



Good Morning,

Those amongst you who saw the latest Elvis offering from Baz Luhrmann will not be surprised that I'm starting my piece with a mention of EPiC; for it was just that – an epic movie about an EPiC performer. I won't go on about it as I don't want to duplicate what I'm sure our Mister Cameron will say on pages 12 and 13 of this issue but can I just say two things. Firstly, that the movie showed beyond any doubt the talent and sheer professionalism of Elvis when it came to rehearsing with the band and backing singers as well as his stagecraft appearing in front of thousands. Secondly the movie brought back the same feeling of joy, camaraderie and sheer excitement that I felt when taking the groups to see Elvis appearing live and in concert in the 1970's. Awesome.

After our special Elvis Family premiere of the movie that we had in London, most of the audience, those who didn't have to rush away for a bus or train, moved en masse to The Wellington pub, just a short walk from the IMAX cinema, where even the most restrained amongst us couldn't stop talking about – and reliving – moments from the movie. That too was a sight to see. The biggest smiles. The laugh-out-loud moments. Our man was back...not that in our hearts he ever went away.

If EPiC has taught us anything then it is to accept nothing less than the REAL Elvis and not substitute authenticity with imitation. It's worth remembering that Elvis created his own style and didn't copy it from others. As always, our tours aim for detail and depth alongside historical accuracy, so if your goal is to understand the real Elvis and to find and enjoy that genuine connection, then the original must matter to you. It most certainly does to us.

Which brings me on to our packed programme of tours and events for the next couple of years – we hope there's something for everyone, from day events such as the Thames Cruise, the visit to Bad Nauheim for the European



Elvis Festival or our EPiC tour to Memphis, Tupelo and Las Vegas in August (staying at what was the Las Vegas Hilton and with a Backstage and Showroom tour and the chance to stand on the very stage that Elvis appeared on), our own Strictly Elvis Festival, now moved to 'Sunny Hunny' Hunstanton in September and a fabulous Bad Nauheim and German Christmas Markets tour in late November, And next Spring we'll have a super-value Memphis tour, there'll be another Thames Cruise before the 50th Anniversary tours to the USA and to Germany in August, another Strictly Elvis Festival in September plus, you can bet, at least a day event or two at some point too.

And finally a peek into 2028...remember the planned 'Elvis in New York' long weekend tour planned for 2021 that had to be delayed because of Covid? Well, we're bringing it back for the Spring of 2028 as a super-long weekend break; plus we'll have a rather special Elvis' Germany tour towards the end of 2028 too!

Professionally arranged and expertly led tours and events by fans, for fans.

Have a great Summer.

**T**  
Cheers for now  
**B**

**David J. Wade**

# DIARY UPDATE

Find us on...



**Strictly Elvis Travel and Events**



**@StrictlyElvis**

News spreads pretty quickly and whilst we'll always update you via our newsletters, if you're on Facebook head over to our page and give it a 'Like' by clicking the big blue thumb and being part of our friendly Elvis on-line family you'll get to see all of our latest news, photos, videos and even the odd free prize giveaway as soon as we post it.

## FOR FANS, BY FANS

### **Strictly Elvis UK/Elvis Travel Service**

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Strictly Elvis UK is the Newsletter of Strictly Elvis UK and the Elvis Travel Service - trading names of David Wade Ltd, an organisation that has led the way in Elvis holidays and events since being founded by lifelong Elvis fan David Wade in 1972. This professional organisation is registered with Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc and works closely with them to promote Graceland, The Guest House at Graceland, Graceland's Chapel in the Woods and Elvis' legacy. The names 'Elvis', 'Elvis Presley', 'Graceland' and 'The Guest House at Graceland' are registered to Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc with the USPTO.

# 2026

## **ELVIS THAMES PARTY CRUISE -**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July - 12noon - 4pm**

It's all hands on deck as the ever-popular Elvis Party Cruise is back once more, join us on board the paddle steamer Dixie Queen as we dance, sing and relax while sailing past some of London's most iconic sights but this year with a Hawaiian theme. You'll experience the ultimate Elvis homage as we raise the historic Tower Bridge as a fitting salute to the King of Rock 'n' Roll bringing the bustling London traffic to a halt. An unforgettable experience for any Elvis fan.

