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SOUTHPORT
DIFFERENT
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SUPPORTERS



Working together will build a community partnership to place Culture and Creativity at the heart of the Borough, supporting the Liverpool City Region's cultural strategy and your own Community Programme.

For sponsorship details email BOC2020@sefton.gov.uk

Welcome to Sefton

BOROUGH OF CULTURE 2020



As one of the main sponsors for our Borough of Culture year, I'm really excited to see our programme for 2020 take shape with a raft of new and existing events planned.

This is the first Borough of Culture events calendar that will take us up to June and I'm over the moon to share with you some of the things we and our partners have got planned.

Thousands of people have already engaged with us through our Sefton Stories Project and many of the stories you voted for will be celebrated during 2020.

Our year will get off to a bumper start with our amazing Nightingale's Song light extravaganza being performed at Waterloo and Bootle Town Halls and The Atkinson in Southport. This takes place in March and later in the month the UK's Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage, will also visit the borough and will be at Bootle Library.

As well as major sporting events taking place, we will be celebrating our wonderful history through the planned VE Day celebrations in May. Food lovers can stimulate their senses at the annual Southport Food and Drink Festival later in the month.

Alongside the many community events that we are supporting, I really hope you, your friends and family will all get involved in our Borough of Culture year. This is just the beginning of what I hope will be an amazing year with our communities right at the heart of it. Thanks for your continued support.

Councillor Trish Hardy
Sefton Council



What is

The Borough of Culture initiative is part of the Metro Mayor's Culture programme for the Liverpool City Region.



SEFTON
BOROUGH OF
CULTURE 2020

It is awarded to one of its six local authorities (Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral) on a rotating, annual basis with Sefton holding the title for 2020.

Under the theme of Myths and Realities, the focus of Sefton's year will be on stories looking at two key elements; local history and the environment.

Through consultation, our Sefton Stories Project and a public vote, we have identified a number of key stories synonymous with Sefton that we will celebrate each month during the year.

These months are highlighted in the calendar along with new and existing events we are proud to incorporate during our Borough of Culture year.

2020 will be very much community focused and we want everyone in the borough to get involved in some capacity. Community groups can still apply for funding for their events and details can be found at www.sefton.gov.uk/Sefton2020 or by emailing **BOC2020@sefton.gov.uk**.

B is for Bootle

The UK Poet Laureate embarks on his A-Z Libraries Tour

Simon Armitage



Using the alphabet as a guide, for the next decade Simon Armitage will give readings in libraries across the UK. It's a journey that celebrates the library as one of the great and necessary institutions of human civilisation. We're delighted that Bootle Library has been chosen as one of eight UK libraries in the A-B Libraries week during March. Simon Armitage will be reading with his guests, Liverpool Young Poet Laureate Eira Murphy, and Amina Atiq, a Yemeni- Scouse writer, performance artist and activist. Given the limited space available at the library the event will be delivered to a specially invited audience of local community groups.

The Tour is supported by the T. S. Eliot Estate, who are kindly funding the tour for the full ten years, and Simon Armitage's long-time publishers Faber & Faber. For full details, www.simonarmitage.com

The Nightingale's Song

Date

13-15 March 2020

Time

8pm show

Location

Waterloo Town Hall (13th)

Bootle Town Hall (14th)

The Atkinson, Southport (15th)

A spectacular celebration of the Sefton Coastline will take place using the three sites of Waterloo Town Hall, Bootle Town Hall and The Atkinson, Southport.

A trilogy of large-scale video projections will be created on consecutive nights, each a chapter in an interwoven story that connects the coastal towns and people together.

It is a tale of magic and wonder, of myths and wondrous creatures, spectacular nature, of ships and sailing, of peoples past and present. Working with local experts and knowledge, the projections are anchored through following the journey of the Natterjack Toad - the endangered amphibian who lives in the Sefton dunes. Known as the Birkdale Nightingale because of its extraordinary night time song, it becomes the character we follow, symbolising the growth and transition through ever changing stages of egg, tadpole, and toad - three chapters set across the three locations.

The journey will take us through time and space, on boats and over dunes, through war time and summer sandcastles. Join us for these beautiful celebratory events built around storytelling, with children and families in mind, but inspiring for all.

