



Funny in Falkirk Comedy Festival
Friday 20 – Tuesday 31 July 2012

THREE YEARS OF CHEER

A look back at three years of Funny in Falkirk Comedy Festival

Funny in Falkirk Comedy Festival began in 2010 when Falkirk Delivers approached the Scottish Comedy Agency with a proposal for a comedy festival in Falkirk and the surrounding districts. The ultimate aim was to reinvigorate the nightlife of the town, increase tourism and ultimately make Falkirk a destination worth visiting.

From the outset the festival's objectives have been clear – to provide first class entertainment for the town and surrounding district's residents and visitors, and to ensure the line-up presents a variety of performers and represents value for money, which ultimately appeals to all sections of the community.

The first year exceeded everyone's expectations and was deemed a resounding success with 41 shows taking place over 12 days across 10 venues in Falkirk and the surrounding districts. This success continued in 2011 as the festival grew to stage 58 shows over 12 days across 12 venues. Last year over 3,100 tickets were sold and the programme was expanded to include film and workshops.

Its growth in popularity has seen many of the UK's most in-demand comedians gracing stages across the town and surrounding districts as part of the festival's impressive line-ups. Headline acts have included Kevin Bridges, Russell Kane, Stephen K Amos, Elaine C Smith, Stewart Francis, Fred MacAulay, Danny Bhoy, Tam Cowan and Stewart Lee. The programme has consistently included acts who deliberately push the boundaries of contemporary comedy, as well as entertainers with a more traditional family appeal.

With support from a variety of partners, the festival has gone from strength to strength. Central FM and Falkirk Herald as media partners and Premier Inn as accommodation partner, have all played their part in making the festival one of the most exciting events in Central Scotland's cultural calendar.

Highlight Headline Acts

2010 – Kevin Bridges, Russell Kane, Danny Bhoy, Tam Cowan, Stewart Lee

2011 – Stephen K. Amos, Elaine C. Smith, Stewart Francis, Tom Stade, Fred MacAulay

2012 – Al Murray, Mark Watson, Pete Firman, Charlie Baker, Des Clarke

ENDS



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FURTHER INFORMATION:

Press release issued by Scottish Comedy Agency on behalf of Funny in Falkirk Comedy Festival

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NOTES TO EDITOR:

- The **Funny in Falkirk Comedy Festival** was established in 2010 and is now entering its third year.
- The **Funny in Falkirk Comedy Festival** is supported by main funder, Falkirk Delivers.
- The festival is organised by the Scottish Comedy Agency, a sister company of Salt'n'Sauce Promotions Ltd, which owns and operates the highly successful Stand Comedy Clubs in Edinburgh and Glasgow.
- Tickets for all shows are available online at www.funnyinfalkirk.com, in person or by phone from the Steeple box office on Falkirk High Street (01324 506 850), via the respective venue's own box offices, or direct from the festival ticket hotline on 0844 481 8108

Falkirk Delivers: Falkirk Delivers is the town's Business Improvement District. The aim of the BID is to deliver a series of projects, services and initiatives to improve the trading environment of Falkirk Town Centre to benefit businesses, their customers, clients and visitors. Their objectives are simple: to provide a cleaner and more attractive town centre; to continue to help provide a safer town centre by day and night; and to create a well promoted and vibrant town centre.

Falkirk Herald: The award-winning Falkirk Herald has been serving the people of Falkirk and its surrounding communities for nearly 170 years. In November 2011 it relaunched as a tabloid, a move that has been enthusiastically welcomed by its readers. The Falkirk Herald has been involved with the Funny in Falkirk comedy festival since its inception and is delighted to be the newspaper partner for this year's event.

Central FM: Central FM broadcasts 24/7 to the Forth Valley from its Falkirk studios and has done since June 1990. With a mix of local voices and experienced Scottish broadcasters, playing music from Whitney Houston to Take That and providing a second-to-none local news service for the population of Falkirk, Stirlingshire and Clackmannanshire. You can tune into Central FM on 103.1FM or online at to keep up with the latest Funny in Falkirk news.

Premier Inn: Premier Inn, the UK's largest and fastest growing hotel company, is delighted to be the accommodation partner for Funny In Falkirk again this year. With four sites in the surrounding districts it's the ideal place to stay if you're planning an overnight visit to Falkirk's third annual Comedy Festival. The Falkirk Central site is within easy walking distance of the town centre venues and travel links to the surrounding districts mean all other venues are easily accessible too.