

**THE CORE**  
theatre solihull

**AUTUMN**  
2023



NICHOLAS COLLETT. GHOST OF A SMILE - PAGE 18.



BOX OFFICE **0121 704 6962**  
[thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk](http://thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk)

THE UDDERLEY FANTASTIC  
GIANT PANTO ADVENTURE!



# JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

by Morgan Brind

15 Dec '23 - 7 Jan '24



[thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk](http://thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk)

The Core Theatre Solihull @coretheatresol #solihullpanto

Little  
WOLF  
entertainment

DEC 23 · JAN 24

Box Office 0121 704 6962



## "Absolutely stunning and very funny"

AUDIENCE FEEDBACK - PANTO 2022

FEE FI FO FUM... the Core Theatre Solihull is in for some fun!

Dame Trott and her Family have been selling ice cream at the annual fair for as long as anyone can remember. But when the ginormous giant puts the rent up, the family are forced to sell their beloved cow Pat for just a handful of beans...

Can Jack get his head out of the clouds for long enough to save the day? Will this huge adventure take them to new heights? Can Dame Trott stop life at the funfair being so unfair?

The award winning Little Wolf Entertainment are back with the biggest panto at them all, full of marvellous moo-sic, cow-ntless costumes and an udderley ridiculous Dame with giant size jokes!

### RELAXED PERFORMANCE

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December (5.30pm)

Our specially adapted performance for anyone who may find theatre visits challenging, including those with sensory sensitivities, dementia, autism spectrum disorders or learning disorders.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

DATE	MORNING	MATINEE	EVENING
15 Dec			7pm
16 Dec		12.30pm	4.30pm
17 Dec		12.30pm	4.30pm
18 Dec	NO PERFORMANCES		
19 Dec	10am	1.45pm	
20 Dec	10am	1.45pm	
21 Dec		1pm	5.30pm (RP)
22 Dec		2pm	7pm
23 Dec		12.30pm	4.30pm
24 Dec	11am	3pm	
25 Dec	MERRY CHRISTMAS!		
26 Dec		2pm	7pm
27 Dec		12.30pm	4.30pm
28 Dec		12.30pm	4.30pm
29 Dec		12.30pm	4.30pm
30 Dec		12.30pm	4.30pm
31 Dec	11am	3pm	
01 Jan	NO PERFORMANCES		
02 Jan		12.30pm	4.30pm
03 Jan		12.30pm	4.30pm
04 Jan		12.30pm	4.30pm
05 Jan		12.30pm	4.30pm
06 Jan		12.30pm	4.30pm
07 Jan		12.30pm	4.30pm

### School Performances - Contact the Box Office

All Seats £20

£24 Full Price, £22 Concession, £88 Family (2+2)

All Seats £24

**(RP) Relaxed Performance.** For audiences who may benefit from a more relaxed environment. Not for sale online, please ask staff for details.

**Access/Mobility.** Any special requirements should be planned, discussed and booked early to ensure appropriate seating. Front row seats are not available online. There is a lift to first floor. Booster seats are available for children.

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## WELCOME

I welcome audiences to our Summer and Autumn season programme 2023 with some cracking new shows and a packed film programme (see page 22). Look out for a separate 'Solidays' leaflet produced for families at The Core and in libraries.

Our family pantomime presented in partnership with Little Wolf Entertainment is on sale now and early booking is recommended for this year's **Jack and The Beanstalk** (see pages 2-3). Pantomime is a long-held tradition in Solihull with families enjoying the small friendly 'local' feel of the Core Theatre where no one is more than 14 rows from the front.



4

We're hosting an exciting summer visit from Shakespeare's First Folio as part of our **Festival 36** on 1-2 July. Take a look at this amazingly rare copy of William Shakespeare's works, a fascinating piece of regional and international cultural history - here at The Core. See online for more information about other linked events when known.

Finally, for those who'd love to see the very latest hit play on London's prestigious **National Theatre** stage, you can do so right here, without the hassle of the train trip or London ticket prices! Enjoy internationally acclaimed performances by actors like; David Tennant, David Harewood and Phoebe Waller-Bridge offering fantastic value and right here on your doorstep. Encore and live screenings from the National Theatre are shown on our big screen and can sell out, so book early.



Best Wishes

Lawrence Smith.

**Lawrence Smith, Theatre Manager**

Email [thecoretheatre@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:thecoretheatre@solihull.gov.uk)

WELCOME

Box Office 0121 704 6962



THEATRE



SAT 3 JUN, 7PM

## LIVE AT THE CORE THEATRE SOLIHULL

Get ready for another superb selection of comedy talent all under one roof!

You've seen them on TV now enjoy a night of unfiltered, unedited jokes with a top line up. So round up your friends and family for an uplifting night of laughter.

Performers include; Richard Blackwood (The Richard Blackwood Show, MTV, ITV, BBC, Shrek The Musical), Esther Manito (BBC Live At The Apollo, The Stand Up Sketch Show) Kevin J (BBC, MTV) and Jeff Innocent (British Comedian of the Year, BBC, CH4).

**RUNNING TIME:** 120MINS INC. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £18 **AGE:** 16+

THEATRE



THU 8 JUN, 7PM

## AFRICA ARMONICO CONSORT

Armonico Consort developed a partnership in Kenya with organisations working with street children and vulnerable young people. Their precious musical heritage is part of their community, and they generously shared songs.

This concert features amazing traditional and contemporary African songs from across this diverse continent performed by Armonico's superb AC Academy children's choirs, local schools, accompanied by a small professional band, in a totally uplifting celebration of African music.

**RUNNING TIME:** 60MIN, NO INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £7.50 (£5.50 CONC.)

THEATRE



SAT 10 JUN, 7.30PM

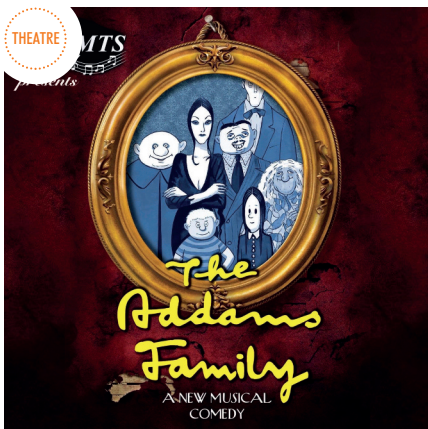
## THE DOCTOR WILL SEE YOU NOW

What was it like being a mainstay character on one of the world's longest running soap operas?