Waterloo Town Hall



The Atkinson, Southport



Bootle Town Hall



FREE

The Atkinson

www.theatkinson.co.uk
The Atkinson, Lord Street,
Southport, PR8 1DB

Exhibitions at The Atkinson

Date

Monday – Saturday. 10am-4pm.

Free Entry to all exhibitions

Sefton Hidden Histories Ends 21 March 2020



Sefton's Hidden Histories is an exhibition that will give a voice to items that on the face of it may look quite insignificant, but look closely and listen carefully – they have amazing stories to tell...

Cross Pollination Ends 28 March 2020



A celebration of floral art and literature featuring still life and genre paintings by Duncan Grant and Ivon Hitchens, contemporary art by horticultural installation artists Heywood and Condie and a digital reworking of 17th century Dutch still life paintings by Gordon Cheung.

Fatal Attraction: Lilith and her Sisters 20 June - 27 March 2021



Exploring images of iconic and often demonised women drawn from history, religion and myth, including Cleopatra, Eve, Circe, and Medea

We are not Amused Ends 21 March 2020



What does it take to make a Victorian giggle? This exhibition reveals the things that actually made them laugh!

Westwood Ends 28 March 2020



From Malcolm Garrett's personal collection - a look back at Vivienne Westwood's influential designs and campaigns.

Sefton Open 18 April - 6 June 2020



Discover the wealth of artistic talent that we have to offer in Sefton.

Brick Wonders: Ancient, Modern & Natural Wonders made from LEGO bricks 27 June - 28 August 2020



From the building of the pyramids to the International Space Station, journey through our amazing world, and be inspired to discover and create your own wonders.

Museum at The Atkinson

Date

Monday-Saturday, 10am-4pm

Free Entry.



Discover Ancient Egypt

Journey back to ancient Egypt at the time of the pharaohs. With lots of hands on activities for all the family.

Between Land & Sea

Discover the history of those who have lived and worked along Sefton's coast. With dressing up and interactive displays.



The Radox Health Grand National Festival

Date

2-4 April 2020

Location

Aintree Racecourse

The Radox Health Grand National Festival 2020 promises passion, grit, determination and endeavour over three days in April (2-4).

Held at Aintree Racecourse, the Grand National race itself dates back to 1839 and is a handicap steeplechase run over an official distance of about 4 miles and 2½ furlongs.

Starting with Liverpool's Day (April 2), this is the ever popular choice for racing fans and couples alike with a mix of high quality racing and easy-going entertainment.

Day two of the 2020 festival (April 3) is world-famous Ladies Day, #FabulousFriday, when all things style and fashion are brought into the spotlight. For the fifth year running, Aintree Racecourse will be awarding a big car prize to the winner of the Style Award. For the racing purists, another four Grade One races will be run on the track.

And then there's Grand National Day (April 4), the most iconic of all handicapped horseracing events in the world. Who will you back as the forty make their way to the starter's line.....?

With an estimated 600 million global audience watching at home, the Grand National Festival certainly puts Sefton on the global map during our Borough of Culture year!



Race Day



FREE

MySefton.co.uk / Visitsouthport.com

Southport Food and Drink Festival

Date

29-31 May 2020

Time

10am – 6pm

Location

Victoria Park, Southport

If you love food, then make a date with the Southport Food and Drink Festival – a ‘foodies’ paradise with a little something for everyone to enjoy!

Stimulate your senses and try food from different cultures – you can enjoy crepes, gourmet burgers, hot wings, churros, spiral potatoes, paella and curry from the Street Food stalls.

Tantalise the taste buds by sampling the different produce around the event - handmade cheeses, sausages, sweet and savoury pies, chutneys and pickles are just a few of the delights that can be taken home.

This is an event showcasing the wealth of cuisines deeply rooted into British culture.

The little ones will be entertained in the Children’s Festival marquee where circus workshops, food themed and sports activities and things such as face painting and glitter art will take place throughout the day.

Live music in the entertainment marquee showcases local talent and throughout the weekend you can watch things like flaring competitions and food challenges which make the atmosphere of the festival.

And best of all, it’s FREE!

