

The diary

Linda Seward's diary of the best of what's on in theatre, music, exhibitions, arts and the countryside.

Theatre

Richmond Theatre

Richmond

Tickets: atgtickets.com/richmond

Saturday 14 September

Nicholas Parsons and Gyles

Brandreth: Just a Minute or Two!

Celebrating half a century of friendship with tales from their different careers.

Monday 16 to

Saturday 21 September

A Woman of No Importance

Oscar Wilde classic starring Liza Goddard and Roy Hudd.

Tuesday 24 to

Saturday 28 September

Boeing-Boeing

New production of this comedy classic with Susie Blake.

Monday 7 to Saturday 12 October

A Taste of Honey

Shelagh Delaney's taboo-breaking play returns.

New Victoria Theatre

Woking

Tickets: atgtickets.com/woking

Monday 2 to Saturday 7 September

The Mousetrap

Popular thriller from the pen of Agatha Christie.

Tuesday 10 September

Jimmy Carr – Terribly Funny

Comedian on tour.

Wednesday 18 to

Saturday 21 September

Northern Ballet – Cinderella

A beautiful re-imagining of the classic fairytale.

Tuesday 1 October

Rip It Up – The 70s

Singing and dancing with

Louis Smith and Rachel Stevens.

Monday 7 to Saturday 12 October

Avenue Q

Mischievous and popular musical.

New Wimbledon Theatre

Wimbledon

Tickets: atgtickets.com/wimbledon

Tuesday 24 to

Saturday 28 September

The Exorcist

A new stage production direct from the West End.

Tuesday 1 to Saturday 5 October

Calendar Girls – The Musical

Popular true-life inspired comedy.

Cranleigh Arts Centre

Cranleigh

Tickets: cranleighartscentre.org

Friday 13 September

Andy Parsons: Work in Progress

– Healing the Nation

Talented comedian warms up for his new tour.

Saturday 28 September

I Believe in Unicorns

Wizard Presents brings Michael Morpurgo's wonderful story to life.

Epsom Playhouse

Epsom

Tickets: epsomplayhouse.co.uk

Tuesday 1 October

Sh*t-faced Shakespeare:

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Award-winning fringe phenomenon on a UK tour. Classical theatre as it was always meant to be seen...



Sh*t-faced Shakespeare, Epsom Playhouse and Farnham Maltings PHOTO COPYRIGHT: RAH PETHERBRIDGE



Northern Ballet – Cinderella, New Victoria Theatre, Woking PHOTO COPYRIGHT: BILL COOPER



James Acaster, G Live

Farnham Maltings

Farnham

Tickets: farnhammaltings.com

Thursday 19 September

Alan Johnson: In My Life

Popular ex-politician tells his personal story.

Friday 20 September

Jonny and The Baptists

Love Farnham...

Multi award-nominated musical-activist comedians.

Thursday 3 October

Sh*t-faced Shakespeare:

A Midsummer Night's Dream

See listing under Epsom Playhouse.

G Live

Guildford

Tickets: glive.co.uk

Monday 9 September

James Acaster: Cold Lasagne

Hate Myself 1999

New show from this very talented comedian.

Saturday 28 September

One Duck Down

For children aged three and up, a true tale of 7,000 rubber ducks cast adrift in a mighty storm.

Rose Theatre Kingston

Kingston-upon-Thames

Tickets: rosetheatrekingston.org

Monday 9 to Saturday 14 September

Friendsical

Musical parody of the popular television series.

Yvonne Arnaud Theatre

Guildford

Tickets: yvonne-arnaud.co.uk

Thursday 5 to

Saturday 14 September

What's In A Name?

Comedy starring Joe Thomas from *The Inbetweeners*.

Monday 23 to

Saturday 28 September

The Night Watch

New production of a tale from the pen of Sarah Waters.

Music

Boilerroom

Guildford

Tickets: theboilerroom.net

Throughout the year

A community hub showcasing music, events and the arts.

See website for gig details.

Kempton Park Racecourse

Sunbury-on-Thames

Tickets: thejockeyclub.co.uk

Saturday 7 September

80s' day with Martin Kemp

A day of racing with an after-party DJ set from 80s' icon Martin.

Southern Pro Musica

Yvonne Arnaud Theatre

Tickets: yvonne-arnaud.co.uk

Saturday 21 September

Music and Shakespeare

Orchestral masterpieces inspired by the works of Shakespeare.

