

Good Morning,

You will, I'm sure, know that Joe Moscheo of Elvis' Imperials died in January, just a month after he should have been in the UK as Special Guest at a Concert that Strictly Elvis UK were arranging in his honour. We cancelled the plans when it became apparent that Joe's condition had deteriorated to the point that overseas travel would prove impossible. Joe wasn't just an Elvis 'contact' or someone I did business with, but a genuine friend and I miss him greatly. I wear his watch – the one he gave me outside Coventry Cathedral. He wanted to mark the occasion, joking that he wouldn't be offended if I preferred the one already on my wrist. I've worn his watch every day since. And always will. God Bless you Joe, we've lost a good 'un in you but I can imagine the welcome that was awaiting you in Heaven.



Did St Peter really say "Now let's get this party started"? And I'm pleased to announce that we are now having a Joe Moscheo Memorial Concert with the remaining Imperials, Terry, Darrell and Royce – as part of our Elvis Festival in September. Someone else upset by the loss of Joe was Priscilla who had shown concern about his failing health when we met for the 'Strictly' visit to see her in Aladdin at the Milton Keynes Theatre. Priscilla was very gracious, spending lots of time with the whole group (see photo below). A real Star. You'll see from the Diary Update that the Thames Elvis Disco Cruise mentioned in the last issue is already sold out. My apologies if you were waiting for more details but we have to rely on the Social Media (Facebook, Twitter etc) to alert the Elvis world to what we're doing – and we are always getting up to something. When we broke the news of the Cruise on Facebook it was like the whole world wanted to be on board and it sold out within days.

We appreciate that not everyone has the time or inclination for social media but we really don't want you to miss out so could I ask a big, big, favour? If you are on Email (or if not then perhaps a friend or family member is) then just email us your name to enquiries@strictlyelvis.net and from that we'll pick up your email address and in future, in addition to using Social Media, we'll send you details in an email. It was sad when Elvis at The O2 finally closed its doors, but didn't we close it out in style with the Birthday Bash followed by our Last Night Farewell? That's the (Strictly) way to do it. The success of the Exhibition impressed EPE and I'm sure that another Elvis Exhibition will be heading back this way before too long. Thanks to everyone who purchased the 'If I Can Dream' album and got the UK sales to exceed 1,000,000 copies. We haven't been able to say that about an Elvis album for a while but wasn't it well-deserved? To mark the occasion Strictly Elvis held a Celebratory Listening Party at Cineworld O2 with lots of bubbly, presentations to Sony Music and to the two Producers, and we listened to the album in loud state-of-the-art surround sound whilst lounging back in comfy seats. Perfect.

And finally what great news about a concert series based on the album. Details on the back cover and Strictly Elvis will be at each of the concerts – see you there.



T
Cheers for now

B


David J. Wade



AUGUST 2017

Advance details of our great choice of 3 superb itineraries are provided in a special leaflet in the centre of this Newsletter.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Latest News - Terry Blackwood, Darrell Toney and Royce Taylor of Elvis' Imperials will appear at the Elvis Travel Service's Elvis Festival at Great Yarmouth 10th-17th September.

Owing to the If I Can Dream Concert series clashing with the proposed Thanksgiving Charity Ball this will be postponed until 2017 and instead we will be re-introducing the popular Elvis Twixmas Break

Throughout the year the Strictly Elvis 'crew' attend events such as the Jukebox and Retro Fairs in Brighton and Chessington and we arrange theatre, gallery and restaurants visits. Done for our own amusement but everyone in the Strictly Elvis 'family' is welcome to join us. Details will be on Facebook and email (see front page editorial).

 and on Facebook at:
Elvis Travel Service/Strictly Elvis

 Find us on Twitter at:
@ElvisTravel

DIARY UPDATE

ELVIS SPRING BREAK TORQUAY

Friday 27th to Monday 30th May 2016 (Bank Holiday Weekend)
Another opportunity to enjoy the elegant resort of Torquay and the comfort and cuisine of our delightful hotel on our annual Elvis Spring Break. If you've never been then please seriously consider it as you won't be disappointed. Superb entertainment in lovely surroundings. More like a huge family gathering than anything else that we do. For a full colour brochure and Booking Form call us on 01473 621 564

ELVIS 39TH

ANNIVERSARY TOUR

Elvis 39th Anniversary Tour to Nashville and Memphis with an Extension tour option to Las Vegas, Palm Springs and Hollywood. Monday 8th to Thursday 18th August and Monday 8th to Thursday 25th August 2016. Combine the great music cities of Nashville and Memphis with a visit to Tupelo and all the action of Elvis Week on this great 11 day tour or extend your stay to 18 days with visits to Las Vegas, Palm Springs and Hollywood. A few places still available – phone 01473 621564 for details.

THAMES ELVIS DISCO CRUISE

Sunday 14th August 2016
A floating Elvis Party arranged by Strictly Elvis in association with Elvis in Essex. Sorry – this is now fully booked but watch for details of our 2017 Elvis Thames Disco Cruise; also see front page editorial.

BAD NAUHEIM & FRIEDBERG

Bad Nauheim and Friedberg
Thursday 18th to Monday 22nd
August 2016

Now a regular tour from the Elvis Travel Service - we're sure you'll want to join us as we venture over to Germany for their annual Elvis Anniversary Weekend. See Advertisement alongside.

ELVIS FESTIVAL

Vauxhall 5 Star Holiday Park, Great Yarmouth, Saturday 10th to Saturday 17th September 2016. Come and join us at the biggest Elvis gathering outside of Graceland! Top bands, great guests, lots of Elvis activities, Elvis Marketplace all with superb accommodation and fabulous facilities. The 2016 Festival is bound to be a sell-out so make sure you don't miss it. Brochure enclosed with this Newsletter

ELVIS TWIXMAS BREAK & TWIXMAS BALL

After a gap of 2 years we are, by popular demand, bringing back the Twixmas Break. It will help fill that boring period between Christmas and New Year and to make it extra special we're combining it with a festive Charity Ball. To be held at the 4 Star Mercure Grand Hotel in Leicester, the 2 night Twixmas Break commences on 28th December with an All-Elvis Video Disco on the first night and, on the night of our Ball, we'll have a top-class live band plus Elvis Disco. Hold the date. Prices (sharing a twin or double room) are £164 per person for the whole Twixmas Break (inc. Ball) or £42 just for the Charity Ball. Full details and a Booking Form will be in the next issue.



