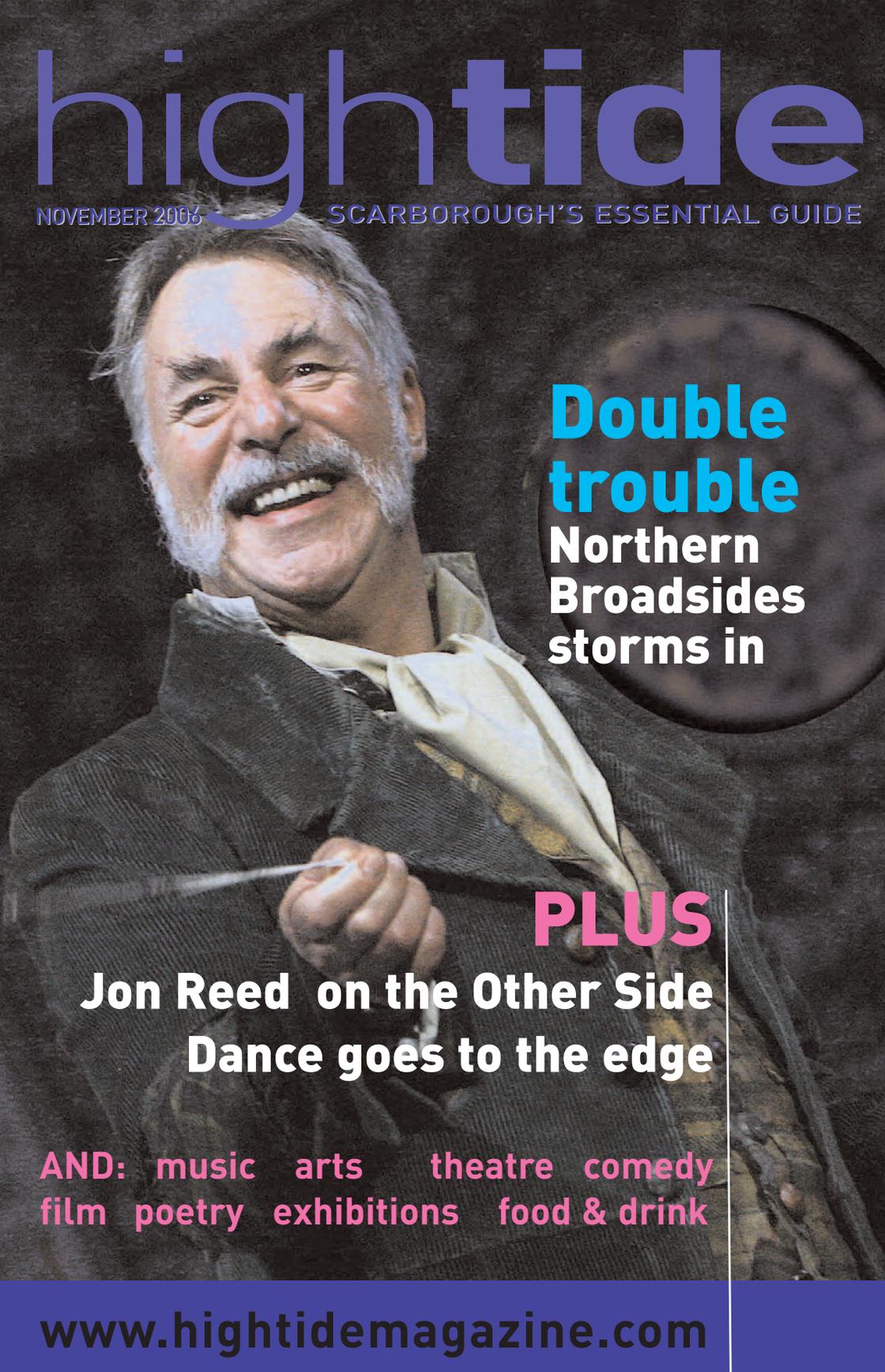


hightide

NOVEMBER 2006

SCARBOROUGH'S ESSENTIAL GUIDE



**Double
trouble**
Northern
Broadsides
storms in

PLUS

**Jon Reed on the Other Side
Dance goes to the edge**

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

www.hightidemagazine.com

Welcome to our second issue, and many thanks for all the good wishes.

