

● What's On

A leap of faith for Awesome Joe ...

COMEDY

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The Totally Awesome Comedy Club did a swell job of turning Thursday yawns into late-week giggles, when it played out at the Kiln Farm Pub last month.

This evening another dose of quality is assured when the Awesome side returns.

This month, Joel Dommert is taking the headline spot. He has been a familiar figure on the scene over the past few years, and at the all important Edinburgh Festival, his 2011 and 2012 shows, Neon Hero and Nunchuck Silver Medalist 2002 gained fabulous reviews.

Since then he has featured on Russell Howard's BBC Three staple Good News, and has a stack of acting credits to his name.

Oh, and last year he was the face of MTV's new bulletins, presenting them daily. He's a right busy bee is Joel, so it is hardly surprising that he is creating a major buzz, is it?



FLYING HIGH: It's funny fella Joel Dommert, in town for a couple of loaded dates this week, starting this evening at the Totally Awesome Comedy Club

Also on the bill this evening, you can enjoy Wouter Meijjs, and our own Mark Cram. Chris Purchase is the man responsible for bringing this quality to the stage, and he is your event host. Tickets are £8. Call 07540

539218 for yours, or make a dash online: www.wegotickets.com/event/218238
>If one dose of the Dommert isn't enough to sate your funny appetites, you are in luck – he's back in these parts on Sunday night too, this time

at Newport Pagnell watering hole The Cannon. Tickets for the performance – as part of That Time of the Month Comedy season – are £4 in advance, £5 on the doors, which will part and let you in from 7pm.

Waterstones welcomes Ray

AUTHOR SIGNING

Fantasy fiction author Raymond Feist will be in the new city to meet fans and sign copies of his newest book on Monday.

Feist's debut novel 'Magician' captured the imagination of a generation, getting readers hooked on the creatures who inhabit the Riftwar Universe.

Legions of fans have embraced the worlds of Midkemia and Kelewan and followed the life of orphan boy, Pug, an apprentice to a master magician.

Now, 31 years since the first book, fans will discover the fate of Pug – the original black magician – as prophecy becomes truth in the last book of The Riftwar Cycle.

Aptly named 'Magician's End', the hotly-anticipated final book will bring one of the longest-running epic fantasy series ever written to a dramatic end.

Meet Raymond between 12 and 2pm at Waterstones, Midsummer Place.



sional giggle bringers. Over the past six months, The Comedy Cow has grown from a small-scale club to one of the most respected for miles around.

Adam Kay, front-man of Amateur Transplants and renowned for the iconic London Underground song, is on the billing for this event, bringing his darkly humorous re-imaginings of modern day pop and rock classics with him.

Original and distinctive comedian Alfie Moore has 18 years of experience as a serving police sergeant making for a witty, and sometimes gritty anecdotal set.

Chris Mayo, Fern Brady and Tom Glover will all take control of the mic. Tickets are £8 and £10, call 07790864217 or email info@thecomedycow.co.uk Doors at 7.30pm.

> Growing comedy club The Comedy Cow is launching its new monthly event night tomorrow at Wonderworld. Three professional comedians of the highest calibre will step up, along with two up-and-coming semi-profes-

Simon spills winning Jazz style

MUSIC

Olney Jazz Club welcomes award-winning saxophonist Simon Spillett on Tuesday at 8.30pm.

As winner of the 2011 British Jazz Award for Tenor Saxophone, Simon Spillett is recognised as one of the most distinctive saxophonists on the current UK jazz scene.

Simon appears as a guest soloist across the country and also works with his own band, The Simon Spillett Quartet, bringing British jazz from the 1950's and 60's to contemporary ears.

So seize the opportunity to enjoy Simon's sounds when he makes his appearance at Carlton House, joined by Thomas Pedersen (bass), Ronnie Fern (drums) and Alan Haughton (piano) – tickets are £9/£7.

>Artworks MK is keen to get everyone working with wood – in an environmentally friend-



SIMON SPILLETT: British Jazz Award winner comes to Olney

ly way – this month. They are encouraging visitors to have a go at all sorts of weird and wonderful traditional woodworking techniques, from pole lathe turning to spoon carving. On Sunday the traditional past-time of whittling will be explored, before basket-making, gypsy flowers and tool

sharpening take centre stage on Monday. There will be a spot of spoon carving on Tuesday and a bowl carving session on Thursday. Workshops continue until next Friday, May 10. Visit www.artworks-mk.co.uk or call 01908 608 108 to book your place (you need to be aged 16 and above to take part).

Stuck for something to do for May Day weekend? Read on...

WHAT'S ON ROUND-UP

Steep yourself in the cultures of the other Allied nations who helped to crack the codes when Bletchley Park celebrates the International Festival this bank holiday weekend.

The famous code-breaking venue will welcome you this Saturday, Sunday and Monday when the historical centre focuses on the countries that made contributions to the Government Code and Cypher School's successes, exploring their cultural heritage through food, crafts and dance.

Polish, American and French flags will fly high over Bletchley Park Mansion, the lake, huts and blocks as re-enactors take visitors back in time to rediscover wartime life. For more information before

you leave the house, go online to www.bletchleypark.org.uk

>May Day celebrations will be in full swing at Campbell Park on Saturday, when The Parks Trust hosts a free afternoon bursting with things to do and see – maypole dancing, morris-dancing, folk musicians, children's entertainment and craft stalls are all set up. Fete games, fairground rides, boat trips and a fancy-dress parade will also take attentions.

For more information, visit www.theparkstrust.com The fun will start at midday, and carry through to 5pm.

>Even if you are not taking part in Monday's Milton Keynes Marathon, there is nothing to stop you turning out

and cheering on those who are making tracks.

For route details visit www.mkmarathon.com Alternatively, pull on those shorts and limber up those legs ready for Monday's annual Thornborough 10-mile road race.

The 28th annual event offers something for all – while the more experienced runners get stuck into the longer race, those of us who feel the puff at that level can still take part in the 5-mile Fun Run. Participants on the 10-mile course will set off at 10.40am, while the shorter distance will begin at 11am.

Registration begins on The Green in Thornborough at 10am and experienced safety marshals, water stations and lead and tail cars will support the runners. All you need to do is jog on.