**Price £31.95 per person. Call 01473 621564.**

**Further details on back cover**

## **USA 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour (the EPiC Tour) Memphis and Tupelo**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>**

**August | Memphis - Tupelo - Las Vegas**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> to Monday**

**24<sup>th</sup> August**

Visit Graceland during Elvis Week and experience the legendary Candlelight Vigil, joining fans from around the world in paying their respects at the most poignant of occasions. You can enjoy top class events and feel the excitement of Elvis Week in full swing, making memories to last a lifetime. You'll also experience beautiful Tupelo with a full in-depth tour of the Mississippi town where Elvis was born.

Then we have an EPiC extension as we travel on to Bright Light City - Las Vegas. See the sights and locations as shown on the big screen in EPiC, follow in Elvis' footsteps to the stage where he gave some of the most outstanding performances of his career and meet some of the people that knew Elvis, whilst enjoying the larger than life hotels, resorts and natural wonders that go towards making this tour truly EPiC.

**Brochure included with this Newsletter**

## **BAD NAUHEIM & EUROPEAN ELVIS**

**FESTIVAL Wednesday August 12<sup>th</sup> -**

**Monday August 17<sup>th</sup>**

Join us for a fabulous 6-day break to Germany at the time of the European Elvis Festival in the beautiful spa town where Elvis lived while stationed in Germany. During the Festival Bad Nauheim comes alive with the sounds of Elvis and the residents, shop, bar and café owners all enter into the spirit of the occasion. Live bands, car parades, dance parties, Star Guests and a

comprehensive tour of the Elvis sights in this friendly town make this tour an Elvis Family favourite. We'll even take you to nearby Friedberg where Elvis' Army Barracks are still standing. Just a few places remain on this tour.

**Brochure included with this Newsletter**

## **UK STRICTLY ELVIS FESTIVAL Searles 5\* Resort Hunstanton**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September - Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

Now in our 46<sup>th</sup> year! The Strictly Elvis Festival goes from strength to strength and this year we have a fabulous new location, Searles' 5\* leisure resort. Perfectly situated next to the beach at Hunstanton, known by the locals as 'Sunny Hunny'. This weeklong event features first class bands and artists. Our Star Guest direct from the USA is 'son of Sun' Jerry Phillips of the legendary Sun Records dynasty. If you've ever wanted to learn to jive or stroll this is your opportunity with our daily dance instruction, or perhaps join the Elvis choir, nothing too serious but lots of fun. Take time to browse our full size Elvis marketplace, join in prize competitions and enjoy a team of top rated DJ's who fill the dancefloor night after night. With excursions to some of East Anglia's top attractions to take or a resort full of activities to enjoy, it's a jam-packed week with fun, laughter and a whole lot of Elvis. Not forgetting an opportunity to win a holiday of a lifetime to Graceland in our Strictly Elvis Bingo. 100% Elvis with no imitations!

**Further information on pages 14 & 15**

## **BAD NAUHEIM & GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKETS**

**Thursday November 26<sup>th</sup> - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

Like to stay in the same hotel that Elvis lived in during his tour of duty with the US Army in Germany? On this tour you can, in fact you'll see dozens of Elvis sights, including where Elvis lived, shopped and socialised - plus location sights from G.I Blues. We'll take time to explore the picturesque towns of Bad Nauheim and Friedberg as well as visit and shop in some of Germany's magical Christmas Markets, including Rudesheim and Frankfurt, come with us and experience this wonderful festive break.

**Brochure included with this Newsletter**

# 2027

## **ELVIS USA SUPER VALUE SPRING BREAK Memphis and optional Tupelo visit Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March to Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Want to join us in this 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year but can't make it in August. No worries. Join us in March instead and celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Elvis purchasing his beloved Graceland. A special day there plus our full day tour of the Elvis sights of Memphis and the opportunity to visit Elvis' Birthplace in fabulously friendly Tupelo. You'll love this super-value all-Elvis tour.

You will have an experienced tour manager with you for the duration of your holiday and the added advantage of our shuttle service available to you, so no additional travel costs - safe in the knowledge that you won't miss a thing. What are you waiting for?

## **USA 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY TOURS AUGUST**

The BIG one. On this significant occasion fans will gather from all corners of the world in Memphis to celebrate the life of Elvis and to pay their respects. The demand for places for this very special tour has been great and whilst some of the options are now fully booked there are still places available on certain tours.

