

# 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](http://atgtickets.com/richmond)

Monday 7 to Saturday 12 October

**A Taste of Honey**

Taboo-breaking play returns.

Monday 14 to Saturday 19 October

**Prism**

Production based on the life of cinematic master Jack Cardiff, starring Robert Lindsay.

Monday 21 to Saturday 26 October

**Nigel Slater's Toast**

Funny and touching show.

Wednesday 30 October to

Saturday 2 November

**Billionaire Boy**

Based on the David Walliams' book.

Tuesday 5 to Saturday 9 November

**The Night Watch**

By best-selling author Sarah Waters.

**New Victoria Theatre**  
Woking

**Tickets:** [atgtickets.com/woking](http://atgtickets.com/woking)

Monday 7 to Saturday 12 October

**Avenue Q**

Mischievous and popular musical.

Tuesday 15 to Saturday 19 October

**9 to 5 The Musical**

Dolly Parton's famous show.

Thursday 24 to Friday 25 October

**Romesh Ranganathan –**

**The Cynic's Mixtape**

Popular comic with new routine.

Monday 28 October to

Saturday 2 November

**The Girl on the Train**

Mystery thriller.

**New Wimbledon Theatre**  
Wimbledon

**Tickets:** [atgtickets.com/wimbledon](http://atgtickets.com/wimbledon)

Monday 7 to Saturday 12 October

**Priscilla, Queen of the Desert**

New tour starring Joe McFadden.

Wednesday 23 to

Saturday 26 October

**WLOS' The Wizard of Oz**

Classic, family-friendly tale.

Friday 1 to Sunday 3 November

**How The Grinch Stole Christmas**

**The Musical**

Magical Dr. Seuss story.

**Cranleigh Arts Centre**  
Cranleigh

**Tickets:** [cranleighartscentre.org](http://cranleighartscentre.org)

Saturday 12 October

**You've Got Dragons**

Family show based on the book by Kathryn Cave.

Wednesday 30 October

**Night Terrors**

Spine-tingling tales of the supernatural told by Gerard Logan.

**Epsom Playhouse**  
Epsom

**Tickets:** [epsomplayhouse.co.uk](http://epsomplayhouse.co.uk)

Wednesday 9 to

Saturday 12 October

**Hinchley Manor Operatic Society**

**present The Sound of Music**

A nostalgic performance featuring song favourites *Climb Every Mountain*, *My Favourite Things* and *Do-Re-Mi*.

Friday 8 November

**Rock for Heroes**

New live music experience in aid of Help for Heroes.



Heat Pang by Orlanda Broom, Surrey Artist of the Year competition, New Ashgate Gallery PHOTO COPYRIGHT: ORLANDA BROOM



Avenue Q, New Victoria Theatre, Woking

Lisa Stansfield, *G Live* PHOTO COPYRIGHT: GRACIELAND

## Farnham Maltings

Farnham

**Tickets:** [farnhammaltings.com](http://farnhammaltings.com)

Sunday 13 October

**Morgan & West:**

**Unbelievable Science**

Family science extravaganza.

Friday 18 October

**Mark Watson: The Infinite Show**

Popular comedian on tour.

Thursday 24 October

**Macbeth by Proteus**

A re-imagining of a classic play.

## Guildford Shakespeare Company

St Nicolas' Church,  
Bury Street, Guildford

**Tickets:**

[guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk](http://guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk)

Saturday 12 October to

Saturday 2 November

**All's Well That Ends Well**

A special staging of this rarely seen Shakespeare gem.

## Rose Theatre Kingston

Kingston-upon-Thames

**Tickets:** [rosetheatrekington.org](http://rosetheatrekington.org)

Tuesday 22 to Saturday 26 October

**The Lovely Bones**

An adaptation of Alice Sebold's wonderful book.

## Yvonne Arnaud Theatre

Guildford

**Tickets:** [yvonne-arnaud.co.uk](http://yvonne-arnaud.co.uk)

Monday 7 to Saturday 12 October

**Gaslight**

Martin Shaw in a new production of this thriller, memorably filmed in 1944 starring the legendary Ingrid Bergman.

Monday 28 October to

Saturday 2 November

**A Woman of No Importance**

Oscar Wilde's play starring Liza Goddard and Roy Hudd.

Monday 4 to Saturday 9 November

**Frankenstein**

A new adaptation of Mary Shelley's gothic masterpiece.

