLAN** Ludlow Assem-

Tuesday 9 July, 7.30pm  
 at Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**MARK KERMODE: FILM MUSIC LIVE**

Robert Ziegler - conductor  
 Mark Kermode - presenter  
 and special guest soon to be announced - keep informed  
 #CBSOfilm

Critic, music-lover and film-buff extraordinaire... no-one understands great cinema better than Mark Kermode. Tonight he joins movie maestro Robert Ziegler to present a personal choice of classic film music, from *Mary Poppins* to *The Exorcist*. It's the stuff of dreams!

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KT Tunstall

bl Rooms, South Shropshire  
**JOE LONGTHORNE** The Place, Oakengates Theatre  
**MOTOWN'S GREATEST HITS - HOW SWEET IT IS** Lichfield Garrick  
**ARE YOU EXPERIENCED - JIMI HENDRIX TRIBUTE** The Robin, Bilston  
**THE STRYPES** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**KT TUNSTALL** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**WOODEN HORSE** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**PAQUA AND BING JI LING** The Yardbird, Birmingham  
**ROOM SERVICE** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**THE CRIBS** The Kasbah, Coventry

**FRI 28 JUN**

**THE WHO: QUADROPHENIA** LG Arena, Birmingham  
**LEVELLERS** The Assembly, Leamington Spa  
**THE ELO EXPERIENCE** Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton  
**KERRY ELLIS AND BRIAN MAY - THE BORN FREE TOUR** Malvern Theatres  
**MICHAEL KING PRESENTS THE BILLY FURY YEARS** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**BIG UP THE 90'S** The Robin, Bilston  
**VINCE KIDD - THE ZOO TOUR** The Institute, Birmingham  
**WINSTON'S BIG BROTHER, GLASS SOLDIERS, DUKE, FOREVER THE FEARLESS & STIFF CHIMPS** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**REUBEN JAMES & SOUL TRAIN** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**UP4 THE DOWNSTROKE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**TALON - THE BEST OF THE EAGLES** Lichfield Garrick  
**SOUND SYSTEM FRIDAY** The Drum, Birmingham

**THE SOUL SURVIVORS**

The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**BLAZIN' FIDDLES** Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire  
**CLAUDE BOURBON** Palace Theatre, Redditch  
**MD7 & THE UK HIP-HOP LEGENDS** The Institute, Birmingham  
**MK1** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BOGUS BLOOZE & TOTALLY SUSPECT** The Roadhouse, Birmingham  
**PRIMAL SCREAM** Kasbah, Coventry  
**PROPER ENGLISH GENTLEMEN** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**JONATHAN & CHARLOTTE** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**BLAKE** The Place, Oakengates

**SAT 29 JUN**

**ELKIE BROOKS** Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**UP4 THE DOWNSTROKE** The Jam House, Birmingham  
**JOOLS HOLLAND AND HIS RHYTHM AND BLUES ORCHESTRA** Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire  
**THE NAKED BEATLES PLUS THE (NOT SO) ACOUSTIC WHO** The Robin, Bilston  
**BASIL GABBIDON** The Drum, Birmingham  
**SIMON TOWNSEND** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**THE DECADES BAND** The River Rooms, Stourbridge  
**GIMMIE GIMMIE NIGHT FEVER** Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock  
**LEGENDS OF ROCK REINVENTING THE TRENDKILL PLUS METALLICA RE-LOADED, OZZBEST AND CRASH** The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton  
**THE REAL THING** The Place, Oakengates Theatre  
**UK PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE** Palace Theatre,

Redditch  
**JUPITER ATE** The Flapper, Birmingham  
**SIMONE FELICE** The Glee Club, Birmingham  
**LOVEBITE, SHYNE, WITNESS, KIXXER & RIP TYDE** O2 Academy, Birmingham  
**BLONDIE** Cannock Chase Forest, Staffordshire  
**IVOR & LYNN'S CLASSIC ROCK DISCO** Route 44, Birmingham  
**GOD DAMN & THEM**  
**WOLVES** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham  
**SICKLE CELL CHARITY FUNDRAISER GOSPEL CONCERT** Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**TEENAGE RAMPAGE** The Robin, Bilston  
**SAX IN THE CITY WITH THE NOTEBENDERS** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**THE REAGGAELATORS** The Irish Centre, Birmingham  
**ANIMA** The Actress & Bishop, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham  
**NONE SO BLIND, THE DELIS MIX, NO MORE NUMBERS** The Asylum, Birmingham  
**GRAND UNION ORCHESTRA: TRADING ROOTS** Featuring musicians and jazz solists from India, Bangladesh, China, Eastern Europe, South and West Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America and the UK, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
**RAINBOW VOICES: LOVE IN THE SUMMER TIME** Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**SUN 30 JUN**

**BOB BROLLY AND FRIENDS CHARITY CONCERT** Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
**THE HOLLIES & THE SEARCHERS** Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire  
**#SHROPSHIRE UNSIGNED** FEATURING FIGHT THE BEAR, ARCADE PARADE, FIGHT THE DICE AND PORTLIGHTS Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**THE SWING COMMANDERS** Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**4.0.M** Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**PHOENIX SINGERS: THE PEACEMAKERS** Birmingham Town Hall  
**BILAL** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham  
**JUMP THE SHARK, THE LIMELIGHT, THE MAKING, ROSARY & TINNED ASTRONAUT** The Robin, Bilston  
**OUT OF THE BLUE** BIG BAND Birmingham Botanical Gardens  
**NINA BAKER, BLUE NATION AND CHLOE ADAMS** The Yardbird, B'ham  
**GILMORE & ROBERTS** Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

**Music Venues Box Office**

**Birmingham**

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 HENRY TUDOR HOUSE SHREWSBURY 01743 361666  
 THE HIVE, SHREWSBURY 01743 234970  
 THE IRONWORKS, OSWESTRY 01691 679123  
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 THEATRE SEVERN, SHREWSBURY 01743 281281  
 THE PLACE, OAKENGATES, TELFORD 01952 382382  
 WEM TOWN HALL 01939 232299

**Staffordshire**

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 LICHFIELD GUILDHALL 01543 262223  
 THE SUGARMILL, HANLEY STOKE-ON-TRENT 01159 454 593  
 TAMWORTH ASSEMBLY ROOMS 01827 709618  
 VICTORIA HALL, HANLEY 0870 060 6649  
 STAFFORD GATEHOUSE 01785 254653

**Warwickshire**

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 THE KASBAH, COVENTRY 024 7655 4473  
 NAILCOTE HALL, BERKSWELL 02476 46 6174  
 STRATFORD CIVIC HALL 01789 207100  
 TAYLOR JOHN'S HOUSE, COVENTRY 024 7623 0699

**Worcestershire**

ARTRIX, BROMSGROVE 01527 577330  
 HUNTINGDON HALL / SWAN THEATRE 01905 611427  
 MARR'S BAR, WORCESTER 01905 613336  
 THE RIVER ROOMS, STOURBRIDGE 01384 397177

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

**EX CATHEDRA**  
 Great music made in Birmingham

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

**Mozart Vespers by Candlelight**

Wednesday 19 June, 9pm  
 The Oratory, Birmingham

Join us at dusk for some of Mozart's most eloquent church music, full of energy and exuberance. The programme includes the most famous and best-loved of all his sacred arias: the Laudate Dominum.

Truly enchanting music for a long summer's evening.

To book, call 0121 345 0603 or visit [www.excathedra.co.uk](http://www.excathedra.co.uk)

Choir | Consort | Orchestra | Education  
 Artistic Director & Conductor **Jeffrey Skidmore**

Birmingham City Council | Arts Council England



## Holst: The Planets

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Sat 15 June

Forming part of the Birmingham International Concert Season, this Philharmonic Orchestra performance of a truly memorable work is the finale of the Town Hall and Symphony Hall's Universe Of Sound project. A firm favourite with UK audiences and one of the most recorded pieces of British music, Holst's seven-movement orchestra suite is a depiction of each of the astrological planets known to man at the time of the work's conception (between 1914 and 1916). Acclaimed Icelandic/Russian conductor Vladimir Ashkenazy (pictured) is the talent at the helm of this particular performance, and is accompanied by James Ehnes on violin and the Ladies of the Birmingham City Choir. Other highlights in the Universe Of Sound project include a digital installation at Birmingham Municipal Bank, which runs until 16 June; an accompanied screening of 2001: A Space Odyssey at Symphony Hall on 14 June; and a Universe Of Sound Family Day at Symphony Hall on 15 June.

## Last Night Of The Proms

Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire,  
Sun 23 June

Author, broadcaster, after-dinner speaker and former MP Gyles Brandreth here hosts an evening of patriotic entertainment as part of the new Ludlow Arts Festival. The programme of popular classics - including Jerusalem, Pomp And Circumstance, Nessun Dorma and the William Tell Overture - is performed by the English National Philharmonic Orchestra, and features conductor Ben Crick, soprano Claire Ormshaw and tenor Lee Bradley.



## Blake

The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Fri 28  
June; Palace Theatre, Redditch, Sat 19  
October

Comprising Ollie Baines, Humphrey Berney and Stephen Bowman, Blake are credited for bringing classical music to the masses - an achievement recognised when their debut offering won Album of the Year at the Classical Brit Awards in 2008. Fusing classical, rock, pop and musical favourites, the boys continue to enjoy worldwide success, and this month return to the Midlands to share stories from their recent tour of Asia, America and Europe, as well as perform numbers from their recently released album Start Over. Classical soprano Natalie Coyle supports.

## Welsh National Opera: Wagner Dream

Birmingham Hippodrome, Wed 12 June

Founded in Cardiff in 1943, Welsh National Opera is committed to producing operas which are extremely accessible for its audiences, whether they be opera-going regulars or people attending an opera for the very first time. Here, the company commemorate the bicentenary of Wagner with a performance of Jonathan Harvey's visionary score, depicting the German composer's final days in Venice and working on the premise that he was in the process of producing a Buddhist drama. By fusing together biography with a notion of 'what might have been', this reflective twenty-first century piece - using Harvey's renowned electronic style - recaptures the epic scale of a typical Wagner score... WNO's performance of the work precedes Antony McDonald's new production of Wagner's popular romantic opera Lohengrin. A sumptuous symphonic piece, it features, on this occasion, Peter Wedd in the title role and Emma Bell as Elsa.



## Ex Cathedra: Mozart Vespers By Candlelight

The Oratory, Birmingham, Wed 19 June

With a repertoire ranging from the twelfth to the twenty-first century, Birmingham-based Ex Cathedra is recognised as one of the UK's leading choir and Early Music ensembles. This summer concert sees them presenting Mozart's Laudate Dominum, which has been described as the best-loved of all the composer's sacred arias. Under the directorship of conductor Jeffrey Skidmore, the concert also features soprano Katie Trethewey, alto Martha McLorinan, tenor Jeremy Budd and bass Greg Skidmore.





# Classical LISTINGS

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

**ANGLO WELSH FESTIVAL OF MALE CHOIRS** Featuring Birmingham Canoldir Male Choir, Sat 1 June, Birmingham Town Hall

**CROPPER-WELSH-ROSCOE TRIO** Programme includes works by Haydn, Beethoven & Brahms, Sat 1 June, Malvern Theatre

**ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Programme includes works by Elgar & Mozart, Sun 2 June Malvern Theatres

**LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERT WITH THOMAS TROTTER & CELIA CRAIG** Programme includes works by A. Marcello, J. Rheinberger, Britten, G. Litaize, R. Ampt & J. Noyon, Mon 3 June Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**PERFORMANCE PLATFORM: HEATHER ROACHE (FLUTE)** Programme includes works by Torke, Nunn, Widor, Dennehy & Muczynski, Tues 4 June, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**PERFORMANCE PLATFORM: YU-HSIN CHANG (BARITONE)** Programme includes works by Ravel, Bizet, Verdi & Vaughan Williams, Tues 4 June, Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**TAM SIN PLAYS BEETHOVEN** Featuring Orchestra Of The Swan. Programme includes works by Wagner, Mozart & Beethoven, Wed 5 June, Birmingham Town Hall

**ORGAN RECITAL BY BINE BRYNDHOF** Programme includes works by Bach, Sweelinck, Bruhns & Messiaen, Wed 5 June, St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham

**PHANTOM AND THE MUSICALS** Thurs 6 June, Solihull Arts Complex

**OPERA SOIREE** Thurs 6 June, Crewe Lyceum

**WILLIAMS KELLEHER DUO** Thurs 6 June, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**BRYN TERFEL WITH THE MANCHESTER CONCERT ORCHESTRA** Fri 7 June Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**THE NIGHT WATCH - MUSICAL HISTORY TOUR** A dash through musical history on medieval, renaissance and baroque period instruments, Fri 7 June, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**LUNCHTIME RECITAL WITH JO SEALEY (PIANO) & JESSICA WILKES**

**(FLUTE)** Fri 7 June, Birmingham Cathedral

**ORGAN RECITAL BY HENRY FAIRS** Fri 7 June, St Swithun's Church, Worcester

**IPHIGENIA IN AULIS** Matthew Knight directs Christoph Willibald Gluck's setting of Euripede's classic Greek tragedy, Fri 7 - Sun 9 June, The Barber Institute, Birmingham

**DON PASQUAL** Donizetti's comic opera presented by Swansea City Opera, Sat 8 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**CWMBACH MALE CHOIR** Sat 8 June, Malvern Theatre

**AN EVENING OF FINE CHAMBER MUSIC** Sat 8 June, Maidment Buildings, Shrewsbury School

**CHAMBER ENSEMBLES** This concert includes the first performance of the winning entry from the Summer Festival Composition Prize, Tues 11 June, Barber Concert Hall, Birmingham

**HEPPLEWHITE PIANO TRIO** Tues 11 June, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**COULL QUARTET: DEATH IN VENICE** Featuring Roger Coull & Philip Gallaway (violins), Rose Redgrave (viola) and Nicholas Roberts (cello). Programme to include works by Haydn, Britten & Schumann, Wed 12 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**WAGNER DREAM** Welsh National Opera present a special performance in celebration of Wagner's bicentenary, Wed 12 June, Birmingham Hippodrome

**THREE PHANTOMS** Featuring Earl Carpenter, Matt Cammelle and Stephen John Davis, Wed 12 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CBSO SCHOOLS CONCERT: BIRMINGHAM HISTORY** Presented by The Play House and featuring Michael Seal (conductor), Thurs 13 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**SMALL ENSEMBLE SERIES: ORISHA OSUN** Thurs 13 June, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**LOHENGRIN** Welsh National Opera present Wagner's romantic opera, Thur 13 - Sat 15 June, Birmingham Hippodrome

**BLOOD WEDDING** Birmingham Conservatoire present Gwynne Edwards' translation of Frederico Garcia Lorca's classic play which fuses colourful latin energy, music and dance, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**MADAM BUTTERFLY** Welsh National Opera present Puccini's breathtaking tragedy performed here by the acclaimed Welsh National Opera, Fri 14 June, Birmingham Hippodrome

**2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY** Experience one of the greatest science fiction films of all time, accompanied by music from the Philharmonia Orchestra & Ex Cathedral Choir, Fri 14 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE REPERTOIRE ORCHESTRA** Programme includes works by Haydn & Mozart, Fri 14 June, Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN: IN MEMORIAM** Programme includes works by Britten, Toru Takemitsu & Shostakovich, Fri 14 June, Stratford Civic Hall

**FESTIVAL VOICES** Featuring works by Vaughan Williams, Bob Chilcott & Gwyn Arch, Fri 14 June, Barber Concert Hall, Birmingham

**EARTHRISE** Alex Roth's meditation for unaccompanied forty-part choir is here performed by Ex Cathedral, Fri 14 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**HOLST'S THE PLANETS** Sat 15 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**MALVERN FESTIVAL CHORUS** Music for a summer evening featuring Sennet Brass, Sat 15 June, Great Malvern Priory, Worcestershire

**BIRMINGHAM PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA: SIBELIUS 2ND SYMPHONY** Featuring Michael Lloyd (conductor) & Jack McNeill (clarinet). Programme includes works by Britten, Mozart & Sibelius, Sun 16 June, Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERT WITH THOMAS TROTTER** Summer Request Concert, Mon 17 June, Birmingham Town Hall

**LUNCHTIME CONCERT WITH MARK BEBBINGTON** Also featuring Daniel Roberts (violin), Johan Shahridzuan (piano), Tom Howlans (clarinet) & Sarah Joseph (piano). Programme includes works by Ireland & Delius, Mon 17 June, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**THE PRIMROSE QUARTET** Programme includes works by York Bowen, William Hurlstone & John Ireland, Tues 18 June, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**EX CATHEDRA CHOIR & CLASSICAL ENSEMBLE: MOZART VESPERS BY CANDELLIGHT** Featuring Jeffrey Skidmore (conductor), Wed 19 June, The Oratory, Birmingham

**SHREWSBURY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SUMMER CONCERT** Wed 19 June, Abbey Church, Shrewsbury

**BELGRAVE QUARTET WITH KRISTINA GILL** Programme includes works by John Ireland, Wed 19 June, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**BEYOND CLASSICAL: CHOPIN MASTERPIECES AND MORE** John Thwaites hosts a programme of solo piano works performed by young pianists, including compositions by John Ireland & Frederic Chopin, Thurs 20 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**CBSO: FLOWERS AND FABLES** Featuring Edward Gardner (conductor) & Lucy Crowe (soprano). Programme includes works by Sibelius & Lutoslawski, Thurs 20 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**BANTOCK STRING QUARTET** Programme includes works by Delius & Ireland, Thurs 20 June, Recital Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire

**CBSO: OL' BLUE EYES** Featuring Roderick Dunk (conductor) & Gary Williams (vocalist), Fri 21 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**ROYAL BALLET SINFONIA** Fri 21 June, Birmingham Cathedral

**BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: PREMIERE BRITAIN** Featuring Lionel Friend (conductor), Yu-Fen Lin (piano), Philp White (chorus master) and the Birmingham Conservatoire Chorus, Fri 21 June, Birmingham Town Hall

**ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN: MASTER AND PUPIL** Featuring works by Frank Bridge, Huw Watkins, Toru Takemitsu & Britten, Fri 21 June, Stratford Civic Hall

**CBSO: CELLOS** Programme includes works by Saint Saens, Ravel, Debussy & Faure, Fri 21 June, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

**MID WALES CHAMBER**

**ORCHESTRA** Programme includes works by Wagner, Britten and Brahms, Fri 21 June, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**WAGNER'S RING: SIEGFRIED** Sat 22 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**BENJAMIN BRITTEN ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** Performed by Adrian Thompson, Sat 22 June, Maidment Building, Shrewsbury School

**CELEBRATING ENGLISH SONG** Featuring Ailish Tynan (soprano) and Iain Burnside (piano). Programme includes songs by Susie Self, Vaughan Williams, Bridge and Moeran, Sun 23 June, Tardebigge Church, Bromsgrove

**CHORAL SYMPHONIC SUMMER GALA** Programme to include works by Lambert, Gershwin arr. Jack Jarrett, Shostakovich & Holst. Conducted by Lucy Griffiths and Paul McGrath, Sun 23 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS** Sun 23 June, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**SING LIVE: STAGE AND SCREEN** Hear songs from a selection of films and shows, including A Chorus Line, Mamma Mia and Mary Poppins, Sun 23 June, Birmingham Town Hall

**CBSO THE BIRMINGHAM BEETHOVEN CYCLE: SYMPHONIES 8 & 9** Featuring Andris Nelsons (conductor), Lucy Crowe (soprano), Mihoko Fujimura (mezzo), Ben Johnson (tenor), Iain Paterson (bass) and the CBSO Chorus, Thurs 27 & Sat 29 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**BLAKE** Fri 28 June, The Place, Oakengates Theatre

**YOUNG-CHOON PARK PIANO RECITAL** Programme to include works by; Beethoven, Schumann and Liszt, Fri 28 June, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**JONATHAN & CHARLOTTE** Britain's Got Talent runners up, Fri 28 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**ORGAN RECITAL BY HENRY FAIRS** Fri 28 June, St Philip's Cathedral, Birmingham

**AMICANTUS: SONGS FOR A SUMMER'S EVE** Sat 29 June, Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

**BIRMINGHAM BACH CHOIR: SACRED GERMAN VOICES** Featuring three works by Brahms, Sat 29 June, Great Witley

Church, Worcestershire

**BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONIC WINDS** Featuring Keith Allen (conductor) & Hannah Marcinowicz (saxophone). Programme includes works by Ellerby, Bernstein, Sparke, Nestico & Russell Bate, Sat 29 June, CBSO Centre, Birmingham

**BRANT INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION: THE FINAL** Sat 29 June, Birmingham Town Hall

**PHILIP DYSON** Featuring an eclectic programme, of works by Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, Scott Joplin, George Gershwin and much more... Sun 30 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

## Classical Box Office

ADRIAN BOULT HALL, B'HAM 0121 331 5901
ARTRIX, BROMSGROVE 01527 577330
BEDWORTH CIVIC HALL 024 7637 6707
BELGRADE THEATRE, COVENTRY 02476 553055
BARBER INSTITUTE, BIRMINGHAM 0121 414 7333
BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL 0121 262 1840
BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE 0121 331 5901/2
BIRMINGHAM & MIDLAND INSTITUTE 0121 236 3591
BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL 0121 780 3333
BRAMALL CONCERT HALL, UNIVERSITY OF B'HAM 0121 414 3344
CBSO CENTRE, BIRMINGHAM 0121 780 3333
COVENTRY CATHEDRAL 02476 521200
THE GATEWAY, SHREWSBURY 01743 355159
LEAMINGTON MUSIC 01926 742762/776438
MALVERN THEATRE 01684 892277
MAIDMENT HALL, SHREWSBURY SCHOOL 01743 280810
ROYAL PUMP ROOMS, LEAMINGTON SPA 01926 742700
ST ALBAN THE MARTYR, BIRMINGHAM 0121 440 4605
ST FRANCES CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM 0121 472 7215
STRATFORD CIVIC HALL 01789 207100
SYMPHONY HALL, BIRMINGHAM 0121 780 3333
WARWICK ARTS CENTRE 02476 524524

# Comedy

## Pre-Edinburgh Festival Comedy Show

Solihull Arts Complex, Fri 28 June

If a trip to Edinburgh to enjoy this summer's Fringe Festival is something you fancy but just can't manage, not to worry - you can catch plenty of the 2013 event's top comedy performers in Solihull instead! The Arts Complex is this month hosting three shows featuring comedians who're en route to Edinburgh. The last of the three gigs features The Dog-Eared Collective and Paul Sweeney. Sweeney is a fast-rising performer much admired for his self-deprecating humour and original comic songs. The Dog-Eared Collective, meanwhile, are a quartet of laughter-makers who describe themselves as 'championing a wildly anarchic and mischievously surreal brand of comedy'.



The Dog-Eared Collective

## Matt Parker

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Sat 29 June

Matt Parker's unique stand-up show finds him exploring and explaining all things mathematical, from debunking number nonsense and flagrant sudoku abuse to the mysterious patterns in the locations of ancient monuments... and defunct Woolworths stores! Sell-out shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, the Melbourne Comedy Festival and in London's West End bear testimony to the quality of his numbers-driven comedy. If you love maths, you'll love Matt. If you don't, just ignore the maths and concentrate on the comedy!



## Jo Brand

The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Wed 26 June

Jo Brand regularly belies her reputation as a lazy slob by making a good many live appearances around the country. While her material can sometimes be a bit predictable, her handling of hecklers has more spontaneity - a former psychiatric nurse, she seems completely unflappable. For some reason, a lot of men find her very threatening - perhaps their fragile male egos find it hard to cope with a woman so obviously uninterested in impressing them.



## Phill Jupitus

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Tues 4 June; Courtyard Theatre, Hereford, Fri 7 June; The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Fri 12 July

Well known for the unusual spelling of his Christian name, his memorable surname (an anglicised version of the original surname Šepūtis) and his well-padded physique, Phill Jupitus is an actor, performance poet, cartoonist and podcaster as well as a stand-up comedian. A team captain on BBC Two's popular music quiz *Never Mind the Buzzcocks*, Phill's other work includes television's *QI* and BBC Radio Four's *I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue*. He's currently doing the rounds with his *You're Probably Wondering Why I've Asked You Here* tour, which is derived from a three-part, character-based comedy show which he presented at the 2012 Edinburgh Fringe.

## Bill Bailey

Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, Fri 14 - Sat 15 June; Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Sun 22 September, Weds 02 October; De Montfort Hall, Leicester, Mon 14 - Tues 15 October

Bill Bailey thinks his comedy should be educational. "From an audience perspective, it's great if they can leave one of my shows more informed than when they arrived," he says. "I'm delighted when I get messages from people saying, 'I was in this lecture and I knew who this artist was because I'd seen your show', or 'I was in a pub quiz and I got the answers right because I'd seen your show'. I'm delighted by that, and it makes it all worthwhile. Obviously, I want people to come along and be entertained, have a laugh and get taken out of themselves for a couple of hours, but if people can glean something a bit more lasting than a couple of laughs, then all the better."



