

# Strictly ELVIS UK



**ELVIS**  
TRAVEL SERVICE

Newsletter No. 13  
Spring 2015

## Good Morning,

Another year is well under way and what a start we've all had... the Elvis at the O2 Exhibition is proving to be a glorious success for EPE and for UK (and European judging by the many languages I hear every time I'm there) Elvis fans and now plans are afoot to replicate it in Las Vegas at the very hotel that Elvis appeared at and stayed in. Our 80th Birthday Tour was an absolute 'blast' with lots to see and do in Memphis and even more so for the two full coachloads of fans who travelled with the Elvis Travel Service and who had quite a few extra 'surprises'. But that's what we do isn't it? For the fans, by the fans, and long may that continue.

And what have we got coming up? Well with TV Antiques Celebrity and Rock'n'Roll singer (as well as Elvis nut!) Paul Hayes and his band starring at our Elvis Spring Break in Torquay (see back page advertisement) that's bound to be another smash hit. The 38th Anniversary Tour to Tupelo, Memphis and beyond is receiving lots of interest - as is the trip to Bad Nauheim over the same August period and as for the Elvis Festival... well I don't think we've ever had such a response. Bookings are flying in (as are our guests!) so if you haven't booked yet then have a read of the brochure enclosed with this issue and then reserve your places as soon as you can.

And other things? Well in conjunction with visits to the O2 we have already planned a visit to the Memphis West End Show and a 10-pin Bowling Evening will be announced shortly - by the way, best to watch our Facebook page (The Elvis Presley Travel Service/Strictly Elvis) for details of events such as these - and we are

also planning to support as many regional Fan Club events as we can again this year, including a Gospel Concert in Chelmsford Cathedral organized by Elvis in Essex.

I don't get serious very often but humour me for a moment as I say that it is common knowledge in both the commercial and social world that 90% of people who participate in things come from just 10% of the members or customer base. And that's true with us too... fortunately we have such a huge mailing list we can live with that. But it hit home when I was talking to an Elvis fan recently who, after many years (actually decades) of being a 'lonely' fan finally found us and had the courage to book on one of our trips - travelling alone. Or so she thought! What she (and I'm sure thousands of other fans) didn't realize is that you are never 'alone' on a Strictly Elvis event or Elvis Travel Service holiday. Our Tour Managers and I make sure of that. We're all Elvis fans and what comes with that is a camaraderie or 'bond' that is hard to describe yet everyone who has been on any of the trips in the last few years will tell you is there... in spades. We are a 'family', a Strictly Elvis Family and if you are sitting at home reading this and haven't travelled with us for awhile or been to one of our events then please do join us. You may be missing out on a whole world of Elvis fun and it could change your life. Go on, take the plunge.



Just one more piece of news for you, I'm delighted to report that Lisel Simpson has joined the 'Strictly' staff as Editor of the Newsletter - hopefully freeing me up to help plan more events and holidays... or to go down the pub! Lisel worked for the police for 21 years but has given up on

protecting the public (mostly from each other!) and is now studying for a Masters Degree in Education and Applied Linguistics with the sole intention of tying our Neil Cameron up in verbal knots. No chance! Lisel has had short stories published and is currently working on a novel. I won't let her anywhere near this front page tho!

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

David J. Wade

## STOP PRESS



**Larry Geller**

**Elvis' friend, stylist, confidante and spiritual adviser will be our Star Guest for the Elvis Festival at Great Yarmouth**

# DIARY UPDATE

## Elvis Spring Break in Torquay

**Friday 15th to Monday 18th May 2015**

Join us for a great weekend of fun and Elvis at the lovely Victoria Hotel in the delightful resort of Torquay. This ever-popular Elvis Weekender features live entertainment, all-Elvis Disco's and lots more besides. Plus ample time to enjoy the wonderful food, the hotel's fabulous facilities and to explore Torquay and the beautiful surrounding area. This year we have top-class entertainment provided by the Paul Hayes Collection (who were such a huge hit at the last Elvis Festival) plus the ever-popular Rockin' Dave Riley. To book just call us on **01473 621 564**

## Elvis 38th Anniversary Tours to the USA



**Friday 7th to Tuesday 18th August 2015**

*for Tupelo and Memphis*

**Friday 7th to Tuesday 25th August 2015**

*for Tupelo, Memphis, Fort Chaffee, Shreveport and New Orleans*

Join the Elvis Travel Service for our now renowned annual pilgrimage to Tupelo and Memphis over the Elvis Anniversary.

Having been operating tours to Memphis and Tupelo since 1972 no-one can claim more experience (and contacts) than us - and we use this to make our Elvis holidays the very best there are. Our Tour Managers are genuine Elvis fans and their sightseeing tours of Tupelo and Memphis are informative and fascinating, giving you a unique insight into Elvis' life there.

This year there's a choice of two great holidays; the first holiday features Tupelo and Memphis whilst the second travels on to see Fort Chaffee, Arkansas where Elvis was inducted into the US Army (and where he had the famous 'Army haircut'), to historic Fort Smith (a true frontier town), to Shreveport where Elvis appeared on the Louisiana Hayride, to the Louisiana State Capital of Baton Rouge and finally to the city of New Orleans where we take you on a fascinating tour of the location sites for King Creole. For more information or to book phone us on **01473 621 564**

## Bad Nauheim and Friedberg

**Thursday 13th to Monday 17th August 2015**

Come with us to see where Elvis lived in Germany whilst in the US Army - see the base itself in Friedberg, and his homes in Bad Nauheim plus loads of other fascinating Elvis sights. Plenty of time also to enjoy the Elvis Anniversary Celebrations arranged by the Bad Nauheim Tourist Office and these include a Cadillac Parade, classic motor cycles, an Elvis marketplace, an Anniversary Concert with the TCB Band, film shows and candle-light vigil. Choice of travel by coach and ferry or by air. For a brochure or to make a booking contact us on **01473 621 564**

## Elvis Festival at Vauxhall 5 Star Holiday Park, Gt Yarmouth

**Saturday 5th to Saturday 12th September 2015**



This is THE BIG ONE.

Now celebrating its 35th year.

If you haven't attended our Elvis Festival before

(or perhaps not for several years)

then make sure you join us this time.