## Music

### Boilerroom

Guildford

**Tickets:** [theboilerroom.net](http://theboilerroom.net)

Throughout the year

A community hub showcasing music, events and the arts.

See website for gig details.

### Epworth Choir

H G Wells Centre, Woking

**Tickets:** [epworthchoir.org](http://epworthchoir.org)

Saturday 2 November

**The Pirates of Penzance**

Performance of Gilbert and

Sullivan's popular comic operetta.

### G Live

Guildford

**Tickets:** [glive.co.uk](http://glive.co.uk)

Tuesday 22 October

**Lisa Stansfield**

Eighties' icon Lisa marks the 30th anniversary of her debut solo album *Affection*.

Wednesday 6 November

**Squeeze, plus special guests**

**Heaven 17**

An extensive list of hits on offer and some lesser-known gems.

### Opera Holloway

Various locations

**Information:** [operaholloway.co.uk](http://operaholloway.co.uk)

Until Saturday 12 October

**La Bohème**

A new production of Puccini's

tear-jerker with performances

locally on 5 October at Vera

Fletcher Hall in Thames Ditton,

10 October at St Teresa's School,

Effingham and on 12 October at

St Martin's Church, Epsom.

### The Electric Theatre

Guildford

**Tickets:** [electric.theatre](http://electric.theatre)

Saturday 26 October

**The Clare Teal Duo**

A night of inspired entertainment.

# WIN

four tickets to the RSC's London Season at the Barbican



The Royal Shakespeare Company returns to the Barbican with three new Shakespeare productions, direct from Stratford-upon-Avon: *As You Like It*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Measure for Measure*. Featuring a company of 27 actors, this electrifying season explores the themes of morality, love, power and gender and sparks with striking resonance.

***As You Like It*** "Inventive, playful, captivating" ★★★★★ *Daily Telegraph*  
Blending physical comedy, music and storytelling, this *As You Like It* dares you to change your state of mind.

***The Taming of the Shrew*** "A landmark production as women take charge" ★★★★★ *Evening Standard*  
In this radical take on Shakespeare's fierce and energetic comedy of gender, Baptista Minola is seeking to marry off her two sons, the sweet-tempered Bianco and the rebellious Katherine. Cue an explosive courtship and a keenly witty portrayal of hierarchy and power.

***Measure for Measure*** "Excellent... a rolling mass of desire, repression and duplicity" ★★★★★ *Financial Times*  
In a conflicted society of promiscuity and puritanical law, this new production unveils a shadowy world of repression and dubious morals, which feels astonishingly urgent today.

For a chance to win four tickets to the production of your choice, visit [www.essence-magazine.co.uk](http://www.essence-magazine.co.uk) and answer the following question:

**How many actors feature in the company?**

a) 25 b) 26 c) 27

Closing date Friday 25 October 2019.

## essence INFO

The RSC London Season at the Barbican runs from 26 October 2019 to 18 January 2020 with 200 tickets per performance at £10 or less. For more information and to book tickets, visit [rsc.org.uk/london](http://rsc.org.uk/london).

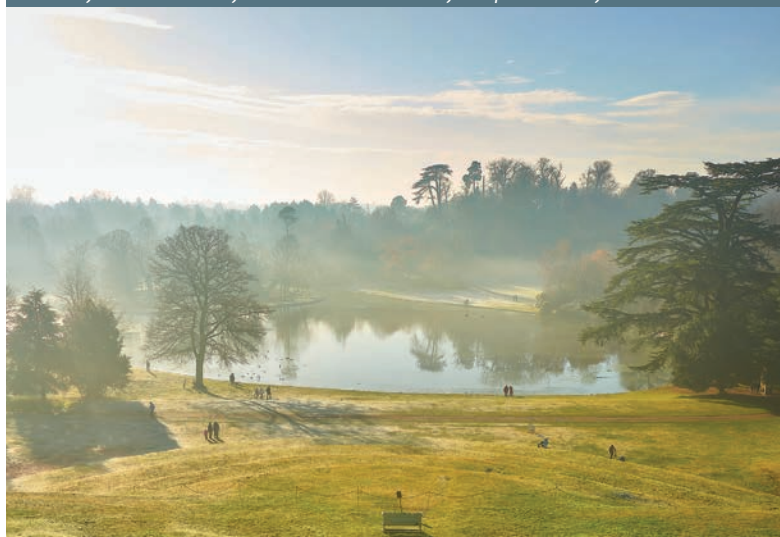
**Terms and conditions:** One reader will win four band A tickets to see the production of their choice, valid for Monday to Thursday performances until 28 November 2019. Accommodation and travel are not included. Subject to availability. No cash alternative available.



