

THE CORE
theatre solihull

SPRING
2020



DOM JOLY - SEE PAGE 6



BOX OFFICE **0121 704 6962**
thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk

THE CORE GETS CHATTY!

2020 is upon us and as we move into a new decade there is much to celebrate at **The Core Theatre** in the coming year.

May Day bank holiday has 'moved' this year creating a special day on 9th May to celebrate **VE Day**. We're holding a fun musical day with a street-party theme. See page p17 for details of this special VE Day at The Core plus a **Dad's Army** themed theatre show in the Spring on page p9.

We'll be celebrating **International Women's week** in March with a performance of **Wanted** – a powerful drama by Midlands based Gazebo Theatre reminding us of the huge contribution of five strong women who changed lives with little recognition or reward (see page p10).

Encore Café Bar continues to work towards phasing out as much single use plastic as possible. We now re-use all our plastic glasses in the Café and Theatre so please don't throw our lovely re-usables away!

2 Plus our recycling centre in the Café aims to recycle as much as we can into the appropriate boxes (please check labels). In 2020 we're hoping to launch a new coffee cup scheme plus a streamlined menu that better supports local businesses and reduces food miles so watch this space!

Our Encore Café are delighted to have become a '**Chatty Café**' where users who are happy to have a chat with others can sit at one of our 'chatty' tables... look for the blue signs. This national scheme promotes well-being and a sense of community. Sometimes when people live or work alone, just few minutes of conversation can really make someone's day! Find out more on p26.

Why not join us for a chat next time you visit **The Core**.

Lawrence Smith

Lawrence Smith
Theatre Manager

Cover images:

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THEATRE

**SAT 18 JAN, 7.30PM****THE BILLY FURY YEARS**

One of the best-selling recording artists of the 1960s, Billy Fury enjoyed a string of hit singles before the singer's untimely death in 1983.

Hailed as "the best Fury since Fury", Michael King and his fantastic collection of musicians take you on a journey through the musical career of Britain's best loved rock 'n' roll legend packed with hits, delivered in true Fury style.

Enhanced by fantastic audio and video effects and costume changes depicting the ever changing image and the face of the Fury phenomenon.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £20

THEATRE

**WED 22 JAN, 7.30PM****GRAFFITI CLASSICS**

16 strings, 8 dancing feet and 4 voices with 1 aim: to make classical music wickedly funny and fantastically exhilarating for audiences everywhere!

Graffiti Classics bursts the elitist boundaries of the traditional String Quartet with its hilarious all-singing, all-dancing musical comedy show.

It's a classical concert, a gypsy-folk romp, a standup comedy and a dance show rolled into one!

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £15 (SUITABLE AGE: 7 - 97!)

THEATRE

**THU 23 JAN, 7.30PM****BOOGIE WILLIAMS - GREAT BALLS OF FIRE**

The producers of The Roy Orbison Story are proud to present a brand-new production for 2020 featuring the incredible 'Boogie Williams' and his smoking hot piano performing the hits of rock and roll legend 'Jerry Lee Lewis.'

With special guests and a fabulous five-piece band, Boogie Williams will be 'ripping' through the great rock and roll songbook. From the raw sound of the young man known as 'The Killer' to the later sophisticated songs. Show contains big screen projection and narration.

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 1HR 30MINS TICKETS: £20

THEATRE



WED 29 JAN, 7.30PM

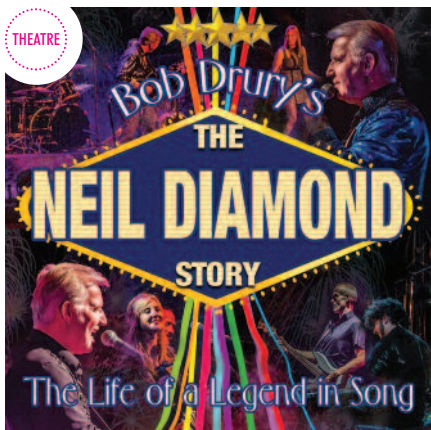
THE SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA

Syd Lawrence formed what was to become the UK's most successful and longest running Big Band, performing in theatres all over Europe since 1967.

They've featured on many TV shows such as *Les Dawson*, *Morecambe & Wise*, *Pebble Mill* and a *Royal Variety* performance plus regular radio shows and remain in demand throughout Europe as purveyors of the very finest Big Band music. As well as album recordings, they've toured with Tony Bennett, Matt Monro, Frankie Vaughan, Mel Tormé and many more.

RUNNING TIME: 2HR 20MINS, PLUS INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £24

THEATRE



THU 30 & FRI 31 JAN, 7.30PM

THE NEIL DIAMOND STORY

One of the world's finest vocal tributes to Neil Diamond, Bob Drury performs throughout the UK, Europe and in the United States for the American Neil Diamond Fan Club in both Nashville and Las Vegas.

The show tracks Neil's journey from unknown and struggling New York songwriter to international mega-star. The music covers every stage of a staggering music career spanning five decades, accompanied by a live band. Enjoy *Cracklin' Rosie*, *America*, *Love on the Rocks* and many more.

www.theneildiamondstory.co.uk

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £22

THEATRE



SAT 1 FEB, 2PM

SING-A-LONG-A THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

Sing-a-Long-a Productions return with *The Greatest Showman*! Cheer on Hugh Jackman, lust after Zach Efron and hiss Rebecca Ferguson (...or maybe not) as you experience the film in the greatest way possible – with lyrics on the screen to join in!

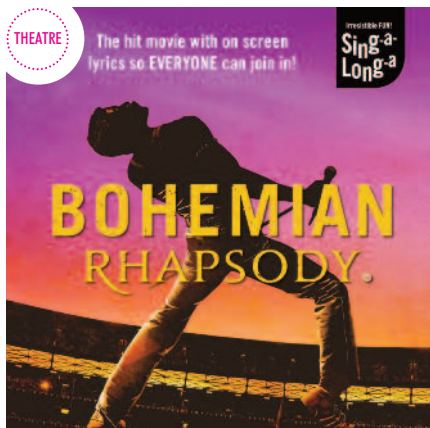
A live host teaches unique dance moves and offers interactive fun bags. Sit back, relax and sing and dance along to the lyrics on screen. YOU the audience are the stars! Fancy dress is strongly encouraged.

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 140MINS **TICKETS:** £16 ADULT, £12 CHILD
THE FILM IS PG RATED, CHILDREN AGED 5+ ARE WELCOME

THEATRE

The hit movie with on screen lyrics so EVERYONE can join in!

Sing-a-Long-a



SAT 1 FEB, 7.30PM

SING-A-LONG-A BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY

Sing-a-Long-a Productions present their new show Sing-a-Long-a Bohemian Rhapsody! Celebrate Queen, their music, and their extraordinary lead singer Freddie Mercury.