Join Alan Fletcher (AKA Karl Kennedy) Ramsay Street's most famous doctor in his nostalgic look at almost three decades of the TV hit series 'Neighbours'.

Includes video footage, live music and hilarious anecdotes. Alan takes audiences on a journey through past storylines, bloopers, backstage secrets and the emotional finale plus Q&A. A special meet and greet experience is available - call box office to find out more.

**RUNNING TIME:** APPROX. 2HRS, 20MINS INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £28



**WED 14 - SAT 17 JUN, 2PM & 7.30PM**

## **THE ADDAMS FAMILY A NEW MUSICAL**

Local theatre company Queensbridge Musical Theatre Society present The Addams Family a comical feast embracing the wackiness in every family.

Princess of darkness Wednesday Addams has a shocking secret... she's fallen in love with a sweet young man from a respectable family!

Can Gomez keep his daughter's secret until the two families meet for a fateful dinner with hilarious consequences? Join them, with Uncle Fester, Lurch, Pugsley and more for a heart-warming story of love, family and friendship... with a twist!

**RUNNING TIME:** 2HRS, 30MINS INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £20



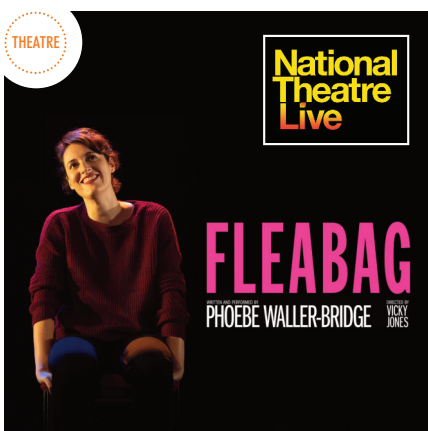
**FRI 23 & SAT 24 JUN, 7.30PM**

## **THE ELO EXPERIENCE**

The legacy left by Jeff Lynne & The Electric Light Orchestra barely needs any introduction. From 1972 to 1986 they achieved more combined UK and US Top 40 hits than any other band on the planet! *10538 Overture*, *Evil Woman*, *Living Thing*, *Diary of Horace Wimp*, *Don't Bring me Down* and of course *Mr Blue Sky* went on to become the soundtrack of our lives.

The ELO Experience are the world's foremost multi award-winning tribute to The Electric Light Orchestra complete with a string section, light show and large screen projection.

**RUNNING TIME:** 2HRS, 20MINS INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £26



**THU 29 JUN, 7PM**

## **NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE FLEABAG**

Written and performed by Phoebe Waller-Bridge (*Fleabag*, *Killing Eve*) and directed by Vicky Jones this massive hit was filmed in 2019 and inspired the hilarious hit TV series.

*Fleabag* may seem oversexed, emotionally unfiltered and self-obsessed, but that's just the tip of the iceberg. With family and friendships under strain and her guinea pig café struggling, *Fleabag* finds herself with nothing to lose.

★★★★★

"Witty, filthy and supreme" *Guardian*

**RUNNING TIME:** TBC **TICKETS:** £15 (£10 STU.)



THEATRE



SAT 1 JUL, 7.30PM

## THE COMPLETE WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)

Presented by the National Production Company this critically acclaimed play is an irreverent, fast-paced romp through the Bard's 37 plays! Join three madcap performers in tights as they weave their way through all of Shakespeare's comedies, histories and tragedies in 97 minutes leaving audiences helpless with laughter.

A high paced, action and parody-packed thrill ride of intense Shakespeare... where the audience, and indeed the crew, may be called upon to assist! Even those who don't enjoy Shakespeare will love this show.

RUNNING TIME: 117MINS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £20 AGE: 12+

THE CORE



SAT 1 &amp; SUN 2 JUL

## FESTIVAL 36 SHAKESPEARE IN SOLIHULL

The book often referred to as The First Folio was published in 1623, 7 years after the death of William Shakespeare. It's a collection of 36 of Shakespeare's works and was brought together by two of his friends aiming to present the best possible version of his plays. Without it, half of his plays would have been lost to us. Only around 230 copies survived and each copy is unique.

As well as viewing this rare and precious book, other activities will take place over this weekend. Details will be shown on website when confirmed.

SEE WEBSITE FOR TIME AND ACTIVITIES TICKETS: FOLIO ENTRY IS FREE

THEATRE



FRI 7 JUL, 7.30PM

## OLD TIME SAILORS

Ahoy there! You are invited to get onboard, join the plentiful crew of 'The Old Time Sailors', for a night of footstomping, dancing and singing!

Sail back to the 19th century for an immersive experience of traditional seafaring music performed in an unique entertaining way. The Motley Crew with traditional and eclectic instruments will take you back to the time of clashing tankards, and drunken debauchery! Sing and dance along like a drunken sailor as the band perform centuries old folk and shanty songs. Fancy dress is encouraged, so pull out your best seafaring garments me hearties!

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 160MINS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £18

THEATRE



FRI 14 JUL, 7.30PM

**SONS OF PITCHES**

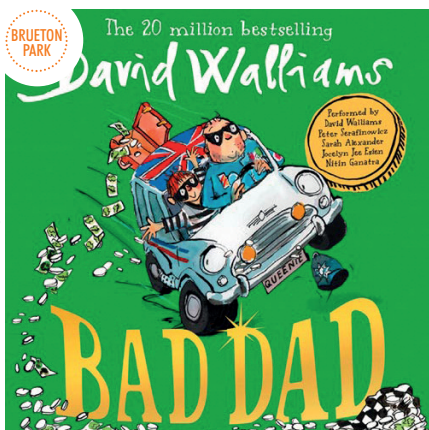
To celebrate 10 years of A Cappella adventures, The Sons of Pitches are getting back on the road to bring you their 'Best Bits'.