WUNDERBAR!

Come with us on an exciting tour to Bad Nauheim, where Elvis lived whilst stationed in the US Army at nearby Friedberg. Each year, on the closest weekend to the August Anniversary, the German Fan Club together with the local Tourist Office, put on a Festival of Elvis – celebrating his time there – and you are invited! The trip, inclusive of scheduled flights, 4 nights luxury hotel with breakfasts, coach transfers, a guided walking tour of the Elvis sights of Bad Nauheim, a coach tour to Friedberg and Steinfurth, taxes and Tour Manager costs £948 in a single room, £748 in a twin or double, and £648 in a triple room.

And the Festival itself? Well expect concerts, Elvis-themed bars and shops, fan get-togethers, movies, merchandise stands, American classic car and Harley parades and a truly great atmosphere.

For more details or to make a booking call us on
01473 621 564.



AN EVENING AT ELVIS'

BY JOSHUA CANNON.

Regular readers of the Newsletter will know that we're avid fans of the Memphis Flyer – a brilliant (and free!) weekly newspaper distributed throughout Memphis. When there for Elvis' Birthday Celebrations I picked up an issue and spotted this article about Elvis' former home on Audubon Drive. It was written by Joshua Cannon and he, and Music Editor Chris Shaw, have kindly given us permission to share it with you. DJW.

“We go in through the kitchen because that's how Elvis used to do it” John Bass, Director of the Mike Curb Institute for Music at Rhodes College says as he swings open a screen door and steps into 1034 Audubon Drive. “It feels like 1956 when you walk in. He went from being an interesting, regional musician to becoming Elvis while living here”. Walking through the house, which Presley bought with royalties earned from ‘Heartbreak Hotel’, is a step back through time to his final months of normality. 1956 was a big year for the 21-year-old musician. A number of his songs – ‘Hound Dog’, ‘Don't Be Cruel’, and ‘Love Me Tender’ – would top the charts. He'd also make his debut appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show. But for 13 months before the Presleys moved to Graceland, Elvis and his parents called Audubon Drive home.

Wood panelling lines most of the walls, save a few, which are covered in busy wallpapers – humming birds hover above plants, music notes circling guitars and drums. Framed photos of the Presleys can be seen at every turn. A baby-blue couch sits on top of bright red, shag carpet that flows into a wide open den Presley himself built onto the house. Acoustic tiles, the same used at Sun Studio, soundproof and cushion the room for warm sound. Bass knows the house well. In 2006 Mike and Linda Curb of Curb Records purchased and restored it, and the Curb Institute eventually repurposed the space for a student-led concert web series. Evening at Elvis' kicked off in November 2013 with Memphis locals Star and Macey.

“We realised students at Rhodes had a lot of interest in music-focused things, but Rhodes doesn't have a music business program. The idea became, ‘Well what if we did house concerts that were filmed? What if we put them online? We could share what we were doing’” The den seats around 75 people, and the event is invitation only. Bill Frisell, Rosanne Cash, and Bobby Rush have played in the room. “There was major apprehension (before the first show)” Bass says.



“But once the music started – and this still happens today – The room has this deep vibe in it. You're in this room and everybody is captivated by it. I hesitate to call it magic, but it feels so right every time.”

Bass' mission digs deeper. He wants to both bring back Memphis' musical reach and to expose his students to it and pass the torch.

“We're not interested in creating museums, but we want to create a fun experience seeing a young person talk to someone who has a connection to them that they've never had before.” This year Bass hopes to partner with other Memphis organizations to expand the institute's reach. Rhodes will collaborate with Stax Museum in March. “The project is cool but this is a positive for the community” Bass says. “Can we have students working on that question now. As the series grows, so does the responsibility.



ens – it’s such a deep and profound experience. tight little space, and once the music starts, a magical experience, but it almost is, and it just

g in musicians who connect meaningfully with ents to the artists still around to tell their stories

using history to inform the present,” Bass says. about Memphis and what it means. It’s a power- neone like Charles Lloyd and know they have a e.

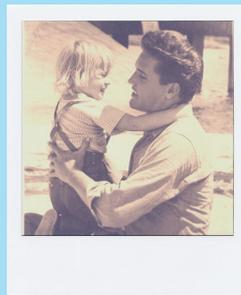
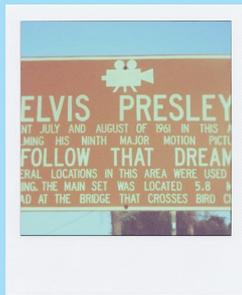
phis-based organisations to bolster the In- Records for a performance featuring Terry resource is important to us to do something effect positive social change with it? I’ve got

Bass teaches a class named ‘Music and Community in Memphis’ in which he splits 15 students into groups: audio and visual recording, public relations and marketing, research and writing, and education and community engagement. Students work closely with real-world professionals to hone their skills.

Ashley Dill, a 20-year-old student who works as the associate event manager for the series, says the class shares a vision that parallels what Elvis saw in Memphis as rock-and-roll was on the upswing. “Memphis was such a huge part of who he was,” Dill said “He saw something special in Memphis that I also see” Of the few musicians who have played at Audubon, Dill and Bass both said that Frisell made them see ‘how connected it all is.’ “Frisell’s songs just kind of flow from one to the next,” Bass says, “Textures just come out. We’re sitting there – an ethereal, moody wash of sound happening – and all of a sudden ‘That’s All Right, Mama’ comes through. The hair on the back of my neck stood up.

