

● What's On



MAKE YOUR MUM'S DAY!

MOTHER'S DAY

Mum is (hopefully) always there when you need her, and you get the chance to say 'thanks' on Sunday – Mother's Day.

Still unsure what to purchase? Perfume is always a winner, and these two are fragrant fantasies.

While the cold chill and wet drear continues to dampen spirits, L'occitane have unleashed the perfect antidote – the limited edition collection Rose Aureore.

The range includes a lip gloss, hand cream, shower jelly and body milk, alongside the Eau Fraiche, which is a light, transparent and deliciously floral scent, and the rose absolutes within are from the south of France.

A perfectly delicate drop of dawn in every spray.

Classic and yet contemporary. Let's face it, ladies want a splash of glamour, whether they are finding their way down New York's Fifth Avenue, or shimmying around the centre:mk! The launch of two new fragrances inspired

by the classic HBO series Sex and the City makes it easy to add a splash of glamour to her day, no matter where she roams. The day perfume, Sunrise, has been created to evoke the feeling of a laid-back day in Manhattan, and boasts top notes of mandarin oil or pur, Italian bergamot, white peach and watery red fruits, making for a deliciously warm, engaging scent.

If you want to buy her the set, Sunset, is a more sensual affair, and together they make the perfect pair: Rather like Carrie and Mr Big.

What a truly Marvel-lous comic show!

EXHIBITION

Get ready to marvel at a new limited edition collection of 'Superheroes' art at Castle Galleries in the centre:mk.

Some of the brand's most iconic comic book covers have been reworked and launched as a stunning limited edition collection...for the grown-up comic lover!

Chosen, curated and signed by legendary Marvel editor Stan Lee, the six-piece series brings to life the well-loved, timeless characters who have entertained readers for decades, featuring in television serials, films and spin-off merchandise galore.

The Amazing Spiderman, The Invincible Iron Man, X-Men, The Avengers, The Silver Surfer and The Incredible Hulk have been brought to life using specialised techniques and materials to create the striking artwork.

Fans of the comic book heroes will instantly recognise the significant covers, including The Incredible Hulk Special – the greatest comic book cover of all time according to TV presenter and Marvel lover, Jonathan Ross.

Peter Viet Lu, manager at Castle Galleries said: "This collection showcases some of the most iconic comic book covers ever to have been created, featuring some of the most renowned characters ever to have been developed.



"The artwork itself is not only incredibly striking – the intense colours, the bold lines and the way in which the essence of each superhero is captured in just one frame – but each cover communicates a wonderful narrative.

"What Stan Lee and his artists achieved here was to tell a story in just one image.

"The communicative style of this kind of art tells us about humanity, the struggles, the triumphs, the trials, the tribulations and that is something everyone can identify with."

Marvel's debut fine art collection is being exhibited now at Castle Galleries, Acorn Walk, the centre:mk

A little bit of this & the other ...

MUSIC

Secklow Brass are getting together with Heart and Music to perform on Saturday at Longueville Hall, Newton Longville.

The concert starts at 7.30pm, with tickets available on the door at £8 and £6. Take

your own drinks and nibbles, but tea and coffee will be available for caffeine heads.

Three MK based artists are exhibiting their response to the urban landscape with Of The City at University Centre Milton Keynes.

The work covers the mediums of painting, printmaking

and photography.

Of The City continues until March 22.

The Living Archive Band will let their voices loose on Saturday at Water Eaton Church in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Songs about the city you live in, from 7pm MK379302.

It's a bunny bonanza open day

SPRING OPEN DAY

Don't be surprised if Sunday's Hula Spring Open Day has more bounce than usual – it is a Bunny Bonanza, after all!

The Animal Rescue Centre at Glebe Farm in Aspley Guise is shining the spotlight on our long-eared, charming dandelion loving nibblers.

It is well documented that cats and dogs are increasingly being handed in to animal shelters, but actually, bunny babbts are being ditched all too easily too.

Hula will be giving a talk on how to keep rabbits healthy, you'll be able to meet the Rabbit Welfare Association, and a photo competition will run too – enter your bunny pictures at £1 per entry.

Oh, and a rabbit costume competition will welcome



entries. There are two categories: seven years and under, and eight to 12 year olds.

There will be plenty of fun and games for youngsters, lots more bargains in the pet shed and the chance to give some always welcome cuddles and

affection to all the animals seeking new homes.

Sunday's event costs just £2 per adult and accompanied ankle-biters go free.

All monies raised at the event, from 1pm and 3.30pm, will go to the welfare of animals in its care.

POETRY

'As the year casts off her ermine gown in favour of a more verdant, strapless little number, and puts the woolly tights back in the wardrobe in anticipation of days lengthening, sap rising and hares leaping, what better way to welcome in the new season

than with an evening of open mic music and poetry with special guests?'

So ask those wonderfully creative wordsmiths behind the Scribal Gathering, which will take over The Crown, Market Square, Stony Stratford this Tuesday evening.

The Screaming House Madrigals headline, along

with prose from Poetry and the open mic spot, for those of you who want to share your 'music and words before a warm, receptive, often bemused yet surprisingly tolerant audience.'

Admission is free, and you should make your way to the watering hole for 7.30pm ready for the 8pm start.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE SCRIBES REALLY HOOK UP?

● Theatre

THE FIRST EVER THEATRE BOGOF!