Expect the best tunes from the last decade of SoP including songs from their debut TV appearance on Gareth Malone's Naked Choir and favourites from their 5 UK tours. Enjoy ridiculous skits, their trademark improvised numbers inspired by the audience!

Whether you've seen them before or just thought A Cappella was a beach in Mexico, you're in for a real treat with this show!

RUNNING TIME: 110MINS TICKETS: £25

BRUETON PARK



TUE 18 JUL, 6PM

**BAD DAD BY DAVID WALLIAMS LIVE OUTDOORS**

Bad Dad by David Walliams, adapted for the outdoor stage by Heartbreak Productions.

Bad Dad is a fast and furious, heart-warming tale of a father and son on a thrilling mission to break an innocent man into prison... It's a high-speed cops-and-robbers adventure with heart and soul about a father and son taking on the villainous Mr Big - and winning!

Takes place lakeside in Brueton park, bring your own seat/blanket and picnic. Please see the website for full details on ticketing etc.

RUNNING TIME: 120MINS TICKETS: £13 (£12 CHILD) AGE: 7+

BRUETON PARK



TUE 25 JUL, 7PM

**SENSE & SENSIBILITY LIVE OUTDOORS**

Jane Austen's classic novel Sense and Sensibility, adapted for the outdoor stage by Heartbreak Productions who specialise in high quality theatre in unusual spaces.

Follow the exploits of Elinor and Marianne as they navigate the loss of their home and security. Will they settle into their new surroundings and what will they make of the local society they are propelled into?

Bring a blanket/chair and weather-appropriate gear, and optional picnic. See the website for full ticketing/arena details.

RUNNING TIME: 120MINS TICKETS: £13 (£12 CONC.) AGE: 9+

JUL

Box Office 0121 704 6962



THEATRE

**THU 31 AUG, 11.30AM & 2.30PM****DINOSAUR ADVENTURE LIVE**

Over 65 million years in the making...

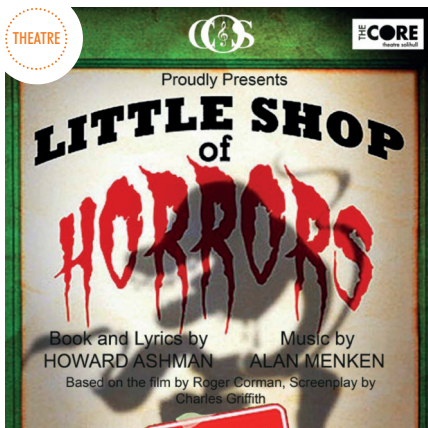
Join our intrepid rangers on a quest to recover the data crystal, restore power to the magical island and save the Dinosaurs!

View incredible species in this unforgettable Jurassic experience for all the family. Audiences will learn amazing Dino-facts, meet beautiful baby dinosaurs and hear their roooooooooarrrrrrr!

Celebrate the end of holidays with this captivating, interactive and enthralling world of Dinosaurs... it's totally T-rex-iffic!

**RUNNING TIME:** 60MINS **TICKETS:** £14

THEATRE

**THU 7 - SAT 9 SEP, 2.30PM & 7.30PM****LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS**

Sci-fi smash musical by Howard Ashman and Alan Menken, The Little Shop Of Horrors has devoured the hearts of theatre goers for over 30 years and is performed here in Solihull

by Coleshill on Stage.

Seymour discovers a new plant in the shop... a foul-mouthed, R&B-singing carnivorous thing that promises unending fame and fortune as long as he keeps feeding it... BLOOD!

Great songs, fast-moving and fun action-packed scenes are on offer in this fun musical show.

**RUNNING TIME:** APPROX. 2HRS **TICKETS:** £17 **AGE:** 12+

STUDIO

**FRI 8 SEP, 7.30PM****HENRY'S BLUESHOUSE  
THE MELVIN HANCOX BAND**

Solihull Henry's Blueshouse nights take place in the relaxed atmosphere of our ground-floor Studio at The Core Theatre, with the occasional show in the main house. Melvin is the son of songwriter and playwright Stephen and artist Lynette and formed his own band aged 12 with a record deal at 16.

He's toured extensively around the world since then, also writing and producing six highly original albums and fronting his own trio as well as working with; Ray Phillips, Savoy Brown, Canned Heat, Kex Gorin: Magnum's Mick Bonham [yes related] and Ace Kefford.

**RUNNING TIME:** TBC **TICKETS:** £7.50



**FRI 15 SEP, 7.30PM**

## **LIONEL A TRIBUTE TO LIONEL RICHIE**

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

Also features a stellar line-up of world class musicians including musical director, Jonny Miller from Talon. Songs include; *Dancing On The Ceiling*, *Hello*, *Three Times A Lady*, *Easy*, *All Night Long* and many more.

**RUNNING TIME:** APPROX. 140MINS INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £24



**SAT 16 SEP, 7.30PM**

## **STEP INSIDE THE 60s**

Step Inside The 60s with Dozy, Beaky Mick & Tich, and The Fortunes. A 2 hour spectacular of pure nostalgia, this show has the definite feelgood factor revisiting that magical decade.

Whether you come to this show to relive your childhood memories or you just simply want to see what your parents have been raving about for all these years, experience the musical phenomena of the 1960s for yourself!

Hits include; *The Legend Of Xanadu*, *Storm in a Teacup*, *Hold Tight*, *You've Got Your Troubles*, *Save Me*, *Rainy Day Feeling* and many more.

**RUNNING TIME:** APPROX. 2HRS, 20MINS **TICKETS:** £25



**THU 21 SEP, 7.30PM**

## **PHILOMENA BEGLEY, WITH SHAWN CUDDY & STEPHEN SMYTH**

Philomena has performed worldwide to legions of fans and appeared with Porter Wagoner on the Grand Old Opry in Nashville. One of Begley's biggest fans is Irish superstar Daniel O'Donnell, and he once said, "*When Philomena sings a song you believe her you feel that she's experienced every emotion she expresses*".

Join Ireland's national treasure Philomena Begley with special guests Shawn Cuddy and Stephen Smyth for her memorable I Ain't Over The Hill Tour 2023.