You won't believe the atmosphere and our annual Elvis Festival just keeps getting bigger and with special star guests from the USA, plus a fabulous line-up of entertainment, superb accommodation and wonderful facilities, the best just keeps getting even better. Brochure enclosed with this Newsletter and bookings can be made by calling Vauxhall 5 Star Holiday Park on **01493 857 231**

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 for over 40 years. Founded in 1972 David Wade Ltd is registered with Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc and works closely with them to promote Graceland, the Heartbreak Hotel and Graceland's Chapel in the Woods. The names 'Elvis', 'Elvis Presley', 'Graceland' and 'Heartbreak Hotel' are registered to Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc with the USPTO.



**Find us on Twitter at:**

**@ElvisTravel**



**and on Facebook at:**

**The Elvis Presley Travel Service/Strictly Elvis**

**Anyone with a computer, tablet or smartphone can use this relatively new phenomenon.**

**You don't have to get involved but it's great to watch what's happening.**

**Our Facebook Page for instance is constantly gaining new 'friends' who 'like' the reports and photo's that we post.**

**We update the page on a regular basis and use it for Announcements (such as for the new Elvis at the O2 Exhibition), for details of our own events and especially to post daily reports from our holidays so that the fans**

**back home can share in the enjoyment... with people wanting to book there and then!**

**You too can follow us on Facebook by logging on and going to The Elvis Presley Travel Service/Strictly Elvis**

**Or on Twitter at @ElvisTravel**

# ADVANCE INFORMATION

## Elvis Anniversary Tours

### 2016 and 2017

We appreciate that for many Elvis fans the trip to Memphis and beyond is still a lifelong dream and with the constant (and we believe often unfair) increases in air fares it is understandable that such a trip needs to be decided upon sometimes years ahead and then saved for. For this reason we get almost daily requests for details of trips coming up in one, two, three and even four years time. Of course we don't always know, as the trips can depend on many factors - including how successful the research has been into yet another destination with a strong Elvis connection.

Each year tho' Elvis fans will know that we operate a guaranteed two tours to the USA, one in January to celebrate Elvis' Birthday and another in August to commemorate the Anniversary of his passing. Occasionally we will operate holidays at other times of the year but we know from long experience that fellow fans wish to be at Graceland over those two particularly significant periods - especially as it is only then that EPE put on a programme of Elvis events. Both tours feature nearly a whole week in Memphis and a visit to Tupelo. Whilst the January tours will sometimes incorporate an optional extension to another (usually warm!) destination of Elvis interest, the August tour always does - giving fans the choice of a 10-12 day tour of Tupelo and Memphis or a longer tour incorporating other exciting places.

For January 2016 for instance, after our Elvis' Birthday Week in Memphis (incorporating a day trip to Tupelo) we are again heading to the Florida sunshine - this time to the Gulf Coast where our days will be spent enjoying the beach, the theme parks and the film locations for Elvis' 'Follow that Dream' which was filmed just to the north of Tampa. A brochure will accompany the next Newsletter but for advance information phone us on **01473 621 564**.

In August 2016 we head west from Memphis to Las Vegas to see where Elvis 'stole everyone's show!', to stay at the very hotel that Elvis stayed and performed in and to visit the new Elvis Exhibition that's a feature of the hotel. We then drive through the Mojave Desert via the Grand Canyon and on to glorious Palm Springs to see Elvis' homes there and from where we'll visit Burbank, Hollywood and Beverly Hills.

We haven't yet decided on whether the Birthday tour in 2017 will have an extension but the August tour (for the 40th Anniversary) certainly will. For that tour we are planning to offer a two island Hawaii extension visiting the beautiful island of Kauai (staying at the Coco Palms Hotel if it is rebuilt in time) as well as Oahu, staying on fabulous Waikiki Beach.



As airlines only confirm their air fares 11 months in advance it will be impossible for us (or anyone) to give an accurate tour price until September

2016, however we are happy to use our long experience of travel costs and trends to give you an estimated price and we will be doing this in a Preview Brochure which will accompany the next Newsletter. In the meantime we already have over 50 fans signed up for this holiday having paid us a £10 Refundable deposit to hold them a guaranteed place. We'll gladly do the same for you - just send £10 per person to Elvis Travel Service, Unit D Bristol Court, Martlesham Heath Business Park, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP5 3RY.

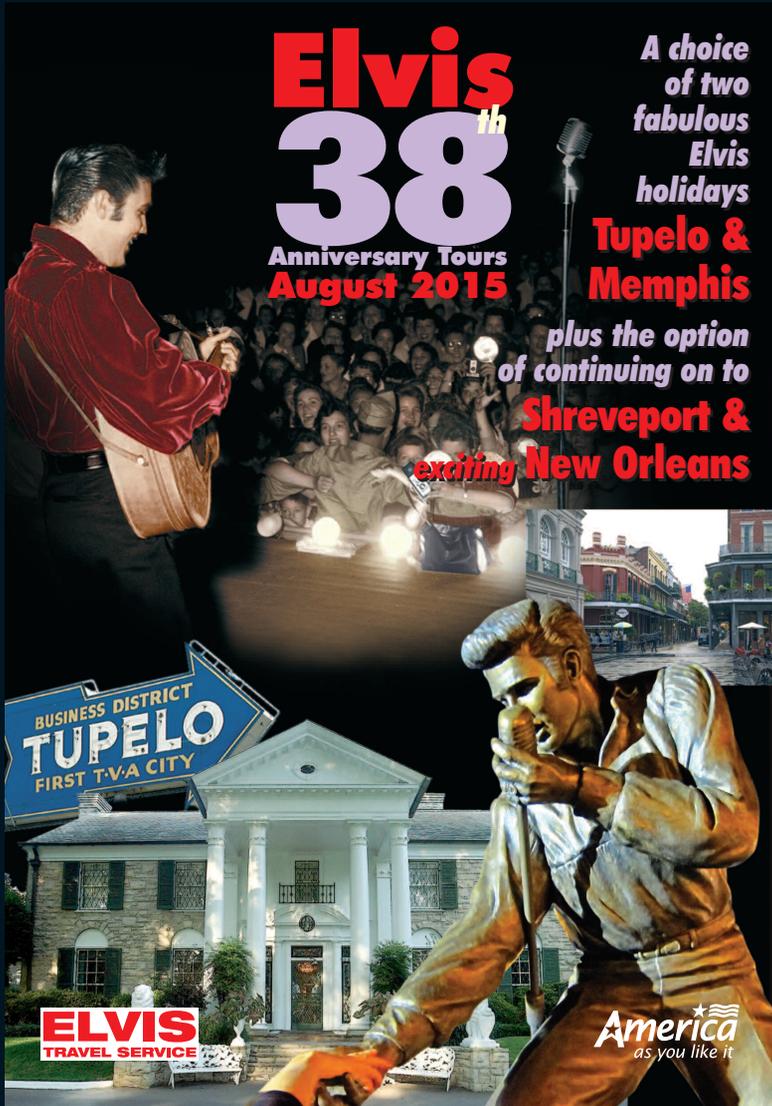
### And 2018 and beyond?

