

## theguide: staying in

### dance

**CHINESE ACROBATIC SWAN LAKE** — The Lowry, Salford Quays, Wednesday, July 30 to Saturday, August 2.

### dancing

**BALLROOM DANCING** — Colne Muni, Saturday, July 19.

**BALLROOM DANCING** — Colne Muni, Saturday, August 9.

**BALLROOM DANCING** — Accrington Town Hall, Saturday, September 27.

**BALLROOM DANCING** — Accrington Town Hall, Saturday, October 11.

### dj

**RHYTHM AND BLUES NIGHT** — North Bar, Blackburn, every Thursday night from 10pm.

**RESIDENT DJ NIGHT** — The Millstone Hotel, Darwen, every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9pm.

### entertainers

**VARIOUS ARTISTS** — Rishton Legion, every Saturday from 7pm

**VARIOUS ARTISTS** — Oswaldtwistle Conservative Club, every Saturday, from 7pm.

### festivals

**GREAT BRITISH RHYTHM & BLUES FESTIVAL** — Colne Muni, Friday, August 22 to Monday, August 25.

### film

**ENCHANTED** — Darwen Library Theatre Film Society, Tuesday, July 22

**THE WATER HORSE** — Darwen Library Theatre Film Society, Tuesday, August 12.

### folk

**THE MAERLOCK** — Mellor Brook Community Centre, Saturday, October 4.

**BRAEBACH** — Mellor Brook Community Centre, Saturday, November 9.

### guided tours

**HENRY VIII AT THE HALL** — Tours at Samesbury Hall, every Sunday.

### ice show

**HOT ICE SHOW** — Blackpool Pleasure Beach, until November 1.

**CIRQUE DE GLACE** — Grand Theatre, Blackpool, Tuesday, October 23 to Saturday, November 1.

### jazz

**JULIE EDWARDS and KEVIN DEARDEN** — Ribble Valley Jazz and Blues Club, Swan and Royal, Castle Street, Clitheroe, Friday, July 25.

### karaoke

**KARAOKE COMPETITION** — Rose and Bowl, Newchurch Road, Bacup, every Thursday.

**ALPHA KARAOKE** — The Rishton Legion, every Friday from 8.30pm.

**KARAOKE** — Forester's Arms, Fecitt Brow, Blackburn, first Sunday of every month.

**What's on and when**  
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# Movie tie-in set to take off



**Wall: E**  
Xbox 360, £39.99

IT'S summer time and Disney Pixar's Wall: E is looking set to top the bill when it comes to animated movies.

With the world ravaged by pollution and rubbish, little Wall:E and his pal Eve are left in charge of cleaning the planet up while humans take a space-age vacation.

These two characters provide the focus for what turns out to

## computergames

with DAVID CROOKES

be a pretty enjoyable platform adventure that will be loved by fans of the film.

More discerning gamers will spot the below-par graphics and audio, but may also uncover an excellent co-operative multiplayer mode. It's decent, but nothing out of this world.

3/5

**Secret Agent Clank**  
PSP, £24.99

PEOPLE have been booming around the Ratchet and Clank universe for some years now, so a little spice is required to keep the franchise fresh.

Taking cues from spy classics of the past, Secret Agent Clank presents their world with a spy themed twist, including Clank as the Galaxy's greatest undercover agent dressed in a tuxedo. With gadgets ranging from Cufflink Bombs to the Tie-arang and Clank-Fu, Clank's very own style of martial arts, this is an absolute hoot. Stealth, action, platforming and full-on fighting sequences will keep you entertained for hours, leaving your PSP shaken and stirred.

3/5

**Cooking Guide**  
DS, £29.99

IF you've yet to dust off the celebrity chef cook-books you got for

Christmas, perhaps you need the Nintendo DS to fuel your culinary creativity. More of a 'how to' guide than a game as such, Cooking Guide boasts 250 recipes and acts as an interactive cooking aid that will take you through every stage of cooking — from purchasing ingredients through to chopping, sizzling, baking and eating. The recipes are enhanced with lots of demonstrational videos that go beyond the capabilities of printed books, all blasting out of your handily sized DS.

