

stamford arts centre

SPRING 2026

WHAT'S ON



featuring
**SIR CHARLIE
STINKY SOCKS**

SEE PAGE 15

Plus

THE SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA | KATHRYN TICKELL & THE DARKENING
MARTIN AND ELIZA CARTHY | THE DETECTIVE DOG | IMOGEN COOPER
LUKE WRIGHT | VERSE FESTIVAL | DEAN FRIEDMAN | STAMFORD JAZZ



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

DIARY DATES



JANUARY

SATURDAY 3RD JANUARY
CRI DU CANARD: FRENCH BAL

FRIDAY 9TH JANUARY
BRYAN CORBETT QUINTET

SATURDAY 17TH JANUARY
AND THE WORLD SPINS ANYWAY

MONDAY 19TH JANUARY — MONDAY 23RD MARCH
HOW DO YOU WANT TO START 2026?
MINDFULNESS COURSE

SATURDAY 24TH JANUARY
THE SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA

SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY
PARADISE IN PASTEL AND PAINT

SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY
ROMANCE AND REVOLUTION
STAMFORD CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

FEBRUARY

FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY
WHEN VINCENT MET JOHN

FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY
ALEX CLARKE

SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY
PARADISE IN PASTEL AND PAINT

FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY
JACQUI DANKWORTH: THE SONDHEIM SONGBOOK

SATURDAY 14TH FEBRUARY
SNOW WHITE, ROSE RED, BROWN BEAR

WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY
SIR CHARLIE STINKY SOCKS

THURSDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
FEBRUARY CRAFT MORNING

FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY
COMIC ART MASTERCLASS

SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
SINGING WORKSHOP WITH VAL REGAN

SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY
KATHRYN TICKELL & THE DARKENING

MARCH

TUESDAY 3RD — SATURDAY 7TH MARCH
JANE EYRE
STAMFORD SHOESTRING THEATRE COMPANY

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH
TONY KOFI TENOR LEGACY

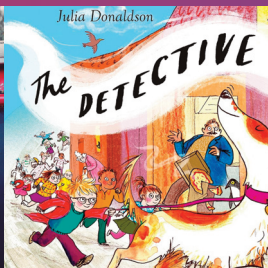
SATURDAY 7TH MARCH
THE DORIC STRING QUARTET

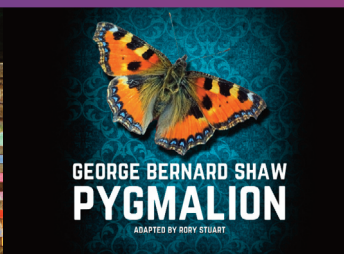
FRIDAY 13TH MARCH
MARTIN AND ELIZA CATHY

SATURDAY 14TH MARCH
DOUBLE SIDED LAMPSHADE WORKSHOP

THURSDAY 19TH MARCH
THREADS OF EMPIRE: DOROTHY ARMSTRONG

Top Picks





SCAN
ME



FRIDAY 20TH MARCH

AKMED'S CAMEL CEILIDH BAND

SATURDAY 21ST MARCH

PYGMALION

SATURDAY 21ST MARCH

NORDIC SERENADES

STAMFORD CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH

TOLETHORPE YOUTH DRAMA SPRING SHOWCASE

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH

PETERBOROUGH COMMUNITY CHORUS SPRING CONCERT

APRIL

TUESDAY 7TH APRIL

PHILIPPA MASSEY TALK: STAMFORD DRAMATICS

THURSDAY 9TH APRIL

THE DETECTIVE DOG

FRIDAY 10TH APRIL

HAMMERHEAD SEXTET

SATURDAY 11TH APRIL

IMOGEN COOPER

SATURDAY 11TH APRIL

CASINO ROYAL...TY FREE

THURSDAY 16TH APRIL

EASTER CRAFTS MORNING

THURSDAY 23RD APRIL

THE SECOND BEST BED

FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

DEAN FRIEDMAN

VERSE FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY 29TH APRIL

STAMFORD POET LAUREATE FINAL

THURSDAY 30TH APRIL

LUKE WRIGHT: LATER LIFE LETTER

FRIDAY 1ST MAY

THINGS FOUND IN BOOKS

SATURDAY 2ND MAY

DOORWAYS TO THE PAST

SATURDAY 2ND MAY

POETRY FORUM

SATURDAY 2ND MAY

THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF MONSIEUR ROBINET

SATURDAY 2ND MAY

POETRY WORKSHOP: EXPERIMENT AND PLAY

SATURDAY 2ND MAY

ROGER MCGOUGH: ALIVE AND GIGGING

GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

TUESDAY 30TH DECEMBER – SATURDAY 10TH JANUARY
OPEN TO THE UNEXPECTED

TUESDAY 13TH – SATURDAY 24TH JANUARY
ART POP-UP - MAKING SPACE

TUESDAY 27TH JANUARY – SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY
IN ARCADIA EGO

TUESDAY 10TH – SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
A MOTHER–DAUGHTER EXHIBITION:
SIDNELL & RACHAM

TUESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY – SATURDAY 7TH MARCH
STAMFORD COLLEGE CREATIVE ART EXHIBITION

TUESDAY 10TH – SATURDAY 21ST MARCH
LIFE'S RICH COLOURS

TUESDAY 31ST MARCH – SATURDAY 25TH APRIL
WELLAND VALLEY ART SOCIETY'S 80TH SPRING SHOW

TUESDAY 28TH APRIL – SATURDAY 9TH MAY
VIEWPOINTS



WELCOME TO STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE

Welcome to Stamford Arts Centre and a brand-new year of events! We're delighted to present our Spring 2026 season, running from January to April. It's packed with inspiring performances, workshops and festivals to brighten the new year.