**RUNNING TIME:** 2HRS, 20MINS INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £25



THEATRE



FRI 22 SEP, 7.30PM

## MAGICAL BONES

Join one of the most explosive names in street magic today as he effortlessly combines intricate sleight of hand with jaw dropping break-dance moves in one of the most awe-inspiring shows you'll see this year.

An exceptionally skilled break-dancer and a gifted showman, Bones has worked with the likes of Madonna, and Alicia Keys. He wowed UK audiences on BGT, and Penn & Teller: Fool Us, as well as having a critically acclaimed and totally sold out run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Catch him for one night in Solihull on his 2023 tour.

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 100MINS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: TBC

THEATRE



SAT 23 SEP, 7.30PM

## TWISTIN' THE NIGHT AWAY WITH SI CRANSTOUN

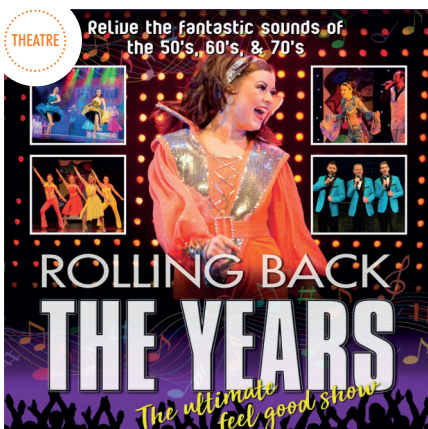
Prepare to party when the Vintage King Si Cranstoun and his band make a welcome appearance with their blend of Doo Wop, Soul and Rocking Rhythm & Blues.

His 'TWISTIN'' show is a highly charged, toe-tapping journey, driven by retro dance rhythms with his dynamic stage presence and a voice which echoes that of Jackie Wilson and Sam Cooke and the great black American singers of old.

Expect a mix of Swing, Soul and Ska as well as Rock n Roll and Rhythm & Blues.

RUNNING TIME: 120MINS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £24

THEATRE



MON 25 &amp; TUE 26 SEP, 2.30PM &amp; 7.30PM

## ROLLING BACK THE YEARS

Timeless Theatre promise the 'ultimate feelgood experience' for this non-stop music show. A slick, fast moving and vibrant show, brings some of the greatest songs ever written, performed by a cast of world class singers and dancers.

Re-live the fantastic sounds of the 50s, 60s and 70s in this popular production captivating audiences with beautiful harmonies, brilliant choreography and 100+ costumes reflecting each era.

Great songs, immaculate dancing and a little humour thrown in!

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, 20MINS INCL. INTERVAL

TICKETS: £23 EARLYBIRD OFFER UNTIL 1 JUN, THEN £24

THEATRE



FRI 29 SEP, 7.30PM

**COMEDY GOLD**

Enjoy a journey of humorous nostalgic retelling of the greatest comedy sketches of all time featuring tributes to Monty Python, The Two Ronnies, Morecambe & Wise, Victor Borge, Rowan Atkinson and many more.

Boasting an outstanding cast, the authenticity of scene recreation is impeccable paying homage with warmth and affection.

Cast credits include; Coronation Street, Casualty, Scott & Bailey, Matilda, Fame and The Sound of Music performing legendary sketches like Four candles, Mastermind, and The Four Yorkshiremen.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £22.50

THEATRE



SAT 30 SEP, 6.45PM

**DESI CENTRAL COMEDY SHOW 2023**

Another great comedy night from LUV Entertainment who pride themselves on presenting and championing comedians who appeal to comedy lovers of all ages and backgrounds.

Hosted by Tommy Sandhu (BBC, Brownload) the show also features; Dinesh Nathan (Leicester Merc New Comedian Finalist, South Coast Comedian OTY, Kane Brown (BBC, 1Xtra, Amazon Prime) & Tez Ilyas (BBC, Mock The Week, Comedy Central).

A night of hilarity with some kick ass comics join Desi Central for a night you won't forget.

RUNNING TIME: TBC TICKETS: £18

STUDIO



TUE 3 OCT, 2PM

**KEITH SLATER'S 60S CELEBRATION 2023**

Revisit the 60s in this fast-paced musical show featuring Keith Slater.

Turn on, tune in and drop out as we take you on a musical journey through one of the most inventive and influential decades of our times. The decade that gave us: the Mini car! the Mini skirt! The World Cup... and teenagers!

With classic songs from The Beatles, The Searchers, The Beach Boys, Peter Sarstedt and many more. Keith Slater has a warmth and talent that ensure audiences sing a long and go home smiling.

RUNNING TIME: 120MINS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £12

SEP · OCT

Box Office 0121 704 6962

THEATRE



THU 5 OCT, 7.30PM

## TALON THE BEST OF EAGLES HOTEL CALIFORNIA TOUR

The ever-popular Talon perform the Eagles iconic Hotel California album from beginning to end plus all the hits including; *Take It Easy*, *One Of These Nights*, *Take It to the Limit*, *Desperado*, *Lyin' Eyes* and many more in this fine new tour.

This world class seven-piece band have, over twenty five years, transcended the tag of 'tribute' and become, not only revered by their peers but dearly loved by their fans.

*"Talon perform with reverence and super talent"*

Eagles writer - Jack Tempchin

RUNNING TIME: 145MINS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £30

THEATRE



FRI 6 OCT, 7.30PM

## KARL LOXLEY - SONGS FROM THE STAGE & SCREEN

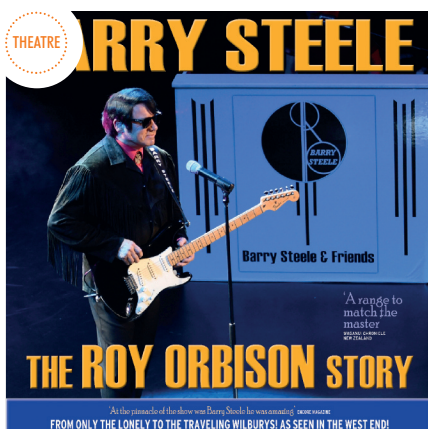
Karl Loxley returns to Solihull to be enjoyed by his legions of fans. Those who have never seen him may wish to find out why he is so very much appreciated!