Our live host will warm up your voices in true Freddie style, teach you some iconic dance moves and show you how to use your interactive prop bags, then sit back and sing along with the on screen lyrics to those classic hits. Please note: this is a movie screening not a live stage show.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 40MINS **TICKETS:** £16 ADULT, £12 CHILD
THE FILM IS RATED A 12A - SUGGESTED 15+

STUDIO



FRI 7, SAT 8 & FRI 14, SAT 15 FEB, VARIOUS

SINBAD THE SAILOR DOWN UNDER

Harlequinade return with their fun, panto-style shows to brighten up any Spring weekend. This time featuring Sinbad and his friend Daring Dan on a trip to Australia together with Captain Crabb, Dame Salubria, two naughty stowaways, a rival Pirate ship and even the Old Man of the Sea may turn up!

This fast moving totally original show is performed in the ground floor Studio staged by a local talented cast. The show is suitable for all ages and all profits support local charities.

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 150MINS **TICKETS:** £12 ADULT, £10 CHILD

THEATRE



SUN 16 FEB, 7.30PM

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

This show transports audiences back to one of the most iconic periods of the Sixties. The 'Flower Power' era, where, peace, love & psychedelia swayed to the great music of Scott McKenzie, The Flowerpot Men, Barry McGuire, The Turtles and many more.

The Mamas and Papas were a supergroup of the Flower Power era with hits like *Monday Monday*, *Dedicated To The One I Love* and *California Dreaming*, just to name a few.

Don't miss this opportunity to relive a summer of love in one great show.

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £23.50

THEATRE



WED 19 FEB, 1PM

THE THREE BILLY GOATS GRUFF

On a grassy hillside, in the middle of the country, there lived THE THREE BILLY GOATS GRUFF!

They never stopped eating and before long they had eaten everything they could get their hooves on.

So hold on to your horns and join the Billy Goats on their adventure as they bravely cross the rickety bridge to greener pastures. But who will they meet along the way as they TRIP TRAP over the bridge? Find out in this fun family show aimed at little ones.

RUNNING TIME: 55MINS **TICKETS:** £12 (SUITABLE AGE: 3 - 7YRS)

THEATRE



THU 20 FEB, 7.30PM

DOM JOLY'S HOLIDAY SNAPS: TRAVEL & COMEDY IN THE DANGERZONE

Join Trigger Happy TV star Dom Joly with his Holiday Snaps: Travel and Comedy In The Danger Zone. A rip-roaring travelogue featuring stories from his childhood home in the Lebanon - where he went to school with Osama Bin Laden - to North Korea, Chernobyl and Cambodia.

Dom will feature in a TV series this Spring coinciding with his new book called The Hezbollah Hiking Club. The show features; clips, holiday snaps, funny stories and more - part comedy, part travelogue + Q&A and book signing.

RUNNING TIME: 2 X 45MINS, PLUS INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £18

THEATRE



FRI 21 FEB, 7.30PM

THE FUREYS

After 14 previous concerts here, The Fureys return for another great night of music, song and stories in 2020.

Hear them sing their timeless classics including *I Will Love You*, *When You Were Sweet 16*, *The Green Fields Of France*, *Red Rose Cafe*, *From Clare to Here*, *Her Father Didn't Like Me Anyway*, *Leaving Nancy*, *Steal Away*, plus songs from their new CD *The Times They Are Changing*.

Their wonderful songs stir many emotions...tears and laughter, sadness and joy.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £22

THE
CORE



SAT 22 FEB, AT THE CORE

SOLIHULL FAIRTRADE CAKE OFF 2020

Annual public cake competition with a Fairtrade twist!

Open to adults and children. Get baking and entering in this popular Solihull Fairtrade baking competition which includes the final of the Schools' Bake Off Competition.

More details and link to entry form on
www.solihull.gov.uk/fairtrade



THEATRE



SAT 22 FEB, 7.30PM

MAMA PRESENTS AN EVENING OF GENESIS MUSIC

Mama faithfully reproduce the sights and sounds of a high octane, contemporary Genesis rock concert with fantastic musicianship from acclaimed musicians.

A journey from Genesis' early Peter Gabriel years, through the Phil Collins' era of the 70s and 80s and right up to their final studio album, *We Can't Dance*.

Featuring John Wilkinson, John Comish, Jon Vatikiotis, Tim Rothwell and Dave Jones.

RUNNING TIME: 3HRS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £18

THEATRE



THU 27 - SAT 29 FEB, 2.30PM & 7.30PM

OKLAHOMA!

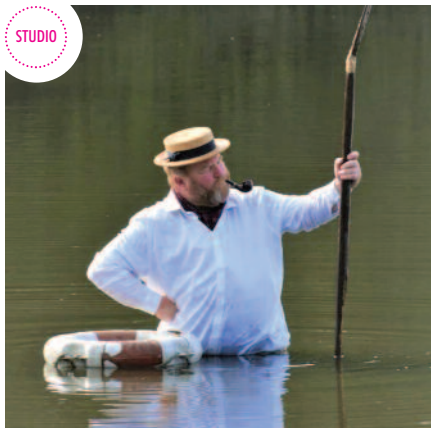
Set in Oklahoma circa 1900s this delightful musical features several cowboys and 'gals' who struggle to get their feelings clear and sort out who really belongs together.

The show is set on a ranch and is performed by SOSage Factory - the talented youth wing of Solihull on Stage.

The toe-tapping musical western-style show is full of familiar songs such as *Oh, What a Beautiful Morning*; *The Surrey with the Fringe on Top*, *I Can't say No*, *People Will Say We're in Love* and, of course, *Oklahoma!*

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 2HRS 45MINS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £10 - £13

STUDIO



FRI 28 FEB, 7.30PM

THREE MEN IN A BOAT

Join this rip roaring barrel of fun, Three Men in a Boat, with Giles Shenton playing the part of Jerome K Jerome, presented by Kick in the Head Productions.

Join Jerome as he recounts the hilarious story of his boating holiday along the magnificent River Thames with his two companions and Montmorency the dog.

Join in the fun as Giles Shenton expertly takes the helm and pilots you through the ridiculous tale of men behaving badly while messing about in boats!

RUNNING TIME: 95MINS **TICKETS:** £12

THEATRE



TUE 3 MAR, 7.30PM

THE FORTUNATE SONS: TRIBUTE TO CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL

American rock band Creedence Clearwater Revival enjoyed only four years of chart-topping success before splitting but sold nearly 30 million records in the US alone.

