

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

Tuesday 7 May

Paul Merton's Impro Chums

Collective improvisational skills.

Saturday 11 May

The Guilty Feminist – Live

Comedian Deborah Francis-White with special touring version of popular podcast.

Wednesday 15 May

Reginald D Hunter – Facing the Beast

Searingly honest comedian on tour.

Monday 27 May to Saturday 1 June

Admissions

New comedy starring Alex Kingston and Sarah Hadland.

New Victoria Theatre

Woking

Tickets: atgtickets.com/woking

Saturday 11 May

In The Night Garden Live

Popular show for young children.

Thursday 30 May

Russell Kane –

The Fast and the Curious

Energetic and award-winning comedian on tour.

Saturday 1 June

The Guilty Feminist – Live

See listing above for Richmond.

Thursday 6 June

Michael McIntyre: Big World Tour

Continued – Warm Up Show

Popular comedian continues his warm-up shows around the UK before embarking on tour.

New Wimbledon Theatre

Wimbledon

Tickets: atgtickets.com/wimbledon

Thursday 9 to Saturday 11 May

In The Willows

Twenty-first century musical update to a classic tale.

Tuesday 14 to Saturday 18 May

American Idiot

Green Day's explosive rock musical.

Wednesday 22 to Saturday 25 May

Amélie

A new musical based on the film.

BANOS Musical Theatre

The Adrian Mann Theatre, Nescot College, Ewell

Tickets: ticketsource.co.uk/banos

Wednesday 15 to Saturday 18 May

Bad Girls The Musical

Entertaining British musical based on the television drama.

Dorking Halls

Dorking

Tickets: dorkinghalls.co.uk

Thursday 9 May

Jimmy Carr: Terribly Funny

A new show with jokes about all kinds of terrible things.

Tuesday 14 May

In The Night Garden Live

See listing under New Victoria.

Epsom Playhouse

Epsom

Tickets: epsomplayhouse.co.uk

Saturday 18 May

Lucy Porter – Pass It On

New stand-up show from this witty and thought-provoking comedian.



Alex Kingston and Sarah Hadland in Admissions, Richmond Theatre



Mary Portas in Conversation, Farnham Maltings

Deborah Francis-White, The Guilty Feminist – Live, Richmond and New Victoria Theatres

Farnham Maltings

Farnham

Tickets: farnhammaltings.com

Saturday 11 May, 10am–5pm

Maltings at 50

Celebrate the Maltings' 50th birthday with live music, family activities, performances and more.

Tuesday 21 May

Mary Portas in Conversation:

The Work Like a Woman Tour

Queen of Shops Mary Portas discusses her life, career and book.

Rose Theatre Kingston

Kingston-upon-Thames

Tickets: rosetheatrekingston.org

To Sunday 12 May

Captain Corelli's Mandolin

Based on the much-loved novel by Louis de Bernieres.

Wednesday 29 May to Sunday 2 June

The Gruffalo

Fabulous musical stage show performed by Tall Stories.

The Electric Theatre

Guildford

Tickets: electric.theatre

Wednesday 29 May

The Handlebards: The Tempest

The world's first cycling theatre company with a unique production.

The Woodfield Entertainers

Ashted Peace Memorial Hall

Tickets: woodfieldentertainers.co.uk

Thursday 16 to Saturday 18 May

Crime and Rhythm

A two-part show consisting of a murder mystery and a second act full of songs, dances and sketches.

Yvonne Arnaud Theatre

Guildford

Tickets: yvonne-arnaud.co.uk

Tuesday 7 to Saturday 11 May

Equus

Based Peter Shaffer's thriller.

Thursday 30 May to Saturday 1 June

Mindgame

Anthony Horowitz thriller.

Music

Boilerroom

Guildford

Tickets: theboilerroom.net

Throughout the year
A community hub showcasing music, events and the arts.
See website for gig details.

Cranleigh Arts Centre

Cranleigh

Tickets: cranleighartscentre.org

Saturday 18 May, 7pm

40th Anniversary Fundraiser:

The Supersonic 70s Show

Live band on a tantalising trip down memory lane.

G Live

Guildford

Tickets: glive.co.uk

Friday 10 May

Last Night of the Spring Proms

Join Southern Pro Musica, Guildford Choral and Tormead School Choir for an evening of high-spirited proms music-making.

