

STRAT > FORWARD

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

Issue 19: 17 May 2017

Anchors Away Countdown to River Festival Starts



Before the sound of car engines from the Stratford Festival of Motoring ([view the highlights video](#)) had even died away the events team at Stratforward were onto their next challenge Stratford's award-winning River Festival.

Preparations for what will be the ninth festival - on the 1st and 2nd July - are now well underway with musical acts, fireworks, food and beverage outlets, boats and market stalls all booked for the two day homage to Stratford's other world renowned crowd puller - the River Avon.

For many, this is the highlight of the Stratford summer with more than 60,000 people from across the region coming into town to celebrate a perfect family-friendly quintessential English weekend by the water.

Popular soul band Kinky Farnham, a hit at previous festivals, returns as the headline act for this **year's event, and are just one of a range of stellar acts. The acoustic stage will offer up the very best in musical talent, including Stratford-based choir Amicantus and Jack Blackman, one of the UK's leading young blues guitarists.**

As well as great music, visitors will be able to enjoy an array of entertainment including a fabulous firework display on Saturday night by Forest Fireworks.

For the foodies, there are no fewer than 15 hot food traders this year, with new treats to tickle the tastebuds including pies, pancakes and pasta by members Bella Italia, Huffkins, Hathaway Tea Rooms, Barry the Butcher, the One Elm and Carluccios. The bars are once again being operated by BID members The One Elm, The Encore and The Keys and Kitchen.

And when people fancy a riverside stroll there will be dozens of colourful boats on the river moored up, as well as craft market stalls selling everything from jewellery to plants. Stall holders include BID members Bright Ideas, Acorns Children's Hospice, For Something Different and Karl Stallard Furniture.

There is also the Family & Charity Zone with 30 charity stalls, a climbing wall and Escape Arts running Magic Roundabout themed activities.

Don't Miss The Boat

Last Chance To Advertise in River Festival Brochure

If you wanted to showcase your business in the River Festival brochure but **thought you'd missed out, think again.....while the official deadline for inclusion in the brochure has passed, if you can commit within 24 hours and get your artwork to the Stratforward events team by the end of the week, you might still be able to feature.**

Advertising in the brochure will mean your business will feature in all 50,000 copies that are being distributed to ABC1 households within a 30 mile radius of Stratford.

To make sure you don't miss the boat, contact Events Manager Ruth Wood on ruth@stratforward.co.uk for more information.

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Rosconn Group Is On Board with Boat Club Regatta



Rosconn Group Stratford Boat Club Regatta
Saturday 17th June 2017

Ahead of the River Festival Stratford's annual Regatta takes place next month. BID member the Rosconn Group is once again sponsoring this **year's event in aid of** Heart of England Mencap.

Hundreds of spectators are expected to gather by the banks of the River Avon for the event, which takes place on Saturday, June 17th and is organised by Stratford-upon-Avon Boat Club.

The regatta, which has been taking place in the town since 1879, attracts able-bodied and adaptive competitors from Stratford and further afield, including Bewdley, Cardiff, Nottingham, Leicester and Monmouth.

Racing takes place on the town stretch of the river from Holy Trinity Church to the club grounds by The Tramway Bridge. Spectators will be able to watch from Bancroft Gardens and the Recreation Ground, with a barbecue and beer and tea tent in the club grounds, which are open to all.

There will be plenty of fundraising fun and games riverside, from hook-a-duck to a raffle and tombola, **all organised on Heart of England Mencap's stand at the event.**

Daniel O'Donnell, Managing Director of Rosconn Group, said: "We are delighted that Heart of England Mencap has been chosen as the designated charity for this year's regatta.

"We are proud to sponsor the event, it's such an important local sporting occasion and it's wonderful to support such a friendly club that encourages people of all abilities to take up rowing as a sport or just for fun."

Paul Hazelwood, Stratford Boat Club's Treasurer, said: "The regatta and also the Fun Regatta in July are very weather dependent events and without our sponsor Rosconn Group, we couldn't risk holding the regatta.

"We are also amazingly lucky to have help from other river organisations such as the Avon Navigation Trust, the Sea Cadets, Avon Boating, the Environment Agency, Bancroft Cruisers, Canal & River Tours, the Countess of Evesham, and also the cooperation of those who make their living on the river."

Any businesses wanting to sponsor the event should contact christopherbest03@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.stratford-rowing.co.uk/regatta-2017



(left) Cath Errington, Fundraising Manager for Heart of England Mencap (centre, l-r) Joe Moore, Adaptive Helper, Stratford Boat Club, Paul Stanton, President, Stratford Boat Club, Gail Mathers, Rosconn Group, Colin Upchurch, Stratford Boat Club, Nick Blinkhorne, Heart of England Mencap customer and support worker Joe Windmill. On the right is Daniel O'Donnell, Managing Director of Rosconn Group.