One series we're especially proud of is our Stamford Jazz concerts. These have long been a highlight of our programme, formerly held in the cozy Cellar Bar. Since September 2025, however, we've moved the series to our elegant Ballroom, and the response has been fantastic! The larger space has allowed us to welcome more of you than ever before — and we're thrilled to see performances even selling out.

If you've never joined us for a jazz night, we can't recommend it enough — picture a relaxed Friday evening, a drink from the bar in hand, and the sounds of top-quality live jazz filling the room. What could be better?

Further into this brochure, you'll spot a double-page feature for Verse Festival 2026. Poetry continues to flourish here in Stamford and we're thrilled to bring back this biannual

celebration. Expect a vibrant programme of workshops and performances, including the ever-popular Luke Wright, who never fails to draw a full house at the Arts Centre.

We're also excited to announce the return of our Stamford Poet Laureate competition. Think you've got what it takes to hold the title? Visit our website to download an application form. Entries close on Monday 20th April, with the final taking place during our monthly Open Mic Night on Wednesday 29th April. The event is free to attend and attracts a growing audience each year — so even if you're not competing, come along and enjoy what promises to be a wonderful evening celebrating Stamford's poetic talent.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

The Stamford Arts Centre Team





FRIDAY 9TH JANUARY, 8PM

BRYAN CORBETT QUINTET

Experience the unmistakable sound of Blue Note Records - raw, soulful, and swinging - as UK jazz luminary Bryan Corbett leads a stunning live tribute to one of the most influential labels in music history. Following his acclaimed role as Curator & Featured Artist for the Birmingham Jazz Legends Festival, Corbett brings his passion and virtuosity to a powerful series of concerts celebrating the music of Blue Mitchell, Horace Silver, Art Blakey, Donald Byrd, and more.

£15 standard | Ballroom | Programmed



FRIDAY 6TH MARCH, 8PM

TONY KOFI TENOR LEGACY

Join internationally acclaimed, award-winning saxophonist Tony Kofi as he delves deep into the legacy of the great tenor saxophone masters, exploring the powerful and timeless music of John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, Sam Rivers, Wayne Shorter, Joe Henderson, and Dexter Gordon. Together since 2015, this outstanding quartet brings an intuitive chemistry and deep respect for the tradition, delivering a heartfelt and high-energy tribute to the giants who shaped the sound of modern jazz.

£15 standard | Ballroom | Programmed



FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY, 8PM

ALEX CLARKE

As a finalist in the BBC Young Jazz Musician of the Year 2020, winner of the Rising Star category in the 2019 British Jazz Awards and three-time nominee in the Parliamentary Jazz Awards, Alex is known to be one of the most in-demand and versatile saxophonists to have emerged on the British jazz scene. Praised for her intelligent ear for harmony and a deep knowledge of repertoire, Alex's sound is steeped in the tradition of bebop.

£15 standard | Ballroom | Programmed



FRIDAY 10TH APRIL, 8PM

HAMMERHEAD SEXTET

Hammerhead is a celebration of the irresistibly groove soaked and melody driven music which came to prominence in the late 50s / early 60s, one of the true golden eras of instrumental jazz history. The sextet explores compositions by Wayne Shorter, Freddie Hubbard, Lee Morgan and other figureheads of the 60s hard bop revolution, as well as contemporary compositions penned in this authentic style.

£15 standard | Ballroom | Programmed



SATURDAY 3RD JANUARY, 7:30PM

CRI DU CANARD: FRENCH BAL

Cri du Canard are a French folk trio, currently based in the North of England. With passion and experience coming out of their ears, these three highly regarded musicians throw themselves into their work, performing and leading workshops across the UK and EU with expertise, humour, and panache.

After properly establishing this band in 2021 - following a glorious summer's evening of music, dance, and food - Grace, Sam, and Dave warmly invite you to share in the joy of French and Breton music, dance the night away to these infectious, energy-infused grooves, or simply sit back and enjoy the hypnotic interplay of fiddle, flute and box.

Expect to be transported to the beating musical heart of France, with an experience as nourishing for the soul as a good bowl of boeuf bourguignon. Cri du Canard are Grace Smith (violin), Sam Partridge (flûte traversière en bois) and Dave Gray (accordéon diatonique).

£15 (£8 under 25s) | Ballroom | Programmed



SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY, 7:30PM

ROMANCE AND REVOLUTION

Experience an unforgettable evening of passion and drama with this captivating programme from Stamford Chamber Orchestra. We're thrilled to welcome back the amazing cellist Lydia Shelley, performing Saint-Saëns' virtuosic first Cello Concerto alongside Fauré's achingly beautiful *Élégie* - those who have heard her play before know what a treat we are in for! Programme available on our website.

**£16.50 (£13.50 concessions) £6 under 26s
Ballroom | Hired**

SATURDAY 24TH JANUARY, 7:30PM

THE SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA

Step back in time with the iconic sounds of the Big Band era! Directed by Chris Dean, The Syd Lawrence Orchestra brings to life the music that once filled the grand dance halls. This electrifying orchestra guarantees to get your toes tapping with their masterful recreation of legendary bands like Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, Tommy Dorsey, Woody Herman – not to forget a touch of Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett too! Featuring a dynamite blend of outstanding soloists and vocalists, impeccable section work, and a hard-swinging rhythm section, the orchestra delivers a performance that will transport you to a bygone era.

£25 standard | Ballroom | Programmed



FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY, 7:30PM

JACQUI DANKWORTH: THE SONDHEIM SONGBOOK

The internationally acclaimed vocalist Jacqui Dankworth presents her own very special celebration of the incredible musical legacy of Stephen Sondheim. Jacqui is joined by American pianist, Charlie Wood, for this intimate concert, which explores a sparkling collection of Sondheim's most celebrated music, inspired by Jacqui's own collaborations with the great man. Expect a truly world-class evening of music, featuring fresh interpretations of Sondheim's most acclaimed music, stylish reworkings of his lesser-known gems, as well as a few surprises along the way.