THEATRE

BY ANNE COX
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Director Lucy Bailey is full of big ideas and you get the feeling she would have got on with playwright Bill Shakespeare, writes Anne Cox.

She brought a humongous bed to Milton Keynes Theatre for Taming of the Shrew. For the Royal Shakespeare Company's retelling of the Bard's "problem" play, *The Winter's Tale*, she brings to the venue

a colossal "ivory" tower that rises high up on stage and strands our protagonist, the tormented King Leontes, on top for most of the Second Act.

Far from being a problem *The Winter's Tale*, which comes to MKT from Wednesday, is probably the first ever theatrical BOGOF – a Shakespearean bargain that gives us two stories for the price of one.

The first half is a blistering tale of jealousy, paranoia and redemption.

The hot-headed Leontes (played with finesse and against type by Stratford regular – and thoroughly nice chap

– Jo Stone-Fewings) metes out the most awful of punishments to his wife, Hermione (Waking The Dead's Tara Fitzgerald in her RSC debut) and baby daughter after becoming convinced of her adultery with his best friend.

But the production takes a completely different tack in the Second Act when the action has moved on 16 years (after theatre's most memorable stage direction is delivered: "Exit, pursued by a bear"), and to another country, and we meet a now grown babe who has made her life among the poor.

This gives Bailey her second inspiration and we're given a smooth-talking comman plus a troupe of clog-wearing Morris dancers.

"When I first started in theatre I was an assistant at the RSC and we had Jeremy Irons as Leontes. I spent weeks playing Mamillus and I quite enjoyed spending the time sitting on Jeremy Irons' knee every day in rehearsal!" said Bailey.

"I know it's a difficult play but really pleased I tackled it. I was worried I wouldn't come up with anything distinctive."

Neither Jo nor Tara knew

the play well before casting. "Hermione's big speech is one you're forced to do at drama school," said Tara.

"It's an amazing play – and quite violent. It's extraordinary." "It's got it all in there," added Jo. "It's a crazy play. It's about human emotion at the extreme. The nature of jealousy is that it's all-consuming. It's the most destructive of human emotions and when it goes there's no stopping you. Everybody has been there at some point in their lives."

For tickets for *The Winter's Tale* call the Milton Keynes Box office 0844 871 7652.

Win CD of Charlie's Silhouette



COMPETITION

Years of honing his own inimitable brand of ballads, blues, country and spiritual music have ensured that Charlie Landsborough is a unique gem in an all too desolate music landscape.

He is currently touring to support the release of *Silhouette*, his 26th studio album.

That's quite some substantial catalogue of work and no mean feat considering Charlie had to wait until he hit his 50s to get proper credibility from the industry.

Now in his 70s, he continues to delight fans worldwide – including The Stables audience in our little corner of the world.

We have three copies of *Silhouette* to give away in this week's competition. To stand a chance of bagging one, tell us how many albums, including his new title, Charlie has released to date.

Send your answer together with your name and address to: Landsborough Comp, Citizen Newsdesk, Napier House, Auckland Park, Bond Avenue, Bletchley, MK11U.

Closing date for entries is Wednesday, March 13, 2013. Usual Citizen T&Cs apply.

In other competition news, pop to www.miltonkeynes.co.uk and visit GO! online for the chance to win a copy of the essential classical collection, *Desert Island Discs*.

The triple CD set boasts 40 castaway favourites and you have until Wednesday to enter.

> Do you have an event you want to tell the whole of Milton Keynes about?

Email details to sammy.jones@jpress.co.uk at least 14 days before publication and get your show in the area's biggest and best-read leisure supplement.



GROUP CAPTIVATES AUDIENCES EVERYWHERE

STABLES

Take those first tentative steps towards carving out an amateur career on-stage in Wavendon this Thursday evening.

The perfect opportunity to show off new or hidden talents, Over2U provides a safe environment with lots of other talented people supporting each other through their stage debut.

'Nothing lasts forever' but multi award-winning country and folk musician and

singer-songwriter Charlie Landsborough has clocked up 25 albums and is still going strong.

Talented, funny, hard-working and good-natured – this performer has legions of fans and you can join them at The Stables on Friday evening when he brings his brand of country/spiritual music back to the venue.

Prepare to be blown away by the talent on offer from Wootton Upper School as they belt out some Beatles favourites on Saturday.

These young performers promise an evening of foot-tapping, non-stop musical entertainment and their ability and enthusiasm combined with tunes from the Fab Four is a sure-fire recipe for success. You'll love them, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Having experienced motherhood, divorce and MTV, award-winning comedian Katherine Ryan is out to prove that things in life that make us bitter can actually be quite delicious and hilarious – although it

won't be so funny if you are ticketless: The show is all sold out.

Join in with performers on Sunday as the Ceilidh experience plays a feast of traditional tunes for dancers and folk fans of all ages.

A guest dance caller will guide you through the steps and no previous Ceilidh dance experience is needed.

Comedian Simon Evans is back with a brand new show and nothing and no-one is safe from the critical glint in his eye.

Join him on Wednesday as he dismantles the lies – from fairytales to post-match analysis – that baffle us all.

Also on Wednesday, folk roots band The Willows will bring their distinctively refreshing sound to audiences visiting stage 2.

This group captivates and inspires audiences everywhere they go so prepare to be charmed, particularly if the music of Alison Krauss and Laura Marling gets your vote...

Call the Box Office on MK 280800.