A photo of Elvis is in this glass case on the wall, and Frisell is playing the first hit he recorded at Sun. And we’re sitting in his living room.” Though decades have passed, Bass sees a connection between his students and a young, impassioned Presley during his unprecedented rise to stardom.”He was just a young guy trying to do cool stuff and buck the system,” Bass says. “we’re trying to use the house in the same way. If you just read about him, you might not have the same connection as you would standing there looking at a photo of him on the wall saying ‘Wow, when he was my age, he was right here trying to do cool things.’”

FOLLOW *that* *Dream* BY CAROL PUGH



This January saw us in Memphis celebrating Elvis' 81st Birthday. The group had many "first timers" who'd never before visited Graceland and one of the best parts of the job, is seeing fans fulfil a lifetime's dream and ambition. I'm never sure how people will react when they see Graceland for the first time; often speechless and in tears as each one relives what Elvis means to them in their own private way. What I am sure about however is the closeness, and the togetherness, that Elvis brings to the group.

We certainly filled the week up with activities, from a 8½ hour tour of Elvis' Memphis - the most comprehensive of its kind, a trip to Tupelo where the Tupelo Police Department turned out in force to escort us through the City (and to keep an eye on David of course), the Elvis Disco at the Auto museum where it's so surreal to jive alongside Elvis' pink Cadillac, the Memphis Symphony Orchestra Elvis Concert as well as nights at Marlowe's or down on Beale.

The day arrived to say our goodbyes and see the group safely on their way back to the UK but the Wade and I still had some work to do. As you know most of Elvis' films were shot in the studios in Hollywood but there were a handful where a substantial amount was shot on location, for instance King Creole and the Hawaiian movies. On this occasion we wanted to find what was left of the original locations in Central Florida for Follow That Dream. At 2am in the morning we pulled into the town of Crystal River and checked into the hotel that Elvis and the movie crew used when filming. Whilst it must have been very smart in 1961, time had taken its toll but the views that met us next morning explained why Elvis loved this place so much. The springs that fed into the rivers glistened clear, a bald eagle soared overhead and the manatees swam past upstream to take advantage of the warmer waters - idyllic.

However we didn't have much time to enjoy the views as we had meetings planned with local historians and the tourist office and very soon we were discovering that not much had changed in this area. Armed with photos, books and good old Google we identified each location. One of the most fascinating was the man-made beach that featured throughout the film which had now returned to its natural state - until you dug down a few inches to reveal the white sand that had been shipped in to create the movie beach (OK call us anoraks but we love it!). Many of the townspeople remember the carefree, happy and fun loving Elvis of 1961 and were allowed on location for the filming. In addition they were so proud of their Elvis connection that they named a highway Follow That Dream Parkway in memory of the summer of 1961. Our last day there included a visit to Weeki Wachee Springs specifically to see the 'Mermaid Show' as Elvis, his co star Anne Helm, Vernon and Dee did when they had a day free from filming. It was like being transported back in time and was so easy to imagine Elvis sitting in the front row - this really is vintage at its best!

We flew back from Miami but not before ending our visit calling in to the famous Fontaine-bleau Hotel to see the ballroom that hosted Welcome Home Elvis, the 1960 television special on ABC starring Frank Sinatra and featuring Elvis in his first televised appearance since coming home from his military service. So in essence what we have is a brand new tour called, of course, Follow That Dream and this will be available to take in 2017. So if you enjoy the originality, the authenticity and 'following the dream wherever that dream may lead' then this may be the tour for you.

**ADVANCE
DETAILS!**

ELVIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY TOURS

from The



AUGUST 2017 – A CHOICE OF 3 FABULOUS ELVIS HOLIDAYS

The Elvis Travel Service, part of Strictly Elvis UK, is delighted to announce details of the tours that we will be operating for fellow Elvis fans over the 40th Anniversary in August 2017.

We have set up three superb, top notch, itineraries for you to choose from – the first is our 'Loving You' tour – the ever-popular Tupelo and Memphis Holiday – with two nights in Tupelo followed by a full week in Memphis – perhaps the two places that Elvis loved the most and which had the greatest significance for him and his fans. Our knowledge of these cities, our contacts and vast experience of bringing fans here (every year since 1972!) has made us the experts and the only people to travel with if you want the full 'Elvis Experience'.

Our second option, 'Paradise, Hawaiian Style' combines Tupelo and Memphis with Hawaii and San Francisco. With a full 7 night stay in Hawaii you'll be able to see why Elvis loved to vacation and make movies here. He adored the place...and you will too. Our original intention was to split the stay between the islands of Oahu and Kauai and to stay at the legendary Coco Palms Hotel, much featured in Blue Hawaii. Unfortunately, as we print these details, the developers still haven't started the rebuilding of the property after the devastation reeked by Hurricane Iniki in 1992. Instead we will offer a Day Trip to Kauai as an optional tour and, if the hotel is open in time (still planned for Spring/Summer 2017) then we will offer this also as a 2-day excursion enabling you to overnight there. We return from Hawaii via the beautiful city of San Francisco.

Thirdly we have a brand new 'Follow That Dream' extension which, after the Tupelo and Memphis holiday, will fly you to Crystal River in Florida where Elvis shot that movie. There are lots of location sites to see and to relive this amusing film. The 'bonus' is the fabulous region of Florida where it took place - on the Gulf coast just an hour north of Tampa and with crystal clear (hence its name) rivers and springs, lots of sunshine and simply loads to see and do...or not, if you just want to laze by a pool. Onward then to the grandest of all seaside resorts – glamorous Miami Beach where the final few days of the holiday is spent in the ultra-luxurious Fontainebleau Hotel – where Elvis performed on the Frank Sinatra Show.