## Comedy Box Office

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM  
0844 871 3011  
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01527 577330  
BEDWORTH CIVIC HALL  
02476 376707  
BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL  
0121 780 3333  
THE DRUM, BIRMINGHAM  
0121 333 2444  
DUDLEY CONCERT HALL  
01384 815 577  
GLEE CLUB, BIRMINGHAM  
0871 4720400  
HIGHLIGHT, BIRMINGHAM,  
0844 844 0044  
HUNTINGDON HALL,  
WORCESTER,  
01905 611427  
FOXLOWE ARTS CENTRE,  
LEEK, STAFFS  
01538 386112  
KITCHEN GARDEN CAFE,  
BIRMINGHAM  
0121 443 4725  
LG ARENA, BIRMINGHAM  
0844 338 8000  
LUDLOW ASSEMBLY  
ROOMS  
01584 878141  
MAC, BIRMINGHAM  
0121 446 3232  
PALACE THEATRE,  
REDDITCH  
01527 65203  
THE PUBLIC, WEST  
BROMWICH  
0121 533 7161  
DRUMMONDS BAR,  
WORCESTER  
01905 28190  
RICOH ARENA, COVENTRY  
0844 873 6565  
THE ROSES THEATRE  
TEWKESBURY  
01684 295074  
ROYAL SPA CENTRE,  
LEAMINGTON SPA  
01926 334418  
STAFFORD GATEHOUSE  
THEATRE  
01785 254653  
SOLIHULL ARTS COMPLEX  
0121 704 6962  
THE SLADE ROOMS,  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
0870 320 7000  
THE GEORGE HOTEL,  
BURSLEM, STAFFS  
07763301081  
TAMWORTH ASSEMBLY  
ROOMS  
01827 709618  
THEATRE SEVERN,  
SHREWSBURY  
01743 281281  
VICTORIA HALL, HANLEY,  
STOKE-ON-TRENT  
0844 871 7649  
WARWICK ARTS CENTRE  
02476 524524  
WEST BROMWICH TOWN  
HALL  
0121 596 4429  
WULFRUN HALL,  
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0870 320 7000

# Comedy LISTINGS

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

**GAVIN WEBSTER, GAR MURRAN, ROB ROUSE AND PAUL RICKETTS** Sat 1 June, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**GEOFF BOYZ, CHRIS CAIRNS, JOHN GAVIN AND PAUL MYREHAUG** Sat 1 June, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**MARTIN BEAUMONT, AVA VIDAL, MICK FERRY AND CHRISTIAN REILLY** Sat 1 June, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**JIMMY CARR - GAGGING ORDER** Sat 1 June, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton  
**CHRIS COX** Sat 1 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**SEAN LOCK** Sat 1 June, De Montfort Hall, Leicester

**KIT AND MCCONNELL** Sat 1 June, Malvern Theatres

**SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO** Featuring compere Spiky Mike, Sun 2 June, Drummonds Bar, Worcester

**HALF MOON COMEDY CLUB** Mon 3 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**PHILL JUPITUS** Tue 4 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**LEE NELSON LIVE** Wed 5 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**LUCY PORTER** Wed 5 June, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme  
**COLE PARKER, ALFIE MOORE, WAYNE THE WEIRD, COMPERE ALAN DONEGAN** Thurs 6 June, The George Hotel, Lichfield

**ADAM BLOOM, DANA ALEXANDER, STEVE HARRIS AND JORDAN BROOKES** Thurs 6 June, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**COLE PARKER, ALFIE MOORE, WAYNE THE WEIRD & COMPERE ALAN DONEGAN** Thurs 6 June, The George Hotel, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent

**PATRICK MONAHAN, NICK REVELL, CARL JONES, MASAI GRAHAM & JOHN WOODHOUSE** Thurs 6 June, Foxlowe Arts Centre, Leek, Staffs  
**BEN NORRIS, PAUL SINHA, SHELLY BRIDGMAN & JOE BROMEHEAD** Thurs 6 June, The George Hotel, Lichfield  
**TOM ROSENTHAL AND PAT CAHILL** Pre-Edinburgh Festival comedy show, Fri 7 June, Solihull Arts Complex  
**SIT DOWN, STAND UP**

**FEATURING WITTANK, GRAINNE MCGUIRE AND MARK SMITH (MC)** Fri 7 June, The Public, West Bromwich

**ADAM BLOOM, DANA ALEXANDER, STEVE HARRIS AND JIMMY MCGHIE** Fri 7 - Sat 8 June, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**ADDY VAN DER BORGH, MAFF BROWN, GARETH RICHARDS AND PETER WHITE** Fri 7 - Sat 8 June, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**BRYAN LACEY, MIKE NEWALL, ANDREW BIRD AND KYLE GROOMS** Fri 7 - Sat 8 June, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**PHILL JUPITUS** Fri 7 June, Hereford Courtyard Theatre

**CURTIS WALKER, ANNETTE FAGON, KYLE GROOMS AND MC JOHN SIMMIT** Fri 7 June, The Drum, Birmingham  
**AIN STIRLING, ROBIN MORGAN WITH MC HAYLEY ELLIS** Fri 7 - Sat 8 June, Hereford Courtyard Theatre

**THE SCOTTISH FALSETTO SOCK PUPPET THEATRE** Sat 8 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**JAMES CAMPBELL'S COMEDY 4 KIDS!** Sat 8 June, Hereford Courtyard Theatre

**RICH HALL** Sat 8 June, Hereford Courtyard Theatre

**AL MURRAY - THE PUB LANDLORD** Sun 9 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE BOY WITH TAPE ON HIS FACE** Sun 9 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**JETHRO** Sun 9 June, Lichfield Garrick  
**KIERAN POWELL** Sun 9 June, Hereford Courtyard Theatre

**JOSH WIDDICOMBE** Sun 9 June, Hereford Courtyard Theatre  
**JIMMY CARR - GAGGING ORDER** Tue 11 June, De Montfort Hall, Leicester

**DANIEL KITSON** Wed 12 June, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**VG LEE, KAREN BAYLEY WITH SALLY-ANNE HAYWARD AND RESIDENT MC MAUREEN YOUNGER** Wed 12 June, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham  
**JASON MANFORD** Thurs 13 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
**JOHN FOTHERGILL, DAN THOMAS, STEVE**

**WILLIAMS AND MIKE WILMOT** Thurs 13 - Sat 15 June, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**BILL BAILEY** Fri 14 - Sat 15 June, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

**AN EVENING WITH BOB NEWHART & TOM LEHRER** Fri 14 June, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**CHRIS CAIRNS, JAMES DOWDESWELL, KAI HUMPHRIES AND DALISO CHAPONDA** Fri 14 - Sat 15 June, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**JENNY ÉCLAIR** Sat 15 June, The Public, West Bromwich

**ANDREW BIRD, CHRIS CONROY, WINDOSR** Fri 14 - Sat 15 June, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**LAUGH OUT LOUD COMEDY CLUB** Sat 15 June, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**IAN D MONTFORD & IVAN BRACKENBURY** Sun 16 June, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

**GARY DELANEY, MATT REED, DAN NIGHTINGALE PLUS COMIC TBC** Thurs 20 June, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**DAVID MORGAN & JOE LYCETT** Pre Edinburgh Festival Comedy Show, Fri 21 June, Solihull Arts Complex

**DAVID HADINGHAM, SEAN PERCIVAL, KAI HUMPHRIES AND JONNY AWSUM** Fri 21 June, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**JONATHAN MAYOR, BABATUNDE, GEOFF NORCOTT AND EDDY BRIMSON** Fri 21 - Sat 22 June, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**IT'S A CRACKER 2013** Evesham's first Stand Up comedy competition! Fri 21 June, Evesham Arts Centre

**KEN DODD** Sat 22 June, De Montfort Hall, Leicester

**WOMEN AT THE EDGE** Sat 22 June, Appletree Theatre & Film Studio, Ludlow, South Shropshire

**LUCY PORTER** Sat 22 June, The Met Studio, Stafford Gatehouse  
**DAVID HADINGHAM, SEAN PERCIVAL, RICHARD MORTON AND KAI HUMPHRIES** Sat 22 June, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**SEVERN JESTERS** Sun 23 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**JOE LYCETT, MASAI GRAHAM, NIPPER THOMAS, HANNAH SYLVESTER AND PHILIP MCCOLLOUGH** Mon 24 June, The Victory Club, Ludlow, South Shropshire

**ALFIE MOORE** Tues 25 June, The Victory Club, Ludlow, South Shropshire

**PAUL MERTON'S IMPRO CHUMS** Tue 25 June, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**LUCY PORTER, ROB COLEMAN, JOHNNY GREATREX, DAVID POLLARD AND JON PEARSON** Weds 26 June, The Victory Club, Ludlow, South Shropshire

**JO BRAND** Wed 26 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury  
**REGINALD D HUNTER**

Thurs 27 June, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**SEAN MEO, ANDY ROBINSON, ROB HUGHES PLUS COMIC TBC** Thurs 27 June, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**PETE FIRMAN AND NISH KUMAR** Fri 28 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**SEAN MEO, ANDY ROBINSON, BOBBY MAIR** Fri 28 June, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**JIMMY CARR - GAGGING ORDER** Fri 28 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**THE DOG EARED COLLECTIVE AND PAUL SWEENEY** Pre-Edinburgh Festival Comedy Show, Fri 28



June, Solihull Arts Complex  
**MARTIN MOR, EDDY BRIMSON, NATHAN CATON AND WAYNE DEAKIN** Fri 28 June, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**MATT PARKER** Sat 29 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**COMEDY IN THE MET** Sat 29 June, The Met Studio, Stafford Gatehouse

**PATRICK ROLINK, OLA, ALLYSON SMITH AND STEVE HARRIS** Sat 29 June, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**JOEL DOMMETT, DAVID TRENT WITH MC MATT GREEN** Fri 28 June, Hereford Courtyard Theatre

**SEAN MEO, ANDY ROBINSON, IAN SMITH AND BOBBY MAIR** Sat 29 June, The Glee Club, Birmingham

**MARTIN MOR, EDDY BRIMSON, LATEEF LOVEJOY AND WAYNE DEAKIN** Sat 29 June, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham

**MATT PARKER** Sat 29 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**COMEDY IN THE MET** Sat 29 June, The Met Studio, Stafford Gatehouse

**PATRICK ROLINK, OLA, ALLYSON SMITH AND STEVE HARRIS** Sat 29 June, Jongleurs Comedy Club, Birmingham

**LUCY PORTER, MICK FERRY & COMPERE RYAN GOUGH** Sun 30 June, The Granville @Barford, Warwickshire

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# Theatre



## The Lion King

Birmingham Hippodrome, Fri 28 June - Sat 28 September

Based on the Academy Award-winning animated movie, Julie Taymor's stage adaptation of *The Lion King* brings together a huge cast of actors, singers and dancers. A global phenomenon that's delighted audiences young and old since its premiere on Broadway in 1997, the show features twenty-six different types of animal, hundreds of masks and puppets, and more than seven hundred elaborate cos-

tumes. It tells the compelling tale of young lion cub Simba as he journeys through life and struggles to accept the responsibilities both of adulthood and his future role as the King.

This touring production sees Gagwana Dlamini star as Rafiki, Stephen Carlisle as Scar and Cleveland Cathnott as Mufasa. Find out more about *The Lion King* at [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk).



## Noises Off

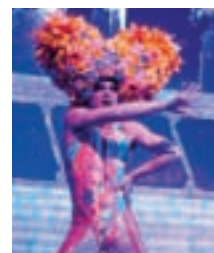
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Mon 24 - Sat 29 June

Hit comedy *Noises Off* effectively presents two plays for the price of one. The audience sees actors go onstage to perform in the play *Nothing On*, and come offstage to appear in the 'real life' farce occurring behind the scenes. Taking place during *Nothing On*'s final rehearsal and subsequent tour, things never go quite according to plan. While fights break out backstage, on stage the actors are missing their cues, missing their footing and missing the point altogether. Even the director ends up having to take a role in the show! Booker Prize-winning author Michael Frayn is the man behind this farce about a farce, which became the biggest hit in the history of Broadway when it opened in New York. Neil Pearson and Maureen Beattie star.

## Priscilla Queen Of The Desert

Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 10 - Sat 15 June; Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Mon 27 January - Sat 1 February, 2014

Based on the movie of the same name, *Priscilla Queen Of The Desert* the stage show has wowed both West End and Broadway audiences, picking up a coveted Olivier Award and an equally prestigious Tony Award along the accolade-strewn way. At its heartland is an uplifting story of the friendship shared between three pals, who hop aboard a battered old bus and head off in search of love and romance. The show originally opened in Australia in 2006 - running there for two years before hitting the West End stage - and comes complete with a dazzling array of costumes and a glorious selection of dancefloor favourites, including *It's Raining Men*, *Say A Little Prayer*, *Go West*, *Hot Stuff* and *Always On My Mind*... Oh, and for this particular Midlands run, it also has the added benefit of Jason Donovan reprising the role of Tick, the part he played when the show originally opened in the West End.



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**RAINY DAYS  
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TUE 18 JUN



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QUEEN TRIBUTE  
**MERCURY**  
FRI 13 SEP



DAMIAN WILLIAMS STARS IN  
**BEING TOMMY  
COOPER**  
WED 19 JUN



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*L'ELISIR D'AMORE*  
WED 11 - SAT 14 DEC



GORDON HENDRICKS  
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**ALOHA FROM  
HAWAII**  
FRI 16 AUG



THE ULTIMATE PANTO  
ADVENTURE  
**SNOW WHITE**  
AND THE SEVEN DWARFS  
TUE 3 DEC - SUN 5 JAN\*



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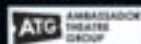
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\*NO PERFORMANCES MON 9 - MON 16 DEC

## Carnaby Street

New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham,  
Mon 3 - Sat 8 June

There's nothing complicated or unfamiliar about Carnaby Street. The show takes the well-peddled 'wannabe rock star' storyline, locates its action in London's West End against the backdrop of the Swinging '60s, and throws in a jukebox-worth of classic hits from the decade, including Roll Over Beethoven, Do Wah Diddy Diddy, Tired Of Waiting For You, You Really Got Me, Keep On Running and Sweets For My Sweet. Add into the mix a high-energy cast and you've got yourself one of those evenings that should see your hands and toes clapping and tapping respectively. And if you're really lucky, there might even be some 'dancing in the aisles' to be done...



## A Mad World My Master

The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon,  
Thurs 6 June - Fri 25 October

Thomas Middleton's Jacobean 'city comedy' was first performed in the early seventeenth century but is here updated to 1956. The action unfolds in London's shabbily glamorous Soho, where a cash-strapped bachelor has learned to live on his wits. With a rich uncle seeming to be the answer to all of his troubles, he decides to turn conman, variously becoming a lord, a high-class call girl and a poor actor in a desperate effort to improve his financial fortunes. But as he spins his web of deceit, it soon becomes evident that somebody else is also 'on the make'... *Check out the interview with Sean Foley on page 8*



## Teachers

The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury,  
Tues 25 June

Playwright John Godber's talent for taking big themes and presenting them in an accessible, down-to-earth manner has seen him become one of the UK's most successful playwrights over the last three decades. With Teachers, he turns his attention to the subject of education, focusing on the story of three exuberant Year Elevens and a new drama



## Ghost: The Musical

Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Tues 4 - Sat 15 June

Matthew Warchus' stage version of the award-winning film starring Patrick Swayze, Demi Moore and Whoopi Goldberg arrives in the Midlands having received much critical acclaim since opening on Broadway and in the West End. For those not in the know, it tells the story of a ghost named Sam who, caught between this world and the next, desperately attempts to communicate with his girlfriend Molly and warn her that she's in mortal danger from his murderer. A timeless tale about the power of love that beautifully blends the audience-satisfying genres of romance and comedy, Ghost has also been praised for its dazzling state-of-the-art staging. All in all, then, a show well worth catching.

*Check out the interview with Ghost creator Bruce Joel Rubin on page 6.*

teacher, whose path to career fulfillment is steadfastly blocked by unruly children, cynical colleagues and less-than-helpful caretakers. This particular version of Godber's hit 1984 play is presented by the high-energy Blackeyed Theatre.

## The Importance of Being Earnest

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Thurs 6 June;  
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,  
Mon 10 - Wed 12 June

This famous Oscar Wilde work is a rightly-adored piece of farce that has stood both the test of time and countless dire amateur productions, rising unscathed to take its place at the very pinnacle of British comic theatre. The story revolves around the attempts of Jack to marry his true love Gwendolen, in spite of the fact that Algernon is masquerading as Jack's wayward brother Earnest in order to see his exquisite ward, Cecily. Add the ingredient of the redoubtable Lady Bracknell, and there's little wonder that disaster looms large on Jack's horizon! This particular performance is presented by the acclaimed London Classic Theatre.

## The Constant Wife

Old Rep, Birmingham, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 June

W Somerset Maugham's 1927 comedy of manners contemplates the ways in which men - but particularly women - of the era were beginning to rethink their traditional notions of love, marriage and social convention. Constance's friends and sister are well aware that her husband, a successful Harley Street Doctor, is being unfaithful to her with her best pal. What they don't realise is that Constance knows about the affair too - and has her very own deliciously devilish way of dealing with the problem...

## Educating Rita

Lichfield Garrick, until Sat 22 June

A modern comedy classic, Willy Russell's Educating Rita has been a regular choice with theatre companies ever since its first production by the RSC. Voted Best Comedy of 1980, the story of a working-class Liverpool woman's hunger for education, and her relationship with her unhappy, dipsomaniac professor, is best known from its 1983 film adaptation starring Michael Caine and Julie Walters. A typical Russell comedy, it manages to be both thought-provoking and funny.



## Blood Wedding

Crescent Theatre, Birmingham,  
Thurs 13 - Sat 15 June

Frederico Garcia Lorca's classic play from the early-1930s contemplates the cycle of life and the progression of time, and tells of a peasant bride who elopes with her former lover on the very day of her wedding. But her shocking decision soon leads to fatal consequences, both for her lover and the bridegroom... This particular version of Lorca's play is being presented by Birmingham Conservatoire.

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SAT 15 JUN

**NOISES OFF**  
MICHAEL FRAYN  
MON 24 - SAT 29 JUN

**THE DREAMBOYS**  
FIT AND FAMOUS TOUR  
WED 3 JUL  
AGE 10+

**JOE LONGTHORNE**  
THU 4 JUL

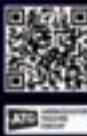
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## Being Tommy Cooper

Lichfield Garrick, Tues 4 June; New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Wed 12 June; Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Wed 19 June

Tom Green's celebration of one of Britain's favourite comedians has proved to be a real winner with theatre critics. It's garnered plenty of plaudits for the way in which it presents both the Tommy Cooper beloved of so many, and also a darker, more troubled Tommy Cooper, who lurked in the shadows behind the comedy fez and dodgy magic tricks. Bringing to the stage once again some of Cooper's classic routines, the play is also a study of the characters who inhabited the comedian's world - including the manager with whom he engaged in a 'hate-hate' relationship and the woman who became his wife.



## Lionboy

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Tues 18 - Thurs 20 June

The company behind this show is the award-winning Complicite, who've been widely praised for the imaginativeness of their theatrical productions. This is their first show for families and young people, and is based on Zizou Corder's bestselling Lionboy trilogy. When eleven-year-old Charlie Ashanti's parents are kidnapped, the young lad sets off on a rescue mission, assisted only by a floating circus, its pride of performing lions, and his rather unique ability to speak to cats... The show is suitable for children aged eight and older.

## Are You Being Served?

Atrix, Bromsgrove, Tues 25 - Sat 29 June

Are You Being Served? is yet another in a long line of stage shows derived from classic television sitcoms. The trend is certainly a well-established one, with theatrical versions of Rising Damp, Yes, Prime Minister, Dad's Army, Fawlty Towers, Steptoe And Son, Porridge, Birds Of A Feather and Dinnerladies all having done the rounds in recent years. The original TV series focused on the always-humorous goings-on in the department store of Grace Brothers, where characters such as Mr Humphries and Mrs Slocombe kept the tills ringing merrily and the double entendres coming thick and fast. This amateur production by All And Sundry finds the Grace Brothers staff heading off on their hols while the department store is redecorated. But all's not quite how they expected to find it in sunny Costa Plonka...



## The 39 Steps

Malvern Theatre, Mon 17 - Sat 22 June

Anybody who remembers the various film versions of John Buchan's classic spy thriller will be hard-pressed to call any of them 'humorous', so it's a bit weird, to say the least, to think of this stage version having bagged the Olivier Award for Best New Comedy! Nonetheless, that's exactly what it's done, courtesy of some imaginative thinking on the part of its creative team. So why not catch up with handsome hero Richard Hannay as he battles to remain impressively stiff-upper-lipped in the face of dastardly murders and encounters with double-crossing secret agents. Oh, and there are some beautiful and mysterious women involved, too, so it's not all bad news for our intrepid hero... Four fearless actors play no fewer than one hundred-and-thirty-nine roles in this real gem of a show.

## Catching Snowflakes

Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham, Thurs 27 - Sat 29 June

Humour, drama and music are here combined in a production which reflects on one woman's quest for lifelong happiness, and her growing realisation that she may never be able to find it. Young, exuberant and enigmatic, Paula loves Jerry and wants to spend the rest of her life with him in a state of marital bliss. But then Anton appears on the scene, and Paula begins to realise that living 'happily ever after' may be a harder thing to do than she'd originally imagined...

## A Midsummer Night's Dream

Stafford Castle, Thurs 27 June - Sat 13 July

Accessible language, likeable characters, romantic liaisons, magical creatures and a series of comic capers with an ass combine to make this one of the Bard's most popular works. Lysander and Demetrius both fancy Hermia, Helena's sitting on the shelf, Titania and Oberon are up to no good, and Puck's got his finger in more pies than Mr Kipling. Add a group of rude mechanicals and the recipe for success is guaranteed. This outdoor production of the Bard's farcical comedy marks the twenty-third production in Stafford Festival Shakespeare, an annual event recognised as one of Europe's largest open-air Shakespeare events.



A scene from last year's production of Romeo And Juliet

## Widower's Houses

New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Fri 14 - Sat 29 June

George Bernard Shaw's first ever play throws the spotlight on the skeletons that lurk in the most middle-class of cupboards. Cupid's arrow does its work when the impetuous Harry Trench encounters beautiful heiress Blanche Sartorius. A match made in heaven, it seems the sound of wedding bells will soon be in the air - until, that is, Harry discovers the truth about is soon-to-be father-in-law...

## James And The Giant Peach

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Tues 11 - Sat 15 June; Crewe Lyceum Theatre, Tues 9 - Sat 13 July

One of Roald Dahl's best loved and most famous masterpieces, James And The Giant Peach tells the tall tale of a little boy (bet you can't guess what his name is!) and the truly torrid and terrible time he has with his revolting old aunts, Sponge and Spiker. Given how generally unpleasant his life is, it's no surprise that James leaps at the chance to have an adventure - and suddenly finds himself involved with a mystical old man who gives him a bag that contains the strongest magic the world has ever known. And when James accidentally spills the contents of the bag near an old peach tree, it isn't long before the most incredible things start to happen...



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SAT 8 JUNE, 7.30PM  
**BACK TO BROADWAY**

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SAT 9 JUNE, 7.30PM  
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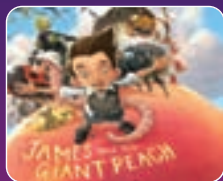


TUE 9 - SAT 13 JULY

TUE 9, 7.30PM, WED 10 & THURS 11,  
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Jun 12 **The Chris Barber Jazz Band** £19  
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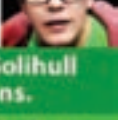
Jun 14 **Dennis Locorriere** New UK Tour. £20



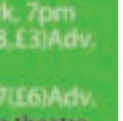
Jun 21 **Pre-Edinburgh Festival Comedy 2**  
Starring Dave Morgan & Joe Lycett  
Both new stars of TV & stand up. 16+ £10



Jun 28 **Pre-Edinburgh Festival Comedy 3**  
The anarchic Dog Eared Collective &  
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### Educating

# Rita

By Willy Russell

Directed by Gareth Tudor Price



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## From WED 1 MAY

**BAD GIRLS: THE MUSICAL** Amateur production presented by Five Towns Theatre Company, until Fri 3 June, Stoke Repertory Theatre

**HAIRSPRAY** Return of the ultimate feelgood musical comedy. Mark Benton (Waterloo Rd, Early Doors) stars, until Sat 1 June, Birmingham Hippodrome

**A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM** Stephen Sondheim's musical which tells the tale of Pseudolus - the laziest slave in Rome - and his attempt to win freedom by helping his master woo the girl next door, until Sat 1 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**THE MOUSETRAP** Touring production of Agatha Christie's famous thriller - the longest running show in the history of British theatre, until Sat 1 June, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**GO BACK FOR MURDER** The Official Agatha Christie Theatre Company present a new adaptation of a classic whodunnit, until Sat 1 June, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE** Olivier Award-winning comedy written and directed by Jim Cartwright. Beverley Callard, Ray Quinn, Joe McGann and Jess Robinson star, until Sat 1 June, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**CAPITAL** Freshblood Theatre present a new play by Breman Rajkumar, until Sat 1 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**UNCLE BEN: THE WEDDING GRAFT** Entertainment present Rem Conway's Jamaican comedy, until Sat 1 June, The Drum, Birmingham

**EDUCATING RITA** Tupele Dorgu and Tom Roberts star in a new version of Willy Russell's award-winning play, until Sat 1 June, Lichfield Garrick

**HAMLET** David Farr directs Jonathan Slinger in Shakespeare's tragedy of justice and revenge, until Fri 27 September, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**AS YOU LIKE IT** Maria Aberg directs, following

her riotous production of King John in the Swan Theatre as part of the World Shakespeare Festival, until Sat 28 September, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon (read the review page 40)

**TITUS ANDRONICUS** Michael Fentiman makes his RSC debut, directing Shakespeare's early revenge tragedy, until Sat 26 October, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**WE NEED BEES** Theatre na n 'Og' bring an imaginative children's tale to life, until Sat 1 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**MISS SAIGON** Amateur production by The Viv Kelly Youth Theatre, Sat 1 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**JOHN CHALLIS: AN EVENING WITH BOYCIE** Sat 1 June, The Public, West Bromwich

**SWINGING AT THE COTTON CLUB** Action-packed show celebrating the music, dance and songs of the Cotton Club - New York City's famous nightclub of the 1920s and '30s, Sat 1 June, The Place, Oakengates Theatre, Telford

**MILKSHAKE! LIVE** Featuring the presenters and characters from the Channel 5 programme - including Noddy, Fifi, Roary, Mr Men & Bananas In Pyjamas, Sat 1 June, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

**CHRIS AND PUI** Sat 1 June, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**THE SNOW QUEEN** Based on the story by Hans Christian Andersen, Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**WELCOME TO THE WEST END** Amateur production of drama and dance by Stage 2 Performing Arts Academy, Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE GLASS MENAGERIE** Tennessee Williams' haunting and beautiful play, Sat 1 - Sat 8 June, Crescent Theatre, B'ham

## Week Commencing MON 3 JUN

**GHOST: THE MUSICAL** Smash-hit musical direct from the West End, Tue 4 - Sat 15

June, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**ARNABY STREET** Real musical story set against a backdrop of London's West End in the 1960s. Verity Rushworth and Aaron Sidwell star, Mon 3 - Sat 8 June, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**BEING TOMMY COOPER** Damian Williams stars in Tom Green's powerful play which explores both the brilliance and loneliness of one of Britain's most iconic comedians, Tue 4 June, Lichfield Garrick

**VARMINTS** An exhilarating new dance-theatre show choreographed by Wilkie Branson (Champoo Dance Company) and is based on the award-winning book by Helen Ward, Wed 5 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**FOOTLOOSE** Amateur production presented by Great Barr Musical Theatre Company, Tues 4 - Sat 8 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**TONY STOCKWELL - TV'S PSYCHIC DETECTIVE** Tony Stockwell encountered his first out-of-body experience when he was a baby, and met his first spirit person when he was seven... Wed 5 June, Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock

**ROMEO & JULIET** Heart-break Productions bring a modern twist to an outdoor version of the greatest love story ever told, Wed 5 - Thurs 6 June, Jephson Gardens, Leamington Spa

**ZEST** Showcase of work from some of Stoke's most talented youngsters, Wed 5 - Sat 8 June, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**GARGANTUA AND MULTIPLEX** A double-bill of new plays performed by Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Wed 5 - Sat 8 June, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**AN AUDIENCE WITH COLIN FRY** Thurs 6 June, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST** Oscar Wilde's acclaimed farce, which satirises the vanities of the class-based society in which he lived, Thurs 6 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**THE PRICE OF EVERYTHING** Daniel Bye presents a performance-lecture about value, Thurs 6 - Fri 7 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT** Amateur production of the Tim Rice/Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, Thurs 6 - Sat 8 June, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**SUCH STUFF AS DREAMS ARE MADE OF** Showcase

of work from Hadland School of Dance & Drama, Thurs 6 - Sat 8 June, Stratford Civic Hall

**THE STUPEDEST TEA PARTY** Green Cherry Theatre Co. present an immersive theatrical experience set in Alice's Wonderland, Thurs 6 - Sat 8 June, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**SIR GAWAIN & THE GREEN KNIGHT** Playbox Theatre present a new version of the Arthurian legend written by Toby Quash, Thurs 6 - Sat 9 June, The Dream Factory, Warwick

**A MAD WORLD MY MASTERS** Sean Foley makes his RSC debut, directing Thomas Middleton's Jacobean 'city comedy': an outrageously wicked, brilliantly plotted farcical satire of lies and lust, Thurs 6 June - Fri 25 October, The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**THE NIGHT WATCH - MUSICAL HISTORY TOUR** A dash through musical history on medieval, renaissance and baroque period instruments, Fri 7 June, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**ON THE COUCH WITH DANIEL BYE** A free, informal interview in the Theatre Bar, Fri 7 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**ROMEO & JULIET** Heart-break Productions bring a modern twist to an outdoor version of the greatest love story ever told, Fri 7 June, Hartlebury Castle, Kidderminster

**VISITING HOUR** A set of six intertwining playlets set around a hospital visiting hour, Fri 7 - Sat 8 June, Old Rep, Birmingham

**BLITHE SPIRIT** Blue Orange Arts present their version of Noel Coward's comic play, Fri 7 - Sat 15 June, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**AN EVENING OF CLAIRVOYANCE WITH TONY STOCKWELL** Sat 8 June, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**SID'S SHOW** Join Sid from Cbeebies live on stage in a fun-filled adventure that promises to knock your socks off! Sat 8 June, Lichfield Garrick

**INTOTO DANCE - LONDON STUDIO CENTRE** An evening of fresh, dynamic and theatrical dance, Sat 8 June,

## Week Commencing MON 10 JUN

**THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST** Oscar Wilde's acclaimed



London Classic Theatre's production of *The Importance Of Being Ernest* - Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury and Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

farce, which satirises the vanities of the class-based society in which he lived, Mon 10 - Wed 12 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT** Feelgood international musical direct from the West End and Broadway. Jason Donovan stars, Mon 10 - Sat 15 June, Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent

**RISING DAMP** The Comedy Theatre Company present a stage adaptation of Eric Chappell's acclaimed 1970s sitcom, Mon 10 - Sat 15 June, Malvern Theatre

**PREDATOR: FINISHING OFF WHAT I STARTED** WHEN I WAS FIVE Presented by Bootworks Theatre, Tue 11 - Wed 12 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH** Birmingham Stage Company present Roald Dahl's classic adventure for children, Tue 11 - Sat 15 June, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**THREE PHANTOMS** Featuring songs from Phantom Of The Opera and other West End musicals. Matthew Cammelle, Stephen John Davis & Earl Carpenter star... Wed 12 June, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

**BEING TOMMY COOPER BY TOM GREEN** Damian Williams stars in Tom Green's powerful play

which explores both the brilliance and loneliness of one of Britain's most iconic comedians, Wed 12 June, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**ALICE: AN EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE** Heart-break Productions present an outdoor version of Lewis Carroll's much-loved adventure, Wed 12 - Thurs 13 June, Jephson Gardens, Leamington Spa

**INTO THE WOODS** Crossedkeys Musical Theatre Company present the Stephen Sondheim classic, Wed 12 - Sat 15 June, Solihull Arts Complex

**THE SOUND OF MUSIC** Amateur production presented by The Norbury Players, Wed 12 - Sat 15 June, Norbury Theatre, Droitwich, Worcs.