*Sorry, even we can't think that far ahead but rest assured whatever we decide to offer will be good, innovative, lots of fun and full of Elvis!*

### Strictly Elvis UK - Elvis Travel Service

Unit D, Bristol Court, Martlesham Heath Business Park, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 3RY, UK.

Telephone: **01473 621 564** Email: [enquiries@strictlyelvis.net](mailto:enquiries@strictlyelvis.net) Website: [www.strictlyelvis.net](http://www.strictlyelvis.net)



# Elvis 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tours August 2015

A choice  
of two  
fabulous  
Elvis  
holidays  
**Tupelo &  
Memphis**

plus the option  
of continuing on to  
**Shreveport &  
exciting New Orleans**

The 36th Anniversary Tour in 2013 was one of the best we'd ever operated - they're all good but this was exceptionally so - which is why we are repeating it in 2015 for the many fans that missed it the first time.

Join us for our fabulous tour of Tupelo and Memphis - nobody knows these places or does it better than we do and if you want the ultimate Elvis experience then come with us - you really won't ever regret it.

And then?

Well you could join us for an extension tour that'll blow your mind... see where Elvis had his first 'Army Haircut' in Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, stay in the same hotel that Elvis stayed in in Shreveport, Louisiana and see the auditorium home of the Louisiana Hayride, visit James Burton's studio and see lots of other Elvis sights there before heading to the State Capital, Baton Rouge, down the Mississippi River road to

visit a Plantation Home and finally to spend four glorious nights in New Orleans.

And if the music, food and history weren't enough, then our walking tour of the old French Quarter showing you all the film location sites for King Creole adds yet another dimension to this wonderful city. You would love it.

For a brochure containing full details or to book please call us on 01473 621 564.

# WELCOME TO MY WORLD (SPOTLIGHT ON THE FANS)

BY LISEL SIMPSON

Everyone that works for Strictly Elvis UK/Elvis Travel Service knows that one of the reasons that people enjoy travelling with us is that they get the chance to meet fabulous like-minded travel companions and make fantastic new friends within the Elvis family, so to acknowledge this fact we've decided to put some of them in the spotlight. So if you're someone who receives the Newsletter but has yet to book a holiday here is your opportunity to find out what sort of people travel with us and why. To kick us off, this edition of the newsletter features the very lovely Margaret Quinn:

*I believe I was 7 or 8 when I first heard Elvis on the radio, Heartbreak Hotel and All Shook Up! And wow that was it. I was in love! It was his voice and the music was so different, so alive and exciting, like a shock of electricity from head to foot. I didn't know what he looked like, that was the next 'earth shattering' experience! Wow! My mum used to take me to see the Elvis films at the local cinema cos I wasn't old enough to go on my own (she wouldn't have let me anyway!) And when I was getting a bit of pocket money for doing little jobs around the house, I'd save up to buy his latest record, even though I didn't have a record player! You could go to the record shop and ask to listen to the record in a booth even if you didn't have enough money to buy it that day. Of course as soon as I had enough money I'd buy it. Then I saw the Elvis magazine, I think it must have been in WHSmiths and I'd buy that too. The editor was Albert Hand and it was wonderful to read more about Elvis and see the wonderful photos.*

Well that's certainly a story I think many readers can relate to, and once we're hooked on the King there's no going back! Of course one of the things every fan wants to do is travel to Memphis and visit Elvis' home. For those of us who have been lucky enough to have been the experience is not something you can easily put

into words. Margaret's first trip to Memphis with the Elvis Travel Service team was in August of 2004 quickly followed by the 70th birthday tour in 2005. A lot of the tours have specific anniversaries attached to them and Margaret has also been lucky enough to attend the 30th anniversary tour in 2007 and the 2009 tour that marked the 40th anniversary of Elvis



Margaret meeting Glen D Hardin at the Elvis Festival 2013

signing his contract to perform at the International Hotel in Las Vegas! So each trip has something different to offer the fans and it's not difficult to see why super-fan Margaret has become addicted, as do all of us that just can't get enough of our King! In fact Margaret has been on four other tours to Memphis including the recent 80th birthday tour in January.

But it's not only Memphis where fans can meet and celebrate the life and music of Elvis, so where else has Margaret been with the Elvis Travel Service crew?

*I've also been on the trip to Germany. The first one was when we stayed in Luxembourg and then visited Bad Nauheim and the second time we stayed in Bad Nauheim during the Elvis anniversary weekend... I enjoyed every minute of every trip and feel very fortunate to have been able to do them. I also go to the Spring Break, first it was in Weymouth and now in Torquay and it's lovely to spend time with the Elvis*



Margaret at the Graceland Gates

*Family when it's not quite as hectic! I also go to the Elvis Festival every September in Great Yarmouth. I started doing the festival in 2005 I think and have been every year since 'cos it's such a great week with special guests and the Elvis disco every day.*

And for anyone still not convinced, what does Margaret give as her reasons for picking the Elvis Travel Service crew to travel with?

*I've always travelled with David Wade's company and wouldn't go with any other, the trips are the best, you get looked after so well and it's like being in a big family. Everyone I've met feels the same and I've made so many lovely friends.*

So there you have it, Margaret certainly has had some amazing Elvis experiences, and we're very grateful to her for taking time out from working, decorating and looking after her two adorable dogs to tell us about herself and her Elvis holidays (as if any of us need an excuse to talk about anything Elvis related!) and for those readers that have been inspired by her experiences; what are you waiting for? Book a trip with Strictly Elvis UK/Elvis Travel Service today and you could be exchanging stories and indulging in a fantastic Elvis experience with fellow fans just like Margaret.