Fun Family Day Out



Fabulous Food Stalls



Funtimes with Friends



Borough of Culture theme – Love Sefton

February 2020

Bootle in the Blitz exhibition, Crosby Library, Ends 6/3/20

5 – 8 Sunset Boulevard, Southport Little Theatre

6 – 9 Jazz on a Winters Weekend

14 – 15 Love Folk Festival 2020, The Atkinson

18 – 23 Kidsfest, The Atkinson

19 Life in Liverpool's Victorian brothel streets, local history talk,
Crosby Library 2pm

21 – 29 Curtain Up, Southport Little Theatre

24 – March 1 World Snooker 2020 – Coral Players Championship –
Various times – Floral Hall, Southport

29 Big Comedy, Southport Theatre

29 Killer Rhapsody: The QUEEN experience at The Atkinson



Borough of Culture theme – The Nightingale's Song

March 2020

1	Film: The Two Popes and Q&A with Frank Cottrell Boyce, Crosby Plaza Cinema
7	Laugh out Loud Comedy Club, The Atkinson
10	High Tide Spectacular, Green Sefton walk in Crossens
10 – 14	Swallows and Amazons, Southport Little Theatre
11	Dom Joly's Holiday Snaps, The Atkinson
12	Dermot O'Leary, Toto The Ninja Cat (World Book Day) / Puccini Madama Butterfly, Southport Theatre
13	The Nightingale's Song, Waterloo Town Hall
14	The Nightingale's Song, Bootle Town Hall
15	The Nightingale's Song, The Atkinson
18	Dementia Friendly Cinema, The King and I, The Atkinson
19	Poet Laureate Simon Armitage at Bootle Library
19	Sefton Music Service, Mayor of Sefton's Concert, The Atkinson
23, 27	Sefton Music Service, Spring Concert, Redgate Primary School
24 – 25	Jeeves & Wooster in Perfect Nonsense
25	Winter Works, Green Sefton walk in Hillside
26	Murder Squad 20th Anniversary: afternoon crime-writing workshops, followed by an evening event featuring Ann Cleeves and other best-selling crime novelists at The Atkinson
27 – 28	Helen Forrester's by The Waters of Liverpool, The Stage Play, Southport Theatre
27 – April 4	Death of A Salesman, Southport Little Theatre
27	Merchant Taylors' 400 years celebration, Anglican Cathedral, Liverpool
27	Winter Works 2, Green Sefton walk in Ainsdale
28	Big Comedy, Southport Theatre
28	Into the Woods by Formby High School at Formby Library



Borough of Culture theme – Red Rum and the Grand National



April 2020

2 – 4 Grand National Festival, Aintree Racecourse

3 Henning When, Southport Theatre

4 Evolution Comedy Club, The Atkinson

4 Natterjack Chorus, Green Sefton walk

15 Signs of Spring, Green Sefton walk in Crosby Coastal Park

16 – 18 Footloose, SONG, The Atkinson

18 Natterjack Chorus, Green Sefton walk

18 April – 6 June Sefton Open 2020, The Atkinson

22 1900 - Liverpool lives, local history talk, Crosby Library

23 The Phoenix Club: Pack of Three, The Atkinson

24 Clare Teal and her Trio, The Atkinson

25 Big Comedy, Southport Theatre



Borough of Culture theme – VE Day celebrations and Bootle Blitz



May

2	The Magic of the Beatles, Southport Theatre
2	Rapunzel, The Atkinson
2	6 and 9-13, Our Man in Havana, Formby Little Theatre
6	Engelbert Humberdinck, Southport Theatre
8 – 16	The Vicar of Dibley, Southport Little Theatre
8 – 10	VE Day, celebrations borough wide
9	Formby Village VE Day celebration
12	Maritime magic, Green Sefton walk at Crosby Coastal Park
15	Music and racing, Sigala at Aintree Racecourse
20	The Overhead Railway – making history, local history talk, Crosby Library
20	Dementia Friendly Cinema: On the Town, The Atkinson
20	Altcar Rifle Range, Green Sefton walk
22	An Audience with Liverpool Legends, The Atkinson
29 – 31	Southport Food and Drink Festival, Victoria Park, Southport
30 – June 6	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, Southport Little Theatre

