THE FIFTH SANDWELL ARTS FESTIVAL
24 JULY to 2 August 2014

Sandwell’s streets come alive with two weeks of dance, music theatre and general silliness. This year’s Sandwell Street Arts Festival takes place from 26 July to 2 August.

We are making James Kier into giant puppet. He was a scientist, inventor and businessman, a true Giant of the Industrial Revolution. On Saturday 2nd August at 12.00pm our Giant leads the colourful community procession, through New Square, Queens Square and the high street as we dance and play our way through West Bromwich town centre. Local schools and community groups are working with choreographer and physical theatre expert Dave McKenna of Being Frank to create 5 dance works. Everything comes together in Giant finale.

There’s some thing for everyone. From the festival launch at Coneygre Arts in Tipton on 24 July through to the procession on 2 August, we have music such as international jazz from Saxitude, dance including a brand new performance by Manmade Youth Dance Company as well as loads of fun performances by the world’s only shopping trolley dance display team, Granny Turismo, the least scary big bad wolf ever and some truly rubbish new inventions from The Demonstrators.

If your thing is getting involved, then why not join local artists Bostin’ Arts at one of the workshops where you can make shiny, glittery fun things and become part of the colourful procession.

Sandwell Festival Fun is going to go on and on this summer, and then, there’ll be a new arts café programme at Central Sixth, Sandwell College, from September.

Events and activities in this year’s festival

**Man Made Youth Company**
Coneygre Arts, Tipton Thursday 24 July 7pm,
Oldbury Square 2 August 12noon,
New Square West Brom 2 August 2pm
#uploading is a brand new work performed by 15 young men, fusing street dancing and physical theatre to create an exciting masculine dance.

**The Whiskey Brothers**
Great Barr Library Thursday 24 July 7pm
The Whisky Brothers featuring Richard Heath, on vocals and mandolin, and Gerry Smith, on piano, perform old style acoustic blues with songs from the great American blues tradition as well as their own material.

**Saxitude**
West Bromwich Friday 25 July
12:30pm New Square
14:15pm Central Library
Hailing from Luxemburg this saxophone quartet was founded in 2003. Its unique sound mixing the full range of saxophones is used to perform original Jazz and improvised music.

**Potato Head Jazz Band**
Thursday 25 July at 7.30pm
Blackheath Library
From Spain but with an international line-up their live shows are full of energy, highly participative, with a hugely diverse sound.

**The Lost Luggage Porters**
Wednesbury
Saturday 26 July from noon
Join these silent movie characters in their quest to find the railway station, and experience their puzzlement as they try to navigate their way through a modern-day town. Expect the unexpected!

**The Smallest Theatre in the world**
Tipton
Saturday 26 July from 11am
The 'Smallest Theatre in the World' is a fully functioning theatre mounted on the sidecar of a motorbike with a seating capacity of just two adults.

**Demonstrators**
Asda Cape Hill Saturday 26 July from 11am
Tipton Saturday 2 August from 11am
Selling a dubious line of 'wonder products' Barry and Bev have no problem finding punters to watch and take part in their demonstrations which are both unconvincing and hilarious.

**Granny Turismo**
West Bromwich Saturday 26 July from 12 noon
Meet the World’s first and only shopping trolley dance display team. When these girls arrive on their suped-up shopping trolleys, everyone takes notice.

**The Big Bad Wolf**
Rowley Saturday 26 July from 11am
Oldbury Saturday 2 August from 11am
One of the most famous characters from children’s fairy tales, Big Bad Wolf is a fantastic life size puppet that surprises but never scares...well that much and delights all the family.

**Midwives on Call**
Oldbury Saturday 26 July from 11am
Asda Cape Hill 2nd August from 11am
Call the Midwives! Comic and capable...1940s midwives hit the streets: ‘medical emergencies’ averted, on hand for the most unexpected of deliveries.

**Backyard Music Boys**
West Bromwich Saturday 26 July at 12:30-13:30 New Square 14:15 – 15:00 Central Library
Four piece acoustic band that is intent on capturing the excitement and verve of 1920s/1930s hot jazz. Lining up with clarinet, trumpet, sousaphone and banjo, led by Matt Palmer find these wandering minstrels strolling the shopping centres of West Brom.

**The Lollipop Patrol**
West Bromwich Saturday 2 August 11am – 4pm
With excessive enthusiasm and a slippery grip on reality, the Lollipop Patrol is here to help and hinder. Fluorescent and effervescent, the 64th emergency service, the luminous hand of the law, they are a veritable flurry of fluorescence. Experience their traffic-trauma, delight in their neon neurosis, and cross them at your peril!

**WOW Factor talent Competition Final**
West Bromwich Central Library Saturday 26 July 6-30pm £3.50 / £1.50
Come along to the Grand Final of the WOW Factor Talent competition for Ages 7-19 hosted by Sandwell Libraries, bringing together the finalists of 7 heats.

**The Pigeons**
Wednesbury Saturday 2 August from 11am
Eternally curious, Mr & Mrs Pigeon investigate everything they come across by pecking and scratching and express their love for each other in true pigeon style with much strutting and feather ruffling.

**Ankhile**
West Bromwich Saturday 2 August at 11am High Street and 1.30pm New Square
Winners of Best Asian Dance Crew, this colourful Bhangra dance group mix contemporary music with in folk dance in an exuberant display with whirling sticks and acrobatics.

**Get involved**
This year’s festival has a host of events where you can make and learn. With gaming to carnival prop making, Henna to visiting archives there’s something for everyone. Please contact the venues as places are limited. But all are free!

**Carnival prop workshops**
Bostin Arts who were responsible for the wonderful Sandwell Giants puppets at last year’s festival lead a series of workshops in making banners, flags and other brightly coloured props for this year’s procession Monday 28 July 10am – 1pm Wednesbury Library Tuesday 29 July 10am – 1pm Oldbury Library

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Wednesday 30 July 10am – 12.30pm and 2pm – 4.30pm Dartmouth Park

**Gaming James Kier**
Learn about coding and apps as you discover the life of Kames Kier, working with Learn Play Foundation on a beta version of a new computer game
Wednesday 30 July 2pm – 4pm Tipton Library

**Henna workshops**
Learn how to create beautiful henna designs
Friday 1 August 3pm – 4.30pm Cradley Heath Library
Saturday 2 August 2pm – 3.30pm Mobile Library, New Street, West Bromwich