Because airlines cannot guarantee their prices (or even their schedules) more than 11 months out that is when we will be able to re-confirm the price of the holidays. The prices quoted in this brochure are based on 2016 fares plus a realistic percentage increase for 2017. All other costs (hotels etc) are accurate for 2017 and so we don't think we're far out. They could even be slightly cheaper than we've stated in this Advance Brochure. So there you have it – three awesome itineraries from the people who know Elvis (and Elvis fans) best and for us to hold you a place on any of them simply send us a £50 holding deposit which, if you change your mind after receiving the detailed brochure (due out in late September 2016 and containing the final 2017 prices) then even that will be refunded. What have you got to lose? Other, of course, than the chance of a really fabulous holiday.



Tour A: Tupelo & Memphis 'Loving You'

Day 1 Tuesday 8th August

Flight from Heathrow (plus Regional Airport options) to Memphis. Coach transfer to Tupelo.

Day 2 Wednesday 9th August

Morning guided tour of Elvis' Tupelo visiting all the sights important to his life there and which helped mould this boy into the man he became. The tour ends at the Birthplace complex with a visit to the humble home in which he was born, the Elvis Presley Museum, the Memorial Chapel, the original church that he attended and the new Visitor Center. Afternoon free. Evening Banquet and all-Elvis Disco.

Day 3. Thursday 10th August

Morning at leisure in Tupelo before the afternoon drive to Memphis. Evening free. The Elvis Travel Service Shuttle Bus service connecting your hotel with Graceland and Downtown will commence this evening and operate through until Thursday 17th August.

Day 4 Friday 11th August

Graceland Day. Morning tour of the Mansion and afternoon free to visit the many attractions (inc. the aircraft and car museum) included in your Platinum Plus Pass. Evening at leisure. During this weekend and part of the following week there will be evening events arranged by EPE, by the Elvis Travel Service and by local organisations for you to choose from.

Day 5 Saturday 12th August

Full day's tour of Elvis' Memphis. It's what we're famous for...a whole day visiting the places so significant to Elvis. We'll show you the places he lived, recorded, performed, shopped, ate, worshipped, and a whole lot more. Evening free.

Day 6 to Day 9 Sunday 13th to Wednesday 16th August

Four glorious days at leisure in Memphis, Tennessee. See the sights, take a Mississippi Riverboat cruise or an excursion to Nashville, shop until you drop at one of the State's best Malls, visit some truly great museums, taste mouth-watering meals, bop your way down Beale Street and enjoy all that this city and Elvis Presley Enterprises has to offer. On the evening of the 15th you can join in the Candlelight Vigil on the 40th Anniversary of Elvis' passing...a poignant occasion and a moment in time that you will never forget – or regret experiencing.

Day 10 Thursday 17th August

Late morning transfer to Memphis Airport for the overnight flight back to the UK

Day 11 Friday 18th August

Morning arrival into Heathrow or your originating airport.

Tour B: Tupelo, Memphis, Hawaii and San Francisco 'Paradise, Hawaiian Style'

Days 1 to 9 Tuesday 8th to Wednesday 16th August

As per TOUR A

Day 10 Thursday 17th August

Transfer to Memphis Airport to connect with your flight/s to Hawaii arriving into Honolulu, the State Capitol, on the Island of Oahu in the mid-evening. Drive to your Waikiki Beach hotel.

Day 11 Friday 18th August

Mid-morning start for a wonderful tour of the Elvis sights of Honolulu and the surrounding area. You'll see where Elvis stayed, filmed and performed all combined with some of the other major sights and the chance to 'get your bearings' in readiness for any independent exploration.

Day 12 to Day 16 Saturday 19th to Wednesday 23rd August

Five more glorious days in Honolulu – to soak up the sun, try your hand (or feet!) at surfing, shop for souvenirs and to enjoy the food, drink and friendliness for which the islands are renowned. There is also a choice of optional excursions to help you get the best from your visit here. These include visits to the Polynesian Cultural Center, the USS Arizona Memorial for which Elvis was a major benefactor and a Sunset Cruise. There will also be an optional day trip by air to the 'Garden Isle' of Kauai, probably the prettiest of all the Hawaiian Islands, where Blue Hawaii was filmed and our visit will include many of the film locations including the lagoon where the famous wedding scene was shot. Should the Coco Palms Hotel be re-opened in time then we will make this a 2 day tour enabling you to stay at this famous hotel.

Day 17 Thursday 24th August

Midday flight to San Francisco, arriving (because of the time change) in the late evening.

Day 18 Friday 25th August

Morning's guided sightseeing tour of San Francisco during which you'll see such major sights as the Golden Gate Bridge, Chinatown, the ever-bendy Lombard Street, Ghirardelli Square, Yerba Buena Gardens and Fisherman's Wharf plus lots more besides. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 19 Saturday 26th August

Full day free in the beautiful 'City by the Bay' – time for exploring, to ride the bell-clanging cable cars, take a boat trip out to the infamous prison island of Alcatraz or a scenic drive to see the giant redwood trees.

Day 20 Sunday 27th August

Much of the day is free before transferring to San Francisco Airport for the overnight flight back to the UK

Day 21 Monday 28th August (Bank Holiday)

Arrive into Heathrow or your originating airport.

TOUR C: Tupelo, Memphis, Crystal River and Miami Beach 'Follow That Dream'

Days 1 to 9 Tuesday 8th to Wednesday 16th August

As per TOUR A

Day 10 Thursday 17th August

Transfer to Memphis Airport to connect with your flight to Tampa, Florida followed by the drive north to the delightful community of Crystal River and your hotel

Day 11 Friday 18th August

Full days leisurely tour featuring the location sites for the filming of 'Follow That Dream' including, amongst others, the bridge and beach area where the homestead and fishing business was set up, the school in which the 'casino' footage was filmed, and the Courthouse where they had to fight to retain the twins. A fascinating day.