**Further Information  
on Pages 8 & 9**



# 2028

## **NEW YORK NEW YORK! Spring USA Break 2028**

What an amazing combination, a short break to New York to see the many Elvis sights alongside some of the most iconic locations in the world. You'll see where Elvis performed, recorded, stayed, left for his Army service in Germany and where he became a TV star spreading his popularity across the globe and so much more.... while Memphis tells you who Elvis was, New York City shows you how the world experienced him. We'll be staying at the same hotel as Elvis used (of course) The Warwick Hotel which is set in the middle of mid-town Manhattan and retains that classic elegant feel from the America's golden age.

# A Family's Emotional Experience Watching EPiC: Elvis Presley in Concert

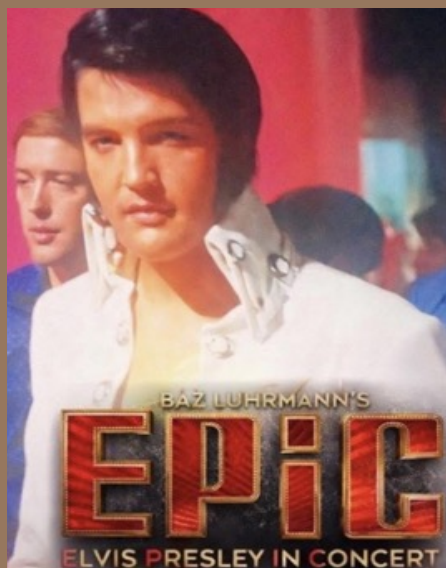
When my family and I sat down to watch EPiC we knew it would be special. What we didn't expect was just how emotional the experience would become. For most Elvis fans, the film is an electrifying return to the magic of Elvis Presley on stage. For me and for our triplets – Brandon, Dylan, and Madison, it was something even more personal. Throughout the film we were also seeing their father and my late husband, Richard Davis, who worked closely with Elvis as his movie stand-in, wardrobe manager and an original member of the Memphis Mafia.

The triplets were only two years old when their father passed away, so they have very few memories of him. Watching the film together was incredibly moving. Seeing Richard appear throughout the movie on a giant screen, larger than life, felt almost like he had come back to life for a moment. It's not something many people ever experience - being able to sit in a theatre and say, "That's my dad on the screen," or in my case, "That's my late husband."

Madison and I first saw the film at the premiere held at The Guest House at Graceland. Later, our whole family had the chance to see it together in IMAX. Seeing Elvis restored so vividly on such a massive screen makes you feel as if you are sitting in the International Hotel showroom in Las Vegas during one of his legendary performances.

Apart from seeing Richard in the film, one of the other things that stood out most was how the film blends rehearsal moments with live performances. It allows viewers to see not only how electrifying Elvis was on stage, but also the relaxed, playful side of him behind the scenes.

Another unforgettable moment comes during rehearsal when Elvis sings gospel with J.D. Sumner and the Stamps Quartet. As they



perform 'Nearer My God to Thee' Elvis reaches a soaring note that is almost operatic. Moments like that remind you of just how powerful his voice truly was.

The film also captures Elvis' humour. In one scene he even breaks into a bit of tap dancing for Sammy Davis Jr., something I had never seen before.

For our family though, the most meaningful moments were seeing Richard appear doing what he did every day, helping take care of Elvis behind the scenes. At one point Elvis unexpectedly jumps off the stage and walks into the audience, and you can clearly see the concern from Richard and the men responsible for keeping him safe.

It was also wonderful for me to see so many long-time friends in the film – George Klein, Charlie Hodge, Jerry Schilling, Joe Esposito, Red and Sonny West, Myrna Smith, Estelle Brown, and J.D. Sumner – people who were a part of our lives and shared those special years with Elvis.

As the film draws to a close, Elvis steps off stage after another electrifying performance. Richard places a towel around his neck, something he



did countless times during Elvis' career. Elvis then walks toward the elevator with Sonny West beside him, smiling but clearly exhausted.

For ninety-seven minutes it almost feels as though Elvis is alive again. But when the elevator doors begin to close, the moment becomes deeply emotional. For many fans it was moving, but for our family it was something even more powerful. Richard was standing in that elevator too, and we did not expect the film to end that way. As those doors closed, our hearts simply sank.

Watching unseen footage together made the experience even more special and realising the man standing next to Elvis was their father was something the triplets will never forget.