Borough of Culture theme – Women in Sefton's history

June

5 – 7 Back to Love weekend, Floral Hall, Southport

5 – 7 Waterloo Festival

5 An Audience with Cannon and Ball, The Atkinson

5, 20, 21 Ainsdale Local Nature Reserve, Green Sefton walk

11 David Starkey – Boris Johnson: Churchill, Charles II or Coco the Clown? The Atkinson

20 The Lancashire Hotpots, The Atkinson

24 Untold stories: Black families in the First World War, local history talk, Crosby Library

27 The Simon and Garfunkel Story, The Atkinson

28 British Armed Forces Day

29 – 30 Sefton Music Service, Summer Concerts, St James' Church, Bootle

Cherie Blair



Beryl Bainbridge



Christiana Hartley



Alex Greenwood



Lapsley



Sefton Libraries

Local History is a key theme for our Borough of Culture Year and Sefton Council's Library Service will deliver several related projects.

Beyond the War Memorials 2

To mark the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, Sefton Libraries will work with local schools and communities to discover and commemorate the stories of residents and service personnel. The project is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and will provide opportunities for inter-generational engagement. An online resource will be created to bring together the many stories that are revealed.

This project is the second stage of library research featuring Sefton's war memorials. To see the World War I materials that are already completed please visit www.seftonwarmemorials.org

Also, don't miss out on the opportunity to view our online heritage galleries at www.sefton-digital-archive.org

The Sefton Saga

This story writing competition will run from February to October. Two narratives are available, for adults and under-16s to participate. The Sefton Saga will be a living story, based upon a real historic Sefton character called Jack Johnson, the hermit of the sand-dunes. The story will develop each month with each instalment supplied by public contributions. Further details and entry forms are available at your local Sefton library and via our Facebook and twitter pages.

Bedtime Stories

Helping families snuggle down for an evening of storytelling. The Library Service will release bedtime story videos narrated by familiar faces from our libraries – but also featuring some celebrated guest readers. The stories will be broadcast on library Facebook and Twitter pages, and Sefton Council's YouTube page.

New Words

"New Words" is an 18-month project to promote North West publishing, and will feature an Ekphrastic Writing Workshop with Rebecca Goss at The Atkinson, Southport in early May. Goss's new poetry collection, *Girl*, was written in response to the work of artist Alison Watt. Rebecca will run a two-hour workshop on writing poetry in response to art, in which participants will have the opportunity to create a new piece.

Echalaz exhibition space at Crosby Library

A pop-up exhibition space has been created at Crosby Library and will be available for community and creative groups to display their work. The first exhibition features images of Bootle during the Blitz and will run until March. If you are interested in booking the space, please email library.service@sefton.gov.uk

For more information visit: sefton.gov.uk/libraries

Green Sefton

Sefton has a fantastic coastline, wonderful natural resources, beautiful parks and greenspaces.

Green Sefton brings together the teams from Coast & Countryside, Parks & Greenspaces, Flooding & Coastal Erosion Risk Management and Land Management.

Green Sefton provides the management and development for both conservation and recreation use of Sefton's beautiful coastline, parks and green spaces. The land assets include woodlands, amazing beaches, sand dunes, meadows, ponds, park spaces and greenspaces making it a great place to come and take part in organised events, walks and educational activities.



Walking and Cycling



Sefton proudly sits on 22 miles of glorious coast and walking or cycling is a great way to see the wider area. Remember, you can get to the parts of the coast and countryside that are not accessible by car!

We have a number of designated walks and cycle routes to navigate during our Borough of Culture year.

Why not try one of them and experience some stunning scenery, rolling dunes and blow the cobwebs away? Choose one that you'd like to do and put those walking boots or cycling shoes on!

For more details on the walking and cycle routes click on visitsouthport.com

If you are visiting Southport and you don't have a bike, you can hire them at the Southport Eco Centre or Southport Train Station. Always try and consider public transport.



Partnership working during 2020

The success of our Borough of Culture year relies on the help of local and regional media to help share our programme of events, news and good stories. Our Borough of Culture year is designed to make arts and culture accessible for all and the communication across the region is important to showing what Sefton has to offer.

We thank our 2020 media partners for their continued support.



Helping our residents and visitors travel around Sefton to access all arts and culture from Bootle to Southport, Formby and Maghull, we have engaged with local travel partners. This will help us map out travel routes, offer some discounted travel and spread the word of Sefton 2020!

We thank our Travel Partners for their support this year.



