

# FESTIVAL ROUNDUP



The crowd at JLS in Swindon

Picture: Media Ink PR

Nine gigs in four weeks was the challenge for Andy Cotton and the team at TAO Productions. Christina Eccles caught up with him on site at JLS' gig in Swindon's Lydiard Park.

## Summer gigs keep Andy busy

AS the 'Judith Chalmers of the music industry', Andy has worked on projects all over the world.

Although his latest gigs were slightly closer to home, they still involved visiting destinations all over the UK to deliver gigs by Rod Stewart, Bon Jovi and boyband of the moment JLS.

Challenges for the team included switching from producing an event in a greenfield site – such as Lydiard Park for one of the JLS gigs – to bringing the large Bon Jovi production to a football stadium in Bristol.

The ever unpredictable British

weather also played a part, with Andy also having to cater to audiences ranging from young kids upwards depending on who was playing.

But despite having to work hard to meet the tight timescale, he told *The Main Event* he had enjoyed the experience of working on them all.

He added: "Bon Jovi was amazing as it was an extremely large production going into a small stadium. JLS was also fun and Rod Stewart is also great to work with. It was a nice series of gigs but a lot in one go so we had to multi task."



Andy Cotton with Rod Stewart



Bon Jovi in Bristol

**Staging:**  
 European Staging – Rod Stewart  
 Stageco – Bon Jovi  
 Serious Stages – JLS  
 Toilets / Barriers / Fencing  
 Event Wizards  
 Lighting  
 HSL – JLS  
 Security  
 AP Security  
 Sound  
 Major Tom – Rod Stewart  
 Capital Sound – JLS

**Power**  
 Powerline – JLS  
 Backroom – Rod Stewart  
**Event / Production / Stage / Safety Management**  
 TAO Productions  
 TAO Crew Lists  
 Event Manager – Andy Cotton  
 Stage Manager – Darren Wring  
 Event Medical – Kevin Hitchens  
 Site Managers – Will Tonkin, Graham Jones

**Safety Managers** – Jon Perry, Chris Harvey, Jamie Johnstone  
**Infrastructure** – Chris Fitzgerald  
**Production Assistants** – Justin Britchford, Poppy Roth, Ben Adams  
 Security Manager – John Phillips  
 Production Manager Bon Jovi – Jesse Sandler  
 Production Manager JLS – Iain Whitehead  
 Production Manager Rod Stewart – Lars Brogaard