**DAVID FROST** One of the UK's best-known broadcasters talks about his life at the forefront of television news and entertainment, Thurs 13 June, Lichfield Garrick

**THE AUDIENCE** Helen Mirren reprises her Academy Award-winning role as Queen Elizabeth II in the highly-anticipated West End production, broadcast as part of National Theatre Live, Thurs 13 June, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**AS YOU LIKE IT** The Lord

# THE ROSES

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## What's On In June



**The Importance Of Being Earnest**  
Thurs 6 June 7.30pm



**Albert Lee And Hogan's Heroes**  
Fri 7 June 7.30pm



**In The House (15)**  
Mon 10 & Tues 11 June



**Shell (15)**  
Tues 11 June 6.30pm



**Varmints**  
Fri 14 June 7pm



**Trance (15)**  
Sat 15 & Mon 17 June



**Des O'Connor**  
Sun 16 June 7.30pm



**That'll Be The Day**  
Thurs 20 June 7.30pm  
& Fri 21 June 7.30pm



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Hereford 8th July, mac Birmingham 11 & 12th July  
Avoncroft Museum 14th July, Derby Theatre 22-24th July  
Mary Ardens Farm, Stratford upon Avon 26 & 27th July  
find out more at... [www.oddssocks.co.uk](http://www.oddssocks.co.uk)

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**THE BOOK OF MUSICALS**  
The Old Joint Stock Theatre

**'The Book Of Musicals'**  
June 20th - 23rd

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

# Theatre LISTINGS

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

Chamberlain's Men present an all-male production of Shakespeare's comedy, Thurs 13 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**LOHENGRIN** Welsh National Opera present Wagner's romantic opera, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 June, Birmingham Hippodrome

**BLOOD WEDDING** Birmingham Conservatoire present Gwynne Edwards' translation of Federico Garcia Lorca's classic play, which fuses colourful latin energy, music and dance, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**THE CONSTANT WIFE** Stage 27 present W Somerset Maugham's comedy of manners, Thurs 13 - Sat 15 June, Old Rep, Birmingham

**SHAOLIN WARRIORS** Captivating stage show suitable for the whole family... Fri 14 June, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**TEACHERS** John Godber's classroom comedy, Fri 14 - Sat 15 June, Stoke Repertory Theatre

**NUNSENSE** Musical romp concerning five nuns and their plans for hosting a fundraising concert, Fri 14 - Sat 15 June, Palace Theatre, Redditch

**THE PIRATES OF CANNON HILL** A new family-focused theatrical experience which fuses storytelling, poetry, song, dance and physical theatre, Fri 14 - Sun 16 June, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**WIDOWER'S HOUSES** George Bernard Shaw's romantic comedy, which explores the moral choices of the middle classes, Fri 14 - Sat 29 June, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**PUPPET CABARET** Puppetry's first burlesque artiste... Sat 15 June, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**RAINY DAYS & MONDAYS - THE CARPENTERS STORY** A celebration of the music of Karen and Richard Carpenter, Sat 15 June, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**OUR KYLIE'S HAVIN' A BABY** Stripped Down return with a humorous sequel to Our Kylie's Gettin' Wed! Sat 15 June, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS** Langley Youth Theatre present their version of Alan Menken and Howard Ashman's comedy horror rock musical, Sat 15 - Sun 16 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**CHRIS & PUI** Brand new show packed with songs, games and a few surprises! Sun 16 June, The

Place, Oakengates Theatre, Shropshire

**AN EVENING WITH DES O'CONNOR** A rare opportunity to see a true showbusiness legend live on stage for a wonderful evening of comedy, laughter and music, Sun 16 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**ALICE: AN EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE** Heartbreak Productions present an outdoor version of Lewis Carroll's much-loved adventure, Sun 16 June, Warley Woods, Smethwick

**Week Commencing  
MON 17 JUN**

**THE AUDIENCE** Helen Mirren reprises her Academy Award-winning role as Queen Elizabeth II in the highly anticipated West End production, broadcast as part of National Theatre Live, Mon 17 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**STAGE STRUCK** Simon Gray's seldom-seen play, Mon 17 - Sat 22 June, Hall Green Little Theatre, Birmingham

**BLOOD BROTHERS NON MUSICAL** A Liverpoolian West Side Story by Willy Russell, Mon 17 - Sat 22 June, The Rose Theatre, Tewkesbury

**THE 39 STEPS** John Buchan's classic comedy thriller is here presented by four fearless actors, playing one hundred-and-thirty-nine roles in one hundred-minutes of fast-paced fun and thrilling action, Mon 17 - Sat 22 June, Malvern Theatres

**DID I MENTION THE FREE WINE?** An evening of poetry with Felix Dennis, Tues 18 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**SUMMER OF LOVE CABARET** An amateur performance by The Roses' young programmers, Y-Occupy, Tue 18 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**RAINY DAYS & MONDAYS - THE CARPENTERS STORY** A celebration of the music of Karen and Richard Carpenter, Tue 18 June, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**LIONBOY** Complicite present a show for families and young people, inspired by Zizou Corder's bestselling Lionboy trilogy. Adetomiwa Edun, from BBC's Merlin, stars, Tue 18 - Thurs 20 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**THE WIZARD OF OZ** Amateur production presented by the Queensbridge Musical Theatre, Tue 18 - Sat 22 June, Solihull Arts Complex

**BEING TOMMY COOPER** BY

**TOM GREEN** Damian Williams stars in Tom Green's powerful play, which explores both the brilliance and loneliness of one of Britain's most iconic comedians, Wed 19 June, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**ALICE: AN EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE** Heartbreak Productions present an outdoor version of Lewis Carroll's much-loved adventure, Wed 19 June, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

**THE LADY BOYS OF BANGKOK** Join the festivities as sixteen of the world's most entrancing beauties take you on a carnival parade, Wed 19 June, Lichfield Garrick

**STORYTELLING CAFE** Barbecued Husbands - Ana Maria Lines, Wed 19 June, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings Heath, Birmingham

**THE TEMPEST** Shakespeare In The Park present an outdoor performance of the Bard's epic play, Wed 19 - Sat 22 June, Maple Hayes Hall, Lichfield

**RUDDIGORE** Bromsgrove Operatic Society present Gilbert & Sullivan's satirical ghost story, Wed 19 - Sat 22 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**GRANDPA IN MY POCKET** Nottingham Playhouse Theatre present a staged version of the hugely popular Cbeebies television series, Wed 19 - Sat 22 June, The Grand Theatre, W'hampton

**ANNIE** Get Your Wiggle On present an amateur production of the much-loved musical, Wed 19 - Sun 23 June, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

**THE DICE HOUSE** Birmingham School of Acting present Paul Lucas' black comedy, Wed 19 - Sat 22 June, Old Rep, Birmingham

**THE SOUND OF MUSIC** Amateur production presented by the Norbury Players, Wed 19 - Sat 22 June, Norbury Theatre, Droitwich, Worcs.

**THAT'LL BE THE DAY** Rock'n'roll spectacular combining music from the '50s, '60s & '70s with wacky comedy routines, Thurs 20 - Fri 21 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**INVISIBLE** Presented by Next Page Productions, Thurs 20 - Fri 21 June, Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**THE BOOK OF MUSICALS** An evening of musical theatre presented by The Old Joint Stock Theatre Company, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 June, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**OKLAHOMA** Amateur production presented by the Coventry Musical Theatre Society, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 June, Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

**SOME LIKE IT HOTTER** Fast-moving musical comedy that looks wryly at the power of celebrities over

the public - both in life and death, Thurs 20 - Sat 22 June, Lichfield Garrick

**THE AUDIENCE** National Theatre Live screening, Fri 21 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**AN EVENING OF THE WIT AND SONGS OF NOEL COWARD** Peter Gill presents a tribute to the wit and songwriting skill of that most English of Englishmen, Noel Coward, Fri 21 June, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**VENUS AND ADONIS** Shakespeare Young Company present a new version of the Bard's first published work, Fri 21 June, The Dream Factory, Warwick

**FREEDOM** Showcase of new short plays presented by Riverside Performing Arts, Fri 21 - Sat 22 June, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**THE GRUFFALO'S CHILD** Tall Stories return with a musical stage adaptation of Julia Donaldson's award-winning story, Fri 21 - Sun 23 June, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**THE ELEPHANT BRIDESMAID** Magical musical about weddings, wombats and the loveliest elephant the world has ever known... Sat 22 June, The Swan Theatre, Worcester

**AN EVENING OF BURLESQUE** Britain's biggest burlesque spectacular, Sat 22 June, Regent Theatre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

**SEVEN DEADLY SINS** Witness some of the world's greatest cabaret, circus, variety and burlesque talent, Sat 22 June, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**APPLAUSE CABARET** Evening of song & dance, Sat 22 June, Dovehouse Theatre, Solihull

**VENUS AND ADONIS** Shakespeare Young Company present a new version of the Bard's first published work, Sat 22 June, University of Warwick

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** The Festival Players present an outdoor performance of the Bard's fantasy comedy, Sat 22 June, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**LOTTERY LOTTERY** A farcical satire which promises to poke fun at materialistic aspirations, Sun 23 June, The Drum, Birmingham

**THE MYSTERIOUS PLAYER** Presented by CGL Arts Theatre School, Sun 23 - Mon 24 June, Solihull Arts Complex

**Week Commencing  
MON 24 JUN**

**GLORIANA** Live HD broadcast of Benjamin Britten's 1953 opera, Mon 24 June, Malvern Theatres, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire

**THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)** The Reduced Shakespeare Company

## Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

**LUCY PORTER**  
THE MET STUDIO

**Sat 22 June**

Lucy's brand new show is based around a fascinating true story with a stunning twist in the tale. Along the way, the thirty-something mum of 'Irish twins' (not Jedward thankfully) brings us her hilarious stand up observations. It's a feel good night of comedy that will appeal to audiences of all ages.

8pm, £15

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**  
STAFFORD CASTLE

**Thurs 27 June - Sat 13 July**

Stafford Festival Shakespeare returns for its 23rd year with Shakespeare's most loved comedy, performed under the stars against the stunning backdrop of Stafford Castle. With undercover grandstand seating and a fine dining marquee, this event is the highlight of the summer.

£10 - £23.50

**THE KARLA MILTON COLLECTIVE**  
THE MET STUDIO

**Sat 6 July**

Karla Milton is a musical 'tour-de-force' with unmistakable star quality and talent. Fusing natural charisma with dynamic stage presence and stunning vocals, Karla has captivated audiences across the UK and Europe, with her soulful, funky and sophisticated blend of Acid Jazz and 60s groove.

8pm, £10

**THAT'LL BE THE DAY: NON STOP HITS**  
STAFFORD CASTLE

**Sun 7 July**

Don't miss this unique performance of the nation's most popular touring show That'll Be The Day, staged in the open air in the beautiful surroundings of Stafford Castle. This hugely entertaining rock 'n' roll spectacular features a one-off line-up of knock out hits from the 1950s, 60s and 70s.

8pm, £18 - £22.50

**CISSIE AND ADA**  
GATEHOUSE THEATRE

**Wed 17 July**

Cissie and Ada, the immortal comic characters created by the late, great Les Dawson, grace the theatre stage for the first time in this hilarious new play. Cissie and Ada revisits the story and the culture behind the side-splitting sketches and that of BBC Light Entertainment in the 80s as well as bringing Dawson and Barradough's comedy genius back to life.

7.30pm, £15 / £12 concs

BOOKONLINE

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www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk

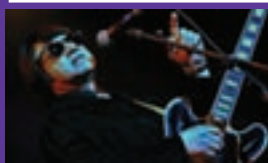
# What's on...



Fri 14th June  
**THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £16.50 / £15.50 concs



Sun 16th June  
**CHRIS & PUI ROADSHOW**  
11am & 2pm. Tickets: £12 / £10 Child



Fri 21st June  
**ROY ORBISON AND FRIENDS**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £17



Sat 22nd June  
**A WHOLE LOTTA LED**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £13.00



Thurs 27th June  
**AN INTIMATE EVENING WITH JOE LONGTHORNE**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £19.50, £18 concs



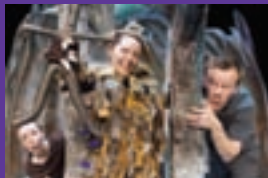
Fri 28th June  
**BLAKE**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £19



Sat 29th June  
**THE REAL THING**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £20, £18 concs



Fri 9th August  
**JOE PASQUALE**  
7.30pm. Tickets: £16.50, £15 concs



Tue 27th - Wed 28th August  
**THE GRUFFALO'S CHILD**  
Tues 27th, 2pm,  
Wed 28th 11am & 2pm  
Tickets: £10, Family ticket £36

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## COMING SOON TO THEATRE SEVERN

MONDAY 10 - WED 12 JUNE

Oscar Wilde's  
**THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ERNEST**

"To lose one parent, Mr Worthing, may be regarded as a misfortune; to lose both looks like carelessness."

SATURDAY 15 JUNE

Ben's portrayal of Michael Jackson is the most vocally and visually accurate tribute to the King of Pop to have ever toured UK theatres.

Ben is joined on the stage by incredible Band and Dancers who perform all the hits. He's got the look, the moonwalk and above all, the voice.

**JACKSON**  
LIVE IN CONCERT  
starring BEN and his incredible band & dancers

SATURDAY 29 JUNE

**ELKIE BROOKS**

Performing some of her classic hits, blues, and jazz, an electric evening with Elkie is guaranteed to leave you begging for more.

SUNDAY 30 JUNE

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# Theatre LISTINGS

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

present a fast-paced romp through the best of the Bard's works, Mon 24 June, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**OLIVER!** Brit Youth Theatre present an amateur production of Charles Dickens' classic tale, Mon 24 - Thurs 27 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**NOISES OFF** Neil Pearson, Chris Larkin and Maureen Beattie star in Michael Frayn's acclaimed comedy, Mon 24 - Sat 29 June, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

**TEACHERS** Blackeyed Theatre Company present John Godber's classic classroom comedy, Tue 25 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**REFLECTION: A WINDSOR SHOWCASE** Windsor High School present an eclectic showcase of works produced during the past twelve months, Tue 25 June, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

ton **MURDER IN A PLAY** Dean Gaffney, Gemma Bissix and Katy Manning feature in Simon Brett's murder-mystery, Tue 25 - Sat 29 June, The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

**ARE YOU BEING SERVED?** Stage adaptation of the popular TV show by Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft, Tue 25 - Sat 29 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**THE CIRCUS OF HORRORS: LONDON AFTER MIDNIGHT** Following their recent performance on Britain's Got Talent, The Circus of Horrors return to the road to present their latest show which, inspired by the film of the same name, is set in a plague-infested London in 1666, Wed 26 June, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**SHAOLIN WARRIORS** Captivating stage show suitable for the whole family... Wed 26 June, Malvern Theatres

**ROMEO & JULIET** Heartbreak Productions bring a modern twist to an outdoor version of the greatest love story ever told, Wed 26 June, Church End Brewery, Nuneaton

**FOGHORN IMPROV** Monthly event which sees the Old Joint Stock's resident improv group tackle a new theme... Thurs 27 June, Old Joint Stock Theatre, Birmingham

**JACK THE RIPPER: A TWENTY FIRST CENTURY INVESTIGATION** Retired British Police murder squad detective Trevor Marriott reveals the findings of his ten-year investigation into the Whitechapel Murders of 1888, Thurs 27 June, Malvern Theatre

**FEARLESS** Showcase of work from Perfect Points Dance School, Thurs 27 - Sat 29 June, Stoke Repertory Theatre

**CATCHING SNOWFLAKES** Jars Of Clay Theatre Company present a powerful new play which fuses humour, drama and music, Thurs 27 - Sat 29 June, The Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham

**HAYFEVER** Birmingham School of Acting present Noel Coward's

comedy of bad manners, which centres on the bohemian Bliss family, Thurs 27 - Sat 29 June, Old Rep, Birmingham

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** Outdoor production of one of the Bard's most popular works, Thurs 27 June - Sat 13 July, Stafford Castle

**THE BEST OF TONY HANCOCK** Iain Barton becomes legendary comic Tony Hancock as he presents, with a full supporting cast, some of the best Galton & Simpson sketches of Hancock's career, Fri 28 June, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**DAIMON PROJECT** A work in progress presented by BE Festival award-winning company Teatro Sotterraneo, Fri 28 June, Warwick Arts Centre

**FASCINATING AIDA** Starring Dillie Keane, Liza Pulman & Adele Anderson, Fri 28 June, Ludlow Castle, South Shropshire

**FAME JR.** Reach Musical School's production of the inspiring story of a diverse group of students, Fri 28 - Sat 29 June, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

Phoenix Productions journey through a variety of films, from James Bond to Footloose and everything in between, Fri 28 - Sat 29 June, The Public, West Bromwich

**THE OBITUARY SHOW BY STEVE FARR** The Phoenix Players present a double-bill comprising The Obituary Show and Tom Stoppard's The Real Inspector Hound, Fri 28 - Sat 29 June, Stratford Civic Hall

**WIND IN THE WILLOWS** The Roses' Youth Theatre present an amateur production of Kenneth Grahame's riverside adventure, Sat 29 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**BARRY CRYER - TWITTER TITTERS** In yet another farewell tour, Baz returns, having been charged with persistent joking, and asks for twenty other shows to be taken into consideration... Sat 29 June, Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**AN EVENING WITH TIM BROOKE-TAYLOR** Sat 29 June, Lichfield Garrick

**THE COMEDY OF ERRORS** Oddssocks present an irreverent interpretation of one of the Bard's much-favoured clas-

sics. Please note this is an outdoor production, Sat 29 June, Arnolds Farm, Burton Green, Kenilworth

**VENUS AND ADONIS** Shakespeare Young Company present a new version of the Bard's first published work, Sat 29 - Sun 30 June, RSC's The Dell, Stratford-upon-Avon

**THE LION KING** Julie Taymor's multi-award-winning musical makes its debut in Birmingham as part of its first ever UK tour, Fri 28 June - Sat 28 Sept, Birmingham Hippodrome

**THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST** Oscar Wilde's acclaimed farce, which satirises the vanities of the class-based society in which he lived, Sat 29 June - Sat 6 July, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham

**AN ANGEL ABOARD** Jesta-minute Community Theatre present Andy Higgitt's new play, which journeys into the lives of three sets of characters connected by a common theme, Sun 30 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove

**BROMSGROVE'S THEATRE, CINEMA, LIVE MUSIC AND COMEDY VENUE** **JUNE HIGHLIGHTS**

<p>Saturday 15th June <b>STEVE HOWE</b> SOLD CONCERT FROM THE YES GUITARIST</p>	<p>Friday 21st June <b>THE AUDIENCE - NT LIVE</b> EXTRA SCREENING OF THE HELEN MIRREN PLAY</p>	<p>Weds 19th - Sat 22nd June <b>RUDDIGORE</b> GILBERT &amp; SULLIVAN CLASSIC</p>
<p>Tues 25th - Sat 29th June <b>ARE YOU BEING SERVED?</b> STAGE VERSION OF THE 70s SIT-COM</p>	<p>Saturday 29th June <b>MATT PARKER - NUMBER NINJA</b> POPULAR STAND-UP MATHEMATICIAN</p>	<p>Sunday 30th June <b>THE SWING COMMANDERS</b> FORTIES CLASSICS &amp; SENSATIONAL SWING</p>

**FORTHCOMING CINEMA:**  
Argo (15) // Lore (15) // Love Is All You Need (15)  
I Give It A Year (15) // Good Vibrations (15)

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<p>June 1 <span style="float: right;">11pm &amp; 2pm</span> <b>CHRIS &amp; PUI ROADSHOW</b> Family fun from the Cbeebies favourites Tickets £38*, £12 (£10) (*Family)</p>	<p>June 29 <span style="float: right;">7.30pm</span> <b>UK PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE</b> 60's &amp; 70's Show Tickets £18 (£17)</p>
<p>June 13 <span style="float: right;">7.30pm</span> <b>THE JOHNNY CASH STORY</b> Performed by Roger Dean and The Lazy Boys Tickets £15 (£13)</p>	<p>July 3 <span style="float: right;">7.30pm</span> <b>JETHRO</b> The perfect anecdote to everyone's day. Contains adult humor. Age 15+ Tickets £19.50</p>
<p>June 19 <span style="float: right;">7:30pm</span> <b>BREAKIN' POINTE</b> Ballet Theatre UK meets Original Movements Tickets £17 (£16) &amp; £12* (*Children under 16)</p>	<p>July 5 <span style="float: right;">7.30pm</span> <b>ELKIE BROOKS</b> Performing some of her classic hits Tickets £22 (£21)</p>
<p>June 28 <span style="float: right;">7.30pm</span> <b>THE BILLY FURY YEARS</b> 30th Anniversary Tour Tickets £17</p>	<p>July 18 - 20 <span style="float: right;">7.30pm</span> Saturday Matinee 2.30pm <b>THE WIZARD OF OZ</b> Presented by the Palace Youth Theatre Tickets £35*, £12 (£10) (*Family)</p>

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

## As You Like It

Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

The audience may begin their evening sat in the main house at Stratford, but by the end of this transformational production they're crowd-surfing at Glastonbury!

The subject of living outside the rules of society is at the heart of Shakespeare's *As You Like It* - so modern-day alternative lifestyles and back-to-nature activities give director Maria Aberg plenty of scope to revel in the comic potential of people stumbling out of their comfort zone.

While brutal courtly life is defined by staged beatings and sharp tailoring, Cliff Burnett's banished-but-cool Duke Senior is like an old artschool rocker, heading a commune in the Forest of Arden. There's a well-stocked beer-cooler or piece of fruit for every character, including Nicolas Tennant's grubbily amusing Touchstone and Oliver Ryan's dreamily melancholic Jaques, who sniffs out the potential for sadness inherent in each drifting encounter.

In fleeing to the forest, Pippa Nixon's vivacious Rosalind has been freed from courtly feminine discipline, only to be constrained by her disguise as Ganymede, a kind of fresh-faced male lifecoach.

Alex Waldmann's likeable Orlando comes across as a thoroughly good bloke who naively submits to alternative therapy from Ganymede to cure him of his desire for lost love Rosalind. The inevitable outcome is Rosalind's 'magical' return at an energetic outbreak of pagan weddings.

The 'Five Go To A Festival' visual comedy may be laid on thick, but arguably mirrors Shakespeare's hardly subtle joke to his city audiences that lions and palm trees were common in rural Warwickshire.

Laura Marling's enjoyable folk settings of the song verses work equally well in moments of torchlit yearning or rousing community singalongs, underlining the contrast between the lusty energies of the sunlit forest and the trance-like gloom of normality. *David Barron* ■■■■■

## The Woman In Black

Malvern Theatre

The more times I see *The Woman In Black*, and the further back in the auditorium I sit while watching it, the less I like the play.

Adapted by Stephen Mallatrat from the Susan Hill ghost story, it was first performed in 1989, and is one of the West End's most successful plays - a fact which makes my ever-developing distaste for it all the more baffling. A regular tourer, it's been given a publicity boost of late by the movie version, and continues to put bums on seats; which rather begs the question for me - can so many theatre-goers be so wrong about it?

If I'm going to be completely honest, I find the play boring. This current touring version seems even less inspiring to me than previous productions, but I do wonder whether it's an offering best appreciated when you're nearer to the action than Row Q. There's a sense of intimacy about the piece that seems to get lost in translation from the stage to the farther reaches of the auditorium.

Malvern Theatre's a lovely place in which to watch a show. I just hope the next time I go there I'm able to enjoy whatever I'm watching on stage as much as I do my visit to the venue itself.

*Peter Joshua* ■■■■■



## Sutra

Birmingham Hippodrome

Created in 2008, *Sutra*, meaning 'a rope or thread that holds things together', is one of Sadler's Wells' biggest productions. A logistical nightmare, the show is the brainchild of dancer-choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, and brings together sculptor Anthony Gormley's visual design, Szymon Brzóska's reflective music and sixteen Shaolin warrior monks/contemporary dancers, all under Sidi's mindful direction. The milieu begins with Sidi and a child monk sat separated by a pile of sixteen small wooden blocks, one for each box, each of which, in turn, contains a monk. Sidi is at first puppet-master, then voyeur, then participant in this graceful game.

The beauty of the Gormley-designed boxes lies in their simplicity. Alone, the boxes resemble coffins, carried around by their respective owners; together, they're transformed into a lotus flower, a boat, plinths, a bunk-bed, dominoes and a prison. The monks move with the grace of dancers, their kung-fu kicks and leaps carried out with a studied and impressive discipline. A blend of East and West, the piece studies the intersection between art and religion. The quiet, contemplative nature of the dancer monks sits well against the stunning live music that emanates from behind a semi-transparent screen.

A captivating piece, the stand-out star is undoubtedly the eight-year-old child monk who visually narrates the show whilst keeping up with his animated older brothers. Brilliant. *Alev Dervish* ■■■■■

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## Extended booking for Beatles homage

Much-acclaimed theatrical concert Let It Be - which charts the rise to fame of The Beatles - has extended its current run at the Savoy Theatre. Bookings are now being taken until 18 January 2014, with producers announcing the introduction of a new £15 ticket, making it one of the best value shows in town...

## Opening this month...

The Chichester Festival Theatre production of Noel Coward's famous comedy Private Lives arrives in the West End this month. Jonathan Kent's production stars Anna Chancellor and Toby Stephens as rich and reckless divorcees Amanda and Elyot, who unexpectedly rekindle their relationship when taking adjoining suites at a Riviera hotel in which they're honeymooning with their respective new spouses. Private Lives shows at the Gielgud Theatre from 22 June...

This month also sees Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliffe return to the West End stage. Radcliffe takes the title role in Martin McDonagh's comic masterpiece The Cripple Of Inishmaan, which shows at the Noel Coward Theatre from 8 June to 31 August.



Daniel Radcliffe



## Having The Time Of Your Life in the West End

Following a multi-record-breaking tour across the UK and Ireland, the producers of hit musical Dirty Dancing have announced that they're taking the show back to the West End.

When it originally opened at the Aldwych Theatre in 2006, Dirty Dancing broke all box

office records, becoming the fastest-selling show in West End history. The production went on to play to more than two million people during a five-year run.

The show opens at Piccadilly Theatre on 13 July, with bookings currently being taken until 22 February 2014.

## WEST END LISTINGS:

### MUSICALS

#### AMERICAN PSYCHO

Almeida Theatre, 3 Dec 2013 - 25 Jan 2014

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

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

**BOOK OF MORMON** Prince Of Wales Theatre, booking until 11 Jan 2014

**BURN THE FLOOR** Shaftesbury Theatre, booking until 30 June 2013

**CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY - THE MUSICAL** Drury Lane Royal, booking until 30 Nov 2013

**CHORUS LINE** London Palladium Theatre, booking until 18 Jan 2014

**COMMITMENTS** Victoria Palace Theatre, 21 Sept 2013 - 26 Jan 2014

**FROM HERE TO ETERNITY** Shaftesbury Theatre, 30 Sept 2013 - 26 Apr 2014

**GABRIEL** Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, 13 Jul - 18 Aug 2013

**GOLDEN VOICEE** Arts Theatre, 12 Jun - 31 Aug 2013

**JERSEY BOYS** Prince

Edward Theatre, booking until 16 Feb 2014

**LES MISÉRABLES** Queen's Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014

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

**LION KING** Lyceum Theatre, booking until 5 Jan 2014

**LIZA (ON AN E)** Vaudeville Theatre, 14 - 18 May 2013

**MAMMA MIA!** Novello Theatre, booking until 5 Apr 2014

**MATILDA THE MUSICAL** Cambridge Theatre, booking until 25 May 2014

**MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG** Harold Pinter Theatre, booking until 27 Jul 2013

**MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT** Playhouse Theatre, booking until 2 Nov 2013

**ONCE** Phoenix Theatre, booking until 30 Nov 2013

**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** Her Majesty's Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014

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

**SAUCY JACK AND THE SPACE VIXENS** Leicester

Square Theatre lounge, 1 Aug - 15 Sept 2013

**SCOTTSBRO BOYS** Young Vic Theatre, 18 Oct - 23 Nov 2013

**SINGIN' IN THE RAIN** Palace Theatre, booking until 8 Jun 2013

**SOME LIKE IT HIP HOP** Peacock Theatre, until Sun 30 June 2013

**SOUND OF MUSIC** Regents Park Open Air Theatre, 15 Jul - 7 Sept 2013

**STOMP** Ambassadors Theatre, booking until 22 Dec 2013

**THRILLER LIVE** Lyric Theatre, booking until 16 Mar 2014

**TOP HAT** Aldwych Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014

**VIVA FOREVER!** Piccadilly Theatre, booking until 14 Feb 2014

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

**WICKED** Apollo Victoria Theatre, booking until 26 Apr 2014.

**X FACTOR - IT'S TIME TO FACE THE MUSICAL** coming soon from spring 2014

### DRAMA

**AMEN CORNER** Olivier National Theatre, 4 Jun - 14 Aug 2013

### AUDIENCE

Gielgud Theatre, booking until 15 June 2013  
**BLUE STOCKINGS** Shakespeare's Globe Theatre 24 Aug -

**CHILDREN OF THE SUN** Lyttelton National Theatre, booking until 14 Jul 2013

**CHIMERICA** Almeida Theatre, booking until 29 Jun 2013

**THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMANN** Noel Coward Theatre, 8 June - 31 Aug 2013

**CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME** Apollo Theatre, booking until 4 Jan 2014

**DINOSAUR ZOO** Regent's Park Open Air Theatre, 9 Aug - 8 Sept 2013

**DUCHESS OF MALFI** Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, 9 Jan - 16 Feb 2014

**FENCES** Duchess Theatre, 19 Jun - 14 Sept 2013

**GHOSTS** Almeida Theatre, 26 Sept - 23 Nov 2013

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

**OTHELLO** National Theatre, booking until 18 Aug 2013

**PETER AND ALICE** Noel Coward Theatre, until 1 June 2013

**PUBLIC ENEMY** Young Vic Theatre, booking

until 8 June 2013  
**PRIVATE LIVES** Gielgud Theatre, from Sat 22 June 2013

**RACE** Hampstead Theatre, until Sat 29 June 2013

**SEVEN YEAR TWITCH** Orange Tree Theatre, until Sat 22 June 2013

**THESE SHINING LIVES** Park Theatre, Finsbury Park, until Sat 9 June 2013

**WAR HORSE** New London Theatre, booking until 15 Feb 2014

**WOMAN IN BLACK** Fortune Theatre, booking until 14 Dec 2013

### COMEDY

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

**BARKING IN ESSEX** Wyn-

dham's Theatre, 6 Sept 2013 - 4 Jan 2014

**DERREN BROWN : INFAMOUS** Palace Theatre, 24 Jun - 17 Aug 2013

**HUMAN RESOURCES** Leicester Square Theatre Lounge, 3 Jun - 30 Jun 2013

**LADYKILLERS** Vaudeville Theatre, 29 Jun - 26 Oct 2013

**MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** Old Vic Theatre, 7 Sept 2013 - 16 Nov 2013

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

**PASSION PLAY** Duke Of York Theatre, booking until 3 Aug 2013

**THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL** Park Theatre, Finsbury Park, Wed 12 June - Sun 7 July

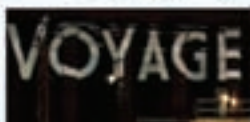


Darren Brown: Infamous, Palace Theatre

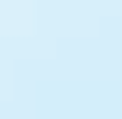
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# Dance



## Birmingham Royal Ballet: Giselle

Birmingham Hippodrome, Wed 19 - Sat 22 June

A groundbreaking work when it was first performed in the nineteenth century, Théophile Gautier's *Giselle* is a surreal ballet which tells the story of a girl who kills herself when she finds that her suitor, Loys, has kept from her his real identity - pretending to be a peasant when actually he's a member of the aristocracy. Loys, whose real name is Albrecht, and another suitor, Hilarion, who had jealously told *Giselle* of Albrecht's deception, visit *Giselle*'s unconsecrated grave, where they find themselves in all manner of trouble due to the presence of the Wilis - ghosts of girls jilted by their lovers. It falls to the spirit of *Giselle* to try and save her suitors from beyond the grave... David Bintley and Galina Samsova's stunning production, clad in gorgeous designs by Hayden Griffin, stays true to the classical spirit and steps of the original.