Festivals

Cranleigh Folk Festival

Knowle Park, Cranleigh

Information: cranleighfolk.com

Friday 13 to Sunday 15 September

A new camping festival with two live music stages, performing arts, workshops and a food village.

G Live Beer Festival

G Live, Guildford

Tickets: glive.co.uk

Friday 6 to Saturday 7 September

The best local live music, food and drink.

Haslemere Food Festival

Lion Green Haslemere

Information:

facebook @haslemerefoodfestival

Saturday 21 September

Popular festival with all things food and drink, plus group classes.

WIN a pair of tickets to see Heartbeat of Home



Brought to you by the producers of *Riverdance*, *Heartbeat of Home* is an extraordinary dance extravaganza, embracing flavours and cultures from around the world! This September and October you can see this spine-tingling, tantalising and high octane dance production that features the dynamic, vibrant components of traditional Irish, Latin, hip-hop, Afro-Cuban and contemporary music and dance, uniting performers and audiences on journeys to find a home, wherever that may be. In London's West End for a strictly limited season only, don't miss your chance and book tickets now.

The show features a world-class cast of 37, including a 10-piece band playing electrifying music by award-winning composer Brian Byrne, as well as cutting-edge projection technology.

"When we marry the sexiness of salsa to the thunder of Irish dance, the lyricism of tango to the yearning of traditional Irish song, what a night of storytelling we shall have," says award-winning Irish writer Joseph O'Connor, who developed the concept and the lyrics, working alongside producer Moya Doherty and director John McColgan.

"An extraordinary show...jaw dropping scale...inspiringly imaginative..." *Irish Mail on Sunday*

"Sexy, electrifying dance show had every heart in theatre missing a beat..." *Irish Independent*

For a chance to win a pair of tickets to *Heartbeat of Home*, visit www.essence-magazine.co.uk and answer the following question:

Name the famous theatre show featuring Irish music and dance which the producers of *Heartbeat of Home* produced and directed?
a) *Strangedance* b) *Riverdance* c) *Charlesdance*
Closing date Friday 20 September 2019.

essence INFO

Heartbeat of Home is showing at Piccadilly Theatre, 16 Denman Street, London W1D 7DY from Wednesday 4 September to Sunday 13 October 2019. Shows: Monday to Saturday at 7.30pm, Thursday and Saturday 2.30pm and Sunday 3pm.

Website: www.livenation.co.uk/venue/616817/the-piccadilly-theatre-tickets

Terms and conditions: One reader will win two tickets to see *Heartbeat of Home* valid for all Monday to Friday performances until 13 October 2019. Subject to availability. No cash alternative. Travel and accommodation not included.



La Châteline, c. 1930, J.D. Fergusson. Courtesy of Perth Museum & Art Gallery. The Scottish Colourists, *The Lightbox*



Freediver Chelsea Yamasee, Ocean Film Festival, *G Live* PHOTO COPYRIGHT: TRAVIS BURKE



Polesden Lacey in autumn PHOTO COPYRIGHT: NATIONAL TRUST IMAGES/JOHN MILLAR



Spotlight on...

The Surrey County Ploughing Match
Lane End Farm, Lawbrook Lane, Gomshall

Sunday 29 September, 9am–1pm

Step back in time at The Surrey County Ploughing Match taking place this year at Lane End Farm in Gomshall. Bringing together around 70 ploughmen and women, along with their tractors, ploughs and heavy horses, this event creates a wonderful rural spectacle across 60 acres of farmland. A qualifier for the British National Ploughing Championships, the match will start at 9am with the launch of a rocket and includes classes for conventional and vintage tractors, hand ploughs and fabulous horses (see image left). Competition is fierce, with judges awarding marks for skill and accuracy. Entry and parking is free and refreshments will be available.

Information: Surrey County Agricultural Society on 01483 890810 or Facebook and Twitter @SurreyShow

Ocean Film Festival World Tour

G Live, Guildford

Information: oceanfilmfestival.co.uk

Friday 13 September

Spectacular ocean-themed films.

Surrey Chilli Festival

Imber Court, East Molesey

Tickets: allinone.events

Saturday 7 to Sunday 8 September

Over 100 different stalls with chilli-themed products, alongside music and entertainment.

Surrey Hills Food & Drink Festival

Denbies Wine Estate, Dorking

Information: surreyhills.org

Saturday 14 to

Sunday 15 September

Food and drink from the Surrey Hills and beyond, including gourmet barbecue, locally-reared meat, Surrey Hills' wines, live music and a kids' zone, all set in the stunning environment of Denbies' vineyard.

