

What's On

Amander Meade selects the best entertainment in the region this month

Sunday 29 April to Friday 11 May, 10am to 4pm

EXHIBITION: Welland Valley Art Society

This popular local group display their latest range of colourful art work at their spring exhibition. Most items are for sale.

• **Stamford Arts Centre Gallery**
Admission is free.

Saturday 5 May, 7.30pm
MUSIC: The Big Chris Barber Band

Chris Barber leads his ten piece band through a wide selection of his favourite music: from his roots in New Orleans style in "Bourbon Street Parade" to the early music of Duke Ellington and Sidney Bechet plus blues by Sonny Terry, Miles Davis and Brownie McGhee. Over the years Chris has influenced many of today's leading Jazz and Blues musicians such as Mark Knopfler, Eric Burdon, John Mayall, The Stones, Eric Clapton and Van Morrison - with some of whose bands Chris has often been a featured guest.

• **Stamford Corn Exchange Theatre**
Tickets £20 Tel: 01780 766455

Sunday 6 and Monday 7 May
EVENT: Living Heritage Game & Country Fair

A host of country attractions including a falconry village with flying arena and indoor training area, specialised trade stands, static displays, resident falconers, equestrian demonstrations and mounted games. Food Glorious Food will showcase some of the best local and regional produce available.

• **Burghley House, Stamford**
Tickets and further information
Tel: 01780 752451 www.burghley.co.uk

Wednesday 9 May, 7.30pm
TALK: What The Butler Saw

If you loved Downton Abbey you must come along to hear Meakin the Butler tell of his life and role in the smooth running of an Edwardian Country House. John White of Tutbury Castle is in the role of Meakin.

• **Stamford High School Hall**
Tickets: £6.50 from Helen Gibbons
Tel: 01780 480267



Sunday 13 May, 11am
EVENT: Race for Life for Cancer Research

Join thousands of ladies as they race either 5K or 10K to help raise money for cancer research. Burghley Park, Stamford

• **For more details or to sign up visit**
www.raceforlife.org

Saturday 19 May 2pm to 4pm
The Ark Nursery Open Day at St George's School Jubilee Fair

Enjoy all the fun of the fair and look round our new nursery, described by Ofsted as having a 'home from home environment', with its own lovely outdoor play area. Open term times from 9.15am to 3.15pm, registered for 2-4 year olds. £12 a session (with 15 hours a week free nursery care from age 3).

Now registering children for September 2012.
• **Contact Helen Watson on**
01780 482113 for more details.
Kesteven Road Stamford PE9 1SX

Thursday 24 May, 8pm -
THEATRE: An Evening with Gervase Phinn

Gervase Phinn is a tremendous raconteur. The best selling and award winning author, Radio and TV personality, really is at his best and most exciting in front



Wednesday 16 May, 2.30pm

JUBILEE CELEBRATION: There Will Always Be An England

Enjoy a wonderful feel good afternoon celebrating the Queens' Diamond Jubilee with very best of English entertainment. Travelling back through the past sixty years bringing back memories of the Coronation, the 1966 World Cup, great British musicals, swinging through the 1960s, and a stirring tribute to The Last Night Of The Proms with memories of many of the best loved stars of yesteryear. Lovingly presented by Neil Sands and his very talented West End performers, mixed with stunning costumes, a large dose of good old fashioned fun.

• **Stamford Corn Exchange Theatre**
Tickets £10.50 Tel: 01780 766455

of a live audience. This show will have you on the edge of your seat as he shares his hilarious and sometimes poignant tales of life as a schools' inspector in the Yorkshire Dales. Dubbed 'the James Herriot of schools'. With his keen ear for the absurd and sharp eye for the ludicrous, Gervase has delighted audiences all over the UK and now embarks on his eleventh national tour which is currently receiving rave reviews all over the country.

