

Northside

THE QUALITY MAGAZINE FOR LEEDS, HARROGATE & SURROUNDING AREAS

Distinguished Gentlemen

Riding for charity

All that jazz

The Leeds
Festival returns

Things to do

Spring breaks
and activities



FASHION
FOOD
BEAUTY
HOMES

A NEW ASHVILLE

The Independent
School of first
choice in Harrogate

SEE PAGE 12



28



34

Welcome to our May edition. Many gents across the region will be dressing to impress this month as they take part in the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride, a classic and vintage motorcycle rally which raises funds and awares for men's health charities. We find out about the ride's origins and how you can take part on page 28.

Head to Leeds this month and you will be enveloped in the finest jazz music as the festival returns to the city. Over 60 artists will be playing over 20 venues, with many free to attend.

Elsewhere we take spring inspiration for fashion, beauty and homes and meet two leading chefs who share their kitchen secrets.

We also speak to the stars of Pretty Woman and visit two new Leeds restaurants.

See you next month.

Richard Abbey
Executive Editor



18

18

The Diary

Our monthly round-up of what's happening in your area, plus we speak to the stars of Pretty Woman

24

What's Going on Leeds?

There's lots to look forward to over the coming months, says Jordan Odu

28

Saddle up in style

The Distinguished Gentleman's Ride unites classic and vintage motorcycle riders to raise funds and awareness for prostate cancer research and men's mental health - and is coming to a road near you

34

Music takes centre stage

Leeds is a brilliant city for jazz - just ask Ash Doherty who has helped to curate this month's festival which will see over 60 artists playing across 20 venues

40

Fashion

From stylish monochrome to bursts of colour, this summer you're spoilt for choice

44

Let the sunshine in

Take wellbeing inspiration from the new season

46

Beauty

Whether it's a staycation, or a vacation, ensure you have packed skincare, makeup and haircare heroes from our edit with Harvey Nichols, Leeds

57

Meet the Chef

We speak to the top cooks at Sukhothai and Browns at the Buttercross

62

Eating Out

We dine at Blue Pavilion and Mansion House

68

Home & Garden

These radiant hues effortlessly inject a little bit of summer sun into your space throughout the year, so it's no wonder that they're one of our top picks for 2024

74

Home Essentials

Give your interior a new look. These local businesses provide plenty of inspiration

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The Diary

■ THEATRE ■ MUSIC ■ COMEDY ■ EVENTS ■ EXHIBITIONS ■ FILM ■ FURTHER AFIELD...

Words: Kiera Wilcox



Romantic and **UPLIFTING**

As *Pretty Woman: The Musical* arrives in Leeds, Simon Button speaks to the family of creator Garry Marshall.

Noah Harrison 'Giulio',
Oliver Savile 'Edward Lewis'
and Amber Davies 'Vivian
Ward'. Photo Marc Brenner

Based on the smash-hit film that turned Julia Roberts into a superstar, *Pretty Woman* is the big musical that's about to get even bigger. Following record-breaking runs on Broadway and in the West End, the show is now embarking on a tour of the UK and Ireland, arriving in Leeds this month.

And according to his wife Barbara and daughter Kathleen, director of the film and co-writer of the musical Garry Marshall would have been thrilled to learn of its ongoing success. He passed away in 2016, after working on the production with the movie's writer J. F. Lawton for many years and dreaming that it might open in New York some day.

"Had someone told him it would such a hit around the world he wouldn't have believed it," Barbara smiles proudly. "Not only did it make it to Broadway, it's bringing joy to so many people in so many other places."

Speaking in a London hotel on a visit to see the show's final performances at the Savoy Theatre, Barbara adds: "He'd be here with us if he could and he'd have come to all the places we've seen the show."

Kathleen agrees. "As well as being a director my dad was a writer, which he saw as a lonely profession. He always said 'Once you finish writing something you just have to bask in it because you're going to be back in the room writing again soon'. So he would be just basking in the excitement that the show is doing so well."

The idea of turning *Pretty Woman* into a stage show was Barbara's idea. Garry went on to direct the likes of *Runaway Bride* and *The Princess Diaries*. "But I kept saying to him 'You know, this could be a musical' and he'd say 'Yeah, OK' but nothing happened. Finally, maybe 15 or more years later, he and J. F. started writing together one a day week, every Wednesday in Garry's office for five years."

Marshall himself said of the rewrite: "It's always nice to do something again because you saw what you missed the first time. I must confess that the original *Pretty Woman* was terrific and a hit but I always felt that creatively I didn't do justice to Richard Gere's character. So in the musical



we have some great new moments for Richard's character. As much as he changed her life, she changed his life. That wasn't totally clear in the picture, so we make that much clearer."

The stage version strengthens the characters even more, Kathleen feels. "And they made it a little more modern but it's still got the nostalgia and those iconic moments. I mean, people still love to see Edward arrive at that fire escape."