4/5

## cdreleases

Reviewed by John Anson

**XX TEENS: Welcome To Goon Island (Mute)**



FOR a band making their debut CD the XX Teens certainly have a swagger about them which

comes over via this album. The cocky vocals and underlying rock, which can appear shambolic at times, is very current and you can see why NME likes them so much. But are they different enough? Probably.

**JOHN IDAN: The Folly (Pebble Beach Music)**



BEST known as latter-day bassist and vocalist with The Yardbirds, John Idan has probably done enough in music

to be allowed to indulge himself and release a solo album. Clearly a hugely talented musician — he plays everything on the album bar the strings — there's a real '70s feel to the whole thing. Will appeal to those of a certain age.

**RORY ELLIS: Two Feathers (Villainous)**



A VOICE so deep and gravelly, if this had been released on vinyl you'd swear your turntable was

playing slow. But there's something wonderfully enticing about it, from the Hammond organ to the clever guitar work. Imagine Kris Kristofferson with a sore throat and you're getting close. Old fashioned bar music from the Wild West.

## webexplorer

### ON YOUR BIKE

Whether it's to stay fit or to cut the cost of commuting, cycling is enjoying a renaissance. Web editor PAUL COCKERTON looks at some revolutionary bicycle websites

» whycycle.co.uk

If you're gearing up to buy a bike but don't quite know what type you want, make this website your first port of call. You'll find impartial and jargon-free advice on what's the right size for you as well as appropriate security and safety gear. For total novices there's even advice on how to ride.

» sustrans.org.uk

Cycling on car-free routes is heavenly compared to competing with the commuter traffic on East Lancashire's busy roads. This website showcases a network of thousands of miles of cycling routes without a motor vehicle in sight.

» atob.org.uk

If you're travelling long distances, a combination of cycling and train is ideal. Unfortunately not all train operators have space for bikes, while others ask you to let them know in advance. Go here to see if your bicycle is welcome for your journey. If not, it could be time to look at folding bikes — there's a good overview of the major brands on this website too.

» visitlancashire.com/site/country-escapes/cycling/

Of course, you don't have to travel far to enjoy cycling in stunning countryside. Some of the most scenic cycle routes in the country can be found in East Lancashire and on this site you can download maps for all sorts of journeys — trails through woodland, over hillsides and alongside water. This website also includes an easy-to-follow guide to repairing punctures.

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on our forum  
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forum.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk

## Shakespeare at historic hall

ONE of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, Much Ado About Nothing will be performed in the spectacular surroundings of Leighton Hall, near Carnforth, next Friday.

The seven-strong, all-male company, the Festival Players will take on over 20 roles in the sparkling comedy.

During the summer the theatre company will be giving 54 open air performances at locations all over England.

For tickets contact 01524 734474 or 01524 32878.

## McFly on tour



McFLY will be heading out in November on a major arena tour of the UK.

They will play Manchester Arena on Saturday, November 22 and tickets go on sale on Sunday at 11am.

They will be available from the arena box office on 0844 847 800 or the 24-hour credit card hotline 0871 2200 260 or via the website www.gigsandtours.com

## Orchestra gig

LAST week we featured an interview with Mik Kaminski who will be touring with The Orchestra in the autumn, calling in at Blackpool Opera House on Monday, October 6.

The Orchestra is made up of original members of the Electric Light Orchestra, Louis Clark and Kelly Groucutt and ELO Part II founding member Eric Troyer, Phil Bates and Gordon Townsend.

We have been asked to make it clear that the tour is by The Orchestra and not the Electric Light Orchestra.

For tickets for the Blackpool show call 0870 380 1111.

## Kings' triumph

FRESH from headline performances at Glastonbury and T in the Park, Kings of Leon have announced a major UK tour in December.

They will play Manchester Arena on Tuesday, December 16 and tickets, go on sale at 9am this morning.

For details contact the arena box office on 0844 847 800 or the 24-hour credit card hotline on 0871 2200 260 or via the website www.gigsandtours.com.

## Punks' date

BLACKBURN punk band Middle Finger Salute are playing Blackpool Rebellion punk festival on Sunday, August 10.

The band, will play at 1.30pm in the main arena, at Blackpool Winter Gardens.