

hightide

AUGUST 2007 SCARBOROUGH'S ESSENTIAL GUIDE

**Interview:
industry gets
creative**



**Beached gets
bigger**



Wordsmiths in action

AND: music arts theatre comedy
film exhibitions poetry food & drink

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August is the traditional time for lazing about and not doing very much at all.

So that's the moment for Scarborough to leap into action on the much anticipated Creative Industries Centre in The Crescent. New director Andrew Clay promises to rev up the action so that by the time the centre opens in November it will be firing on all cylinders. Scarborough really needs this centre to bring artists and innovative businesses together, and Andrew comes to town with a great pedigree in the arts. Can the coast achieve its potential at last? See our interview.

Before that though, the annual sand, guitar thrash, more sand and cool, cool waters that is Beached gets going. There's nothing quite like this one, so if you have been out of the country for the last six years and missed it, put on your pork pie hat and get down there.

AUGUST 2007

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This month's special offer

Hitchcock had a favourite among his own films: cat-and-mouse thriller **Shadow of a Doubt**. We have a DVD of this brilliant suspense movie starring Joseph Cotten to give away. We'll draw the winner's name from our email newsletter subscribers list on **Wednesday 22 August**. So see our website home page and get signed up now for a chance to win.



Tasmin Archer will be performing at the Peasholm festival

The organisers of Acoustic Gathering, Peasholm Park's 'Indian Summer' festival, have announced this year's lineup.

The festival will take place in the newly revamped Peasholm Park, complete with mock-Oriental pagoda

Lineup announced for 'boutique festival'

and gardens, from noon till 10.30pm on 16 September.

This late summer Sunday chill-out will feature a wealth of local singer-songwriters, giving them a platform to perform for as many as 2000 music lovers.

Featuring 22 acts ranging from local fledglings Alastair Schmuck and The Pieces, to seasoned performers like Carl Woodford, Tom Townsend and Jesse Hutchinson, Acoustic Gathering looks set to become Scarborough's very own boutique acoustic festival.

The event is to be headlined by York based ex-Seahorse Chris Helme, preceded by Inspiral

Carpets vocalist Tom Hingley.

There will be a very rare performance from 90s star Tasmin Archer plus a set from Hayley Hutchinson, who performed on the acoustic stage at Glastonbury 2007. Mezzo-soprano vocalist Victoria Wright will add an operatic flavour to the evening.

All the Peasholm facilities will be open: toilets, bar, catering, festival stalls and, as the dusk falls, projections will illuminate the stage, lake and island waterfall.

Acoustic Gathering is on Sunday 16 September from 12 noon, Peasholm Park

Moles dig for local talent

A local recording studio, Sonic Moles, is opening its doors to lower budget local projects, it announced last week.

The studio has done recordings for the likes of Simply Ballroom, as well as local acts like Anna Shannon, Johnny Jump Up and John Watton.

Simon Coles, who runs the studio on North Marine Road, says: 'We are still doing the bigger projects, but we now want to allow local people to be able to afford a recording, people who want to give out 20 CDs at a gig, or record a few tracks as a present for someone.'

Tel 01723 381949.

Takeaway offer to win lapsed players back

There's help on the way for the many who used to play music but gave it up, or just never got started in the first place.

Now you can reawaken your musical interest with an interest-free loan from the Arts Council.

Its new Take it Away scheme lets you claim a loan of up to £2,000 to buy any musical instrument plus tuition, amps, and sheet music.

The loan has to be paid back in nine monthly instalments. Approved retailers are supporting the scheme and helping players make the right choice of instrument.

The scheme should be especially welcome in

Yorkshire, where almost two thirds of lapsed players said they would like to take up music again.

It is open to everyone aged over 18 but is mostly designed to help people who might not otherwise afford an instrument.

Arts Council England, Yorkshire music officer Andrew Herbert said:

'Take it Away will help individuals from all backgrounds to establish new musical passions and nurture existing musical talents.'