# ELVIS' 80TH BIRTHDAY TOUR, JANUARY 2015

BY MIKE DAVIS

This was to be my first trip as a staff member of Strictly Elvis and also my first visit to Memphis since 1983 when I travelled there with my family so you can imagine how excited I felt. Here is an account of my experiences:

## Monday 5th

No time to recover from yesterday's flight – first stop today, GRACELAND!

I was last here 32 years ago, and back then what stood opposite Graceland were a few local shops selling Elvis memorabilia and the Hickory Log Cafe. Graceland just had a number of temporary buildings which made up a gift shop/fast-food cafe/ticket office and was where the mini-buses left to take you to the house. Now there's numerous gift shops, 50's diners, a ticket hall, the planes, the cars and of course the Heartbreak Hotel - quite a change! There were also changes in the house: more rooms were open and the carpet gone. Also the racquetball court now shows more of Elvis' gold records and awards. The layout in the main room was a lot different as well, there was a lot more to take in. Outside, the back of the house is unchanged. I walked to the Meditation Garden where a few fans had gathered, all having their own thoughts. For a while, I stood and remembered my late wife and I, plus my two girls standing there on a hot August night in 1982 paying our respects. I had a real lump in my throat I can tell you. Graceland is and will always be the Mecca for Elvis fans from all over the world. Long may it continue.

## Tuesday 6th

Another early start for our sightseeing tour of Memphis: including, amongst what seemed like hundreds of sights were Humes High School, Lauderdale Courts, the Elvis statues at Beale St and the Memphis Visitor Centre, and of course the famous Sun Studios. We had a really interesting time there, it's all very well presented and the



Sun story told by the staff was extremely informative. There was also a trip to the Circle G Ranch which Elvis owned between 1967 and 1969. It is now in a poor state of repair and has been recently purchased by an organization who aim to restore it and open it to the public. The Elvis Travel Service had organized for the new owners to meet with the fans and explain their plans. Everyone was delighted to find out that Elvis' name will still be strongly linked to the ranch. In the evening a great time was had by all when we took over a Beale Street bar. Our very own UK singer Colin Paul entertained us, singing from Elvis' repertoire. Colin was in excellent form and had many of the fans up and dancing. What a great end to the day!

## Wednesday 7th

A day free for the group to take advantage of the Shuttle Bus Service which we run between the hotels, Graceland and Downtown Memphis - lots to see and do. This evening brought our group a private visit to Vernon Presley's house which lies at the rear of Graceland. A wonderful buffet was prepared for us and a guided tour given. I was impressed with some of the wonderful paintings of Elvis on the walls.

A number of us then went over to Marlow's restaurant to see the evening out. We had two surprises

when we arrived: The Imperial's Joe Moscheo was there, and we were also entertained by Colin Paul again. *A perfect end to a perfect evening.*

## Thursday 8th

The big day: Elvis' 80th birthday. We were on the Graceland lawns at 9.30 am for the declaration of Elvis Presley Day by the Mayors of Memphis and Shelby County, and the cutting of the birthday cake by the Presley family. It was lovely to see most of the Presley family present and to hear Priscilla and Lisa Marie give their thanks to the fans for their support. They then cut the eight tier cake and the fans all enjoyed a slice of it!

And boy, did our chests puff out when Strictly Elvis were the only organization mentioned by name when everyone was welcomed to the event!!!

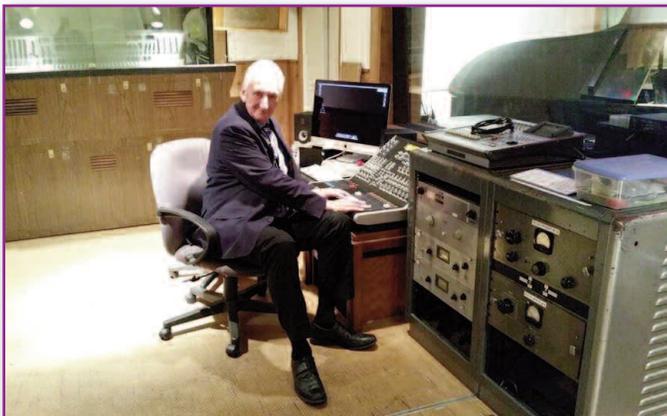
Then, we were now off to Tupelo for another birthday celebration. At the birthplace there was another cake cutting ceremony and slices were handed out to the fans. We also met people who had been friends with Elvis when he was living in Tupelo. Much has changed at the birthplace since my last visit, but the shack he was born in was just as I remembered, hard to believe such a great man was born in these humble surroundings. We then made our way to the famous hardware store where Elvis had his

first guitar bought for him by Gladys. For the journey into downtown Tupelo we enjoyed the now famous Police cavalcade escort with two police-cars and three police motorbikes accompanying us through all the red lights!

Our tour of Tupelo, took in lots of sights including where Gladys worked in a garment factory, the schools that Elvis attended, and, amongst other things, the latest statue of Elvis. It's a recreation of the famous picture of Elvis leaning out to touch fans' hands when he appeared there in September 1956. We then visited the Tupelo Tourist Centre where a hot cup of tea, biscuits and a warm welcome were supplied. On the way out of the town we were shown The Stamps tour bus. We arrived back in Memphis with no time to waste as we were all off to an Elvis Birthday Disco at the Holiday Inn, arranged by EPE.

#### **Friday 9th**

Many of us had an early start as we headed to Nashville, a trip I was really looking forward to. First stop was the Ryman Auditorium, home of the Grand Ole Opry radio show, then on to the Johnny Cash Museum and then the Country Music Hall of Fame to see Elvis' gold Cadillac. The 'hit' of the day tho' was the visit to the famous RCA Studio B. Here we saw the same instruments that were used on many of the 200 plus recordings that Elvis made here. Another fantastic day!



#### **Saturday 10th**

Another full day free for a final visit to Graceland or for more shopping and exploring.

This evening we attended a concert at The Cannon Centre for The Performing Arts, featuring The Memphis Symphony Orchestra and Terry Mike Jeffrey. It was a wonderful occasion hearing Elvis' music being celebrated in a formal atmosphere of a concert hall. It's years since I have seen Terry Mike, he gives an excellent interpretation of Elvis' music.

It was a wonderful night, and a great way to finish celebrating the Memphis part of the 80th Birthday Tour. All that remained was to pack for the next part of the holiday... 6 days in Miami Beach!

