

# BUSINESS NEWS

Stratforward Newsletter

Issue 39 - 5 October 2016

## Businesses Is Bloomin' In Stratford

BID members are celebrating after their fantastic floral displays bagged a bouquet of gongs in the annual Stratford-upon-Avon in Bloom awards.

The organisation's glittering annual presentation evening, held last week, saw the Arts House packed with more than 200 business owners and residents for the announcement of the winners of the 2016 Stratford In Bloom competition.

Steve Brookes, Chairman of Stratford-upon-Avon in Bloom, said the presentation evening was a "huge success".

"It really was a celebration of just what fabulous gardens and floral displays the people of Stratford can produce."

"From the town centre point of view, there were fabulous entries in both the Hotels and Restaurants & Coffee Shops categories," He urged more shops, local and national businesses to take part in next year's contest.

The Arden Hotel won the Hotels award for its meticulously-manicured gardens and Hathaway Tearooms on High Street took first in the Restaurants & Coffee Shops category with its beautiful rear garden.



Hathaway  
Tea Rooms

Owner Rick Allen said: "I'm really chuffed because

we have been here for four years now and each year we've been trying to do a bit more to the garden and it's great to see that recognised.

"It's always great to see the town in bloom, it's looked great and the public do really notice it."

He said many people still don't realise the Hathaway Tearooms has a garden and he hoped winning the award would

bring more people in to see it.

"We've got such a hidden gem of a garden, a lot of people don't know about it," he added.

Another town centre garden to get a prize was the Keys



The Arden Hotel

### In This Issue

- Stratford in Bloom
- Stratford Business Show
- Mop Road Closures
- NCP Closed for Mop
- Stratford Music Festival
- Stratford Literary Festival
- Diary Dates
- Business Spotlight

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)



HL Barnes

& Kitchen in Ely Street, which came first in the Public Houses category.

Orbit Housing won the National Businesses category while HL Barnes took the prize for best Local Businesses category - an award sponsored by Murphy Salisbury.



Keys & Kitchen



Orbit Heart of England

Taff Hill, Facilities Officer at Orbit Heart of England, based in Greenhill Street, said: "We're

delighted to win the award and take pride in working in Stratford-upon-Avon.

**"It just goes to show how a little gardening effort can really transform the look of a building. We hope everyone enjoyed the flower baskets as much as we did."**

To see a full list of winners and learn more about the dedicated volunteer team at Stratford In Bloom visit the Stratford in Bloom website. [www.stratfordinbloom.org.uk](http://www.stratfordinbloom.org.uk)



## Stratford Shows It Means Business

Businesses turned out in force for the annual Stratford Businesses Show last week.

Some 80 local companies of different sizes and from different sectors exhibited at the show, held at the Arts House last Wednesday.

**Organiser from Stratford Business Forum Jonathan Smith said: "The event was successful in bringing together local businesses and organisations promoting their goods and services. Not only were new business relationships started but real business was completed on the day."**

As well as exhibitors, the show included free seminars from local business experts offering people help developing the skills needed to grow your business.

Stratforward Director Joseph Baconnet attended the event for the first time since taking the helm at the BID. He manned the Stratforward stand at the event, and also met a range of local businesses, giving them the chance to outline any concerns or issues.

Mr Baconnet said: "It was great to meet so many local businesses and to have great conversations that will help shape the work of Stratforward over the next couple of years."

Mr Smith thanked local hotels and venues who provided treats for visitors to enjoy as well as restaurant El Greco which provided a delivery services of freshly-prepared lunches to people's stands.

The 9th Annual Stratford Business show will take place in September 2017.



## Businesses Warned To be Ready For Mop



Businesses are being reminded that the annual Stratford Mop Fair returns to town next week, **with the 'runaway' mop coming to town the following week.**

The annual Mop takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday (October 11 and 12), with the Charity Mop running from 4-11pm on Tuesday and the Main Mop taking place from 11am until midnight the following day.

Stratford's associated 'runaway mop' will take place the following week on Thursday and Friday, October 20 and 21.