EPiC: Elvis Presley in Concert is a remarkable film that reminds audiences why Elvis Presley remains the greatest performer who ever lived. For our family, it was also a deeply personal experience, a chance to see someone we loved so very much and sharing those moments once again.

Kim Davis



Follow Our Story:

If you enjoyed reading about our family's experience watching EPiC, we invite you to follow along as we continue sharing memories of Richard and Elvis.

You can find more stories, photos, and videos about Richard Davis and his years with Elvis on YouTube and on our Facebook page.

YouTube: [youtube.com/@tcbmafiawife](https://www.youtube.com/@tcbmafiawife)

Facebook: [facebook.com/richarddavitcb](https://www.facebook.com/richarddavitcb)

# Elvis “The image is one thing and the human being is another” *By Carol Wade*

Said Elvis, in this case, those images in question are Elvis murals or ‘street art’ and are appearing frequently in many countries. How refreshing to see Elvis’ features now gracing once grey walls and non-descript buildings around the globe.

They appear in varying degrees of likeness, some certainly matching Banksy’s standard and some perhaps less so!

So where can we find these works of art? Let’s start with Memphis where you would assume there is an array of Elvis artwork, sadly not so, however earlier this year they went some way to make up for that by the addition of a 120 feet long and 20 feet high mural depicting Elvis and various landmarks of Elvis on their Welcome Centre.



Next Tupelo, well these guys are well ahead of the game exhibiting no less than five Elvis murals, including Betty Harper’s magnificent mural situated at The Birthplace.



Staying with the US, one of my favourite murals is in Inverness Florida, where many of the scenes for Follow That Dream were shot. Standing loud and proud this colourful work of art stands right next to the town’s ice cream parlour.



In New York City we have a piece of Elvis art painted in 2018 by Brazilian artist, Eduardo Kobra. His message is clear with the symbol for peace and the anti-war slogan on Elvis’ helmet.

Next we find a stunning tribute to 1950s Elvis clutching the vintage microphone, depicted in bright, vibrant colours. It has been painted on a disused brewery in the heart of Belgrade which is the largest city in Serbia.

Further afield in Perth Australia we see a magnificent mural painted by street artist Paul Deej in 2017 with the image taken directly from a well-known Elvis photograph.



Back in Europe Bad Nauheim Germany, we have a slightly different portrait, this time by British artist Gnasher it adorns the arch of the historic Castle Gate. Created in 2018, this artwork commemorates Elvis' time in the town and is located near the site of his famous "A Big Hunk O' Love" single cover photo. Many of these murals have formed backdrops to our tour group photos and many more we have yet to see, however, apart from the obvious decorative quality of such paintings they are a reminder that Elvis is surely still one of the most recognised individuals in history.

# 2027 - THE ELVIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

USA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour August 2027  
- THE ULTIMATE PILGRIMAGE

We know that many can't imagine marking this historic milestone anywhere but Memphis - there is after all no more meaningful place to commemorate Elvis' legacy. Standing shoulder to shoulder with fans who have travelled there from all over the world speaking different languages, from different generations and cultures but all united by one man, Elvis.



At the centre of activity will be Graceland and Elvis Presley Enterprises who are well into the planning to make this an unforgettable experience working on new exhibits, concerts and special guests. The week of course will culminate in the Candlelight Vigil and an opportunity to pay the ultimate homage to Elvis, with the 50th year in particular being especially poignant and

memorable. The Elvis Travel Service/Strictly Elvis will be there playing its part in ensuring that you make the most of every moment, and of course enjoy a few unique surprises and experiences that we've become renowned for along the way.

On this special 50th Anniversary, there isn't anywhere else we would rather be than Memphis and Tupelo, therefore the demand for places has been and will continue to be great. At the time of printing this Newsletter some of the tour options are already fully booked but we still have places on others so should you want to make this pilgrimage please don't delay -

**Call us soon on 01473 621 564**



# GERMANY AUGUST 2027 - THE ANNUAL EUROPEAN ELVIS FESTIVAL

If you can't be in Memphis then the Elvis Travel Service has a tour that will be the perfect alternative with a super long weekend break to Bad Nauheim. Spend this special date somewhere steeped in Elvis history, surrounded by fellow fans and where you can truly feel the spirit of Elvis.