Investec International Music Festival

Various venues

Tickets: imf.co.uk

Thursday 2 to Saturday 11 May

Tenth anniversary season for this prestigious music festival, including performances from The Philharmonia Orchestra, Clare Teal and her trio, Nicola Benedetti, Wu Qian and fellow pianist Juho Pohjonen and the Tenebrae Choir.

Vivace Chorus

G Live

Tickets: glive.co.uk or vivacechorus.org

Saturday 25 May, 7.30pm

Mozart Requiem

Clarinet concerto with Michael Collins and The Brandenburg Sinfonia.

See **Rip It Up The 60s** and enjoy a three-course meal at Brasserie Zédel for £65!



The ultimate *Strictly* boy band of dance bring the 60s smashing into the 21st century with *Rip It Up The 60s* in an explosion of song, dance, acrobatics and amazing visuals. Aston Merrygold (JLS) and Jay McGuinness (The Wanted) sing, while Harry Judd (McFly) is on drums and Olympic champion Louis Smith performs amazing gymnastic feats. But what shines through the most in this spectacular show is the fab four's phenomenal dancing talent. The boys are joined by an incredible cast of dancers, singers and musicians in one of the most energetic shows to ever hit the West End stage. Dance the night away with music from the legends who shook the generation including The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Beach Boys, James Brown, Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, The Supremes and many more.

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Rip It Up The 60s is now playing at the Garrick Theatre until Sunday 2 June. *essence* readers can enjoy a Band A ticket (usually £65) to see *Rip It Up The 60s* at the Garrick Theatre, plus a three-course meal from the Formule Menu at Brasserie Zédel with a glass of wine for the package price of £65. Brasserie Zédel is a grand Parisian brasserie with an authentic art deco interior in the heart of Piccadilly.

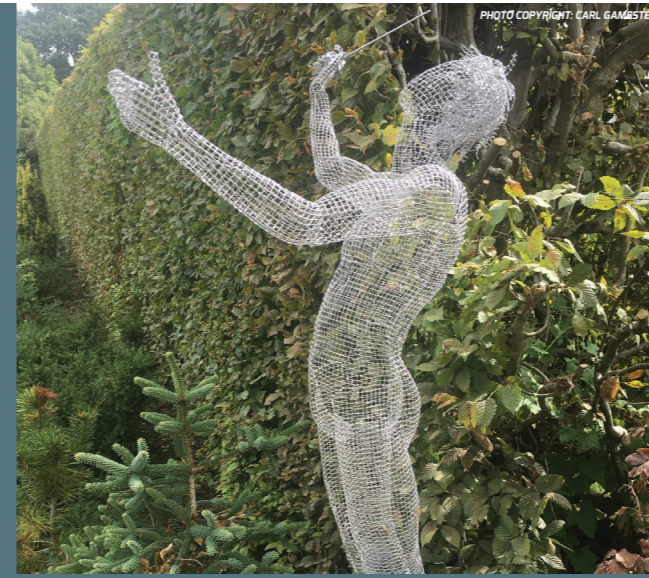


To book this package, visit Nimaxtheatres.com and enter the promo code 'RIUZEDEL' at the top of the *Rip It Up The 60s* booking page. Alternatively, call 0330 333 4811. Please note, tables must be reserved by the customer directly with the restaurant by emailing reservations@brasseriezedel.com or calling 020 7734 4888 before the date attending.

Terms and conditions: This package is valid pre or post-show for Wednesday to Sunday evening performances at 7.30pm, excluding all matinees and Saturday performances until 31 May 2019, at the Garrick Theatre London, subject to availability. It includes a Band A ticket and three-course meal from the Formule menu with a glass of house wine at Brasserie Zédel and includes service charge. Guests must be seated in Brasserie Zédel by 6pm pre-theatre or 11pm post-theatre for Wednesday to Sunday evening performances. You must present your ticket in order to claim your Formule Menu meal. No cash alternative available to any elements of the package. Alcohol will only be served to over 18s. Soft drink alternative is available. Reservations must be made at least 48 hours in advance. Subject to availability.



Clare Teal, Investec International Music Festival



Conductor sculpture in wire mesh by Michelle Castles, Surrey Sculpture Society

Spotlight on...