Days 12 and 13 Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th August

Two days for you to explore in quite stunning surroundings. Enjoy a game of golf or tennis on the hotel course or courts, take a boat trip to see the manatees, an optional excursion to Busch Gardens in Tampa (one of the world's best theme parks) or just relax in the comfort of our lovely hotel.

Day 14 Monday 21st August

During a break in filming Elvis visited what was then one of Florida's most famous attractions – the 'Mermaid Show' at Weeki Wachee Springs and so we will too, en route south to Miami Beach arriving at our beachside hotel there in the late afternoon.

Day 15 Tuesday 22nd August

Morning guided sightseeing tour of Miami Beach and Miami including the major sights of these two cities with those of significance to Elvis' visits there. Afternoon and evening at leisure

Day 16 Wednesday 23rd August

Full day at leisure – time to relax by the pool, take a dip in the warm ocean, hit the shops of Lincoln Road or enjoy an al fresco meal in the Art Deco area of South Beach. Optional Biscayne Bay cruise on which you'll see some stunningly beautiful celebrity homes.

Day 17 Thursday 24th August

Morning at leisure before transferring to Miami Airport for our overnight flight to the UK.

Day 18 Friday 25th August

Arrive into Heathrow or your originating airport.



A CHOICE OF 3

FABULOUS itineraries

| | Tour A | Tour B | Tour C |
|---|--------|--------|--------|
| Price per person in a single room | £2798 | £5098 | £4298 |
| Price per person sharing a twin/double | £2298 | £3998 | £3298 |
| Price per person sharing a triple room. | £2148 | £3798 | £2998 |
| Price per person sharing a quad room | £1998 | £3598 | £2878 |

Included in the Tour Price:

Tour A. The tour price is inclusive of your return flights from London (supplement for travel from Regional airports, if available), airport and security taxes/charges, accommodation inclusive of taxes and breakfasts for 2 nights in Tupelo at the Clarion Hotel and 7 nights in Memphis at the Hampton Inn-Southaven and Fairfield Inn-Southaven, transfers and coach travel as per the itinerary, guided sightseeing tours of Tupelo and Memphis, a Platinum Plus tour and Admission to Graceland and admission to Elvis' Birthplace, Sun Studio and the Presley's Lauderdale Courts apartment, A buffet dinner and Disco in Tupelo, lunch at the Arcade Restaurant in Memphis, Unlimited use of the Elvis Travel Service shuttle bus in Tupelo and Memphis, Driver gratuities and the services of experienced Tour Managers.

Tour B. As per Tour A but with the additional flights to Hawaii and back via San Francisco, additional coaching as per the itinerary, accommodation with taxes and breakfasts at the Waikiki Resort Hotel in Waikiki Beach, Honolulu and 3 nights at the Hotel Carlton in San Francisco. A tour of the Elvis sights of Honolulu and the Island of Oahu and a guided sightseeing tour of San Francisco. Please note that if the Coco Palms Hotel re-opens on the Island of Kauai then an optional 2 day excursion will be offered to you.

Tour C. As per Tour A but with the additional flight to Tampa returning from Miami, additional coaching as per itinerary, accommodation with taxes and breakfasts at the Plantation on Crystal River Hotel and 3 nights room only at the Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach, a 'Follow That Dream' Location tour of the Crystal River area and a guided sightseeing tour of Miami and Miami Beach.

Hotels.

Tupelo

Clarion Hotel: A long-time favourite with great management and staff. Comfortable, clean, modern and high quality. And great waffles for breakfast!

Memphis

Hampton Inn and Fairfield Inn in Southaven: Two superb hotels situated in the outer suburb of Southaven slightly closer to Graceland than Downtown Memphis. Virtually identical hotels and situated alongside each other, close to restaurants and shops. The Elvis Travel Service free Shuttle Bus connects the hotels with Graceland and Downtown Memphis.

Hampton Inn Downtown/Beale Street: Modern high grade hotel in the heart of the city and just a hundred yards from Beale Street. One of our favourites but being downtown it's more expensive so the following supplements apply. Single £498, Double/twin £248. Triple £178. Quad £128.

The Guest House at Graceland: Don't be fooled by the 'Guest House' tag. This is a top quality hotel situated virtually next door to Graceland. Owned by EPE and Elvis themed throughout this is not cheap but the best never is. The following supplements apply. Single £998, Double/twin £498. Triple £348. Quad £248.

Honolulu

Waikiki Resort Hotel: Situated just a block (less than a 5 minute stroll) from the soft sands of Waikiki Beach this towering 275 room hotel offers a choice of restaurants and bars, a pool and full service spa.

San Francisco

Hotel Carlton: Nestled in the very heart of this exciting city - modern rooms, great staff and a complimentary wine hour (with live music) each evening. Need we say more?

Crystal River

Plantation on Crystal River: You'll think you're staying in a historic plantation home except that the rooms are swish and modern and the view over the lawns and 'waterscape' of Crystal River is stunning. With golf and tennis on site, a fabulous pool, boat trips and a comfy bar you'll love this place.

Miami Beach

The Fontainebleau: One of the world's most famous hotels evoking a period of luxury and glamour. The rooms are superb, many with glorious views of the beach and Atlantic Ocean, a large choice of restaurants and bars and one of the biggest pools you'll ever see. You will not want to leave.

Flights.

Your flights will depart from London's Heathrow Airport on the scheduled service of a major airline. We will also be able to offer you the opportunity of travelling from Manchester and Glasgow or other regional airports at a supplementary charge. Further details of these will be provided in the final tour brochure.

How to Book.

To guarantee your place is held on any of these superb holidays simply complete the Advance Reservation Form and send it to us with a 'Advance Deposit' of just £50 per person. This would be fully refundable if, when the final brochure with confirmed prices is issued, you decide not to travel. You have nothing to lose. And should you be considering travelling with any other organisation then please do a careful comparison of what is on offer by way of both quality and content. We think you'll find that when all the so-called 'extras' such as breakfasts, taxi fares, admission charges, airport taxes etc are all added in, our tours will represent much better value, as well as having the advantage of being organised by the leaders in Elvis holidays.