£22 (£20 concessions) | Ballroom | Programmed



SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY, 7:30PM

KATHRYN TICKELL & THE DARKENING

Named after the old Northumbrian word for twilight, 'The Darkening' is made up of four North-East England-based members: Kathryn Tickell, Amy Thatcher, Tim Bloomer, Joe Truswell; with Stef Conner from Cambridge. Together these dazzling musicians create musical magic; dynamic and unique "Ancient Northumbrian Futurism". Songs range from themes of freedom, nature and venturing out into the world after times of darkness, to a Roman inscription with links to Libya and Syria magnetically pulled into the 21st century with glorious vocal harmonies and the wildest of piping.

£24 (£22 concessions) | Ballroom | Programmed





SATURDAY 7TH MARCH, 7:30PM

THE DORIC STRING QUARTET

The Doric String Quartet brings elegance and intimacy both to the Classical canon and new music, with the depth and integrity of their interpretations winning them fans across the world. Having performed complete cycles of Haydn, Mendelssohn and Bartók at the most prominent European venues, including Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Vienna Konzerthaus and Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie, the players have turned their attention to Beethoven and Britten. The first instalment of their Beethoven cycle was released in 2023 and was praised by The Times as 'a joy'. The series culminates in 2026–27, in time for the 200th anniversary of Beethoven's death.

Their intellectual rigour has led them to use specially made original-style bows for performing Classical repertoire from Haydn to Mendelssohn. While they are known for their refined performances of this repertoire, they are also committed to new music, performing works by composers such as Brett Dean, Thomas Adès, Héloïse Werner, Eleanor Alberga and Andrea Tarrodi.

Programme

- Bach, J. S.: Four Fugues from the Art of Fugue, BWV 1080
- Beethoven, Ludwig van: String Quartet No.10 in E flat major op.74 'The Harp'

Interval

- Beethoven, Ludwig van: String Quartet No.09 in C major op.59 no.3 'Rasumovsky'

£26 (£24 concessions) | Ballroom | Programmed



Exhibit your work in our gallery!
The space is used by a variety of artists including fine art, sculptures, metal work and more. If you are interested, please submit sample images to the email address stamford.events@southkesteven.gov.uk. We will then contact you as soon as possible and add you to our waiting list for the next available yearly programme.

Top
Pick



FRIDAY 13TH MARCH, 7:30PM

MARTIN AND ELIZA CARTHY

National treasure Martin Carthy and his twice Mercury nominated daughter Eliza Carthy don't rest of their laurels. Martin is a legendary ballad singer and guitarist who has influenced generations of artists, including Bob Dylan and Paul Simon, while Eliza has been twice-nominated for the Mercury Music Prize and a multiple-award winner at the BBC Radio Two Folk awards.

Eliza has also been in the studio, upon the occasion of her fiftieth birthday, recording entirely new material for her new project Frenemies, which will be released in 2026. This represents the next stage in Eliza's original songwriting and will feature many musicians from outside the folk scene with whom Eliza has been lucky enough to work.

This powerhouse pair are still making music together, as they always have. Together, they perform an eclectic range of songs and tunes from their vast family repertoire, drawing from the traditional canon as well as selections from a more contemporary songbook. In this duo format, each artist showcases their unique individual musical talents, as well as highlighting their symbiotic bond, with instinctive and sensitive arrangements and accompaniment for each other.

£24 (£22 concessions) | Ballroom | Programmed

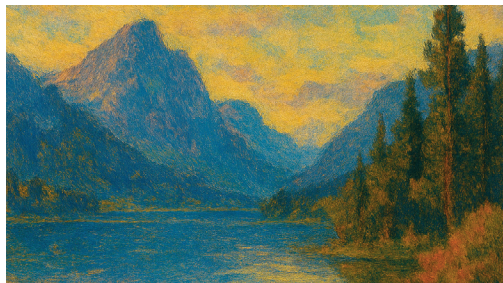


FRIDAY 20TH MARCH, 8PM

AKMED'S CAMEL CEILIDH BAND

A ceilidh makes a welcome return to Stamford with Akmed's Camel, the brilliant Ceilidh and barn dance band. Come and dance the night away in the Ballroom, fun for all, with light refreshments included in the ticket price. All proceeds will go to support the essential work in Stamford of the charity Citizens Advice South Lincolnshire.

£25 standard | Ballroom | Hired
Charity Event



SATURDAY 21ST MARCH, 7:30PM

NORDIC SERENADES STAMFORD CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Journey through the enchanting landscapes of Nordic music in this atmospheric concert. From Nielsen's charming Little Suite and Sibelius's tender Rakastava to Grieg's evocative Two Nordic Melodies, discover the rich musical heritage of Scandinavia. We're delighted to present the world premiere of George Brown's exciting new commission, Banshee Dances, alongside Beliczay's lyrical Serenade for Strings. This captivating programme weaves together beloved Nordic classics with fresh contemporary voices, creating an evening of shimmering beauty and dramatic intensity.

£16.50 (£13.50 concessions) £6 under 26s | Ballroom | Hired



SATURDAY 11TH APRIL, 7:30PM

IMOGEN COOPER

Regarded as one of the finest interpreters of Classical and Romantic repertoire, Imogen Cooper is internationally renowned for her virtuosity and lyricism. Recent and future concerto performances include the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra with Sir Simon Rattle, London Symphony Orchestra with Manfred Honeck, Hallé Orchestra with Sir Mark Elder and The Cleveland and Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestras with Dame Jane Glover. Full programme information is available on our website.

