

A Season of Exploring

2008 is the perfect time to discover this wonderful city - the history, the passion, the people. Why not explore and learn something new?



Merseyside Black History Month

October

Merseyside Black History Month 2008 celebrates and promotes the history, cultural heritage and achievements of individuals and organisations from Liverpool's Black and Racial Minority communities.

Merseyside Black History Month is packed with dozens of activities and events for all the family, beginning with the Opening Event on October 1 at the Kuumba Imani Millennium Centre, 4 Princes Road, followed by a free special community event later in the evening at the Philharmonic Hall, all are welcome.

On the October 12 the Black History Month Cultural Food Feast will showcase catering talents of many individuals and groups who will offer an insight into the delights of cultural food and entertainment inspired from Africa and the Caribbean. This event is free and open to all, there is plenty of

entertainment on offer so bring your family and enjoy the day.

A Brand New World will excite the audience at the Royal Court Theatre from October 23-25. Showcased at the Edinburgh Festival in August, this innovative new musical re-tells the story of Aladdin, featuring an original soulful score and exciting street dance in the traditional top quality Positive Impact style.

2008 introduces the Black History Month Comedy Showcase which will feature the best that the UK has to offer, with performances by Richard Blackwood, Geoff Schumann, Prince Abdi, Wayne "Dibby" Rollins and the delightful Ms Glenda Jaxson at the Contemporary Urban Centre, Greenland Street (off Jamaica Street) on October 24.

One of the key annual events taking place is the Black History Month

Achievers Awards at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Liverpool on October 25. This awards and entertainment event recognises the achievements of individuals, organisations and groups from the Black and Racial Minority community.

On October 30, Merseyside Black History Month Group joins forces with the Liverpool Irish Festival at St George's Hall, Liverpool.

This joint event will promote the history and culture of the Black and Irish communities via their contributions of dance and music and promises an amazing insight into the similarities and differences of each group.

For more information on these and many more events, email info@mbhmg.com or visit www.mbhmg.com



Amsterdam, Bijlmer Arena Station © Ger Van Der Vlugt

RIBA Stirling Prize 2008

October 11

BT Convention Centre, Liverpool

The RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) Stirling Prize, in association with The Architects' Journal, will be announced at a dinner on Saturday October 11 at the BT Convention Centre, Liverpool.

Kevin McCloud, of TV's Grand Designs and Big Town Plan, will present the results to the rest of the nation on Channel 4, broadcast on Sunday October 12.

The £20,000 prize is awarded to the architects of the building that has made the greatest contribution to British architecture in the past year.

Turn to page 9 for more information.



Westminster Academy at the Naim Dangoor Centre, London © Tim Soar

The Beat Goes On

World Museum Liverpool
Until November 1 2009

Bursting with music, costumes, memorabilia and fascinating films, The Beat Goes On captures the vibrancy and creativity of more than 60 years of Liverpool music.

Rewind to 1957 with the first public display of the Woolton church stage where John Lennon and Paul McCartney met.

Fast forward to the seventies, where fashion by Vivienne Westwood, photographs, posters and badges bring back memories of hip club Eric's.

Bop to 80s pop, revisit 90s dance superclubs and see memorabilia from The Farm, The Zutons and many more.

In partnership with the University of Liverpool through the Institute of Popular Music. Supported by the Liverpool Culture Company as part of the European Capital of Culture programme and SAE Institute.



ONG, THA
AT MELO

ERE

Backbeat

radical
Crucia

What pigeon hole?

Mathew Street

October

> October 1

Merseyside Black History Month Opening Ceremony

Free community events to celebrate the opening day of Merseyside Black History Month 2008.

Opening Ceremony at 1pm,
Kuumba Imani Millennium Centre,
4 Princes Road, Liverpool
Community event at 7pm,
Liverpool Philharmonic Hall,
Hope Street, Liverpool
07746 065 516
info@mbhmg.com
www.mbhmg.com
See feature on page 47

> October 5

Bus and Tram Show

The annual heritage vehicle 'get-together' in the north makes a welcome return to Pacific Road and Taylor Street, home of the Wirral Transport Museum.

Pacific Road Arts Centre,
Pacific Road, Wirral
0151 647 0752
pacificroad@wirral.gov.uk
www.pacificroad.co.uk

> October 7

Lever in Africa

Learn more about Lever's African business in a practical drawing workshop for adults exploring the ethnographic collection from West Africa. Booking required.