The Fortunate Sons are the world's greatest tribute band and are touring their amazing show in the UK in 2020 using vintage gear and instruments and wearing accurate costumes. Performing their classic songs... *Proud Mary*, *Bad Moon Rising*, *Green River*, *Down On The Corner*, backed up with stories and history of the era.

RUNNING TIME: TBC **TICKETS:** £20

THEATRE



WED 4 MAR, 7.30PM

NICHOLAS CRANE - THE MAKING OF THE BRITISH LANDSCAPE

Nicholas Crane is an author, geographer and cartographic expert. He has been the lead presenter on more than 80 BBC films including hugely popular BBC2 series *Coast*.

Nick presents *The Making of the British Landscape - Our Island Story*: which tells the illustrated 12,000 year story of Britain's physical evolution from the Ice Age to the Shard, from hunter-gatherers to farmers and city-dwellers.

Including amusing tales and observations from 10 years of presenting over 80 BBC programmes.

RUNNING TIME: 1HR 50MINS, INCL. INTERVAL AND Q&A **TICKETS:** £20

THEATRE



THU 5 MAR, 7.30PM

DON'T PANIC!

Don't Panic! is a variety tribute show in the style of the hit comedy show *Dad's Army* whose hilarious character creations have a special place in TV history with remakes, lost scripts and a major feature film.

This light hearted sing-along, laugh-along comedy show contains many character favourites from the *Dad's Army* gang to make sure that everyone is helping with the war effort. But who will help catch the enemy spy?!

Add in some magic and human puppetry and Don't Panic! is a sure fire hit with original storylines and comedy sketches.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £21

THEATRE



SAT 7 MAR, 7.30PM

QUILL

Classic Midlands folk rock band Quill return with a great new show. It features an eclectic mix of stylish covers of well-known songs, original numbers and Quill standards.

Seven piece Quill consist of Joy Strachan-Brain lead vocals, Kate McWilliam violin, John Jowitt on bass guitar, Lee T Evans on lead guitar, Abby Brant on keyboards, former Robert Plant drummer Andy Edwards and former Move, ELO and Black Sabbath drummer Bev Bevan on percussion.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £19

THEATRE



TUE 10 - SAT 14 MAR, VARIOUS TIMES

ANNIE

Annie is a Broadway musical based upon the popular Harold Gray comic strip *Little Orphan Annie*, with music by Charles Strouse, lyrics by Martin Carnin.

It has seen numerous productions in many countries, as well as national tours and won the Tony Award for Best Musical.

The musical's songs *Tomorrow* and *It's the Hard Knock Life* are among its most popular musical numbers. Knowle Musical Society are looking forward to bringing this classic show to Solihull's Core Theatre.

TICKETS: £20, £18 CHILD

STUDIO



SAT 14 MAR, 7.30PM

RAYMOND FROGGATT ACOUSTIC

A fantastic show with great songs spanning over five decades.

Hugely popular with regional audiences, the singer songwriter continues to perform with the highest standards of musicality.

Solihull favourite Raymond 'Froggie' Froggatt returns with his acoustic set in the laid back ground floor Studio.

RUNNING TIME: 150MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £15

THEATRE



TUE 17 MAR, 7.30PM

WANTED BY GAZEBO THEATRE

WANTED explores the stories of 5 amazing women throughout history, each with a passion for standing up for what is right.

An array of historical figures from around the world feature in this work written and performed by Pam Cole-Hudson, Tonia Daley-Campbell and Therese Collins. The trio wowed audiences in The Sistren and will explore what these women from the past can teach us about our lives today, played out in style by five actors.

A powerful drama littered with humour, honesty and heart.

RUNNING TIME: TBC **TICKETS:** £14, £12 CONC.

THEATRE



THU 19 MAR, 7.30PM

FOSTER & ALLEN

Foster & Allen's style and easy listening sound remains as fresh and exciting as ever. They really enjoy the business they are in, especially the live concerts.

In 2020 they will celebrate 45 years together in the music business and to coincide with this, they've released 'Timeless Memories' which features 182 tracks from 10 of their most popular and favourite albums, many of which have not been reissued in Ireland and the UK for a number of years.

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 110MINS **TICKETS:** £29

THEATRE



FRI 20 MAR, 7.30PM

SOMEONE LIKE YOU: THE ADELE SONGBOOK

Someone Like You (The Adele Songbook) is a stunning live concert performance, celebrating the music of one of our generation's finest singer-songwriters.

Hand-picked by Adele herself on Graham Norton's BBC Special, Katie Markham leads a super-talented six piece band through all your favourite Adele hits plus much more in this internationally acclaimed show.

From powerhouse performances through to intimate torch songs and a spellbinding sit down acoustic section. Early booking recommended.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £22

THEATRE



SAT 21 MAR, 7.30PM

TWISTIN' THE NIGHT AWAY WITH SI CRANSTOUN

Prepare to party when the Vintage King Si Cranstoun and his band make a welcome appearance with their blend of Doo Wop, Soul and Rocking Rhythm & Blues.

His Twistin' The Night Away show is a highly charged, toe-tapping journey, driven by retro dance rhythms and spearheaded by Si Cranstoun's dynamic stage presence and a voice which echos those of Jackie Wilson, Sam Cooke and the great black American singers of old. Hits from Swing, Rock 'n' Roll, Rhythm and Blues, Soul and Ska makes this an unmissable night in the company of a showman.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £20

STUDIO



TUE 24 MAR, 2PM

MALCOLM STENT IN THE AFTERNOON

His guests vary each show, sometimes singers, sometimes guitarists etc. His stories will take you back and hopefully make you smile too.

Malcolm's warmth and local interest ensures his popularity never wanes and his audiences remain as loyal now as they were 25 years ago! Spend an afternoon with Malc and be home by teatime!

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £12

THEATRE

10cc's GRAHAM GOULDMAN & Heart Full of Songs

TUE 24 MAR, 7.30PM

GRAHAM GOULDMAN

10cc have enjoyed success around the world, but recognition of Graham Gouldman's solo achievements has grown too. Graham was inducted into the Songwriter's Hall of Fame - part of America's National Academy of Music, in 2014 recognised alongside Dylan, Sedaka and Bacharach and more.

His four-piece band will perform beautiful acoustic versions of his songs, like *I'm Not in Love*, *Dreadlock Holiday*, *Rubber Bullets* and many more in this perfectly crafted Heart Full of Songs show and his fifth solo album is due out in early 2020.

RUNNING TIME: TBC TICKETS: £25

THEATRE



WED 25 MAR, 7.30PM

JIMMY BUCKLEY

Already a top entertainer in Ireland Jimmy aims to capture the hearts of UK Country music fans and is certainly a star on the rise.