£24 (£22 concessions) | Ballroom | Programmed



SATURDAY 28TH MARCH, 7:30PM

PETERBOROUGH COMMUNITY CHORUS SPRING CONCERT

Join Peterborough Community Chorus for a joyful and uplifting evening of music, showcasing a varied mix of repertoire including choral favourites, ballads and songs from stage and screen. This will be their first appearance at Stamford Arts Centre, ahead of their Magic of the Musicals event at Peterborough's Key Theatre in July. Part of the Peterborough Sings! family of choirs, Peterborough Community Chorus regularly support Peterborough's Men United in Song and Sing for Life events, also featuring annually in the popular Christmas Magic event at Peterborough Cathedral.

£16 (£14.50 concessions) | Ballroom | Hired



FRIDAY 24TH APRIL, 7:30PM

DEAN FRIEDMAN

Hailed by critics and fans alike as a one of the finest songwriters of his generation, Dean Friedman has achieved legendary, pop-con status for chart-topping hits, Ariel, Lucky Stars, Lydia, McDonald's Girl and more. Following Friedman's sold-out, 40th Anniversary Tour, Friedman returns to the stage armed with a stunning collection of his insightful and compelling, true-to-life 'story songs' - songs of pathos and humor that deal with family, friends, neighbors, work and the seemingly trivial, yet ultimately essential stuff of everyday life.

£32 standard | Ballroom | Programmed

WHEN Vincent MET JOHN

Top
Pick

FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY, 7:30PM

WHEN VINCENT MET JOHN

Vincent died in 1890, John died in 1980, both of gunshot wounds to the chest. But imagine what might have happened, had the two greatest artists of their time, met?

Vincent van Gogh was a nineteenth-century Dutch Post-Impressionist painter who is among the most famous and influential figures in the history of Western art. John Lennon was an English singer, songwriter, musician and peace activist who gained worldwide fame with The Beatles. Around five years before their deaths both men went through profound change.

Vincent van Gogh finally renounced his religious ambitions and began to paint in earnest, and despite great arguments with antagonist Paul Gauguin created his life's great masterworks. John Lennon renounced sex, drugs and rock & roll and began five years seclusion as a family unit, and despite great arguments with antagonist Paul McCartney created a son, and what would be his last album.

This play takes place at their exact moment of crisis and decision, exploring love, death, art and legacy.

£16 (£15 concessions) | Theatre | Suitable for ages 12+ | Programmed



SATURDAY 17TH JANUARY, 7PM

AND THE WORLD SPINS ANYWAY

Have you ever caught yourself hovering over the sink, eating pasta straight out of the saucepan, entirely convinced that everyone else is living a sleek, well-oiled existence while you... well, hover over the sink eating pasta straight out of the saucepan. Georgie has. In her latest hour, she shares poems from her debut collection, *And The World Spins Anyway*. She can't promise any answers, but she can make you feel a little less alone in not having them.

£15 standard | Ballroom | Suitable for ages 12+ | Programmed

TUESDAY 3RD – SATURDAY 7TH MARCH, 7:45PM

JANE EYRE

STAMFORD SHOESTRING THEATRE COMPANY

Experience Charlotte Brontë's classic Gothic romance in a bold, contemporary stage adaptation by Polly Teale. In a world of stifling Victorian expectations, orphaned Jane Eyre learns to conceal her fiery spirit. It's only when she becomes governess at Thornfield Hall that the enigmatic Mr Rochester awakens something long buried inside her - but Thornfield holds its own dark secrets, hidden in the attic...

£12 (£10 concessions) | Theatre | Hired



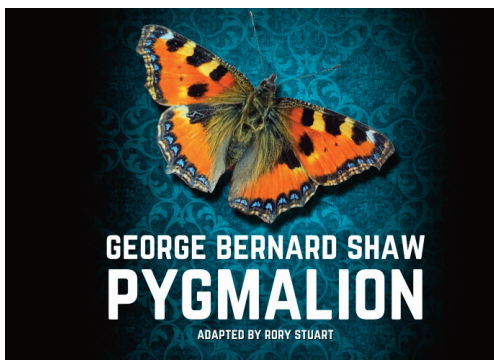
SATURDAY 21ST MARCH, 7:30PM

PYGMALION

HANGFIRE THEATRE

Eliza Doolittle is a Cockney flower girl with big dreams. Henry Higgins is a brash Professor of Speech with a big ego. When a chance encounter sparks a daring bet, Eliza is catapulted from the rainy streets of Covent Garden to the top of Edwardian High Society. Can she pass for a Duchess, or will the experiment expose more than just her accent? Following their acclaimed national tour of The Importance of Being Earnest, HangFire Theatre return with a sparkling new adaptation of Bernard Shaw's hilarious and heartfelt satire on identity and class which inspired the hit musical My Fair Lady.

£16 (£15 concessions) | Theatre | Suitable for ages 12+ Programmed



SATURDAY 28TH MARCH, 3:30PM & 7:30PM

TOLETHORPE YOUTH DRAMA SPRING SHOWCASE

TYD presents two innovative, exciting and moving one act plays as part of our annual Spring Showcase 2026. We are so proud to be celebrating our 25th anniversary this year as we continue to make theatre for, with and about young people. Join us for this year's beautifully crafted production, performed and co-created by our members.

£16 adult | £13 child | Theatre | Hired





SATURDAY 11TH APRIL, 7:30PM

CASINO ROYAL...TY FREE

London, 1951. Gideon Slate, Britain's most "competent-ish" secret agent, is armed with a gun, a tux from the charity shop, and no emotional regulation whatsoever. His mission? To outwit shady villains, survive questionable disguises, and maybe - just maybe - make it to the interval without getting shot. From the company that brought you *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, comes a riotous rollercoaster of espionage, idiocy and international intrigue. Expect high stakes, terrible accents, confused henchmen and evil plots.