Trail Dog, Top Dog Film Festival, Dorking Halls



Sunset by Jonathan Hateley, The Savill Garden, Surrey Sculpture Society



Amphitheatre at Claremont Landscape Garden, Esher PHOTO COPYRIGHT: NT/MARCO CINNIRELLA



David Suchet, 2019 Guildford Book Festival. PHOTO COPYRIGHT: ROBIN SINHA

# Spotlight on...

## 2019 Guildford Book Festival

Various locations, Guildford

**Sunday 6 October to Sunday 13 October**

Yet another fantastic line-up of speakers for this year's 30th Guildford Book Festival, from household names such as presenter John Craven and poet Pam Ayres to authors such as Louis de Bernières and Sarah Perry. In addition, actor and star of *Poirot*, David Suchet, pictured left, celebrates 50 years on stage and screen in his book *Behind the Lens – My Life in Photos* on 6 October. Former *Blue Peter* presenter Konnie Huq will headline a series of events for children and young readers, whilst historian Max Hastings appears at The Electric Theatre on 7 October as he discusses his *Chastise – The Dambusters Story 1943*. 12 October sees Readers' Day, a mini festival in a day, and 13 October features adventurer and wildlife expert Steve Backshall in conversation about his book and television series *Expedition* at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre.

**Information:** [guildfordbookfestival.co.uk](http://guildfordbookfestival.co.uk)

## Festivals

### Chobham Flower and Music Festival 2019

Various venues, Chobham

**Information:** [festival.chobham.org](http://festival.chobham.org)

**To Saturday 12 October**

Diverse music, art, theatre and cultural events, plus flower festivals. Concerts include Chobham Rock Choir on 4 October and David Soo on 5 October.

### Top Dog Film Festival

Dorking Halls

**Tickets:** [topdogfilmfestival.co.uk](http://topdogfilmfestival.co.uk)

**Wednesday 30 October**

Calling all dog lovers! This festival is a collection of canine-inspired short films celebrating dogs and their people, touring for the first time this autumn.

### Festival of Crafts

Farnham Maltings

**Information:** [farnhammaltings.com](http://farnhammaltings.com)

**Saturday 26 to Sunday 27 October**

Discover handmade crafts and buy direct from the makers from this festival now in its 23rd year. Over 90 of the UK's leading crafts people selling jewellery, ceramics, textiles, glass, leatherwork, homeware and more.

## Exhibitions

### New Ashgate Gallery

Farnham

**Information:** [newashgate.org.uk](http://newashgate.org.uk)

**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

The Savill Garden, Englefield Green, near Egham

**Information:** [surreysculpture.org.uk](http://surreysculpture.org.uk)

**To Sunday 24 November**

The Society rounds off its 25th anniversary year with a major exhibition of over 64 sculptures.

### The Lightbox

Woking

**Information:** [thelightbox.org.uk](http://thelightbox.org.uk)

**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.

**Saturday 26 October to**

**Sunday 5 January 2020**

**The Outside and The Inside**

A new Upper Gallery exhibition.

### Watts Gallery

Compton, Guildford

**Information:** [wattsgallery.org.uk](http://wattsgallery.org.uk)

**To Sunday 3 November**

**John Frederick Lewis: Facing Fame**

Monographic exhibition featuring the nineteenth century artist.

**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](http://nationaltrust.org.uk) for more.

### Claremont Landscape Garden

Esher

**Information:** [01372 467806](http://01372467806)

**Saturday 19 October to**

**Sunday 3 November**

**Half-term potion-making trail**

Search the ghoulish garden for mysterious ingredients!

**Tuesday 29, Wednesday 30**

**October and Friday 1 November**

**Creepy crafts**

Get creative with spooky crafts.

### Polesden Lacey

Great Bookham, near Dorking

**Information:** [01372 452048](http://01372452048)

**To Thursday 14 November**

**Polesden Voices exhibition**

The stories of people who have lived and worked at Polesden over the last century.