After his massive hit song *Your Wedding Day* (written by Henry McMahon), Jimmy conquered the Irish music scene in 2007 and continues to release successful new songs and tours throughout Ireland.

Jimmy visited Nashville, Tennessee and The Country Music Hall of Fame and a visit the home of Jimmy's idol, Elvis. He appears with special guest star Claudia Buckley.

RUNNING TIME: 140MINS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £23.50

THEATRE



FRI 27 MAR, 7.30PM

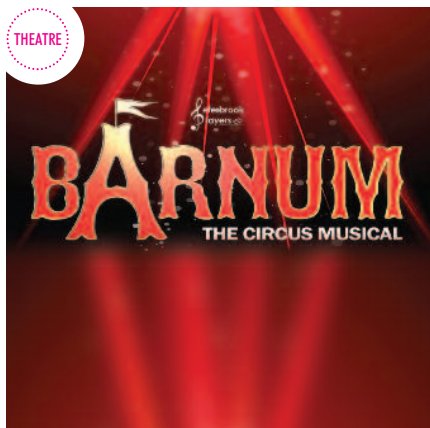
THE MAN WHO LEFT IS NOT THE MAN WHO CAME HOME

A surprising, inspiring two hander play based on real stories exploring the impact of going and returning from war on the wives and families of the armed forces.

Kevin Dyer's new play is the product of over a hundred interviews with soldiers and soldiers' wives - each a one-to-one conversation where secrets, regrets and untold details are shared for the first time. The story of resilience and hope. There will be an optional post show discussion led by an experienced facilitator, about the country we live in.

RUNNING TIME: 70MINS + AFTERSHOW CONVERSATION TICKETS: £12

THEATRE

**MON 30 MAR - SAT 4 APR, 2.30PM & 7.30PM****BARNUM**

P T Barnum is quite possibly the World's Greatest Showman and Peterbrook Players' 2020 production of this classic musical promises to be their most adventurous and spectacular to date.

Barnum is in the circus world with all topsy turvy ups and downs this brings to his business and personal life. Expect to be transformed, dazzled, amazed and stupefied!

You will not be disappointed, but don't leave it too late, because this society that brought you Spamalot and Legally Blonde are sure to sell out!

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 140MINS TICKETS: £20, (£18 CONC. ON MON)

THEATRE

**THU 9 APR, 2.30PM****WOODLAND TALES WITH GRANDDAD**

Something is happening in the woods, voices can be heard, metallic smells fill the air. Machines are gathering at its edge and a mysterious call is heard across the valley.

Laura the ladybird, Jeffrey the spider, Brett the Woodlouse and Willoughby the Woodpecker are worried. Velda the Vixen knows there's one person who can help them - Granddad. But is there enough time? Can they save the wood? And will the mystery stranger help?

A delightful family puppet show with an environmental message for ages 3+.

RUNNING TIME: 50MINS, NO INTERVAL TICKETS: £10

THEATRE

THE BIG FAMILY LAUGHTER SHOW**WED 15 APR, 11AM & 2.30PM****THE SOOTY SHOW**

Izzy wizzy, let's get busy! Join Sooty for his brand new laugh out loud magic show!

Direct from their hit ITV series, Sooty, Sweep and Soo and TV's Richard Cadell will amaze you with impossible tricks and sidesplitting jokes! Be astounded at Sooty's flying car, Soo's singing unicorn and Sweep's levitating sausage!

With special guests circus star Michael Jordan and the ultraviolet specialties of Fantasia de la Nuit.

An Easter holiday treat for the whole family - including a chance to meet Richard and Sooty after the show! Book now!

RUNNING TIME: 2 X 40MINS, PLUS INTERVAL TICKETS: £14

THEATRE



FRI 17 APR, 8PM

THE KING ELVIS PRESLEY LIVES ON

Gordon Davis is also known as one of the best Elvis tribute artists in the world after winning Images of the King in Memphis Tennessee in 2012.

Gordon Davis brings the majesty of the voice and the electrifying power of Elvis' performance back to life. Accompanied throughout by his world class band and backing singers that breathe the life into the music of a legend.

Featuring; *Blue Suede Shoes, Are You Lonesome Tonight, If I Can Dream, The Wonder Of You, Suspicious Minds* and many, many more.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £TBC

THEATRE



SAT 18 APR, 7.30PM

KARL LOXLEY: YOU RAISE ME UP

TV's 'The Voice' and International Classical Crossover Singer Karl Loxley celebrates the music of Josh Groban, Andrea Bocelli, Il Divo and many more.

Including the hit songs *You Raise Me Up, To Where You Are, Nessun Dorma* and *Time To Say Goodbye*.

Featuring an impressive live band. Karl has a host of local fans and early booking is recommended.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £21

THEATRE



WED 22 APR, 7.30PM

HERMAN'S HERMITS

Herman's Hermits were a huge 60s band right around the world. From their early beginnings in Manchester they chalked up 23 hit singles, 10 hit albums, appeared in 3 major movies and to date they have sold in excess of 75 million records worldwide.

Hits include; *There's A Kind Of Hush, Silhouettes, Can't You Hear My Heart Beat, Wonderful World* and many more. Join Herman's Hermits on their 55th Anniversary Tour.

An evening of nostalgia, song and laughter, plus bringing all the hits to life. The show would make an ideal gift.

RUNNING TIME: TBC **TICKETS:** £24

THEATRE



THU 23 APR, 7.30PM

KING PLEASURE AND THE BISCUIT BOYS

Dazzling musicianship, riveting stage performances, more than 50 TV appearances (including, somewhat bizarrely, five episodes of Teletubbies) and 75 radio broadcasts have established them as the Kings of Swing.

They've got King Pleasure's inimitable stogies and bourbon voice, they've got a roaring band sound that comes at you like the Wabash Cannonball, and above all they've got that beat.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £18

THEATRE



SAT 25 APR, 7.30PM

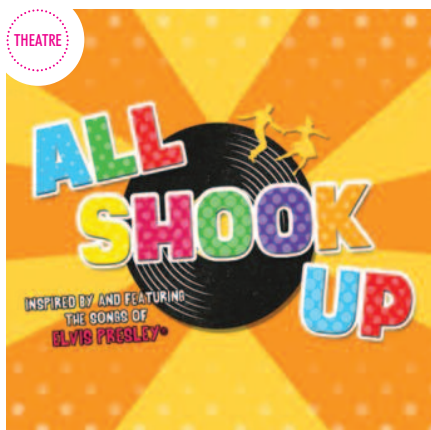
SPRING SING! 10TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Popular community choir Sing! Bentley Heath will be returning to The Core Theatre to present their annual charity Spring Sing! concert. Their 80 singers, under the musical direction of Jane Perrins, are accompanied by a 5 piece band. They're a non-audition choir and have great fun singing because they love it!