More details on the scheme and a list of retailers are on the website at www.takeitaway.org.uk.



A fresh direction

Roger Osborne talks to new Creative Industries Centre director Andrew Clay. Is this a new dawn for Scarborough?

There's an old saying (which I've just made up) about successful management that goes 'Find the right person and let them get on with it.'

The revival of Scarborough's fortunes has had its share of false dawns; if you want to believe that this time it's for real, then the quality of the people coming to fill key posts in the town should give you hope.

Andrew Clay, recently appointed as Director of the Wood End Creative Industries



Centre, is a case in point. I went to meet Andrew, who starts work in Scarborough in September, in his present fiefdom - the renowned Round Foundry Media Centre in Leeds.

Andrew was the first director of the Round Foundry when it opened in 2003, which explains the attraction of the Wood End job. 'I like to be in at the start, rather than take over from someone else,' he says 'It's not just about managing the building, it's about creating an atmosphere and developing a community.' He knows the major challenge at Wood End is to bring financial viability, but it's clear he also intends to bring passion, experience and expertise to the other aspects of the job.

'The differences between the Round Foundry (or Wood End) and a business centre is that we are interested in our tenants - what they do, what they want to do, who they want to meet. We encourage

businesses to work together.' What does this mean in practice? One example of many was business training for tenants. Andrew decided it was getting a bit boring so he hired a Brazilian drummer who spent the evening making the tenants into a 30-piece percussion band. They didn't do much theory but learned a lot about collaboration.

'It will be a prize asset for the town - something to show off to the rest of the world'

He is also acutely aware of the need to reach out to the wider community. The Round Foundry has hosted hundreds of exhibitions and events, often giving space for free, and recently drew 500 local residents of Holbeck to an open day.

He's already excited about putting on events in Wood End's beautiful entrance hall and lawned garden.

That has all worked in Leeds, but Scarborough? Andrew has

Coast scripted



Andrew Clay, above, and below, the Wood End building in The Crescent

long family connections to the Yorkshire coast and understands the differences.

The great thing about the creative industries is that geography is less relevant than inspiration and collaboration. 'I want Wood End to be a focal point for Scarborough's creative community; people will work there, meet friends, visit exhibitions and come to events.'

'The building is lovely, and the centre will be a prize asset for the town - something to show off to the rest of the world.'

But, as Andrew reminds us, it's the people that make it work. And for Scarborough people, the times ahead just got more exciting.

The Creative Industries Centre is due to open in November

Life after Beach Hut: we meet one of the writers behind last month's hit

Alison Watt admits she was expecting 'two men and a dog' to turn up. Last month she was among a group of writers who staged *Beach Hut*, a showcase of local scriptwriting talent. Instead, the house at Filey was packed to the rafters.

It's easy to see why Coast Script Writers got such a reception – they may be a new group but they share a wealth of experience. They have worked in theatre and television, as well as having the excellent cast.

Their first meeting happened in June 2006, after a discussion with the chair of Script Yorkshire about the lack of a local creative hub in the area. The group grew from there, and planning for *Beach Hut* began.

For scriptwriters in particular, Scarborough is no small fry: 'The local audience is discerning and demands high



calibre, world class theatre,' Alison says. Despite its size and relative isolation from the Smoke, if Scarborough excels in anything, it is theatre.

Alison is acutely aware of the town's theatre history. 'It would be hard to live here and not feel part of a tradition of writing for theatre. Stephen Joseph set the ball rolling fifty years ago with his new writing policy,' she says.

'Alan Ayckbourn has been an unflagging champion of new writing, which many new writers have been incredibly grateful for.'

Alison admits it's been a challenge meeting those high expectations on a low budget. The group of writers seems to have found its thirsty and discerning local audience. There's a handy number of people eagerly awaiting the next production.

Listings

HIGH FIVES

This month prepare to roll up your sleeves for the **Totally Tactile Workshops** and don your jackets for evening explorations along the **Dinosaur Coast**.