**To Sunday 17 November**

**Autumn art at Polesden Lacey**

Use fallen leaves to help create an autumn art installation.

**Saturday 26 October to**

**Sunday 3 November**

**Halloween trail**

A spooky family trail.

## Out and about

### Brooklands Museum

Weybridge

**Tickets:** [brooklandsmuseum.com](http://brooklandsmuseum.com)

**Sunday 13 October**

**Autumn Motorsport Day**

Competition cars from all ages on the adjacent Mercedes-Benz World circuit, with Test Hill in action.

**Monday 28 October to**

**Friday 1 November**

**Half-term family fun**

Car rides, tours on Concorde, pedal planes and family workshops.



# WIN

## A PAIR OF TICKETS

# Rock for Heroes

Following a hugely-successful first year of touring, the live music experience *Rock For Heroes* brings your favourite rock and pop artists from across the eras to support the incredible charity, *Help for Heroes*. Be part of the rock show everyone is talking about, packed full of hits and laughter. For a chance to win a pair of tickets to *Rock for Heroes*, go to [www.essence-magazine.co.uk](http://www.essence-magazine.co.uk) and answer the following question:

Which charity does *Rock for Heroes* support?

- a) Hogan's Heroes   b) Kelly's Heroes   c) Help for Heroes

Closing date Friday 25 October 2019.

### essence INFO

*Rock for Heroes* is showing at The Epsom Playhouse, 8 November, 7.30pm. Call the box office: 01372 742555 or visit [www.epsomplayhouse.co.uk](http://www.epsomplayhouse.co.uk) for tickets (£19). For more on the show, visit [www.totalproductions.co.uk](http://www.totalproductions.co.uk).

**Terms and conditions:** One reader will win two tickets to see *Rock For Heroes* at The Epsom Playhouse on 8 November 2019. Subject to availability. No cash alternative. Travel and accommodation not included.

Surrey  
Sculpture  
Society

## Affordable Art

Created by members of the  
Surrey Sculpture Society  
for your home and garden

The Savill Garden – Englefield Green

Discover inspirational art in a beautiful setting  
25th September – 24th November

[www.surreysculpture.org.uk](http://www.surreysculpture.org.uk)



Ruined abbey and autumn trees, Autumn Tree Festival, Painshill Park PHOTO COPYRIGHT: PAINSHILL PARK

### Farnham Craft Town

Various venues

Information: [crafttownengland.org](http://crafttownengland.org)

Throughout October

Makers and craft organisations across Farnham showcase the finest in contemporary arts and crafts. See the website for a full schedule of participants.

### Gatton Park

Reigate

Tickets: [gattonpark.co.uk](http://gattonpark.co.uk)

Sunday 6 October, 1–5pm

#### Orchard Day

Apple tasting and juicing demonstrations in the walled garden.

### Haslemere Museum

Haslemere

Information: [haslemeremuseum.co.uk](http://haslemeremuseum.co.uk)

Thursday 31 October, 1.30–4pm

#### Horrific Halloween

Make Halloween-related crafts, bring a pumpkin or squash to carve and take part in the Halloween procession through Haslemere.

### Painshill Park

Cobham

Tickets: [painshill.co.uk](http://painshill.co.uk)

Saturday 26 to Sunday 27 October

#### Autumn Tree Festival

Children's trails and installations, demonstrations, craft stalls and more.

### RHS Garden Wisley

Woking

Tickets: [rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley](http://rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley)

Wednesday 16 to Sunday 20 October

#### Taste of Autumn

Discover Wisley's almost 700-strong collection of apples, plus lots more.

Thursday 31 October

#### Wisley after dark

Follow a spooky trail through the garden and The Glasshouse.

Saturday 2 November

#### Firework night

Wisley's first ever, family-friendly, low-bang firework display.

### Rural Life Centre

Tilford, Farnham

Information: [rural-life.org.uk](http://rural-life.org.uk)

Saturday 26 October, 3–6pm

#### All Hallows Eve

Look into the future with Madame Zizzi, listen to a ghost story, ride a ghost train – a creepy session of stories and activities.

### Surrey Hills Wood Fair 2019

Fish Pond Copse, Cranleigh

Information: [surreyhills.org](http://surreyhills.org)

Saturday 5 to Sunday 6 October

A great family day out to celebrate the Surrey Hills and local heritage: zip wires, tree climbing, crafts and animal attractions plus more.