This show is in aid of the Alzheimer's Society and the Macular Society and a grand raffle will take place, supported by local businesses. Find out more at at www.singbentleyheath.org.uk/raffle

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 30MINS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £9.50

THEATRE



TUE 28 APR - SAT 2 MAY, 2.30PM & 7.30PM ALL SHOOK UP

The music of Elvis comes alive in All Shook Up, presented by local society Solihull on Stage.

Inspired by Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, All Shook Up follows life in a small Midwestern town that is thrown into a frenzy when guitarist Chad rides into town.

All Shook Up is a rocking, heart-warming tale about following dreams, opening up to love, and the power of music. Including many favourite Elvis hits, such as *Jailhouse Rock*, *Heartbreak Hotel* and *Hound Dog*, this is a show no Elvis fan should miss!

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 2HRS 30MINS, INCL. INTERVAL
TICKETS: £17, (£15 CONC. ON TUE/SAT MATINEE)

STUDIO



WED 29 APR, 7.30PM

GEORGE EGG - MOVABLE FEAST

Direct from the Edinburgh Fringe 2019 comes a brand new comedy-and-cooking show for 2020 from the award-winning stand-up who makes real gourmet food live on stage.

A multi-sensory show rich in humour, sprinkled with handy hacks and real gourmet food cooked live in the most unconventional ways and with the opportunity to taste the results at the end, provided you can stop laughing.

This is a live and unconventional cooking show takes place in the ground floor Studio.

RUNNING TIME: 1HR 40MINS **TICKETS:** £12 (SUITABLE AGE: 14+)

THEATRE



MON 4 & TUE 5 MAY, 2.30PM & 7.30PM

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

One of the biggest shows of its kind in the UK, taking the audience on a breathtaking musical journey through the 50s, 60s and 70s. Including songs by Barry Manilow, Buddy Holly, Frank Sinatra, Petula Clark, The Drifters, Elvis Presley, Abba, Queen and more.

Over 160 costumes and beautifully choreographed for each decade, performed by West End and international vocalists, along with the popular Timeless Showgirls.

An ideal gift idea for anyone who enjoys the great songs of days gone by.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £17 - £18

THEATRE



WED 6 MAY, 7.30PM

TALON ACOUSTIC

Featuring many Eagles classics the show features breathtakingly beautiful acoustic arrangements of their own personal favourites from artists like James Taylor, Simon & Garfunkel, 10cc, Michael Jackson, Billy Joel, Eagles, Pink Floyd, Toto, Bee Gee's and many more in a brand new show.

"Great musicianship, major label production standards and the tightest harmonies you will hear this side of Crosby, Stills & Nash" **Maverick Magazine** (UK's biggest Country Music title)

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £22

THEATRE



THU 7 MAY, 7.30PM

ANDY FAIRWEATHER LOW & THE LOW RIDERS

Andy Fairweather Low's pedigree is the stuff rock dreams are made of. He first came to prominence as the lead singer in Amen Corner. The 60s saw them clock up hit after pop hit. Songs such as *Bend Me Shape Me*, *Hello Suzy*, (*If Paradise is*) *Half As Nice* are internationally remembered to this day.

Andy has since worked with; Eric Clapton, George Harrison, Bob Dylan, Jimi Hendrix, David Crosby, The Band, Elton John, Roger Waters, The Who, BB King, Joe Cocker, Steve Winwood, The Bee Gees, Van Morrison... and hundreds more!

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £23

THE CORE



FRI 8 MAY

VE DAY CELEBRATIONS AT THE CORE THEATRE

Join our street party-themed activities at The Core on this specially created VE Day holiday. Including music and dance with The Boogaloo Babes, plus other themed food and activities.

See the website for accurate timings and full details (when known) of our celebration event to mark this historical day on this special bank holiday, which has been moved from its usual Monday date.

SEE WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS

THEATRE



SAT 9 MAY, 7.30PM

BEN HART - WONDER

Britain's Got Talent 2019 finalist, West End star and multi award-winning magician Ben Hart has recently played to royalty, to celebrities, in West End theatres, international arenas and on dozens of UK and international TV shows (including his own series on BBC Three).

His most mind-blowing and exciting magic aims to shine a light on magic, life, the universe and the darkest corners of your imaginations. Using the simplest of props, objects and his audience, Ben conjures a new kind of magic.

Now with legions of fans early booking is highly recommended.

RUNNING TIME: 100MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £17 (£15 CONC.)

THEATRE

PRISCILLA

QUEEN OF THE DESERT

the musical

TUE 12 - SAT 16 MAY, 2.30PM & 7.30PM

PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT

A premiere by Solihull Theatre Company, as Priscilla Queen of the Desert hits The Core Theatre in May 2020.

Based on the cult film, the musical charts the journey of two drag queens, and a transgender woman, as they travel across Australia in their bus which they've named Priscilla, meeting colourful characters on their way.

Packed with pop anthems like; *It's Raining Men*, *What's Love Got To Do With It* and *I Will Survive*, this flamboyant, funny, disco-fuelled musical is a must-see.

RUNNING TIME: TBC **TICKETS:** £19 - £20

(SUITABLE AGE: 14+ CONTAINS STRONG LANGUAGE & SEXUAL REFERENCES)

STUDIO



FRI 15 MAY, 7.30PM

PAUL WALKER & KAREN PFEIFFER

Paul and Karen's music is not only multifaceted but they also deliver it perfectly on the same wavelength, and these waves carry great energy towards the audience. Through countless live performances and three carefully composed albums, the Anglo-German duo have conquered the hearts of their numerous fans.

Their repertoire combines handpicked folk favourites and their own handcrafted songs, adding short anecdotes, melody and rhythm with gentle poetic touches that linger long after the show has ended.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £12

THEATRE



SUN 17 MAY, 7.30PM

FAIRPORT CONVENTION

Fairport Convention enjoy critical acclaim and the band have won a coveted BBC Lifetime Achievement Award; Radio 2 listeners voted Fairport's groundbreaking album *Liege & Lief* 'The Most Influential Folk Album of All Time'; and their story has been celebrated with a major TV documentary on BBCs Channel 4.

Fairport Convention features Simon Nicol. Dave Pegg, Chris Leslie, Ric Sanders and Gerry Conway. Whether a long-time fan or a newcomer to their music, an evening with Fairport Convention is sure to surprise and delight.

Highly recommended as a gift idea.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 20MIN, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £24

THEATRE



TUE 19 MAY, 7.30PM

AN AUDIENCE WITH LESLEY GARRETT

Join Britain's most popular Soprano for a delightful evening of song, reminiscences and chat. Her behind-the-scenes stories and anecdotes will give audiences a unique insight into her life on the stage.