• **Stamford Arts Centre. Tickets £16.50**
Tel: 01780 763203 or
www.stamfordartscentre.co.uk

Sunday 27 May
EVENT: Victorian Cricket, from 11am

The sound of leather on willow will ring out again when Burghley Rotary holds their annual Victorian Cricket Festival. Local teams will play to Burghley Rules which are complex but high scores are guaranteed and Derek Randall, Ex England and Nottinghamshire County Cricket has offered his services to the highest bidder, with the teams bidding to secure his expertise. Individual sponsors are also welcome to make bids and can "donate" Derek to their favoured team. This year will also see a schools quick cricket contest running at the same time organised by the Fred Trueman Schools Cricket League which encourages the playing of Cricket in all schools. Beer supplied by Ufford Ales as well as traditional cricket teas supplied by the Hotels and served by the Ladies of the Inner Wheel Club of Stamford Burghley. Additional attractions include a funfair and a Battle of Britain Memorial fly-past. All funds raised will be donated to Rotary charities.

• **Admission is free. Stamford Meadows**
For more information please contact
Geoff Hastings Tel: 07889 606 371

Monday 28 May

MUSICAL COMEDY: Tom Jones

This is a brand new musical based on the novel, The History of Tom Jones and has been reworked by local musician Andrew Lee. Andrew has written a brand new script and rearranged and reworked the score to appeal to a modern audience. Tom is a raffish ladies man who manages to get into enough mischief to come within moments of being hanged. A fresh look at this classic story.

• **Stamford Corn Exchange Theatre**
Tickets £9.50 Tel: 01780 766455

Sunday 3 June

EVENT: Family Fun Day

Stamford & District Lions Club are holding their annual Family Fun Day as part of the Town Council's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. You can enter your Princes and Princesses for the Fancy Dress competition, under 5 and 5 to 11, and the annual Baby Show with 3 age categories. Join the Teddy Bears' Picnic - remember to bring Teddy. Watch and join local rugby players and boxers, get to the top of the Climbing Wall, get tips from the Mountain Bike Aerial Display team and support your Under 8s 5 a-side football team. You could be the winner of the Duck Race, walk on water in the Hydrosphere, and have your photo taken in the Stocks (and collect for your chosen charity), enjoy the fun fair, hog roast and ice cream.

A day for the whole family to enjoy, starting with the Car Boot sale at 8am.

• **For further information, and to arrange your time in the Stocks, contact Jane Tel: 07946 629098 or Car Boot bookings Tel: 01780 755219.**

Monday 4th June

EVENT: Stamford Feast - The Big Lunch 2012

Free Multicultural Food and Community Event, Stamford Meadows

This diverse, innovative, inspirational and inviting multi cultural community project is centred around food and healthy eating. Offering educational advice on cultural awareness, how to sustain a healthy lifestyle through mini projects running on the day, a live cookery demonstration theatre, live international music and dance, 100 trade stalls comprising local businesses, farmers,

Throughout June, July and August

OPEN AIR THEATRE: Shakespeare at Tolethorpe

The Box Office is open for this year's productions - Twelfth Night, Henry IV Part 1 and The Three Musketeers. Choose between Shakespeare's best merry comedy, his tale of royalty and rebellion, or the adventures of the three valiant musketeers - all beautifully adapted for Tolethorpe's magnificent open air stage.

• **For more information on the plays, dates and prices Tel: 01780 756133 or www.stamfordshakespeare.co.uk**



food producers, local chefs, restaurateurs and allotment groups, international food suppliers, who will come together to showcase their skills and sell their locally sourced products. Educational activities and competitions are being run through 50 schools aimed at sustainable food and healthy eating.

There will be a large number of entertainers, singers, musicians and speciality performers providing the line up of entertainment at this summer's Jubilee Celebrations on the Meadows, along with a fun fair and host of chefs including Michelin Stars who will be delighting us with their gastronomically mouth-watering talents at the Cook Show running throughout the day.

There will be a Chilli Eating Competition on

the day, so get practicing and show us what you are made of! The last one standing will receive some amazing prizes.

The event offers many exciting volunteering opportunities making this event truly community spirited and encouraging community cohesion. Local schools, colleges, businesses and community groups are already part of the management team and Laura Brant from New College Stamford is coordinating. If you want to get involved please contact Laura. Brant@stamford.ac.uk to find out more.

• **For further information please contact Ali Hawley-Smith at alihs@stamfordtownpartnership.co.uk or call her on 07791 334221.**

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What's On

Amander Meade selects some of the best entertainment in the region this month

Thursday 26 April to Friday 11 May, 4pm to 6pm
EXHIBITION: Rutland Schools Young Arts Exhibition

Oakham Decorative and Fine Arts Society are running this, the fifth exhibition of young people's art from schools across the county.

