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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Award winning comedian Jason Manford Live on Stage**

Aberystwyth Arts Centre  
Tues 17 February 2009 8pm

Information begins....

The multi-award winning Comedian and star of '8 Out of 10 Cats', 'Live at the Apollo', 'The Secret Policeman's Ball 2008' and 'XFM', visits Aberystwyth Arts Centre on Tuesday 17 February as part of his first live national tour with this exciting and hilarious show, that will have audiences begging for more.



*'Deserves a cult following'* Scotsman

*'Very funny'* Peter Kay

*'Hilarious'* Johnny Vegas

*'Engaging and witty'* Sunday Times

Jason Manford hails from Salford, Lancashire, and a writer, comedian, actor, radio and television presenter of Irish descent. He began his career in 1999, while working at the Buzz Comedy Club upstairs at the Southern Hotel in Chorlton, Manchester. Jason was collecting glasses when a performer didn't arrive for an evening set, Jason, who was 17 at the time stepped in to fill the gap, an event which marked the beginning of his comedy career. Six gigs later he was crowned The City Life North West Comedian of the Year.

Jason supports Manchester City FC and has a season ticket with his Dad and three brothers. Jason cites Billy Connolly as the first comedian he saw when he was 9 years old, and as the very first inspiration for him to become a comedian. He has a love for family friendly entertainers like Eric Morecambe, Tommy Cooper and Les Dawson. Later on comics like Jasper Carrott and Dave Allen influenced Jason, but it wasn't until he saw Peter Kay he decided to have a go himself.

After winning several smaller awards, Jason was nominated for the Perrier Award in Edinburgh in 2005 for his show 'Urban Legends', a stand up show about those stories that always seem to happen to a friend of a friend. Jason did the comedy clubs of the UK, including the Comedy Store and Jongleurs and did many gigs abroad as far a field as Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Singapore and China.

His first major television appearance was when he was a guest on the Channel 4 panel show, 8 out of 10 cats, presented by Jimmy Carr, he was on Dave Spikey's team alongside Piers Morgan, and would later go on to replace Dave Spikey as Team Captain on 15th June 2007 and has since recorded 28 episodes.

Jason has performed stand up on television, including "Edinburgh and Beyond" and "The World Stands Up" on the Paramount Channel and 'Comedy Shuffle' on BBC 3. The most high profile of these appearances was when he did a half spot on 'Live at the Apollo' on BBC 1 in November 2007, alongside Jack Dee and Russell Howard. A year later, 12th December 2008, he did the full show on the same show and was introduced by fellow 8 out of 10 Cats team captain, Sean Lock.

His current tour, which started on 4th September 2008 and runs till 8th March 2009 includes 94 dates, and has so far sold over 42000 tickets. Not bad going!

Tickets for the Aberystwyth gig are £14 and can be booked by calling 01970 62 32 32 or online at [www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre](http://www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre)

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Notes to editors:

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