

KIMMIE RHODES IN CONCERT

Friday 8th May 8.00pm : All Seats £12.70
Market Place Theatre, Armagh t: 028 3752 1821
www.marketplacearmagh.com

A creative and prolific artist, she has recorded and released a total of twelve solo CDs, and written and produced a catalogue of hundreds of songs.

FLOWERS OF EDINBURGH

Saturday 9th May 8.00pm : Tickets £10 & £5 (conc)
Market Place Theatre, Armagh t: 028 3752 1821
www.marketplacearmagh.com

Featuring Markethill Ulster Scots Fiddle Orchestra, Highland Dance and Theatre dance, Lambeg and Pipe Band Drummers and Bluegrass Guitar, this concert is a culmination of the years' activities for those receiving tuition in Markethill. In their 11th year of organisation MACN invite all to this celebration of Ulster Scots culture.

EATING OUT IN ARMAGH OVER THE FESTIVAL PERIOD

A number of restaurants, bars and cafes will have apple specials on throughout the festival period. Please see local press or visit the Tourist Information Centre for details.

apple BLOSSOM festival in ARMAGH 09

**Incorporating the Armagh
Bramley Blossom Fair
Friday 1st – Sunday 10th May**

Free Open Air Concert featuring
Chicco, Susan McCann, Malachi Cush & The Housem8s
Hiring Fair
Locally Produced food and craft stalls
Darina Allen Cookery Demonstrations (Ballymaloe Cookery School)
Family Fun Activities

t: 028 3752 1800 w. www.visitarmagh.com

This year's Apple Blossom Festival incorporates the Armagh Bramley Blossom Fair marking 200 years since the planting of the pip that grew into the first Bramley apple tree.

Apple Blossom is a magical time of the year in the Orchard county of Armagh. The orchards and the Bramley apple provide a livelihood for many people locally and this festival is as much a celebration of their endeavours as it is a coming together of visitors and locals.

The festival takes place between Friday 1st May and Sunday 10th May. The highlights of the festival are undoubtedly the Armagh City centre event on the 4th May, which will be a great family day out and the Bramley Apple celebration in Loughgall on the 8th & 9th May. There are numerous superb events taking place throughout the festival period. We invite you to come along to what will be an enjoyable experience for all the family.

APPLE BLOSSOM FUN RALLY

Friday 1st May – Sunday 3rd May
Entry Fee £200 per team
www.armaghtigers.com

The Armagh Tigers are launching The Apple Blossom Fun Rally. This is a new light hearted fun event in Ireland and local charities will benefit from it. The 3 day event will cover approx 700 miles as teams compete in daily challenges scoring points along the way. Teams of 2 – 4 persons with a vehicle minimum 20 years of age.
1st prize £1000, 2nd prize £500, 3rd prize £300

JAKE O'KANE

Friday 1st May 8.00pm : All Seats £15
Market Place Theatre, Armagh t: 028 3752 1821
www.marketplacearmagh.com

Jake has toured extensively, working with some of the biggest names on the comedy circuit including Ardal O'Hanlon, Dylan Moran and Peter Kay. Jake is the star of BBC NI's 'The Blame Game' and became resident compere for the 'The Empire Laughs Back'.

APPLE EXTRAVAGANZA!

Saturday 2nd May to Monday 4th May
10.00am – 5.00pm Sat & Mon : 2.00pm – 5.00pm Sun
Saint Patrick's Triun Visitor Complex
t: 028 3752 1801

Lots of fun for all at the Apple Extravaganza! There will be apple crafts & games, demonstrations, an Apple Trail to follow through the centre and a chance to see the Jack & the Apple Blossom Play. Enjoy apple treats in the restaurant all day long! Normal admission charges apply.

YOUNG, GIFTED & GREEN

Saturday 2nd May 10.30pm : All seats £12.70
Market Place Theatre, Armagh t: 028 3752 1821
www.marketplacearmagh.com

Eleanor Tiernan, John Lynn, Damian Clark: A trio of some of the finest Ireland-based comedians on the circuit in this special late-night slot.

MARK STEEL

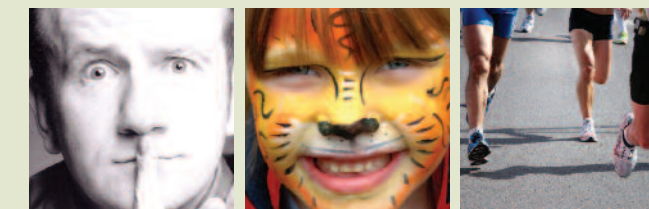
Saturday 2nd May 8.00pm : All Seats £15.60
Market Place Theatre, Armagh t: 028 3752 1821
www.marketplacearmagh.com

Mark Steel has performed as a stand-up comedian on the UK comedy circuit and on national tours since 1983.

DEAD CAT BOUNCE - 'LATE NIGHT RADIO'

Sunday 3rd May 8.00pm : All Seats £12.70
Market Place Theatre, Armagh t: 028 3752 1821
www.marketplacearmagh.com

Hotly tipped as the next big thing in Irish comedy, 'Dead Cat Bounce- Late Night Radio' revisits the golden age of 1950s radio comedy, albeit with a very modern twist.





