

Tinie topping the bill at Gathering Music

THE Godiva Festival might have been a wash-out, but 80,000 dance fans are pinning their hopes on a sunny forecast when GlobalGathering returns to Warwickshire this weekend.

The festival has grown enormously since its low-key launch in 2001 with over 100 acts spread across 16 stages at Long Marston Airfield, near Stratford-upon-Avon.

And there won't be any curfew plug-pulling drama with today's schedule running from 5pm to 3am while tomorrow it's music all the way from noon to 4am.

Tinie Tempah tops today's bill with live shows from Maverick Sabre and Dot Rotten plus sets by Afrojack and Micky Slim featuring Majestic.

And there's a similar mix of established superstars and bright young

things tomorrow with Chase & Status, Friendly Fires and Labrinth plus DJ Fresh, The Japanese Popstars, Major Look and Pete Jordan.

■ The Twins Of Evil tour comes to Birmingham NIA this autumn – nothing to do, sadly, with the racy Hammer horror film starring Mary and Madeleine Collinson, but a two-for-the-price of one package featuring Rob Zombie and Marilyn Manson.

The NIA show is on Thursday, November 29 and tickets go on sale at 9am today, £35.00 plus booking fees from www.theticketfactory.com or 0844 338 8000.

■ Rick Astley, the man who reeled off eight consecutive No.1s during his 80s heyday, has confirmed a full-scale UK tour for the autumn with a date at Birmingham's O2 Academy2 (0844 477 2000) on Thursday, October 18. Tickets are £22.50 and go on sale at 9am today from www.gigsandtours.com.



Tropical treats in store for children

A Walk In The Park

GRAHAM YOUNG VISITS THE BOTANICAL GARDENS

THERE'S a new star attraction at Birmingham Botanical Gardens – and it has opened this week.

After the wettest spring and early

summer in memory, the golden sunshine could not have been better timed for the start of the annual long school holidays. Or butterflies...

THE MAGIC OF MOTOWN

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■ Reach out - the Magic of Motown concert show returns with its brand-new arena show

Motown Magic at The Alex

AIN'T NO mountain high, ain't no valley low, ain't no river wide enough – to keep The Magic of Motown concert show from getting to UK music lovers in 2012. . .

Britain's busiest touring production featuring the music of Motown Records is coming to The Alexandra, Birmingham.

The non-stop spectacular

By GARY MAC

features 36 massive chart-toppers from The Supremes, Temptations, Four Tops, Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Martha Reeves, Lionel Richie and more.

An all-star cast, talented live band, 16 sparkling costume changes and tightly choreo-

graphed dance routines will be "getting to you" on Saturday, September 8, as the show celebrates 50 years of number one hits from the world's favourite record label.

Tickets are available from the Alexandra Theatre box office, from the ticketline 0844 871 3011 or you can buy online: atgtickets.com/Birmingham