Rated by Sir Tom Jones as having one of the best theatrical voices he'd ever heard. Join Karl for an unforgettable night of music with songs from; *The Greatest Showman*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Les Misérables*, *The Lion King* and many more.

Karl is a chart topping classical singer who appeared as a finalist on the hit TV Show *The Voice*.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £23

THEATRE



THU 12 &amp; FRI 13 OCT, 7.30PM

## THE ROY ORBISON STORY 2023

Barry Steele and a fabulous cast of musicians and singers will take you on a musical journey from 'The Black and White Night' right through to *The Traveling Wilburys*.

Roy Orbison joined Bruce Springsteen, Elvis Costello and KD Lang in 'The Black & White Night TV Special' which is recreated by Barry Steele and Friends plus the 2017 symphonic versions of *Heartbreak Radio*, *Blue Bayou*, *It's Over* and *Running Scared*.

The Traveling Wilburys musical legacy remains vital and Barry celebrates that Wilbury Magic.

RUNNING TIME: 150MINS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £26



THEATRE

**WED 18 OCT, 7.30PM**

## **BOND - AN UNAUTHORISED PARODY**

2023 is the 70th anniversary of Fleming's first 007 novel *Casino Royale*. Join Gavin Robinson in celebration, with his UK tour of the hit satirical show *BOND - An Unauthorised Parody*.

Robertson focuses his attention on the Bond phenomenon, spoofing the movies eagerly awaited by millions, and exploding every cliché in the book(s)... completely solo!

Bond meets his greatest arch-villain yet - Ian Fleming himself! See also the smallest car-chase in theatre history! With music by Danny Bright.

**RUNNING TIME:** 1HR NO INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £15 (£13 CONC.) **AGE:** 11+

THEATRE

**THU 19 OCT, 7.30PM**

## **THE SIMON AND GARFUNKEL STORY**

Direct from a weeklong run in London's West End and a SOLD OUT Worldwide tour enjoying standing ovations at every performance, *The Simon & Garfunkel Story* returns!

Using huge projection photos and original film footage, this popular show that sold out effortlessly in 2022 also features a full live band performing all the hits including *Mrs Robinson*, *Cecilia*, *Bridge Over Troubled Water*, *Homeward Bound* and many more!

**RUNNING TIME:** 2HRS, 15MIN INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £24

THEATRE

**FRI 20 OCT, 7.30PM**

## **BUDDY HOLLY & THE CRICKETERS**

All Holly's hits are played live on stage with driving rhythms, authentic arrangements and stunning harmonies, there is no other show that delivers a better Buddy experience.

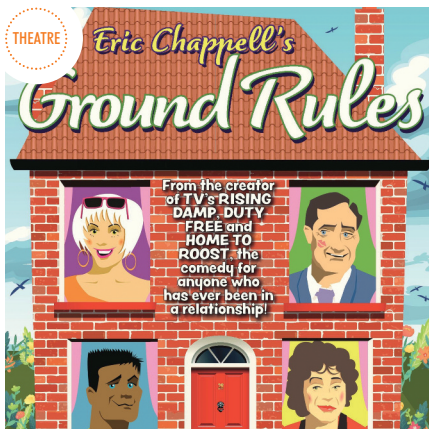
From Swansea to Sweden, Taunton to Thailand, Dundee to Dubai the show has received standing ovations. Whatever the season, whatever the excuse to party, make your Heartbeat a little faster with the show playing fantastic songs enjoyed by thousands the world over.

"Buddy brilliant!" **Graham Norton, BBC One**

**RUNNING TIME:** 140MINS INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £24

OCT

Box Office 0121 704 6962



**SAT 21 OCT, 7.30PM**

## **GROUND RULES BY ERIC CHAPPELL**

Seemingly perfect couple Judith and Gerald assume nothing can spoil their happy marriage... that is until Jo and Ashley arrive on the scene!

When the couple take Jo home after an argument... Ashley follows them, setting off a chain of uncontrollable events. Flirting and frayed tempers lead to jealousy, confessions and misunderstandings. This is writer Eric Chappell's (Rising Damp, Duty Free, Only When I Laugh) last comedy - by turns hilarious, poignant and preposterous. A lasting tribute to this remarkable writer who died last year.

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



**TUE 24 OCT, 7.30PM**

## **UNKNOWN REALMS ACE DANCE & MUSIC**

A double bill transcending the past and present from Ace Dance and Music. Rooted in African and contemporary culture, ACE dance and music collaborate with two internationally acclaimed choreographers Serge Aimé Coulibaly and Vincent Mantsoe.

Performed against dynamic multi-dimensional soundscapes by Andy Garbi and Yvan Talbot, these contrasting works examine the past and present. Six dancers rise from the ashes with explosive dance that uncovering rich history of lives lived; memories, human struggle and people letting go.

**RUNNING TIME:** 100MINS INCL. INTERVAL  
**TICKETS:** £16 (£8 SCHOOLS) **AGE:** ANY



**FRI 27 OCT, 7.30PM**

## **TWIST AND SHOUT**

This fantastic musical era comes alive with a nostalgic look at the golden age of British pop. When skirts got shorter and hair got longer!

Sing and dance along with a West End cast to the music of The Beatles, Herman's Hermits, Gerry & The Pacemakers, The Rolling Stones, Cilla Black, Manfred Mann, Dusty Springfield, Lulu, Sandy Shaw and many more.

Covering Brit Pop in 1962 through to Flower Power with a 4 piece live band and 6 singer/dancers performing 40+ songs the audience will know and love.

**RUNNING TIME:** APPROX. 2HRS **TICKETS:** £25

THEATRE



SAT 28 OCT, 6.45PM

## THE INDIANS ARE COMING!

Balle Balle!

The Indians Are Coming... so join us for an uplifting night of laughter! Acts will be shown on Core Theatre and LUV Entertainment websites when confirmed.

If you've never been to one of these nights before then get ready for belly laughs that are big enough to burn off an entire Biryani!

It's a tantalising thali of talent. The Indians Are Coming brings you an exceptional selection of both established and new comedy acts from across the globe to appeal to those of all backgrounds.