• **Catmose College Gallery, Oakham**

Sunday 6 and Monday 7 May, 10am to 4pm
EVENT: Hardy Plant Fair

As well as the plant fair, on Sunday there will also be cooking demonstrations when visitors can see how the produce grown in the Kelmarsh kitchen garden can be transformed into mouth-watering dishes. On Monday there will be a talk from 2pm to 3pm by Esther McMillan, Head Gardener at Kelmarsh Hall Gardens. Admission to the talk is £5, and to book Tel: 01604 686543. The gardens at Kelmarsh Hall are open from 11am to 5pm, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, plus Bank Holiday Mondays and Tuesday and until 9pm on Thursdays.

• **Admission to the Plant Fair is £2.50**

Kelmarsh Hall (On the A508 just off Junction 2 of the A14)

For details of other talks and events at Kelmarsh Hall, Tel: 01604 686543 or www.kelmarsh.com



Monday 7 May, 10am to 5pm
EVENT: Hambleton Open Gardens & Art Exhibition

Every year keen Hambleton gardeners welcome the public to enjoy a special visit to their country house and cottage gardens. Many have stunning views of Rutland Water. A number of stalls will ensure guests have an interesting visit including Hambleton Produce Stall, a collection of very tempting cakes, biscuits, preserves and more prepared by the village's excellent cooks plus plant stalls, books, tombola and bric-a-brac. In the twelfth century church with outstanding stained glass window visitors can retreat to a fascinating exhibition and stalls of talented local artists.

A choice of homemade soups, baguettes and other refreshments are on sale all day. For the energetic the bluebell woods on the edge of Rutland Water are astounding and you may even hear nightingales sing. All proceeds to the church roof fund.

• **Admission is £5 with parking and children under 16 years free**



Saturday 12 May, 11am and 2pm
CHILDREN'S THEATRE: The Tortoise and the Hare

Meet two opposites in a charming new adaptation of the classic tale about racing, time and friendship. Brimming with loveable characters. Especially for children aged 3 plus and their families.

• **The Core Theatre, Corby Tickets £5.50**
Tel: 01536 470470 or www.thecorecorby.com

Monday 7 May, 10am to 4pm
EVENT: Braunston May Fayre

Annual village fundraising event with stalls, street market, craft fair, dog show, lots of local farm produce, refreshments, maypole, games and lots of family entertainment.

• **Admission is free with off street parking available.**

Monday 7 May, from 2pm
EVENT: Medbourne May Fayre

A perfect start to summer - lots of stalls including crafts, pocket-money games, plants, teas with home-made cakes plus bouncy castle and band playing. Proceeds for Medbourne Playgroup. Everyone welcome.

• **Medbourne Village Hall.**

Thursday 10 May, 10.30am to 4pm
EVENT: Watercolour Painting Day: 'Clematis'

Detailed demonstrations by Sandra Peck combine with a beautiful setting and a buffet lunch to make a most enjoyable day. This month, learn how to paint and shape each delicate petal so that they 'lift' from the page. Everyone welcome, from the more experienced artist to the absolute beginner. This course is run by Sandra especially for the Royal

Horticultural Society and concessions apply to RHS members. • **Price including buffet lunch: £67 (RHS members £53.60) Booking essential Tel: 01572 813200 or www.barnsdalegardens.co.uk**

Friday 11 May, 7pm
EVENT: A Night at the Races

A fundraising evening for the RNLI at the wonderfully refurbished Falcon Hotel. Eight races with supper available at the interval. Lots of fun in support of a great cause.

• **Admission is free.**
The Falcon Hotel, Uppingham

Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 May, from 11am
EVENT: Allotment Weekend at Barnsdale

This event provides an opportunity to have a look around the allotment areas and greenhouses, which are not usually accessible to the public at this very important time in the gardening calendar. A Barnsdale expert will be on hand, on both days, to answer any questions you may have.

• **Barnsdale Gardens, Exton. Garden entry applies - for further details Tel: 01572 813200 or www.barnsdalegardens.co.uk**



Saturday 26 May to Friday 22 June

EXHIBITION: New Sculptures by Sid Burnard: Birds, Boats and Mythical Beasts.