#### **Sunday 11th**

We left Memphis in temperatures of 6° and arrived in Miami to 25°! I couldn't get all my layers off quickly enough. What a change!

#### **Monday 12th**

Today brought a guided coach tour of the city; it has great architecture made up of modern skyscrapers and fantastic Art Deco hotels. I just fell in love with the place. We were fortunate enough to have an excellent driver who kept us informed about all the sites. We stopped off for pizza and then ice cream, which included an 'Elvis' one: peanut butter and banana! Our tour featured many of the well known sights of the Miami and Miami Beach such as swanky Coconut Grove, the historic Biltmore Hotel, the South Beach Art Deco area, the Gianni Versace

Mansion, film locations for famous films or TV series such as Miami Vice and, of course, two venues where Elvis appeared, the Miami Beach Convention Center and the Olympia Theatre.

#### **Tuesday 13th**

A truly wonderful day spent on the Everglades. Two separate huge airboats took our party at great speed through the narrow streams which were bordered by high grass. We were then taken into heavy undergrowth to spot the crocodiles that were lying on the banks enjoying the hot sun. Once on shore we watched an expert handling small crocs and snakes. It was yet another great day.

#### **Wednesday 14th**

Another trip on the water was organized for this afternoon: a cruise around the Biscayne Bay. Here we saw fantastic views of Miami, and the amazing waterside properties where the rich and famous live.

#### **Thursday 15th**

Today I took the group out to the Miami Seaquarium. As the title indicates it's an entertainment park displaying live dolphins, sharks, killer whales, manatee, sea lions, crocodiles and turtles. We all had a great time seeing the performing dolphins and huge killer whales. Great joy by some of our party was had when I got soaked after a dolphin had performed a "bomb" at the edge of the pool!! On the way back to our hotel we had one last 'treat' in store – a visit to the luxurious Fontainebleau Hotel, where Elvis performed with Frank Sinatra in March 1960 after coming out of the Army. And the cream cakes were on us!

#### **Friday 16th**

Our last day, and our early evening flight home. After some amazing views of flying low over London we arrived back at Heathrow at 10.00am. Everyone had had a wonderful holiday and a big 'well done' must go to the Elvis Travel Service's wonderful organization, ensuring we were able to make the most of the time spent in the States and were able to enjoy all the extras that David arranged for us.

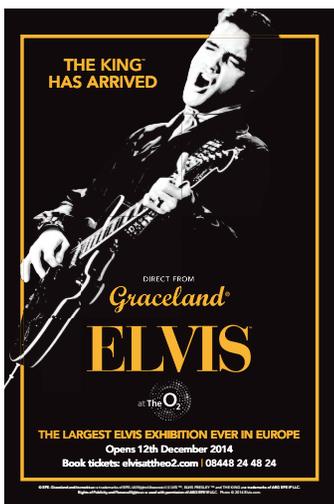
#### **What a trip!**

# FROM GRACELAND TO GREENWICH ELVIS AT THE O2 EXHIBITION

BY LISEL SIMPSON

I came back from my 3rd trip to Memphis in August of last year. Anyone who has ever been there knows that sitting on that red-eye flight back home is one of the most bittersweet experiences. Sweet because of all the wonderful memories that are travelling home with you, bitter because you're leaving the King's home far behind you. My main thought on that long flight back was, how quickly can I save up enough money to return?

So imagine my joy when just a couple of months later the Strictly Elvis team announced an amazing event - Graceland was coming to the UK! Yes over 300 artefacts from Elvis' home were being brought over from Graceland by EPE, with the help of course of our very own David Wade & Co. And not just for a couple of weeks either; it's running until the end of August, which is more than enough time to enable everyone a glimpse into Elvis' private world.



I was lucky enough to be invited to an exclusive preview showing before it opened to the public, so, armed with notebook in hand, and excitement in heart I made my way to the O2 in North Greenwich, London. Firstly I must point out what a fantastic venue they have chosen. The O2 is vast; holding not only an enormous arena, but a cinema complex, countless restaurants and bars, bowling lanes and huge exhibition venue.

Arriving at the exhibition entrance, past sky-high images of Elvis, you get the opportunity to pose for photos in front of a backdrop depicting the 'Graceland Gates' just as you do in Memphis. Then it's time to experience Elvis' world for real.

The tour starts with an extremely well made video documentary giving the time line of Elvis' life; then you move on to a

room dedicated to the Tupelo years complete with such treasures as the Presley family bible. The tour moves from room to room documenting different stages in Elvis' life and career. There are several jumpsuits, cars and discs as well as more intimate items such as Elvis' school report, employment agency application and some items of clothing belonging to Gladys.

Each room is covered with photos some of them floor to ceiling in length, you really are cocooned in Elvis' world everywhere you turn. I have a feeling many of the female fans will be delighted with the room dedicated entirely to the 68 Comeback Special - especially now that the iconic black leather suit is currently on display.

So what do the people that matter - the fans - think about the



Overall, nothing can rival the amazing atmosphere and emotional connection you get when visiting Memphis and standing inside Elvis' home, but this exhibit is without doubt the next best thing.

A quick poll straw of the Strictly crew as to what were their favourite items on display produced a variety of results. For Neil Cameron it was the jumpsuit from the Houston Astrodome concert, Mike Davis was captivated by the historic Sun Studio disc of That's All Right Mama, whilst David

Wade and Carol Pugh both went for cars – the Lincoln Continental and the Blue Hawaii MG respectively. In fact I'm pretty sure Carol was looking around for the keys to drive the MG away! My personal favourite though has to be Elvis' personal wallet with the photo of Lisa Marie in it. Such an intimate item, that we know he carried

everywhere with him.

For those of you who've been to Memphis, here is a chance to relive some wonderful memories. For those of you who've never been to Elvis' home, then the O2 allows you the chance of a glimpse into his life. Either way, this is a must-see exhibit for everyone, and maybe an opportunity to convert and educate some of your friends and family! With ticket sales already above the 100,000 mark it just proves that Elvis can still draw in massive crowds! The posters proclaim that 'The King Has Arrived' – he certainly has!