Our tours to explore Elvis' history in Germany have rapidly become firm Elvis Family favourites. See the places that Elvis visited – where he lived, shopped,



socialised and served during his Army tenure. So much of the town is unchanged allowing you to see the very locations that are familiar from famous Elvis photos.

This isn't just a visit to Bad Nauheim – this is a walk through Elvis history in his very footsteps.

With a growing programme of Elvis events the annual European Elvis Festival every August is fast becoming a bigger spectacular every year. It's full of concerts, star guests, film shows, dance parties and classic car parades - you'll find it all, and more, at the ultimate celebration of Elvis' life and legacy.

The pretty town of Bad Nauheim, with its quaint streets full of shops, bars, cafes and restaurants (which join in with the Elvis Festival fun) is easily accessible with everything within easy walking distance. See the famous archway from the Big Hunk O'Love single sleeve, the house on Goethestrasse, the stunning Elvis in Bronze statue (fabulous in photos – even better in person) and so much more of Elvis' history with the ultimate in-depth tour from the Elvis Travel Service.

If you can't be in Memphis – join us in Bad Nauheim for the 50th Anniversary.

**We're currently taking refundable £50 advance deposits for Bad Nauheim 2027. To register your place(s) call us on 01473 621564**



# The James Burton Foundation

by Vilma Kinney

My name is Vilma Kinney and many of you may know me from my card stall at the Elvis Festival where I sell my greetings cards to raise money for the James Burton Foundation. So, how did this all come about?

In 2005, James Burton wanted to give something back for being blessed with his amazing guitar playing talent and set up what we now know as the James Burton Foundation, its aims are to support music education for those in need. James does this through guitar donations. So far the foundation has donated thousands of guitars to schools, hospitals, and community organisations. Alongside Music Education Support providing guitar instruction to students and therapeutic support where guitars are provided to veterans for rehabilitation and to children's hospitals for music therapy, helping patients improve motor skills and emotional well-being. Not forgetting the use of recording facilities the Foundation supports a studio to provide music and technical education opportunities, opening doors to the world of music.

My husband Terry and I were lucky enough to meet James in 2003 and we hit it off straight away and kept in touch. When the foundation began Terry and I started to think of ways we could raise money to support this great charity. It took me a while to find something that I could do or make without breaking the bank and then inspiration hit when I saw a programme on the shopping channel and a demonstration of card making and I thought "I can do that" so I started making a few cards but I didn't actually have an outlet to sell them apart from taking them to a folk club each week but sales were slow. Soon after I began selling James' photos and merchandise for him when he came over to perform in the UK and the Elvis card selling began to slowly take off.

Then came a piece of luck, when the Elvis Exhibition was at the O2, we happened to meet David Wade who at the time was responsible for group marketing for the Exhibition, I mentioned my cards and he asked me to bring them to the Strictly Elvis Festival later that year so we went along with my one little box of cards and people really liked them and we sold out!



This started a yearly tradition, however now the one small box has turned into dozens of boxes covering all genres of cards including Elvis Birthday, Elvis Christmas, Elvis Easter, rock 'n' roll and general music themes. We now take around 3,000 cards with us and expanding the range of items as when we visited James in November 2025 (to reassure ourselves that he was doing well after some health scares) we also took the opportunity to stock up with some of James' merchandise such as t-shirts, hats and signed photos - all of which will be on sale at this year's Strictly Elvis Festival.

They are also sold Online via our Facebook page under Hand Made Greetings Cards - [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064786058348](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064786058348)

Alternatively If you would like to make a donation direct to the Foundation, this can be done through the Foundation's web site <https://www.jamesburtonfoundation.org/>



I donate all of the materials and my time to making the cards and the price of the cards has never changed from day one, they are still £1.50 each. Every penny raised is given to the James Burton Foundation and so far we have raised over \$15,500. Never would I have thought that my silly little hobby could raise so much money but I am so pleased that we are able to do this for such a worthwhile cause and our dear friend James Burton.

# A message from Rev. Derek.

Hello everyone,

I suppose by now you have opened all the presents you received at Christmas (perhaps even exchanging some!). One gift I received was a 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle – it was one of Elvis posters advertising various films he made in the 1950s and 1960s. It was quite tricky to do (and often frustrating!), but at last I completed it!!

