

themet.org.uk
0161 761 2216

Music
Theatre
Comedy
Family shows
Learning
Food & drink

What's on at The Met

January–April 2018



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Learning



Festivals



Food & drink



Shows



Recording

From renovation to innovation... Welcome to The Met

As we approach the first anniversary of our refurbishment we're thrilled to have welcomed 50,000 people to enjoy and be inspired by great art in Bury. This time last year the finishing touches were being made for a much anticipated reopening following nearly seven years of work to redevelop our much loved (and well worn) building.

The spring 2018 programme continues to build on our ambition to support exciting new work by artists and attract audiences to high quality performance and workshop opportunities.

This season we're thrilled to have a focus on family theatre and comedy alongside our trusted music programme. We sincerely hope you are as excited as we are about the likes of Griff Rhys Jones, the legendary Graham Fellows (John Shuttleworth) amongst new work from exciting new artists including Just Turf, Lizzie Nunnery's Horny Handed Tons of Soil and Orphan Colours.



The Met is here to be enjoyed; to challenge and excite and offer a diverse programme for audiences from throughout the north-west.

Our thanks to our patrons and funding partners who allow us to develop and extend, to deliver projects we believe are relevant and will impact positively throughout our community. As ever we only survive and thrive with audiences supporting new work at our festivals, in the intimate Box studio theatre and spreading the word about the fantastic shows in our Derby Hall space. We hope you will join us at The Met in 2018.

David Agnew, Artistic Director

PART OF THE SHOW

Exceptional pre-theatre meals & post-gig drinks.

Automatic
The Met's own restaurant & bars.

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Automatic is part of the Hollinworth & Price family of independent food and drink places. Find out more @hollinwth_price



Venue hire: Professional, creative and inspiring spaces for meetings, presentations and more...

With two stunning performance spaces, a selection of private meeting rooms and a large rehearsal space, we can cater for every event. Situated in the heart of Bury, The Met is within easy access of Manchester city centre and only a short stroll from Bury's public transport interchange.

Inside The Met's Grade II listed building, all rooms have access to our modern restaurant Automatic for hot drinks, business lunches and buffet style catering.

Derby Hall

People: Up to 400 (dependent on seating or standing hire)

Rate: From £60+VAT per hour

Ideal for: Events, large conferences and award ceremonies

External Rehearsal Room at Edwin St Creative Hub

People: Up to 100 (dependent on seated or movement based hire)

Rate: From £35+VAT per hour

Ideal for: Theatre and dance rehearsals, read-throughs and movement workshops

The Box

People: Up to 100 (dependent on seating or standing hire)

Rate: From £40+VAT per hour

Ideal for: Events, small conferences and award ceremonies

Stanley Bar

People: Up to 100

Rate: From £25+VAT per hour

Ideal for: Wine receptions, formal celebrations and Christmas parties



The Card Room

People: Up to 20

Rate: From £25+VAT per hour

Ideal for: Meetings, workshops and interviews

The Board Room

People: Up to 20

Rate: From £20+VAT per hour

Ideal for: Small board meetings, 1-1s and interviews

Additional items such as projectors, technical staff and dressing of the space can be factored into your quote. Please let us know what you require for the hire and we will do our best to accommodate. Charitable rates are also available.

Fancy a discount on regular space hire at The Met?

Why not become a corporate sponsor for exclusive discounts and offers. For more information or to arrange a viewing, please contact the hires team on hires@themet.org.uk.

Family shows

February half-term fun



Yana and the Yeti

Yana and the Yeti

Produced by Pickled Image and Nordland Visual Theatre

Sat 17 Feb 2pm – £11 adults / £8 children & teens – Suitable for ages five years and over
Puppetry geniuses Pickled Image return to The Met with their latest stunning show.

Yana arrives all alone in a remote snow-bound village, surrounded by dense forest. She can't understand a word anyone says and the other children tease her with tales of mountain monsters. Then things start to get really hairy...

Featuring exquisite music, Arctic landscapes and a cast of extraordinary puppets, Yana and the Yeti is a funny and poignant tale of a child's determination to be understood and her discovery that friends can come in the most unexpected shapes and sizes.

February half-term fun



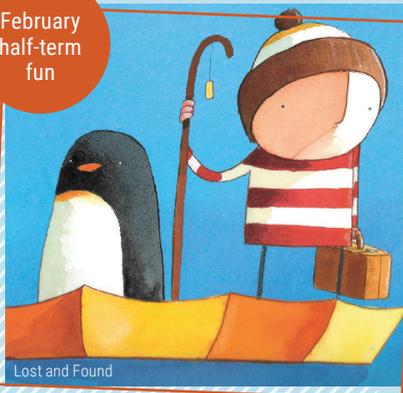
Aaaaaaah! Dinosaurs!

By Dommy B

Tue 20 Feb 2pm – £7 adults / £5 children – Suitable for ages five years and over
A young troll girl finds herself defending her town from a gang of destructive, deadly dinosaurs! She recruits a wizard and a dragon as allies. But does she have what it takes to save the day and calm these dangerous dinos' raging reign?

Dommy B, from the BBC's Rhyme Rocket, returns to The Met with his latest action adventure comedy poetry show.

February half-term fun



Lost and Found

Lost and Found

Little Blue Monster Theatre Company

Fri 23 Feb 11am & 2pm – £12 adults / £10 children & teens – Suitable for ages three years and over
Once there was a boy who found a penguin. The boy thought it must be lost and decides to take it home. They set out on a journey to the South Pole, but when they get there, the boy discovers that home wasn't what the penguin was looking for after all...

The Met is delighted to welcome back Little Blue Monster after their hit Christmas show Santa's Little Helper. Based on the bestselling book by children's author Oliver Jeffers, this story of friendship comes to life with puppetry, songs and music.

Hoot Owl, Master of Disguise

Proon Productions

Sat 17 Mar 1pm – £8 – Suitable for ages four years and over
Hoot Owl is a bird of prey who thinks he is a master of disguise! With his stealth like body and his sharp senses he's bound to catch a juicy rabbit or scrumptious sheep. Surely?

Original songs, colourful puppets, animation, hilarity, ridiculousness and rapid costume changes abound in this wildly inventive new show based on picture book by Sean Taylor.