ADVANCE RESERVATION FORM

Name.....
Address.....
.....
.....Postcode.....
Daytime phone number.....
Email address.....

Please hold me.....places on Tour (please state preferred Tour but you would be free to change this when the final brochure is sent to you). If you have already paid the initial holding deposit of just £10 you should now just send us the additional £40 per place.

I enclose my cheque for £..... or authorise you to charge my Debit/Credit Card for that amount.

Long Number.....
Expiry Date.....Security Code.....
Name on Card.....

Signature.....Date.....
Cheques should be made payable to Elvis Travel Service

Please complete and send to:

Elvis Travel Service
Unit D Bristol Court, Martlesham Heath
Business Park,
Ipswich, Suffolk, IP5 3RY, UK

Tel: 01473 621 564
Email: enquiries@strictlyelvis.net
Website: www.strictlyelvis.net



One of the things I enjoy about going to Memphis is the fascinating Elvis-people you meet, with Elvis stories that you don't normally hear.

I had known Tim Healy socially for several years. I knew he was good company and a domestic plumbing engineer from Minneapolis, Minnesota - but had no idea of his history as an Elvis photographer until recently, when he kindly gave us a couple of Elvis concert pictures he had taken. He then told us that he was responsible for an iconic rear view shot that we have probably all seen on a t shirt or some other media.

Tim had been an Elvis fan since he heard Such A Night at the age of 6, and first saw Elvis in Minneapolis in 1971, when he was just 13. He went on to see his idol another 3 times in 1974 and 1976 before the last concert he saw, in St Paul, Minnesota in April 1977.

It was important to him to record the shows through photographs, and to capture the shots that the 'professionals' weren't looking for, and so he used to watch each show through his camera's viewfinder, looking for the facial expression or moment that the media might miss.

Initially he used a basic Instamatic camera, but he soon bought a 35mm camera with a 500mm lens to capture better shots.

Unusually, Tim used to refuse seats on the front row, preferring to sit 4 rows back on the left for each show. This was because often the stage was too high for him to capture Elvis' face at the best angle from the very front.

His pictures have been used in a number of books including the Joseph A Tunzi Book 'In a Minnesota Minute', which features many of his previously unpublished shots from Elvis' 1976 Minneapolis concert. The Minneapolis show was also released on a Follow That Dream album A Minnesota Moment, with one of Tim's shots on the cover.

However, his most famous photograph was featured in the book accompanying the 2011 box set, Elvis '77: The Final Curtain, which documented Elvis' last tours in 1977. The picture is a back view of Elvis and is a popular shot with fans, having been used recently in Elvis artwork and on t-shirts. This was the very last shot that Tim took, as Elvis left the stage in St Paul in April 1977.

He is still an active collector and fan, and apart from his unique photographs of Elvis, his collection includes many items, including his favourites, a pair of Elvis-owned cufflinks which he obtained via Sam Thompson. Tim met David and Carol in Memphis in January 2016, where they admired his unique collection of live concert photographs, and he presented Strictly Elvis UK with a framed copy of the 'Final Curtain' shot, which now hangs proudly in David's office.



FOR THE GOOD TIMES

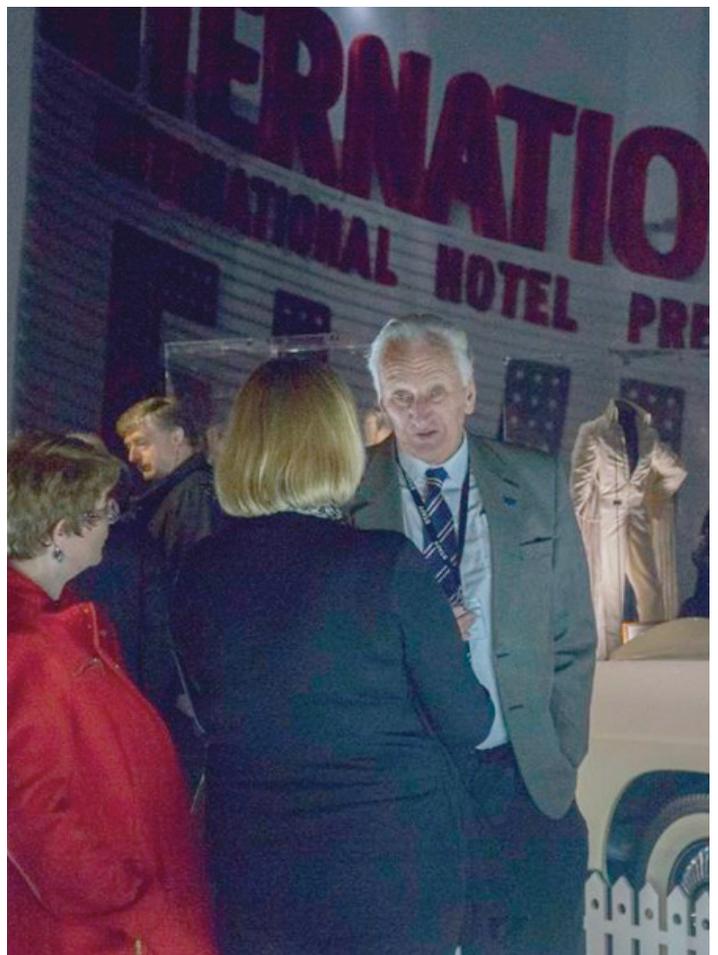
BY NEIL CAMERON

While one Strictly Elvis/Elvis Travel Service group were lucky enough to be celebrating Elvis' 81st Birthday in Memphis and Tupelo, another would be doing it in London. And as the Birthday celebrations coincided with the final weekend of the amazing 'Elvis at The O2' exhibition it was perfect to make it a weekend long celebration and in the proceeding weeks the Strictly Elvis HQ was a hive of activity planning a Birthday celebration fit for a King.