Lady Lever Art Gallery,
Port Sunlight, Wirral
0151 478 4178
www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

> October 12

African Batik

This 'hands on' workshop will teach you the art of African Batik printing. Drop in. 1-1.45pm.

International Slavery Museum,
Learning Base 2, Albert Dock, Liverpool
0151 478 4499
www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

> October 12

Merseyside Black History Month: Cultural Food Feast

Promoting food from Africa and the Caribbean as well as entertainment throughout the day. 1pm. Free admission.

Sefton Park Palm House,
Sefton Park, Liverpool
See first listing for contact details

> October 15

West African Artefacts

Explore Lever's ethnographic collections with Zachary Kingdon, curator of African Collections. Booking required. 1-1.45pm
Lady Lever Art Gallery
See first listing for venue details

> October 19 and October 22

Black Inspirations

Black Inspirations celebrates and explores Black history through creativity in an artist-led workshop. 1-4pm.

International Slavery Museum;
Anthony Walker Education Centre.
See first listing for venue details

> October 19

African Woodcarving

See African woodcarving on the Life in West Africa gallery. 1-4pm

See African woodcarving at the International Slavery Museum

> October 20

African Beats

Feel the beat with an afternoon of African drumming and tribal dance.

International Slavery Museum;
See previous listing for venue details

> October 21

Tales from Africa

Immerse yourself in an afternoon of African tales in an interactive storytelling session.

International Slavery Museum;
See previous listing for venue details

> October 22

The Wonderful Adventures of Mrs Seacole

An inspiring performance about the life of Mary Seacole. 1.45pm and 2.45pm

World Museum Liverpool,
William Brown Street, Liverpool
0151 478 4393
www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

> October 23

The Wonderful Adventures of Mrs Seacole

An inspiring performance about the life of Mary Seacole. 2pm and 3pm

International Slavery Museum
See previous listing for venue details

> October 24

African Arts and Crafts

Try your hand at African art and make your own mask to take home. 1-4pm

International Slavery Museum
See previous listing for venue details

> October 26

Ska Ska Ska

A musical celebration of Ska. 1-4pm

International Slavery Museum
See previous listing for venue details

> October 27

Conserving your heritage

Bring along paper based treasures; photographs, letters and certificates and learn how to preserve them for the future. 10.30-2.30pm

International Slavery Museum,
Anthony Walker Education Centre.
See previous listing for venue details

> Until October 31

St George's Hall and I

An exhibition containing images and memories of the special relationship built up over time between the people who have visited the Hall and the building itself. This display represents the start of an archive for St George's Hall and the beginning of its next phase.

St George's Hall Heritage Centre,
St John's Lane, Liverpool

> October 31 - November 2

Model Railway Exhibition

With over 30 layouts and traders, demonstrators and society stands, the Merseyside 2008 Model Railway Exhibition has lots happening for the family and enthusiast alike.

Pacific Road Arts Centre
See previous listing for venue details

November

> November 1

North West Family History Fair

If you want to explore your family tree, put this fair - packed with experts and 'how to' guides - in your calendar.

St George's Hall,
William Brown Street, Liverpool
01772 816841
www.nwghs.org.uk

> November 5 - January 18

Out of the Shadows

A major project around recorded reminiscences of older people with a range of physical and mental disabilities. Tracing stories from childhood through to institutionalisation and exploring the attitudes and treatment by society today. Culminating in an exhibition at St George's Hall.

St George's Hall Heritage Centre
See first listing for venue details

December

> December 1 - 2

Portrait of a Nation

See feature on page 10

> December 27

Winter Walk with a Warden

The National Trust, Formby, is a great starting point for walks along the Sefton Coastal Path. A short walk away from the car park you can find a real sense of being away from it all, in tranquil surroundings, with dramatic views across the dunes and wide sandy beaches set against the backdrop of the pinewoods.

The National Trust,
Formby Point Squirrel Reserve,
Victoria Road, Formby
01704 878591

> Until September 27 2009

Magical History Tour

Magical History Tour is an interactive journey of historical discovery and an opportunity to look at the now and then of Liverpool life. Travel back in time to meet some of the city's inhabitants who will help you explore Liverpool's growth from a tiny fishing village to a bustling Victorian city of worldwide significance.