You've Got Dragons

Taking Flight Theatre Company

Sat 31 Mar 11am – £7 adults / £5 children & teens – An accessible show suitable for ages three years and over

Lots of people get them; bad dreams, swirly tummy, feeling prickly. And sometimes they make you feel alone. So, what can a child with a bad case of the dragons do?

With live, original music, this highly visual, sensitive production is a humorous and touching exploration of the dragons we all face.

Based on the book by Kathryn Cave, featuring creative captioning, interwoven BSL and audio description.



Perfect

Tessa Bide Productions

Sun 15 Apr 2pm – £8 – Suitable for ages five years and over

A young boy waits for the birth of his new baby sister... His excitement bubbling over at the thought of a new playmate to race and chase with. It's nearly time, she's nearly here.

The touching story of a boy meeting his disabled sister for the first time, with stunning puppetry, original live music and physical theatre from the award-winning Tessa Bide. An imaginative retelling of the book by Nicola Davies and Cathy Fisher, opening up the subject of disability for young audiences. Perfect is a remarkable story of anticipation and disappointment, acceptance and love, and the power of nature in all our lives.

Box office 0161 761 2216 – themet.org.uk

Comedy

Griff Rhys Jones

Where Was I?

Wed 24 Jan 8pm – £18

Join the star of Not the Nine O'Clock News, Smith and Jones and Three Men In A Boat as he airs stories, anecdotes, reminiscences and outright lies.

"Great Comedy." **The Telegraph**



The Met's New Comedian of the Year Competition

Presented by First Thursday Comedy Club

Fri 19 Jan 8.30pm – £10 advance / £12 door

Ten rising comedy stars perform and compete for your votes. You are the judges and will vote on the funniest. At stake is their reputation, your entertainment and of course a cash prize. Who will win, you decide.

Stephen Bailey

Can't Think Straight

Thu 15 Feb 7.30pm – £12.50

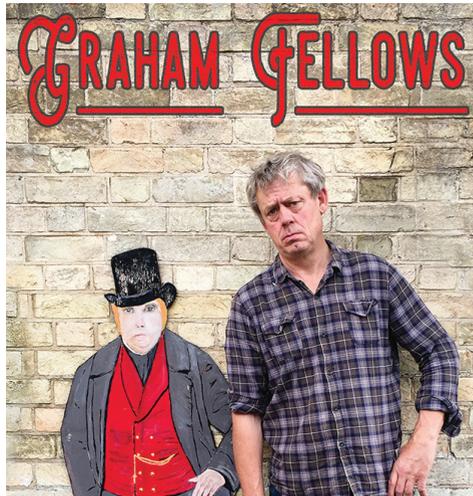
Stephen Bailey's candid humour has made him one of the most enjoyable acts on the UK comedy circuit. As well as being (in his own words) a working-class, ginger, gay, northern comic, he is also a black belt in Tae Kwon-Do and loves a conspiracy theory (preferably involving a celebrity and a cucumber). Ages 16+ (swearing and adult themes).

Graham Fellows

Completely Out Of Character

Wed 28 Feb 8pm – £12

Graham Fellows has performed as the comic character John Shuttleworth for over twenty five years, delighting comedy fans with his songs and quirky take on everyday life. Now Graham steps out from behind the keyboard to plug in his guitar and sing his own songs: revelatory, humorous and quirky.



Geoff Norcott

Traditionalism

Sat 24 Mar 8pm – £12

The world is changing at a dizzying rate. Geoff Norcott is trying to hold modern views, but worries that tradition is becoming a dirty word. The star of BBC2's The Mash Report and Live at The Apollo takes to the road with his new show following a sell-out season at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

"Objectively funny regardless of your political leaning." ★★★★★ **Fest**

"Repeatedly and satirically incisive." **The Scotsman**

Presented by So Comedy & Broken Robot. Productions by arrangement with Troika.

Barbara Nice

Raffle

Fri 20 Apr 8pm – £12

Join comedy's favourite housewife for her new show about chance and luck.

With her enviable track record of garnering five star reviews and sell-out shows, Barbara Nice will put a smile on your face and a spring in your step.

The entrance price includes a complimentary raffle ticket, giving you the chance to win a prize off Barbara's table! Ages 14+ only.

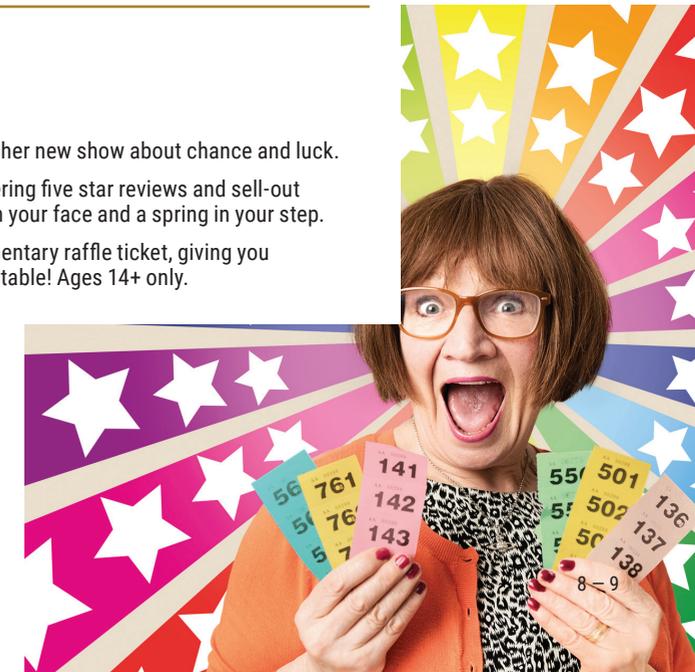


First Thursday Comedy Club

Thu 1 Feb, Thu 1 Mar & Thu 5 Apr 8.30pm
– £10 advance / £12 door

The Met's First Thursday Comedy Club brings you a hilarious evening of top quality comedy on the first Thursday of every month. Featuring top acts from TV, radio and the Edinburgh Fringe, plus touring comedians from across the globe. Visit our website to see the latest line-ups.

Box office 0161 761 2216 – themet.org.uk



Music



Ga Ga

Ga Ga

A tribute to Queen

Rock and Pop – **Fri 12 Jan 7.30pm – £15 advance / £17 door**

Ga Ga pay tribute to rock legends Freddie Mercury and Queen. There are no wigs, no make-up and definitely no false moustaches but instead a host of massive Queen songs played like they were meant to be.