Bryan Adams and his songwriting partner Jim Vallance were commissioned to write the all-new score, which is very much influenced by late-eighties and early-nineties rock and pop. Roy Orbison's 'Oh, Pretty Woman' was added a few months into the show's Broadway run, and Wesley and Alex Orbison even joined the cast on stage to perform the track as a tribute to their late father.

Eventually producer Paula Wagner came on board, as did director Jerry Mitchell. Marshall passed away in July 2016 at the age of 81 but the team was determined to carry on and fulfil his dream of having a show on Broadway.

The original production played Chicago's Oriental Theatre in March 2018, with Britain's Samantha Barks and US actor Steve Kazee as the leads, and opened at Broadway's Nederlander Theatre that August - breaking box office records and

enjoying a year-long run.

As it sets off around the UK and Ireland, Kathleen ponders why audiences respond so positively to this particular story. "There's a beautiful moment in *Pretty Woman* where you know that Edward really sees who Vivian is and Vivian really sees who Edward is, and that's where they connect. There's a joyousness in the way that people connect in my dad's shows and films, and he did that in life as well. He really thought you should be there for people when it's a hard day and be there for them when it's a fun day."

Barbara adds: "I think everybody remembers that movie as a happy moment or it helped them with something in their life." She grins. "Now people come to this musical wearing the clothes, like the famous red dress or the trench coat with the same Julia outfit underneath, in the high boots and blonde wigs."

And, as Kathleen points out, it's not just for female audiences. "They bring their husbands and boyfriends, who then end up really enjoying it too," She smiles. "There's a lot there in the storytelling that's really beautiful and romantic and uplifting, and I think everyone can connect to that."

Pretty Woman: The Musical is at Leeds Grand Theatre from 14-25 May. Visit leedsheritagetheatres.com for ticket details.

Theatre

Pinocchio

10-14 May / Doncaster Little Theatre
doncasterlittletheatre.co.uk

The timeless story of the wooden puppet who must earn the right to fulfill his longing to be a real boy brilliantly conveys lessons of responsibility and respect for the feelings of others. This amateur production of Pinocchio is presented by arrangement with Concord on behalf of Samuel French.

Footloose

15 May / Cast Doncaster
castindoncaster.com

When Ren and his mother move from Chicago to a small farming town, he is prepared for the inevitable adjustment period at his new high school. But he's not prepared for the rigorous local laws, including a ban on dancing instituted by the local preacher, who is determined to exercise control over the town's youth. When the reverend's rebellious daughter sets her sights on Ren, her roughneck boyfriend tries to sabotage Ren's reputation, with many of the locals eager to believe the worst about the new kid.

With the rockin' rhythm of its Oscar and Tony-nominated Top 40 score and dynamic new songs, Footloose celebrates the wisdom of listening to young people and the power of forgiveness.

Six

28 May-1 June / Leeds Grand Theatre
leedsheritagetheatres.com

The crowning glory of Broadway, the West End and beyond, the international smash-hit musical SIX makes its royal return to Leeds following two sell-out visits.

From Tudor Queens to Pop Princesses, the six wives of Henry VIII take to the mic to tell their tales, remixing five hundred years of historical heartbreak into an 80-minute celebration of 21st-century girl power. These Queens may have green sleeves but their lipstick is rebellious red.



Events

North Leeds Food Festival

11-12 May / Roundhay Park
northleedsfoodfestival.co.uk

Delicious locally produced street food, artisan markets, bars and free live entertainment, what more could you want? The number one listed best non-music festival returns to Leeds this Spring with a multitude of activities such as free cooking demonstrations, music and tribute performances, comedy shows and even a fun fair. With an assortment of tasty street food vendors to try, you're set for a fantastic day out with something for everyone to enjoy.

Doncaster Festival of Colour

25-30 May
 Doncaster Minster, East Lawn
www.visitdoncaster.com

The Luminarium is coming to Doncaster. A Luminarium is a sculpture people enter to be moved to a sense of wonder at the beauty of light and colour. A dazzling maze of winding paths and soaring domes where natural forms, Islamic architecture, Archimedean solids and Gothic cathedrals meld into an inspiring mix of design and engineering.

Visit Bawtry Classic & Sport Car Festival in association with Classicwise

26 May / Bawtry Hall
 Email: visitbawtrycarfestival@gmail.com
 A great turnout of over 200 cars is expected and will be complemented by selective trade stands from various companies. There will be several prizes on the day for various show car categories including Best in Show; Best Classic; Show + Shine; Wildcard and Best Modern.

Delicious Doncaster Food & Drink Festival

31 May-2 June / Doncaster city centre
www.visitdoncaster.com
 Prepare your taste buds for a treat! Over three days, Doncaster City Centre will play host to Doncaster's annual foodie event of the year.



Comedy

John Bishop – Back At It

11 May
 Harrogate Convention Centre
www.harrogatetheatre.co.uk

John Bishop is going back to his comedy roots. The scouse comedian has gone from standup to TV presenting to hosting a podcast but makes his return to the stage this month with a UK tour. With his ability to find the humour in any situation he finds himself in, the show is set to bring an evening of pure entertainment.