So how was October for you? The Digital Scarborough fringe produced some extraordinary happenings, from a cellist performing live to a digital remastering of archive holiday footage, to sound in an underground car park.

Then we had Buster Keaton doing it all over again at the film festival - 90 years on, the gags are just as good. And that's not forgetting the On the Edge series at the University and a whole raft of other events. Two cafes and a restaurant opened, and we'll review them just as soon as we can draw breath.

So on to November and we have theatre, comedy and music highlights. Keep checking our website for event updates, and sign up for our weekly newsletter. Then it's over to you: get out and get doing!

NOVEMBER 2006

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Forum lines up top designer

One of the world's leading designers is to speak at an event in Scarborough in February.

Michael Johnson is the latest in a series of top experts brought to the area by the weekend Art and Design Forum, organised by the region's college lecturers.

The next meeting is to take place on 9 and 10 February.

What started as an occasional get together in Whitby has turned into a must-attend event at which major figures from the creative world give their views on art and design. Past speakers include Sir Peter Blake, Sir Christopher Frayling, Neil Potter, and Joe Cornish.

Patrick Argent is responsible for tempting such luminaries

to attend, and persuading them to give talks in Scarborough on the way. The 2007 event is no exception, and Michael Johnson will speak in Scarborough on 9 February at 2pm.

To mark the event, our February issue will be a design special.

Check out Michael's work at www.johnsonbanks.co.uk.

Goodbye - but it's only au revoir

Fond farewells rub shoulders with radical plans for the new this month in the arts scene.

It's finally goodbye to the old museum at Wood End, now partly demolished to make way for the creative industries centre - though some sections will stay open until the end of the year.

Part of the building will be rebuilt and extended for the new centre, opening next year.

That means the museum



The Art Gallery

collections need a new home.

Consultants ABL Consulting are working on options. The focus is on the art gallery next door, and whether it can be adapted or extended to house a combined art and museum collection.



Painter Len Hodgson at work

Studios open their doors

Dozens of artists working locally are set to take part in next year's Open Studios event.

The event, now in its third year, allows visitors to see the artists at work and understand how artwork is made. There's a chance to buy direct from them too.

The selection process is underway now - last submissions are due in to co-ordinators Art Connections by 6 November. Last year up to 50 artists from Saltburn to Filey and across the moors opened their

homes and studios over two weekends.

Next year's event will be held on the weekends of 26/27 May and 2/3 June.

There will be a full range of art and craft makers including painters, sculptors, potters, photographers, jewellers and glassmakers, as well as those working in new media, film, video, and textiles.

A full colour brochure will be available next March. For more details contact Art Connections at www.art-connections.org.uk.



Edge of darkness

Dance, music and storytelling from Scotland to Iraq blend to create sometimes exuberant, sometimes unsettling performances

The university's On the Edge season continues this month with visits by leading performers Donna Rutherford and The Paper Birds (above).

Scots-born Donna draws together storytelling, music and dance for *Ochone, Ochone*. It's 'a wry exploration of joyous and sorrowful memories' that crosses two very different cultures. In fact, if you can believe it, it manages to incorporate live and recorded music from Iran, Turkey, Scotland, Iraq with tracks ranging from Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard to Perry Como.

Donna says: 'Inescapably we leave the trail of our past behind us. I'll meet you round the bend my friend. When souls can heal and hearts can mend.'

The Paper Birds from Leeds is an all-female experimental theatre company developing a reputation for innovative work, collaborating with designers and musicians.

Their performance, *An Accident Waiting to Happen*, tells the story of one fateful day in the lives of



three women. Stories, music, movement and memories merge in the wrong place at the wrong time, in a disturbing yet beautiful tale.

A lost eyelash, a missing poster, a post-it note, a bruise, a bump in the road and a bump on the head; from a paper cut to freshly cut flowers tied to a railing, this performance promises a riveting evening. Lyn Gardner in the Guardian described the show as 'impressive, heartfelt and wonderful'.

The On the Edge series continues in December. See listings or our website for full details.

COVER STORY:

Tell the truth, I'm a bit scared of Barrie. Onstage he's the presence that fixes your attention, everything revolving around him. In the bar afterwards, feet planted as he downs a pint, it's even more alarming. He's not a big bloke but you wouldn't want to mess with him.