Merseyside Maritime Museum
See first listing for venue details

Culture beyond Liverpool – what's happening around England's Northwest

Liverpool may be taking centre stage in 2008, but that doesn't stop the rest of England's Northwest from getting in on the cultural act. To add to the already action-packed calendar of events, each of the different areas in the region has put together its own year of special events and activities, based on their own distinctive take on culture. In Manchester you can get the buzz of a Year of World Sport or if that's not exciting enough you can hit the adrenaline highs of Cumbria's Year of Adventure. For a more relaxing experience why not sample the gastronomic delights of Taste Lancashire or chill out in the verdant tranquillity of Cheshire's Year of Gardens.



Taste Lancashire '08 Year of Food and Drink

www.tastelancashire08.com
The area that brought you black pudding, Goosnargh duck and potted shrimps is rediscovering its culinary heritage with a year-long celebration of Lancashire's fantastic local produce. From top quality restaurants and reinvented country pubs to bistros, farm shops and innovative food producers, there's plenty to get your taste buds tingling.



Lake District and Cumbria Year of Adventure '08

www.golakes.co.uk/adventure
No need to wander lonely as a cloud when you can get an action-packed buzz from the great range of adventurous activities offered by the Lake District's magnificent mountain scenery. Get the rush at the Kendal Mountain Festivals in November.



Manchester World Sport '08

www.manchesterworldsport08.com
With a competitive streak a mile wide, it's no surprise that Manchester has put on an action-packed year of sporting events - the biggest the city has seen since the 2002 Commonwealth Games. The Hi-Tec World Squash Championships in October promise to be a fitting finale.



Cheshire's Year of Gardens '08

www.yearofgardens08.com
With some of the UK's most elegant stately homes and gardens, Cheshire is a natural location for this celebration of all things horticultural. Autumn highlights include a Quince Festival at Norton Priory and the Pumpkin Games held at the beautiful Arley Hall and Gardens.

EVENTS

> Throughout October

FRED

Europe's largest outdoor arts festival, which sees artists from around the globe creating outdoor art extravaganza using Cumbria's most spectacular landscapes as backdrops.

Across Cumbria
www.fredsblog.co.uk

> Throughout October

Lancashire Produce Month

At this time of year a wonderful variety of Lancashire produce will be available. Meet our local food producers at one of our many Farmers' and Produce markets across Lancashire and discover why Lancashire has such great reputation for quality food and drink.

www.tastelancashire.com

> Until November 2

Blackpool Illuminations

The sort of spectacle that everyone should see at least once, Blackpool Illuminations enthral millions of visitors every year. The greatest free light show on earth has been a major part of Blackpool's attraction since 1879.

01259 478222
www.visitblackpool.com

> Until November 30

Keith Tyson: Nature Paintings

A major exhibition (in his home county) of new and recent work by the Turner Prize winning artist, once dubbed "the mad professor" of art, Keith Tyson.

Tullie House, Carlisle, Cumbria
01228 618718
www.tulliehouse.co.uk

October

> October 4-5

Quince Festival

Find out more about Quince at the venue where the national collection is held. There will also be music, tours, storytelling and family activities.

Norton Priory Museum and Gardens
01928 569895
www.nortonpriory.org

> October 5 - 7

In the City

The newest and brightest musical talent in the country gather for the biggest urban music event in the country, In the City has a track record of showcasing legends such as Oasis, Coldplay and Daft Punk.

Various venues, Manchester
www.inthecity.co.uk

October

> October 6-26

Shell Chester Literature Festival

Celebrating the written and spoken word with a stellar ensemble of literary personalities, plus local authors and poets.

Various venues, Chester
01244 304618
www.chesterfestivals.co.uk

> October 6 - December 20

Craigie Aitchison:

His Prints 1969 - 2007

An artist with a unique vision, his paintings are characterised by the purity and intensity of their colours, and the simplicity and sparseness of their compositions.

Abbot Hall, Kendal, Cumbria
www.abbothall.co.uk

> October 10 - December 22

Interval by Suki Chan

Suki Chan's powerful installation Interval combines sound, video and shadow to create an evocative sensory experience using time-lapse technique and 360° panoramic technology.

Chinese Arts Centre, Manchester
Tel: 0161 832 7271
www.chinese-arts-centre.org

October

> October 11-19

Hi-Tec World Squash Championships

The first time that a combined men's and women's World Squash Championships has been held in the UK. With six British players in the top twenty world rankings, we've got some genuine contenders.