**This year's Mop, which is expected to attract thousands of revellers,** will be opened by Stratford District Council Chairman Cllr Sue Adams and will include the usual array of fairground rides, games and food stalls.

However, businesses are also reminded this annual tradition also brings logistical challenges. The following roads will be closed from 5am on Tuesday until 6am on Thursday, October 13th:

- Greenhill Street
- Rother Street (from Ely Street)
- Wood Street
- Union Street
- Bridge Street
- Windsor Street (from Mansell Street)
- Meer Street
- Henley Street
- High Street



The following week, road closures will be in place in the town centre for the Runaway Mop, running from 5am on Thursday, October 20th until 6am on Saturday, October 22nd.

They will include the following streets:-

- Greenhill Street

Rother Street (from Ely Street)  
Wood Street  
Windsor Street (from Mansell Street)  
Meer Street



**The Mop Fair's traditions lie in the historic start and finish of the employment period for farm workers, labourers, servants and craftsmen. They would attend the Mop hoping to be hired, carrying items signifying their trade or a mop head if they had no particular skills. The associated 'runaway mop' comes from the tradition of employers reconsidering and re-hiring any staff before committing to a full year's work.**

#### MOP CAR PARKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR BID MEMBERS WITH NCP PERMITS

Unfortunately, because of the layout of the Mop fair there will be no access to the NCP car park, however, SDC have agreed alternative arrangements for the days of the Mop (11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> October). **Bid Levy payer's staff can park in the following car parks:**

Arden Street., Windsor Street, Recreation Ground, Leisure Centre Car Park

These are all pay and display car parks. Anyone wanting to take advantage of using these car parks on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October will need to purchase a £3.50 ticket from the pay and display machines and display the Stratford/NCP permit currently used to obtain their discount from the NCP car park.

## stratford on avon music festival

### Stratford Hits The Right Note As Musical Maestros Head For Festival

World-famous soprano Lesley Garrett is returning to town next week as she takes to the stage on the opening day of the 21st Stratford-on-Avon Music Festival.

The star is returning to Stratford with special guest baritone Roland Wood next Friday (October 14th), the first day of the eight-day festival which features an array of internationally-renowned musicians.

The event, which runs from October 14th to 22nd this year, attracts thousands of music fans each year.

The 2016 programme includes a range of performers to cater to a variety of musical tastes, from Lesley Garrett to The Endellion String Quartet, renowned as one of the finest quartets in the world, as well as acclaimed pianist Martin Roscoe.

**The Ronnie Scott's All Stars will perform a visual and musical treat combining world-class live jazz and rare archive footage**



(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

and photos from the iconic Soho jazz venue.

**The festival's theme is 'A Line from Shakespeare' to mark the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death with many of the concerts inspired by the bard and his work.**

On Wednesday, October 19th musicians from the RSC will take the audience on a musical journey back through time in a performance inspired by *The Tempest*, while award-winning quintet Fontanella, who are holding a workshop and concerts on Saturday, October 15th, will **play music from Shakespeare's time on instruments familiar to the bard himself.**



And on the final day of the festival the National Youth Jazz Orchestra and National Youth Chamber Choir will perform a programme dubbed **'Jazz Up Your Shakespeare'** inspired by Shakespeare's plays and poetry.

Concerts will be held at venues across Stratford including the Arts House, the Town Hall and Holy Trinity Church and some events include pre-concert talks and opportunities to meet the musicians.

The festival also includes a range of lunchtime concerts at the Town Hall, informal concerts at venues including The Arden Hotel, Ettington Park Hotel, the Guild Chapel and The Four Teas.

**The festival's Artistic Director Ambrose Miller said:** "In this Shakespeare anniversary year we're very happy to pay our own Shakespearean tribute with some special concerts, both ancient and modern.