So here he is doing a farce and loving every minute of it, genial and relaxed. He's in good cheer as we talk, having opened on tour in Leicester for the first time ever. What did the midlanders make of that full-throttle northern attack? 'We won them round,' he says enigmatically.

"You can never second guess an audience – and you'd be a fool to try."

The following week they were off to Richmond's Georgian theatre, followed by a stint in a cattle market before a welcome return to the round at Scarborough this month. The different types of venue change the play and keep it fresh, he says. 'They trick it into a new environment. Not that I want to wish my life away, but it makes the tour go quicker!'

They are touring Blake Morrison's adaptation of Carlo Goldoni's comedy about a man who tries to serve two masters, now titled *The man with two gaffers* and switched from Venice to Yorkshire.

Everything is gained in the translation, Barrie says. He points out that Goldoni saw a French version of his play and was bitterly disappointed to find that only the language had changed. 'He hated that. So we have full licence from the



Double trouble

Northern Broadsides is back, and Janis Bright spoke to the company's charismatic director Barrie Rutter

that: their versions of Macbeth, Antony and Cleopatra and The Merchant of Venice have had a directness like no other. Some of the most memorable scenes have been in the high drama of the powerful fallen, people crushed by their own folly.

But Barrie says comedy is just as exciting. He's a firm believer in the old stage adage that 'dying is easy, comedy is hard'. He explains: 'You can never second guess an audience, and you'd be a fool to try. Something that goes down a storm one night can be flat the next. You can hope, and we work at it, but audiences will always confound you.'

In this one, Barrie is both playing the lead and directing. Is he giving himself a hard time? 'Nooo! It's food, it's how you live. Actors are better when they are working.'

He won't admit to getting grumpy when he isn't working - because that just doesn't happen. Already he's planning for next January when Northern Broadsides opens in

The Tempest, and on to the autumn programme, and really his mind is there: always reaching for the next goal.

Screwing up my courage, I ask him why people should get out of the house and go to see theatre. Isn't it a bit middle-class? He restrains himself admirably and talks about how life-affirming theatre is, compared with the passive experience of watching a screen. It's live: anything can happen, and often does.

But his final, loud and vehement answer has all the directness of pure Northern Broadsides:

'Why should they get off their arses and come? Because they SHOULD!'

The man with two gaffers is 'an uproarious tale of mistaken identity, deception, love and longing,' which seems to have most of human life covered.

It runs at the Stephen Joseph Theatre from Monday 20 to Saturday 25 November.

Not to be missed.

author to adapt.' And so they have, and once again Morrison is loving working with Broadsides. 'It's a writer's delight with us,' Barrie says with that openness that tells you modesty is bull. 'He hears every word of his creation. Clarity. That's my watchword.'

Those who have seen Northern Broadsides productions of Shakespeare will agree with

HIGH FIVES

This month it's all about live performance. So how about:

**Donna Rutherford
Luminol Beaux
Carl Woodford & Jesse Hutchinson
Anurekha Ghosh; and
The Heavy Horns**

Details are as accurate as we can get - check our website for updates. Ongoing shows are listed first.

**9 Sep to 30 Nov
The Poetry of Winter**

Blandscliff Gallery Tues to Sun
1pm to 6 pm Free
01723 367252

**7 Oct to 24 Dec
An Unfamiliar Place**

Work by David Chalmers, Julia Gatie and Jane Poulton
Art Gallery
Tues to Sun 10 am to 5 pm £2
www.scarboroughmuseums.org.uk

**10 Oct to 16 Dec
Rory Donaldson: Generation of Love (The Beds Project)**

Crescent Arts Tues to Sat
10 am to 5 pm Free
www.crescentarts.co.uk

26 Oct to 11 Nov

If I Were You
Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £16.50 - £11.00
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

28 Oct

A Goodbye to Wood End Museum
Wood End Museum Free
10:00 am onwards
www.scarboroughmuseums.org.uk

28 Oct

Luminol Beaux Cellars
8:30 pm 01723 379992

30 Oct

Jo Caulfield at The Other Side
Comedy Club
Bradley Court Hotel 7:30 pm
£7-£4 0845 838 1558