IQ

Rock and Pop – **Sat 13 Jan 8pm – £18 standing / £20 seated**

IQ have established a reputation for themselves as one of the world's leading progressive rock bands. Known for their passionate music and dramatic live presentations, they have released a string of critically acclaimed albums.

Luke Jackson and Amy Wadge

Folk – **Wed 17 Jan 8pm – £12**

Amy Wadge is one of the country's most successful singer-songwriters. Her work includes songs for superstar Ed Sheeran.

Luke Jackson is a rising young roots singer-songwriter who was nominated for both the Horizon Award and the BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award.

A dazzling double header of UK folk talent.

Paul Jones and Dave Kelly

Blues – **Fri 19 Jan 8pm – £21**

Founder members of The Blues Band, what Paul Jones and Dave Kelly don't know about the blues can be written on a pinhead. In this acoustic show they play the greats – from Howling' Wolf and John Lee Hooker to Sonny Boy Williamson – alongside their own original material. If you're a true blues fan, everything you need is here.

Jean Genie

A tribute to David Bowie

Rock and Pop – **Sat 20 Jan 8pm – £12**

Jean Genie are renowned for their accurate recreation of David Bowie's flamboyant stage shows. Expect to hear all the hits including Starman, Let's Dance and Rebel Rebel.



Paul Jones and Dave Kelly

Shake the Chains

Plus special guests Commoners Choir

Folk – **Fri 2 Feb 8pm – £22**

Shake the Chains is a new show that looks at the role songs have played in social change, resistance and protest; from the industrial revolution and the slave trade through to CND and the miners' strike. Featuring Nancy Kerr, Hannah Martin, Greg Russell and Tim Yates, plus guests.

Shake the Chains is a commission from Folk by the Oak, with support from Arts Council England, Help Musicians, and Folk Alliance.



Martyn Joseph

Martyn Joseph

Folk – **Thu 25 Jan 8pm – £17**

Martyn Joseph is a jaw dropping guitar player with a unique percussive style and a show stopping voice. Often compared to Springsteen, John Mayer and Dave Matthews, his song-writing speaks of the simplicity and complexity of the human condition.



Swing Commanders

Swing Commanders

Jazz – **Fri 26 Jan 8pm – £11**

1) Take the very best ingredients – big band hits, western swing, jump jive. 2) Stir together with a big spoon of exquisite arrangements. 3) Warm in an oven of hot musicianship. 4) Apply a layer of fun and top with a generous icing of showmanship. Reserve your slice before it's all gone.



Mat Walklate and Paolo Fuschi

Mat Walklate and Paolo Fuschi

Blues – **Fri 26 Jan 8pm – £12**

Mat Walklate (harmonica) and Paolo Fuschi (guitar) play diverse and dynamic ska-influenced blues, with a rich tone rooted in the very earliest days of amplification.

Lúnasa

Folk – **Sat 27 Jan 8pm – £18**

Formed from members of some of Ireland's greatest bands, Lúnasa's complex arrangements and unique sound has reshaped the boundaries of traditional music. The group celebrated their twentieth anniversary in 2017 but continue to evolve, playing music that is as state-of-the-art and infectious today as it was when they started.



Lúnasa

Box office 0161 761 2216 – themet.org.uk

Music



Fara

Fara + Adam Holmes and the Embers

Folk – **Thu 8 Feb 8pm – £14**

Fara are four young musicians at the forefront of today's Scottish folk scene. Their fiery Orkney sound has won them acclaim including a nomination for best newcomers at the 2017 Radio 2 Folk awards.

Edinburgh-born singer/songwriter Adam Holmes crafts lyrics that resonate like old folk songs, set to melodies rooted in haunting slow airs.

A double header concert featuring two exciting young folk groups from Scotland.

The Jerseys

Rock and pop – **Fri 9 Feb 7.30pm – £17 / £15 concession**

The Jerseys pay tribute to Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons performing hits including Let's Hang On, Big Girls Don't Cry, and Walk Like A Man.

Sam Baker

A Mr Kite Benefit

Americana – **Sat 10 Feb 8pm – £16**

Texan singer-songwriter Sam Baker returns to The Met to play songs from his fifth album Land of Doubt.

"Sam Baker has reached a career high with 'Land of Doubt'... one of the most beautiful pieces of art you will hear all year." **Penny Black, UK**

Michael McGoldrick, John McCusker and John Doyle

Folk – **Thu 15 Feb 8pm – £22**

Flute, fiddle and guitar masters Michael McGoldrick, John McCusker and John Doyle bring new album The Wishing Tree to Bury, a thrilling mix of traditional and contemporary jigs, reels, ballads and more.



Adam Holmes and the Embers



The Jerseys



Sam Baker



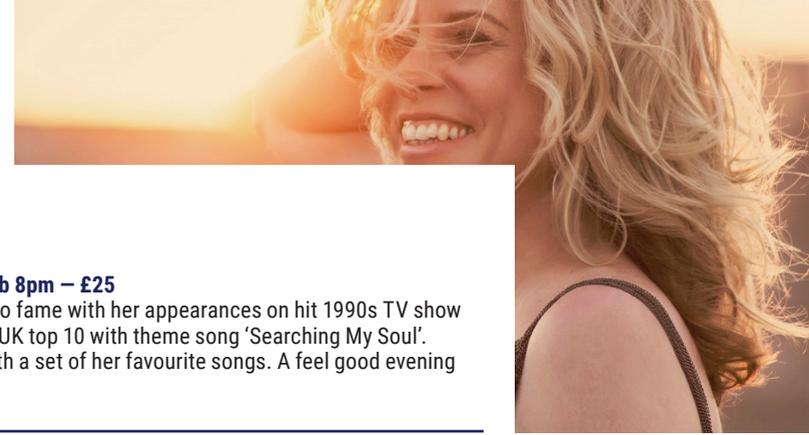
Michael McGoldrick, John McCusker and John Doyle

Vonda Shepard

Live in Concert

Rock and Pop – **Sat 17 Feb 8pm – £25**

Vonda Shepard first shot to fame with her appearances on hit 1990s TV show Ally McBeal, reaching the UK top 10 with theme song 'Searching My Soul'. She returns to The Met with a set of her favourite songs. A feel good evening of nostalgia.



The Eskies

The Eskies

Folk – **Fri 16 Feb 8pm – £10 standing / £12 seated**

From sea soaked waltzes to Italian tarantellas, from brassy funeral marches to weep along klezmer knees ups, The Eskies play anything that makes you want to dance, steeped in melodrama and impudent swaggering fun.