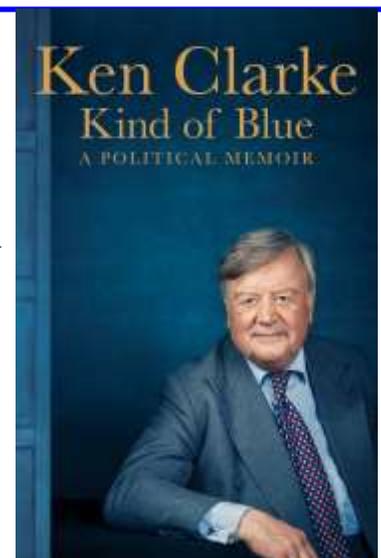
For a full listing of programme events, visit [www.stratfordmusicfestival.com](http://www.stratfordmusicfestival.com) All events can be booked online, by phone or in person at Stratford Arts House.

## Big Beast Ken Clarke Revealing All At Literary Festival's Autumn Programme

**Political 'big beast' Ken Clarke will be entertaining audiences at an impressive autumn programme for Stratford Literary Festival.**

The veteran MP is among several show stopping authors set to appear during the short autumn programme, along with Great British Bake Off winner Nadiya Hussain and pop star-turned-vicar Rev Richard Coles.

The popular festival - a highlight of the cultural calendar in Stratford - celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2017, with the main programme taking place between April 23rd and 30th. But before the main event, the autumn programme will kick off later this month.



(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

On Friday, October 28th colourful MP Ken Clarke will appear 'in conversation' about his autobiography *Kind of Blue*. Earlier this week, in an interview to promote the memoir, the former chancellor revealed that he thought William Hague could have become Prime Minister if he hadn't beaten Mr Clarke in the 1997 Tory leadership contest.

During Clarke's 46 years as MP for Rushcliffe in Nottinghamshire, the political grandee has held every major office of state apart from Prime Minister. At his appearance in Stratford, he will discuss everything from his childhood in Nottinghamshire to working with PMs from Margaret Thatcher to Theresa May and his views on Brexit.

Mr Clarke will be followed by the Rev Richard Coles, former popstar with The Communards turned parish priest, on Tuesday, November 15 and GBBO winner Nadiya Hussain on Wednesday, November 30.



The festival's autumn programme also includes a day of Alice in Wonderland events for children rounding off with a Mad Hatter's Tea Party on Friday, October 28th.

Children aged three to 11 will be able to immerse themselves in the children's classic, dressing in character and joining in drama workshops with Playbox Theatre as well as creating tea party props with Escape Arts. There will also be face painting and the chance to hear a story from *The Caterpillar*, before joining *The Mad Hatter*, *March Hare*, *Dormouse* and Alice herself at the Tea Party presented by Playbox Theatre.

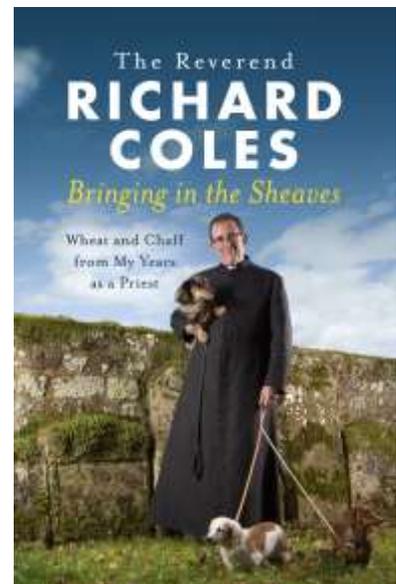
Festival Director Annie Ashworth said: "Our Autumn programme is nothing if not varied!"

"It's great to be working with Playbox Theatre and Escape Arts again for the Tea Party, and they will be running fantastically creative workshops before all the children become part of real immersive theatre at the funniest tea party ever.

"Our other events promise lively chat and very candid views!"

The festival is now a charity, she said, with the Mad Hatter Tea Party Day supported by the Rosconn Group and evening events sponsored by Sheldon Bosley.

Tickets for evening events start at £12, and tickets for the Mad Hatter's Tea Party start at £10. All events take place at Stratford Arts House, Rother Street. Book tickets by calling the box office on 01789 207100 or book online at <http://stratfordartshouse.co.uk/whats-on/stratford-literary-festival/>. For more information visit [www.stratlitfest.co.uk](http://www.stratlitfest.co.uk).



# Performance Data

Elephant Wi-Fi has been in town upgrading the footfall counters.

We will publish data when it has been validated.