Showing boat club members Ian Scott and Helen Helliwell in the boat, watched by (at the back, l-r) Colin Upchurch, Stratford Boat Club, Paul Stanton, President of Stratford Boat Club, Joe Moore, Adaptive Helper, Stratford Boat Club, Heart of England Mencap customer Nick Blinkhorne and support worker Joe Windmill. In the centre is Cath Errington, Fundraising Manager for HofE Mencap and on the right is Daniel O'Donnell and Gail Mathers of Rosconn Group.

Puck Brings Fairy Magic to Bell Court

BELL COURT
STRATFORD · UPON · AVON

A little bit of fairy magic has been sprinkled in Stratford this week with the formal unveiling of a new bronze sculpture of Puck - **the sprite from the bard's famous play A Midsummer Night's Dream**.

The sculpture is part of the £30 million redevelopment of Bell Court. The bronze artwork is next to the new Everyman cinema and what will be Miller and Carter restaurant.



Puck, the sprite from Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream, created by artist, Louisa Forbes

Created by artist Louisa Forbes, it features as part of the public realm which includes a new green wall, seating area, feature lighting and landscaping.

She said: "My inspiration came from the green wall that has been installed at Bell Court. For me, this was the perfect backdrop for Puck as it resembles the wood where the sprite got up to most of his mischief, in particular where he first accidentally used the love potion on Lysander.

"You can imagine from how he's sat that Puck is gesturing towards the new Everyman cinema saying 'tadaa' whilst peeking out at people in the central courtyard trying to entice them towards him.

"Perhaps it's just my romantic side but wouldn't it be lovely if that area of Bell Court became a romantic meeting place, just like the woods were in Midsummer Night's Dream?"

When complete, the aim is for the public realm at Bell Court to be used as event space, hosting live music, markets and other family-friendly activities.

John Stacey, Asset Development Director at developer UK and European Investments, said: "Louisa's designs really stood out to us and we're thrilled to now have this important addition to our scheme as we complete the final stages of the redevelopment."

Louisa's sculpture was among proposals submitted by 40 artists with UK & European Investments and its architects Mountford Piggott shortlisting six contenders before choosing Louisa.

In addition to Puck, Louisa has also sculpted five owls that are hidden in the green wall at Bell Court.

For more updates on Bell Court visit their accounts on Facebook (BellCourtStratford), Twitter (@BellCourtLife) and Instagram (@BellCourtStratford).

WRCI Bardwatch

The Retail Bardwatch group is meeting next week to set targets for Stratford – **we've got business representatives from all over town** – but if you are interested, please talk to Shan, our Town Host Supervisor. This is also **a last call for anyone who has incidents that they haven't reported yet** – otherwise your favourite target or shoplifter may not make it into the WRCI target list! Reporting incidents is really important to building up a picture of what's going on in Stratford.

And for our Retail Radio users, remember to turn your radio on! (when you're not charging it!!)



Contact the Town Hosts on 01789 268291 or townhosts@stratford.co.uk

Are You The Face of Stratford 2017?



Are you, one of your team, one of your customers or even one of your family The Face of Stratford 2017.....the search is on once again to find a lucky local to win £2000 worth of prizes including the opportunity of a lifetime.....to go on the books of a leading model agency.

The journey to find the next 'Face of Stratford' culminates in a showcase of some of the town's finest independent businesses for an evening of fashion, beauty, music and dance at The Arts-House in July.

Showcase Stratford, organised by Minorities-based salon Gorgeous Obsession, will feature an array of BID businesses, including Aspire, Gemini, Knights Fine Jewellers and For Something Different. Performances will be from Rosie T Dance Academy.

At the event, which takes place on July 20th at the Artshouse, the audience will be treated to the latest looks on the catwalk, plus performances on stage, and the winner of the Face of Stratford contest will also be revealed.

The winner will be chosen by judges Matthew Curtis, Rosie T, Kufa Matiya from In2Ambition and Anna Gray from modelling agency Model Students.

They will walk away with a prize worth £2,000, a contract with Model Students, a portfolio and images, styling and products and dinner, bed and breakfast at the recently-refurbished Townhouse.

To apply for the Face of Stratford or for more information, email info@gorgeousobsession.co.uk

What Are You Doing For Half Term - May 27th to June 4th?

Stratford is the place to be this half term, with the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust laying on plenty to keep the whole family occupied.

There will be activities across the Shakespeare Family Homes, from Tudor Games at Shakespeare's Birthplace to making your own Tudor gingerbread at Hall's Croft.

Families will be able to learn the Tudor technique of copying portraits called 'pouncing' at Shakespeare's New Place as well as exploring the grounds of Hall's Croft and tracking down Croft's conjuring creatures.