## Aakash Odedra: Rising

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, Fri 14 - Sat 15 June

A prodigy of esteemed choreographer Akram Khan, Aakash Odedra is recognised as one of the hottest rising stars of British dance. Having trained in the classical Indian dance styles of Kathak and Bharat Natyam, Odedra uses influences from both to create 'a new flavour of contemporary dance'.

Stopping off in Coventry following dates in Croatia and Germany, Odedra here presents his latest work, in which different processes and aesthetics create a new personal language. Solos choreographed by Russell Maliphant, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoul and Akram Khan all feature.



## Dance LISTINGS

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

**COPPELIA** Birmingham Royal Ballet present Sir Peter Wright's production of the much-loved ballet, which explores the eccentricities of toymaker Dr Coppélius, Tues 4 - Sat 8 June, Birmingham Hippodrome  
**SWAN LAKE LIVE** Live 3D broadcast from Russia's world-famous Mariinsky Theatre, Thurs 6 June, The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire  
**CLOD ENSEMBLE: ZERO** Innovative physical

theatre set in a world where nothing is certain... Fri 7 June, Malvern Theatre  
**DANCE AROUND THE WORLD** Performed by Happy Steps, Fri 7 - Sun 9 June, The Swan Theatre, Worcester  
**FUNOON ALHOURIYA** A unique explosion of diverse dance & music of Middle Eastern Countries, Sat 8 June, mac, Birmingham  
**INTOTO DANCE** Featuring choreographed pieces from Neville Campbell, Ben Duke & Jorge Crecis,

8 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove  
**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** Presented by Ballet Wales, Wed 19 June, New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme  
**GISELLE** Wed 19 - Sat 22 June, Birmingham Hippodrome  
**KEEP CALM AND DANCE ON** Timmings Academy of Dance present a celebration of British culture through music, song & dance, Fri 21 - Sat 22 June, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham  
**ORIGINAL MOVEMENTS DANCE CREW BREAKIN' POINTE** Ballet Theatre UK joins forces with the infamous urban dance crew Original Movements in a fusion of urban hip-hop and classical ballet styles, Thurs 27 June, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, B'ham

Tickets: 01584 878141

# Ludlow Fringe Festival

## Ludlow Comes Alive 21 - 30 June 2013

### Comedy

### Music

Sunday 23rd June 2pm  
Methodist Church. £10  
**Flours de Lys**  
Medieval Music Song  
and Laughter

27th June  
Ludlow Assembly  
Rooms. £12  
**Steve Gibbons**  
Sings Dylan

### Talks

Thursday 27th June £10  
Ludlow Brewery 2pm

#### Jo Brand

Acclaimed comedienne and  
writer on her writing style  
& experience.

Tuesday 25th June £10  
Ludlow Brewery 7pm

#### Andy Kershaw

A rare talk about his life,  
from being Billy Bragg's  
driver to report for the  
BBC from Iraq.

### Ooh la la!

22nd June: 7.30pm £12  
Ludlow Assembly Rooms

La Bordello Boheme  
present:

#### The Seven Deadly Sins

A night of Cabaret,  
Circus & Burlesque  
with International  
starlet Miss Billie Rae



24th June  
**Joe Lycett**  
Plus support



25th June  
**Gary Delaney**  
Plus support



26th June  
**Lucy Porter**  
Plus support

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# Festivals

## Ludlow Fringe Festival

Various locations in and around Ludlow, South Shropshire, Fri 21 - Sun 30 June

For many years the Ludlow Festival - with its major outdoor Shakespeare productions - dominated the summer entertainment scene in the small South Shropshire town. So there was much sadness last autumn when it was announced that the festival, in its usual format, would be no more.

But from the ashes have risen two new festivals - The Ludlow Arts Festival and the Ludlow Fringe. While the main festival takes place within the confines of the castle walls, the fringe has an eclectic programme of events at smaller, more intimate locations around the town. But that doesn't mean to say its line-up is any less impressive. Nine days of entertainment will include big names from the comedy circuit such as Lucy Porter, Joe Lycett, Gary Delaney and Alfie Moore, and musical contributions from Steve Gibbons, Blazin' Fiddles and jazz singer Sarah Moule. An assortment of activities for younger visitors, exhibitions for art lovers and poetry workshops for budding poets also feature in the festival line-up.



Joe Lycett

## Upton International Jazz Festival

Various locations around Upton on Severn, Worcestershire, Fri 28 - Sun 30 June

Featuring more than sixty artists, riverboat shuffles, a festival and mardi gras parades, this year's Upton jazz festival has the makings of yet another fine event. Now in its twenty-eighth year, this annual offering brings together trad and modern jazz, jive and swing, Dixieland, dance, rhythm'n'blues and boogie woogie, in the process attracting artists from all over the world to the delightful town of Upton-on-Severn. Names on 2013's star-studded bill include gypsy jazz king Remi Harris, legendary clarinetist Pete Allen, and trumpeter Enrico Tomasso, who's worked with Soft Cell, Bryan Ferry and Clare Teal.



Terri Walker

## Bass Festival

Various locations around Birmingham, Tues 11 - Sun 30 June

The only Black music and arts festival which commissions new work every year, Bass is one of Birmingham's most popular independent events. Organisers are hoping that this year's happening will attract in excess of twelve thousand people. Soul is the focus for 2013, with audiences being promised powerful performances from Terri Walker, Ms D, Shakka, KOF and Monique. Neo-Soul sensation Bilal is booked to perform at an end-of-festival concert at the Hare & Hounds pub in Kings Heath (30 June). Updates and news will be provided throughout the festival courtesy of BASS FM, which - run by young volunteers and held at Ormiston Academy - goes live on 87.7fm on 2 June. *Check out more about Bilal on page 17.*



Slipknot

## Download Festival

Donington Park, Castle Donington, Derby, Fri 14 - Sun 16 June

Seen as the spiritual home of rock, Donington Park has played host to this major festival for the last ten years. Organised by Live Nation, Download regularly attracts the creme de la creme of rock, heavy metal and punk - and 2013 is no exception. After a three-year absence, American heavyweights Slipknot return to headline on the Friday evening, while Donington Park veterans Iron Maiden take over the top slot the following night. German industrial metal band Rammstein close the festival on the Sunday evening. Queens Of The Stone Age, Motorhead, Gaslight Anthem and Thirty Seconds To Mars also feature amongst the impressive line-up.

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Warwick FOLK FESTIVAL 25th-28th July 2013

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Box Office: 01926 776438 [www.warwickfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.warwickfolkfestival.co.uk)

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# Festivals

## English Haydn Festival

Bridgnorth, Shropshire, Wed 5 - Sun 9 June

The small market town of Bridgnorth in Shropshire this month plays host to one of only two acclaimed Haydn Festivals. Now in its twentieth year, the festival attracts classical soloists from all parts of the globe, with this year's highlights including performances by Russian violinist Alina Ibragimova, the Chiaroscuro String Quartet, the English Haydn Ensemble, the Salomon String Quartet and the Christophe Coin Trio.



Alina Ibragimova

## Cheltenham Science Festival

Various locations in and around Cheltenham, Tues 4 - Sun 9 June

The Cheltenham Science Festival provides six days of debate and entertainment, and offers visitors the chance not only to put their questions to some of the world's leading thinkers but also to conduct their own experiments! This year's festival hosts the Famelab International Final - a quest to find scientific stars of the future - and features talks by Dara O'Briain and Jocelyn Bell Burnell, the twenty-four-year-old PhD student who made a discovery that changed the way in which we see the universe.



## Gregynog Festival

Gregynog Hall, Nr Newtown, Powys, Thurs 20 - Sun 30 June

Wales' oldest classical music festival each year attracts thousands of visitors from around the globe, all of whom descend on Powys to indulge their passion for 'music-making of the highest standard'. Set within the grand surroundings of Gregynog Hall, this ten-day event this year celebrates the centenary of the birth of Benjamin Britten. Taking a 'Great Britten' theme, the 2013 festival features works from Dowland, Purcell, Elgar and Vaughn Williams. Germany's Harmonie Universelle perform on 21 June, Belgium's Ricercar Viol Consort a day later on the 22nd, and Academy of St Martin in the Fields, featuring tenor Andrew Kennedy and horn player Timothy Brown, on the 29th. Acclaimed harpist Caitlin Finch (pictured) also makes an appearance on the 29th.

**15th & 16th JUNE 2013**

**ELLSMERE FOOD & DRINK festival**



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From  
FRI 14  
JUNE

## Man Of Steel

CERT 12a (143mins)

Starring Henry Cavill, Amy Adams, Michael Shannon, Russell Crowe, Kevin Costner, Diane Lane, Laurence Fishburne Directed by Zack Snyder (USA)

There's some pretty impressive talent behind this \$175million re-boot of the Superman franchise. The producer is Christopher Nolan (The Dark Knight, Inception), the director Zack Snyder (300, Watchmen) and the writer David S Goyer (Batman Begins). And in the tradition of Batman Begins and The Amazing Spider-Man, Man Of Steel goes back to Kal-El's roots and the planet of Krypton. The rest, as they say, is mythology. In 3D.



From  
FRI 21  
JUNE

## World War Z

CERT tbc

Starring Brad Pitt, Mireille Enos, James Badge Dale, Matthew Fox, David Morse Directed by Marc Forster (USA)

That's Z for zombies because there just haven't been enough movies about the walking dead. This one boasts a budget of \$175million, so the zombies better be pretty scary. Brad Pitt plays a United Nations agent who takes on the future of mankind as he watches armies succumb to the pandemic. You just can't keep a dead man down... The director is Marc Forster, who brought us Finding Neverland and The Kite Runner, so this cinematic behemoth should have some credibility. It's based on the book by Max Brooks.

## TOP 5

FILM BOX OFFICE

- 1 Star Trek Into Darkness (12a)
- 2 Fast And Furious 6 (12a)
- 3 The Great Gatsby (15)
- 4 The Croods (U)
- 5 Iron Man 3 (12a)



Released from Fri 7 June

## After Earth CERT 12a (100mins)

Starring Will Smith, Jaden Smith, Isabelle Fuhrman, Sophie Okonedo  
Directed by M. Night Shyamalan (USA)

After Earth has been laid waste by cataclysmic events (cf. Oblivion), a father and son find themselves back on the planet, which is a very changed place. This all sounds frightfully familiar but it will be interesting to see the Smiths play off each other (their first film together since 2006's The Pursuit Of Happiness).



After Earth featuring Jaden Smith pictured



## The Last Exorcism: Part II

CERT 15 (89mins)  
Starring Ashley Bell, Julia Garner, Spencer Treat Clark, Muse Watson  
Directed by Ed Gass-Donnelly (USA)

Evil will out. Nell Sweetzer (Ashley Bell, returning from the first film) has recovered from the events of the first Last Exorcism (2010). But then she starts seeing strange men in masks watching her. And all sorts of odd things start happening...



## Behind The Candelabra

CERT 15 (118mins)  
Starring Michael Douglas, Matt Damon, Dan Aykroyd, Rob Lowe, Debbie Reynolds, Scott Bakula  
Directed by Steven Soderbergh (USA)

Michael Douglas might not be everybody's first choice to play the camp, flamboyant entertainer Liberace, but there's nothing we can do about it now. The film follows Liberace's six-year relationship with the considerably younger Scott Thorson (Damon) and is based on the latter's autobiography. The costumes will be wonderful, darling.

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## The Iceman CERT 15 (106mins)

Starring **Michael Shannon, Winona Ryder, Ray Liotta, Chris Evans, James Franco, David Schwimmer**

Directed by **Ariel Vromen (USA)**

There has been many a film about a contract killer – but not a real one, and not one whose allegiance was both to The Family and to his family. Richie Kuklinski was a married man with two daughters who managed to keep his secret of execution from them. In fact, his execution ranged from strangulation to cyanide poisoning. However, the interesting dynamic of Ariel Vromen's film is the domestic landscape, in which Kuklinski, although an aloof figure, cares more for his three girls than anything else. The atmosphere of the 1970s is well evoked and, as ever, Michael Shannon proves to be a commanding and rather daunting presence in the title role, a man thought to have 'iced' at least one hundred people.



The Iceman

Released from Fri 14 June

## Paradise: Love CERT tbc

Starring **Margarethe Tiesel, Peter Kazungu, Inge Maux** Directed by **Ulrich Seidl (Austria/Germany/France)**

The first part of a trilogy, Paradise: Love focuses on a fifty-year-old woman who goes to Kenya to find sex. Kenya? Well, apparently there's a roaring trade on the beaches of East Africa, where young African men sell their bodies to 'Sugar Mamas.' Expect to be shocked.



Paradise: Love

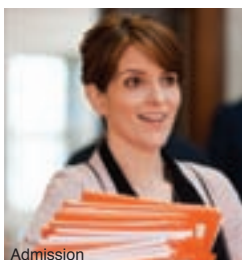
## Admission CERT 12a (108mins)

Starring **Tina Fey, Paul Rudd, Michael Sheen, Lily Tomlin, Wallace Shawn** Directed by **Paul Weitz (USA)**

The clue is in the title. Portia Nathan (Fey) is a sober and conventional admissions officer at Princeton

University. But then an 'alternative' student crosses her path, a kid who might just be the son she once gave up for adoption...

Based on the novel by Jean Hanff Koretz.



Admission



From  
FRI 21  
JUNE

## Summer In February

CERT 15 (101mins)

Starring **Dominic Cooper, Emily Browning, Dan Stevens, Hattie Morahan**

Directed by **Christopher Menaul (UK)**

Those Bohemian artists, what are they like? Here, in this adaptation of Jonathan Swift's novel, the artist Alfred Munnings (Cooper) and his friend Gilbert Evans (Stevens) obsess about the same woman (Browning). Set in the Cornish artist community known as the Lamorna Group.



## Stuck In Love CERT 15 (97mins)

Starring **Greg Kinnear, Jennifer Connelly, Lily Collins, Logan Lerman, Nat Wolff, Kristen Bell** Directed by **Josh Boone (USA)**

Love can be complicated. Actually, love is almost always complicated. Here, a successful novelist (Kinnear) is obsessed by his ex-wife (Connelly) and it's affecting his work. Then his nineteen-year-old daughter (Collins, daughter of Phil) gets a novel published, although she, herself, wants nothing to do with love...



Stuck In Love

## Like Someone In Love

CERT 12a (110mins)

Starring **Tadashi Okuno, Rin Takanashi, Ryo Kase** Directed by **Abbas Kiarostami (Japan/France)**

Some consider the Iranian-born Abbas Kiarostami to be one of the greatest filmmakers working today. This character study, set in contemporary Tokyo, certainly exhibits the director's mastery of his medium. Echoing Yasujiro Ozu's consummate Japanese masterpiece Tokyo Story (with its reflections on the rural/urban and generational divide), Like Someone In Love (its title taken from the 1957 standard sung by Ella Fitzgerald) is a mesmerising, melancholy fable. With its exquisite attention to detail - its play of light and incidental sound - the film builds up an almost enigmatic scenario in which anything might happen. At the story's centre is the unhappy Akiko (the hauntingly beautiful Takanashi), who stands up her grandmother to spend the night with a distinguished gentleman who is mistaken for her grandfather. The acting is superlative, and you'd be hard put to find as poetic, humane and surprising a film this year. Indeed, this could be Kiarostami's finest film to date.

## Much Ado About Nothing

CERT 12a (167mins)

Starring **Amy Acker, Alexis Denisof, Nathan Fillion, Reed Diamond, Sean Maher, Jillian Morgese** Directed by **Joss Whedon (USA)**

Joss Whedon created Buffy the Vampire Slayer and previously directed Avengers Assemble, so no one saw this coming. But after filming Avengers and before embarking on post-production, he shot this contemporary take on Shakespeare's romcom (using the original text) in just twelve days, at his home in Santa Monica, California.



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Released from Fri 21 June

### Snitch

CERT 12a (112mins)

Starring **Dwayne Johnson, Barry Pepper, Jon Bernthal, Benjamin Bratt, Susan Sarandon**

Directed by **Ric Roman Waugh (USA)**

When a young man is set up in a drug deal, he ends up in prison. But then nobody had reckoned on Dwayne Johnson being the lad's father. And that was their mistake...

Filmed in Louisiana.



Snitch

### Before Midnight

CERT tbc

Starring **Ethan Hawke, Julie Delpy** Directed by **Richard Linklater (USA)**

Before Sunset, released nine years ago, was a sequel to Before Sunrise, released nine years before that. So the director, Richard Linklater, has got together with his cast members and co-writers Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy to update the story of Jesse and Celine's vacillating liaison. Expect a lot more talk.



Released from Fri 28 June

### This Is The End

CERT 15 (107mins)

Starring **James Franco, Jonah Hill, Seth Rogen, Jay Baruchel, Danny McBride, Emma Watson, Rihanna**

Directed by **Evan Goldberg and Seth Rogen (USA)**

If you haven't already seen enough of James Franco this year, then here's a treat. It's another dystopian scenario in which a group of friends attempts to find the meaning of life as the world self-destructs around them. James Franco plays himself. For laughs.



This Is The End



### Despicable Me 2

CERT tbc

Featuring the voices of **Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Benjamin Bratt, Miranda Cosgrove, Russell Brand, Steve Coogan** Directed by **Pierre Coffin and Chris Renaud (USA)**

Gru, who, in the first film, relished the prospect of being the world's Greatest Villain of All Time, is now recruited by the Anti-Villain League. He's wanted to help stop a new thug, the menacing Mexican 'Eduardo', voiced by Bratt. Up to the eleventh hour, Al Pacino was to have played Eduardo but departed after 'creative differences'. In 3D.



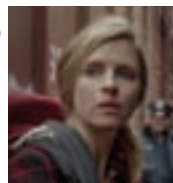
Despicable Me 2

### The East

CERT 15 (118mins)

Starring **Brit Marling, Ellen Page, Alexander Skarsgård, Toby Kebbell** Directed by **Zal Batmangliji (USA)**

Described as a 'sophisticated' take on paranoia-themed films, The East finds former FBI agent Sarah Moss working as an operative for a private intelligence firm. Highly rated, Sarah is tasked with the challenge of infiltrating an anarchist group known as The East, which has a reputation for executing attacks upon major corporations. But as she draws closer to The East's charismatic leader, Sarah finds herself questioning the morality which is underpinning her assignment...



### Renoir

CERT tbc

Starring **Michel Bouquet, Christa Theret, Vincent Rottiers** Directed by **Gilles Bourdos (France/Italy)**

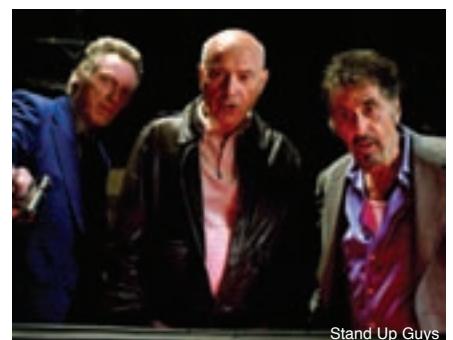
Some films need be no more than a flavour. This one is a snapshot - a sketch - of a summer in 1915 when a young woman entered the lives of the ageing painter Auguste Renoir and his son, the future filmmaker Jean Renoir. As the older man captures his idyllic surroundings in oils, the Great War rages in Europe and has already nearly cost the leg of Jean. As the latter convalesces in the orchards of Cagnes-sur-Mer, on the edge of the Mediterranean, Andrée arrives to model for Auguste and has a profound effect on both men. A film of enormous beauty and pathos, Gilles Bourdos' Renoir is a worthy celebration of the great painter's art - and an insightful glimpse into what was a transcendent year.

### Stand Up Guys

CERT tbc

Starring **Al Pacino, Christopher Walken, Alan Arkin, Julianna Margulies, Mark Margolis, Lucy Punch** Directed by **Fisher Stevens (USA)**

Three Oscar-winning actors square up to play ageing crooks in this crime comedy set in Los Angeles. Just as Val (Pacino) is released from prison, he finds that his best friend Doc (Walken) has been contracted to kill him. And if Doc doesn't, he will be 'iced' himself... Funny, huh?



Stand Up Guys





### Much Ado About Nothing 12a

Read the preview on page 53

### Mud 12a

A refugee is befriended by two children who help him evade the police - while also reuniting him with his true love. Stars Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Fri 14 - Thurs 20 June*

### The NeverEnding Story U

Bastian escapes school and the bullies that torment him by hiding in the school attic. There, he begins to read an old book that draws him into the mythical land of Fantasia. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 01 June*

### Oz The Great And Powerful PG

Before Dorothy and Toto toddled down the Yellow Brick Road, The Wizard (played by James Franco) had to find his own feet in the Land Of Oz. *Showing at Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 14 - Tues 18 June*

### The Paperboy 15

An investigative thriller set in Florida. Stars Matthew McConaughey, Zac Efron. *Showing at Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 14 - Sat 15 June*

### Paradise: Love the

Read the preview on page 53

### Peak the

Peak questions the relationship between nature and technology, and our need for a paradise on earth. Directed by Hannes Lang and shown as part of the UK Green Festival. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Weds 05 June*

### The Place Beyond The Pines 15

Ryan Gosling plays a stunt biker who turns to crime to provide for his girlfriend and newborn son. However, Bradley Cooper, as an ambitious cop, has got his number. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Fri 07 - Sat 08 June*

### Ponyo U

The story of five-year-old Sosuke, who befriends a little fish that's determined to become human. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Sun 02 June*

### Promised Land 15

Matt Damon plays a slick agent for an energy company. When he arrives at a small farming community to facilitate the process of hydraulic gas drilling, events conspire to transform his whole outlook on life. *Showing at Ludlow*

*Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Tues 25 - Weds 26 June*

### Quartet 12a

In a retirement home for opera singers and musicians, the occupants are facing more than one kind of music. . . Stars Maggie Smith, Tom Courtenay. *Showing at The Norbury Theatre, Droitwich Spa, Weds 26 June*

### Reality 15

Luciano is a Neapolitan fishmonger who, together with his wife Maria, pulls off little scams to bolster their income. But their lives change when he's persuaded to try out for a reality show. *Showing at Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 21 - Mon 24 June*

### The Reluctant Fundamentalist 15

A young Pakistani chases the American dream but his aspirations are confounded by his Asian roots - and a hostage crisis. Stars Riz Ahmed, Kate Hudson. *Showing at Light House Media Centre, Whampton, until Thurs 06 June; Stoke Film Theatre, Fri 21 - Sat 22 June; Hereford Courtyard Theatre, Sat 29 - Sun 30 Jun*

### Renoir the

Read the preview on page 55

### Shell 15

A father and his seven-year-old live and work at a petrol station in the desolate Scottish Highlands, making their relationship difficult and disturbing. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Tues 11 June*

### Simon Killer 18

A young college graduate takes himself to Paris after a relationship break-up. Once there, he becomes involved with a prostitute and his past begins to reveal itself. *Showing at Stoke Film Theatre, Thurs 13 June*

### The Spirit Of '45 U

Ken Loach returns to documentary for the first time since 2005. The title refers to the last year of World War Two, when Britain's Labour government rallied the nation to rebuild its battered economy. *Showing at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, South Shropshire, Mon 03 - Tues 04 June*

### Stand Up Guys the

Read the preview on page 55

### Star Trek Into Darkness 12a

The crew are forced to confront an indomitable force of evil within their own organisation. Stars Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto. *Showing at*

*Hereford Courtyard Theatre, Fri 14 - Mon 17 June*

### Stoker 15

When her husband dies, the new widow's Uncle Charlie comes to stay - and has a very disturbing effect on the household... Stars Nicole Kidman. *Showing at Attfield Theatre, Oswestry, Sat 08 June; Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Tues 25 - Thurs 27 June*

### Summer In February 15

Read the preview on page 53

### Superman 15

The alien orphan lands on earth, where he becomes Clark Kent and a superhero. Starring Christopher Reeve, Margot Kidder. *Showing at Electric Cinema, Birmingham, Fri 14 June*

### The Sweeney 15

In this bg-screen version of the classic 1970s TV show, Ray Winstone plays Regan and London looks pretty at night - but there's not a lot of momentum on the streets. *Showing at Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock, Mon 3 June*

### This Is The End 15

Read the preview on page 55

### Trance 15

James McAvoy plays an auctioneer who gets involved with a criminal gang and has to resort to hypnosis to recover a stolen painting. *Showing at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury, Sat 15 & Mon 17 June*

### Trashed 12a

We buy it, we bury it, we burn it and then we ignore it, but what happens to all the rubbish we produce? Directed by Candida Brady and shown as part of the UK Green Festival. *Showing at mac, Birmingham, Sat 01 June*

### Welcome To The Punch 15

James McAvoy plays an East End cop with a grudge and a girlfriend, two elements that come into play when an old crook pops out of hiding. *Showing at Old Market Hall, Shrewsbury, Fri 14 - Sat 15 June*

### The Wizard Of Oz U

Join Dorothy and the gang as they make their way down the yellow brick road to see The Wizard. *Showing at Warwick Arts Centre, Sun 02 June*

### World War Z the

Read the preview on page 51

## DVD NEW RELEASES

### Smashed 15

The cinema is pock-marked with great films about alcoholism, so Smashed has a lot to live up to. Here, it's the wife who tries to go sober, putting even more pressure on her marriage.

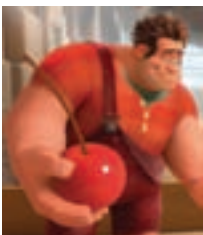
Released 03 June



### Wreck-it Ralph PG

The story of an arcade game villain who wants to be a hero. Being able to travel between games, W-I Ralph soon realises that the arcade is under threat, and so resolves to save the day.

Released 03 June



### I Give It A Year 15

Unlike most romcoms, this one focuses on the stresses that a couple face in their first year of marriage. And with their first anniversary approaching, can Josh and Nat combat their differences? A first-rate cast, including Minnie Driver, up the comic ante. Released 03 June

### Lincoln 12a

Daniel Day-Lewis won his third Oscar for this portrayal of Lincoln during his last four months in office, fighting to establish the fourteenth amendment.

Released 10 June



### Neil Young: Journeys PG

A look at the Canadian singer's return to his roots. There's also plenty of music, with Young performing his newer compositions at the Massey Hall in Toronto.

Released 10 June



### Zero Dark Thirty 15

This story of the hunt for Osama bin Laden has won a multitude of awards, including best actress gongs for Jessica Chastain, who also starred in The Hurt Locker. Released 10 June

### To The Wonder 12a

From director Terrence Malick, this 'abstract' romantic drama stars Ben Affleck as a man who returns to the arms

of a childhood friend played by Rachel McAdams. Also stars Javier Bardem. Directed by Terrence Malick. Released 17 June



### Broken City 15

Following his phenomenal career boost last year (both Ted and Contraband were major hits), Mark Wahlberg now plays a private investigator in New York City. Russell Crowe plays the Big Apple's mayor, who hires Wahlberg to spy on his wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones). But Wahlberg uncovers more than Crowe might have wished. Released 24 June

### Movie 43 15

A series of humorous short films with some of the biggest stars in Hollywood, Gerard Butler among them.

Released 24 June



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Coalbrookdale Gallery, Ironbridge, Shropshire,  
Fri 21 June - Tues 31 December

Links between coal mining and art are here explored via a series of miners' portraits and personal stories which have been brought together to offer an insight into colliery life in the twenty-first century. A joint venture by the National Coal Mining Museum for England and Arts Council England, the exhibition features contemporary photographs of colliery workers by Anton Want and drawings of pit workers by H Andrew Freeth.