As well as performing on the opera and concert stage both in the UK and internationally, Lesley has recently starred in *Carousel* and *The Sound of Music* and appeared on television shows including *Strictly Come Dancing* and *Loose Women*.

RUNNING TIME: 1HR 50MINS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £25

THEATRE



WED 20 MAY, 7.30PM

JOHNNY McEVoy

Johnny first topped the charts in 1966 with ballad *Murshen Durkin* followed by *The Boston Bugglar*, before a 7 week tour of USA during that hippy summer of '67, playing the famous Carnegie Hall in New York.

Countless songs and many more hits later Johnny McEvoy continues to entertain with his unique brand of Irish music.

Many of his songs have become standards and have since been recorded by many other singers.

RUNNING TIME: TBC TICKETS: £22

THEATRE



FRI 22 MAY, 7.30PM

THE OPERA BOYS

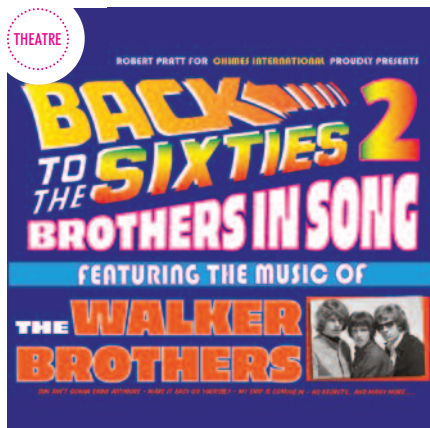
Leading men from London's West End combine in a powerhouse of vocal harmony to deliver a stunning blend of music ranging from Opera to Pop.

Operatic arias and classical favourites from *Nessun Dorma* to *Time to Say Goodbye* are mixed with showstoppers from *Les Miserables* and *Phantom of the Opera* right through to *Jersey Boys*. Features new classical arrangements of modern day pop hits, all performed in The Opera Boys inimitable style.

With beautiful vocal arrangements, close part harmonies and great humour.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £20

THEATRE



SAT 23 MAY, 7.30PM

BACK TO THE SIXTIES 2 BROTHERS IN SONG

Monster hits from the 1960s are recreated with songs from various Brothers that captured our hearts. Songs from The Walker Brothers, with hits such as *The Sun Ain't Gonna Shine Anymore*, *Make It Easy On Yourself* and more.

Songs from The Righteous Brothers with worldwide hits *Unchained Melody*, *You've Lost That Loving Feeling*, and many more. Lastly the hit machine called The Everly Brothers, with songs like *Cathy's Clown*, *Crying In The Rain*, *Walk Right Back* to name just a few. A great gift idea.

RUNNING TIME: TBC TICKETS: £23.50

THEATRE



WED 27 MAY, 2.30PM & 7.30PM

SENSE & SENSIBILITY BY BALLET THEATRE UK

Following the lives of the Dashwood sisters and their charming, dashing and mysterious suitors. This full-length ballet explores the romantic twists and turns of their 18th century society life. Torn between following the heart or head the girls experience love and heartbreak as they seek to find their place in society.

Featuring striking costumes and set, Ballet Theatre UK have a huge fanbase and their touring shows make an ideal introduction to new ballet audiences of all ages.

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 2HRS, INCL. INTERVAL
TICKETS: £18.50 (£17.50 CONC. £12.50 CHILD)

THEATRE



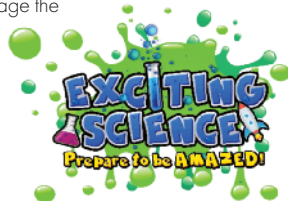
FRI 29 MAY, 11.30AM & 2.30PM

EXCITING SCIENCE

This brand new, exciting and educational show will amaze and astound all ages from 4 years and up.

Featuring silly, fun, factual Science experiments, it's the perfect way to engage the mind and imagination during a dull and boring half term holiday!

A show full of wiz, bang, pop... and splurt!



RUNNING TIME: 1HRS 40MINS, INCL. INTERVAL
TICKETS: £10 (SUITABLE AGE: 4+)

THEATRE



SAT 30 MAY, 7.30PM

THE KILKENNYS

Renowned for their musicianship and vocal abilities, The Kilkennys have gained a reputation for revitalising traditional Irish music and adding their own touch of passion and youthful energy.

They've toured extensively from Las Vegas to Switzerland via Australia to great acclaim.

Davey Cashin, Rob Campion, Tommy Mackey and Davey Long are excited about bringing their brand of Irish music to a UK audience. Come along to a show and join in the fun for a great evening of music and song!

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 2HRS PLUS INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £21

THEATRE



THU 4 JUN, 7.30PM

LIONEL - A TRIBUTE TO LIONEL RICHIE

Following his recent appearances with Lionel Richie himself on ITV's *Sunday Night At The Palladium* and the *Graham Norton Show* for the BBC, Malcolm Pitt delivers a powerhouse and breathtaking performance in this high octane show celebrating the music of Lionel Richie and the Commodores.

This award winning five star production also features a stellar line-up of world class musicians including musical director, Jonny Miller from Talon. Enjoy *Hello*, *Dancing on the Ceiling*, *All Night Long* and many more.

RUNNING TIME: 150MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £22

THEATRE



FRI 5 JUN, 7.30PM

PAM AYRES: UP IN THE ATTIC

Pam Ayres has been making the nation laugh for over 40 years and will perform poems from her new book *Up In The Attic*. Pam recently appeared on *Springwatch*, *Celebrity Mastermind*, and *Celebrity Antiques Road Trip* plus she is a popular guest on a host of Radio shows and recently recorded a second episode of *Desert Island Discs*.

"Pam Ayres is absolutely essential to British humour, reminding us all to be tickled by the small joys and ridiculousness of everyday life." **Mail on Sunday**

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS 10MINS, INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £27.50



TUE 9 - SAT 13 JUN, 2PM & 7.30PM

MADE IN DAGENHAM

Rita's life is about to change forever when it's announced that the girls in the stitching room of Ford's Dagenham car plant will have their pay grade dropped to 'unskilled'. Rita leads her friends in a battle against the might of Ford and the corruption of the Union supposed to protect them.

Funny, touching and timeless, showing ordinary people can do extraordinary things when they stand together. Presented by Queensbridge Musical Theatre Society.