HIRING FAIR, CONCERT & LOCAL COUNTRY MARKET WITH CRAFT

Monday 4th May 11.00am – 6.00pm
Armagh City Centre
Free Event
028 3752 1800

Throughout the 18th, 19th and early part of the 20th century Hiring fairs were a common occurrence throughout Ireland. Taking place usually in May and November each year, servants and farm labourers would have come to town with all their belongings bundled under their arm to seek employment. Agents from the local estates and farms would have haggled over price and conditions of labour and if all was favorable a deal would have been struck. This Apple Blossom Festival the Armagh City and District Council Living History Department, with the assistance of local school children will portray this once common, now almost forgotten event. Watch the Hiring fair take place and witness the hustle and bustle, songs and poetry that surrounded this custom.

The city centre will be alive with country stalls selling locally produced foods and crafts, including jams, breads, cakes, savouries and sweets from the kitchen, vegetables, plants, fruit, chocolates, cheeses and a wide range of craft items representing both modern and traditional craft skills. There will be vintage farm vehicles, animals and country style activities throughout the day.

On stage we have a fantastic line up all hosted by UTV's Frank Mitchell. Kicked off by Malachi Cush our local Fame Academy star, followed by Country singer – Susan McCann. The highlight of the day is Chicco the X-Factor star – a family favourite. The final act to take the stage is the ever popular Belfast group The Housem8s.

This promises to be a great family day. A lively atmosphere is guaranteed with plenty going on for everyone.

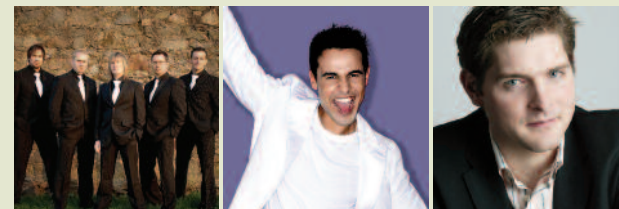


19TH ORCHARD COUNTY VINTAGE VEHICLE CLUB RALLY, AUCTION & FUN DAY

Saturday 2nd May starts 10.30am
Martin's Farm, 120 Portadown Road, Armagh
t: 028 3887 1006

Admission: £4.00 for spectators / free for Vintage and Classic Car owners

This is the 19th year for this renowned vintage car rally, with entries from all over Ireland. Proceeds going to Marie Curie and Chest, Heart & Stroke.



Highlights include:

- 11.00am – 4.00pm Stalls: local food produce & crafts
- 11.00am – 4.00pm Family Activities including vintage farm equipment & animals
- 11.00am – 1.00pm Local Musicians
- 11.30am City Walking Tour
- 11.30am – 12.30pm Hedge School (Local School Children)
- 1.00pm Malachi Cush
- 2.00pm Hiring Fair
- 3.00pm Susan McCann
- 3.30pm City Walking Tour
- 4.00pm Chicco
- 4.30pm The Housem8s

CITY WALKING TOURS

Monday 4th May
Starts at the Tourist Information Centre, English St.
11.30am and 3.30pm
Join on the Day - free of charge

Armagh is famous for many things. Its apples, its music and culture, its sporting achievements and most of all for its rich history, famous throughout the world. This Apple Blossom Festival take the opportunity of receiving a fully guided tour of Armagh's historical past. Starting at the Tourist Information Centre on English street, your guide, who will be in full Victorian period costume, portraying a character from the year 1890, will escort you to the Cathedral gardens where hopefully you may spot some apple blossom, the old route convicts took to be executed, passed the old Gaol now the "Hole in the Wall" pub and around the stunning mall. You will learn how life evolved in Armagh and how it became one of the finest examples of Georgian Architecture in Ireland. The tour will last approximately one hour and you will need warm clothing and good walking shoes.

ELKIE BROOKS

Tuesday 5th May 8.00pm : All Seats £23.50
Market Place Theatre, Armagh t: 028 3752 1821
www.marketplacearmagh.com

Elkie Brooks' career has spanned nearly five decades, produced nineteen studio albums, and earned her numerous awards and accolades.

ONE NIGHT WITH ELVIS

Thursday 7th May 2009 8.00pm : All Seats £15
Market Place Theatre, Armagh t: 028 3752 1821
www.marketplacearmagh.com

'One Night With Elvis' pays tribute to the early days of 'pure hip-swivelling' rock n roll, the '68 Come Back Special' and Elvis' Las Vegas performances. Pure entertainment... pure Elvis!

ARMAGH BRAMLEY BLOSSOM FAIR

Friday 8th May from 12.00pm - 9.00pm
Saturday 9th May 10.00am - 6.00pm
Manor Estate and Country Park, Loughgall
t: 028 3752 1800

The Armagh Bramley Blossom Fair has been organised by the growers, processors and packers to mark the bicentenary of the Bramley apple which has become known as the King of cooking apples in the UK and Ireland.

- Cookery demonstrations with Darina Allen
- Orchard Tours and Guided walks
- Orchard machinery displays
- Armagh Bramley Apple produce to sample and buy
- Bramley Blossom Open Golf Tournament
- Family Fun Activities

The highlight of this fair is Darina Allen of the Ballymaloe Cookery School who will be hosting 3 two hour cookery demonstrations. This is a ticket only event. Tickets can be purchased through Armagh Tourist Information Centre 02837521800.

Cost of ticket is £15.00 or for bookings of 5 or more £12.00 per person.