Tickets and information available from:

**www.elvisattheo2.com**  
Phone: **0844 824 4824**

exhibit? Lynn May, who was at Graceland for the first time last year described it as 'the next best thing' to Graceland and was very impressed with the way the tour was put together. Lifelong fan Kathleen O'Leary couldn't believe the amount of items on display that she hadn't seen before, despite having been to Memphis twice now. In particular she

remarked on the volume of army memorabilia available to view.

My personal thoughts about the exhibition - after I'd stopped running around like a child in a sweet shop - are that it's extremely well laid out and in many ways easier to navigate than the exhibits at Graceland. The tour follows a chronological order so you can experience Elvis' life from birth

onwards in an orderly fashion. There are some things on display that have not been on show at Graceland whenever I've been there, and some that I didn't get a clear look at in Graceland due to the crowds.



# BAD NAUHEIM AND FRIEDBERG

THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> TO MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2015



**An exclusive holiday by air or luxury coach and ferry to Bad Nauheim and Friedberg, Germany to join with Elvis fans from throughout Europe to commemorate the 38th Anniversary.**

Join us for a fabulous extra-long weekend break to Bad Nauheim where Elvis lived whilst stationed in the US Army at the nearby Ray Barracks in Friedberg. Each August this beautiful spa town goes crazy for Elvis (which sounds perfect for us!) with an Elvis Festival honouring the life and legacy of the King. It's a fabulous place to spend the Anniversary period and the town itself has many places which are virtually unchanged since Elvis' time there - making for some great photo opportunities!

So come and join us as we explore Elvis' Germany.  
*You'll love it!*

**Day 1, Thursday 13th August 2015**  
Morning departure from London's Victoria Coach Station for the journey by coach and the Dover-Calais ferry to Bad Nauheim arriving in the late evening. There will be non-stop Elvis movies and music on the coach and various refreshment stops.

Or a morning flight from UK to Frankfurt arriving in the early afternoon. Transfer to Bad Nauheim and your hotel.

**Day 2, Friday 14th August**

Breakfast will be served daily in your hotel. Join your Elvis Travel Service tour managers for a morning guided walking tour of Bad Nauheim. As with all Elvis Travel Service tours we have meticulously researched the Elvis history of this beautiful spa town so that we'll show you more Elvis sites than you'll see on any other tour, the hotel and house where he lived, where he shopped, ate, relaxed and the places where some of the most iconic photo's of Elvis during this time were taken, as well as

the lovely monument that the town erected to him on Elvis Presley Platz. The afternoon and evening are at leisure to relax, explore further or enjoy the events taking place as part of the Elvis Festival which is organised by the local tourist office and Fan Club. There will be a whole array of activities and events (a schedule will be sent to you once they are finalised) which typically include a parade of classic cars, fan get-togethers, concerts, memorabilia dealers and much more. As well as that the whole town welcomes Elvis fans with many of the shops and bars adopting an Elvis theme.

**Day 3, Saturday 15th August**

Morning visit to Friedberg. En-route we'll stop in the village of Steinfurth (famous throughout Germany for its roses) where Elvis and his platoon erected a war memorial. Once we arrive in Friedberg, we'll see the site of Ray Barracks the US Army Base where Elvis was stationed. There'll also be time to explore this delightful small town, and see the Elvis memorial plaque in the centre, visiting shops that Elvis would've used, or to take a tour of the historic castle. Keep an eye out also for the genuine red British telephone box in the town too!  
Afternoon and evening at leisure.

**Day 4, Sunday 16th August**

A morning visit to Johannisberg hilltop. As we drive up the twisting road to the summit you'll see the surrounding woods where Elvis took part in military maneuvers. Once we reach the top you'll see spectacular views over Bad Nauheim and the surrounding countryside. On a clear day it's even possible to make out Ray Barracks in the distance! There'll be time to enjoy a coffee in the café, used by Elvis where on one occasion he was asked to sign a tablecloth for a fan, but before he could hand it over the owner of the café snatched away and promptly washed it! Do remember to try the Apple Strudel, one of the café's specialities - and a particular favourite of Elvis'. Remainder of the day to relax in the comfort of the hotel, enjoy the activities of the Elvis Festival or further exploration of Bad Nauheim. This evening we'll hold a get together for the group as a last night celebration of our time here.

**Day 5, Monday 17th August**

Time to say 'Auf Wiedersehen' to Bad Nauheim. Morning departures to Frankfurt for flights arriving back into the UK in the early afternoon and for the coach departure to connect with the early evening ferry arriving back into London in the mid evening.

**INCLUDED IN THE PRICE**

- Return Flights from London to Frankfurt or Return coach travel from London including cross Channel ferry
- Transfers and coach travel as per the itinerary
- 4 nights hotel accommodation
- Breakfast each day in Bad Nauheim
- Guided walking tour of Bad Nauheim
- Visit to Friedberg
- Visit to Johannisberg Hilltop
- Hotel taxes
- Driver gratuities
- The services of an experienced Elvis Travel Service Tour Manager

# Europe

*as you like it*

## Tour Prices (per person)

### Rosenau Hotel

By Coach and Ferry: Single £518  
Double £418

By Air: Single £648 Double £548

### Dolce Hotel

By Coach and Ferry: Single £848  
Double £618

By Air: Single £978 Double £748

*Triple/family rooms  
may be available on request.*

## Not Included

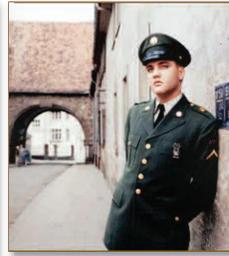
Lunches or dinners, drinks and personal items such as laundry, phone calls etc.

## Travel Insurance

It is mandatory that all passengers have sufficient comprehensive travel insurance. If you need assistance in arranging this please call us on **Europe as you like it** on 020 8742 8299 who will be happy to help.

## Health/Special Needs

No vaccinations or inoculations are required for British citizens. The Department of Health produces a 'Health Advice for Travellers' booklet (T6) available from your Post Office or by phoning 0800 555 777. We are happy to welcome passengers with special needs wherever appropriate arrangements can be made - be they for dietary needs or adapted rooms. Please note though that we can only request such facilities if we know of your requirements well in advance so please give us full details on the requested Reservation Form.



## Passports and Visas

A valid Passport issued by a member state of the European Union is required for this tour. Visas are not required by British citizens visiting Germany.