Orphan Colours

Orphan Colours

Americana – **Wed 21 Feb 8pm – £12**

Orphan Colours is a new British group formed by members of Ahab, Noah And The Whale and Danny and The Champions of The World. They come to The Met with their first album, released in January.

"Endearing nods of Tom Petty and Ryan Adams." **Gigwise**



Breabach

Breabach

Folk – **Thu 22 Feb 8pm – £16**

Twice winners of 'Folk Band of the Year' at the Scots Trad Music Awards, Breabach continue to build a reputation at the forefront of the UK's world and roots music scene. Songlines called their new album Astar "exhilarating, energetic and accomplished... a rare, beautiful treat".



Mark Nevin

Mark Nevin

Rock and Pop – **Thu 22 Feb 8pm – £14**

Fairground Attraction founder, songwriter and double BRIT Award winner Mark Nevin comes to The Met with his band. Beside writing the classic Perfect and much loved album 'First of a Million Kisses', Mark's songs have been recorded by David Bowie, Morrissey, Ringo Starr, Joe Cocker and Kirsty Maccoll.

Music



Martin Harley and Daniel Kimbro

Martin Harley and Daniel Kimbro

Blues – Fri 23 Feb 8pm – £15
Roots and Blues guitarist, singer and songwriter Martin Harley joins forces with Daniel Kimbro on upright and electric bass. Two musicians at the top of their game, together they push the boundaries of blues, folk and American roots music.



Tom McConville Band

Tom McConville Band

Folk – Sat 24 Feb 7.30pm – £12
Top folk fiddler Tom McConville joins forces with guitarist David Newey, acoustic bass player Phil Murray and accordionist Shona Kipling. Expect a rollercoaster of musical delights from fast, rhythmic dance tunes to beautiful slow airs, all presented with humour and style.



Wille and the Bandits

Wille and the Bandits

Blues – Sat 24 Feb 9pm – £14
Wille and the Bandits combine blues-rock with progressive and world influences to create a sound that is all their own. They return with their brand new, critically acclaimed album Breakfree.

“Howling, cinematic psychobluess... breathtaking.”
BBC Radio 2

The Ennis Sisters + Dave Gunning

An evening of the best of east coast Canadian folk

Americana – Thu 1 Mar 8pm – £20
Celebrated songbirds The Ennis Sisters sing contemporary folk songs with a Newfoundland twist. Dave Gunning captivates through his compelling songwriting, humorous lyrics and stunning musical arrangements.

A fantastic transatlantic co-headline tour from two of Canada's biggest names.



The Ennis Sisters + Dave Gunning

Leveret and Spiro

Eccentric Orbits Tour

Folk – Fri 2 Mar 8pm – £18
Featuring seven of the UK's top instrumentalists in two incredible groups, the Eccentric Orbits tour showcases the unique and distinctive sounds of Leveret and Spiro. An evening of thrilling acoustic music that combines consummate musicianship, compelling delivery and captivating spontaneity.



Leveret and Spiro



Desperado

Desperado

2018 From California to Eden
Presented by GS Promotions

Rock and Pop – Sat 3 Mar 8pm – £16.50 advance / £19 door

An authentic tribute to The Eagles, Desperado take you on a two hour trip through forty years of classic songs, from “Hotel California” to their latest album “Long Road out of Eden”.



Sean Taylor

Sean Taylor

Blues – Thu 8 Mar 8pm – £12
One of the hottest names in the UK blues/acoustic scene, Sean Taylor has frequently been compared with John Martyn, Chris Isaak and Tom Waits.

“The finest acoustic blues talent to appear in the UK for many a year...” **Love Music Hate Racism**



Son of Town Hall

Son of Town Hall

Americana – Fri 9 Mar 7.30pm – £12

Son of Town Hall create a musical world that transcends time and space, complete with Victorian-era outfits, meditations about the sea, and songs that beg you to sing along.

“Purposely timeless yet anachronistic, a sort of aural steampunk.” **Santa Fe New Mexican**



Luke Daniels

Luke Daniels

The Polyphon Chronicles

Folk – Sun 11 Mar 8pm – £12

Singer, songwriter and composer Luke Daniels is acclaimed for his ‘polyphon’ combining 19th century music technology with acoustic and digital sounds. Expect original tunes alongside re-workings of songs by Nic Jones, Jerry Rafferty and Stevie Wonder.

Stick In The Wheel

Folk – Sat 10 Mar 8pm – £16

Four-times BBC Radio 2 Folk Award nominated Stick In The Wheel are taking the folk scene by storm with their incendiary performances of traditional English folk. They return in 2018 with a new album.



Box office 0161 761 2216 – themet.org.uk

Music



Police Dog Hogan

Police Dog Hogan

Folk – **Thu 15 Mar 8pm – £16 advance**
Eight-piece Police Dog Hogan create an exuberant fusion of country, pop, folk and rocking bluegrass. Lead singer James Studholme's lyrics are underpinned by driving country-rock rhythms and a distinctive Americana vibe.



Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham

Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham

Folk – **Sat 17 Mar 8pm – £18**
Combining Aly Bain's passionate fiddle with Phil Cunningham's accordion, this pair have won Best Duo at the Radio 2 Folk Awards and been nominated in the Scottish Traditional Music Awards for Live Act of the Year. Two of the best traditional musicians you are ever likely to hear.



Glenn Tilbrook

Glenn Tilbrook Plus support

Rock and Pop – **Sun 18 Mar 8pm – £17.50 standing / £19.50 seated**
Founder of Squeeze (alongside Chris Difford, who can also be seen at The Met this season) Glenn Tilbrook's solo shows feature wonderful Squeeze songs new and old alongside occasional spontaneous interpretations of respected songs by other artists.



Showaddywaddy

Showaddywaddy

Rock and Pop – **Fri 23 Mar 8pm – £20 standing / £22.50 seated**
Showaddywaddy are one of Europe's most successful exponents of retro rock and roll. Don't miss this evening of chart-toppers including "Under The Moon of Love", "When", "You Got What It Takes", "3 Steps To Heaven", and many more.

Moya Brennan

Folk – **Thu 22 Mar 8pm – £22.50**
Best known as the voice of Clannad, Moya Brennan's effortless vocals and timeless music pay homage not only to her vibrant traditional Irish heritage but also her grasp of contemporary forms.