## Bert Hackett: The Gemini Years

mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham,  
Sat 29 June - Sun 1 September

Under the name of Gemini, caricature artist Bert Hackett spent forty years entertaining readers at the Birmingham Post with his sharp, satirical commentary. This exhibition, bringing together a collection of his cartoons from across those decades, celebrates both the man and his work, and seeks to acknowledge the significant contribution he made to the practice of journalism in Birmingham.

## About Face

The Barber Institute, Birmingham,  
until Sun 1 September

Featuring European masterpieces from London's National Gallery, this unique exhibition is complemented by a stunning selection of works lent by HM The Queen from the Royal Collection Trust. These include miniatures by Hilliard and Isaac Oliver and works on paper by Van Dyck and Charles Le Brun, predominantly featuring figures from the English and French courts.



Circulation Desk - Lori Nix and the Catherine Edelman Gallery

## Tipping Point

Wolverhampton Art Gallery, until Sat 6 July

The way in which artists respond to key issues surrounding climate change provides the focus for this new exhibition. A specially commissioned series of large-scale sculptures by Gerry Judah - in association with international development agency Christian Aid - is featured in a body of work presented by eleven international artists. Works by Merel Karhof, Katie Paterson, John Kelly, Heather and Ivan Morison, HeHe, Darren Almond, Virginia Colwell, Anya Gallaccio and Lori Nix (whose Circulation Desk is pictured above) also feature, as does a piece entitled Heinzmann, Uni-solar, Trek by Turner Prize-winner Simon Starling.

## Looking In Wonderland

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, Sat 22 June - Sun 8 September

British illustrator, humourist and political satirist Sir John Tenniel was a prominent figure in nineteenth century England. He was known mostly for his work as principal cartoonist for Punch magazine, and as the artist who illustrated two of Lewis Carroll's best-known titles - Alice's Adventures In Wonderland and Through The Looking Glass. This Graphicus Touring Exhibition not only features an array of Tenniel's work but also introduces the viewer to some of the characters that have delighted readers both young and old since their conception over one hundred years ago, including the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter and the March Hare.



Photo credit: John Tenniel

## Ongoing exhibitions

### Lucy McLaughlan: Vessels In Vain

The Public, West Bromwich, until Sun 29 September

Heavily influenced by her home city of Birmingham and its connections with industrial history, brutalist architecture and untouched countryside, artist Lucy McLaughlan's work frequently features recurring motifs painted with little or no preparation and executed almost entirely in black-and-white. Opposing the highly developed techniques of contemporary graphics, McLaughlan's site-specific murals and improvised paintings have been described as 'organic and delicately intuitive', and have appeared on public buildings, riot shields, in doorways, and even on a Rolls Royce.



### Francois Morellet

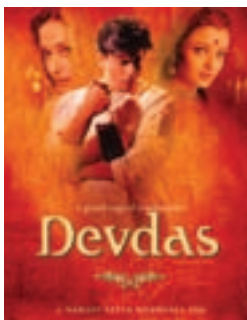
Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, until Sun 14 July

Citing Pacific barkcloth as a formative influence on the development of his distinct type of abstraction, acclaimed French artist Francois Morellet is well known for his ambitious installations, as well as his drawings, paintings and sculptures. Described as having 'a knowing playfulness that appeals both conceptually and aesthetically', this Ikon exhibition features a selection of paintings that complement Tapa: Barkcloth Paintings From The Pacific, and includes a scaled-up replica of a piece created by Morellet fifty years ago.

### Centenary Of Indian Cinema: Poster Exhibition

The Drum, Birmingham, until Sat 29 June

A major element of this summer's citywide Bollywood 100 In Birmingham celebrations, this colourful poster exhibition charts the development of one of the world's most successful film industries. From advertising material through to highly sought-after visual arts prints, the exhibition brings together an array of posters from the last one hundred years. The show includes a copy of a poster for the first ever Bollywood film, Raja Harishchandra, and rare photographic stills and booklets made in the UK to publicise film showings in Birmingham.



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

**DAVID HANCOCK: COS-PLAY** Exploration of the world of youth sub-cultures, until Sat 1 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**A UNIVERSAL ARCHIVE: WILLIAM KENTRIDGE AS PRINTMAKER** Major exhibition featuring one hundred prints in all media dating from 1988 to the present day, until Sun 2 June, mac - Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

**QUAKER TAPESTRY EXHIBITION** Featuring colourful panels of embroidery from the Quaker Tapestry Centre in Kendal, Cumbria, until Wed 5 June, Ironbridge Gorge Museum, Shropshire

**ZED NELSON: LOVE ME** Photographic exhibition which reflects on the cultural and commercial forces that drive the global obsession with youth and beauty, until Sat 8 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery & Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

**JUNE RIDGEWAY RBSA** A collection of burnished ceramics inspired by the patina of age on weathered surfaces, until Sat 8 June, RBSA, Birmingham

**SPRING SHOWCASE** Featuring a selection of specially commissioned homewares, jewellery and textiles, until Sat 8 Jun, Bilston Craft Gallery

**TREASURE ME: WORCESTER'S ART COLLECTION** Celebration of Worcester's magnificent art collection, until Sat 8 June, Worcester City Art Gallery

**THE PERFECTION OF ASPIRATION** Exhibition by Alice Jones, until Sat 8

June, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

**WASTED** Exhibition of work by Gina Czarnecki which explores the life-giving potential of 'discarded' body parts and their relationship to myths, history, cutting-edge stem cell research and notions of what constitutes informed consent, until Sun 9 June, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**MICHAEL SALT ARBSA** A solo show of landscapes and seascapes exploring the atmospheric effects of water, until Sat 22 June, RBSA, Birmingham

**BRUSH STROKES** Exhibition which commemorates the centenary of the death of the painter Alfred East, until Sat 22 June, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery

**STEPHANIE REDFERN RBSA** Painted, collaged and stitched textiles which respond to weather, form, colour & light, until Sat 22 June, RBSA, Birmingham

**KATIE PATERSON: IN ANOTHER TIME** The largest, most comprehensive exhibition from the Glasgow-born artist to date, until Sat 22 June, The Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

**STREET STORIES BY DAVID FINCHETT** An exhibition of urban photography taken in Wolverhampton, until Sat 22 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**ARTISTS' PLANS FOR SUSTAINABILITY** Featured artists include Joseph Beuys, Carole Collet, N55, Nils Norman, Lucy & Jorge Orta and

Marjetica Potrc, until Sat 22 June, Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre

**CREATIVE CONNECTIONS A** showcase of work (jewellery, printmaking and abstract painting) produced by professional artists who recently took part in a course run by the Adult Education Service, until Sat 22 June, Bilston Craft Gallery

**BELLINI, BOTTICELLI, TITAN** Major exhibition comprising forty of Glasgow's greatest Italian paintings - the finest and most comprehensive civic collection in the UK, until Sun 23 June, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

**METROPOLIS** Containing over sixty works by some of the world's most highly acclaimed artists, until Sun 23 June, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**A SMALL HICCUP** A group exhibition featuring eight new commissions reflecting on language, rhetoric and speech, with performance, video, sculpture and digital media, until Sat 29 June, Grand Union, Birmingham

**THE NATURE OF THE BEAST** Exhibition which brings together works by a diverse range of artists, all of whom confront and challenge attitudes to the natural world, until Sun 30 June, New Art Gallery, Walsall

**DRINK AND BE MERRY** Featuring a wide array of drinking vessels from the seventeenth to the twenty-first century, all of which have been carefully selected from the museum's collection, until Sun 30 June, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**OUR CREATURES** Historic exhibition curated by artist Mark Fairington which focuses on portraits of animals, until Sun 30 June, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**BORN TO WORK** An exhibition of Nick Hedges' photographic observation of working life at Bilston Steelworks and other companies between 1976 and 1978, until Sun 30 June, Wolverhampton City Archive

**SUSTAINING THE PERSON WITHIN** Exhibition led by artists Kathryn Pettit & Jan Gay which looks at how the rich experiences of the elderly can be forgotten once they're living in a care home, until Sat 6 July, Solihull Arts Complex

**STAFFORDSHIRE OPEN ART** An annual platform for the county's creative talent to showcase their work in a variety of media, until Sun 7 July, Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford

**CAUGHT IN THE CROSS-FIRE** Exhibition which explores the role of protest art, the aesthetics of violence and machinery of war and the emergence of hope in its aftermath, until Sun 7 July, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**POLYNESIAN TEXTILES** Featuring items drawn from the collection of the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Cambridge, until Sun 14 July, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

**OPEN 2013** Biennial open exhibition featuring selected works by artists based in the West Midlands, until Sun 14 July, Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum

**THIS, THIS MONSTER THIS THINGS** A unique work of art described as 'an exquisite corpse made from objects produced by fifty-one artist friends and acquaintances', until Sun 14 July, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

**DAVID ROWAN: PACHA KUTI TEN** Exploration of the hidden, unknown and often forgotten underground environ-

## Museums & Art Galleries

### Birmingham

ARTIFEX Sutton Coldfield 0121 323 3776

BARBER INSTITUTE 0121 414 7333

BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM & ART GALLERY 0121 303 2834

THE BURROWS GALLERY, THE CUSTARD FACTORY 0121 224 7344

CASTLE GALLERIES 0121 633 0015

IKON GALLERY 0121 248 0708

NUMBER NINE THE GALLERY 0121 643 9099

PURPLE GALLERY 0121 459 0941

RBSA GALLERY 0121 2364353

THREE WHITE WALLS GALLERY 0121 643 0078

### Black Country

BANTOCK HOUSE WOLVERHAMPTON 01902 552195

BILSTON CRAFT GALLERY 01902 552507

BROADFIELD HOUSE GLASS MUSEUM, DUDLEY 01384 812745

DUDLEY MUSEUM & ART GALLERY 01384 815575

LIGHT HOUSE MEDIA CENTRE WOLVERHAMPTON 01902 716055

THE NEW ART GALLERY

WALSALL 01922 654400  
RED HOUSE GLASS CONE 01384 812750

WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY 01902 552055

### Shropshire

BEAR STEPS GALLERY, SHREWSBURY 01743 344994

TWENTY TWENTY GALLERY, MUCH WENLOCK 01952 727952

THE WILLOW GALLERY, OSWESTRY 01691 657575

### Staffordshire

THE POTTERIES MUSEUM &

ART GALLERY 01782 232323

SHIRE HALL GALLERY STAFFORD 01785 278345

STAFFORDSHIRE MUSEUM, SHUGBOROUGH 01889 881388

### Warwickshire

COMPTON VERNEY GALLERY 01926 645500

HERBERT ART GALLERY COVENTRY 02476 832386

MEAD GALLERY WARWICK 02476 524524

ROYAL PUMP ROOMS 01926 742700

### Worcestershire

WORCESTER CITY ART GALLERY 01905 25371

Visit [whatsonlive.co.uk](http://whatsonlive.co.uk) for venue website details

# VisualArts LISTINGS

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

ments that exist beneath Birmingham and the Black Country, until Sun 21 July, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

## ALL LOCKED UP

Exhibition featuring locks and keys from the city's collection, until Sun 11 Aug, Bantock House, Wolverhampton

**ECHOES** Heritage Lottery-funded exhibition which shares the memories of people who worked and lived in Birmingham's Digbeth & Highgate districts during the '60s, '70s and '80s, until Sun 15 Sept, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

## STORYTELLING: ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE WEST MIDLANDS

Craftworks which have been created in response to urban myth and folklore form the basis of this major exhibition, until Sat 24 Aug, Bilston Craft Gallery

**MR WATT: GRUMPY MAN OF METAL** An exhibition by blacksmith artist Jon Mills featuring fun and whimsical sculptures showing the many adventures of Mr Watts,

until Sat 31 Aug, Engineity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

## STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD: DARK AGE DISCOVERY

Featuring more than two hundred pieces from the Anglo-Saxon Hoard, until Sun 1 Sep, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**CRAFTSENSE** Exhibition featuring over one hundred of the world-renowned Bilston enamels, until Sun 1 Sep, Bilston Craft Gallery

## MORRIS THE MAN

Exhibition which takes a look at the early life of the man behind the William Morris car making empire, until Sun 1 Sep, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire

**MEMENTO MORI** A new display which examines changing approaches towards death, burial and commemoration, until Sun 1 Sep, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**ORDINARY/EXTRA/ORDINARY** An exhibition celebrating the vitality, diver-

sity and humour that art can embody, until Sun 29 Sept, The Public, West Bromwich

## GAGWAKA - MAKING STRANGE

Vivan Sundaram's fashion designs formed from recycled materials redefine the boundaries of art and fashion and the relationship between simplicity and excess, until Sun 29 Sep, The Public, West Bromwich

**ARTIST ROOM A** year-long exhibition featuring sculptures, paintings and prints. The display is accompanied by a series of inspired satellite exhibitions, events and activities during the course of the year, until Sat 27 Oct, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

**JACOB EPSTEIN AND DAMIEN HURST** Exhibition of works spanning the two ends of the twentieth century, until Sun 27 Oct, The New Art Gallery, Walsall

## OUTSIDE IN: CENTRAL

Regional arm of a national art programme focusing on marginalised and outsider art, until Sun 15 Dec, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

## MARX-LAMBERT COLLECTION REDISPLAY

Exhibition of works by one of Britain's foremost designers, Enid Marx,

together with more than four hundred items of folk and popular art collected with her lifelong companion, historian Margaret Lambert (1906-95), until Sun 15 Dec, Compton Verney, Warwickshire

**CRAFTSENSE** Featuring over one hundred of the world-renowned Bilston enamels, until Tues 31 Dec, Bilston Craft Gallery

## SENSING SCULPTURE

Featuring new commissions and previously un-displayed works from the Art Gallery's collection, until Tues 31 Dec, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**REGENERATED** The story of the Jewellery Quarter's Smith & Pepper jewellery factory, featuring unique works by Cathy Miles, Rajesh Gogna and Miranda Sharpe, until Sat 11 Jan, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham

## IN STITCHES: A CELEBRATION OF RSC COSTUME

Exhibition which draws on the RSC's rich heritage in creating special-ist costumes for the stage, until Mon 31 Mar 2014, Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

**CONTRASTS** Exhibition by the Lace Guild, Sat 1

June - Sat 27 July, Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge

## WOLVERHAMPTON AND THE NEWCOMEN ENGINE IN 1712

Featuring pictures and documents showing why the Wolverhampton Civic and Historical Society think the Industrial Revolution actually started in Wolverhampton, Sat 1 June - Wed 31 July, Wolverhampton City Archives

## PAULINE BOTTY: POP ARTIST AND WOMAN A

vibrant body of work which celebrates and critiques mass cultural experience, exploring themes of female sexuality, gender, race and politics, Sat 1 June - Sat 16 Nov, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

## A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

Exhibition by Andy Evans, Sun 2 June - Mon 5 Aug, Solihull Arts Complex

**PRIZE** Exhibition which attracts entries from talented artists across the UK, Thurs 6 - Sat 29 June, Royal Birmingham Society of Artists

## SUMMER SHOWCASE

Featuring an array of vibrant, fun and delicate handmade craftwork, Tues 11 June - Sat 31 Aug, Bilston Craft Gallery

**JOHN HAMPTON EXHIBITION** Vibrant works by Wolverhampton artist John Hampton which focus on later works inspired by the artist's garden, Sat 15 June - Sat 13 July, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

## WE WANT YOUR ART

Open day where the region's artists can submit work for mac's The Open Project and be guaranteed a place in one of the venue's five exhibitions over the summer, Sat 29 June, mac, Birmingham

## ANOTHER TIME, ANOTHER PLACE

Exhibition comprising ten themed decorated suitcases, each depicting the oral histories of Black Country World War II evacuees, Sat 29 June - Sat 27 July, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

## BLACK COUNTRY ACCENTS

Showcase of textile art inspired by the history, colours and contrasts within Black Country Heritage, Sat 29 June - Sat 27 July, Bilston Craft Gallery

## CONTEMPORARY ART

Featuring new works acquired through the Art Fund Renew Scheme, Sat 29 June - Sat 5 October, Wolverhampton Art Gallery



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A Birmingham Museums Trust Project

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Images: (left) © Artist's Estate, (centre) Cathy Miles, (right) © Glasgow Museums



**WAVE**

**TIPPING POINT**  
**WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY**

13 MAY - 6 JULY 2013

Responses to global climate change from acclaimed international artists.

Open Mon - Sat, 10am - 5pm (closed Bank Holidays). Free entry  
LICHFIELD STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV1 1DU  
[WWW.WOLVERHAMPTONART.GALLERY](http://WWW.WOLVERHAMPTONART.GALLERY)

**WAVE** ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

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# STAFFORDSHIRE BIKE SHOW

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9am - 5pm

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SPECIAL GUEST:  
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RACING LEGEND

SPECIAL GUEST:  
**LEON HASLAM**  
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# Events



**Reader Offer:**  
Save 15% (quote WT15) [bbcgardenersworldlive.com](http://bbcgardenersworldlive.com)  
or Tel: 0844 5811340

## Gardeners' World Live NEC, Birmingham, Wed 12 - Sun 16 June

With its abundance of exhibitors and horticultural aficionados offering expert advice, the annual BBC Gardeners' World Live show has become a must-attend event for green-fingered enthusiasts. Whether you're a complete novice or an experienced gardener, the five-day show offers plenty of inspirational ideas about how to get the best from your outside retreat. This year celebrating its twenty-first birthday, the event features the RHS Flower Show Birmingham, as well as appearances by a host of well-known gardening celebrities and

designers. Monty Don, Cleve West, Diamuid Gavin and James Alexander-Sinclair are all on hand to give visitors the benefit of their experience in the Gardeners' World Theatre, while new for 2013 is the Kitchen Garden, not only offering top tips on the best way to grow your own but also allowing visitors the chance to follow the process from plot to plate. Some of the BBC's top chefs will then turn the gardeners' spoils into a fine dining menu. Entry to the BBC Good Food Show is included in the ticket price for Gardeners' World Live.

## The Aegon Classic

**Edbaston Priory, Birmingham,  
Sun 9 - Sun 16 June**

Regularly attracting some of the world's top female tennis players, the Aegon Classic is a firm favourite in the British tennis calendar. Formerly known as the DFS Classic, this week-long event provides an opportunity for spectators to enjoy some top quality tennis in a relaxed and intimate setting. This year sees Britain's Laura Robson and Heather Watson battle it out with French number one Marion Bartoli. The tournament starts with a sure-to-be-fun doubles exhibition match, featuring Tim Henman, Heather Watson, Greg Rusedski and a yet-to-be-announced mystery player.



## An Evening On The Home Front

**Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire, Sat 22 June**

A new addition to the Blists Hill calendar, this evening event sees the turn-of-the-century residents of the Victorian town travel four decades into their future, to the 1940s and the height of the Second World War. Visitors are invited to attend dressed in period civilian costume, and everyone will be given a ration card to exchange for an ounce of kali. Keeping in the 1940s spirit, there will also be demonstrations showing how people of the day made the most out of rationing, with delicious spam fritters available to sample. But fear not, the rationing ends there! Freshly cooked fish and chips from the Fried Fish Dealers and beer in the New Inn Public House will be freely available to buy throughout the event. An Evening On The Home Front closes with a concert in the impressive Ironworks.

**3 DAY SHOW!**

# Weston Park International Model Air Show

## 14/15/16<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Weston Park, Weston-Under-Lizard 3 miles off M54 J3, 8 miles off M6 J12

**Full Size Aircraft Displays  
AIR Helicopter Festival!**

- Meq swap meet
- Model aircraft displays, helicopters, jets and scale
- Battle of Britain pyrotechnic displays
- Off road and circuit model car racing
- Swift glider display team
- Boat regatta
- Visiting light aircraft
- Slot Car racing
- Full catering and licensed bars
- Free children's model building workshops

Admission Daily: Adults £11, Children £6, Family ticket £28  
Under 5yrs FREE!! Camping £55 in advance / £60 on the gate inc. admission

stevenshop@blueyonder.co.uk www.westonparkmodelairshow.co.uk  
01952 587298 / 077088 95068 (Steve, show details) 01952 584169 (Peter, trade details)  
ALL ATTRACTIONS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY - Aircraft Design by Alan Whelan

Thursday 13 June, 7pm  
**THE AUDIENCE**

Live screening from the National Theatre. Imagined weekly meetings between the Monarch and her twelve Prime Ministers over the years. Starring Helen Mirren as the Queen  
£15 / £14



Friday 21 June, 7.30pm  
**MID WALES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

Celebrating the bicentenaries of Wagner & Britten, and music by Brahms. Virtuoso players, directed from the violin by Marcia Crayford, ex-leader Nash Ensemble.  
£15



Friday 14 – Sunday 16 June  
**PUPPETRY EXTRAVAGANZA**

Puppetry for adults, young people and children with The Fetch, Pickled Image & Folded Feather theatre companies. Masterclass, workshops, performances and street puppetry. Various ticket prices, £6.50 max, street shows free.



Monday 24 June, 7.15pm  
**GLORIANA**

Royal Opera House live screening. Benjamin Britten's dazzling depiction of the Tudor court and the tensions between Elizabeth I's affairs of state and affairs of the heart.  
£16 / £15



Friday 28 June 7.30pm  
**BLAZIN' FIDDLES**

One of Scotland's top traditional bands. From village halls to the BBC Proms, Blazin' Fiddles has delighted audiences with their highlands and islands tunes and tales for the past 15 years  
Tickets £16 / £15 / £50 group of four.

Sunday 16 June, 12 noon – 6pm  
**SECRET GARDENS OF LUDLOW**

A dozen beautiful eclectic gardens hidden behind the magnificent houses of Ludlow's Georgian centre. Horticultural gems, unfamiliar views, many horticultural items for sale.  
£6.50



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# What's on this Half Term

World class museums at the cultural heart of Birmingham

**Birmingham MUSEUMS**

**Family Craft Workshop**  
Wed 29 May & Fri 31 May, 1pm - 3pm  
Create something amazing to take home with the help of a real artist.  
£3, please book.  
0121 303 1666

**Horrible at the Hall**  
Sun 26 May, 12pm - 4pm  
Discover some of the more ghastly aspects of Aston Hall, hold unusual animals and hear gory stories!  
£2, drop in.  
0121 202 2222

**Big Brum Buz**  
Sun 2 June  
Enjoy a guided open-top bus tour to Blakesley Hall and Sarehole Mill. First bus 11.30 from Victoria Square.  
£3 adults, children free.  
0121 427 2555

**Blakesley Hall**

**Sarehole Mill**

Take part in family activities happening across Birmingham Museums this Half Term, see the website for details.  
[www.birminghammuseums.org.uk](http://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk)

All events are subject to availability and subject to change.

Birmingham City Council | ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND | LOTTERY FUNDS



## Coventry Cycle Festival

Broadgate, Coventry, Sat 15 June

Making its debut at Coventry's new event space in Broadgate, this year's Cycle Festival promises a full day's-worth of 'pedal-powered' activities for cycling enthusiasts and novices alike. Activities include spectacular mountain-bike stunt shows, lots of opportunities for people of all ages to get hands-on with a wide range of cycles, and the chance to have a go at high-speed roller-racing. There are plenty of activities for children to enjoy, too.

Encouraging non-cyclists to get involved, organiser Steve Bagley says of the event: "Whether or not you own a bicycle, there'll be lots for you to have a go at. If you've never ridden a bike before, there couldn't be a better time to give it a try!"



## Ellesmere Food And Drink Festival

Ellesmere, North Shropshire, Sat 15 - Sun 16 June

With The Simpsons providing the theme for 2013, and with visitors invited to dress as their favourite character, this year's Ellesmere Food And Drink Festival promises to be the biggest and best yet. Showcasing a wide range of culinary delights from the region's top producers, suppliers and restaurants, this annual event also features an array of foods from further afield, including Spain, India and Poland, as well as unusual delicacies like Dragon Eggs.



## Dragonboat Festival

Brindleyplace, Birmingham, Sat 22 June

Returning for its fourteenth year, this annual fundraising event sees members of the city's business community compete for first place on Birmingham's Fazeley Canal. The one-day event features teams of twelve rowers (and one drummer) taking to the water in traditional forty-foot-long boats, and also boasts plenty of entertainment away from the canal,



## Cholmondeley Pageant Of Power

Cholmondeley Castle, Malpas, Cheshire, Fri 14 - Sun 16 June

Described as the UK's biggest celebration of power and speed, the Cholmondeley Pageant Of Power promises 'high-octane, high-decibel attractions to thrill diehard petrolheads as well as families looking for an unbeatable fun-packed day out'. Impressive features on land, water and in the air include more than one hundred-and-twenty valuable cars and bikes competing on track, as well as flyboarding, hovercraft races, aerobatic displays, Autocar Supercar Paddock and a trade village with a lifestyle pavilion. Returning to the pageant after a four-year absence is the Kangaroo Kid, who'll provide a running commentary as he showcases a series of stunts around the arena. Nick Garrett and the Manchester Camerata Orchestra bring Saturday's proceedings to a close with a fireworks concert that takes the theme of Planes, Trains And Automobiles.

with Brindleyplace's public squares being brought to life by traditional Chinese lion dancers, craft sellers, musicians and street entertainers.



## Medieval Weekend

Forge Mill Needle Museum, Redditch, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June

Experience life in medieval Britain courtesy of this two-day living history event. An abundance of themed activities are available throughout the weekend, including a knight's encampment, the drill and arming of military men, cooking and craft demonstrations and medieval music.



## International Model Airshow

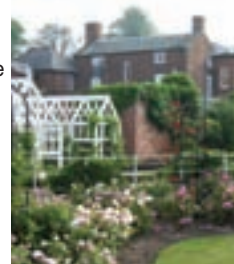
Weston Park, Staffordshire, Fri 14 - Sun 16 June

The International Model Airshow brings together some of the country's top model aircraft pilots to demonstrate their skills. Set in the beautiful grounds of fifteenth century Weston Park, this three-day event sees the return of the Swift glider display team, a Battle of Britain pyrotechnic display and air/Helifest RC helicopter flights. Off-runway entertainment includes displays of military vehicles, classic and vintage cars, a children's funfair, model car racing, a massive boat regatta, slot car racing and numerous hands-on activities for children.

## Vintage Garden Party

Bantock House, Wolverhampton, Sat 29 June

The beautiful grounds of historic Bantock House provide a perfect setting for this celebration of all things vintage. In addition to thirty stalls selling clothing, accessories and homewares, the event also features a children's game corner and live entertainment. Keeping in the vintage spirit, The Friends of Bantock House will make an appearance in the afternoon, dressed in the style of the Lyons waitresses of the 1930s and '40s, to serve strawberry teas in the Coach House Performance Space.





## shire hall gallery

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

The Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford, is hosting 'handmade', a contemporary Art and Craft Fair on Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd November 2013.

If you are an artist or designer/maker and would like an application form, please email [handmade@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:handmade@staffordshire.gov.uk)

Deadline for returning applications is 5pm Saturday 29th June.



Shire Hall Gallery, Market Square, Stafford, ST16 2LD [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/hag](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/hag) 01785 278345

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Birmingham  
MUSEUMS

## Birmingham Rep Audio Walk

Sarehole Mill, Birmingham, Sun 16 June

This is the first of the Birmingham Repertory Theatre's new audio guided walks around Moseley Bog. The project has been inspired not only by the people who regularly wander through the area but also by the life of JRR Tolkien, who played there as a child. Starting at Sarehole Mill, the experience includes the chance to bug hunt, create a magic wand, build a den, sample a writing workshop, investigate pond wildlife, and enjoy free performances specially created for the day.



## Uttoxeter Food And Drink Festival

Uttoxeter Racecourse, Stafford, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June

Returning for a second year, this celebration of Staffordshire's culinary delights promises a great day out for foodies. In addition to offerings from an array of exhibitors - including Old School Wines, Denstone Farm Shop, Snowdonia Cheese and Hoggie Hoggie Hog Roast - this year's festival plays host to some mouthwatering demonstrations by some of the best chefs in Staffordshire. These, together with a showcase from Young Masterchef finalists, take place in the show's new cookery demonstration theatre.



## Back With Mods Scooter Festival

Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton, Fri 14 - Sun 16 June

A Mod's two biggest passions - music and scooters - here come together in three full-on days of themed entertainment. As well as providing a meeting place for many of the country's top scooter clubs, Santa Pod offers enthusiasts the chance to test their prize possessions on the site's dragstrip, compete in a Show'n'Shine event, and take part in an eight-mile ride-out to Grendon Lakes (on the Sunday). And, in addition to the usual selection of funfair rides and amusements, the fes-



## Cosford Air Show

RAF Cosford, Wolverhampton, Sun 9 June

This Midlands' premier annual air event is celebrating its seventy-fifth birthday in style this month. Along with a programme of non-stop airborne entertainment (high-speed military jets and aerobatic performers), there's plenty of on-the-ground entertainment to enjoy too, including a funfair, static aircraft displays, military exhibitions, a craft fair and, of course, the famous RAF museum itself.



tival also boasts some impressive acts across its multiple music zones, including The Selector, Neville Staple of The Specials and Bad Manners.