Surrey Sculpture Society at the Surrey Hills Sculpture Garden and Art Festival

Birtley Estate, Bramley

Saturday 4 May to Sunday 2 June

The Surrey Sculpture Society celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2019 with a range of sculpture and arts events throughout Surrey. The first event is a partnership with Surrey Hills Enterprises at the *Sculpture Garden and Art Festival* at the beautiful Birtley Estate. The event will be a celebration of Surrey Hills' landscapes and artists within the stunning setting of woodlands, meadows and lakeside. The Surrey Sculpture Society now has over 300 members, including both professional and talented emerging sculptors. Its aim is to promote interaction between sculptors, to organise exhibitions and to encourage the appreciation of sculpture.

Information: surreysculpturesociety.org.uk or surreyhills.org



Polesden Lacey, near Dorking PHOTO COPYRIGHT: NATIONAL TRUST IMAGES



Street of Facades, Alexander Creswell, Watts Gallery

Festivals

Banff Mountain Film Festival

Dorking Halls and G Live

Tickets: banff-uk.com

Thursday 23 May (Dorking Halls) and Friday 24 May (G Live)
New films of intrepid expeditions.

Happy Days Festival

Imber Court, East Molesey

Tickets: hdfestival.co.uk

Saturday 25 to Sunday 26 May
Legendary artists from the 70s, 80s and 90s including Sister Sledge, The Selecter and ASWAD.

Speakeasy Festival

H G Wells Conference & Events Centre, Woking

Tickets: speakeasyfestival.co.uk

Friday 17 and Saturday 18 May
1920s' glamour with swing style band, bar and American food stand.

Spike 19

The Spike, Warren Road, Guildford

Information: charlotteville.co.uk

Saturday 25 May, 12 noon–3.30pm
Local honey, wine and cheese on offer, all produced within 25 miles of The Spike. Find out about keeping bees and lots more.

Exhibitions

New Ashgate Gallery

Farnham

Information: newashgate.org.uk

To Saturday 8 June

PRIZE: a celebration of image

Nine internationally accomplished, award-winning artists.

The Lightbox Gallery and Museum

Woking

Information: thelightbox.org.uk

To Sunday 2 June

Women in Photography:

A History of British Trailblazers

Showcasing achievements of female photographers working in Britain.

Watts Gallery

Compton, Guildford

Information: wattsgallery.org.uk

To Sunday 23 June

Moonscapes

In the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing, an exhibition exploring the fascination with our cosmic neighbour.

To Sunday 9 June

Journeys in the Holy Land: Recent paintings by Alexander Creswell

Beautiful watercolour paintings from this celebrated artist.

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

near Dorking

Information: 01372 452048

Saturday 25 May to Sunday 2 June

Half term trail: Survive the

wild woods of Polesden Lacey

Bushcraft activities.

Monday 27 to Friday 31 May, 2–3pm

The big bug hunt

Hunting, tracking and examining the bugs in ancient woodland.

Winkworth Arboretum

Godalming

Information: 01483 208477

Sunday 5 May, 5.30–8am

Dawn walk

Watch Winkworth awaken on this early morning walk through the trees as the sun rises. Breakfast included and dogs on leads welcome.

Saturday 25 May to Sunday 2 June

May half term trail

Lots of fun and fresh air, whatever the weather, on this family trail.

Out and about

Albury Vineyard

Albury

Information: alburyvineyard.com

Saturday 4 May

Surrey Day Street Party

at Silent Pool

Celebrate the first *Surrey Day* organised by Visit Surrey with this gathering of artisan food and drink producers, enjoy live music and stroll to the vineyard for a free self-guided tour.

Bocketts Farm Park

Fetcham

Tickets: bockettsfarm.co.uk

Saturday 25 May to Sunday 2 June

Spring spectacular

Don't miss the circus skills and shows running all week, plus birds of prey flying displays (Tuesday to Friday) and lots more.

Brooklands Museum

Weybridge

Tickets: brooklandsmuseum.com

Tuesday 28 to Friday 31 May

Half term family fun

Car rides, workshops, 4D Theatre and much more.