Manfat Voodoo and **Moonjuice** provide some sonic entertainment, and of course, Scarborough's annual staples **Beached** and **Scarborough Jazz Summer Season** are upon us again.

Aug 2 Curse of the Golden Flower

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £5 (£4)

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Totally Tactile Workshops

Scarborough Art Gallery 2:00 pm

Aug 2 Dinosaur Coast Walk - Guisborough Jet

Huton Village 6:30 pm Free

Aug 2 Moonjuice / Blade Runner

Spa Suncourt 7:30 pm £5

Aug 2 Curse of the Golden Flower

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £5 (£4)

Aug 3 and continuing White Lies

SJT Restaurant 1:10 pm £6

Aug 3, 10, 18, 25 Pro-Active & White Lies

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £10

Aug 3 and continuing The Simpsons Movie

Hollywood Plaza
8:40 pm £6 (£5)

Aug 3 Bamboozled

Vivaz 11:00 pm

Aug 4 to 25 (selected dates)

Forget-me-not Lane

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £17.50 to £11

Aug 4 Dinosaur Coast Walk - Speeton Clay

Reighton Gap Car Park
11:00 am £4

Aug 4 Alan Ayckbourn & Peter Nichols in conversation

Stephen Joseph Theatre
5:30 pm £5

Aug 6, 13, 20, 30 Pro-Active

SJT Restaurant 1:10 pm £6

Aug 8 Chris Hodgkins

Sigma at The Cask 12:59 pm

Aug 8 and continuing Face Value

SJT Restaurant 1:10 pm £6

Aug 8 Manfat Voodoo

New Tavern 8:00 pm Free

Aug 9 Dinosaur Coast Walk - Runswick Bay

Runswick Bay Car Park
6:00 pm Free

Aug 9 to 13 Beached

The Foreshore from 12 Free

Aug 9 Scarborough Poetry Workshop

Valley Bar 8:00 pm Free

Manfat Voodoo play the New Tavern on 9 August



FOOD & DRINK- ON THE LOOKOUT

Café View

The first thing they did was to get rid of the deep fat fryers. A breath of fresh air from Eastborough, Café View is fresh, cool and clean. The decor is silvery grey, with marble tables, chrome chairs, and an extravagant panoramic view of the whole of the South Bay, headland to headland. The staff are excellent, willing to chat to customers and tempt them to something on the sweet menu.



The food is a mixture of Mediterranean and Yorkshire: a ciabatta of Wensleydale cheese and Old Yorkshire Chutney (a delicious, spicy affair) or a bruschetta of tomato, red onion and basil. Café View's salads are a speciality: colourful, moist and fresh, full of the flavours of walnuts, grapes, and dark, italian leaves. They serve unusually good coffee, and bright combinations of strawberries, raspberries, cream and meringue.

The children's menu was a relief. Usually the worst, here they serve toasted cheese triangles with bread, carrot and celery sticks organic juice and raisins: not a chicken dinosaur in sight.

The freshness of the food speaks for itself: fruit and veg from the market just across the road, meat from the local butchers, and specialists such as the Bothams of Whitby plum bread. This

business understands its audience, serving a traditional lunch deal of sandwich, hot drink and scone alongside their more inventive dishes. And, essentially, the price is reasonable too.

Café View, Eastborough: 10am Mon and Tues, 8.30 every other day till tea time.

Café Marmalade's

Beiderbecke's hotel is one of those grand Georgian buildings of which a Scarborough can boast, and if you are looking for a bit of show-off when you take someone for lunch, then Marmalade's works a treat.

Recently Marmalade's, perhaps the only AA rosetted restaurant in Scarborough, has given its rather dusty lunchtime menu an overhaul. The new menu is excellent, showing off the chef's flair for recipe development. It follows a failsafe formula of adding an a la carte touch to lunchtime foods: sandwiches, jacket potatoes and salads.