£15 (£13 concessions) | Theatre | Hired



THURSDAY 23RD APRIL, 7:30PM

THE SECOND BEST BED

When Shakespeare died, he famously left his wife Anne only one thing – the second best bed. This superb one-woman play, full of both humour and pathos, has received great critical acclaim since its premier at the Swan Theatre Worcester in 2012. Liz Grand stars as Anne Hathaway on the night of Shakespeare's funeral. The wake has finished, the mourners have all gone home, leaving Anne to remember her life with the most talented playwright the world has ever seen. Or was he? This event will be performed on Shakespeare's anniversary!

£16 (£15 concessions) | Theatre | Programmed

TALKS



THURSDAY 19TH MARCH, 7:30PM

THREADS OF EMPIRE: DOROTHY ARMSTRONG

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Historian and textile scholar, Dr Dorothy Armstrong, tells the stories of some of the world's most fascinating rugs. On the saddles of warlords, draping the walls of palaces, under the feet of presidents, dictators and religious leaders: where there is power, there have been carpets. As she explores how these textiles came into being, Armstrong shows why the world's powerful were drawn to them while also looking at the lives of the weavers.

£14 (£12 conc.) £10 RGS members | Theatre | Programmed



TUESDAY 7TH APRIL, 7:45PM

PHILIPPA MASSEY TALK: STAMFORD DRAMATICS

Philippa takes a long look at the Drama as performed in Stamford, stretching over the centuries. She investigates who performed and in what plays, whether professional or amateur, and asks: what favourites did Stamford audiences have? She looks at the different venues where plays have been put on and also at how these performances have been reported by the local newspapers.

£7.50 (£6 concessions) | Theatre | Programmed



SATURDAY 14TH FEBRUARY, 2:30PM

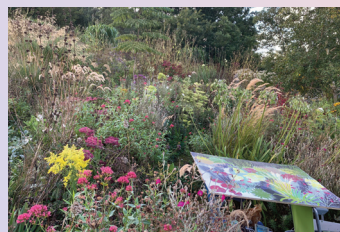
SNOW WHITE, ROSE RED, BROWN BEAR WIDDERSHINS

Snow White and Rose Red – sisters, twins, best friends – have lived in the forest since they were Babes in the Wood. Brought up by their hardworking Mother to be kind, caring and forest fluent... if sometimes a little over enthusiastic in their deeds!

When their quiet life is interrupted by a friendly bear a new chapter begins. But why has the bear chosen them as playfellows? Why is there sadness in his eyes? And who on earth is that rude little man with a ridiculously long beard that they keep bumping in to?

All questions will be untangled in this new show from the Woods of Widdershins, using puppets, storytelling, original music and a fantastical fairytale forest.

£10 adult | £8 child | Theatre | Suitable for ages 4+ | Programmed

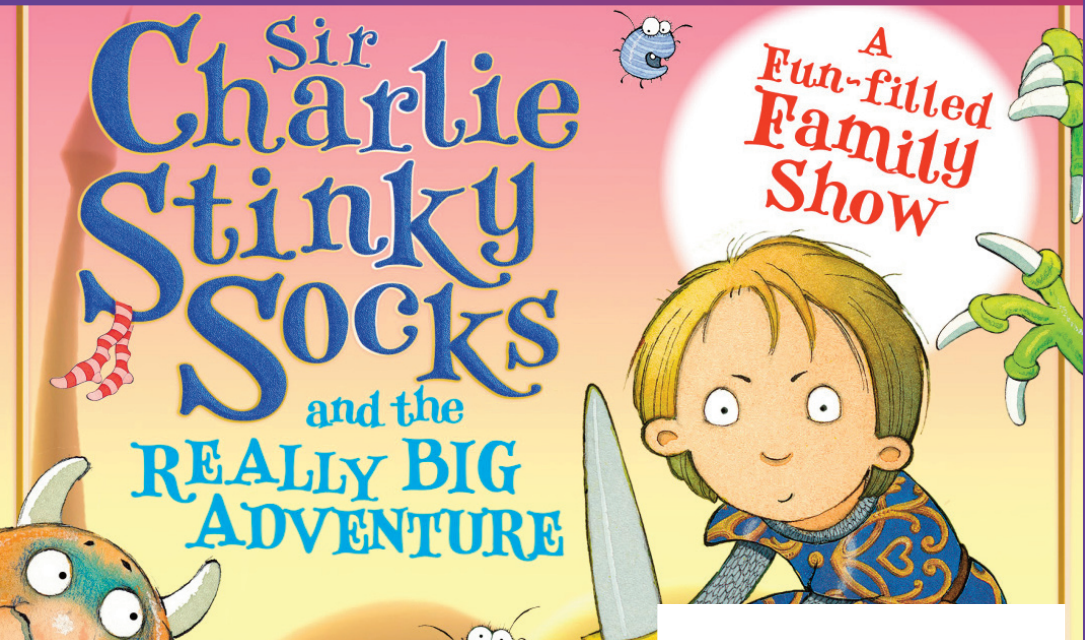


SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY, 2PM

PARADISE IN PASTEL AND PAINT

Explore paradise in pastels and paint! Based on the current gallery exhibition In Arcadia Ego - I am In Paradise - artist Jane Hindmarch leads an art workshop sharing her own creative inspiration, processes and techniques. This is a workshop in two parts. The first 45 mins will be drawing with pastels then a short break followed by 45mins interpreting your drawing into a painting. Wear old clothes and bring an apron!