Wey River Festival

Dapdune Wharf, Guildford

Information: nationaltrust.org.uk

Saturday 21 September

Stands, food, craft activities and illuminated pageant at dusk.

Exhibitions

New Ashgate Gallery

Farnham

Information: newashgate.org.uk

Saturday 21 September

to Saturday 2 November

Surrey Artist of the Year 2019

Members of the public can vote for their favourite artist in this partnership between the gallery and Surrey Artists Open Studios.

Surrey Sculpture Society

RHS Wisley

Information: surreysculpture.org.uk

To Sunday 22 September

Follow a trail of sculpture featuring more than 100 works.

The Lightbox

Woking

Information: thelightbox.org.uk

Saturday 7 September

to Sunday 12 January 2020

Burning Bright:

The Scottish Colourists

The works of four admired artists: S.J. Peplow, J.D. Fergusson, G.L. Hunter and F.C.B. Cadell.

Watts Gallery

Compton, Guildford

Information: wattsgallery.org.uk

To Sunday 3 November

John Frederick Lewis: Facing Fame

Monographic exhibition on the nineteenth century artist.

Saturday 7 September to

Sunday 20 October

Watts Ceramics 2019

The Gallery's first show of present-day ceramics.

National Trust

National Trust properties offer perfect venues to explore any time of the year. We list a few, but visit nationaltrust.org.uk for more.

Polesden Lacey

Great Bookham, near Dorking

Information: **01372 452048**

Monday 9 September to

Thursday 14 November

Polesden Voices exhibition

Bringing to life the stories of people who have lived and worked at Polesden over the last century.

Wednesday 11 September to

Sunday 17 November

Autumn art at Polesden Lacey

Use fallen leaves to help create an autumn art installation.

Out and about

Brooklands Museum

Weybridge

Tickets: brooklandsmuseum.com

Sunday 22 September

Brooklands Aviation Day

The whole site will be dedicated to Brooklands' rich and varied connection with all things aviation.

David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation Golf Day

Cranleigh Golf & Country Club

Information: davidshepherd.org

Friday 6 September

A great day of fun, food and healthy competition to raise funds for endangered wildlife.

Gatton Park

Reigate

Tickets: gattonpark.co.uk

Sunday 22 September, 2–4pm

Head gardener talk

A presentation on the Japanese garden by Dan Ryan.

Heritage Open Days

Various locations

Information: heritageopendays.org.uk

Friday 13 to Sunday 22 September



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service based in Weybridge**
Serving the local community

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Group walk one hour £12.50
Solo walk one hour £16
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Fully insured • DBS/CRB certified
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Eight years' experience
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Brooklands Aviation Day PHOTO COPYRIGHT: BROOKLANDS MUSEUM

Celebrating its 25th anniversary with ten days of free events, this is an opportunity to explore places not normally open to the public.

**Margaret Atwood:
Live in Cinemas**
Various locations

Information: margaretatwoodlive.com

Tuesday 10 September
Margaret Atwood celebrates the publication of her sequel to *The Handmaid's Tale*, *The Testaments*, live on stage at London's National Theatre, an event to be broadcast to over 1,000 cinemas worldwide.

Painshill Park
Cobham

Tickets: painshill.co.uk

Tuesday 17 September, 7–8.30pm
Painshill guided bat walk

Enjoy the delights of the landscape garden whilst observing bats in their natural habitat and listening to them with bat detectors.

RHS Garden Wisley
Woking

Tickets: rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley

Tuesday 3 to Sunday 8 September
RHS Garden Wisley Flower Show
Fabulous show, with over 50 nurseries, more than 20 trade stands and spectacular floral displays.

Rural Life Centre
Tilford, Farnham

Information: rural-life.org.uk

Sunday 8 September
Donkey day out

Learn all about these gentle animals through talks, demonstrations and displays.

Sunday 15 September
Classic vehicle gathering

All manner of vintage vehicles.

Surrey Hills Challenge
Denbies Wine Estate, Dorking

Information: surreyhillschallenge.com

Sunday 22 September
Running and walking events to raise funds for the Surrey Hills' Trust Fund. Six distances – from 60km to one kilometre – a walk or run for all abilities.

Surrey Wildlife Trust
Various locations

Information: surreywildlifetrust.org

Saturday 7 September,
10am–12 noon

Wisley in bloom

A guided walk to experience the heather in all its lustre.

Saturday 28 September, 9–10.30am
Riverside bird walk

Discover the beauty of Thundry Meadows and the wetland birds who call it home.