## Climate and Clothing

Mid-summer in central Europe can be very hot so expect temperatures in the 80's and 90's. We recommend lightweight casual clothing (none of the events require anything formal) but take along a sweater or jacket for any cooler evenings. Luggage weight is limited to 50lbs per person - the equivalent of one large suitcase, plus one item of hand luggage.

## Payments and Travel Documents

Upon receipt of your deposit (and obviously subject to places being available) you will be sent a Confirmation-Invoice. Payment of the balance is due not later than 72 days prior to departure. Cheques should be made payable to **Europe as you like it**. Approximately 14 days prior to the holiday you will receive a Tour Wallet containing your Final Itinerary and Tour Joining Instructions, baggage tags and a Souvenir Lanyard/Pass.

## Payment by Debit/Credit Card

We are pleased to accept payment by Debit or Credit Card for all, or part, of your holiday cost - just complete the

appropriate box on the Reservation Form. Please note that there is no surcharge applicable to payment by Debit

Card but a 2.7% supplement will be charged on all Credit Card payments to cover the additional costs incurred.

## Flights

Whilst the Air tour price is based on flying from London with British Airways or Lufthansa, persons wishing to fly from Manchester, Birmingham, Glasgow or any of the regional airports are welcome to do so. Please contact Europe as you like it on 020 8742 8299 for supplementary costs and more information. The tour price is based on the air fare as of 5th November 2014 and is subject to fluctuation. Any increase (or decrease) will be advised to you at the time of booking.

## Telephone Enquiries

If you have any queries regarding this tour please don't hesitate to give the Elvis Travel Service a call on **01473 621 564**. Telephone bookings can be made but must be followed up with a completed Reservation Form and deposit within 5 working days.

## How to Book

Simply phone the Elvis Travel Service office where our staff will be happy to take your booking by phone. Telephone: **01473 621 564**

or email: [enquiries@strictlyelvis.net](mailto:enquiries@strictlyelvis.net)  
Website: [www.strictlyelvis.net](http://www.strictlyelvis.net)

## Got a spare bed?

Following our 'plea' to find someone to share with our Argentinian friend Ester Blajer on the Bad Nauheim and Elvis Festival holidays

she is now 'sorted' for those plus she's been offered accommodation near London so that she can visit Elvis at the O2 and see the sights.

However she'd still love to see a bit more of the UK so if you live elsewhere in the UK and have the time and the room to put up Ester for a few days towards the end of August then she'd really appreciate it.

More details from the Strictly office on 01473 621 564

# PRISCILLA REIGNS IN MANCHESTER (OH YES SHE DOES!)

BY CAROL PUGH

David Wade and I had an opportunity to meet Priscilla Presley in Memphis last August and part of the conversation included her anticipation at returning to the UK and redeeming her role as the Wicked Queen in Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Priscilla admitted that during her first pantomime she hadn't fully understood the tradition of panto or the British sense of humour but that quickly changed and she now loves our slapstick, dry wit and innuendo that's the hallmark of pantomime.

Priscilla was so pleased when we informed her that some of the Strictly Elvis team accompanied by a large group of Elvis fans would be there to support her on the first weekend of opening. Fast forward to Saturday 6th December as we all gathered in the lobby of the Opera House in Manchester to fulfil our promise.

Armed with programmes and the obligatory flashing light stick (well it was a panto after all!) we made our

way to the centre circle in readiness for curtain up and we didn't have to wait long for Priscilla to make her entrance to huge applause. The next two hours were filled with some great songs including Elvis' King Creole hit 'Trouble', sparkling costumes, a live band, dazzling dance routines and lots of that British sense of humour that Priscilla had eluded to. Priscilla's timing was excellent proving that her days co-starring with Leslie Nielsen in the Naked Gun film series hadn't gone to waste.

The curtain fell and soon the group made their way to the private Strictly Elvis after-show party but what the group was unaware of was that Priscilla had promised to join us for what turned out to be a night never to be forgotten.

Fresh out of stage costume and obviously tired from a strenuous performance she joined us making sure that she spoke with everyone, posed for photos, signed programmes and answered



'Memphis Maria' with Priscilla

questions; in fact nothing was too much trouble for her. Before she left she thanked David and the Strictly team for their on-going support and the opportunity to meet so many lovely people; and clutching a large bouquet of flowers in both hands she was gone.

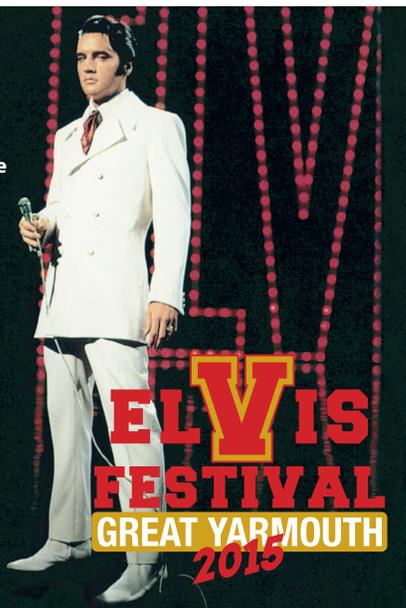
As we all made our way to TGI Friday's restaurant to finish the evening off with some traditional Southern Fayre accompanied by Elvis Christmas songs, the conversation turned to what a star Priscilla really was. From the Wicked Witch in her castle to Priscilla Presley who successfully opened the doors of Elvis' own Castle - Graceland, thus ensuring that we all keep on enjoying this particular Fairytale.

With the Elvis Festival fast approaching we're thinking of new and different activities and events to include in the programme, but don't worry we'll be keeping all of the old favourites that have made the event such a hit over the last 35 years. One of which is undoubtedly our Fancy Dress night. Over the years we've had some fabulous nights with themes ranging from the Wild West and Beachwear to James Bond and Halloween plus everything in-between. It's always a highlight of the Festival week with some amazing costumes being entered into the Fancy Dress parade competition. And this year's will be no exception. So to get word out early our theme for this year will be..... Christmas!!

Yes that's right - we're going to start the festive season a whole 3 months early! There will be Elvis Christmas music, decorations and lots more including a special idea to help a local charity.

So get thinking and let's dress up and start out Festive frolics early at the 2015 Elvis Festival. We want to see everyone join in so even if you don't want to dress up then just wear your best (or should that be worst!) Christmas jumper!

To book for this year's Elvis Festival (and it's selling fast) call Vauxhall Holiday Park on 01493 857231.