Suitable for age 12+ due to frequent use of strong language.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS

TICKETS: £18 - £20 (CONC. AVAILABLE)

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS 2020

22

TUE 21 & WED 22 JUL	MR STINK *	TBC
SAT 25 JUL	BRINGING ON BACK THE SIXTIES	£19.50
TUE 28 JUL	A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM *	TBC
MON 27 - FRI 31 JUL	THEATRE SUMMER SCHOOL	TBC
THU 17 SEP	EDDI READER 40 YEARS LIVE TOUR	£22
FRI 18 & SAT 19 SEP	THE ROY ORBISON STORY	£24
THU 24 SEP	THE STARS OF IRISH COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW	£25
WED 30 SEP & THU 1 OCT	THE ELO EXPERIENCE	£24
SAT 3 OCT	THE UPBEAT BEATLES	£20
THU 8 OCT	NOT LADY CHATTERLEY'S LOVER	£23
FRI 9 OCT	SOME KINDA WONDERFUL	
	STEVIE WONDER TRIBUTE	£23.50
THU 15 OCT	GO NOW - MOODY BLUES TRIBUTE	£24

* Live outdoors in Brueton Park, Solihull.



SOLIHULL BookFest

Saturday 6th June 2020

Meet your favourite authors and
discover astonishing stories

Interactive book events for 0-12 year olds.

All day at The Core Solihull, Touchwood B91 3RG

THE CORE
theatre solihull

Stay in touch!
Follow Solihull BookFest
on Facebook



23

- Aardman Model Making Workshops
- Martin Brown's *Horrible Histories* Draw-Along
- *Lesser Spotted Animals*
- Robin Stevens *Murder Most Unladylike*
- Science Magician Dr Matt Pritchard
- *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* drama
- *Alice and the Library Tree* with B'Opera
- Graham Jones *Time Travelling Toby*
- Make Your Own Comic workshop
- *Tiger Who Came to Tea* Tea Parties

...plus art, live poetry and fun!

BOX OFFICE: 0121 704 6962
www.solihullbookfest.com



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CLASSES & COURSES

MONDAY

GENTLE CHAIR-BASED YOGA

with Marie Kennedy

Promotes circulation, flexibility, balance and boosts confidence. Ideal for those in wheelchairs or for those with conditions that make exercise difficult.

9.45 - 10.45AM STUDIO



HATHA YOGA

with Marie Kennedy

Friendly, progressive class with focus on improving health and reducing stress.

Suitable for beginners/improvers.

11AM - 12NOON STUDIO

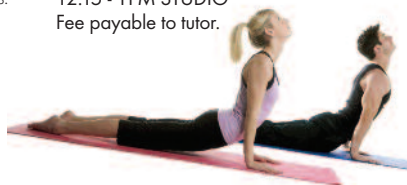
PILATES

with Nicola Holmes

Call 0787150243 to discuss suitability or any health issues you may have.

12.15 - 1PM STUDIO

Fee payable to tutor.



24

THURSDAY

MUSIC MONSTERS

Vibrant and fun music classes for babies and toddlers, suitable from birth giving little ones an early musical education! Four Thursday morning classes as follows;

9.40 - 10.10AM: WIGGLY MONSTERS (CRAWLERS TO 20 MTHS)

10.25 - 10.55AM: MISCHIEF MONSTERS (20 MTHS TO 3 YRS)

11.10 - 11.40AM: MINI MONSTERS (5 MTHS TO CRAWLING)

11.50AM - 12.20PM: DINKY MONSTERS (NEWBORN TO 4 MTHS)

Bookings direct through website

www.musicmonsters.co.uk

Studio from 9 Jan.

SING SOLIHULL!

with Anya Small

Belted out a great pop song in harmony with others gives singers an instant feelgood lift! This friendly community choir meets at lunchtime and is open to all ages and ability.

1 - 2PM STUDIO



HATHA YOGA

with Marie Kennedy

Friendly, progressive class with focus on improving health and reducing stress.

Suitable for beginners/improvers.

2.15 - 3.15PM STUDIO



FRIDAY

TAI CHI

with Jan Wilson

Gentle movement, balance and exercise for all ages/abilities.

9AM - 9.45AM STUDIO



HATHA YOGA

with Marie Kennedy

Friendly, progressive class with focus on improving health and reducing stress.

Suitable for beginners/improvers.

10.15 - 11.15AM STUDIO

GENTLE CHAIR-BASED YOGA

with Marie Kennedy

Promotes circulation, flexibility, balance and boost confidence. Ideal for those in wheelchairs or for those with conditions that make exercise difficult.

11.30 - 12.30AM STUDIO



AT A GLANCE DIARY

STEPPING OUT

with Aruna Kailey

Gentle dance class for over 50s - discovering world dance styles and all dance eras including Bollywood - great fun!

1.30 - 2.30PM STUDIO



HATHA YOGA

with Marie Kennedy

Friendly, progressive class with focus on improving health and reducing stress.

Suitable for beginners/improvers.

5.30 - 6.30PM STUDIO

PAINTING & DRAWING

with Vicky Gorman

These popular two hour classes teach adults of all ability observational skills, painting and drawing.

10AM - 12PM &
12.30 - 2.30PM
COURTYARD GALLERY
From 9 Jan.



YOUTH ART WORKSHOPS

Presented by Art at the Heart CIC, these classes are aimed at creative young people aged 14-19 to work with a small group learning new skills. Working with highly experienced art teachers, art can be the perfect antidote to the stress of student life. Courses from 9 Jan.

5 - 6.30PM COURTYARD GALLERY

ADULT ART WORKSHOPS

Paint or create your way to greater wellbeing in these adult (18+) art courses. Enjoy personalised support whatever level you work at from tutors from Art at the Heart CIC. From 9 Jan.

7 - 9PM COURTYARD GALLERY
Course fee varies. From 9 Jan.



LIGHT 52 PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE

with Richard Pearce

Learn all about your camera and how to use it effectively in these regular courses from Beginners in January, through Intermediate level in April and onto Advanced level starting in September. See the website for details.

Adults aged 18+.

Evening.
BYRON ROOM



PILATES

with Nicola Holmes

Call 0787150243 to discuss suitability or any health issues you may have.

12.45 - 1.30PM
STUDIO
Session fee
payable to tutor.

PLAYBOX NATIONAL YOUTH THEATRE

Classes for young people take place on Saturday mornings for young people aged 4-20.

Visit www.playboxtheatre.com for costs/dates etc.

SAT 9.30AM - 12.30PM
STUDIO

Fees: Payable directly to Playbox in advance.
From 11 Jan.



SATURDAY ART CLUB

Using a wide variety of art skills and learning new activities. Art at the Heart guide children to explore, enjoy and express themselves through drawing, painting and making. Aimed at ages 9-14 years and pre-booked in blocks - so prices vary each term.

10AM - 12NOON
COURTYARD GALLERY
Fee varies see website for details.
From 11 Jan.



SATURDAY

ENCORE

WHERE FOOD GETS A ROUND OF APPLAUSE!