Sid Burnard is an artist in the truest sense. He works with integrity, honesty and great humour, using beach found objects. From his large collection of driftwood and other found objects he assembles surreal birds, semi-abstract 'boat shorescapes' and beasts. Unsurprisingly, he is passionate about the environment and conservation of the natural world which inspires his work.

• **Goldmark Gallery, Uppingham**
Admission is free with further information at
www.goldmarkart.com

Saturday 12 May, 12pm to 2pm

EVENT: Plant Sale

Hundreds of home-grown plants for sale to fill those gaps in the border. The wide range will include perennials, annuals, shrubs, fruit and vegetables. Light lunches of home-made soup with bread, teas, coffee and cake also on sale with all proceeds to Bringhurst School.

• **Medbourne Village Hall**

Sunday 20 May to Saturday 2 June

EVENT: The Rutland Walking Festival

The Festival will be bigger than ever in this year kicking off with the launch event at Ketton Sports Association on Sunday. Choose from a variety of interesting walks, alongside refreshment and a great social atmosphere. This will be followed by a full week of walks in many locations around the county. There will be walks to suit the casual stroller to the enthusiastic ramblers. Many of the routes are circular and conveniently finish at a great village pub; ideal for that much needed sit-down. Sunday 27th May will see the annual 'Walk for Rutland' charity event at Greetham Community Centre. Walkers can enjoy the local countryside at their own pace, including areas of the enchanting Exton Park. Run by the Rotary Club of Rutland, this event promises to offer a great atmosphere, with music and refreshments throughout the day. • **More information at www.discover-rutland.co.uk/walking-festival**

Saturday 26 May, 7.30pm

MUSIC: Jogleasa present 'The Carpet of Dreams'

This is a Music in Lyddington event featuring mediaeval music and storytelling - tales and songs from the East from traditional Jewish, Arabic and Christian sources. • **Tickets in advance £14 (students £2) available from Uppingham Sports & Books, Uppingham Theatre, Music & More or Stamford Music Shop.**



Thursday 24 May to Saturday 2 June

CHILDREN'S THEATRE: Gulliver's Travels

Based on the classic book by Jonathan Swift, this is the story of Lenuel Gulliver who finds himself shipwrecked and abandoned by his crew. A giant in one land and a tiny plaything in another, Gulliver has many adventures whilst his daughter Molly waits for his return. Gulliver's adventures have changed him forever - can Molly help him return to the world he left behind?

• **The Curve, Leicester. Tickets £8 Tel: 0116 242 3595**
www.curvetheatre.co.uk

Don't forget to book early for the Oakham Festival....

Friday 15 June to Monday 2 July

Oakham Festival has multiple events throughout these two weeks with the middle weekend centred around the Funky Tent in the grounds of Oakham Castle. Highlights include children's theatre, a ceilidh, The Uppingham Feast, performances by the Rutland Concert Band, The Hound Dogs and Govannen. Forrester's Brass and vocalist Caroline Trutz perform a Last Night of the Proms and Oakham School present both an orchestral concert and James and the Giant Peach. Don't miss the comedy night plus all the events at Rutland Water and in the Grainstore.

• **For details of the full programme visit www.oakhamfestival.co.uk as more information will be added as soon as it is confirmed.**



To Sunday 6 May

Comic Book Superheroes Exhibition
10am - 5pm Tuesday-Saturday; 12noon - 4pm Sundays & Bank Holiday Mondays

Last chance to see this colourful, child-friendly exhibition. Free. Peterborough Museum, Priestgate Peterborough, PE1 1. 01733 864663; museum@vivacity-peterborough.com

Saturday, 5 May

Baillies Mill's Accordion Band Concert
8.00pm

Toe-tapping rhythms all the way from Northern Ireland. Tickets: £8.00 including light refreshments. Accompanied children free. St Mary's Church, Orton Waterville, Peterborough, PE2 5EQ.

Saturday 5 - Sunday 6 May

Knobworth
2pm

Real ale, cider and a music festival with local bands at The Angel Inn, Yarwell, helping to raise awareness and funding for Everyman raising money for research into prostate and testicular cancers. www.knobworth.com; www.angelinnyarwell.com

Monday 7 May

Stilton Cheese Rolling
10am

Maypole dancing, live music, 'Molly' dancing, fairground rides, stalls and more.