For full listings and prices visit www.shakespeare.org.uk/visit/whats-on/may-half-term

Also this May Half Term families will find the story of Shakespeare brought to life in lots of different ways at The Shakespeare's Schoolroom & Guildhall. **Activities include** Shakespuss readings, Tudor Rose craft activities, Tudor lessons, quill writing and dressing up.

More details are available at www.ShakespearesSchoolroom.org.

The Shakespeare's Schoolroom & Guildhall is open from 10am to 5pm



Shakespeare's-Schoolroom-Stratford-
Sara-Beaumont-Photography

:: We want to know what our BID members are doing for half term. Get in touch with any events, activities or offers and we can include them in the newsletter

CRACKING COMEDY
PROUDLY PRESENTS

PAUL RICHARDS: ONE MAN AND A BOX

One man. A small wooden box. 90 minutes. What could possibly go wrong? A comedy.

"Sweet, grounded and self-deprecating... Paul delivers his stories with a genuine honesty that is immediately endearing." - Heckler magazine

"Paul delivers his stories with heart-warming honesty... Paul Richards constantly makes you smile." - Get Reading

Live Comedy at The Fourteas
Sunday 11th June at 7:00

Tickets £6 from The Fourteas, Sheep Street
Pay bar

Stratford events
coming up

Charity Fashion Show at Edinburgh
Woollen Mill
Thursday 25th May at 7:00
Tickets £5 from EWM, Bridge Street

DO YOU WANT TO BE A MODEL?

COULD YOU BE THE FACE OF STRATFORD 2017?

ANY GENDER, RACE OR GENERATION
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

YOU COULD WIN PRIZE WORTH £2,000

- A Contract with Model Students
- Portfolio & Images **TEMPEST**
- Styling & Products **THE TOWNHOUSE**
- Dinner, bed & breakfast at



TO APPLY- Send your details and a photo to
info@gorgeousobsession.co.uk
For more information CALL: 01789 264883



AT STRATFORD ARTSHOUSE

FRIDAY 2ND JUNE 2017

CEILIDH FEATURING GREENMAN RISING

SATURDAY 3RD JUNE

SHOW OF HANDS

WITH SUPPORT FROM
FLEETWOOD CAVE
8PM

12:00 - LEON GORMLEY

12:45 - THE ZEB PROJECT

13:30 - JACK OF ALL

14:30 - KATHRYN ROBERTS
AND SEAN LAKEMAN

16:00 - EDD DONOVAN AND
THE WANDERING MOLES

17:00 - MERRYMAKER

SUNDAY 4TH JUNE

CARA DILLON

WITH SUPPORT FROM
MAGIK RIVER
7PM

12:00 - TOM PRICKETT

12:45 - CARRICK

13:30 - THE OCCASIONAL
ORCHESTRA

14:30 - SAM KELLY
AND JAMIE FRANCIS

16:00 - THE REDHILLS

17:00 - ALL STRINGS
AND THINGS

CEILIDH £5, DAYTIME TICKETS £7.50, DAYTIME TICKETS TMCL HEADLINER £30
HEADLINE ACTS FROM £19.50, FULL WEEKEND TICKET £60

WWW.STRATFORDFOLKFESTIVAL.CO.UK
BOX OFFICE 01789 207100

Dates for your diary!

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

May

NOW	River Festival brochure advertising deadline
21st	Stratford Races
25th	EWM Breast Cancer Fashion Show
26th & 31st	Skin Care Presentation @ Looking Glass Aesthetics
27th	FA Cup Final
26th to 24th June	Ramadan
29th to 2nd June	Warwickshire , Birmingham & Oxfordshire 1/2 term
29th	Spring Bank Holiday

June

2nd to 4th	Stratford Folk Festival - BID Card Discount available!
3rd	Champions League Final
8th	General Election
9th, 10th & 20th	Stratford Races
11th	Live Comedy at the Fourteas
17th	Stratford Boat Club Regatta
18th	Father's Day
18th to 25th	Poetry Festival
24th	Midsummers Day

July

1st & 2nd	River Festival
3rd to 16th	Wimbledon
4th, 16th & 23rd	Stratford Races
7th to 9th	British Grand Prix, Silverstone
20th	Showcase Stratford
21st to 4th Sept	Warwickshire school summer holidays
26th to 4th Sept	B'ham School Summer holidays



1st & 2nd July 2017

www.stratfordriverfestival.co.uk



23rd to 24th September 2017

www.stratfordtowncentrefoodfestival.co.uk



6th & 7th May 2018

www.stratfordfestivalofmotoring.co.uk

Contact Us - Give us a call for more information about our services and products

Stratforward
10-11 Sheep Street
Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 6EF

Main Line
Joseph & Sandi
01789 292718

Events & Finance
Ruth, Tor & Pauline
01789 299011

Town Hosts
01789 268291
07879 361735

info@stratforward.co.uk

Visit us on the web at
www.stratforward.co.uk