31 Oct

Pat McCarthy
Scholars 8:45 pm Free
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk

2 Nov Donna Rutherford:
Ochone, Ochone

Scarborough Campus
7:30 pm £6 (£4) 01723 357141

2 Nov

Lecture: Volcanoes of Montserrat
Scarborough Campus
7:30 pm Free 01723 232572

2 Nov

Evidence for the
Existence of Borrowers
Stephen Joseph Theatre
8:30 pm £12.50 01723 370541
or sjt.co.uk

3 Nov

Film Society: Bread and Tulips
Library 7:45 pm £4

4 Nov

Photography workshop
Scarborough Art Gallery 1:00 pm
www.scarboroughmuseums.org.uk

7 Nov

Mark Crooks
Scholars 8:45 pm Free
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk

10 to 11 Nov

Stephen Joseph Youth Theatre:
Rumour and the Rope Trick
Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £4.50 01723 370541

13 Nov

Rhys Darby, Andrew Roper at The
Other Side Comedy Club
Bradley Court Hotel 7:30 pm
£7-£4 0845 838 1558

14 Nov

Martin Jones and Matt Smith
Scholars 8:45 pm Free
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk

15 Nov

Anurekha Ghosh: Ruins
Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £12.50-£10
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

16 Nov

Paper Birds:
Accidentally Waiting To Happen
Scarborough Campus 7:30 pm £6
(£4) 01723 357141

17 Nov

Film Society:
Mrs Henderson Presents
Library 7:45 pm £4

18 Nov

Carl Woodford & Jesse Hutchinson
Cellars 8:00 pm Free
01723 379992

20 to 25 Nov

Northern BroadSides: The Man
With Two Gaffers Stephen
Joseph Theatre 7:30 pm
£16.50-11 01723 370541 sjt.co.uk

21 Nov The Heavy Horns
Scholars 8:45 pm Free
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk

24 Nov

Lunchtime talk: John Gibbons
Scarborough Art Gallery
12:30 pm Free
www.scarboroughmuseums.org.uk

25 Nov

roscoe/x
Roscoe Artspace 10:00 am

26 Nov

The Paper Birds
Scarborough Campus
7:30 pm £6 (£4)

26 Nov

Skampa Quartet
Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £14.50-£11
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

27 Nov

Jason Manford,
Andrew Bird at
The Other Side Comedy Club
Bradley Court Hotel 7:30 pm
£7-£4 0845 838 1558

28 Nov

John Etheridge with
The Ben Crosland Trio
Scholars 8:45 pm £4
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk

A flock of the new

Roger Osborne visits An Unfamiliar Place at Scarborough Art Gallery

The climb up the art gallery stairs always fills you with anticipation.

All those immense Victorian views of Scarborough in their heavy gilt frames, lowering down as if to say 'Where do you think you're going? It's only some modern stuff up there; stick with us lad, it's safer.'

And then suddenly you're out of the cloying, gloomy comfort zone and into rooms full of light, contrast and experiment.

In David Chalmers' photographs the sea is made into a black, smoky blanket, draping itself over walls and jetties and beaches; beautifully capturing its softness and danger.

Julia Gatie's wall of kisses looks like a homage to

Warhol's Marilyn, but this time with a myriad of different mouths.

Most surprising, just for sheer variety, is Jane Poulton's work. The insides of shells showing mother of pearl, snakes crawling across olives, three generations of women from one family, and a sampler-style souvenir of France are among the visual delights.

Red, white and blue shows a spill of pins on a red cloth, and strands of blonde hair on a blue panel, separated by an extraordinary photograph of white roses on salt.

This is a room to linger in and savour - even those strait-laced Victorians might have felt its powerful attraction.

FOOD & DRINK - OUT OF YOUR SHELL

The Alma

Stuck in an alleyway, facing on to the backs of Northway's shops - it's not what you'd call a promising location. But the Alma is a little gem, sitting like a dollop of sanity in a mad bad world.

In days of yore every pub had a public bar, a lounge and a snug; the Alma still has all three, and every pub planner should be forcibly marched here to see why it works so well. In the Alma you can take possession of your own spot, while feeling part of the whole place - surely the great secret of the English boozier.