## Alice Day

Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry, Sat 22 June

Running alongside the Herbert's new exhibition, Looking In Wonderland, this one-day event invites visitors to dress in themed fancy dress and take part in a variety of drop-in activities, including Alice-inspired art. Other features during the day include a Mad Hatter's Tea Party and a fun trail linked to the exhibition.

## Classic Car And Transport Show

Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent, Sun 16 June

Each year more than five thousand visitors attend this popular show, which has featured on the Trentham Gardens events calendar for the past twenty-four years. The site's parkland provides a perfect setting for enthusiasts to peruse over one thousand vintage and classic vehicles, fifty-five club stands, an autojumble and trade stands. Over in the show's main arena, entertainment comes in the form of the Piston Rings Motorcycle Display Team. A great way to give your dad a Father's Day treat.



## Big Brum Buz Tours

Birmingham City Centre, weekends only, from April to September

What better way to explore the UK's second city than via a guided bus tour? Made available by Birmingham tours, the open-topped bus takes regular weekend excursions through and around the city between April and September. Special tours are also available at intervals throughout the season. This month sees the Big Brum Buz visiting two heritage sites within one tour - exploring the Tudors at Blakesley Hall and the world of JRR Tolkien at Sarehole Mill (2 June). For full information regarding times and prices, visit [www.birmingham-tours.co.uk](http://www.birmingham-tours.co.uk)



## Step Back To The 1940s

Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster, Sat 29 - Sun 30 June

This month sees the award-winning Severn Valley Railway return to the past by taking a lighthearted journey back to wartime Britain. A popular annual event on the Severn Valley calendar, this living history weekend features historic vehicle displays and costumed re-enactors. Saturday evening entertainment 1940s-style is provided by Andrew Sisters tribute band The Three Bells and musical trio The Bevan Boys. Dicky Lines completes the line-up as impersonator and compere.

**Truck & Driver**

# TRUCKFEST

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Friendly & fun, a family VW bus event for all types

# Camper Jam '13

5-7 July 2013  
Weston Park, Shropshire

Are you ready for another fantastic weekend?

This summer heralds our sixth ever Camper Jam! Our show is all about family fun, fantastic entertainment and relaxation in a wonderful parkland setting. Here is a glimpse of what's in store for all you Camper Jammers this summer!

Our all important theme this year is "Starstruck", so start planning your fancy dress and we'll see you there!

Friday night is our **WHERE'S WALLY? Party night!**

Saturday night's fancy dress is **Starstruck**  
Your chance to live a night as your ideal!

**CAMPING TICKETS ARE PRE-BOOK ONLY**  
**ONCE THEY'RE GONE...THEY'RE GONE!**  
**DON'T MISS OUT!**

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Order your tickets today call 01244 881895 ext 523  
[www.camperjam.com](http://www.camperjam.com)

# SUMMER

at Coventry Transport Museum

[www.transport-museum.com](http://www.transport-museum.com)

Spend quality family time at Coventry Transport Museum this Summer - there's loads to enjoy:

Daily until Sun 16th June  
**999 Emergency Vehicles Exhibition**  
Your best chance to see this unique display of life-saving vehicles from through the ages

Sat 25th May to Sun 2nd June  
**Whitsun Half Term Activities**  
999-themed crafts and activities for kids throughout the school holidays

Sat 15th June  
**Coventry Cycling Festival**  
FREE pedal-powered fun for all the family in Broadgate - including awesome mountain bike stunt displays




# Events LISTINGS

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

from  
**SAT 1 JUN**

## WHITSUN ACTIVITIES

Featuring a host of children's entertainers, until Sun 2 June, Cadbury World, Birmingham

## PIRATES! AN ADVENTURE WITH SCIENTISTS EXHIBITION

A swashbuckling adventure awaits visitors to Birmingham's science museum this summer, as characters and sets from the Sony Pictures Animation and Aardman Animations Award-nominated blockbuster *The Pirates!* are brought to life, until end September, Thinktank, Birmingham

## EXCALIBUR COMPUTER FAIR

Packed with computer goods at trade prices. Open every Saturday, until Sat 28 December, National Motorcycle Museum

## A VICTORIAN WASHDAY

Living history event where visitors can have a go at filling the copper, beating the dolly or working the mangle, Sat 1 June, Birmingham Back to Backs

## LAVENDER MONTHS

See Blakesley's spectacular lavender at its best and discover uses of lavender through the ages. Garden trail, lavender-themed treats and gifts to purchase, Sat 1 - Sun 30 June, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

## FLOAT A BOAT

Design and make a sailing boat, then test it on the Ingenuity pool. Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Ingenuity, Ironbridge, Shropshire

## KINGS AND QUEENS TRAIL

Find the hidden clues in the grounds to reveal the royal connection, Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Kenilworth Castle

## SPRINGTIME FAMILY FUN TRAIL

Track down all the clues hidden around the grounds, solve the riddle and claim your chocolate prize! Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Witley Court, Worcestershire

## SPRINGTIME FAMILY FUN TRAIL

Track down all the clues hidden around the grounds, solve the riddle and claim your chocolate prize! Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Stokesay Castle, Shropshire

## MONSTER TRAIL

Who knows what's lurking

inside the buildings at Avoncroft? Follow the Monster Trail and discover for yourself Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

## SHAKESPEARE NOW

Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Nash's House & New Place, Stratford-upon-Avon

## HOLIDAY TRAILS

Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Attingham Park, Shropshire

## BUTTERFLY TRAIL

Follow the colourful trail for the Whitsun holidays, Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Stratford-upon-Avon

## MID SHROPSHIRE ANNUAL CHARITY VINTAGE VEHICLE RALLY

Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, West Mid Showground, Shrewsbury

## HALF TERM TREASURE HUNT

Follow the clues around the park to solve the latest Follies quest, Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Hawkstone Park & Follies, Shropshire

## CRAFT FAIR

Sale of work by local makers, including pottery, fabrics & jewellery, Sat 1 June, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

## RUN WHAT YA BRUNG

A chance to take your car or motorcycle out on the famous quarter-mile dragstrip and test its performance limits in a safe and legal environment, Sat 1 June, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

## THE EXTREME STUNT SHOW

Featuring monster truck mayhem and back-flipping motocross, Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Becketts Farm, Alcester Rd, Birmingham

## MILL 'IN STEAM' ETRURIA CANALS FESTIVAL

Experience the sights and sounds of Victorian engineering in the heart of the Potteries, Sat 1 - Sun 2 June, Etruria Industrial Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

## CLASSIC FORD SHOW

Old school modding and classic style festival with massive auto jumble, club displays, blue oval traders and competitions, Sun 2 June, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

## CORONATION COURTYARD PARTY

Sat 2 June, Emma Bridgewater Factory, Stoke-on-Trent

## MG CAR RALLY

Sun 2 June, Cotswold Wildlife Park

Week Commencing  
**MON 3 JUN**

## MURDER MYSTERY

### AFTERNOON

Become a roving detective and try to solve the mystery of Sunnycroft, Tues 4 - Wed 5 June, Sunnycroft, Wellington, Shropshire

## BUCKET, CHUCK IT OR FLUSH IT!

A teatime talk on the history of the toilet by David Eveleigh, Director of Collections, Learning and Research, Black Country Living Museum, Wed 5 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

## POETRY CAFE

Take along your own poems to read and discuss in convivial company, Wed 5 June, Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Shropshire

## WHAT IS IT?

Free expert advice on the identification and care of your objects, including ceramics, art, and local and natural history, Wed 5 June, Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

## CHURCH STRETTON WALKING FESTIVAL

A variety of walks for people at all levels and abilities, 6 - Sun 9 June, various locations around Church Stretton, South Shropshire

## ON THE COUCH WITH DANIEL BYE

A free informal interview in the Theatre Bar, Fri 7 June, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

## RAG RUG WORKSHOP

Fri 7 June, Birmingham Back to Backs

## ED SMITH - BROMSGROVE WORDS

Fri 7 June, Artrix, Bromsgrove

## BELLE VUE ARTS FESTIVAL

Fri 7 - Sun 23 June, various locations, Shrewsbury

## ENAMELLING: HERITAGE SKILLS COURSE

Workshop facilitated by artist Carol Griffin where participants can learn about a variety of enamelling techniques. Pre-booking essential! Sat 8 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

## MOSAICS WORKSHOP

Indulge in the art of creating beautiful images using small pieces of coloured glass and ceramic tiles, Sat 8 June, The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

## SHREWSBURY BIKEFEST

Free family fun day featuring bling your bike workshops, a one-man cycling circus, face painting and cycle skills training, Sat 8 June, Shrewsbury Sports Village

## RUN WHAT YA BRUNG A



Pirates! In An Adventure With Pirates Exhibition at Thinktank, Birmingham

chance to take your car or motorcycle out on the famous quarter-mile dragstrip and test its performance limits in a safe and legal environment, Sat 8 June, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

## ROMAN GATHERING

This special re-enactment event features living history scenes of Roman life, crafts, gladiator contests and artillery demonstrations, Sat 8 June, Lunt Roman Fort, Coventry

## WENLOCK OLYMPIAN LIVE ARTS CELEBRATION

Sat 8 June, Holy Trinity Church, Much Wenlock, South Shropshire

## MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

An evening of tongue-in-cheek suspense and drama which sees the murder-mystery unfold with each course, Sat 8 June, Shugborough Historic Working Estate, Stafford

## NEWPORT CARNIVAL

Sat 8 June, High Street, Newport, Shropshire

## SUMMER CRAFT FAIR

Sat 8 - Sun 9 June, Dorothy Clive Garden, Market Drayton, Shropshire

## CLASSIC & VINTAGE COMMERCIAL SHOW

Largest commercial show in Europe, Sat 8 - Sun 9 June, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire

## SIXTIES WEEKEND

Sat 8 - Sun 9 June, Avoncroft, Bromsgrove

## PERFORMANCE VAUXHALL SHOW

Total Vauxhall Magazine goes live! New, old, modified, road, rally, and race Vauxhalls get together with trade, clubs and auto jumble for the ultimate Vauxhall show of the summer, Sun 9 June, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

## RAF COSFORD AIR SHOW

The Midlands premier air event, with displays

from a variety of aircraft plus hundreds of exhibits, stalls, trade stands, military demonstrations and children's entertainment, Sun 9 June, RAF Cosford, Wolverhampton

## VINTAGE FAIR & CLASSIC CAR DAY

Browse around stalls of collectables in the Guesten Hall. Owners of 1960s cars will be given free entry for their car and driver on the day, Sun 9 June, Avoncroft, Bromsgrove

## UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS: BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR

Take a look at parts of the house not normally open to the public, including the Servants' Hall, Steward's Room, Middle Drawing Room, Boudoir, the Family Staircase, the newly restored Victorian Orangery, Music Room and some of the site's twenty-eight bedrooms, Sun 9 June, Weston Park, Staffordshire

## MG OC - RATAE ROAD RUN

Featuring up to one hundred classic MGs, on display in Millennium Place, Sun 9 June, Coventry Transport Museum

## ME AND MY WORLD

Family-friendly artistic workshop led by Maggie Kitching RBSA, Sun 9 June, RBSA, Birmingham

## SHREWSBURY RIVER FESTIVAL

Family fun day, with this year's theme being Pirates On The Severn, Sun 9 June, The Quarry Park, Shrewsbury

Week Commencing  
**MON 10 JUN**

## FILM & TV QUIZ

Put your film knowledge to the test with the Lighthouse's monthly quiz. Plenty of prizes to be won! Mon 10 June,

Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

## AN INTRODUCTION TO CERAMICS

A course which concentrates on the domestic ware typically used in 19th and early-20th century homes in the Black Country, providing an overview of the key manufacturers in the Midlands, Tue 11 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE HOUSEKEEPERS

Tues 11 June, Wightwick Manor, Nr Wolverhampton

## KNIT-NIGHT AT LOCKWORKS

Evening of knitting, crochet & chat, Tue 11 June, Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton

## STEPPING OUT OF THE PAGE TALK

A teatime talk which uses Kay's Catalogues to re-create a 3D historical setting. Facilitated by Clare Weston, Curator - Domestic & Cultural Life, Black Country Living Museum, Wed 12 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

## BBC GARDENERS' WORLD LIVE

Featuring Monty Don, Diarmuid Gavin, Cleve West & James Alexander-Sinclair, Wed 12 - Sun 16 June, NEC, Birmingham

## BBC GOOD FOOD SHOW

Wed 12 - Sun 16 June, NEC, Birmingham

## BUMPS, BABIES AND BREASTFEEDING BONANZA

Featuring live music, singing, information stands, presentations & activities aimed at pregnant women, new mothers, families with children, and health professionals, Thurs 13 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

## WARWICK WORDS

Festival of literature & spoken word, Thurs 13 - Sun 16 June, various locations around Warwick

## TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

**24th This Fathers Day**  
**CLASSIC CAR & TRANSPORT SHOW**  
**TRENTHAM GARDENS**  
**SUNDAY 16th JUNE**



Opens: 10am till 5pm  
**FREE PARKING!**

Admission:  
 ADULTS £12.00  
 OAPs £11.00  
 CHILDREN £7.50  
 \*Pre-booking Discount Tickets CALL: 01782 646 646

**Over 1000 Vintage & Classic Vehicles, Commercials, Motorcycles, Autojumble/Tradestands, as well as 50 Car Clubs.**

**MAIN ARENA Featuring: "Piston Rings Motorcycle Display Team" Plus all of Trenthams superb attractions and more.....**

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The Trentham Estate

**BIRMINGHAM TOURS**  
 EVERY WEEKEND From end of April to end of September  
 Except for the first Sunday of the month from May to October

**DAYS OUT IN BIRMINGHAM**



Special Family Ticket £20  
 2 adults and up to 3 children aged 5-15 years

**MEETING POINT:**  
 corner of Colmore Row & Waterloo Street, Victoria Square

**TOUR TIMES:**  
 10.30am, 12.30pm & 2.30pm

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 0121 427 2555 / 07805 115 998  
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BIRMINGHAM BUS TOURS 2013  
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**Stafford Bingley Hall**

**QUALITY 3 DAY ANTIQUES FAIRS**  
 At the County Showground,  
 Stafford ST1 8 OBD on A518, 5 mins J14, M6  
 Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays  
**21st / 22nd / 23rd June 2013**  
 10am-5pm each day Ample free parking  
 Up to 400 STANDS INCLUDING ART, FURNITURE, CERAMICS, GLASS, CLOCKS, FASHION, SILVER & JEWELLERY.

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 Web: [www.antiquesfairs.com](http://www.antiquesfairs.com)

**Broadfield House Glass Museum**  
 Compton Drive, Kingswinford DY6 9NS  
 Tel: 01384 812745

**PAPERWEIGHT DAY**  
 SUNDAY 16 JUNE: **FREE**  
 10am to 4pm

Join us for this fun day, plenty for novices and collectors alike. With paperweight making demos, specialist dealers and an identification service. Our biggest Paperweight event yet!



**YSART EXHIBITION: ONE DAY ONLY!**  
 SUNDAY 16 JUNE: 10am to 4pm

For the first time ever, the Paperweight Collector's Circle is putting on a one-day exhibition to compliment our Paperweight Day. Featuring work by the Ysart Family and a dedicated display of their famous Monart glass designs.



**Red House Glass Cone**  
 High Street, Wordsley DY8 4AZ  
 Tel: 01384 812750

**CONTRASTS : THE LACE GUILD**  
 1 JUNE - 27 JULY

A chance to see 21st century lace from skilled makers across the globe, on the theme of contrasts. This intricate and detailed textile craft will include traditional lace and original designs in categories including 3D, mounted fans and bangles, bracelets, buttons and brooches.



**1940'S WEEKEND** **FREE**  
 SATURDAY 13 & SUNDAY 14 JULY:  
 10am - 4pm  
 Join us for a day of 1940s glamour with costumed re-enactors and vintage vehicles



**Juniors at Museums**

Visit the website for a full programme.  
 Tel 01384 815571 to book.

**STICKY SATURDAYS** **FREE**

Saturday 1 June:  
 1.30pm - 3.30pm @ Broadfield  
 Saturday 15 June:  
 1pm - 3.30pm @ Cone  
 Come along and have fun and we tidy up!

**ADULT CRAFT CLASSES**

@ BROADFIELD **£5.25**  
 14 June: Rag Rugging, 10.30am - 12.30pm  
 21 June: Quilling: 10.30am - 1pm

@ THE CONE  
 29 June: Kiln fused jewellery, 10.30 - 12.30 **£21**  
 29 June: Kiln fused art - coasters and wall hangings, 1.30 - 3.30 **£25**

**YOUTH CRAFT CLUB**  
 @ BROADFIELD  
 15 June: 1.30 - 3.30  
 Quilling beasts - leave your child with us in our new craft workshop and have fun with a new craft each month. **Ages 8 - 14 £5.25**

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 Dudley  
 Metropolitan Borough Council

ADMISSION FREE [www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do)

# Events LISTINGS

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

Family fun & games in the cottage gardens, Fri 14 June, Izaak Walton's Cottage, Stafford

**BACK WITH MODS SCOOTER RALLY AND MOD FESTIVAL** Fri 14 - Sun 16 June, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**INTERNATIONAL MODEL AIR SHOW** Fri 14 - Sun 16 June, Weston Park, Staffordshire

**CHOLMONDELEY PAGEANT OF POWER** Fri 14 - Sun 16 June, Cholmondeley Castle, Malpas, Cheshire

**GLASS ENGRAVING COURSE** One-day workshop where participants learn the basics of hand-engraved glass. Pre-book only! Sat 15 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**JOHN GRAYSON MAKING LIVE: AUTOMATA DEMONSTRATION** Watch local metalsmith and automata-maker John Grayson create a new mechanical artwork inspired by a tale from the Storytelling: Once

Upon A Time in the Midlands exhibition, Sat 15 June, Bilston Craft Gallery

**WELLESBOURNE ON WHEELS** View a collection of old, new and retro bikes, including Bill Chedham's very own bike. Part of National Bicycle Week, Sat 15 June, Chedham's Yard, Warwickshire

**MEDIEVAL DANCING** Try out your dance skills and have fun dressing in medieval costume, Sat 15 June, Greyfriars House, Worcester

**BASKET WEAVING WORKSHOP** Sat 15 June, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Shrewsbury

**SEWING SEEDS FOR CHANGE** An inspiring creative day of making change happen, led by the Craftivist Collective, Sat 15 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**MEET THE HORSES** Find out more about the town's horses, chat to their keepers and enjoy shoeing and grooming

demonstrations, Sat 15 June, Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**SHREWSBURY CARNIVAL & SHOW** Parade through Shrewsbury town centre, followed by family fun in the town's Quarry Park, Sat 15 June, Shrewsbury

**CELEBRATING SANCTUARY** Birmingham launch event for the Celebrating Sanctuary World Music Festival, featuring a day of live music, children's entertainment and art activities, Sat 15 June, mac - Midlands Arts Centre

**PLEIN-AIR PAINTING WORKSHOP** Artist Brian Steventon facilitates a plein-air sketching /painting workshop suitable for all abilities, Sat 15 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**VINTAGE MOTOR CYCLE CLUB BANBURY RUN** The world's largest gathering of pre-1931 motorcycles & three wheelers, Sat 15 - Sun 16 June, Heritage Motor Centre, Banbury

**NEWCOMEN ENGINE** The only full-sized working replica of the world's first steam engine billows into life!, Sat 15 - Sun 16 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**ENGLISH CIVIL WAR SOCIETY FATHER'S DAY EVENT** Sat 15 - Sun 16 June, Avoncroft, Bromsgrove

**VINTAGE VEHICLE & CRAFT SHOW** Sat 15 - Sun 16 June, Oswestry Showground, North Shropshire

**FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS** Treat your dad to a trip back in time on a vintage tram, see the vintage cars and bikes on display, and then kit him out with a new flat cap or outfit at Morralls', the 1930s Gentlemen's Outfitters, Sun 16 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**FALCONRY DAY** Free event which sees falcons, hawks & owls take to the air, Sun 16 June, Blakesley Hall, Birmingham

**FATHER'S DAY STEEPLECHASE** Sheep & goat racing followed by a dad's egg & spoon race, Sun 16 June, Hoo Farm Animal Kingdom, Telford, Shropshire

**RACE FOR LIFE, WORCESTER** This year the race route will go around The Hive's footpaths, making the venue a great place to cheer on all the participants, Sun 16 June, The Hive, Worcester

**LAUNCH OF BIRMINGHAM REP AUDIO WALK** Sun 16 June, Sarehole Mill, Birmingham

**A STITCH IN TIME** A display of embroidery inspired by the Staffordshire Hoard, Sun 16 June, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent

**FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS** Featuring have-a-go archery, wood sculpting & Feather Perfect Hawk Display, Sun 16 June, Hawkstone Park & Follies, North Shropshire

**YSART** One-day event organised by the Paperweight Society which features items on loan from many of its members, Sun 16 June, Broadfield House Glass Museum, Stourbridge

**WINDY ACTIVITIES** Learn how to design and make a kite and where to fly it safely, Sun 16 June, Forge Mill Needle Museum, Redditch

**ANTIQUE FAIR** Sun 16 June, Centennial Centre, Birmingham

**24TH CLASSIC CAR & TRANSPORT SHOW** Sun 16 June, Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent

**FATHER'S DAY FALCONRY** Find out more about birds of prey with

Worcestershire falconry expert Trevor Hill, Sun 16 June, Hanbury Hall & Gardens, Worcestershire

**GAMEKEEPERS OF THE PAST** Learn about a day in the life of a falconer, ferreter or archer, and meet the people who uphold these ancient skills, Sun 16 June, Dudmaston Estate, Bridgnorth

Week Commencing **MON 17 JUN**

**HERBERT ILLUMINATION: STORYTELLING FROM THE CROSSFIRE** Tues 18 June, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**ETHICS IN CONVERSATION COURSE** A one-day course with Robert Child which looks at the aims of conservation and preserving the integrity of an object without changing it too much. Pre-book only. Wed 19 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**DRIFT WHAT YA BRUNG** A chance to learn or practise drifting in safe and legal conditions on some of the Pod's thirty acres of open tarmac, Wed 19 June, Santa

# 'BLITZ HILL'

An Evening on the Home Front  
Blists Hill VICTORIAN TOWN



**Saturday 22 June 2013**  
6pm - 9pm

Come along dressed in civilian period costume to a family friendly 1940s themed evening event.

- Concert in the style of the BBC Worker's Playtime Show.
- Exchange your ration coupon for a bag of kaffi.
- See hot iron being poured in the Foundry.
- Enjoy 1940s music, vintage vehicles and engines in steam.

**40 YEARS**  
1973-2013

**ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY**  
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Tickets in advance only from any of the Ironbridge Gorge Museums.

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## GREAT FAMILY FUN!

Shropshire **SUMMER SHOW**

**Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th July 2013**

**SHREWSBURY SHOWGROUND**  
Berwick Road  
Shrewsbury SY1 2PF

**KIDS GO FREE!**

**AEROBATIC DISPLAY**



MEET CORONATION STREET HEARTTHROB **JASON GRIMSHAW**  
*actor Egon Trenchard's (Scully) only!*



**ZERO GRAVITY**  
*freestyle track bike display*

TRADE STANDS • CRAFT FAIR • TRADITIONAL FUNFAIR • BOAT TRIPS



**THE MIGHTY SMITH**



**OWL AGILITY DISPLAY**

**ADMISSION Adults £6**  
*\*Accompanied children under 16 FREE!*

Gates open 9am - 5pm  
Car parking **FREE**

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SHROPSHIRE SUMMER SHOW CLOSÉS AT 5PM. SEPARATE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE REQUIRED FOR EVENING ENTERTAINMENT. EVENT DEVELOPERS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ALTER OR CANCEL ANY PUBLISHED ATTRACTION DUE TO REASONS BEYOND THEIR CONTROL.

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Wales'  
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**BASC**



# WALES

## Game & Country Fair



A  
fun-packed  
family day  
out in the  
country!

### What's On...

#### An action-packed weekend...

- :: Continuous Arena Events
- :: Falconry Displays
- :: Get up-close and hands-on at the Countryside Mini-Arena
- :: Gundog Demonstrations by Mullenscote Gundogs
- :: Craft Fair
- :: Ferret Displays
- :: Talks & Displays by famous countryman Chris Green
- :: Stickdressing (Show Sunday)
- :: Hounds Display and Parades
- :: Licensed Bars & Catering

#### Come and Have-A-Go at...

- :: BASC Gundog Events
- :: Terrier & Lurcher Shows (Sunday)
- :: Ferret Shows (Sunday)
- :: Muzzle Loading & Shooting
- :: Archery
- :: BASC Shotgun Coaching
- :: Sporting Clay Shoot
- :: Airgunning
- :: Free Flycasting Tuition with Derek Turner (AAPGAI)
- :: Children's amusements, & Adventure Play Park!

...plus much more!

**Sat 22 & Sun 23 June**

**BODELWYDDAN  
CASTLE** NEAR ST ASAPH,  
DENBIGHSHIRE  
**NORTH WALES**

**SAT NAV INFO:**  
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Adults £10, Children £4, Under 5's FREE! Starts 10am-6pm. Dogs on leads welcome. FREE CAR PARKING

Enquiries: 01588 672708 or visit [www.countryfairs.info](http://www.countryfairs.info)

All information correct at time of going to press. The organisers reserve the right to change any of the above due to unforeseen circumstances.



# Events LISTINGS

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

Pod Raceway, Northampton

**STORYTELLING CAFE: BARBECUED HUSBANDS - ANA MARIA LINES** Wed 19 June, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham

**THE ORIGINAL DUDLEY GHOST TOUR** A tour which starts and finishes in the Station Hotel, at the bottom of Castle Hill. It then takes in various sites around the town, including Dudley Castle, Wed 19 June, Dudley

**VALUATION DAY: FINE ART & ANTIQUES** Thurs 20 June, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

**PEAK PERFORMANCE TEST & TUNE DAY RWYB** with maximum track time and fully prepped track for serious enthusiasts, Fri 21 June, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**SUMMER SOLSTICE PARTY** Featuring live music, Fri 21 June, Biddulph Grange Garden, Staffordshire

**SAVOIR FAYRE** Speciality French market, Fri 21 June, The Square, Shrewsbury

**LUDLOW ARTS FESTIVAL** Brand new festival featuring an eclectic array of performers, Fri 21 - Sun 30 June. Various venues in and around Ludlow, South Shropshire.

