



## March 2012 – Kenya Newsletter

### Gary Barlow To Visit Kenya!



That's right! Legendary Take That and X-Factor judge, Gary Barlow, is to visit Kenya next week to find inspiration for his new collaboration with Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber. The duo will be co-writing a song for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and to find inspiration for the song, Barlow will be visiting Commonwealth countries including Kenya to find out what the Queen means to ordinary people.

With Kenya's diverse cultural mix of western, Arabic and traditional tribal music, Barlow will be sure to get lots of ideas for his new song. His journey will also be the subject of an hour-long documentary to be shown on BBC One during the Summer.

The song will be performed outside Buckingham Palace on 4 June 2012 at the Diamond Jubilee Concert which has attracted more than one million ticket applications. Other stars that have been signed up to perform at the concert include Dame Shirley Bassey, Jessie J and Ed Sheeran.

### Win A Man City VIP Match Ticket With Etihad Airways and Kenya Tourist Board

The Kenya Tourist Board and Etihad Airways are celebrating the launch of Etihad's newest destination Nairobi, launching on the 1st April by giving away three VIP tickets to see Manchester City play Sunderland at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester on 31st March 2012. All you need to do is log your London/Manchester - Nairobi Etihad bookings by 16th March 2012 to be in with a chance of winning.



This incredible prize consists of a ticket to the Etihad Airways VIP Platinum Box at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester.

The package includes:

- Champagne on arrival
- Pre match four course meal
- Complementary half time and full time refreshments
- Unrivalled and atmospheric match views from a private balcony
- Padded and heated outside seating

To register your booking, please email the ticket number with passenger name and flight itinerary to [pauls@hillsbalfour.com](mailto:pauls@hillsbalfour.com), stating Etihad/Kenya Competition in the subject line.

## Dates For The Diary - Spirit Of Afrika

This Summer, the Masai Cultural Arts has organised a breathtaking theatre production, Spirit of Afrika - Journey to Joy, showcasing the best of African culture through an exciting mix of drumming, dancing, singing, acrobatics and magic.



Throughout June, the Spirit of Afrika artists will be performing a variety of performances at five venues in the UK. Headline acts include the spectacular Zuma Zuma acrobats as seen in America's Got Talent, Snake girls, Dan-kira Arts, Masai Cultural Arts and ACD Arts.

Tickets are available from next week at the various theatre box offices but you can also find more information and updates at [Spirit of Afrika](#) or follow them on [Facebook](#).

It's sure to be an incredible and energetic show so make sure you get your tickets booked in advance.

Dates and venues are as follows:

DATE	VENUE	LOCATION
1 <sup>st</sup> June 2012	Peacock Theatre	London's West End
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	Logan Hall	Central London
10 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	Alban Arena	Hertfordshire
15 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	Broadway	Catford, London
17 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	Nottingham Playhouse	Nottingham

## Beach Management Programme from the Kenya Wildlife Service



Introduced last year, the six month pilot Beach Management Programme by the Kenya Wildlife Service has worked to develop the stretch of beaches between Mombasa and Mtwapa Creek on the north coast. Frequent patrols have been initiated, daily beach clean-ups and the reorganization of beach vendors has meant that the beaches are now much more visitor friendly. Hotels along the stretch of coast have been able to put out sun loungers with full waiter service for guests staying at some of the hotels.

You can see from this picture, the programme has worked incredibly well for both hotel guests and the local community having helped youth employment in the area as well. Sh160 million (£1.2 million) has been invested in the project and following the overwhelming success, it is expected to be extended further along the coast.

You can find out more about the programme and the great work that it is doing at the [Kenya Wildlife Service](#) website.

## Singing Wells Project



Launched in March 2011, the Singing Wells Project is a collaboration between a small record label in London, Abubilla Music and Nairobi's Ketebul Music. It's an initiative which aims to record, celebrate and share the traditional music of Kenya. The inspiration comes from the Samburu tribes people who dig deep wells in the riverbed to collect their water. These wells are often called 'singing wells' as the tribes people often sing to keep a rhythm while lowering and lifting their buckets.

The Singing Wells team will be travelling throughout Kenya and East Africa to discover more about the music and dance of traditional music groups. Their next trip in 2012 will be in March to the Great Rift Valley, tracing the heritage of the Kalenjin – an ethnic group that has produced many of Kenya's top athletes.

You can follow the teams progress as they move through East Africa on the Singing Wells website – [www.singingwells.org](http://www.singingwells.org)

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