**£20 child | Art Room | Programmed
Suitable for ages 8-11**



WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY, 2:30PM

SIR CHARLIE STINKY SOCKS PRACTICALLY PERFECT PICTURES

Step into the world of Sir Charlie Stinky Socks, where nothing is quite what it seems and a really big adventure is about to begin. Sir Charlie is bold, brave and brilliantly clever. He loves daring quests filled with wily witches, terrible beasts and fire-breathing dragons. And yes, he has a cat called Envelope!

But who is this pint-sized hero and where did his story come from? Find out in this fully interactive, inventive, and fast-paced family show that brings Sir Charlie's tale to life while revealing the story behind it. Celebrating the power of children's imagination and the importance of play, young audiences are invited to become storytellers themselves, helping a troupe of travelling players build a wild adventure. Together, they turn the ordinary into the extraordinary, transform the stage, and journey into mystical realms.

Based on the best-selling picture book by Kristina Stephenson and created to mark the 20th anniversary of this much-loved, modern-day classic, the show features LIVE music, glorious puppets, interactive storytelling, magical props and more laughs than you can waft away with a stinky sock.

£12 adult | £10 child | Theatre | Suitable for ages 3+ | Programmed

A
Fun-filled
Family
Show



THURSDAY 19TH FEBRUARY, 10AM & 11:30AM

FEBRUARY CRAFT MORNING

Join arts facilitator Hannah Peacock for a fun and silly mask making workshop. Create you, inspired by the pop art style and using paper and lolly pop sticks create a colourful self portrait or a portrait of your grown up. During the craft morning, we will also be making 3D animal masks of your favourite animals.

£5 per child | Ballroom
Suitable for ages 3+ | Programmed

KIDS THEATRE & WORKSHOPS



FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY, 10AM & 2PM

COMIC ART MASTERCLASS

Kev F Sutherland has written and drawn for Beano, Doctor Who and Marvel comics, and now makes graphic novels adapted from Shakespeare. Now he'll teach you how easy it is. Whatever stories you want to tell, Kev can teach you how!

After the end of a Comic Art Masterclass, we all take away a comic containing a strip by everyone in the class plus an individual caricature by Kev F.

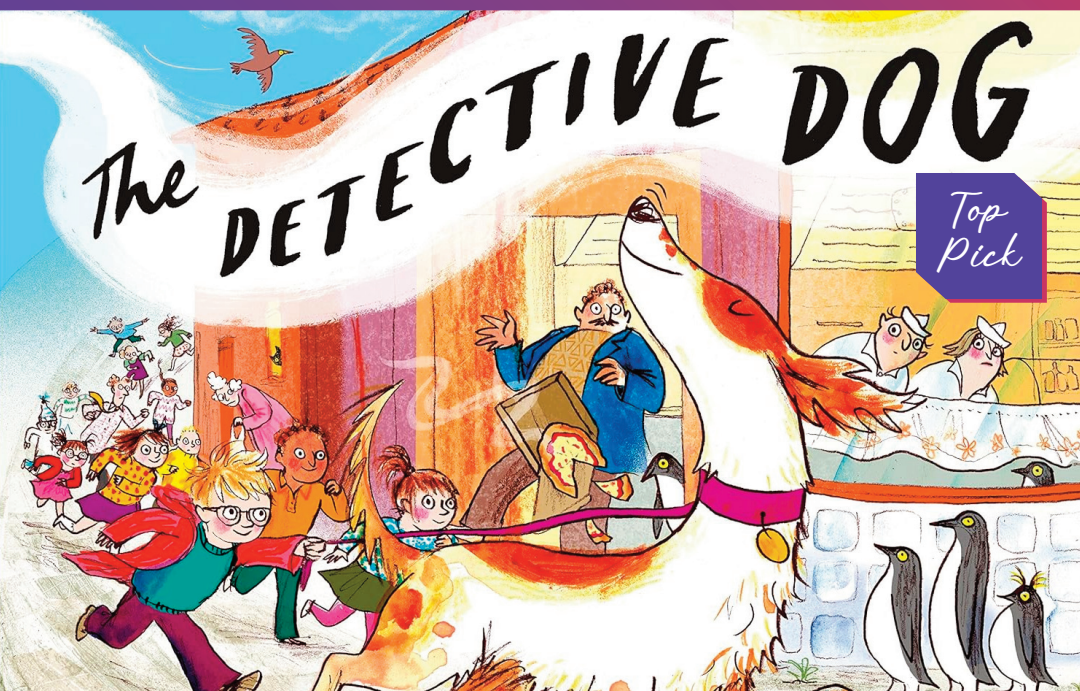
Learn everything he knows, so you could leave school and steal his job! Adults don't have to buy a ticket however all children attending **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

£12 per child | Ballroom | Suitable for ages 7+ | Programmed



ARTS CENTRE CINEMA

Did you know we have a packed cinema programme at Stamford Arts Centre? From foreign films to the latest blockbusters, indie gems and event cinema, enjoy a carefully curated selection in a charming, historic setting. Relax, unwind and let great stories unfold on screen—right in the heart of Stamford!



THURSDAY 9TH APRIL, 2:30PM

THE DETECTIVE DOG

TINY AND TALL PRODUCTIONS

Tiny & Tall Productions, formerly Tessa Bide Productions, brings you Julia Donaldson and Sara Ogilvie's well-loved story, *The Detective Dog* on stage for Deaf and hearing family audiences.

Whether it's finding a lost shoe or discovering who did a poo on the new gravel path, Nell's ever-sniffing nose is always hard at work. So when the books at the school have disappeared one morning, Detective Dog Nell is ready to sniff out the culprit!

With British Sign Language, creative captions and spoken English, this engaging production celebrates books and the magic of reading in an inclusive and accessible performance. Expect captivating puppetry; surprising smells and toe-tapping music.

This dramatisation of *The Detective Dog* is based on the picture book *The Detective Dog* © Julia Donaldson and Sara Ogilvie 2016, published by Macmillan Children's Books.

