

# STRAT > FORWARD

## BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 14: 12 April 2017

## COLLEGE TO REV UP EXCITEMENT AT MOTORING SHOW

# LISTERS

Visitors to the Stratford Festival of Motoring will be able to get hands-on thanks to a series of interactive **demonstrations by Stratford College's Motor Vehicle department.**

The Stratforward-organised Festival takes place on Sunday, April 30th and Monday, May 1st and is sure to attract car enthusiasts from across the country. Festival sponsor Listers has teamed up with Stratford College to run demonstrations including changing a wheel and basic car maintenance techniques, giving people of all ages the chance to get their hands dirty and have a bit of fun, while learning about cars.

Listers will be showcasing cars from five dealerships on Waterside and Bridge Street as well as providing the car for the Stratford College demonstrations, which will be run by staff, students and apprentices.

**The weekend will also include organised 'runs' out into the Warwickshire and Gloucestershire countryside on the Sunday and Monday morning, followed by the spectacular sight of 300 cars parked in the town centre streets, showcasing some of the world's finest motor heritage.**

**Ian Watson, Motor Vehicle Lecturer at the College, said: "Joining forces with Listers at the Festival is a wonderful opportunity for our Motor Vehicle department and for the College as a whole. "The students and apprentices will have the chance to share their skills with members of the public and demonstrate the successful practical training that epitomises the College's vocational courses."**

Stratford College will have a stand at the festival in the family area in Rother Market. As well as interactive demonstrations, staff and students will be on hand to discuss course options and College life with visitors.



Whitewall Galleries is staging an exclusive exhibition of original paintings and collectable editions to accompany the 2017 Festival of Motoring.

The exhibition, from 10am - 6pm on both days of the Festival, will feature everything from British icons to the hottest continental classics and American beauties.

For more information, visit [www.whitewallgalleries.com/event/carfest-stratford17](http://www.whitewallgalleries.com/event/carfest-stratford17)



### In This Issue

- Festival of Motoring
- River Festival Announcements
- Social Media Training
- BID Levy Bills
- Granny Shakespeare
- Bardwatch
- Orchestra of the Swan
- Diary Dates

## Local businesses lead the way after BID members win tenders for River Festival bars



BID members have beaten off stiff competition from other bars and pubs across the area to win the tenders to run the **bars at this year's Stratforward**-organised River Festival.

The popular festival returns on July 1st and 2nd, with tens of thousands of people expected to descend on Stratford for the weekend.

**The festival is one of the highlights of the region's calendar. Last year's event attracted more than 60,000 people with more than 100 boats moored up on the Avon and at least 100 stalls making up a weekend of food, drink and family fun.**

Each year Stratforward receives applications from far and wide. This year, the alcohol concessions have been awarded to three BID members - The One Elm, The Keys & Kitchen and The Encore - following a rigorous and competitive process.

Mat Faulkner, general manager at The One Elm, which got through 100 barrels of beers, ales and ciders, 2,000 bottles of prosecco and 1,000 pints of Pimms last year, said: **"It's great that three local businesses are leading the way again.**

**"We're really excited. We have been part of the festival now for who knows how many years. It's home from home for us now. We love being down there and meeting everyone."**

World-class music is back on the bill for this year's River Festival, with the return of soul band Kinky Farnham to the stage at the multi award-winning event.

The popular funk and soul band is just one of an array of **stellar acts at this year's event, including TRADarr, Stratford-based choir Amicantus and Jack Blackman, one of the UK's leading young blues guitarists.**



Mat Faulkner from The One Elm



Band Kinky Farnham

## Social media training a hit with Stratforward members



Todd from Spaghetti Agency

BID members took part in a free social media training session with experts from local company Spaghetti Agency.

Todd from the Warwick-based agency delivered the fun session at **Cox's Yard last Thursday, giving members his Top 7 tips on social media** and the chance to learn more about all things social media.