Holly McNish – Lobster

16 May
 York Theatre Royal
www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk
 Sunday times bestseller Holly McNish brings us a live reading of her latest book *Lobster and other things I'm learning to love*. In *Lobster*, Holly intertwines adult content and strong language with thought-provoking, heartfelt poetry that teaches us to find love out of everyday things we hate. Her poems dive into the complexities of life, love and relationships, motherhood and more. Comedian Sarah Millican describes Holly as "funny, so smart and refreshingly honest."

The Adam Buxton Podcast

28 May
 York Theatre Royal
www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk
 Following his huge podcast success, comedian Adam Buxton is going on his first ever live podcast tour. The evening will include ramblings with guest appearances from the world of comedy and entertainment, engaging with the audience for a hilarious night of wit and insightful discussions.

Music

Doncaster Fake Festival

4 May / Sandall Park

www.fakefestivals.co.uk

Tributes include Coldplay, The Killers, Oasis, Kasabian, Green Day and Red Hot Chili Peppers.

Big Special

8 May / tThe Key Club, Leeds

www.thekeyclubleeds.com

From the belly of the Black Country comes BIG SPECIAL. A visceral assault on softer dispositions; a collision of skullcrunching guitars, head-wobbling synths and face-belted drums. Couple this with darkly humorous observations of personal mental struggle in a time of social depression and anxiety, and you've got a must see duo.

The Magic of The Beatles: The Get Back Tour

10 May / Cast Doncaster

castindoncaster.com

The incredible cast not only look and sound like John, Paul, George and Ringo, they also generate that famed, incredible excitement of The Beatles – with the Fab Four's unique sense of humour thrown in for good measure too. Enjoy She Loves You, A Hard Day's Night, Help!, I Feel Fine, Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, Hey Jude, Here Comes the Sun, Get Back and more.

Tenacious D: The Spicy Meatball Tour

11 May / First Direct Arena

www.firstdirectarena.com

Experience the comedic and musical genius of Jack Black and Kyle Gass as they bring their high-energy, hilarious Spicy Meatball tour to the UK. Since the 90's the duo has created the perfect blend of rock and comedy which fans will get to experience live on stage.

Andre Rieu

17 May / First Direct Arena

www.firstdirectarena.com

The world-famous violinist and conductor is best known for his incredible performances alongside the 60-piece Johann Strauss Orchestra. You can expect to be swept away by his beautiful melodies, grand orchestral arrangements spanning from classical, waltz and show tunes and captivating performances.

Exhibitions

Jerry Scott - A Feast for the Eye

1 May / Stillingfleet Lodge Gardens

visityork.org

Artist Jerry Scott is putting on an exhibition of his work. His enchanting work includes painting, collages and prints and is said to take visitors on a journey through colour and texture, evocative of the stunning gardens at Stillingfleet Lodge. The exhibition is open to the public during normal garden opening times.

Nothing Lasts Forever: Peter Mitchell

17 May - 6 October / Leeds Art Gallery

museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk

An exhibition showcasing the extraordinary work of British documentary photographer Peter Mitchell. After nearly half a century since his last exhibition at Leeds Art Gallery, Peter brings us "Nothing Lasts Forever". The exhibition explores and celebrates his work throughout his career, with many documenting Leeds and will even feature unseen pieces of work.



Film

Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga

24 May

Long before her team up with Mad Max, this spin-off/prequel tells the story of how beloved character Furiosa became the fierce warrior from the 2015 film. Stolen from her home the Green Place and separated from her family, Furiosa falls into the hands of Warlord Dementus (Chris Hemsworth), leader of the powerful Biker Horde and comes face to face with the brutal warlord of the Citadel, The Immortan Joe (Hugh Keays-Byrne). Furiosa must face many obstacles on her intense journey to regain her freedom.



Gardens

The Himalayan Garden And Sculpture Park

Until 3 November

Grewelthorpe Ripon HG4 3DA

www.himalayangarden.com

Inspired by the Himalayas, the garden is home to one of the North's largest collection of rhododendrons, azaleas and magnolias.

The terrain undulates with steep paths in some areas, meandering through 45 acres of woodlands, gardens, an arboretum, and alongside tranquil lakes with a multitude of wildlife. Over 90 contemporary sculptures are dotted around the park, carefully chosen to enhance the surrounding environment and with a woodland adventure playground it's great for kids to explore and hunt-out the Fairy Doors. New for 2024, the garden is hosting 'Sculpture in the Landscape', an exhibition of new sculptures by artists from throughout the UK.

A wide selection of refreshments are available from the Garden Tearoom and a programme of creative workshops and events are held at the garden throughout the year. Dogs are welcome on leads. Garden tickets must be booked online.

Opening hours (18 April-3 November) 10am-4pm Tuesday to Sunday (April-June) and Wednesday to Sunday (July-October), to include Bank Holiday Mondays.