Chris Difford and Boo Hewerdine

Rock and Pop – **Thu 29 Mar 8pm – £18**
Co-founder of Squeeze (with Glenn Tilbrook, who can also be seen at The Met this season), Chris Difford has made a lasting contribution to English music with hits like Cool For Cats, Up The Junction, Labelled With Love, Hourglass and Tempted. Forty years on he continues to write and play, both solo and with the band.

Joining him is Boo Hewerdine, singer-songwriter and driving force behind The Bible.



Chris Difford



Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman

Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman

Folk – **Sat 24 Mar 8pm – £16**
Twice winners of the BBC Radio 2 Folk Award for 'Best Duo', husband and wife duo Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman return to The Met with their latest album Personae. Expect stories of knights, grizzly murder, giants and even an ancient tortoise during a hugely entertaining and varied evening of music and song.



Horny Handed Tons of Soil Presented by Phrased & Confused and Unity Theatre

Folk / Poetry – **Thu 29 Mar 8pm – £14**
Inspired by the work of Liverpool's world-renowned poet Adrian Henri, Horny Handed Tons of Soil fuses beat poetry with folk song; electronic composition with live brass and percussion; and documentary film with theatrical storytelling. Written and performed by Lizzie Nunnery, Martin Heslop, Martin Smith and Vidar Norheim.

The Houghton Weavers

Folk – **Sat 31 Mar 7.30pm – £15 / £13 concession**
The Houghton Weavers unique blend of popular folk music, humour and audience participation has been entertaining audiences for over forty two years. As their motto says, they will always 'Keep Folk Smiling'.



The Houghton Weavers

Music



The Secret Sisters

A Mr Kite Benefit

Americana – Sun 1 Apr 8pm – £16

The Secret Sisters are singing and songwriting sisters Laura and Lydia Rogers. Their gorgeous and haunting harmonies have won them a reputation for being the best sibling act since the Everly Brothers. They appear in support of their Grammy nominated third album, *You Don't Own Me Anymore*.



G2 Definitive Genesis

Rock and Pop – Thu 5 Apr 7.30pm – £17 advance / £19 door

G2 Definitive Genesis pay tribute to a vintage period in Genesis' long and colourful history, the Seconds Out era (1975–78), whilst also dipping back into the earlier Peter Gabriel years. Featuring *Ripples*, *Entangled*, *Los Endos*, *Blood On The Rooftops*, and *Afterglow*, mixed up with Gabriel classics, *Firth Of Fifth*, *Cinema Show* and *Suppers Ready*.



Live/Wire

The AC/DC Show

Rock and Pop – Fri 6 Apr 8pm – £16 standing / £17.50 seated

A unique six man tribute to AC/DC, Live/Wire cover both the Bon Scott and 'Pete' Brian Johnson eras of the band's history. Complete with cannons, a wall of Marshalls and over two hours of high voltage music, Live/Wire take you on a rock and roll train to a night to remember.

Declan O'Rourke

Folk – Thu 12 Apr 8pm – £16.50

Irish singer-songwriter Declan O'Rourke is acclaimed for his soulful folk and trad inspired music. New album *Chronicles Of The Great Irish Famine*, combines traditional Irish music and modern song-writing to present a series of extraordinary true tales from the most dynamic period in Ireland's history.

"A most talented singer-songwriter... [possessing] a rich, soulful, musical voice and a brilliant instrumental ability." **Paul Brady**

"One of the finest songwriters on the planet." **Eddi Reader**



Kris Drever

A Mr Kite Benefit

Folk – Sat 14 Apr 8pm – £16

Scottish songwriter Kris Drever (Lau) celebrated a decade of critical and commercial success by winning both Radio 2 Folk Singer of The Year 2017 and Best Original Track 2017 (for his song *If Wishes Were Horses*) at the BBC Folk Awards. For his 2018 concerts Kris will be performing a set featuring all the key songs from his first decade and some new material played live for the first time.



Andy Irvine

Folk – Sun 15 Apr 7.30pm – £14

For more than forty years, Andy Irvine has been a world music pioneer and icon for traditional music and musicians. A founder member of bands such as *Sweeney's Men*, *Planxty*, *Patrick Street*, *Mozaik*, and now *Usher's Island* he has been hailed as "a tradition in himself." Musician, singer and songwriter, few others can equal his repertoire: Irish traditional songs, dexterous Balkan dance tunes, and a compelling canon of his own material that defies description.



Martin Simpson

Folk – Thu 19 Apr 8pm – £16

A guitarist of formidable talent, Martin Simpson is equally at home playing English or American traditional folk, blues, or his own original compositions. On this visit to The Met Martin will showcase material from new album *Trails and Tribulations*, his first since 2013.



The Doors Alive

Promoted by GS Promotions

Rock and Pop – Fri 20 Apr 8pm – £12.50 advance / £15 door

The Doors Alive re-create the sound, look and feel of a real 1960s Doors concert, with hits such as *Light My Fire*, *When The Music's Over*, *Riders On The Storm*, *The End* and more.



Mike Sweeney's Manchester Beat

Rock and Pop – Sat 21 Apr 7.30pm – £20

Broadcasting legend Mike Sweeney and his infamous Manchester Beat take to the stage in a show packed with 60's classics, featuring the biggest hits of all the great Manchester bands of that decade. One of Salford's finest, live in concert.

Music



Rob Heron and The Tea Pad Orchestra

Rob Heron and The Tea Pad Orchestra

Blues / Jazz – **Thu 26 Apr 8pm – £12**
 Rob Heron and The Tea Pad Orchestra play a razor-sharp mixture of Texas swing, gypsy jazz and hot, humorous country blues, full of character, satire, and good old fashion hollerin’.

“Rob Heron evokes the spirit of Bob Wills and Django Reinhardt with a quintet that shuffles and boogies with panache. Infectiously good-humoured.” **Uncut Magazine**



Julie Murphy

Julie Murphy

Folk – **Fri 27 Apr 8pm – £12**
 Julie Murphy is a singer-songwriter, a member of folk innovators fernhill and a powerful solo performer. Her spectrally beautiful voice has led to collaborations with John Cale and Robert Plant. Her new EP features three songs recorded at the home of the poet Charles Causley.

