Performers bags success in acting challenge on hit drag queen show

West Bromwich-born drag queen Baga Chipz has won her first main challenge on RuPaul’s Drag Race UK.

The performer, now based in London, was crowned the winner of the acting challenge that saw the nine remaining queens split into groups to act out scenes in period drama Downtown Draggy.

Baga’s performance was praised by judges, and saw the Black Country artist award the show’s ‘Ru Peter Badge’, following in fellow contestant The Vivienne’s footsteps.

Birmingham queen Sum Ting Wong was also given positive critiques and has gone through to the next round.

The 30-year-old performer also spoke candidly during the episode about the relationship between her family and drag.

“I don’t want to throw it in their face like: ‘Ah look you’ve got a gay son, ah look he dresses as a woman as his job’,”

Sum Ting Wong, the character of Brunnie Bo Zeng, explained, after revealing she keeps her personal life and performing life separate.

This week’s lip sync battle saw youngest Drag Race contestant Scaredy Kat and Irish queen Bla Hydrangea face off to Bananaama’s Venue. Twenty-year-old Scaredy Kat became the second queen to go home, following Gethy Kendal’s exit in the first week. The eight remaining queens are competing to be crowned the first champion of the UK version of the hit show.

The winner will be rewarded with their own programmes produced by the team behind RuPaul In Hollywood. The US series of the show has been a hit around the world and has won a string of Emmys.

RuPaul’s Drag Race UK continues on BBC Three.

Meanwhile The official RuPaul’s Drag Race UK tour comes to Birmingham later this year.

The show, including Baga Chipz and Sum Ting Wong, comes to The Alexandra Theatre in December.

Building up a picture of wartime cinema’s past

IT was built to entertain British troops stationed in Germany in the 1950s and help prevent homesickness.

Rowley Regis-born university academic John Goodyear is researching the history of military theatre and cinema The Globe in Oldenburg.

Constructed on the site of the Oldenburg schwee barracks in 1954, it was inspired by the creation of the first Globe at Gohowen, Shropshire, in 1916 and other venues that followed.

Dr Goodyear, a lecturer in English as a Modern Foreign Language at the University of Birmingham, is now renewing his appeal for people who were stationed in Oldenburg while completing National Service in the 1950s.

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