Free. Stilton Main Street, Stilton, Peterborough, PE7 3RF. 01733 241206. www.stilton.org

Saturday 12 May

Castor Plant Fayre
10.00am - 4.00pm

Come and stock your plot with vegetables, perennials, annuals, hanging baskets and a selection of wild flowers - all at competitive prices. Free. Castor Village Hall, Castor, Peterborough, PE5 7AX. 01733 380773. jenton.corke@talktalk.net

Saturday 12 - Sunday 13 May

Sheep Shearing Weekend
11am, 1pm and 3pm

Lincoln Longwool and Jacob sheep have their annual haircut. Normal admission prices. Sacrewell Farm & Country Centre, Thornhaugh, Peterborough, PE8 6HJ 01780 782254. www.sacrewell.org.uk

Wednesday 16 May

Withering Looks,
7.30pm

Award-winning LipService Theatre present their hilarious Brontë spoof! £10.00 (£7.50) Key Theatre, Embankment Road, Peterborough, PE1 1EF. 01733 207237/207239 key.theatre@vivacity-peterborough.com www.vivacity-peterborough.com/venues/key-theatre

DIARY DATES

Yasmin Bradley selects interesting events for May

MAY

- 1 TUESDAY
- 2 WEDNESDAY
- 3 THURSDAY
- 4 FRIDAY
- 5 SATURDAY
- 6 SUNDAY
- 7 MONDAY
- 8 TUESDAY
- 9 WEDNESDAY
- 10 THURSDAY
- 11 FRIDAY
- 12 SATURDAY
- 13 SUNDAY
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- 22 TUESDAY
- 23 WEDNESDAY
- 24 THURSDAY
- 25 FRIDAY
- 26 SATURDAY
- 27 SUNDAY
- 28 MONDAY
- 29 TUESDAY
- 30 WEDNESDAY
- 31 THURSDAY

Thursday 17 May

Flower Arranging Evening
7.30pm

Demonstrations by professional floral designer, Robert Stubb.

Tickets: £8.00 including a glass of wine. Village Hall, Castor, Peterborough, PE5 7AX 01733 380303 or jenton.corke@talktalk.net

Saturday 19 - Sunday 20 May

Peterborough Artists Open Studios Group Exhibition

Painting, jewellery, woodwork, ceramics, mosaics, textiles with demonstrations and the chance to meet the locally-based artists... plus live music.



Cathedral Square, Peterborough, PE1 1XL www.paos.org.uk

Sunday 20 May

Vintage and Commercial Tractor Run
11am - 2pm

Passing through Newborough and surrounding villages with a BBQ to finish.

Free: Start and finish at Willow Brook Farm, Stamford Road, Helpston Heath, Peterborough, PE6 7EL. 07718971902 . www.newboroughyoungfarmers.co.uk

Friday 25 May

Music in Quiet Places: Castalian String Quartet
8pm

Magical music in a sensational setting.

Tickets: £13 (£11); under 21s: £5. Church of St Mary the Virgin, 6 Church Street, Titchmarsh, NN14 3DB. 01832 274734. www.oundlefestival.org.uk

Monday 28 May,

An Evening with bestselling author, Joanne Harris
7pm

Joanne talks about her new novel, Peaches for Monsieur le Curé, published this month and the sequel to Chocolat.

Tickets: £3 (£2) Central Library, Broadway, Peterborough, PE1 1RX. 01733 864280.

Tuesday 29th May

2012 Halfords Tour Series Calendar
7pm

Catch the team-based, televised cycling series competing on a city-centre circuit led by Peterborough's own Steve Lampier.



Cathedral Square, Peterborough, PE1 1XL. www.paos.org.uk.

Thursday 31 May

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
5pm

Roald Dahl's classic tale of Willy Wonka, owner of a world-famous chocolate factory brought brilliantly to life by young actors.

Tickets: £5. The Stahl Theatre West Street, Oundle, PE8 4EJ. 01832 273 930. Box Office: 01832 27393. www.stahltheatre.co.uk.