

# A Little More 'Out There'

## National Events

**August 1** Lammas Day - Traditional harvest festival when the first bread is made from the new corn **1** Yorkshire Day - Celebrates the historic county of Yorkshire **1 – 8** National Eisteddfod of Wales - week-long festival of singing, music and dance **1** Brighton Pride - free event organised by the gay community **3** Robin Hood Festival - Medieval festival in Sherwood Forest **3 – Oct 3** Houses of Parliament Summer Opening – get your expenses claim ready for the 75-minute tour **6 – 9** Bristol International Balloon Fiesta - Europe's largest hot air balloon festival, with over 100 balloons **7 – 31** Edinburgh Fringe Festival **7 – 29** Edinburgh Military Tattoo - a mixture of marching bands, dance and spectacle **14 – Sept 6** Edinburgh International Festival - major festival of classical music, theatre, opera and dance **12** "The Glorious 12th" Start of the Grouse season **20** A Level results **22 – Sep 21** Ramadan - Holiest month in the Islamic calendar lasts about 30 days, starting and ending with an official sighting of the new moon **22/23** V Festival, Chelmsford and Birmingham – The Killers, Razorlight, The Specials, Oasis, Ocean Colour Scene **28 – 30** Reading Festival / Leeds Festival – Kings of Leon, Arctic Monkeys, Radiohead, The Prodigy **30/31** Notting Hill Carnival, West London - One of Europe's largest carnivals (bigger even than Redhill & Reigate!), up to a million people each year. Sunday is Children's Day & is less crowded. The main event is Monday **31** Summer Bank Holiday **September 4** Blackpool Illuminations - The seaside town is decorated with lights for 6 miles of the sea front **5** Braemar Gathering & Highland Games - Near Balmoral Castle. Traditional gathering, including highland games, bagpipes and Scottish dancing competitions **10-13** Heritage Open Days, England, Wales & Northern Ireland - Free entry to many National Trust properties **12** Last Night of the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall, also classical "Proms in the Park" concerts in Hyde Park in Swansea, Glasgow and Belfast **18-20** Rosh Hashanah Start of the Jewish New Year. Celebration starts at nightfall on the first day

and ends at nightfall 2 days later **18-22** London Fashion Week **22** Autumn Equinox - Day and night are equal length **29** Michaelmas Day

## Sport

**August 7-11** Cricket Fourth Test, Headingley: England v Australia **9** British Superbikes, Brands Hatch **13-16** Golf - US PGA Championship **15-23** Athletics, Berlin: IAAF World Championships **23-30** Rowing, Poznan: World Championships **30** Cricket, First Twenty20, Old Trafford: England v Australia **31-Sep 13** Tennis, New York: US Open **September 1** Cricket, Second Twenty20, Old Trafford **4** Cricket First ODI, The Oval **5** Football, World Cup qualifiers & Friendly international: England v Slovenia **6** Cricket, Second ODI, Lord's **9** Football, World Cup qualifiers **9** Cricket Third ODI, Southampton **12** Cricket Fourth ODI, Lord's **15** Fifth Cricket, ODI, Trent Bridge **17** Cricket, Sixth ODI, Trent Bridge **20** Cricket, Seventh ODI, Chester-le-Street **20** Great North Run - World's largest half-marathon with about 50,000 runners

## Notable Birthdays

**August 3** Tony Bennett & James Hetfield **4** Barack Obama & Louis Armstrong **8** Roger Federer & Dustin Hoffman **13** Fidel Castro & Alfred Hitchcock **18** Robert Redford & Denis Leary **19** Bill Clinton & Gene Rodenberry **23** Keith Moon & Gene Kelly **25** Tim Burton & Sean Connery **31** Richard Gere & Van Morrison **September 2** Jimmy Connors & Keanu Reeves **5** Dweezil Zappa & Bob Newhart **8** Pink & Peter Sellers **11** Moby & Harry Connick Jr **21** Stephen King & HG Wells **25** Michael Douglas & Catherine Zeta Jones **27** Avril Lavigne & Gwyneth Paltrow

## Food in Season

**August** Basil, Crayfish, Greengages, Hare, Peas, Aubergines, Courgettes, Fennel, John Dory, Lettuce, Peppers, Strawberries, Sweetcorn **September** Damsons, Plums, Blackberries, Autumn Lamb, Apples, Partridge, Wood Pigeon, Brown Trout, Duck, Venison, Oysters, Cucumber, Spinach, Figs, Grouse, Mussels, Sea Bass, Onion.

*Andrew Cressy*