**CANAL CRAFTS COURSE** Join Julie Tonkin as she demonstrates a range of different traditional canal crafts, including spider web embroidery, crochet and the making of twisted pearl necklaces, Sat 22 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**KINO 10** A filmic journey through various cities around the world via a selection of short films, Sat 22 June, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

**THE DRUM OPEN DAY** Free day of fun and entertainment featuring performances, workshops, music, stalls, competitions and much more... Sat 22 June, The Drum, Birmingham

**LUNAZA FAMILY FESTIVAL** Featuring medieval re-enactment from The House of the Black Star, the Grinshill Dog Show, belly dancers, craft stalls, and a PA from former 'King of the Jungle' Joe Swash, Sat 22 June, West Mid Showground,

Shrewsbury

**LE TOUR DE LUDLOW** Free family bike ride with bee fancy dress theme, Sat 22 June, Castle Square, Ludlow

**ANIMAL MAN & HIS MINI ZOO** A partnership with the University of Wolverhampton's SciFest, Sat 22 June, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**SUMMER NATIONALS DRAG RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS** Including MSA 200mph Pro Mods, drag bikes, Jet Car plus nostalgia classes, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE** Join the household servants as they set about their work in a fun-filled day for all the family, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June, Tamworth Castle

**THE CLASSIC CORVETTE CLUB UK** Featuring up to thirty on-display Corvettes, Sat 22 June, Coventry Transport Museum

**DRAGONBOAT FESTIVAL** Sat 22 June, Brindley Place, Birmingham

**AN EVENING ON THE HOME FRONT** Themed event which invites visitors to travel back in time to the 1940s and WWII, Sat 22 June, Blists Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire

**EATING IN WONDERLAND** Sat 22 June, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

**BENEATH THE SURFACE** Workshop exploring why British Asian gay lives are so hidden in society. The results of the workshop will inform the development of a new touring theatre production inspired by British Asian gay lives, Sat 22 June, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

**LIVING HISTORY WEEKEND** Step back in time and observe the Friends of the Black Country Living Museum as they forgo all modern-day comforts, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**REZZED** A video games event celebrating the best that PC and indie gaming has to offer, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June, NEC, Birmingham

**MEDIEVAL WEEKEND** Sat 22 - Sun 23 June, Forge Mill Needle Museum, Redditch

**MINIATURE RAILWAY GALA WEEKEND**

Featuring a number of visiting engines, a host of static displays to inspire you, an interesting range of stalls and trade stands, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June, Foxfield Railway, Stoke-on-Trent

**ELIZABETHAN GARDEN PARTY** Discover what life was like four hundred years ago as you wander around Kenilworth's stunning Elizabethan garden, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June, Kenilworth, Warwickshire

**DEN BUILDING** A chance for adults to rekindle childhood skills and for children to learn new ones, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June, Hawkstone Park & Follies, North Shropshire

**UTTOXETER FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL** Sat 22 June - Sun 23 June

**Uttoxeter Racecourse VICTORIAN GARDEN PARTY** Meet characters from times gone by as you wander around Witley's stunning gardens, Sat 22 - Sun 23 June, Witley Court & Gardens, Worcestershire

**UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS: BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR** Take a look at parts of the house not normally open to the public, Sun 23 June, Weston Park, Staffordshire

**THE SHREWSBURY MARATHON & HALF MARATHON** Sun 23 June, The Quarry Park, Shrewsbury

**CITROEN SPECIALS CAR CLUB** A display of up to 50 Citroen Specials at Millennium Place, Sun 23 June, Coventry Transport Museum

**Week Commencing MON 24 JUN**

**NEWCOMEN FOR THE 21ST CENTURY TALK** Curator for Transport & Industry Janet Small gives an overview of the 2012 refurbishment project, undertaken to mark the tercentenary of the Newcomen Engine, Wed 26 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**THE MOBILITY ROADSHOW** Thurs 27 - Sat 29 June, Telford International Centre, Shropshire

**RUN WHAT YA BRUNG** A chance to take your car or motorcycle out on the famous quarter-mile dragstrip and test its performance limits in a safe and legal environment, Sat 29 June, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**ARMED FORCES DAY** Featuring a busy pro-

gramme of events, exhibitions and activities, Sat 29 June, National Memorial Arboretum, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs

**OSWESTRY BIKEFEST** Sat 29 June, Walford & North Shropshire College, Oswestry, Shropshire

**DEN BUILDING** Chance to re-learn those old skills, and learn new ones, Sat 29 - Sun 30 June, Hawkstone Park & Follies, North Shropshire

**GROUNDWORKS WEEKEND** Learn about the curious life of birds via falconry displays, forest school activities, nest-building, bird portraits, storytelling and much more, Sat 29 - Sun 30 June, Compton Verney Gallery, Warwickshire

**COMMUNITY DAY** Fun activities for all the family, Sat 29 June, Chedham's Yard, Warwickshire

**VINTAGE GARDEN PARTY** A family day out with live music, vintage teas and stalls selling vintage clothing, accessories and homewares, Sat 29 June, Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton

**STONE MASONRY COURSE** Practical workshop where participants learn

about the basic techniques of carving & shaping stone, Sat 29 June, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

**ARMED FORCES DAY** Annual event replacing all three services, Sat 29 June, RAF Cosford, Wolverhampton

**STEP BACK TO THE 1940S** Sat 29 - Sun 30 June, Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster

**FAIRY WEEKEND** Track down the Biddulph fairies by following their trails around the site, Sat 29 - Sun 30 June, Biddulph Grange Garden, Stoke-on-Trent

**SUMMER FETE** Traditional garden fete with local food stalls, family games & Victorian storyteller entertainments, Sat 29 - Sun 30 June, Sunnycroft, Wellington, Shropshire

**THE VINTAGE YEARS FESTIVAL** A celebration of the lifestyles, fashion, music and classic cars of the '40s, '50s and '60s. Dress up in your favourite vintage style and join the fun! Sat 29 - Sun 30 June, National Brewery Centre, Burton-upon-Trent

**THE GREAT BRITISH MUSIC, FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL** Featuring

games and activities for the kids, a balloon race, bake-offs, bunting aplenty, excellent live music and a mouth-watering array of food and drink from the show's exhibitors, Sat 29 - Sun 30 June, Shugborough Estate, Staffordshire

**SHREWSBURY FOOD FESTIVAL** Sat 29 - Sun 30 June, The Quarry Park, Shrewsbury

**JAPSHOW** The year's first major event for Japanese car fans, Sun 30 June, Santa Pod Raceway, Northampton

**THE LONDON VINTAGE TAXI ASSOCIATION** Featuring up to twenty classic vintage London taxis on display at Millennium Place, Sun 30 June, Coventry Transport Museum

**ORIGINS OF MIDDLE EARTH - GUIDED WALK** Follow in the footsteps of the young JRR Tolkien, Sun 30 June, Sarehole Mill Birmingham

**DRAGONBOAT FESTIVAL** In aid of Severn Hospice, Sun 30 June, Pengwern Boatclub, Shrewsbury

**AUSTIN CAR RALLY** Sun 30 June, Avoncroft, Bromsgrove

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## What Our Members are up to in June 2013

### Saturday 1 June

- Bat Appreciation Walk at Wolseley
- Chocolate Experience
- Colour U Confident Workshop
- Crianlarch Walking Break - Extra Night Option
- Edgbaston Walk
- Himley Hall + Baggeridge Park Easy Ramble
- Birmingham Hippodrome Back Stage Tour
- Jimmy Carr - Gagging Order
- Kenilworth to Warwick via Hatton Locks Ramble
- Lamborghini Thrill
- Scuba Taster Morning Experience
- Stand Up Paddle Boarding

### Sunday 2 June

- Badminton for Fun at Bourneville
- Boogie Bounce
- Foxton Locks Moderate Ramble/ Lunch
- Glass Art Workshop
- Great Midlands Fun Run
- Great Midlands Fun Run - Marshalls
- Ironbridge Gorge Ramble
- NLP for Beginners
- Offchurch Circular Ramble
- Singing for Beginners - Find your Voice!
- Spice Choir - Develop your Singing Ability
- Sponsor the Spice Fun Run Team
- Tank Battle Experience
- Wolverhampton Wander

### Monday 3 June

- Badminton For Fun Worcester
- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- Darts Night and Buffet
- Spice Book Club

### Tuesday 4 June

- Much Ado About Nothing
- Preview Evening (MAC)5
- Ten Pin Bowling (Broadway Plaza)

### Wednesday 5 June

- BMX Taster Session
- Badminton at NIA
- Chinese Meal and Quiz - Sutton Coldfield
- Tamworth and Lichfield Pub Night

### Thursday 6 June

- Croatia Discovery Break
- Halesowen and Quinton Pub Night
- Rounders and Social Night
- Shuttington Evening Ramble

### Friday 7 June

- Beverley Friary YHA Weekend Away
- Essex Coast and Constable Country Walking Weekend
- Pembrokeshire Luxury Resort weekend
- Sea Kayaking with the Seals

### Saturday 8 June

- Cycling With A Difference
- Digital Photography for Beginners
- Gorge Walking Adventure
- Ithias Contemporary Indian Dinner Shuffle
- Penistone Figure of 8 mountain bike ride
- Walk with Wolves - Bedford
- World's Wackiest Racers

### Sunday 9 June

- Barton Under Needwood Easy Ramble
- Beginners Horse Trek
- Cinema Night
- Come and Try Mountain Biking
- Cosford Airshow with an Insider!
- Dog Walk in the Lickey Hills
- Dovedale Moderate Ramble
- Drayton Manor Park Fun Day
- Five a Side Mixed Football
- Grease Dance Workshop!

- Jetovator - Northampton
- Raft Building for Fun
- SWAT Training Mission
- Sunday Lunch on Severn Valley Railway

### Monday 10 June

- Badminton For Fun - Worcester
- Badminton at Barr Beacon
- Speedway Evening and Tour in Wolverhampton

### Tuesday 11 June

- Gliding Evening at Stratford
- New Members Mix and Mingle
- Solihull Pub Night

### Wednesday 12 June

- Adventure Golf at Star City!
- Badminton at NIA
- Ghost
- Sutton Pub Night
- Trampoline Evening with Coaching

### Thursday 13 June

- Blacksmithing Evening
- Circus Skills Workshop
- Girls Roller Skate Off!
- Saxon Mill Dinner Shuffle
- Unihoc (Mixed Indoor Hockey)

### Friday 14 June

- Blithe Spirit
- Greek Dance Workshop
- Guide Dogs National Breeding Centre Visit
- Poker Night at Lea Marston
- Sailing Weekend around Malta and Gozo
- Sailing Weekend around the Solent
- Spring Watch Weekend
- Wiltshire Luxury Walking + Social Weekend

### Saturday 15 June

- BBC Birmingham Behind the Scenes

**"It's an opportunity to get to do lots of things you wouldn't otherwise do... and meet lots of people you wouldn't otherwise meet". Jamie, Spice member**

# HOLIDAYS

# LEISURE

# SOCIAL



*Flying*



*Outdoor Pursuits*



*Walking*



*Motor Sports*



*Water Sports*



*Wild & Wacky*

- Carriage Driving Experience Day
- Chocolate Experience
- Cleobury Ramble
- Flirting for Fun (at Lea Marston Hotel)
- Indoor Skydiving
- Learn to Drift!
- Makeover or Boudoir Photography Session
- Off Road Karting
- StageSide Dinner Shuffle

### Sunday 16 June

- Balloon Flight
- Clay Pigeon Shooting
- Disc Golf Experience
- Hovercraft Driving on Land and Water
- Llama and Wolf Experience Day - Bedford
- Llangollen Canals Experience Day
- Ludlow and Richards Castle Ramble
- Maxstoke Castle Visit and Easy Ramble

### Monday 17 June

- Badminton For Fun - Worcester
- Bromsgrove Pub Night
- Gliding Eve at Needwood

### Tuesday 18 June

- Cafe Ceramica Experience
- Hopwood + Barnet Green Evening Ramble
- Kings Heath Pub Night
- Preview Evening (Sutton)

### Wednesday 19 June

- Badminton at NIA
- Breadmaking Workshop at Hindleys
- Fencing for Beginners
- Pets As Therapy - Charity Talk

### Thursday 20 June

- Curry and Quiz - Solihull
- Peninsular Cantonese Meal
- Ten Top Tips from a Chiropractor
- Warwick / Leamington Pub Night

### Friday 21 June

- Center Parcs Sherwood Forest
- Source to Sea W'end 4 - Hay on Wye- Hereford
- Spice Hits Town at the Jam House

### Saturday 22 June

- Abseiling for the Terrified
- Ballroom Dance Masterclass - Rumba
- Barber Institute Tour
- Blitz Hill Experience
- Climbing the Longstone Pinnacle
- Knowle Stroll and Afternoon Tea
- Snowdon Summer Solstice Sleepover

### Sunday 23 June

- Center Parcs Weekend Extras - School Sports
- Croquet Party
- Cupcake Decorating Taster Class
- Hangliding - Tandem Experience by Air Tow
- Microlighting Experience Flight
- Paragliding - Tandem Experience
- Paragliding Day Course
- Pen and Wash Day
- Ten Things Everyone Should Know About DIY
- Warwick Easy Ramble

### Tuesday 25 June

- Unihoc - Mixed Indoor Hockey

### Wednesday 26 June

- Personal Safety for Women
- Quiz

### Thursday 27 June

- Printmaking and Pattern Evening
- Rounders and Social Night

### Friday 28 June

- Bournemouth and Hampshire Coast Walking Weekend
- Patterdale Lakes Walking Weekend

### Saturday 29 June

- In Search of Snakes
- Kayak River Adventure Day
- Max ATV, Off Road Mud Buggies and Blind Driving
- Pottery Workshop
- Quad Bike Trekking at Garlands
- Ryton Pools Easy Ramble
- White Water Rafting

### Sunday 30 June

- Clun and Offas Dyke Ramble
- Crown Green Bowling Afternoon
- Extreme Sports Fun Day
- FlyBoarding - London
- Hotel Du Vin Ultimate Sunday Brunch
- Jetovator - London
- Market Harborough Treasure Hunt
- Rock Climbing for the Terrified
- Steam Train to Stratford
- Stratford as you've never seen it before

visit: [www.spicebham.com](http://www.spicebham.com)



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# Clubbing

## BIRMINGHAM

**AIR** Heath Mill Lane, Digbeth, B9 4AL. Tel: 0121 766 6646

**BAMBU** Kottwall House, Wrottesley Street, B5 4BN Tel: 0121 6224124

**BUSHWACKERS** 103 Edmund St, B3 2HZ Tel: 0121 236 4994

**FLARES NIGHTCLUB** 55 Broad St, B15 1AY Tel: 0121 252 3100

**GATECRASHER** 183 Broad St, B15 1DA Tel: 0121 525 1300

**02 ACADEMY** 16-18 Horsefair, Bristol St, B1 1DB Tel: 0121 622 8250

**REFLEX** 36-37 Broad St, B1 2DY Tel: 0121 643 0444

**SNOBS NIGHTCLUB** 29 Paradise Circus, Queensway, B1 2BJ Tel: 0121 643 5551

## BLACK COUNTRY

**OCEANA WOLVERHAMPTON** Bilston Rd, Wolverhampton Tel: 0845 402 5290

## SHROPSHIRE

**C:21 NIGHTCLUB** 21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 271821

**BUTTERMARKET** Howard Street, Shrewsbury Tel: 01743 281712

**VELVET** 13 Castle Foregate, Shrewsbury SY1 2DJ Tel: 01743 281712

**FEVER** 19 - 21 Hills Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 1QU Tel: 01743 247508

**THE OFFICE** 27a Market Street, Oakengates TF2 6EN Tel: 01952 616536

**PUSSYCATS NIGHT CLUB** 17 Tan Bank, Wellington, TF2 6EJ Tel: 01952 224260

**SPIRIT NIGHTCLUB** 18 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 355055

## STAFFORDSHIRE

**COURTURE & NOIRE ET BLANC** 139 Newport Rd, Stafford, ST16 2EZ Tel: 01785 244755

**LIQUID** Brunswick St, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1DR Tel: 01782 284333

**REFLEX** 3-5 Brockley Square, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5LY Tel: 01782 206170

**TRINITY NIGHTCLUB** Spinning School Lane, Tamworth, ST1 1DR Tel: 01827 58772

## WARWICKSHIRE

**CAREYS NIGHTCLUB** Hereford Place, Coventry CV1 3JZ Tel: 02476 227 397

**EVOLVE NIGHTCLUB** 2 Spencer Street, Leamington Spa, Coventry CV31 3NF Tel: 01926 881449

**JJ'S** Skydome Leisure Park, Croft Rd, Coventry CV1 3AZ. Tel: 02476 555913

**LIQUID & ENVY** Leicester Road, Nuneaton CV11 4B. Tel: 02476 344216

**REFLEX** Church St, Nuneaton, CV11 4BW Tel: 02476 344216

## WORCESTERSHIRE

**BUSHWACKERS** Trinity St, Worcester WR1 2PW Tel: 01905 26878

**TRAMPS** Angel Place, Worcester WR1 3QN Tel: 019905 26936

**VELVET LOUNGE** Angel Place, Worcester WR1 3QN. Tel: 01905 619966



## Techno's rising stars in Birmingham

Subway City, Birmingham, Fri 7 June

This month sees one of the Midlands' longest-running underground club nights return to what's regarded as its spiritual home of Subway City, as part of its twentieth birthday celebrations. House of God (HOG) began life as a fortnightly dance session at Birmingham University, becoming so popular that it soon moved to the Dance Factory at Digbeth's Institute. Gigs at other prestigious Birmingham venues followed, along with gatherings in Holland, Belgium and in various other UK locations. Staying true to its original ethos of quality music, HOG's latest Birmingham outing features two rising stars of techno, Blawan (pictured) and DJ Skirt.

## Gay SCENE

### Time to get foamed up....

The Nightingale Club, Birmingham, Sat 15 June

The bi-monthly Big Gay Night Out returns to Birmingham this month. The popular club night, which brings thousands of revellers to Birmingham by coach from over twenty different towns and cities across the country, including Cardiff, Sheffield, Wolverhampton, Leicester and Derby, costs £15 to attend. For their money, party-goers get return coach travel, free entry to The Nightingale and two free drinks. For city centre residents who want to attend the club night but don't need a coach to get there, a 'door only' ticket is available for £5. This month's event takes a 'beach and foam party' theme. Organisers are encouraging attendees to don their favourite item of swimwear in an effort to bring a little sunshine to proceedings. The Nightingale is situated on Lower Essex Street, near the Birmingham Hippodrome. Tickets are on sale now from [www.nightingale-club.co.uk](http://www.nightingale-club.co.uk)



## GAY NIGHTCLUBS

### BIRMINGHAM

**CLUB CHIC** 28 Horsefair, B1 1DD. Tel: 0121 666 6808

**THE CORE** Sherlock Street, B5 6NB Tel: 0121 622 2797

**THE NIGHTINGALE** Kent St, B5 6RD Tel: 0121 622 1718

**THE VILLAGE INN & UNDERGROUND** 152 Hurst St, B5 6RY Tel: 0121 622 4742

### BLACK COUNTRY

**THE LION** Birchills St, Walsall, WS2 8NG Tel: 01922 610977

**GORGEOUS** Salop St Wolverhampton, WV3 0SR Tel: 0844 357 8570

### SHROPSHIRE

**C21** 18-21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 271821 (MON ONLY)

**SPIRIT** 22 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE Tel: 01743 355055 (MON ONLY)

### STAFFORDSHIRE

**THE FACTORY** Bryan St, Hanley, Stoke-On-Trent, ST1 2AA Tel: 01782 478799

### WARWICKSHIRE

**RAINBOWS** Short St, Coventry CV1. Tel: 02476 551738

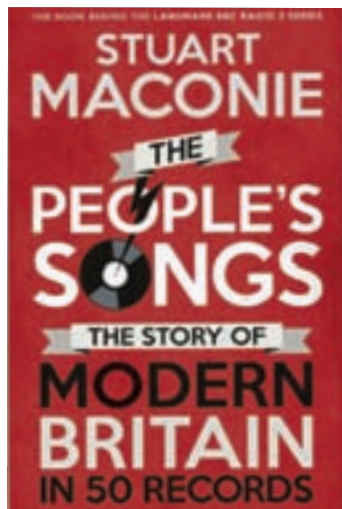
### WORCESTERSHIRE

**VELVET CLUB** Angel Row, Worcester, WR1 3QN Tel: 01905 20218

## The People's Songs: The Story Of Modern Britain In 50 Records

By Stuart Maconie

Chronologically told over fifty chapters and beginning with Vera Lynn's We'll Meet Again, Stuart Maconie's The People's Songs takes a tour of the country's pop music history, from the Second World War to the present day. The book is the companion to Maconie's landmark Radio Two series, and focuses on the songs that have tracked the country's changing times, along the way looking at subjects such as work, war, class, leisure, race, family, drugs, sex, patriotism and more.



## A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To Heaven

By Corey Taylor

Grammy Award-winning singer and modern Renaissance Man Corey Taylor has seen ghosts but he hasn't seen Jesus. A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To Heaven is Corey's second book, and not only brings together stories of his experiences with the supernatural but also questions the validity of religious belief systems and two-thousand-year-old dogma. Honest, humorous and no-holds-barred in his approach, Corey is promising his readers 'one hell of a ride'...

## The Alex Ferguson Quote Book: The Greatest Manager In His Own Words

By Anonymous

The recently retired Sir Alex Ferguson is not only one of the greatest football managers of all time, he's also one of the most quotable. This fun new book brings together some of the ex-Manchester United supremo's most memorable quotes, and also features contributions from those who knew him best and crossed swords with him most.

## What Not To Do (And How To Do It)

By Danny Wallace

It's not easy being a man. And Danny Wallace should know, because he is one! The best-selling author of Awkward Situations For Men, Danny makes a welcome return with this follow-up tome, in which he asks fellas such leading questions as 'how do you react when you realise that yesterday's underpants might still be in your trousers?' and 'what do you do if you think you might have a man-crush?'. The book was previously published as More Awkward Situations For Men.



## TOP 5 BOOKS

- 1 **Bring Up The Bodies**  
Hilary Mantel
- 2 **The Life**  
Martina Cole
- 3 **I've Got Your Number**  
Sophia Kinsella
- 4 **The Red House**  
Mark Haddon
- 5 **Sweet Tooth**  
Ian McEwan



## BBC to screen American thriller

The BBC is set to screen an ambitious ten-part US suspense drama. Produced by BBC America, Orphan Black is described as 'a rollercoaster ride of a thriller, with a complex and engaging plot', and has been met with rave reviews from Stateside critics. Shot on location in Toronto, Canada, the show features rising star Tatiana Maslany (The Nativity, Picture Day) in the role of Sarah Manning, an outsider and orphan whose life changes dramatically after she witnesses the suicide of a woman who looks exactly like her. In a fit of madness, Sarah assumes the dead woman's identity, her boyfriend and her bank account, only to find herself suddenly caught up in a deadly conspiracy. Orphan Black shows on BBC Three later this year.

## Some Girls do...

Acclaimed BBC Three comedy Some Girls has been recommissioned, with filming on a new set of shows having begun in South London. The second series will see the return of attitude-laden lasses (and every teacher's nightmare) Viva, Amber, Saz and Holli. Written by Bernadette Davies, the six 'comic, tender and often very rude episodes' will follow the girls' adventures both at home and in an inner-city academy school.



## More comedy-drama from Shameless creator

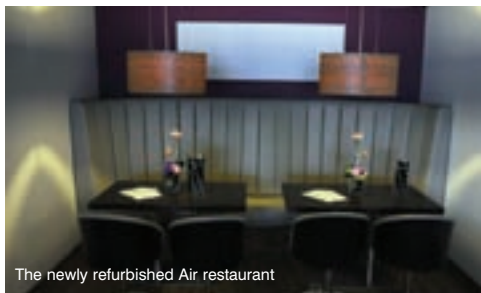
A new and completely original take on the world of police procedure is being promised in a brand new comedy-drama from Paul Abbott. Regarded as one of the UK's most successful television writers, Abbott has worked on a string of TV favourites, including Coronation Street, Cracker, Clocking Off and State Of Play, but is probably best known for creating acclaimed Channel Four social drama Shameless. Abbott's latest offering, No Offence, is described as 'raucous, riotous and razor-sharp', and follows a group of bobbies on the frontline in Manchester. Commenting on his new series, Paul says, "I'm a big fan of well-told cop shows and jet-black social comedy, and I wanted to see how explosively we could bang two genres' heads together. No Offence is reared on wilder-than-average seeds, and I've had a ball with the AbbottVision team in building this concept. It's a tilted, hardcore blend of cop drama, family saga and social mayhem."

# Eating Out

## A fresh look for Air...

Quality hospitality has always been a key feature of the LG Arena experience, with amplify, the Birmingham venue's hospitality arm, providing 'the very best in great food, prepared by some of the UK's leading award-winning chefs, amazing seats and live experiences'. Now the LG is enhancing that experience further with the launch of its recently refurbished Air restaurant.

Continuing to offer luxurious dining, Air now boasts an interior which is both premium and contemporary, a brand new bar and a more spacious dining area. For further information on Air and amplify packages, visit [www.amplify.co.uk](http://www.amplify.co.uk).



The newly refurbished Air restaurant

## Top chef award just what the doctor ordered

A former doctor who's been in the running for the Shropshire Council Curry Chef of the Year award for the past three years has finally won the coveted title. Dr Ijlal Haider, from Dorrington Old Hall Persian Cuisine, recently beat off fierce competition to bag the award at a Radbrook Catering College event in Shrewsbury. Commenting on his victory, a delighted Dr Haider, who's relatively new to the industry having practised medicine for twenty-one years, said, "I always thought I would be the one watching the winner collect the award after these past years coming so close! It's just fantastic - an on-top-of-the-world feeling - to be the lucky one this time. It means so much to me."

## Tiger Bills roars into Birmingham

A new bar, wok and grill, offering a clever mix of cuisines from both the East and the West, has opened on Birmingham's Broad Street. Authentic Thai street food such as satays, curries, stir-fries and soup dishes appear on the Tiger Bills menu, and are complimented by a Western grill offering juicy sirloin steak and a huge rack of baby back ribs. The three hundred-seater restaurant is the first Tiger Bills in the Midlands.



## Classic Italian, in vogue...

### REVIEW

At the corner of Brindleyplace and Oozells Square is Piccolino, an Italian restaurant with a contemporary and stylish interior. The kitchen looks out into the restaurant, allowing diners a peek at the busy chefs and the wood-burning oven. But it was the heated terrace that took our fancy - the novelty of eating alfresco on a rainy evening couldn't be resisted. The outside seating is on low but comfortable sofas, although my dinner date found it a little cramped, as he's taller than average. While perusing the menu, we shared fresh baked herb focaccia and crusty Tuscan bread with the obligatory olive oil and balsamic dip. On the recommendation of our friendly waitress, we ordered some olives; the greenest olives I'd ever seen. Sicilian and bursting with flavour, they were delicious.

To start, I chose Carpaccio (£9.95), which came with parmesan and rocket salad. The well-matured beef had been seared

before being sliced, which added an extra depth to the flavour. The accompanying Venetian dressing was light and lemony, and offered a wonderful contrast to the beef. My companion had Costatine (£7.95), barbecued short pork ribs in a smoky sauce that had a cheeky chilli kick.

My main was Branzino (£18.95) - a succulent sea bass with a scrumptiously crisped skin, served straight from the wood stone oven, with lemon, garlic and parsley. It was sublime. My partner went for risotto with Tuscan sausage, fennel and basil (£11.95). There was a fine balance between the fennel and basil. Overall the risotto was creamy and smooth, with a perfect bite to the rice. We shared a side of zucchini frites; thin strips of courgette fried in a light batter, they were an ideal accompaniment for both dishes. The meal was pleasantly lubricated by a Cortese, Araldica, Piemonte 12 (£18.95), a beautifully dry, lemony white wine from northern Italy. Unfortunately we couldn't

stay to try the desserts, though I did fancy the torta al cioccolato - a chocolate, bitter orange and almond tart.

Throughout the meal our waitress was personable, efficient and knowledgeable when it came to the menu and specials. In hindsight, the terrace wasn't such a good idea on a wet evening. Although it was warm and comfortable, the square was wet, grey and lacking in atmosphere. I found myself wishing I was inside. The food itself was classic Italian fare, perfectly cooked. My choices were uncomplicated dishes in which the simple ingredients combined to create delectable flavours. I'd happily return - and next time have the torta al cioccolato. *Ted Finlay*

Food:       
 Service:       
 Ambience:       
 Overall value       
**OVERALL**

**Piccolino**  
 9 Brindleyplace  
 Birmingham  
 B1 2HS  
 Tel: 0121 6343055

# Restaurant **REVIEWS**

## A warm welcome and fine British cuisine...

A newcomer on the Shropshire restaurant scene, The Glutton Club opened its doors last November. Situated in Frankwell, Shrewsbury, the restaurant's owners initially intended it to be a pop-up restaurant which would only be open for a month. But it seems that its popularity has convinced them to commit to something more long-term.

In its short life, The Glutton Club has garnered a reputation for good food from a modern British menu, so our expectations were high when we booked our table. On arrival, I found the restaurant to be smaller than expected, with a basic décor. Warmly welcomed and shown to our table, we ordered drinks and starters, which took a while coming. I opted for baked Camembert with toasted sourdough bread and a home-made pickle consisting of carrot ribbons and cauliflower florettes, which were deliciously spiced and had a good bite. My dining partners had the trio of lamb, made from a combination of lamb cutlet, crispy belly and ballotine of shoulder, all of which, I was informed, were perfectly cooked, tender, and wonderfully seasoned.

Again, there seemed to be an unnecessary length of time for our next course to arrive. I'd chosen fish - a salt-baked lemon sole served with buttered new potatoes, wilted spinach and capers. The fish was sublime, and the accompanying vegetables fresh and well seasoned, but the slate on which it

was served didn't quite hold the heat, so the dish quickly went cold. The sharing platter of beef rib enticed my fellow diners. It was ordered medium rare and came fabulously presented with a side of triple fried chips and roasted tomatoes on the vine. Again, my friends reported their food to be mouthwateringly delicious.

The lemon posset was the choice of dessert for us all. It was served with vanilla shortbread and topped with rhubarb syrup - and arrived quickly! The posset was sublime; light and tangy, smooth and creamy. The shortbread and rhubarb were ideal partners.

Though the staff were pleasant, and knowledgeable when it came to the menu, I felt they could have been more attentive and noticed the waiting times. The décor is very much a work in progress, and over the next few months I'm sure its style will become more clearly defined. The quality and flavour of the food, though, was fantastic.