Friday January 8th saw the Strictly Elvis crew arrive at The O2 bright and early to get everything put in place for the day's busy schedule. Our first stop was the huge Cineworld Cinema, where we had hired a screen to put on a Premiere showing of the high-definition and re-mastered version of 'That's The Way It Is - Special Edition'.

It wasn't long before all 200 seats were filled and we kicked off the afternoon with a very special exclusive; each year the Elvis Birthday Proclamation Day Ceremony from Graceland's front lawn is beamed live around the world via the internet and so we had the ceremony shown on the big screen as a 'warm-up' before the movie started. It was just amazing that even though we were several thousand miles away we were still going to be part of Elvis' special day and it was definitely the next best thing to being there, surrounded by fellow fans as the Mayor of Memphis declared it 'Elvis Presley Day' (plus we had the added advantage of not enduring the winter temperatures in Memphis!). It was also a real blast to spot many of our tour group as the camera panned the crowds and to have EPE's Kevin Kern acknowledge our London event.

With the ceremony over it was time to sit back, relax and enjoy Elvis at his very best. You could've heard a pin drop as we sat watching Elvis put on some of his very best performances, and the atmosphere was electric. With a huge screen and a state of the art surround system, this was TTWII as you've never seen it before.



As the final number finished and the house lights came up, the sound of thunderous applause probably drowned out the loud special effects sounds of 'Star Wars' which was showing in the adjoining screen – even more so when we cheekily suggested we should go back to the start and watch it all over again!

We then had a brief interval to allow everyone to grab a bite to eat or a quick drink before we headed around to Elvis at The O2 for an exclusive evening visit.

As we filed in we had one more treat for everyone. Strictly Elvis had commissioned three huge Birthday cakes and along with a glass of bubbly we toasted Elvis before singing 'Happy Birthday'. After that everyone was free to tour the exhibit, taking in all the artefacts in a more relaxed way without all the crowds. It was a truly wonderful way to spend such a special day, celebrating Elvis' 81st in the company of our Elvis Family.

Due to the huge amount of people pre-booked to see the exhibit on Saturday (almost 3,000!) we were unable to put on any events, but we were on hand and it was lovely seeing and catching-up with lots of people throughout the day.

Sunday January 10th was a sad day as after 13 months, the 'Elvis at The O2' exhibit was finally closing its doors. During that time the exhibit has been a major part of all of our lives, a chance to get close to Elvis and a place to meet up with friends, it had smashed box-office records, was so popular it was given a four month extension and showed everyone just why Elvis is the best there is.

From the very start Strictly Elvis UK has worked as part of the team behind the exhibit, were given exclusivity on the launch announcement, had promoted it via our newsletter, on social media and also at travel trade events and in the press, had been there on the opening day and on hand at every exhibit change and so it was natural that we should be there to wish the exhibit a fond farewell too. And we were going to make sure that it went out with a very special night!

As well as being the very last group to tour the exhibit we had also arranged a very special exclusive for everyone. EPE had prepared a brand new edit of the '68 Comeback Special. Never seen before and, with no immediate plans to do anything with it, the film was shipped directly from Graceland and we were given special permission to show it as part of the night.

After a capacity of 200 hushed fans had sat enthralled by this exciting new version of an Elvis classic, the room erupted into applause. There was just time to say a few words of thanks before, finally, announcing that 'Elvis has left the building'.

It had been an awesome weekend of events to mark Elvis Birthday and to finally say goodbye to the exhibition. A big thank you to all of the Elvis family who joined us and the feedback was so great that it quickly spread to Memphis and EPE have asked Strictly Elvis UK to arrange something for fans here in the UK for all future Birthday celebrations....so watch this space for our plans for 2017.



Photo's Courtesy of Billy Green



The EPE associate company behind Elvis at the O2 has recently opened a new Exhibition featuring Boxing Champion Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay that was) and such was the role that Strictly Elvis played in the success of Elvis at The O2, they've enlisted our help with this new one. A feather in all our caps!

**I AM THE
GREATEST**
MUHAMMAD ALI
at The O2



These pages are available for all Elvis Fan Clubs to publicise their events free of charge. To be included in the next issue please forward contact details for the Fan Club together with details of any forthcoming events.

ENGLAND

London

Capital Elvis

John Talbot, 106 Hawbeck Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 9UY

Phone: 07763 388 717

Elvis Party Night at the Hoop and Toy. 34 Thurloe Place Kensington, SW7 2HQ, 2nd April, 7th May, 4th June, 2nd July

London Collectors Fairs

Sunday March 20th, Sunday June 26th,

Sunday October 16th 10am-3pm

The Portland Room, International Students Centre, 229 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5PN

Hertfordshire

Capital Elvis/Herts Branch

Tony Dobb, 15 Princes Close, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 1JS

Phone: 07715 968 259

Email: tony.graceland@talk21.com

Essex

Elvis in Essex Organisation

Mike Davis, 11 Branta Fields, Hoo, Rochester, Kent, ME3 9BF

Phone: 07969 576 812

Elvis Disco. Saturday 16th April, 18th June from 7. 30pm, at The Compasses, 141 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1RY.

Cambridgeshire

Elvis in Cambridge

Ian Gray, Kings College Cambridge, CB2 1ST

Email: elvisincambridge@hotmail.co.uk

Bedfordshire

Bill Hyde

Phone: 07943 395 655

Elvis Discos. St Josephs Parish Hall, 68 Gardenia Ave, Luton, LU2 2NS. Fridays 29th April & 27th May

Lancashire

John Meller, 239 Blackburn Road, Haslingden, Rossendale, BB4 5JG

Phone: 07912 442 301

Email: johnmeller@yahoo.com

(or Duncan Jeffrey on 07534 695 500)

Nottinghamshire

Elvis in Nottinghamshire

Andy Cox,

Phone: 07838 161784

Email: andy.epfan@gmail.com

Regular Elvis Disco's - contact Andy for latest information.

