

NOTTSTOPPING FESTIVAL



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23RD - 24TH

MAY 2020

A Feast of Talent Announced for Nottstopping Festival

Nottstopping Festival 23-24 May 2020

BBC's The Worst Witch **Bella Ramsey**, Michelin starred chef **Alex Bond**, band of the moment **Do Nothing** and the **Kanneh-Mason** sisters make up just some of the exciting line up of talent announced for Nottstopping Festival (23-24 May).

[Pix for download here](#)

The line up for one of the most innovative and ambitious digital festivals to be staged during lockdown reads like a who who's of talent for the whole of Nottinghamshire. TV and film actor **Esther Coles** is joined by friend and fellow actor **Jane Horrocks** for a new comedy piece devised for the festival.

They join Line of Duty star **Vicky McClure**, This is England director **Shane Meadows**, award-winning artist **Wolfgang Buttress**, BBC's The Big Painting Challenge **Diana Ali** and acclaimed documentary filmmaker **Jeanie Finlay** for the mammoth 150 hours of streaming and eight community connect projects to get the whole of Nottinghamshire involved.

Some highlights to look out for include a **Worst Witch Q&A** with actor Bella Ramsey - who played Mildred Hubble in several series of the hit CBBC show - with current Worst Witch actor Lydia Page. TV Workshop director Nic Harvey will chair the Q&A where fans can tune in and put a question to the pair.

Alex Bond is blazing a trail at Alchemilla in Nottingham, where his innovative dishes have made him one of the most exciting chefs in the country. Awarded a Michelin Star just two years after opening the Derby Road restaurant, Alex will be doing a cookalong for the festival.

Over on the BBC Introducing stream, Dean Jackson will be sharing specially recorded songs from band of the moment **Do Nothing**. The punk quartet from Nottingham has caught the attention of music industry tastemakers and fans alike rapidly building a reputation as one of the most formidable live acts in the country. Dean has a few more surprise guests up his sleeve too.

Nottingham born MC and a pivotal figure in the UK underground dance scene **Bru-C** will be appearing on Light Hustle - the collaboration between Circle of Light and Hockley Hustle showcasing new and emerging artists - with more than 20 hours of the music livestream hosted once again by Mrs Green.

An all-female line up of **Kanneh-Masons** will see the sisters from the talented musical family playing together on the Royal Concert Hall stage filmed especially for the festival. Pianist Isata - who is taking the classical world by storm - will be joined by younger sisters Konya, Jeneba, Aminata and Mariatu. Singer songwriter **Rob Green** - who has just released his new single Life Goes On with a video featuring 100s of people living life in lockdown - will be performing a set on the stage too.

Poetry buffs are in for a treat with appearances from **Lemn Sissay MBE** - the official poet of the 2012 London Olympics and chancellor of the University of Manchester and **Roger McGough CBE** - one of Britain's best-loved poets and presenter of BBC Radio 4's Poetry Please. Writer, poet, TV and film producer **Henry Normal** - BAFTA winner and founder of Nottingham Poetry Festival - will be taking part too.

More than 20 care homes have signed up so far to have a good old singalong to some old favourite songs with rehearsals underway already! Everyone is invited to join in with the **Pack Up Your Troubles** singalong to share a special moment with everyone living and working in the county's care homes. Tune in to BBC Radio Nottingham at 2pm on both days of the festival to join in.

The Community Connect projects are all available on <https://nottstoppingfestival.com/projects/> with the chance to write a street story, make a kite, take part in cookalongs, learn how to sign to 'It Must Be Love' and learn the dance moves for a Doorstep Disco for everyone to join in at 7pm on both days.

Nottstopping is also asking people to nominate a frontline worker close to their heart for the chance for them to receive a special gift, treat or experience being pledged by generous businesses across Nottinghamshire. To submit a nomination, post a short video on Nottstopping Festival social media saying why they are your frontline hero and hashtag [#nottstoppingheroes](https://nottstoppingfestival.com/projects/)

The festival will be streamed in full at www.nottstoppingfestival.com. Local broadcaster Notts TV will also be presenting a special programme of Nottstopping activities over the course of the weekend at www.nottstv.com and BBC Nottingham are broadcasting a singalong at 2pm and dancelong at 7pm both days.

The full programme will be announced on www.nottstoppingfestival.com from Thursday 14 May. Keep an eye out for stories in the media, and follow the Nottstopping social media to stay in touch.

Social media

Join in the conversation #nottstopping

<https://www.facebook.com/nottstoppingfestival/>

<https://www.instagram.com/nottstoppingfestival/>

<https://twitter.com/nottstopping>

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Notes to Editors:

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If you're an organisation that could provide funding, in kind support, sponsorship or content, please contact info@nottstoppingfestival.com

About Nottstopping

Billed as a festival by Notts and for Notts, the diverse programme will be packed with wide-ranging content from the region's vibrant cultural sector including Nottingham Playhouse, Lakeside, DHP Family, Rough Trade, Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies and Metronome, Wigflex, Nottingham Castle, Broadway Cinema, BFI Network, Just The Tonic, Television Workshop, Dance4, I'm Not From London, University of Nottingham, Nottingham Music Hub, Nottingham Poetry Festival, Notts TV, Nottingham City of Literature, Nottingham Contemporary and Nottinghamshire Pride.

Core Funders

Nottstopping Festival is being staged thanks to five main funders: Nottingham City Council, Creative Quarter, Nottingham BID, Marketing NG and Nottingham Culture Board plus generous support from Inspire, One Nottingham, Young Creative Awards, BBC Nottingham, BBC Introducing, Confetti Media Group and Notts TV.

Light Hustle

Light Hustle is a collaboration project between Hockley Hustle Music & Arts Festival and Circle Of Light Project. Together on April 4th we hosted an 8 hour live stream fundraising gig as a part Youth Music's Give A Gig week to raise funds for local Nottingham Creatives in response to Covid-19. We had an incredible response with an online reach of over 60,000 in 12 different countries, raising £6,532 and countless messages of support from people relishing in a moment of connected uplifting positivity amidst the current landscape.