When fitting each piece together I realised how dependent each one was on the other. In a way, every piece contributed to the other, each one both giving and receiving until the picture was complete. In fact, I realised that I was really piecing together a part of Elvis' life that saw him making over 30 films.

It was in March 1975 that Elvis recorded the song 'Pieces of my Life' (it's on the 'Today' album) and it's a song in which he looks back over his life seeing both bad and good times. His unique interpretation is perhaps one of the sincerest and emotional performances he ever recorded.

My thoughts, as I pieced together this jigsaw, made me wonder if what I was doing here with Elvis could also be true of any person's life. How is the jigsaw of our own life being developed and what kind of pieces would be part of the complete picture? Surely, we have both given and received as we touched so many people.

Elvis, of course, is a part of the jigsaw of our own life and by sharing with us his music and generosity he enriched us in such a special way and in return, we are entrusted to keep his legacy alive for ourselves and others.

Life can be likened to a jigsaw puzzle with its picture gradually being added to and enlarged by pieces of different sizes and shapes, each one finding a proper place.

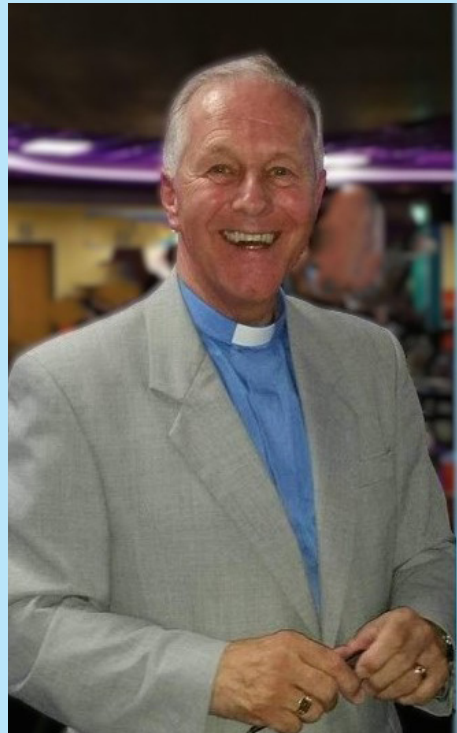
As we look over the jigsaw of our lives, we need to be aware of all those lives we have had contact with and trust that our contribution to their lives has helped to build up a picture that is both worthwhile and valuable.

I began this piece by mentioning Christmas presents and I end it in a way which shows how easy it is to get it wrong. You see, I learned that my son was not too thrilled with his present from me and was told that when I asked him if he preferred large checks or small checks he didn't realise that I was talking about jumpers!!

How puzzling is that?!

With every blessing,

Rev Derek



# EPiC is the word, is the word, is the word...

by Neil Cameron

At the close of each year the Oxford English Dictionary announces its 'Word of the Year'. For the Elvis Family however there is only one word for 2026 – Epic...or rather EPiC!

Ever since Elvis Presley in Concert was announced by its director Baz Luhrmann, the Elvis world went into overdrive. You'll know the story behind it – the discovered reels of forgotten film and audio, the meticulous work restoring and enhancing Elvis' live performance footage. EPiC has created an unprecedented buzz in the Elvis world.

After its acclaimed showings at the Toronto Film Festival last September the Elvis Family waited with baited breath for the news of when the world would get to see this new addition to Elvis' cinematic legacy. As the days went by there were more EPiC showings announced – the Zurich Film Festival in late September, Memphis for Elvis' Birthday, But the big question remained – when would the world, and more importantly the UK, be seeing EPiC on cinema screens?

There were rumblings, Heavy, heavy rumblings like a freight train snaking its way through the American South. Rumours and unconfirmed social media posts spread like wildfire – but no firm release date.

We were tantalisingly, and mischievously, teased by Mr Luhrmann. Clips and a brand new trailer just heightened the anticipation. The Elvis Family played, rewound and paused these glimpses of the final film countless times. With amazing colour and clarity these alone were enough to blast us through the stratosphere with excitement, let alone the full film - but still no release date!

Then it happened; on January 8th (it had to be didn't it?) the news that EPiC would be out at UK IMAX Cinemas on February 20th. The sheer force of this announcement hit us like an earthquake.

With the date in the bag, Strictly Elvis could

finally reveal its plans. As soon as the film had its Toronto premiere we knew that we had to do something befitting Elvis' name when it came to our shores; something big, something majestic, something.... well, er, epic.