It proved to be a great session and was well received by BID **members so we're looking forward to running another session.** Keep an eye on the newsletter for more details.

## BID Levy Bills

BID members will shortly receive their BID levy bills for the 17/18 financial year. Stratford District Council, who issue the bills on our behalf, have asked BID members to note that they have new bank details. Please check the invoice for details.



## Granny Shakespeare is coming to visit this Easter...

If you're still on the lookout for Easter activities Granny Shakespeare - Will's granny - is coming to visit Henley Street's Magic Alley. She'll be bringing her own inimitable style of storytelling as well as handing out little "easter eggs".

Granny Shakespeare will be at Magic Alley on Saturday, Sunday and Monday (April 15-17). Book your tickets for a visit to the Enchanted Manor and your chance to meet Granny Shakespeare by calling 01789 290969.



## Bardwatch and Radio

Just another little reminder to BID members with radios to turn them on and to report incidents. All BID members with radios should have their WRCI log ins by now, so we do need incidents reporting.

**If thefts or attempted thefts aren't reported then technically they don't exist.** It also means it will be more difficult to identify criminals active in Stratford and WRCI will not be able to identify them.



## Julian Lloyd Webber in town for Orchestra of the Swan concert



Julian Lloyd Webber

**Stratford's Orchestra of the Swan was joined by world-class talent** with an appearance by Julian Lloyd Webber and BBC Young Musician winner Laura van der Heijden this week.

Laura played a programme of Tchaikovsky with the orchestra, conducted by Lloyd Webber, at the Arts House on Tuesday, followed by a concert at Birmingham Town Hall tonight (Wednesday).

**Ahead of Tuesday's concert Laura and Mr Lloyd Webber and his family** joined members of Orchestra of the Swan for its Friends Lunch at El Greco in Stratford.

**Chris Wheeler, Chairman of Friends of Orchestra of the Swan, said:** "We were privileged to be joined by Laura and Julian for our Friends Lunch. It was great to get an insight from two cellists - both were delightful and a great time was had by all.

**"The evening's concert will go down as one of my OOTS top 10** - it was marvellous to see the interaction with between Julian on the podium and Laura playing the Tchaikovsky. Feedback from the audience was superb."

**Mr Lloyd Webber said:** "It was great to be back with Orchestra of the Swan - I have a tremendous respect and fondness for this superb chamber orchestra."

**And Laura sang the praises of Stratford, saying:** "It's a really beautiful place. I have been here a few times already and I am always sad to leave it and not get more time to look around and dive into everything Shakespeare. "I think because it's such a cultural place it's really wonderful to play music here because it feels like it's really appreciated. It's quite an inspiring place."

## Dates for your diary!

If you have an event you would like us to list here please email Sandi - sandi@stratforward.co.uk

### April

8th to 23rd	<b>Coventry &amp; Warks schools Easter holidays (Also Oxon, B'ham &amp; Leicestershire)</b>
10th to 23rd	Shakespeare Hospice Forget Me Not display outside RSC
14th to 17th	Easter Bank Holiday weekend
15th & 23rd	Stratford Races
15th to 17th	Granny Shakespeare will be at Magic Alley
17th	Country Casuals opening in Edinburgh Woolen Mill
22nd	Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations
23rd	St Georges Day
23rd - 30th	Stratford Literary Festival
30th & 1st May	Stratford Festival of Motoring

### May

1st	May Day
4th	Local Elections
7th	Stratford Marathon
9th	BID Members Networking Session
13th	Let it Glow Moonlit Walk
8th & 21st	Stratford Races
27th	FA Cup Final
26th to 24th June	Ramadan
29th	Spring Bank Holiday

### June

2nd to 4th	Stratford Folk Festival
9th, 10th & 20th	Stratford Races
17th	Stratford Boat Club Regatta
18th	<b>Father's Day</b>
18th to 25th	Poetry Festival



30th April & 1st May 2017

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



1st & 2nd July 2017

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



23rd to 24th September 2017

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

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