Sponsorship opportunities

In line with our local history and environment themes, our programme will engage with all our communities. It will actively promote participation in the arts and culture to shape innovations and create an infrastructure for culture and creativity.

There are opportunities to get involved in sponsorship of our growing programme. Being involved means you can identify and support community initiatives and events to be part of and proud of. All sponsorship funding raised will be used to support community projects in your community.

For more details email BOC2020@sefton.gov.uk

Community Events at The Atkinson

www.theatkinson.co.uk

The Atkinson, Lord Street, Southport, PR8 1DB

The Atkinson Wellbeing Choir

Tuesday's 10.30 – 12.30pm. Age 18+.

Construction Club

Every first, second and third Saturday of the month.

10:30am – 12:30pm. Free Entry. Age 5+.

Story & Rhyme Time

Tuesday's 10.30pm – 11.30pm / Wednesday's

10.30pm – 11.30pm / Thursday's 2pm – 3pm

Free. Places limited. Pre-school.

Grounders Graphics Group

Monthly.

Please ask library staff for details.

Sefton Art Group

Led by Roy Munday

artclasses-merseyside.co.uk / [roymun@](mailto:roymun@cybase.co.uk)

cybase.co.uk / 07737 982 513

Tea Dance

Led by Sefton OPERA

Monthly.

1:30pm – 3:30pm. £3 pay on the door.

Companions

Every other Thursday

16, 30 Jan / 13, 27 Feb / 12, 26 Mar

1pm – 2:30pm. Free Entry.

Family History

Tuesday's 2.30pm – 4.30pm / Friday's 10am –

12pm / Saturday's 10:30am – 1pm

Free. Drop in.

Migrant Help – Support for EU Settlers

Every other Wednesday. Please ask staff for details.

1.30pm – 4.30pm. Free. Drop in.

Womens Organisation Business Hub

Thursday's 10am – 12pm

Free. Drop in.

Sefton CVS IT Help Sessions

Thursday's 2pm–4pm. Wednesday's 10am–12pm.

Free. Drop in with your tablet.

Friends Against Scams

Thursday 30 Jan / 27 Feb / 26 Mar

Free. Led by NatWest.

Library Groups

Monthly. Please ask staff for details.

0151 934 2218 / www.sefton.gov.uk/libraries



WHAT'S ON IN 2020

**The
Nightingale's
Song**

13th – 15th March



SEFTON
BOROUGH OF
CULTURE 2020

**Southport
Food & Drink
Festival**

29th – 31st May

**Southport
Flower Show**

20th – 23rd August

**Southport
Air Show**

12th – 13th September

**British Musical
Fireworks
Championship**

25th – 27th September

**Southport
Comedy
Festival**

1st – 18th October

**Halloween
Festival**

29th – 31st October

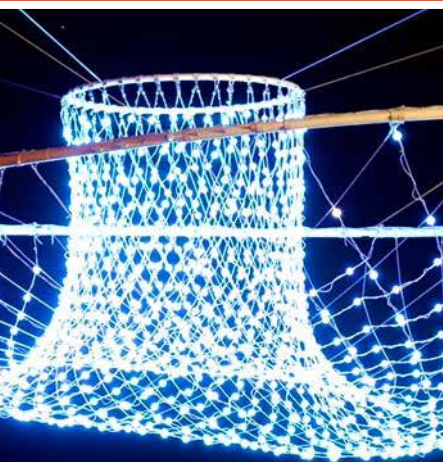
**Christmas
Lights Switch
On**

15th November



Sefton's Borough of Culture year celebrates our unique and distinct history and heritage along with a closer look at the environment. These two themes will be brought to life all year round with new and existing events and the support of our valued communities.

We want everyone across our wonderful borough to get involved and showcase what we have right on our doorstep to the Liverpool City Region and beyond. Please get involved, tell your friends and let us leave a lasting cultural legacy we can all be proud of. 2020 is our year!!



For more information:

Email: BOC2020@sefton.gov.uk

Website: MySefton.co.uk / Visitsouthport.com

Twitter and Facebook: @Sefton2020

#Sefton2020

All information is correct at the time of going to print. Dates and timings are subject to change – please check before you travel. Sefton Council reserves the right to postpone or alter any events as advertised.