“A towering talent, both in traditional music and as a singer-songwriter.” **The Guardian**

Theatre



Paradise Lodge

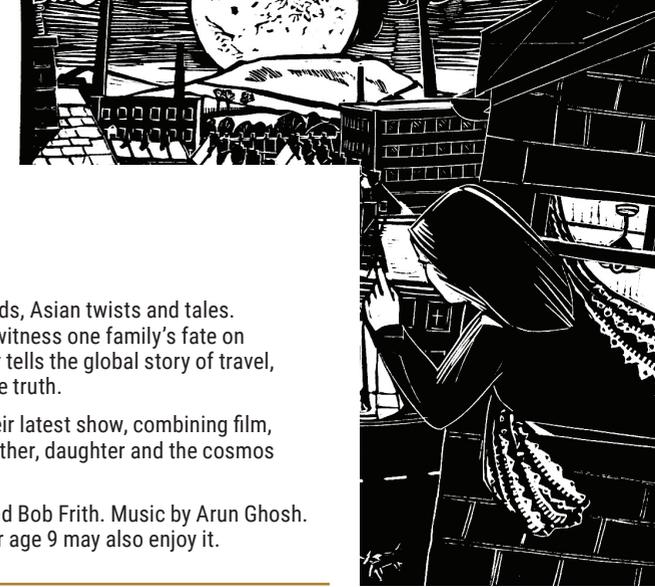
Thu 18 Jan 7.30pm – £10 / £8 concession

Vi and Ronnie are residents of the Paradise Lodge care home. Vi wants to join her husband on holiday and Ronnie wants to search for his kidnapped family. The trouble is, Vi’s husband is dead and Ronnie’s family just don’t visit...

Paradise Lodge is a musical comedy that examines how we deal with dementia. A thought-provoking and hilarious journey through identity, reality, love and loss.



Theatre



The Moonwatcher

Horse + Bamboo Theatre Company

Wed 21 Feb 8pm – £10

A world of cotton mill chimneys, talking birds, Asian twists and tales. We are led through a surreal landscape to witness one family’s fate on our fast spinning planet. The Moonwatcher tells the global story of travel, love and the search for our own paths to the truth.

Horse + Bamboo return to The Met with their latest show, combining film, puppetry, mask, poetry and music, with mother, daughter and the cosmos centre stage.

Written and directed by Shamshad Khan and Bob Frith. Music by Arun Ghosh. This show is for adults, though anyone over age 9 may also enjoy it.



Just Turf

Just Turf

Thu 22 & Fri 23 Mar 7pm – £8 / £5 if purchased with Moya Brennan or Showaddywaddy on the same evening

Maisie’s siblings have migrated across the globe leaving her at home with her feckless father. Her only sanctuary is the field by her house where she tends her prize-winning potatoes...

Just Turf is an exploration of one woman’s personal fantasy to dance with Michael Flatley and smother him in creamy mashed potato. Recommended for ages 14+.

Just Turf returns to The Met as a completed show, having been seen here in July as a work-in-progress presented as part of the Greater Manchester Fringe Festival.

Box office 0161 761 2216 – themet.org.uk

Amateur productions:

Rock of Ages High School Edition

Prestwich Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society Youth Group

Wed 7–Fri 9 Mar 7.30pm, Sat 10 Mar 2.30pm & 7.30pm – Wed 7.30pm & Sat 2.30pm £11 / All other performances £14

When small-town girl Sherrie moves to Hollywood for fame and fortune, she encounters a busboy with dreams of stardom, rock god Stacee Jaxx – and two real estate developers intent on destroying a rock bar. Can Sherrie help to turn around its fortunes?

This 1980s musical is a big, brash, energetic tribute to classic rock.

BIG – The Musical

Prestwich Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society

Wed 25–Fri 27 Apr 7.30pm, Sat 28 Apr 2.30pm & 7.30pm – Wed 7.30pm & Sat 2.30pm £11 / All other shows £14

Based upon the classic ‘80s Tom Hanks film, BIG The Musical is the story of Josh, a twelve year old boy who hates being little. When a mysterious machine grants his wish to be BIG he finds himself trapped in an adult’s body and alone in New York...

The talented amateurs of PADOS present the north-west premiere of this joyous musical spectacular.

Learning

For children and teenagers...

The Met's Young Company

Spring term every Wed from 10 Jan–21 Mar (excluding Easter holidays)

Summer term every Wed from 11 Apr–18 Jul (excluding half-term) – **£4.50 per session**

The Met's youth theatre, providing a complete creative journey from age 5 to the final age group session offering educational certification through Arts Award.

Discover

Sessions 4.30pm–5.30pm

For 5–8 year olds who are encouraged to think creatively and develop team building skills through activities and story-telling.

Develop

Sessions 5.30pm–7pm

For 9–13 year olds to build confidence through the use of improvisation, body language techniques. Preparing you for the advancement into the senior Young Company group.

Present

Sessions 7pm–8.30pm

Ages 15+. The Met's in-house performance group, the senior group inspires performers to become creative artists with the skills for a career in the arts. This group create their own shows showcased at The Met, contributing to the Arts Award.

ALFEY Music for Babies and Toddlers

Presented by ALFA Education and The Met

Every Tue 10am–11am starting 9 Jan – **£4 per session**

An opportunity for parents, carers and early years teachers to learn and play games, songs and activities that promote pre-school language development. Ages 3 to 36 months.

Aiming High

Every Sat in term time from 6 Jan

9–13 years: 10am–11.30am – £4

14+ years: 11.30am–1.30pm – £5

Drama and sensory workshops for young people with mental and physical disabilities. With plenty of artistic and creative opportunities these workshops are lots of fun and a great way to make friends.

Stagecoach

Every Sun from 7 Jan

4–6 years: 9.30am–11am & 11.30am–1pm

6–18 years: 10am–1pm

Drama, dance and singing classes – developing confidence, physical awareness, communication and articulation – educational and lots of fun.

Learn more at stagecoach.co.uk/bury.



For adults...

Met Express

Every Mon & Tue 7pm–9pm starting 8 Jan – **£5 per session (first session free)**
Met Express is The Met's drama group for people with disabilities and learning difficulties who come together on a weekly basis to create drama and have fun.

Engage

Every Mon 4.30pm–6pm starting 8 Jan – **£2 per session**

Develop a performance using multi-sensory and multi-media techniques. Join us if you have an interest in music and sound production, performance, movement and dance, or want to try something different with a company of diverse people. A collaboration between visually impaired theatre company EXTANT, The Met and Bury Blind Society.