Northamptonshire

Elvis in Northants

Mark & Bernie Herbert, 1 Woodside Green, Kings Heath, Northampton, NN5 7HU

Phone: 01604 753 778 Elvis Party

9th July at the Ex-Servicemen's Club, 47 Sheep St., Northampton, NN1 2NE

Oxfordshire

Elvis Presley Fan Club - Oxford

Jenny de Fraine, 'Aloha', 11 Meadow View Road, Kennington, Oxford, OX1 4QU

Phone: 01865 735 264

Email: jennyelvisoxford@hotmail.co.uk

Meetings monthly in members homes and social events throughout the year.

Buckinghamshire

Elvis Now

Lynne Brooker, 4 Taverners Green Close, Wickford, Essex, SS12 9RQ

Phone: 01268 763 952

Email: elvisnow2004@hotmail.com

West Midlands

Elvis Hotshots

Phil Shakespeare 07999 410 666

All Elvis Party Nights with Elvis Big Screen Disco's 26th March, 23rd April, 21st May, 11th June Hotshots, 100 Cresswells Road, Oldbury, Sandwell, West Midlands, B68 8HH

Tyne & Wear

Jim Mann, 19 Tanfield Road, Wrekenton, Gateshead,

Tyne & Wear, NE9 7AX

Phone: 07526 094006

Email: mannjim26@yahoo.com

100% Elvis Disco 23rd April, 21st May, 11th June Springbank Club, Condercum Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE4 8XJ *Free admission

North Yorkshire

The King at the Coast

Neil & Cynthia Hardisty, 34 Main Street

East Ayton, Scarborough, N. Yorks, YO13 9HL

Yorkshire

Memphis King

June Clark (Club Secretary), 60 Northcote Drive, Leeds, LS11 6NH

IRELAND

Ireland *Elvis Social Club*

**John Kavanagh, 43 Bernard Curtis House,
Bluebell, Dublin 12, Ireland**

Holding regular "Elvis Social Nights" and major charity extravaganzas. www.elvissocialclub.net For regular updates, tune to: "Elvis Memories" radio show, Dublin City FM 103.2fm Sundays 6pm - 7pm. Tune in on-line www.dublincityfm.ie

NORTHERN IRELAND

Northern Ireland *OEPFC of Northern Ireland*

**Janet Baxter, 4 Inver Court, Hollywood Road,
Belfast, BT4 1RS**

Phone: 07867 967 007

Email: oeffcni.2010@ntlworld.com

Elvis Disco. First Friday of every month.

8pm - Midnight £5 admission at

Dockers Club, 57 Pilot Street BT1 3AH.

WALES

Wales *Elvis in Wales*

Carol Pugh

Phone: 07785 107 814

Email: tcb.carol@gmail.com

SCOTLAND

Glasgow *The Elvis Touch*

Jane Boyce (Club Leader)

23 Corpach Place, Easterhouse, Glasgow, G34 0DD

Phone: 07851 388440

Email: janeboyce123@hotmail.co.uk

Linda and Paul Downie (Secretary & DJ/PR)

95 Gottries Road, Harbourside, Irvine, KA12 8QH

Phone: 07947 659144 Email: elvistouch@aol.com

25th March, 29th April, 28th May, 25th June
at Bacchus, 80 Glassford Street,
Glasgow, G1 1UR.

£4 members, £5 non-members.

Falkirk *Elvis Central*

Lesley Iannarelli, 4 Cleekim Drive,

Edinburgh, EH15 3QP

Phone: 07905 798 016

Email: elviscentral@hotmail.co.uk

Elvis Party Night - 2nd Saturday each month at
Camelon Bowling Club, Main Street, Camelon.

Edinburgh *Edinburgh Elvis*

Paul Sayers, 9-4 West Pilton Avenue,

Edinburgh, EH4 4BX

Phone: 07926 896151

Email: absolute_music@hotmail.co.uk

Aberdeen *Elvis in Aberdeen*

**Richard Stables, 3 William Mackie Crescent,
Stonehaven, Aberdeen, AB39 2PR**

Phone: 01569 760095

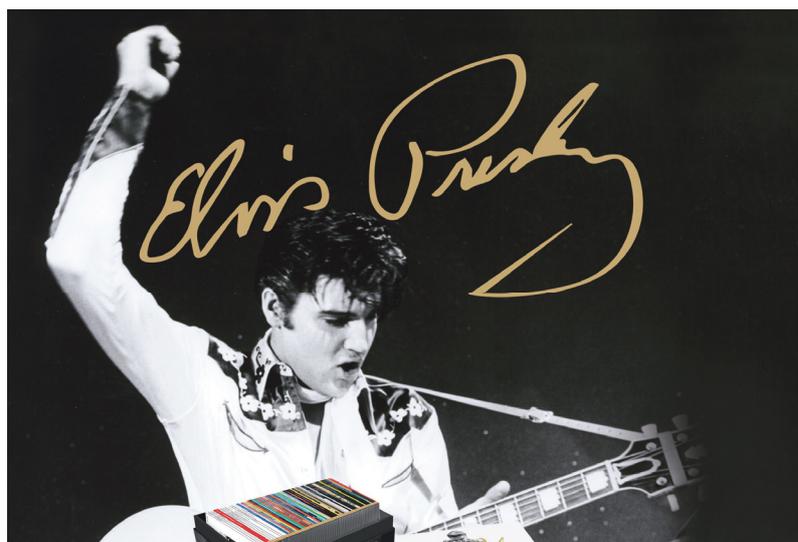
Email: aberdeen@elvis-a-presley.com

Strathclyde *Forever Elvis Fan Club*

Margaret Colhoun, 77 MacArthur Wynd,

Cambuslang, Glasgow, G72 7GB

Phone: 07757 047 058



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IF I CAN DREAM 2016

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NOV 23 LONDON THE O2
NOV 24 MANCHESTER ARENA

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