RUNNING TIME: TBC TICKETS: £18

THEATRE



TUE 31 OCT - SAT 4 NOV, 2.30PM &amp; 7.30PM

## OUR HOUSE

Our House is the Olivier Award-winning musical by Tim Firth, writer of Calendar Girls, featuring the songs of Madness.

Set in 1980s Camden, Our House tells the story of teenager Joe Casey who tries to impress his girlfriend... but in doing so, ends up face to face with Police... resulting in making difficult choices about whether to run.

Presented by St Alphege Musical Production Soc. Madness hits include *House of Fun*, *Baggy Trousers*, *Driving in my Car*, *It Must Be Love* and *Our House*.

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 2HRS TICKETS: £18 - £21

THEATRE



THU 9 NOV, 7.30PM

## PAUL ZERDIN: PUPPETMAN

America's Got Talent winner is back with a brand-new comedy show. Paul returns with an array of 'funny and sharp-tongued' (The Observer) creations including Sam, Albert, Baby, Roger the bodyguard and an urban fox.

As seen on Lost Voice Guy's Christmas show (ITV), Michael McIntyre's Big Show (BBC1), The Royal Variety Performance and many more.

*'Technically immaculate, it's what he does with his slick talent that really sets it apart'* The Guardian

*'A ventriloquist for the South Park generation'* The Stage

RUNNING TIME: 110MINS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £20 AGE: 14+

OCT · NOV

Box Office 0121 704 6962



STUDIO



FRI 10 NOV, 7.30PM

## HENRY'S BLUESHOUSE JAMIE THYER & THE WORRIED MEN

Solihull Henry's Blueshouse nights take place in the relaxed atmosphere of our ground-floor Studio at The Core Theatre.

Jamie Thyer created his ironically named WORRIED MEN back in 1994. They've continued touring UK and Ireland ever since, often with Peter Green, Johnny Winter and NINE BELOW ZERO.

Recently, Jamie headlined Cambridge Rock Festival with Mott The Hooples Verden Allen with many plaudits.

RUNNING TIME: TBC TICKETS: £7.50

THEATRE



FRI 10 NOV, 7.30PM

## QUILL 50TH ANNIVERSARY FINALE CONCERT

Classic Midlands folk rock band Quill return with their 50th Anniversary and finale concert featuring an eclectic mix of stylish covers of well-known songs, original numbers and Quill standards.

Enjoy a fabulous night of music, quirky interpretations of *Blackberry Way*, *Telephone Line*, *Flowers in the Rain*, *Heaven and Hell* and *Don't Bring me Down*, original new songs *Grey Goose Call* and *Elephant in the Room* and long standing favourites *Say it Ain't So*, *The Jig* and *Nine Mile Camp*.

RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 2HRS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £22

THEATRE



SAT 11 NOV, 7.30PM

## THE BOOGALOO BABES THANKS FOR THE BOOGIE RIDE

Solihull based vintage vocal harmony trio The Boogaloo Babes take you on a nostalgic journey through the decades showcasing a wide variety of well-known vintage style music from 1940s - 1960s plus Motown and modern songs with a vintage twist such as The Andrew Sisters, Elvis, Lulu, The Supremes, Dusty Springfield and many more.

The Babes will be accompanied by a live band, guest singer David Steele, The Memories Choir, and dancers The Jitter Sisters - all with a touch of vintage glamour and fabulous costumes. Early booking recommended.

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

THEATRE



TUE 14 - SAT 18 NOV, 2.30PM &amp; 7.30PM

## SHREK THE MUSICAL

The Solihull premiere of Shrek the Musical presented by STAGS Musical Theatre Company is based on the Oscar-winning film and early booking is recommended.

Shrek The Musical is a hit fairy tale adventure featuring new songs and unforgettable classics like *Freaky Flag* and *I'm a Believer*.

Shrek the ogre discovers his fairytale folk friends are being evicted from their homes so together with his lovable Donkey they set out to find what they can do. Includes unexpected secrets, friendships and surprising romances in this ogre-sized show for the whole family.

**RUNNING TIME:** APPROX. 150MINS **TICKETS:** £22

THEATRE



TUE 21 NOV, 7.30PM

## QUEENZ THE SHOW WITH BALLS!

Direct from smash-hit 5 star West End and Edinburgh Fringe Festival runs QUEENZ has been blowing the minds of audiences up and down the country with their trailblazing, LIVE VOCAL, drag extravaganza!

These dragtastic divas serve up a set list of remixed and reimagined pop anthems, including, *Queen Of The Night*, *Born This Way*, *Raining Men*, *I Will Survive*, *I Wanna Dance With Somebody*, Musical Mashups and so much more in this life-affirming, sequin-clad pop party!

"One of the best shows I have ever seen!" *Gay Times*

**RUNNING TIME:** 2HRS, 20MINS INCL. INTERVAL **TICKETS:** £27 **AGE:** 14+

THEATRE



WED 22 NOV, 7.30PM

## GHOST OF A SMILE

Nicholas Collett and Gavin Robertson teamed up once again ('Done To Death, By Jove', 'Your Bard', 'BOND', 'Nelson', 'Spitfire Solo') to bring you two ghost stories - with a comic twist!

A full-length show PLUS an interval: *Woman In Black* meets *The 39 Steps* in a spine-tingling show of storytelling and theatrical inventiveness. Tales with a shiver - and a smile... one inside a haunted Inn, the other set in Edinburgh.

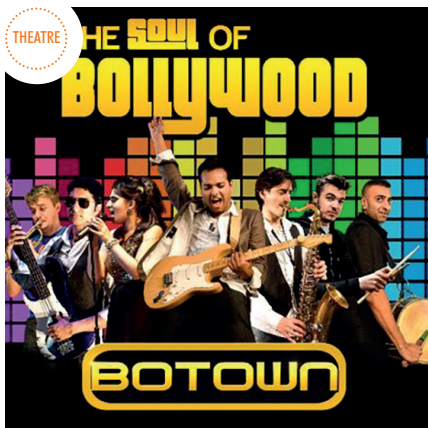
Two yarns that will chill and charm adapted and Directed by Gavin Robertson and performed by Nicholas Collett. Parental guidance - suitable around 11+ only.

