



Media release

March 2025

NEW SEASON APRIL - AUGUST 2025

Bury's award-winning venue, based in the heart of the town centre, has been packing in music fans and theatregoers since 1979. The Met continues to deliver a year-long programme of comedy, theatre, music for all tastes, plus a wide community programme.

Highlights for 2025 include:

COMEDY

First Thursday Comedy (Thu 3 April, 1 May, 5 June, 3 July & 7 Aug)

The hugely popular monthly comedy nights continue at The Met on the first Thursday of every month.

Rachel Fairburn: Side Eye (Sat 5 April) An evening with the star of *Live at the Apollo* and co-host of *All Killa No Filla*, Rachel Fairburn is a renowned stand up and "rock'n'roll star of British Comedy" (Rolling Stone).

Justin Moorhouse (Fri 27 June) Local comedy legend Justin Moorhouse is back, still funny, yet middle aged!

THEATRE

Alas! Poor Yorick (Thu 10 April) Ridiculusmus's "Alas! Poor Yorick" reimagines Shakespeare's gravediggers as existential clowns in a Beckett-inspired twist.

Strawberry Jack: A Tale from Paradise Heights (Wed 23 April) Christmas is a time for angels and miracles. Strawberry Jack may have found his angel. Now all he needs is a miracle... Joe O'Byrne returns with a Christmas tale from Paradise Heights.

With Love, Mr. Gay (Sat 21 June) When Josh receives a homophobic death threat over the placement of bins, it sparks a mission to resolve conflict. This true story is told through comedy, cabaret, interviews and show tunes.

MAD Theatre Nana Mo's Botox and Bum Lifts (Thu 3 July) A hilarious look at how the baby boomer generation is trying to keep up with the modern world, from the producers of *Nanna's OnlyFans Film* and *Top Whack PIP*,

FAMILY

Teach Rex Live, EASTER EVENT (Fri 11 Apr) A unique interactive show teaching children about the most mesmerising creatures that have ever roamed our planet – dinosaurs! Suitable for ages 3+.

You Choose (Sat 31 May) Based on the brilliant book by Pippa Goodhart and Nick Sharratt Nonsense Room Productions (Shark in the Park and Hairy Maclary Shows). An interactive musical show for all the family where the audience chooses what happens.

COMMUNITY

The Met is an important hub supporting a variety of initiatives. Spring and summer's events include:

Bury Pride Masquerade Ball (Sat 26 April) A Masquerade Fundraiser to support Bury Pride, promising to be a night of inclusivity, food and drink, entertainment, fundraising and more!

Prestwich Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society (PADOS)

Little Shop of Horrors (Wed 21 – Sat 24 May) The society's adult group is back, performing the Sci-Fi smash hit musical *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Bury Music Summer Festival (Sat 12 & Sun 13 July) Bury Music's summer festival, showcases its talented musicians in a series of concerts featuring their renowned bands, orchestras and choirs.

MUSIC

The Manfreds (Thu 3 April) nearly sixty years on from their 1960s heyday, The Manfreds return to perform their hits with original front man Paul Jones.

Mark Radcliffe & David Boardman (Fri 11 Apr) BBC Radio's Mark Radcliffe and guitarist David Boardman are singing, songwriting, strumming, and swigging buddies from the badlands of the Cheshire Plain.

Earl Thomas and The Gospel Ambassadors (Sat 12 April) Singer and songwriter Earl Thomas is known for his soul-stirring blend of gospel and blues. Joined at The Met by trio Sister Leola and The Gospel Ambassadors, this will be an electrifying evening of African American music.

Gigspanner Big Band (Sun 20 Apr) Gigspanner Big Band return with their new album Turnstone.

Roddy Woomble (Thu 24 Apr) With his enigmatic and poetic lyrics, warm baritone voice and consummate gift for a tune, Roddy Woomble is widely considered to be among Scotland's best contemporary songwriters.

O'Hooley and Tidow (Thu 1 May), acclaimed Yorkshire folk duo Belinda O'Hooley and Heidi Tidow bring their moving and melodic new album Cloudheads to The Met. "Defiant, robust, northern, poetical, political folk music for the times we live in." The Independent.