Learn Harmonica

Spring term every Mon from 15 Jan–12 Mar

(excluding 19 Feb) **Beginners: 6.45pm /**

Advance: 8pm – £65 per person per term

A course in harmonica playing for all levels, led by former British blues harmonica champion Mat Walklate. Participants will require a diatonic harmonica in C, which can be purchased from the tutor.

Metro Jazz

Spring term every Mon from 8 Jan–12 Mar

Summer term every Mon from 16 Apr–2 Jul

(excluding 7 & 28 May) **6.30pm**

– **£80 term / £55 concession**

The Met's community jazz orchestra led by Munch Manship welcomes all musicians of at least intermediate ability, vacancies for frontline musicians especially brass. Suitable for ages 16+.

Introduction to Sound Recording

Five weekly sessions on Mondays 7pm

starting 29 Jan – **£75 course fee**

Led by The Met's Recording Studio Manager, this course teaches techniques and skills for studio sound recording. Sessions last 2 hours.

ALFA Community Ukulele Band

Presented by ALFA Education and The Met

Every Tue 11.30am–12.30pm starting 16 Jan – **£4 per session**

Learn to play this fascinating instrument. For adults of all ages and abilities, no prior experience necessary, ukuleles will be provided.

ALFA North West Teachers Choir

Presented by ALFA Education and The Met

Every Tue 7pm–8.15pm starting 9 Jan – **£4 per session**

This choir will run for the spring term only and will culminate in One Hundred Years of Magnificent Music, a special production at The Met in March.

Guitar Lessons with Terry Moses

Weekly sessions every Tue 6pm from 6 Feb–20 Mar – **£85 per person per term**

Learn to play the guitar. All styles and abilities welcome, students work towards recording at Edwin Street Studio.

Sacred Sounds Voice Workshops

With voice specialist Beth Allen

Sat 27 Jan & Sat 3 Mar 10am

– **£15 for each session / £25 for both**

Explore your natural voice, spoken and sung. The first day explores body, breath and expression. The second builds on the first looking at performance and language connection. Both days include vocal improvisation – and end on a big sing!



The Met's Young Company

Learning

The Met's Young Company Fundraiser

Variety – **Wed 14 Feb 7.30pm – £5**
Members of The Met's Young Company showcase their recent work. Ticket income from this performance will go to support the group.

One Hundred Years of Magnificent Music

Presented by ALFA Education and The Met

Music – **Mon 12–Wed 14 Mar 7.15pm – £8 adults & children / £30 family of four**

Join us on a journey through the decades rekindling special memories of music, song and film. Featuring music from Glen Miller, Elvis, The Beatles, Queen, Amy Winehouse and many more.

Organised by ALFA Education with school and teachers' choirs, and featuring a ten-piece professional showband, the ALFA Tourists.

Workshop and community events...

Metro Jazz Spring Concert

Jazz – **Thu 15 Mar 8pm – £6**
The Met's community jazz orchestra perform a mix of the best foot-tapping jazz.

Portrait of Wednesday

Bury Cine Society

Film – **Tue 27 Mar 7.30pm – £10**
A dramatised documentary of life in Bury made in 1963. Experience The Odeon, going out to work and making a date, all in a Bury that no longer exists.

Shake It Till You Make It

Street Shakers Dance Clubs

Dance – **Wed 28 Mar 7pm – £7**
Winners of Bury's club of the year 2017. Featuring young talent from six clubs dancing their hearts out for your entertainment.

Edwin Street Creative Hub



Edwin Street Creative Hub includes a professional recording studio and workshop spaces for creative businesses.

At the heart of the creative hub is Edwin Street Recording Studio, a state of the art facility available for hire for sound recording of all sorts.

The studio offers affordable options for all. Sessions start from just £30 per hour, and are free for young people living and studying in Bury.

Professional clients include The BBC, ITV, Microsoft, The Lowry, the National Football Museum, Manchester Camerata, and Dutch Uncles. Young musicians mentored at Edwin Street have gone on to perform at The Met and at Ramsbottom Festival.

For more information or to book a session email info@edwinstreetstudio.com or phone **0161 761 7107**.



Edwin Street Creative Hub

Individual giving: Make a regular gift to help us continue our work and reach new audiences.

We want to nurture talent through the opportunities we provide, from showcasing artists on our small stage to presenting them at larger festivals, to helping them record and distribute material in our recording studio.

Our ticket and workshop prices are significantly lower than other organisations because we believe in allowing the whole community access to the arts and its benefits.

As a charity we rely on your support so please help us in anyway you can. Our levels of support are set out to the right.

How could your donation help?

- If you give £10 per month for a year this will pay for one band to realise their dream and use the recording studio.
- If 3 people give £10 per month for a year we can invite a theatre company to perform at The Met.
- If 4 people give £20 per month for a year we can fund a specialist workshop for a year for children with autism.
- If you're a taxpayer your donation is worth 25% more using the gift aid scheme.

To begin a regular donation to The Met please visit: themet.org.uk or phone **0161 761 2216**.



Support

£5 per month/£60 per year

- Priority booking
- Advance notification of events
- 10% discount in Automatic
- Invite to the Artistic Director's Spring Social
- Seasonal newsletter
- No booking, refund or exchange fees



Showcase

£10 per month/£120 per year

- All of the above plus...
- One event chosen by the Artistic Director for you and a guest
- Your name on our website
- Access to Artist Receptions



Headline

£20 per month/£240 per year

- All of the above plus...
- Your name on our exclusive artwork on our supporters' wall in The Stanley Bar



Star

£1,000 per year

- All of the above plus...
- Your name as patron with thanks on our supporters' wall in The Stanley Bar, in the brochure and on the website

General information



Getting here

We are located at the town centre end of Market Street, near the entrance to the Mill Gate Shopping Centre. Our postcode is **BL9 0BW**.

By Metrolink

The Bury Metrolink stop is just a few minutes walk from The Met. A journey from Manchester city centre takes about 25 minutes. Check metrolink.co.uk for times.

By bus

Bury Bus Station is also just a few minutes from The Met. Services run from Manchester, Bolton, Rochdale and Rossendale. See tfgm.com for timetables.

By car

The nearest car park is at the East Lancashire Railway on Bolton Street. Parking is free after 6pm. Visit bury.gov.uk/parking for a full list of town centre car parks.