There was only one venue that could do justice to this cinematic masterpiece. The BFI IMAX. Not only the flagship cinema of the prestigious British Film Institute, but also the largest cinema screen in the whole of the UK. If you're going to show Elvis, it has to be on the country's biggest screen. Oh yes, this was a cinema fit for a King...or more importantly The King! We'd been plotting and planning with the BFI IMAX since late 2025. But they were also in the dark as to when the film would get a release date, eagerly awaiting news from the film's distributors, Universal.

With our special Elvis Family screening announced for release day our ticket line went live. In our 54 years of operating we've never seen anything like it. A non-stop stream of calls, the phone literally didn't stop ringing, but by the end of a hefty 12 hours of booking we were proud that we were able to secure seats for every member of the Elvis Family who had called.

But then there was the wait. An agonising slow tick of the days as we counted down to February 20th. Forget Birthdays and Anniversaries – this was the only date on the calendar. The release of new tracks and images from EPiC kept our heart rates up.

And then came the day itself.....

Strictly Elvis have held a lot of events over the years, but the excitement and the anticipation of that day was something else. There was an energy resonating throughout the cinemas' foyer from 450 of the Elvis Family (some having flown in from the Continent to be with us). It was a buzz of positivity, of love for Elvis and, perhaps above all else, of unity.

Making our way into the mega auditorium,

special hand flags were distributed that we waved with gusto, and at last the lights dimmed and we were away. A roller coaster journey at a million miles an hour. Emotion after emotion. None of us wanting to blink in case we missed something. This was everything we had expected – and more. We're not sure there are enough words to do justice to how awesome it was, and as you too would have watched it - you know.

As EPiC finished and the lights came on, none of us wanted to leave (take us back to the good old days of continuous showings) but we had arranged a post-show pub meet-up. Aptly named The Wellington, the horde of the Elvis Family descending through the 'boozers' doors were akin to the Battle of Waterloo! The buzz carried over from the cinema and as we all mingled and the drinks flowed we discussed, appraised and celebrated what we had just seen. More positive vibes, more love for Elvis and more togetherness. It was the perfect end to a perfect day.

So what next? Well certainly the box office receipts (at the time of writing \$23million globally) and critical acclaim have proven that Elvis on the big screen is a winner, and with Baz stating that he does have more footage to play with could we see another big screen Elvis outing - another documentary, a complete concert? Well now we have to wait all over

again, but rest assured that if we do see Elvis back at UK cinemas then Strictly Elvis will be hosting another event in celebration. Watch this space!

As a footnote to our special showing, a few days after the event we posted a short video on our Instagram page of the Elvis Family furiously waving their EPiC hand flags. And who should like it? One Mr Baz Luhrmann, accompanied by the comment 'You guys are the best I wish I could have been there!!'



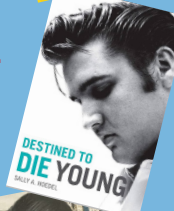
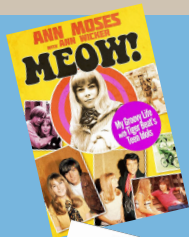
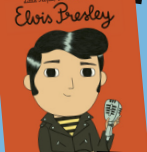
We were blown away that he had personally given the Elvis Family such praise. Well, we think Baz is the best too, with his unflinching commitment to Elvis' legacy, and we wish he had been there with us. However, with a sold-out screen it would've been a case of "Sorry, but do you mind standing for the film Mr Luhrmann?"

## READ ALL ABOUT IT....

Strictly Elvis are proud to supply our Elvis Family with a great selection of Elvis books though our Elvis Book-Mart

We have **signed editions** and many which are **exclusive to us**. All our prices include postage and if you buy more than one book you'll receive **£1 off each subsequent book** you order

Click through to  
[www.strictlyelvis.net/elvis-book-mart/](http://www.strictlyelvis.net/elvis-book-mart/)  
 to peruse our selection and for some fantastic special offers





# Welcome to our new home for the Strictly Elvis Festival 2026

Yes, it's the same Festival which is now in its 46th year but we have a brand new fabulous location right next to the beach just for you.