£12 adult | £10 child | Theatre | Suitable for ages 3+ | Programmed



THURSDAY 16TH APRIL, 10AM & 11:30AM

EASTER CRAFTS MORNING

This Easter, join us for a creative and colourful craft morning with arts facilitator Hannah Peacock. We will be making moving butterflies, Easter wreaths and easter decorations.

£5 per child | Ballroom
Suitable for ages 2+ | Programmed



STAMFORD VERSE FESTIVAL

29TH APRIL – 2ND MAY



STAMFORD POET LAUREATE FINAL 2026

Wednesday 29th April 7.30pm | Free

Could you be the next Stamford Poet Laureate?! Put pen to paper and enter our annual Poet Laureate competition! Visit our website to fill out an application form – closing date is Monday 20th April. The final will then be held at our monthly open mic night, Pint Of Poetry!



LUKE WRIGHT: LATER LIFE LETTER

Thursday 30th April 7.30pm | £15

Later Life Letter tells the story of Luke Wright's adoption – the life he leads, and the one he might have done. What's it like to stumble across your birth mother on Facebook? Wright navigates his audience through a warm and honest hour of poems and stand-up with the wit, pathos, and silliness that has made him one of the most popular live poets in England.



THINGS FOUND IN BOOKS

Friday 1st May 7.30pm | £20 (£18)

Yvonne Lyon and Boo Hewerdine's new album Things Found in Books is an album of songs written in response to a notice board in Culzean Castle's second-hand bookshop littered with things that have dropped out of books. Fragments of people's lives which has been lovingly collected. Boo and Yvonne have formed an inimitable songwriting partnership weaving these ephemeral stories with their own, creating an album full of nostalgia and beauty, hope and longing.

DOORWAYS TO THE PAST

Saturday 2nd May 11am | £12

Join Stamford Sights and Secrets Tours and some fantastic local poets, on a 90 minute guided walking tour, that reveals the secrets of those who lived and worked beyond some of Stamford's doors. Who made a grand entrance, a hasty exit, who came to work on his horse? You'll be entertained and well-versed as we bring history to life.

POETRY FORUM

Saturday 2nd May 1pm | Free



**STAMFORD
VERSE FESTIVAL**
29TH APRIL – 2ND MAY



Self-publishing is one option for seeing your poetry in print, but there isn't just one way to go about it. Come hear a panel of local poets who have already made the mistakes so hopefully you can avoid them.



THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF MONSIEUR ROBINET

Saturday 2nd May 2pm | £10 (£8)

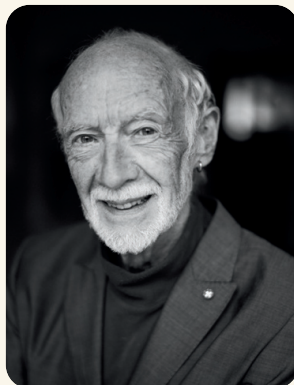
John Hegley presents tales about a Frenchman with some unusual [but clean] habits, which include burying his dog's kennel and his own luggage pieces. The stories appear alongside other new works, which include an address to aliens on the subject of transport, a poem about a non-talking parrot and the demonstration of cardboard animals. Deft and daft, the audience are invited to sing along. But not to dance. Much.



POETRY WORKSHOP: EXPERIMENT AND PLAY

Saturday 2nd May 4pm | £20

Play with new writing forms and unlock your voice, with poet Ross Sutherland. Ross Sutherland is the author of four collections of poetry. His other writing credits include the TV special Missing Episode (BBC2) and the libretto for the opera Giant (Royal Opera House, 2024). He also hosts the experimental writing podcast Imaginary Advice (British Podcast Award).



ROGER MCGOUGH: ALIVE AND GIGGING

Saturday 2nd May 7:30pm | £20

Join poet Roger McGough as he performs poems from his new collection, Collected Poems, a distillation of over 40 books across sixty years and will be the McGough bible for decades to come. This new show takes audiences on a journey back to key moments of his life. McGough reflects on his Liverpool childhood during World War II, with memories and poems including The Full English, The Overall Winner and Learning to Read.

ADULT WORKSHOPS



MONDAY 19TH JANUARY – MONDAY 23RD MARCH, 10AM

HOW DO YOU WANT TO START 2026? MINDFULNESS COURSE

Would you like to feel less stressed, more resilient and kinder to yourself? Learning Mindfulness can help you understand how the mind works and teach you simple practices that help settle the mind and bring you back to the present moment. All with an attitude of allowing, curiosity and above all kindness as we discover more about ourselves. Come along to our free introductory session on Monday 5th January to experience mindfulness for yourself and learn more!

**8 week course £90 standard | Meeting Room | Strictly 18+ |
Hired**



SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY, 10:30AM

SINGING WORKSHOP WITH VAL REGAN

Singing is for everyone and you are welcome whether you are new to singing or an old hand. You'll learn uplifting songs in harmony parts, all the teaching is done by ear so you don't need to read music and you'll never be asked to sing on your own. Val leads choirs and singing workshops all around the UK and is the composer of the musical Gwenda's Garage.

£25 standard | Ballroom | Suitable for ages 14+ | Programmed



SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY, 2PM

PARADISE IN PASTEL AND PAINT

Immerse yourself in an afternoon of creative exploration with artist Jane Hindmarch, drawing inspiration from her current collection In Arcadia Ego – I am in Paradise. This workshop invites participants to reflect on nature and the garden, creating personal interpretations of nature through the expressive use of pastels and paint. Beginning with expressive drawing techniques and moving into painting to reinterpret colour, texture, and form. All materials are provided. Please wear old clothes and bring an apron.