**RUNNING TIME:** APPROX. 1HR, 50MINS **TICKETS:** £15 (£13 CONC.) **AGE:** 11+

NOV

Box Office 0121 704 6962

THEATRE



FRI 24 NOV, 7PM

## BOTOWN THE SOUL OF BOLLYWOOD

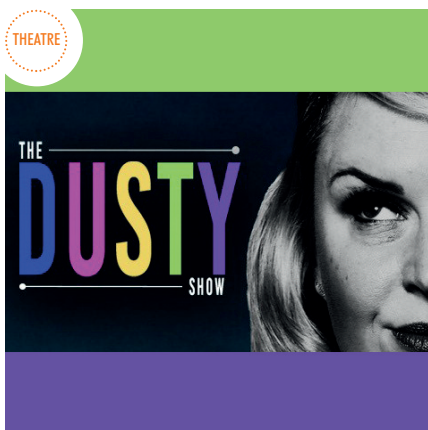
Botown are a super-tight band of multicultural musicians that perform Bollywood grooves reborn with a unique soul funk twist combining the glamour of Bollywood and the charisma of soul.

With songs by RD Burman, Asha Bhosle, AR Rahman, Lata, Kishore Kumar, Shankar Ehsaan Loy, Alisha and many more.

Botown's unique mash-up features Drums, Percussion, Dhol, Horn section, Guitar, Bass, Keyboards plus vocals to take you from Memphis to Mumbai.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, 30MINS INCL. INTERVAL TICKETS: £20 AGE: 16+

THEATRE



SAT 25 NOV, 7.30PM

## THE DUSTY SHOW

An unforgettable evening of hits from this true British icon. Classics spanning Dusty Springfield's life and music presented by Becci Morell accompanied by her 9-piece band.

Enjoy *I Only Want to Be with You*, *Preacher Man*, *You Don't Have to Say You Love Me* and so many more throughout her career.

The Dusty Show is the ultimate definition of a musical legacy that touches the soul, and a life story that warms the heart. A touching reminiscing and very best tribute to the queen of British pop.

RUNNING TIME: 2HRS, 10MINS TICKETS: £27

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## FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

1 FEB	THE SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA £24
5 FEB	LEGENDS OF AMERICAN COUNTRY £25
8 FEB	THE UPBEAT BEATLES £24
10 FEB	DIRE STREETS £23
16 FEB	GEOFF NORCOTT (AGE 16+) £17
20 & 21 FEB	GARETH GATES & THE BEST FRANKIE VALLI & FOUR SEASONS £35
4 MAR	IRELAND - THE SHOW £25

Shows and dates correct at the time of print - not a full list, see website for full details.



[thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk](http://thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk)

NOV



# ENCORE

## CAFÉ BAR A WARM WELCOME

**Encore Café Bar is known as a 'calm oasis' by regulars who enjoy the peace, space and the warm welcome offered by a friendly team.**

Staff pride themselves on serving great value local produce (like Lashford's sausages and Fowler's Cheese). Breakfasts and lunch snack items like toasties and hot baguettes are freshly made to order and great value.

Diners enjoy wide spaces between tables, high and low counters for wheelchair users and a full 'Changing places' bathroom on the ground floor.

Serving from 9am to 3pm (10am Weds) Monday to Saturday why not give Encore Café Bar a visit or combine a lunch or afternoon tea with a film (see page 22) or theatre matinee show with friends.

The wooden floor area of the ground floor of the Central Library is known as the 'Dwell' area and Encore customers can take drinks over to that space to enjoy a peaceful browse of papers and magazines.



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## CLASSES AND COURSES

### MONDAY

**12.15pm Pilates**  
with Nicola Holmes

Strengthen the core and build muscle tone.

**1.30pm Paracise™**  
with Dawn Edwards

Fun gentle exercise set to fabulous music.

### WEDNESDAY

**10.15am Hatha Yoga**  
with Sue Prosser

Focusing on stress reduction & flexibility.

**11.30am Gentle Chair Yoga**  
with Sue Prosser

Chair-based yoga class for flexibility & balance.

### THURSDAY

**1pm Sing Solihull**  
with Anya Small

Popular lunchtime choir for all ages & abilities.

**4.30pm Young REP**  
with Birmingham REP

Theatre group for young people aged 11-16.

**6pm Unbounded Theatre**

Non-verbal group for ages 14-19 with disabilities.

### FRIDAY

**9.15am Tai Chi**  
with Jan Wilson

Gentle movement & balance. All ages & abilities.

**12noon Paracise™**  
with Dawn Edwards

Fun gentle exercise set to fabulous music.

CAFÉ BAR & CLASSES

Box Office 0121 704 6962

# SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

## INCLUSIVE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

View the whole selection of classes, courses and activities at The Core online.

### ENTRUST CARE PARTNERSHIP & OPEN THEATRE

Entrust Care Partnership & Open Theatre run a weekly non-verbal physical theatre group for young people aged 14-19 with disabilities, funded by Solihull Council.

Participants will develop their creative skills and gain the confidence needed to create quality art as they move towards adulthood and employment. For more info or to join, please contact: [lydia@opentheatre.com](mailto:lydia@opentheatre.com)

Thurs 6 - 8pm in Studio £3 per session.



### INCLUSIVE CHOIR

Solihull's Inclusive Choir is a musical community without barriers, welcoming people of all ages and abilities. Their delivery approach was created by the charity Soundabout whose specialism is in using music to unlock the potential of people with severe and profound learning disabilities.

The aims of these choirs are to have fun and connect with others through music whilst also developing confidence, musical skills, social skills, leadership skills and enhancing general well-being.

Find out more at [choirs@soundabout.org.uk](mailto:choirs@soundabout.org.uk) or Solihull Music on 0121 704 6500



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### TAKE FANTASTIC PHOTOGRAPHS!

Who doesn't wonder what those unused knobs, dials and fancy timers do on their digital camera?

Popular Tutor Richard Pearce runs Beginner, Intermediate and Advance courses for adults (18+) on Thursdays. Some participants work through all 3 levels, increasing their skills and photographic confidence enjoying fascinating project work and inclusion in occasional exhibitions.

10 weeks  
(term time only).  
Course fee £120.