Daphne's Flight (Fri 2 May) Daphne's Flight features Chris While, Julie Matthews, Helen Watson, Melanie Harrold, and Miranda Sykes – five of the finest singer-songwriters of their generation.

Track Dogs (Wed 7 May) Track Dogs are two Irishmen, an Englishman and an American whose music ranges from americana and bluegrass, to Latino, folk, and even blues.

Jerron Paxton (Sun 11 May) Songs of heartache and joy from Jerron Paxton. A skilled performer of Black American traditional music, his latest release is an album of original material that sounds beamed in from nearly a century ago.

Georgia Ruth (Fri 16 May), Georgia Ruth uses folk influences to create a truly unique sound. Her candid and affecting new album *Cool Head* ranges from wide-open Americana to 60s-influenced folk ballads.

Catherine McLellan & Lucy Farrell (Thu 22 May) Suspending time with their musical storytelling, Catherine and Lucy's songs journal the characters, landscapes and situations that populate their lives and the broader world, unravelling and reweaving the threads of history and tradition with deftness and surety.

Ellen Beth Abdi (Fri 23 May) Ellen Beth Abdi's unique blend of electronic sounds, jazz, soul, and global influences are anchored by a voice of incredible depth and hard-wrought lyrics.

Flook (Thu 5 June) The iconic, ground-breaking Irish/English folk group returns to Bury. Thirty years after their first gig together, they continue to inspire and enchant audiences of all ages.

Bella Hardy (Sat 7 June) Bella Hardy, the voice of modern folk, visits The Met for this special gig which includes her newest single *The Ballad of Stone*.

King Creosote (Thu 12 June) The alt-pop alter-ego of Scottish singer-songwriter Kenny Anderson. Expect roguish, roving, ever-evolving, gorgeous songs from his new album *I, Des*.

The Bookshop Band (Sat 26 July) Formed in September 2010 they released their first album two months later and have since released 13 albums collaborating with over 100 authors, including Philip Pullman, Louis de Bernières and Margaret Atwood.

TRIBUTE BANDS

A popular strand of The Met's year-round programme and there is a tribute band and music fans can choose something to suit every celebration. The Spring/Summer line-up includes: **Moving Pictures - A tribute to Rush** (Fri 4 Apr), marking the tenth anniversary of Rush's last ever tour when they played a retrospective covering their entire back catalogue; **Pink Floydian** (Sat 19 Apr), a faithful recreation of Floyd at their finest; **Burn – Deep Purple** (Sat 3 May), over two hours of hi-octane Deep Purple classics from all eras; **The Jerseys**, (Thu 8 & Fri 9 May), celebrating the timeless music of the one-hundred-million album selling Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons; **Desperado (Eagles tribute)** (Sat 17 May), faithfully recreating the amazing catalogue of songs with a superb two hour show; **The Sounds of Simon** (Sat 14 Jun),

a captivating tribute to Simon and Garfunkel featuring beautiful harmonies and a glimpse into their legendary partnership; **G2 Definitive Genesis** (Sat 28 Jun), a tribute to a vintage period in the long and colourful history of Genesis; **Arctic Numpties** (Fri 4 Jul), Yorkshire's own Arctic Numpties, recreate the Sheffield icons' sound and look; **Beatles Complete** (Fri 11 Jul), a night of Beatlemania packed with massive hits from the most influential band of all time; and **The Zimmermen** (Thu 24 Jul), classic Bob Dylan songs from his key musical eras.

Food and Drink at The Met

The theatre bar offers a wide selection of hot and cold drinks. The Met also hosts a variety of pop-up restaurants serving food on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 5pm – 9pm. **Malt**, The Met's downstairs bar is open throughout the week.

Ends

Press information: Shelagh Bourke, she@we-r-lethal.com,

Tickets and booking:

Buy tickets direct from:

themet.org.uk

0161 761 2216

The Met, Market Street, Bury, BL9 0BW

Buy in person at The Met on Tuesday, Wednesday or Saturday (10am-2pm) or Friday (12-5pm), and from one hour before any show.

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