I had the superb bacon, black pudding and egg salad with croutons and vinaigrette. The dressing was light, the croutons soft and home made, and the combination was perfect for lunchtime. My friend had the new BeiderBurger, which beats most novelty named burgers. This one is served in a delicious homemade foccacia bread, with rocket and tomato jam.

All in all this is a fresh and original lunch, with a fair price for the quality.

Marmalade's runs every lunchtime in Beiderbecke's Hotel. 01723 365766

Aug 10 to 15 Friends Uninvited

Esk Valley Theatre, Glaisdale
7:30 pm £8 (£7)

Aug 11 to 13 Whitby Regatta

Various - Whitby 12:00 pm

Aug 13 Food & drink workshop

Le Chat Noir 6:30 pm £3

Aug 14 Dinosaur Coast Walk - Sandsend Alum

Sandsend Car Park
6:30 pm Free

Aug 15 Scarborough Jazz: Alan Barnes & Pat McCarthy Trio

Sigma at The Cask 8:45 pm

Aug 16 Dinosaur Coast Walk - Cleveland Dyke

Goathland road car park
6:30 pm Free

Aug 18 to 24 Whitby Folk Week

Various - Whitby Day & Evenings

Aug 22 Scarborough Jazz: Sean Hollis

Sigma at The Cask 8:45 pm

Aug 23 Scarborough Poetry Workshop

Valley Bar 8:00 pm Free

Aug 25 Sessions

Vivaz 11:30 pm £6

Aug 29 Scarborough Jazz: Joel Purnell

Sigma at The Cask 8:45 pm

Aug 30 Totally Tactile Workshop

Scarborough Art Gallery
2:00 pm Free with pass

Floods, fights and missing musicians

Beached is back again, but after some near misses is the festival finally secure?

By Ruth Sleightholme



Compère Graham Rhodes in character for Beached

quite get the Ali G style joke: 'They got agitated, started throwing missiles, until someone actually got up and squared up to him. It was weird.'

When Beached hasn't been

Beached has become one of those certainties. Like donkeys and ice cream, we expect bands on the beach in August no matter what. But it has never been quite that easy, and since the great generator breakdown of Beached's 2001 debut, a different hurdle has appeared each year. What can possibly go wrong now?

'The fight on stage last year is hilarious stuff now,' Beached compère Graham Rhodes told me, gulping coffee in a harbour front café. He is referring to when a certain tracksuited and offensive MC Devo wound up the Beached crowd. They didn't

threatened by crossed comedic wires, it has been practically swept into the sea. Every year the tide reaches entertaining heights, but in 2004 it got so high as to maroon the crowd to the left or right of the stage. 'Those on the right had a great time, they were stuck by the bar; those to the left got practically stranded.'

Last year, rains joined with the tide to halt proceedings: 'All the equipment was stored between two slipways, so clearly during rainfall it became quite a risk.' The organisers cut the risks and delayed proceedings until the

rain could be swept out.

And what rain couldn't do, money almost did. In 2006, Beached had to announce a desperate need for sponsors at 'the eleventh hour,' stating that there could be no festival unless donors helped. Several local business and individual donors rose to the challenge and pulled Beached out of the quicksand.

This colourful set of obstacles seems to have only added to the festival's reputation, Beached being one of the first shows to which the infamously absent Pete Doherty did not turn up. They are never short of big names: The Kaiser Chiefs, The Libertines, Bluetones and The Fratellins have all graced the sandy stage. The audience don't seem to have been put off either, reaching tens of thousands in later years.

This year Beached certainly won't be stopped by rain or lack of funds. The backstage has been re-jigged to account for rain, and big sponsors JD Sports and K-Swiss are backing the festival all the way. With top names like InMe, Alabama Three, Foals and The Dykeenies promised, the festival looks set to be the best yet. *Even if the headliners' frontman doesn't show up.*

Beached: 9-12 August, The Forshore