See the website for full details.



### GET DRAMATIC: YOUNG REP AT THE CORE

The Satellite Young REP is a fantastic opportunity for young people (aged 11-16) to build their skills, confidence and creativity whilst working with a Birmingham REP tutor.

Participants will collaborate to make meaningful, interesting and entertaining ensemble theatre works occasionally performing at The Core or at Satellite Youth Theatre Festival alongside young people from across the West Midlands.

Bursaries are available for participants who might otherwise be unable to afford the fees – see website for details.  
Course fee £75 per term (term time only).  
Weekly 4.30pm - 6pm on Thursdays.



# FILM PROGRAMME APRIL - JULY

ALL FILMS £6

22

THU 6 APR 2PM	<b>ROALD DAHL'S MATILDA THE MUSICAL</b> The award-winning musical brings the children's book to life on the big screen.	PG
THU 6 APR 7PM	<b>MRS. HARRIS GOES TO PARIS</b> A widowed cleaning lady travels from London to Paris to buy a couture Dior dress.	PG
THU 20 APR 2PM	<b>WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING</b> Raised alone in the marshes, Kya becomes the top suspect in a murder case.	15
WED 3 MAY 2PM	<b>MRS MINIVER</b> A British family struggles to survive the first few months of World War II.	PG
WED 3 MAY 7PM	<b>A BUNCH OF AMATEURS</b> The Bradford Movie Makers strive to keep their amateur film club afloat.	12A
WED 17 MAY 7PM	<b>THE BANSHEES OF INISHERIN</b> When Colm ends his lifelong friendship with Padraic, there are consequences.	15
THU 25 MAY 2PM	<b>ELVIS</b> Austin Butler & Tom Hanks star in the musical biopic about the King of Rock'n'Roll.	12A
THU 1 JUN 2PM	<b>ENCANTO SING-ALONG</b> Sing along with all your favourite songs in this fun family screening!	U
THU 1 JUN 7PM	<b>THE RAILWAY CHILDREN RETURN</b> Follow the adventures of a group of wartime evacuees in Yorkshire.	PG
WED 7 JUN 2PM	<b>FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS: ONE AND ALL</b> The band struggle with their second album, following a performance at Glastonbury.	12A
WED 7 JUN 7PM	<b>LIVING</b> A miserable civil servant decides to change his ways at his eleventh hour.	12
WED 21 JUN 2PM	<b>STRANGERS ON A TRAIN</b> Alfred Hitchcock's 1951 drama about two men attempting the 'perfect murder'.	PG
WED 21 JUN 7PM	<b>DANCE CRAZE</b> This exciting documentary showcases the 2Tone movement and British Ska phenomenon.	12
WED 28 JUN 2PM	<b>THE LOST KING</b> An amateur historian defies the academics in a quest to unearth Richard III's long-lost remains.	12A
WED 28 JUN 7PM	<b>TÁR</b> Cate Blanchett stars as Lydia Tár, the first female director of a major German orchestra.	15
WED 5 JUL 2PM	<b>MRS HARRIS GOES TO PARIS</b> A widowed cleaning lady travels from London to Paris to buy a couture Dior dress.	PG
WED 5 JUL 7PM	<b>EMPIRE OF LIGHT</b> Olivia Colman and Micheal Ward star in this touching drama about the magic of cinema.	15
WED 12 JUL 2PM	<b>EMILY</b> The imagined life of Emily Brontë as a young misfit finding her voice as a writer.	15
WED 12 JUL 7PM	<b>A MAN CALLED OTTO</b> Grumpy widower Otto Anderson meets his match when a lively young family move next door.	15
WED 19 JUL 7PM	<b>HEATHERS - THE MUSICAL</b> A West End production of the dark comedy musical about a dangerous high school clique.	15
WED 26 JUL 2PM	<b>PUSS IN BOOTS: THE LAST WISH</b> Puss in Boots (from Shrek) goes on an adventure to restore his full nine lives.	PG
WED 26 JUL 7PM	<b>JOYRIDE</b> A teenage boy accidentally ends up on the run with a woman and her newborn baby.	15





## 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

Opening hours are currently \*9.30am - 2.30pm Mon-Sat (\*10am Weds) subject to change - see website. The counter reopens 90mins before curtain-up on show nights except film nights when tickets are sold at Encore Bar.

Call Box Office on **0121 704 6962** for tickets and reservations or buy online and select your own seats anytime at [www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk](http://www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk) £1.50 fee applies + postage where selected. Print at home tickets are free. Tickets will remain at Box Office for collection if no postage is paid.

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

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Sound Desk																															
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NOT  
ON SALE  
ONLINE

Stage



## COURTYARD GALLERY DIARY

WED 10 - MON 22 MAY

**PRIMAVERA EXHIBITION BY TAKE 13 GROUP OF ARTISTS**

WED 14 - MON 26 JUN

**WORLD REFUGEE WEEK EXHIBITION**

WED 28 JUN - MON 10 JUL

**FESTIVAL 36 SHAKESPEARE FOLIO EXHIBITION (SEE PAGE 7)**

WED 12 - MON 24 JUL

**EXHIBITION BY PARTICIPANTS OF LIGHT 52 PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES AT THE CORE**

WED 26 JUL - MON 21 AUG

**SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES**

WED 6 - MON 18 SEP

**AN EXHIBITION BY SOLIHULL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**

WED 20 SEP - MON 2 OCT

**STITCH TOGETHER ANNUAL EXHIBITION**

WED 18 OCT - MON 13 NOV

**DIWALI EXHIBITION BY PUPILS WORKING WITH ART AT THE HEART**

This list gets updated throughout the year - see [www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk](http://www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk)  
for details of exhibitions and how to hire the Courtyard Gallery.

## CRUNCH COMMUNITY CRAFT GROUP



**FREE!**  
NEW  
MEMBERS  
WELCOME

Join the fun free lunchtime craft club on Wednesdays in the Courtyard Gallery.  
Simply bring along your own craft items, from drawing to cross-stitch embroidery,  
knitting and join the friendly group who enjoy crafting and chatting with others.  
There is no instruction provided, just a friendly space to meet and craft!