*Ted Finlay*

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

**The Glutton Club**  
165 - 167 Frankwell  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire  
SY3 8LG  
Tel: 01743 361676

# Restaurant **LISTINGS**

For full listing information on restaurants, including opening times and type of cuisine, visit: [www.whatsonlive.co.uk](http://www.whatsonlive.co.uk)

## Birmingham

- AALTO RESTAURANT**  
Hotel La Tour, Albert Street, Birmingham B5 5JT 0121 718 8000
- AL FRASH** 186 Ladypool Road, Sparkbrook, B12 8JS 0121 753 3120
- ASHA'S** 12-22 Newhall Street, B3 3LX 0121 200 2767
- AZZARI TOO**  
204 Lightwoods Rd, B67 5AZ 0121 429 6621
- BANK** 4 Brindleyplace, B1 2JB 0121 633 4466
- BAR EPERNAY** 171-172 Wharfedale Street, The Mailbox, B1 1RL 0121 632 1430
- BAR ESTILO** 10-114 Wharfedale St, The Mailbox, B1 1RF 0121 643 3443
- BARNY GREEN INN**  
Kendal End Rd, Rednal B45 8PZ 0121 445 4949
- BARAJEE** 265 Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 643 6700
- BELLA ITALIA** 102 New St, B2 4HQ 0121 6431548
- BERLIOZ** Burlington Arcade, New St, B2 4JQ 0121 633 1737
- BLUE MANGO** Regency Wharf, Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 633 4422
- BLUE GINGER** 32 Poplar Road, Kings Heath, B14 7AD 0121 444 0999
- BLUU** Fleet St, Summer Row, B3 1JH 0121 236 9013
- BRANDED BULL STEAKHOUSE** 175 Broad Street, B15 1DT 0121 643 5968
- BUONISSIMO** 1 Albany Rd, Harborne, B17 9JX 0121 426 2444
- BYZANTIUM** 11 York Road, Kings Heath, B14 7SA 0121 444 5444
- CAFE IKON** 1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HS 0121 248 3226
- CAFE ROUGE**  
Brindleyplace, Broad Street, B1 2HJ 0121 643 6556
- CAFE SOYA** Unit 2, Upper Dean Street B5 4SG 0121 622 3888
- CARLUCCIO'S** The Water's Edge, Brindleyplace B1 2HP 0121 633 9262
- CELEBRITY INDIAN**  
44 Broad St, B1 2HP 0121 643 8969
- THE CHAMELEON** 1 Victoria Square, B1 1BD 0121 643 2233
- CHEZ JULES** 5a Ethel St, B2 4BG 0121 633 4664
- CHI** 61 Newhall St, B3 3RB 0121 233 3150
- CHUNG YING**  
16-18 Wrottersley Street, B5 4RT 0121 622 5669
- CHUNG YING GARDEN** 17 Thorpe St, B5 4AT 0121 666 6622
- CIELO** 6 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2JB 0121 632 6882
- CITY CAFE GRILL** Hylton Garden Inn, 1 Brunswick Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HW 0121 643 1003
- COTE** The Mailbox, B1 1RX 0121 631 1587
- CUCINA RUSTICA** 24 Ludgate Hill, B1 1DX 0121 233 2277
- DEL VILLAGGIO**  
Unit 528, Middle Mall, The Bullring, B5 4BE 0121 643 1400
- DEOLAL BAR RESTAURANT**  
23A St Mary's Row, Moseley B13 8HW 0121 442 2222
- DESI INLEES**  
562-564 Moseley Road Balsall Heath Birmingham B12 9AD 0121 4494495
- DUET CUISINE** Unit 1, Fort Dunlop, B24 9FD 0121 748 1234
- EDMUNDS** 6 Brindley place, B1 2JB 0121 633 4944
- FLEET STREET KITCHEN**  
Fleet Street, Summerrow, B3 1JH 0121 236 010
- FUMO** 1 Waterloo Street B2 5PG 0121 643 9979
- THE GREEN ROOM CAFE BAR** Hurst St, B5 4TD 0121 605 4343
- HARJEE'S SPICES** 512 Stratford Road, Sparkhill B11 4AH 0121 773 6130
- THE HORSESHOE BAR & RESTAURANT** 1214 Stratford Road, B28 9BH 0121 777 2340
- ITHAAS** 18 Fleet St, B3 1JL 0121 212 3383
- ITHAAS BRASSERIE**  
Selfridges Food Hall, Bullring, Birmingham B5 4BP 0121 212 3383
- JAMIE'S ITALIAN** Middle Mall, Bullring Shopping Centre, B5 4BE 0121 270 3610
- JIMMY SPICES** Regency Wharf, Broad St, B1 2DS 0121 643 2111
- JUJU'S** Canal Square, B16 8EH 0121 456 3384
- THE JUNCTION** 212 High Street, Harborne, B17 9PT 0121 428 2635
- KINNAREE THAI** 22 Waterfront Walk, B1 1SN 0121 665 6568
- LA BANCA** 1986 Pershore Road, Cotteridge, Kings Norton B30 3AS 0121 459 2204
- LA BASTILLE** 220 Corporation St, B4 6QB 0121 236 1171
- LAS IGUANAS** Arcadian Centre, Hurst St, B5 4TD 0121 622 4466

- LA PLANCHA** 113 Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8DD 0121 449 5430
- LASAN** 3-4 Dakota Buildings, James St, St Paul's Square, B3 1SD 0121 212 3664
- THE LOFT LOUNGE**  
143 Bromsgrove St, B5 6RG 0121 622 2444
- THE LOST & FOUND**  
8 Bennetts Hill, B2 5RS 0121 643 9293
- LOVES** The Glasshouse, Browning St, B16 8FL 0121 454 5151
- MANIC ORGANIC**  
46 Poplar Road, B14 7AG 0121 441 3802
- MAHARAJA** 23/25 Hurst St, B5 4AS 0121 622 2641
- MECHU** 47 - 59 Summer Row, B3 1JJ 0121 212 1661
- METRO BAR & GRILL** 73 Cornwall St B3 2DF 0121 200 1911
- MILLER & CARTER** 178-180 Wharfedale St, The Mailbox, B1 1RN 0121 643 7738
- MINT** Yew Tree Retail Park, Stoney Lane Yardley, B25 8YP 0121 789 8908
- MIRAGE FUSION**  
Broadway Casino, Broadway Plaza Ladywood Middleway, B16 8LP 0121 456 5557
- MOUNT FUJI** The Bullring, B5 4BH 0121 633 9853
- NUVO** 11 Brindleyplace, B1 2LP 0121 631 1600
- OLD JOINTSTOCK PUB** 4 Temple Row, B2 5NY 0121 200 1892
- NATHANIEL'S RESTAURANT** 13 St Mary's Row, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 8HW, 0121 449 9618
- OLD SPECKLED HEN**  
Mere Green Road, Sutton Coldfield, B75 5BL 0121 308 9410
- OPUS** 54 Cornwall St, B3 2DE 0121 200 2323
- THE ORIENTAL** The Mailbox, 128-130 Wharfedale St, B1 1RQ 0121 633 9988
- PASTA DE PIAZZA** 11 Brook Street, St Paul's Square, B3 1SA 0121 236 5858
- PEACHY KEENS** 1741 Coventry Road, Yardley B26 1DS 0121 764 5519
- PENNY BLACKS**  
The Mailbox, 132-134 Wharfedale St, B1 1XL 0121 632 1460
- PICCOLINO**  
9 Brindleyplace, B1 2HS 0121 634 3055
- PITCHER & PIANO**  
Brindleyplace, B1 2HP 0121 643 0214
- PONTE DI LEGNO** 44-44a Woodbridge Rd, Moseley, B13 8EJ





0121 449 8064  
**POPPY RED** Arcadian Centre, Birmingham B5 4TD 0121 687 1200  
**PUNJABI HAVELI** 1558 Stratford Rd, Hall Green, B28 9HA 0121 745 3636  
**PURNELL'S** 55 Cornwall St, B3 2DH 0121 212 9799  
**PUSHKAR** 245 Broad St, B1 2HQ 0121 643 7978  
**THE RECTORY** 50-54 St Paul's Sq, B3 1QS 0121 605 1001  
**RED PEPPERS** 117 Wharfside St, B1 1RF 0121 643 4202  
**ROSE MURREE** 94 -96 Hagley Rd, Edgbaston, B16 8LU 0121 456 4500  
**SABAI SABAI** 25 Woodbridge Rd, Moseley, B13 8EH 0121 4494498  
**SAN CARLO** 4 Temple St, B2 5BN 0121 633 0251  
**SHAH'S** Unit 16, 1160 Warwick Road, Acocoks Green B27 6BP 0121 707 8297  
**SHIMLA PINKS** 215 Broad St, B15 1AY 0121 633 0366  
**SHOGUN TEPPANYAKI** The Mailbox, 27 - 29 Wharfside St, B1 1RD 0121 632 1253  
**SIMPSONS**, 20 Highfield Rd, Edgbaston B13 3DU 0121 454 3434  
**THE SLUG AND LETTUCE**, Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2HL 0121 633 3049  
**SPICE EXCHANGE**, 1845 Pershore Rd, King's Norton, B30 3DJ 0121 451 1007  
**STRADA** 109-111 Wharfside St, The Mailbox B1 1XL 0121 643 7279  
**SYRIANA** 1 Constitution Hill, B19 3LG 0121 2369444  
**TGI FRIDAYS** 180 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 9NY 0121 454 1930  
**THAI EDGE** 7 Oozells Sq, B1 2HL 0121 643 3993  
**TIN TIN CANTONESE**, The Waters Edge, Brindleyplace, B1 2HL 0121 633 0888  
**ULYSSES** 42a Bristol Street, B5 7AA 0121 622 3159  
**THE VAULTS** Newhall Place, Newhall Hill, B1 3JH 0121 212 9837  
**VMF - ASTON VILLA FOOTBALL CLUB** Villa Park, Trinity Rd, B6 6HE 0121 326 1570  
**WAGAMAMA** Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2HL 0121 643 7656  
**THE WAREHOUSE CAFE** 54-57 Allison Street, Digbeth, B5 5TH 0121 633 0261  
**WING WAH** 278 Thimblemill Lane, B7 5HD 0121 327 7879  
**WOKTASTIC** Paradise Place, B3 3HJ 0121 236 3130  
**WONGS** 5-11 Fleet St, B3 1JP 0121 212 1888  
**ZIZZI** 183 High St, Harborne B17 9QE 0121 428 4228 also at The Mailbox B1 1RL 0121 632 1333, 10 Poplar Rd, Solihull,

B91 3AB 0121 704 5030  
**ZORBAS** 359-361 Olton Boulevard, Solihull B27 7DP 0121 706 4709

### Black Country

**ARBOUR LIGHTS** 127-128 Lichfield Street, Walsall WS1 1SY 01922 613361  
**BANKS BISTRO** Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton WV1 4EP 01902 238433  
**BELLA** 82 Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton. 01902 427555  
**BENGAL FUSION** 174 High St, Lye, Stourbridge DY9 8LN. 01384 891111  
**BILASH** 2 Cheapside, Wolverhampton, WV1 1TU 01902 427762  
**THE BLUE BRICK** Broad Gauge Way, Wolverhampton WV1 1AA 01902 875301  
**BRAVACCIOUS** 4 Upper Green, Wolverhampton WV6 8QQ 01902 756052  
**CAFE CHAMPAGNE** 253-255 Bilston Road, Wolverhampton WV2 2JN 01902 458024  
**CASA CASITA** Upper Gornal, Dudley. DY3 1UP 01902 676754  
**CATELLANI'S** 6 School St, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LR 01902 428928  
**CINNAMON COURT** Bentley Mill Way, Walsall WS2 0BP 0121 568 6664  
**THE COWSHED** Clive Farm Clive Rd, Pattingham, WV6 7EN 01902 701888  
**THE CROOKED HOUSE** Coppice Hill, Himley DY3 4DA 01384 238583  
**THE DITCH** 1 Town Hill, Walsall, WS1 2EU 01922 643215  
**DON SALVO** 25 Darlington Street, Wolverhampton WV1 4HW 01902 712819  
**DUNSLEY HALL** Dunsley Rd, Kinver, DY7 6LU 01384 877077  
**THE FAIRLAWNS AT ALDRIDGE** 178 Little Aston Road, Aldridge, Walsall WS9 0NU 01922 455122  
**FARADAYS** The Waterfront, Brierley Hill, Dudley, DY5 1UR 01384 482 882  
**FIVE RIVERS** Vicarage Place, Walsall WS1 3NA 01922 646164  
**FOUR STONES** Adam's Hill, Clint, Stourbridge, DY9 9PS 01562 883260  
**FRANZLS** 151 Milcote Rd, Smethwick, B67 5BN 0121 429 7920  
**FRENCH CONNECTION** 3 Coventry St, Stourbridge DY8 1EP 01384 390940  
**FRENCH HEN** Bromsgrove Rd, Clint, Stourbridge DY9 9PY 01562 883040  
**GOLDEN MOMENTS** 2-3 Ablewell St, Walsall WS1 2EQ 01922 640363  
**LE BRASSERIE** 5 Lower Mill Street, Kidderminster. DY11 6JU 01562 744976  
**MADE IN THAI** Darlington St, Wolverhampton WV1 4HW 01902 312512  
**PARADISE BALTI** 7 Lower Mill Street, Kidderminster DY11 6JU 01562 60479  
**THE PIE FACTORY** 50 Hurst



San Carlo, Birmingham

Lane, Tipton DY4 9AB 0121 557 1402  
**RED FORT** Fold St, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LP 01902 424440  
**RISTORANTE ROMAGNA** 4 Upper Green, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton WV6 8QQ 01902 756052  
**SAFFRON** Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury B69 4RR 0121 552 1752  
**SIMON'S** 520 Chester Rd, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0PU 0121 580 9293  
**SPICES** Hollywell Rd, Wednesbury. WS10 7PA 0121 502 0720  
**THE SPRINGHILL** Warstones Rd, Penn, Wolverhampton WV4 4LB 01902 342530  
**THE SUMMERHOUSE** 92 Gospel End Rd, Dudley DY3 4AN 01902 676 102  
**THORNESCROFT** Bridgnorth Rd, Wolverhampton, WV6 7EQ 01902 700 253  
**THE WOODMAN** Claverley, Wolverhampton WV5 7DG 01746 710 553

### Shropshire

**AFTAB** 25 High St, Ironbridge TF8 7AD 01952 432055  
**ALBRIGHT HUSSEY** Ellesmere Rd, Shrewsbury, SY4 3AF 01939 290 523  
**BISTRO JACQUES** 77/77a Mardol, Shrewsbury SY1 1PZ 01743 272586  
**BUTLERS** Park St, Shifnal, TF11 9BA 01952 460662  
**CASA NARANJO** Barracks Passage, Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 01743 588165  
**CASA RUIZ** 45 High Street, Bridgnorth, WV16 4DX 01746 218 084  
**CHEZ MAW** Best Western Valley Hotel, Buildwas Rd, Ironbridge, TF8 7DW 01952 432247  
**THE COTTAGE** Tern Hill, Market Drayton TF9 3PX 01630 638984  
**CROMWELLS** 11 Dogpole, Shrewsbury SY1 1EN 01743 361440  
**DA VINCI'S** 26 High St, Ironbridge, TF8 7AD 01952 432250  
**DORRINGTON OLD HALL PERSIAN CUISINE** Main Road, Dorington, Shropshire SY5 7JD 01743 719100  
**DRAPERS** 10 St Mary's St Shrewsbury, SY1 1DZ 01743 344679  
**THE FEATHERS** Brockton, Much Wenlock TF13 6JR 01746 785202  
**FENNELS** 8 Market Place, Shifnal TF11 9AZ 01952 463020  
**THE FOX INN** 46 High St, Much Wenlock TF13 6AD 01952 727292  
**FRANK CAFE BAR** 129 Frankwell, Shrewsbury SY3 8JX 01743 354422  
**THE GOLDEN CROSS** 14 Princess St, Shrewsbury, SY1 1LP 01743 362507  
**GRANARY BAR & GRILL** Weston Park, Weston-under-Lizard, Nr Shifnal, TF11 8LE 01952 852107  
**THE GLUTTON CLUB** 165-167 Frankwell, Shrewsbury SY3 8LG 01743 361672  
**HADLEY PARK HOUSE** Hadley Park, Telford TF1 6QJ 01952 677269  
**THE HAYWARDS** at The Lion Hotel, Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1UY 01743 353107  
**HENRY TUDOR HOUSE** Barracks Passage Shrewsbury SY1 1XA 01743 361666  
**HILL VALLEY HOTEL** Tarporley Road, Whitchurch SY13 4HA 0844 879 9049  
**THE INN AT GRINSHILL** The High Street, Grinshill, Shrewsbury, SY4 3BL 01939 220410  
**KING & THAI** Avenue Rd, Broseley, Telford TF12 5DL 01952 882004  
**THE KNIGHTON HOTEL** Broad Street, Knighton, Powys LD7 1BL 01547 520530  
**LA BÉCASSE** 17 Corve St, Ludlow, SY8 1DA 01584 872 325  
**LA DOLCE VITA** 35 Hills

Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 1QU 01743 249126  
**LA LANTERNA** The Old Vestry, St Julian's Church, Shrewsbury SY1 1UH 01743 233552  
**LION & PHEASANT** 50 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1XJ 01743 770345  
**THE LION QUAYS** Moreton, Oswestry SY11 3EN 01691 684300  
**LOCH FYNE** Talbot House, Market Street, Shrewsbury SY1 1LG 01743 277140  
**MAD JACKS** 15 St Mary's St, Shrewsbury, SY1 1EQ 01743 358870  
**THE MALTHEOUSE** The Wharfage, Ironbridge TF8 7NH 01902 433712  
**MORGANS** 1 Bellstone, Shrewsbury SY1 1HU 01743 239114  
**MR UNDERHILLS** Dinham Weir, Ludlow Shropshire SY8 1EH 01584 874431  
**THE MYTTON & MERMAID** Atcham, Shrewsbury, SY5 6QG 01743 761220  
**THE OLD ORLETON INN** Holyhead Rd, Wellington, TF1 2HA 01952 255011  
**THE OLD RECTORY HOTEL & RESTAURANT** Lowe Hill Road, Wem, Shropshire SY4 5UA 01939 233233  
**THE PEACH TREE** 21 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6AE 01743 355055  
**THE PLUME OF FEATHERS** Harley, Shrewsbury SY5 6LP 01743 727360  
**THE POUND AT LEEBOTWOOD** Leebotwood, Nr Church Stretton SY6 6ND 01694 751477  
**RENAISSANCE**, 29a Princess St, Shrewsbury, SY11LW 01743 354289  
**ROMOLO** Victoria Avenue, shrewsbury SY1 1HH 01743 233244  
**SARACENS** Shrewsbury Rd, SY4 4AG 01939 210877  
**SEBASTIANS** 45 Willow St, Oswestry SY11 1AQ 01691 655444  
**SHALIMAR** 23 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury

SY2 6AE 01743 366658  
**SHERAZ** 79 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1UT 01743 242321  
**THE SILVERTON** the Old Dairy, 9-10 Frankwell, Shrewsbury SY3 8JY 01743 248000  
**TIN TINS** Wellington Road, Telford TF2 8AJ 01952 608688  
**TRAITORS GATE** Castle St, Water Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 2BX 01743 249152  
**THE WALLS** Welsh Walls, Oswestry SY11 1AW 01691 670970  
**ZIZI RISOARENT** 39-40 High Street, Shrewsbury SY1 1SF 01743 353232

### Staffordshire

**NO 5** Gaol Mews, Stafford ST16 3AN 01785 22 9900  
**95 HIGH GREEN** Cannock. WS11 1BH 01543 573905  
**1709 THE BASSERIE** 3-5 Lombard St, Lichfield. WS13 6DP 01543 257986  
**BELLA ITALIA** 20 Greengate St, Stafford, ST16 2HS 01785 211968  
**CHANDLERS** Corn Exchange, Conduit St, Lichfield, WS13 6JU 01543 416688  
**THE CORNER HOUSE** Second Avenue, Burton-On-Trent DE14 2WF 01283 542321  
**CURRY KUTEER** 31 Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2HY 01785 253279  
**ESSENCE OF THE ORIENT** 27 Broad Eye, Stafford ST16 2QB 01785 229988  
**FOUR SEASONS** Swinfen Hall Lichfield, WS14 9RE 01543 481494  
**THE GREEN ROOM** Castle Dyke, Lichfield WS13 6HR 01543 412121  
**INDIAN VILLAGE** 8 Lombard St, Lichfield. WS13 6DR 01543 253415  
**INDICA** Virage Park, Cannock. WS11 0HN

# Restaurant LISTINGS

08712 070417

**JASMINE PEKING** 21 High St, Eccleshall, Stafford ST21 6BW 01785 851200

**LA DOLCE VITA** 19 Stafford St, Stone ST15 8QW 01785 817 985

**THE LODGE** 24 Birmingham Road, Shenstone. WS14 0LQ 01543 483334

**MALABAR** 1-2 Water Street, Stafford, ST16 2AG 01785 227 500/600

**MARLOES** 13 London Road, Newcastle under Lyme, ST4 1LQ 01782 661983

**THE MILL** 1 Mill St, Stone, ST15 8BA 01785 818456

**THE NAVIGATION INN** Newport Road, Gnosall, Stafford ST20 0BN 01785 822327

**OLD VICARAGE** 2 Main St, Branston, Burton, DE14 3EX 01283 533222

**PASTICHE BISTRO** 1 - 2 Mill Street, Stafford, ST16 2AJ 01782 263 737

**THE PEARL** 18 Market St, Kidsgrove, ST7 4AB 01782 788887

**THE PEAR TREE** Swinfen, Nr. Lichfield, WS14 9QR 01543 481807

**PORTOFINO** 38-40 Marsh St Stoke-On-Trent, ST1 1JD 01782 209444

**THE RED ROOM** 7 Newcastle Road, Congleton CW12 4HN 01260 297871

**THE SWAN HOTEL** 46 Greengage Street, Stafford ST16 2JA 01785 258142

**THORNBURY HALL, RASOI** Lockwood Rd, Kingsley Holt, Stafford ST10 2DH 01538 750831

**WOLSELEY ARMS** Wolseley Bridge, Stafford ST17 0XS 01889 883179

## Warwickshire

**7 SQUARE** 7 Old Square, Warwick CV34 4RA 01926 411 755

**NO. 9 CHURCH STREET** Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire CV37 6HB 01789 415522

**ART KITCHEN** 7 Swan St, Warwick CV34 4BJ

01926 494303

**AUBERGINE** 32 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HS 01926 400 086

**THE ALMANACK** Abbey End North, Kenilworth CV8 1QJ 01926 353637

**THE BLUEBELL** 93 High Street, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, B95 5AT 01564 793049

**BLUE BISTRO** 21 Spon St, Coventry, CV1 3BA 024 7622 9274

**BROWNS** Earl St, Coventry CV1 5RU 0247 622 1100

**CARLUCCIOS** 13 Waterside, Stratford-Upon-Avon CV37 6BA 01789 267424

**CASTLES** 6 Castle St, Warwick. CV34 4BP 01926 492525

**CATALAN** 6 Jury St, Warwick CV34 4EW 01926 498 930

**THE CHURCH STREET TOWNHOUSE** 16 Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HB 01789 262222

**EGO** 29 The Square, Kenilworth, CV8 1EF 01926 864463

**THE ENCORE** Bridge Street Stratford upon Avon CV37 6AB 01789 269462

**FINEST CATCH** B'ham Rd, Henley in Arden. B95 5QR 01564 793783

**FIVE RIVERS** 20-22 Victoria Terrace, Leamington Spa, CV31 3AB 01926 431999

**THE FLAT CHICKEN** 44 Guild Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6QY 01789 415543

**GEORGETOWN** 23 Sheep St, Stratford-Upon-Avon, CV37 6EF 01789 204445

**HELP OUT MILL** Heather Rd, Shakerstone, Nuneaton. CV13 0BT 01530 260666

**HIGH PAVEMENT** 3 High Street, Warwick, CV34 4AP 01926 494725

**HOGARTH'S HOTEL** 4 Ashes Rd, Solihull, B93 8QE 01564 779988

**HORTONS** 165 High Street, Solihull B91 3ST 0121 709 3177

**INDIA RED** 1-2 Abbey St, Nuneaton. CV11 5BP 02476 342090



The Queens, Bellbroughton, Nr Stourbridge

**JIMMY SPICES** 64-66 Station Rd, Solihull, B91 3RX 0121 709 2111

**LE BISTRO PIERRE** Swans Nest, Bridgford, Stratford upon Avon. CV37 7LT 01789 264804

**MATRICARDIS** 97 High St, Henley in Arden. B95 5AT 01564 792735

**MERCHANTS** Swan Street, Warwick CV34 4BJ 01926 403833

**NAYA** 148 High St, Henley in Arden. B95 5BS 01564 793089

**NAILCOTE HALL** Nailcote Lane, Berkswell, Coventry, CV7 7DE 02476 466174

**NICOLINIS** 14 The Parade, Leamington Spa, CV32 4DW 01926 421620

**ONE ELM** 1 Guild St, Stratford-Upon-Avon, CV37 6QZ 01789 404919

**OSCARS** 39 Chandos St, Leamington Spa, CV32 4RL 01926 452807

**PEEL'S** Hampton Manor, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull, B92 0EN 01675 446080

**PREZZO** 1-3 High St, Warwick CV34 4AP 01926 475867

**QUEANS RESTAURANT** 15 Dorner Place, Leamington Spa CV32 5AA 01926 315522

**RESTAURANT 23** 34 Hamilton Terrace, Holly Walk Leamington Spa, CV32 4LY 01926 422422

**ROBBIES** 74 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HU 01926 400470

**ROOFTOP RESTAURANT** @ The RST, Waterside, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BB 01789 403449

**SAFFRON GOLD** Market St, Westgate House, Warwick CV34 4DE 01926 402061

**THE SAXON MILL** Coventry Rd, Guys Cliffe, Warwick CV34 5YN 01926 492 255

**SIGNATURES** @ The Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, CV1 1GS 02476 846762

**TAILORS** 22 Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SL 01926 410590

**THAI ELEPHANT** 20 Regent St, Leamington Spa, Warwick CV32 5HQ 01926 868682

**THE TREVELYAN** Warwick Rd, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 0NR 01789 295252

**WARWICK SPICE** 24 Smith St, Warwick CV34 4HS 01926 491736

**THE VINE INN** 86 - 88 West St, Warwick CV34 6AW 07873 219005

**ZIZZI** 85-87 Regent Square House, Parade, Leamington Spa CV 32 4NL 01926 432532

**ZORBA'S** Olton Boulevard, Solihull. B27 7DP 0121 706 4709

## Worcestershire

**ANAKARI** 47 The Tythings, Worcester. WR1 1JT 01905 21412

**ANGEL CHEF** 1 Angel St, Worcester WR1 3QT 01905 731131

**ANUPAM** 85 Church Street, Malvern. WR14 2AE 01684 573814

**BACCHUS** 44 Worcester Road, Bromsgrove B61 0TA 01527 877557

**BENEDICTOS** 34 Sidbury, Worcester WR1 2HZ 01905 21444

**BINDLES** 55 Sidbury, Worcester. WR1 2HU 01905 611120

**BRAMBLINGS** Hither Green Lane, Redditch, B98 9BE 01527 406600

**THE BRIDGE INN** Plough Rd, Tibberton, Droitwich. WR9 7NQ 01905 345874

**THE BROOK INN** Elcocks

Bank, Redditch. B97 5UD 01527 543209

**BROWNS** 24 Quay St, Worcester WR1 2JJ 01905 26263

**THE CHASE INN** Chase Rd, Upper Colwall, Malvern. WR13 6DQ 01684 540276

**CHESTERS** 51 New St, Worcester, WR1 2DL 01905 611638

**CROWN & SANDYS** Main Rd, Ombersley, WR9 0EW 01905 620252

**EWE & LAMB** Hanbury Rd, Bromsgrove. B60 4DN 01527 871929

**THE FIG TREE** 99 Church Street, Gt Malvern, WR14 2AE 01684 569909

**FOUR SEASONS** 61 Lowesmoor, Worcester WR1 2RS 01905 27026

**FUSION BRASSERIE** Hawbridge, Stoultton, Worcester WR7 4RJ 01905 840647

**THE GARDENERS ARMS** Vines Lane, Droitwich. WR9 8LU 01905 772936

**THE GATE** 36 Dodford Rd, Bournheath, Bromsgrove B61 9JR 01527 878169

**THE INN AT STONEHALL** Stonehall Common, Worcester, WR5 3QG 01905 820462

**KING CHARLES II** King Charles House, New St, Worcester WR1 2D 01905 22449

**L'AMUSE BOUCHE** 51 Graham Rd, Malvern. WR14 2HU 01684 572427

**LANGTREYS** 89a High St, Bromsgrove. B61 8AQ 01527 878242

**LITTLE VENICE** 1 - 3 St Nicholas St, Worcester WR1 1UW 01905 726126

**LOTUS HOUSE** 33 Ombersley St, Droitwich. WR9 8QX 01905 770079

**MAEKONG THAI** 12 Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove. B61 7AE

01527 578888

**MASSALLA LOUNGE** 35 Broad St, Worcester WR1 3NH 01905 729955

**MUG HOUSE** Claines Lane, Worcester WR3 7RN 01905 456649

**OLD RECTIFYING HOUSE** North Parade, Worcester WR1 3NN 01905 619622

**ON THE ROCKS**, Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove. B61 7AE 01527 882412

**PORTOFINO**, 6 Worcester Rd, Droitwich. WR9 8AD 01905 794799

**PORTWAY ITALIAN**, Alcester Rd, Redditch. B48 7HT 01564 824794

**PUCCINI'S**, 12 Friar St, Worcester WR12LZ 01905 27770

**RAJDOOT** Cutnall Green, Alcester Rd, Redditch. WR9 0PW 01299 851000

**RILY'S** The Quadrant, Redditch B98 8AE 01527 60544

**ROSADOS'S** 2 Fininstall Rd, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. B60 2DZ 01527 889948

**SAFFRON BISTRO** 15 New St, Worcester WR1 2DP 01905 610505

**SINGAPORE** 29 Friar St, Worcester WR1 2NA 01905 613005

**THAI GALLERY** 26-32 Friar St, Worcester WR1 2LZ 01905 25451

**THAI LOTUS** 147 Worcester Rd, Bromsgrove. B61 7HN 01527 882606

**THAI RAMA** Walwyn Rd, Gt Malvern. WR13 6QX 01684 541563

**THE WILDMOOR OAK** Top Road, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove B61 0RB 0121 453 2696

**THE WOOD NORTON** Worcester Road Evesham Worcestershire WR11 4YB 01386 765611

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