WIN STELLA *live*

a pair of tickets to *Stella Live*



essence has teamed up with *Stella Live* to give a lucky reader the chance to win a pair of tickets to the debut event from *The Telegraph's Stella magazine*. From 10 to 11 May at London's Saatchi Gallery, *Stella Live* will bring everything you love about *Stella* magazine to life, with an unmissable celebration of ageless beauty, fashion, style and wellbeing.

Take a seat in The Stella Theatre and The Stella Studio, where a host of celebrities, expert speakers and *Stella's* own columnists will provide inspiration on fashion, food, beauty and interiors, relationships, wellbeing and life advice. The packed programme of talks will see Davina McCall, Fearne Cotton, Liz Earle, Trinny Woodall, Jo Malone CBE, Jo Brand, Sherille Riley, Charly Lester, Midults Annabel Rivkin and Emilie McMeekan, Meg Matthews, Clemmie Hooper and more take centre stage for fun and provocative interactive debates and interviews.

Get advice, enjoy treatments and shop the very latest in beauty and wellness products from the likes of Nails Inc, Murad, Neville Hair and The Facial Bar.

Tickets include entry to a four and a half hour session, a glass of Mirabeau La Folie sparkling rosé, access to The Stella Theatre and all talks and panels within The Stella Studio on a first come, first served basis. Plus access to beauty treatments and demonstrations from leading beauty and fashion brands.

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

Which newspaper is *Stella magazine* associated with? Is it:

a) *The Times* b) *The Sun* c) *The Telegraph*

Closing date Tuesday 7 May 2019.

essence INFO

For more information visit stellalive.co.uk

Terms and conditions: The winner is entitled to a complimentary pair of tickets to *Stella Live* on 10 or 11 May 2019. Tickets include entry to one four and a half hour session. Available sessions: Friday 10 May, noon–4.30pm or 5.30–10pm; Saturday 11 May, 11am–3.30pm or 4.30–9pm, subject to availability. Upon arrival, the ticket winner will receive one glass of Mirabeau La Folie sparkling rosé and access to all standard talks. The prize does not include travel to or from the event. The ticket code will expire at midnight on Wednesday 8 May 2019. Entrants must have a valid email address as tickets will be supplied as e-tickets. It is the entrant's sole responsibility to ensure contact details are up to date. The winner will be required to become a registered user of *The Telegraph*. Tickets are non-transferable.



Reptile ecology and survey, Surrey Wildlife Trust PHOTO COPYRIGHT: JON HAWKINS

Busbridge Lakes

Godalming

Tickets: busbridgelakes.co.uk

Sunday 5 to Monday 6 May and
Sunday 26 to Monday 27 May
Wildlife sanctuary, gardens and
parkland to explore.

Gatton Park

Reigate

Tickets: gattonpark.com

Sunday 5 May and Sunday 2 June
Gatton Park open days

Explore the beautiful Edwardian
gardens, including Japanese garden
and Victorian parterre.

Painshill Park

Cobham

Tickets: painshill.co.uk

Saturday 25 May, 1.30–2.30pm
Dressed to Impress

Grace Evans, keeper of costume
at Chertsey Museum, uncovers the
fashionable dress of Painshill's era.

RHS Wisley

Woking

Tickets: rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley

Saturday 25 May to Sunday 2 June
Family Gardening Festival

Perfect half term fun inspiring
young people to get outside and
get gardening, including cookery,
music maze and growing activities.

Surrey County Show

Stoke Park, Guildford

Information: surreycountyshow.co.uk

Monday 27 May, 8am–6pm
So much to see and do...Monster
Trucks, showjumping, animals of
all shapes and sizes, the Miller's
Ark petting farm, Punch & Judy,
Food Theatre and lots more.

Surrey Wildlife Trust

Various locations

Information: surreywildlifetrust.org

Tuesday 14 May, 10am–3pm
**Reptile ecology and survey
at Witley Common**

Learn about Surrey's many native
species of reptiles.

Saturday 1 to Sunday 2 June,
11am–4pm

Guildford goes wild

See a new side of Guildford town
centre with the SWT wildlife
garden displays, alongside
gardening experts, and take part
in wildlife-themed activities.

The Investec Derby Festival

Epsom Downs

Tickets: thejockeyclub.co.uk

Friday 31 May to Saturday 1 June
With Ladies' Day on Friday and
the Derby on Saturday, a fabulous
weekend of horse racing action.