[National Squash Centre, Sportcity, Manchester](#)
www.manchesterworldsport08.com

> From October 11

Holman-Hunt and the Pre-Raphaelite Vision

Manchester Art Gallery makes the most of its fantastic collection of pre-Raphaelites with this exhibition devoted to the founding father of the movement, William Holman-Hunt.

[Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester](#)
0161 235 8888
www.manchestergalleries.org

> October 13 and October 18

Le Grand Cirque

Described by the press as "The next Generation of Cirque du Soleil", Le Grand Cirque is one of the most magical and spellbinding shows ever. -winning show comes direct from a sold out tour of the U.S.A

[Guild Hall, Preston](#)
0845 344 2012
www.prestonguildhall.com

> October 16-26

Manchester Literature Festival

Manchester's literary celebration. Highlights include Russell T Davis holding forth on his TV-writing career.

[Various venues, Manchester](#)
0161 236 5725
www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk

> October 23 - November 1

Cirque de Glace

Achieving a new level of ice show presentation, the brilliant Russian Ice Stars combine with the world of cirque in an eclectic mix of spectacle and ice dance.

[Grand Theatre, Blackpool](#)
01253 290 190
www.blackpoolgrand.co.uk

> October 24-31

Garstang & Bowland Food Festival

A seven day food and drink extravaganza, showcasing the very best in local produce and exceptional dining experiences.

[Various venues](#)
01995 602 125
www.visitwyre.co.uk

> October 25

Echoes of Art Deco Walk

An evocation of the 1930s heyday of Morecambe, conjured up from its surviving Art Deco buildings, on both a grand and domestic scale. Includes an exterior exploration of the landmark and recently restored Midland Hotel.

[Starts at Morecambe Visitor Centre](#)
01524 420 905
www.citycoastcountryside.co.uk

> October 25 and 26

Pumpkin Games

Horticultural show, pumpkin contests and a pumpkin-inspired market.

[Arley Hall and Gardens](#)
01565 777353
www.arleyhallandgardens.com

> October 25 - November 2

Pumpkin Festival

Features elephant pumpkin smashing, guess the weight of the pumpkin and a trick or treat Zoo trail. Each child bringing a carved pumpkin gets into the zoo for free.

[Chester Zoo](#)
01244 380280
www.chesterzoo.org

> Various dates from October 26 - December 30

Darkest Muncaster

Be Enlightened as lights, music, sound and special effects transform Muncaster Castle's famous gardens into an experience which will tingle your senses and entertain the entire family!

[Muncaster Castle, Cumbria](#)
01229 717 614
www.muncaster.co.uk

> October 28 - November 1

Slava's Snowshow

Full of laughter and joy, this stunning show combines comedy with gobsmacking spectacle. An unmissable treat.

[The Lowry](#)
0870 787 5780
www.thelowry.com

November

> November 12 - December 6

A Taste of Honey

A 50th anniversary production of this iconic Manchester drama that started off as a novel before being adapted for the stage in 1958 and then made into the highly-acclaimed film of the same name in 1961.

[Royal Exchange, Manchester](#)
0161 833 9833
www.royalexchange.co.uk

> November 18 - December 21

Manchester Christmas Markets

Browse the festive treats, with hand crafted goods, continental bites, hot Glühwein and Bavarian beer.

[Various city centre locations](#)
www.manchesterlive.co.uk

> November 20-23

Kendal Mountain Festivals

Not just one, but a whole cornucopia of festivals devoted to all things vertical, from film, books and art to photography, humour and drama.

[Various venues, Kendal, Cumbria](#)
01539 725133
www.mountainfilm.co.uk

November

> November 29 - January 17

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

An adaptation, with music, by David Holman - a truly festive celebration of a traditional Victorian Christmas!

[Theatre by The Lake, Keswick, Cumbria](#)
017687 74411
www.theatrebythelake.co.uk

December

> December 2 - 13

RNCM Opera -

Johann Strauss, Die Fledermaus

Infidelities, mistaken identities and an over-indulgence of champagne and waltzing - Vienna comes to Manchester for this sparkling pre-Christmas operetta.

[Royal Northern College of Music](#)
0161 907 5200
www.rncm.ac.uk

> December 12

Something Wishful

A large celebratory event bringing Cheshire's Year of Gardens 08 to a close, with lantern parades, music, street arts, dance and fireworks.

[Grosvenor Park, Chester](#)
www.chesterperforms.com
www.eea.org.uk