# THE **ELVIS** MAG

## Exclusive Special Offer!



We are so proud of our partnership with *Strictly Elvis* that we are asking them to print this very special offer - **Just for you!**

Take out a subscription now and we will send you the previous year's magazines for **FREE**. Yes, you will get the last 4 editions of the magazine on us - **What a gift!**

**So, along with your 4 annual magazines you'll get an extra 4 back issues - That's 8 magazines in total!**

Simply log on to our website, take out an annual subscription and use the code 'Strictly' in the comments box. We will send the most current issue, along with your 4 back issues, right away

[www.theelvismag.com](http://www.theelvismag.com)

*Hurry - Only whilst stocks last - Offer for new subscribers only*



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: 07715 968 259**  
Elvis Party Night at the Hoop and Toy. 34 Thurloe Place, Kensington, SW7 2HQ, 2nd May and 6th June.

**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: 07878 914 033**  
Elvis Disco. Saturday 18th April and Saturday 13th June from 7:30pm at The Compasses, 141 Broomfield Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1RY.  
Also see ad for 'Elvis in the Cathedral' on following page.

**Cambridgeshire** *Elvis in Cambridge*  
**Ian Gray, Kings College Cambridge, CB2 1ST**  
**Email: elvisincambridge@hotmail.co.uk**

**Lancashire**  
**John Meller, 26 Derby Road, Accrington, BB5 1BP**  
**Phone: 07912 442 301**  
**Email: johnmeller@yahoo.com**  
(or Duncan Jeffrey on 07534 695 500)

**Lincolnshire** *Lincoln Elvis*  
**Sue Toyne, 18 Capper Avenue, Hemswell Cliff, Gainsborough, Lincs, DN21 5XS**  
**Phone: 01427 668 805**  
**Email: suetoyn@btinternet.com**

**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 Video-Disco, Saturday 13th June 7:30pm until midnight at the Ex-Serviceman's club, 47 Sheep Street, 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: jennyselvisoxford@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**

**Buckinghamshire** *Elvis in Bucks*  
The All Elvis Big Screen Disco. The Railway Club, Coxhill Way, Southcourt, Aylesbury, HP21 8HH.  
£5 on the door. Saturday April 18th 7:30pm.

**Tyne & Wear**  
**Jim Mann, 19 Tanfield Road, Wrekenton, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE9 7AX**  
**Phone: 07936 518 319**  
**Email: mannjim26@yahoo.com**  
100% Elvis Disco Thursday 28th May FREE Admission. Springbank Club, Condercum Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE4 8XJ

**Bedfordshire**  
**Bill Hyde Phone: 07943 395 655**  
Elvis Disco Saturdays 17th April, 22nd May, 26th June and 24th July at St Joseph's Social Club, Gardenia Avenue, Luton, LU3 2NS.

**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**

Find us on Twitter at: @ElvisTravel and on Facebook at: Elvis Travel Service/Strictly Elvis

## 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](http://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](http://www.dublincityfm.ie)

## NORTHERN IRELAND

### Northern Ireland

*OEPFC of Northern Ireland*

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

**Phone: 07867 967 007**

**Email: [oeafcni.2010@ntlworld.com](mailto:oeafcni.2010@ntlworld.com)**

Elvis disco and on the big screen.

First Friday of every month 8:00pm to midnight at RAOB (BUFFS) Club, 17 Church Street, Belfast BT1 1PG (opposite St. Anne's Cathedral). Admission £5

## WALES

### Wales

*Elvis in Wales*

**Carol Pugh**

**Phone: 07785 107 814**

**Email: [tcb.carol@gmail.com](mailto:tcb.carol@gmail.com)**

Need transport for the Elvis Spring Break or the Elvis Festival from South Wales?

Contact Carol for details of coach or minibus seats. *Regrettably owing to pressure of work (in my 'day job'!) as well as the time taken up by my role within Strictly Elvis UK, I'm now having to look for someone to help with (and eventually take over) the running of Elvis in Wales. If you are a dedicated Elvis (not ETA) fan, diplomatic and a good organizer and are interested in this role please contact me on the number/email above for more details.*

## SCOTLAND

### Glasgow

*The Elvis Touch*

**Jane Boyce (Club Leader)**

**23 Corpach Place, Easterhouse, Glasgow, G34 0DD**

**Phone: 07851 388440**

**Email: [janeboyce123@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:elvistouch@aol.com)**

Fridays 24th April and 29th May 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:aberdeen@elvis-a-presley.com)**

### Strathclyde

*Forever Elvis Fan Club*

**Margaret Colhoun, 77 MacArthur Wynd,**

**Cambuslang, Glasgow, G72 7GB**

**Phone: 07757 047 058**

*Elvis In The Cathedral*

Appearing are Always Elvis Gospel Group & Michael Glaysher

Chelmsford Cathedral 4th July 2015 at 7:30pm  
In aid of "The Chapel of St. Peter on the Wall Restoration Fund"

**Ticket Price: £15**  
**Ticket Purchase/ Collection at:**  
**Intercountry Estate Agents, Duke Street, Chelmsford Essex, 01245 251442 Or 07969 576 812 by mail**

**Elvis In Essex Event**  
Sponsored by Strictly Elvis / Elvis Presley Travel Service

**Intercountry**  
Estate & Letting Agents

# ELVIS Spring Break 2015

**Call today on 01473 621 564**

*Join the fun with  
TV Celebrity  
Paul Hayes  
on the Elvis  
Spring Break*

*Fancy a long-weekend break in the lovely English Riviera resort of Torquay, staying at a superb hotel, enjoying great food, fine service and lots and lots of Elvis.*

*The live entertainment this year is provided by the Paul Hayes Collection and by the ever popular Rockin' Dave Riley plus we'll have our own all-Elvis Disco with DJ Mark Monaghan as well as Elvis on the big screen.*

*Just £236 per person in a twin or double room (discounts for 3 and 4 bedded rooms) inclusive of your accommodation for 3 nights, breakfast and dinner daily and all the entertainment.*

*If you've never attended a Spring Break then do yourself a HUGE favour and join us for this one - you'll love it!*

## **THE VICTORIA HOTEL TORQUAY**

**Friday 15th to  
Monday 18th  
May 2015**



Rockin' Dave Riley



Paul Hayes Collection