The Suddaby's Golden Chance is highly recommended. For the culturally inclined, the lounge curtains are imprinted with Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, a journey that started, as most good things do, in a pub.

*The Alma Inn
1 Alma Parade, Scarborough, 01723 375587*

Café Italia

The taste of Genoa with the breezy welcome of the Mezzogiorno: it's all packed into this little corner of Victorian Scarborough. Try Jeanette's home-made focaccia with an eyeblinking shot of espresso. Or if you must go for a sandwich, ask for the chilli pickles to accompany it and wait for the taste explosion. There's soft squishy cakes, milkshakes how you like them, and a range of coffees. You'll be expected to join in the

conversation - but don't worry if your Italian only ranges as far as Ciao! Just relax and admire the décor with its authentic bar, mirrors and glasses. This is the real Italy on a plate.

*Café Italia
36 St Nicholas Cliff, Scarborough, 01723 501973*

Spice Lobster

You know what you're getting with Indian food - a decent meal from a familiar menu and a pleasant atmosphere.

So far so good. Here's what makes Spice Lobster different. First the food: there's just a few Bangladeshi specialities added, and the Cox's Bazaar Crab is a real winner. Spicy, not too sweet, and it lets the crab taste get through. Not quite fusion cooking but near enough.

Next up: decent choice of beers, including a low-alc version of Cobra for all you drivers.

And the final touch: the service. These guys know what they are doing. It's friendly, efficient, and the waiters are allowed to have personalities.

Even the corny red rose for the ladies is done with a bit of chutzpah. Which is why Spice Lobster is packed most weekends - a buzzy place for an every-night-of-the-week meal.

*Spice Lobster
61 Castle Road, Scarborough, 01723 3777573*

Stand-up is a bit like a gladiatorial contest (minus the whips and tigers - shame!). So we asked The Other Side's legendary host Oliver, sorry, **Jon Reed some piercing questions.**

Why did the chicken cross the road?

Location, location, location

Has the fact that you come from Scunthorpe helped your development as a comedian?

Scunthorpe has always been a Mecca for entertainment. In my street alone lived Barbara Streisand, Liberace and Paul Shane. Matisse spent his final years there sketching nettles and dock leaves in coal, so it isn't hard not to draw from that kind of inspirational environment. As Ghandi once mused to me, 'I like it here, but the pubs are sh*tte and it needs more fights'.

Is the Bradley Court Hotel the trendiest venue in town?

Fashions come and go, but as a world heritage site for 1970's baroque light fittings the Bradley retains its special place in the heartland of British interior design. We love the Bradley, it's our home, we made it our home, and that means like every great comedy club, we've made a family there.

You get big names from the national comedy circuit, but where do you get your support acts?

It's a combination of a lot of hard work between our bookers and us. The support acts are often the ones full of



Crossing the Line

surprises; mean, lean and hungry to impress. At this year's Edinburgh Fringe all the Perrier Best Newcomer nominees have played our club in the last year, and that's a record we're proud of. We really are presenting talent that's going to make a major contribution to British comedy in the coming years.

When you've just announced to the crowd that the last one was rubbish, does he buy you a pint?

Ah, you're talking about the open spots. That's about opportunity. Opportunity for local acts to have a go, and for emerging talent to develop. It can be like searching for a needle in a haystack, but we've had some stormers, and if they're that good we'll get out the chequebook and move them

up the bill. And no, I normally buy them one.

The Other Side has half a dozen venues now, including Doncaster and Brid. Where's the toughest crowd?

Sat at home on their complacent butts watching Peter Kay DVDs, chatting in pubs about this season's hot comedy, moaning about a night costing a fiver as they tuck into some noxious salt-dripped TV dinner not realising that there's a pretty special night on their doorstep that's clinically proven to improve your health. The crowd that does make the effort is thoroughly rewarded.

Greatest onstage pratfall

Hackney Empire 1998, which involved my left bollock and a thunderous silence - let's not talk about it.

Favourite wild animal manure

Now you've just made that question up haven't you.

Coming your way in November

New Zealand's biggest comedian Rhys Darby plays The Other Side on 13 November along with Aussie Andrew Roper.

On 27 November it's Perrier award nominee Jason Manford plus Andrew Bird.