Arty Parties at The Core with Art at the Heart

Party Package £200. Fun art party plus scrumptious freshly prepared party food for 10 children.

The Party package is for up to ten participants including catering provided by the Encore Cafe, extra participants £20 per head (max. capacity 20)*. Parties are held on Saturday afternoons 2 – 4pm (subject to availability). Email thecoretheatre@solihull.gov.uk leave a contact number or contact the Catering Manager on 0121 704 6813 or 8636.

* See website for more details of art activities and sample menu.



Join us for AFTERNOON TEA - a great gift idea

Be totally spoilt for choice as our **Festive Option** is available during panto season! **Encore** offer a choice of Festive or standard package per person at £12, (deluxe add £5, includes glass of Prosecco or mulled wine), or a delightful Children's Tea (served with a milkshake not tea!) which is certainly a special treat for special occasions at only £8 per child.

Afternoon Tea can be served either in the upstairs **Ovations Bar** or in **Encore** – simply pre-book via **Encore Café Bar** 0121 704 6813/8636. Group bookings are available for pre-show and sometimes aftershow – please ask about availability and book 24 hrs in advance.

Afternoon Tea Gift Vouchers cost only £12pp available in multiples. The recipient then arranges their own date direct with the Cafe Bar.

**GREAT
GIFT
IDEA!**

It's Official... We're a CHATTY café!

To someone who is feeling lonely, a quick chat can really brighten the day. The **Chatty Cafe** scheme was created by a lonely young mum who realised that simple interactions can have a big impact and by giving strangers permission to 'chatter and natter' can really bring people together.

We have two designated 'chatty' tables (look for blue table cards) aimed at encouraging people to talk; whether for a five minute cuppa or a longer chat. Staff might politely recommend the chatty table if they feel someone might give it a whirl. Our aim is to bring people of all ages together and really mix everyone up!



Join us at Encore next time you're in Solihull!



HOW TO REACH US

The venue adjoins Touchwood and the 'Orange zone' in Touchwood car park brings you up near the glass doors to Theatre Square. Taxi drop-off is not free - a minimum charge applies. High sided vehicles cannot enter Touchwood and should drop off and park elsewhere. The postcode for Sat-Nav for Touchwood Car park is B91 3GJ.

Solihull station is a 5-min walk away and bus and rail services run regularly to/from Birmingham and other areas.

Please follow us...



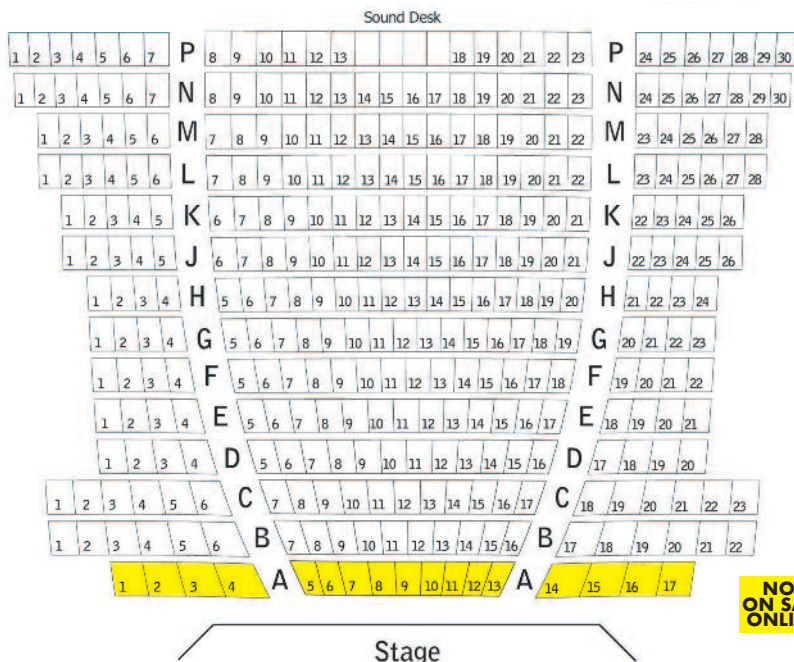
@coretheatresol

BOX OFFICE & TICKETS

Box Office currently opens Mon - Sat 9.30am - 3pm (10am Weds). They re-open 90mins before curtain-up on show nights. Call for up to date info before making a special trip to visit Box Office.

Call Box Office on **0121 704 6962** for tickets and reservations. Charges may apply but you can visit Box Office to avoid these. When booking by post please make cheques payable to Solihull MBC. Where £1.50 postage charge is not added, tickets will remain for collection. Most shows are on sale via our website at www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk where a transaction charge (currently £1.50) will apply. Tickets will remain at Box Office unless postal option is selected. Most shows have online seat selection except Studio shows where seating is unreserved.

The Core Theatre, Box Office, Theatre Square, Touchwood, Homer Road, Solihull B91 3RG





COURTYARD GALLERY DIARY

WED 18 DEC - MON 6 JAN
LIGHT 52 PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

WED 22 JAN - MON 3 FEB
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EXHIBITION

WED 5 FEB - MON 2 MAR
**TUDOR GRANGE ACADEMY
A-LEVEL EXHIBITION**

WED 4 - MON 16 MAR
**THOMAS ROONEY
PLANES**

WED 18 - MON 30 MAR
SHOWING OFF! ART SHOW

WED 1 - MON 20 APR
ART AT THE HEART EXHIBITION

WED 22 APR - MON 11 MAY
**VICKI GORMAN ART CLASSES
ARTISTS FROM THE CORE COURTYARD GALLERY
AND CENTRE OF ENGLAND ARTS**

WED 13 MAY - MON 1 JUN
**LINDEN ROAD ARTISTS
WASTING TIME: IS TIME WELL SPENT**

WED 3 - MON 15 JUN
**VICKI GORMAN ART CLASSES
ARTISTS FROM SOUTH YARDLEY LIBRARY**

WED 17 - MON 29 JUN
**CHRISTOPHER SHORHOUSE
FINE ART - STUDIES IN LIGHT AND SHADOW
REFLECTED IN ARCHITECTURE**

This is not a full listing, please see www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk
for details of exhibitions and how to hire the Courtyard Gallery.

CRUNCH COMMUNITY CRAFT GROUP



FREE!
NEW
MEMBERS
WELCOME

Crunch is a friendly group who meet in the **Courtyard Gallery** on **Wednesdays** between **12 & 2pm**. Some members bring their own craft items, from drawing to cross-stitch, textiles to knitting and sit working enjoying the chat and camaraderie of like-minded crafty people, others work on combined items and help teach each other new skills using their own materials they bring with them.

The Group is FREE – just turn up. A great way to enjoy drawing and craft and make new friends.