STRATFORWARD'S

2016

CHRISTMAS UPON AVON

BROCHURE

DEADLINE

THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER

**Christmas tips**

Please submit your most unusual tip and the best will be included  
naming your business for free

**Advertising**

Please submit your advert artwork and payment.

**FREE product placement**

Please submit high resolution images of  
the product, a description and price

01789 299211

ruth@stratforward.co.uk or tor@stratforward.co.uk

## Dates for your diary!

1st to 31st October - Stratford Halloween Festival

6th October - National Poetry Day

8th to 22nd October - Stratford Music Festival

11th & 12th October - Mop Fair

15th October - Stratford Races

18th October - Stratforward Networking Event noon at the Falcon Hotel.

Please confirm your attendance. [info@stratforward.co.uk](mailto:info@stratforward.co.uk)

20th October - **Deadline for advertising in the Stratforward's Christmas Brochure.**

20th & 21st October - Runaway Mop Fair

21st October - Breast Cancer Charity Wear Pink Day

22nd to 30th October - Warwickshire half term

24th to 28th October - Autumn Literary Festival

27th October - Stratford Races

27th October - Music Medley in memory of Dr Terry Gasper at Stratford Arts House

28th October - Mad Hatters Tea Party at Stratford Arts House

4th November - Shakespeare Hospice Fire & Ice Challenge

24th November - Christmas Light Switch On and Celebrations including Christmas Market

1st December - Christmas Market

8th December - Christmas Market

15th December - Christmas Market

15th December - Lions Christmas Carol Service in Bridge Street

17th December to 3rd January 2017 - Warwickshire Schools Christmas holiday

22nd December - Christmas Market

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

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.stratforward.co.uk](http://www.stratforward.co.uk)



## BID Member Spotlight

Fraser Hart is Coming to Town

FRASER HART

In celebration of our 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday this year Fraser Hart is excited to be opening our 41<sup>st</sup> Store, centrally located on Bridge Street, Stratford-Upon-Avon. Combining expertise with a **passion for exceptional customer service you'll always get the personal touch you deserve.** So, let us be at the heart of your celebration - visit us in-store this Autumn.

**With it's centralised location, the new 220sq metre store has been designed to create a light, spacious and welcoming shopping atmosphere in-keeping with our premium jeweller aesthetics.** Especially designed to deliver a magical diamond buying experience, the store has a specific focus on premium watch brands with shop-in-shops fitted. The newest Fraser Hart addition also stocks our new Brilliant Fire diamond range, a collection of perfectly cut diamonds polished by skillful artisans to reveal their intense beauty.

**Fraser Hart was founded in 1936 in Glasgow and we now stand as one of the UK's leading Jewellers.** We have been recognised for our exceptional customer service through numerous **awards, most recently being shortlisted for 'Retailer of the Year' in the UK Jewellery Awards.** Through trusted relationships, putting people first and a real passion for jewellery and watches we create treasured moments.

**We look forward to welcoming you to pop in and have a look around and see why we've fallen head over heels in love with our new store design concept.**





# ALADDIN

*The Magical Family Pantomime Adventure*

## PANTO PRESS & FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON

Saturday 8 October - 1:30 - 3:30pm

The cast will all be present and dressed in costume  
Interviews with the cast 1.30-2.30

- Aladdin tattoos • Aladdin bouncy castle • Colouring competition for kids
- Guess the sweets in the jar • Café • Genie fortune telling



[facebook.com/StratfordArtsHouse/](https://www.facebook.com/StratfordArtsHouse/)



[twitter.com/ArtsHouse](https://twitter.com/ArtsHouse)

For full details and the latest news on  
all our shows please visit our website  
[www.stratfordartshouse.co.uk](http://www.stratfordartshouse.co.uk)



# AUTUMN/WINTER FESTIVITIES

FRIDAY 7TH AND SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER

10.30AM - 7.30PM

DRINKS, NIBBLES AND DISCOUNTS THROUGHOUT THE STORE

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

BE INSPIRED BY OUR NEW SEASONAL RANGES

## FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT

15 MEER STREET, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, CV37 6QB 01789 292618