Tickets & booking

Call **0161 761 2216**
Online themet.org.uk
In person at **The Met ticket office**

Booking fees apply. See our website for details. Please consider making a donation when you book a ticket with us – every donation helps to continue our work with the community.

Access

The Met is a fully accessible venue. There are wheelchair spaces in both the Derby Hall and The Box, and full lift access to all floors. We have an accessible toilet built to Changing Places standards.

We have staff on hand to help. If you require a personal escort, we can supply them with a free ticket.

Guide dogs are welcome, and water can be provided on request.

We have an infrared hearing support system. If you have difficulty with hearing, please ask a member of staff for a receiver pack.

If you have any special requirements call us on **0161 761 2216** and we'll do our best to help.

Volunteer

The Met has a dedicated group of volunteers who assist with many areas of our activities. All volunteers are interviewed at application to ensure they get the most out of the opportunities we offer.

To get involved contact Scarlet Ordish at scarlet.ordish@themet.org.uk or call on **0161 761 7107**.

Diary

Date	Time	Event	Page number	Date	Time	Event	Page number
Jan				Sat 10	7.30pm	Rock of Ages	21
Fri 12	7.30pm	Ga Ga	10	Sat 10	8pm	Stick In The Wheel	15
Sat 13	8pm	IQ	10	Sun 11	8pm	Luke Daniels	15
Wed 17	8pm	Luke Jackson and Amy Wadge	10	Mon 12	7.15pm	One Hundred Years of Magnificent Music	24
Thu 18	7.30pm	Paradise Lodge	20	Tue 13	7.15pm	One Hundred Years of Magnificent Music	24
Fri 19	8pm	Paul Jones and Dave Kelly	20	Wed 14	7.15pm	One Hundred Years of Magnificent Music	24
Fri 19	8.30pm	The Met's New Comedian of the Year Competition	8	Thu 15	8pm	Police Dog Hogan	16
Sat 20	8pm	Jean Genie	10	Thu 15	8pm	Metro Jazz Spring Concert	24
Wed 24	8pm	Griff Rhys Jones	8	Sat 17	1pm	Hoot Owl, Master of Disguise	7
Thu 25	8pm	Martyn Joseph	11	Sat 17	8pm	Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham	16
Fri 26	8pm	Swing Commanders	11	Sun 18	8pm	Glenn Tilbrook	16
Fri 26	8pm	Mat Walklate and Paolo Fuschi	11	Thu 22	7pm	Just Turf	21
Sat 27	10am	Sacred Sounds	23	Thu 22	8pm	Moya Brennan	16
Sat 27	8pm	Voice Workshop		Fri 23	7pm	Just Turf	21
		Lúnasa	11	Fri 23	8pm	Showaddywaddy	16
Feb				Sat 24	8pm	Geoff Norcott	9
Thu 1	8.30pm	First Thursday Comedy Club	9	Sat 24	8pm	Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman	17
Fri 2	8pm	Shake the Chains	11	Tue 27	7.30pm	Portrait of Wednesday	24
Thu 8	8pm	Fara + Adam Holmes and the Embers	12	Wed 28	7pm	Shake It Till You Make It	24
Fri 9	7.30pm	The Jerseys	12	Thu 29	8pm	Chris Difford and Boo Hewerdine	17
Sat 10	8pm	Sam Baker	12	Thu 29	8pm	Horny Handed Tons of Soil	17
Wed 14	7.30pm	The Met's Young Company Fundraiser	24	Sat 31	11am	You've Got Dragons	7
Thu 15	7.30pm	Stephen Bailey	8	Sat 31	7.30pm	The Houghton Weavers	17
Thu 15	8pm	Michael McGoldrick, John McCusker and John Doyle	12	Apr			
Fri 16	8pm	The Eskies	13	Sun 1	8pm	The Secret Sisters	18
Sat 17	2pm	Yana and the Yeti	6	Thu 5	7.30pm	G2 Definitive Genesis	18
Sat 17	8pm	Vonda Shepard	13	Thu 5	8.30pm	First Thursday Comedy Club	9
Tue 20	2pm	Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaagh! Dinosaurs!	6	Fri 6	8pm	Live/Wire	18
Wed 21	8pm	The Moonwatcher	21	Thu 12	8pm	Declan O'Rourke	18
Wed 21	8pm	Orphan Colours	13	Sat 14	8pm	Kris Drever	19
Thu 22	8pm	Breabach	13	Sun 15	2pm	Perfect	7
Thu 22	8pm	Mark Nevin	13	Sun 15	7.30pm	Andy Irvine	19
Fri 23	11am	Lost and Found	6	Thu 19	8pm	Martin Simpson	19
Fri 23	2pm	Lost and Found	6	Fri 20	8pm	Barbara Nice	9
Fri 23	8pm	Martin Harley and Daniel Kimbro	14	Fri 20	8pm	The Doors Alive	19
Sat 24	7.30pm	Tom McConville Band	14	Sat 21	7.30pm	Mike Sweeney's Manchester Beat	19
Sat 24	9pm	Wille and the Bandits	14	Wed 25	7.30pm	BIG - The Musical	21
Wed 28	8pm	Graham Fellows	8	Thu 26	7.30pm	BIG - The Musical	21
				Thu 26	8pm	Rob Heron and The Teapad Orchestra	20
Mar				Fri 27	7.30pm	BIG - The Musical	21
Thu 1	8pm	The Ennis Sisters + Dave Gunning	14	Fri 27	8pm	Julie Murphy	20
Thu 1	8.30pm	First Thursday Comedy Club	9	Sat 28	2.30pm	BIG - The Musical	21
Fri 2	8pm	Leveret and Spiro	14	Sat 28	7.30pm	BIG - The Musical	21
Sat 3	10am	Sacred Sounds	23	May			
Sat 3	8pm	Voice Workshop		Thu 3		Sam Lee - Singing with Nightingales	
Sat 3	8pm	Desperado (Eagles Tribute)	15	Sat 12 & Sun 13		Big Whistle Festival	
Wed 7	7.30pm	Rock of Ages	21	Sat 26		A Blues Night at The Met	
Thu 8	7.30pm	Rock of Ages	21				
Thu 8	8pm	Sean Taylor	15				
Fri 9	7.30pm	Rock of Ages	21				
Fri 9	7.30pm	Son of Town Hall	15				
Sat 10	2.30pm	Rock of Ages	21				

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