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This week's IWMS

#newsin30seconds

Latest developments in Derby

Work is well underway on an £11.2 million regeneration programme which will transform Derby's Grade II Listed Victorian Market Hall into a "contemporary retail destination" by Summer 2023. Derby's new pool at Moorways has also been given the green light, and a capital budget of £42 million has been approved to complete the whole project by 2021. <https://bit.ly/2FUMHMa>

How about joining The Mad Hatters Tea Party...on a train?

Tumble down the rabbit hole and discover the Mad Hatter's Tea Party on the Churnet Valley Railway, this Easter. Specially decorated trains will be running through the scenic Staffordshire countryside, and once on-board passengers can enjoy a range of themed treats during a tea party with much-loved characters Alice, the Mad Hatter and the White Rabbit. April 15, 17, 20, 21 and 22. Admission: £19 adult; £13 Child (3 - 15). <https://bit.ly/2SXIM5I>

From hip-hop, to Sherlock, at The Ventnor Fringe

Ventnor Fringe celebrates its 10th Anniversary this summer between July 23 and 28 with a programme of new artists from around the world. Latest acts announced include East London hip-hop act Barney Artist, who fuses 90s era boom-bap hip-hop with jazz; and an acclaimed hilarious new production of The Hound of the Baskervilles which transfers to Ventnor Fringe following hit runs in Manchester and London. More information at #vfringe19. <https://bit.ly/2YPdbr1>

Discover Britain's brewing capital...

What's the most famous brewing town in the country? Well, according to the makers of the UK's No.1 beer, there's only one answer - Burton-on-Trent. To prove the point, Carling's ads have placed this Staffordshire industrial town on the River Trent at centre-stage across the nation's televisions. The National Brewery Centre in Burton-on-Trent is also one of the leading attractions in the county. <https://bit.ly/2Uj3K4P>

Try something a little different...an Easter egg hunt in a canoe

A family friendly Easter paddle in stable 'Canadian style' canoes will be available along the Beaulieu River in Hampshire this Easter. It will allow participants to enjoy some stunning scenery before disembarking for an Easter egg hunt with a twist. The two-hour guided tour is on offer on April 13 and 20, costing £28 for adults and £22 for children. <https://bit.ly/2KfG1xw>

New vessel will make it even easier for visitors travelling to the Isle of Wight

Following 14 months in development, and an investment of £10 million, Red Funnel, the original Isle of Wight ferry provider, will officially welcome its new vessel, Red Kestrel to its fleet with a naming ceremony on April 25. The new freight-only RoRo ship, which will operate between Southampton and Isle of Wight, will enter service in May - releasing more spaces on the car ferry services, and making it easier for people to get to the Isle of Wight. <https://bit.ly/2uPKzQF>

Superhero Day with the monkeys

Kids dressed as superheroes will be allowed free entry to the Trentham Monkey Forest on Sunday 28 April, between 10am and 4.30pm. The Monkey Forest is home to 140 free-ranging Barbary macaques. Visitors walking the ¾ of a mile pathway can see the endangered monkeys live, as they would in the wild. <https://bit.ly/2C8UkOH>

For more details on any of these stories contact ian@ianweightman.co.uk | 01782 680963