Welcome to Hunstanton, universally known as 'Sunny Hunny' and to Searles our new 5\* star holiday resort where the staff are super friendly, the accommodation, grounds and events areas are meticulously clean and where the activities on offer are exceptional. Its location on the north Norfolk coast should make getting there so much easier for most people and we even include a free shuttle bus from and back to Kings Lynn train station.

We can already feel the excitement and anticipation growing for this year's Festival that will still have all of the Elvis entertainment, top class bands, all Elvis discos and a jam packed programme that you know and love. To celebrate our new home, we've invited a legendary guest direct from Memphis, Tennessee - Jerry Phillips son of Sun Legend Sam Phillips. Jerry was there at the beginning of Elvis' career and witnessed the young man become a global superstar. What tales will he have to tell?

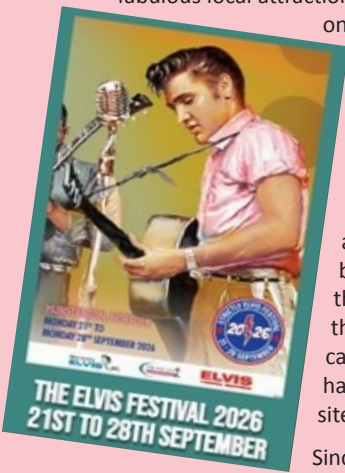
That's not all though, we are introducing an exciting excursion programme to some of the fabulous local attractions, why not keep the rockin' and rollin' going by joining the Seal Safari on the 'Wash Monster' or visit the Sandringham Estate and tour a home fit for a King?

Our outside party space is even better, stunning grounds, a heated pool and a fantastic outdoor cinema which we know will be just EPIC. There are multiple dining and take-away options available and a large on-site supermarket, but we should also mention that across the road from the entrance to our resort there is a convenient Tesco for all your self-catering supplies. We know that many fans have already taken a visit to explore the new site and love it! You will too.

Since we announced our new location the Festival accommodation has been selling fast.

Whilst we have just a handful of the smaller caravans left we do have some larger, even more luxurious units available so you may want to consider booking a large lodge. These really are a home-from-home option with hotel style comfort and facilities. Bedrooms and bathrooms at each end and a generous lounge and dining area. The outside space comes complete with an expansive decking area, made to enjoy your morning coffee or evening glass of wine, not forgetting there is an optional extra of a hot-tub too! They are made for sharing but spacious enough to have all the privacy you will ever need.

The majority of these lodges are 5 and 6 berth, perfect for two couples or a group of friends to share, with a little added space left for all of your additional luggage! We don't need to tell you



that sharing can make an event even more special, it becomes a real celebration of laughter, late-night chats, and shared Elvis moments. It's something we see on our Elvis tours all of the time. You'll find you'll save on costs and have more fun — a win-win!



If you think these lodges are just right for you but need others to share with, then that's where our now famous Accommodation Share Service comes in. Just give us a call on 01473 621 564 with your details and we can do the rest. The cost will depend on how many are sharing but there are some great deals to be done with up to £100 saving per couple! We can even sort out your paperwork with our colleagues at Searles leaving you to just look forward to a jam-packed, feel-good, sing-your-heart-out week you'll never forget.

And if you have already booked a smaller caravan but fancy treating yourself to a lodge and have friends who also want to come along to share, then we can help you upgrade, once again give us a call on 01473 621 564 and let us work that out for you

How can we forget that for many, your holiday wouldn't be the same without bringing your pooch along too, after all they are one of the family! If that's the case, we have a number of dog-friendly units available, they are for 2-4 people but these can be booked whether you have a dog or not!

We still have our low price £50.00 per person deposit, but please don't leave it too late as we now have limited capacity — once it's gone, it's gone

Be in at the start of a new Elvis adventure with 100% Elvis - no limitations and no imitations – just Strictly Elvis!

**TO CHECK AVAILABILITY AND TO BOOK CALL SEARLES ON 01485 534211**



# LET'S HAVE A PARTY



## JOIN THE ELVIS FAMILY ON OUR ELVIS PARTY CRUISE.

This year is Hawaiian themed so dress up, get on board and rock-a-hula down the Thames for a fantastic afternoon All Elvis Disco with DJ Bill Guntrip and Entertainment from Shane Baxendale, Rockin' Dave Riley and Clare Coventry

**SUNDAY JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>**  
**12NOON 'TIL 4PM**

**Tickets £31.95 - CALL 01473 621564**