£30 standard | Art Room | Programmed | Adults only



SATURDAY 14TH MARCH, 10AM

DOUBLE SIDED LAMPSHADE WORKSHOP

After our last sold-out workshops, Finch and Toad Upholstery are back with this fantastic adult workshop! Book your space quickly as this more advanced workshop has only 10 spaces! You will create a professionally made, eye-catching double-sided lampshade. All you need to bring is ½ metre of fabric for the outside and 30cm height for the inside. Wallpaper or fabric can be used for the inside pattern.

£35 standard | Art Room | Suitable for adults | Programmed

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

SKETCHING STAMFORD WORKSHOPS – KAREN NEALE

MONDAYS 10AM – 12:30PM
karen@karenneale.co.uk | 07710 406967
www.karenneale.co.uk

MONDAY ART CLASS – HEATHER HARRISON

MONDAYS 1:30PM - 4PM (DURING TERM TIME)
heatherlindaharrison@gmail.com

LOVE TO DANCE (STAMFORD) - MODERN JIVE CLASSES

MONDAYS 8PM
07730 269969
Facebook: Love To Dance (Stamford)

STAMFORD DANCE ACADEMY VARIETY OF DANCE CLASSES FOR AGES 2 ½ - 18

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS & SATURDAYS
charlotte@stamforddanceacademy.co.uk
www.stamforddanceacademy.co.uk

ADVANCED LIFE DRAWING CLASS

TUESDAYS 10AM - 12:30PM
pacrewe@yahoo.co.uk | 07540 075764
Paul Crewe

NICKY HAYES YOGA

TUESDAYS 10AM – 1:30PM,
WEDNESDAYS 7:30PM – 9PM
07739 589810
www.nickyhayesyoga.co.uk

THE ARTS SOCIETY STAMFORD

SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH 11AM
stamford@theartsociety.org
www.theartsocietystamford.org.uk

DRAWING FROM LIFE PORTRAITURE

TUESDAYS 1:30PM - 4PM &
THURSDAYS 7:30PM - 10PM
01780 763806
Mike Alabaster

WILDCATS THEATRE SCHOOL – STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE

VARIOUS CLASS TIMES TUESDAYS & SATURDAYS
admin@wildcats-uk.com
www.wildcats.org.uk

PAINTING & DRAWING CLASS – TIM BEASLEY

WEDNESDAYS 10AM – 12:30PM & 1:30PM - 4PM
smcfoundry@yahoo.co.uk | 07453 993340

THE ARTS SOCIETY BURGHLEY

THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH 10:45AM
Burghley@theartsociety.org
www.theartsociety.org/Burghley

LIFE DRAWING CLASS SCULPTURE CLASS – TIM BEASELY

WEDNESDAYS 6:30PM – 9PM
smcfoundry@yahoo.co.uk | 07453 993340

DROLMA MEDITATION

THURSDAYS 1PM - 2PM
addrolma@gmail.com | 07717 420057
www.drolmacentre.org.uk

LIFE DRAWING CLASS

THURSDAYS 1:30PM - 4PM
pacrewe@yahoo.co.uk | 07540 075764
Paul Crewe

60+ DANCE CLASS – SARAH HILL

THURSDAYS 2PM - 3PM
01778 421229

WOVEN CHORDS

THURSDAYS 7:30PM - 9:30PM
(SEE WEBSITE FOR TERM DATES)
info@wovenchords.com
www.wovenchords.com

EXPLORING ART

SATURDAYS 10AM - 1PM
malcolmpugh@btinternet.com | 07913 938908

Pint Of Poetry



PINT OF POETRY

Join us for Pint Of Poetry, held in our Ballroom on the last Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm. Stamford poets (and budding poets) perform live stand-up poetry. Enjoy reading aloud to an appreciative crowd or simply enjoy the poetry of others over a drink! These events are free to attend!



TUESDAY 30TH DECEMBER – SATURDAY 10TH JANUARY

OPEN TO THE UNEXPECTED

Lu McLean's curious style of painting has evolved over many years, as you will see in this exhibition. Created with an open, still mind, patterns spontaneously form to reveal a sense of something familiar with which to allow your imagination to play. With some accompanying poetic interpretations by Camilla McLean.



Art Pop-Up

IMAGE CREDIT: ROSE CROFT

TUESDAY 13TH – SATURDAY 24TH JANUARY

ART POP-UP - MAKING SPACE

Claiming space for creativity and community, this exhibition by Art Pop-Up brings together work from all our community programmes, associate artists, as well as Sam Roddan and Rose Croft of Art Pop-Up. It celebrates creativity as a force that connects people, challenges isolation and builds inclusion, care and shared strength.



TUESDAY 27TH JANUARY – SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY

IN ARCADIA EGO

Inspired by Arcadia Garden in Sheffield, Jane Hindmarch's latest collection explores the garden as a metaphor for life's changing seasons - a space of beauty, growth, stillness and renewal. Artworks reflect nature's rhythms through layered textures and colour, capturing the sense of time passing and the ebb and flow of life. Free informal exhibition walkthroughs on 29th Jan and 3rd Feb.



TUESDAY 10TH – SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

A MOTHER–DAUGHTER EXHIBITION: SIDNELL & RACHAM

Richness and colour flow like poetry across Neen Sidnell's canvases, influenced by abstract greats Doutreleau and Hitchins. Racham's romantic works—shaped by Klimt, Art Deco, Nouveau and the steampunk movement—radiate creative energy, alive with pattern, rhythm, and whorls of shimmering light.



TUESDAY 10TH – SATURDAY 21ST MARCH

LIFE'S RICH COLOURS

An inspired exhibition of embroidery, needle craft and textile art by the skilled and talented Stamford Stitches.



TUESDAY 31ST MARCH –

SATURDAY 25TH APRIL

WELLAND VALLEY ART SOCIETY'S 80TH SPRING SHOW

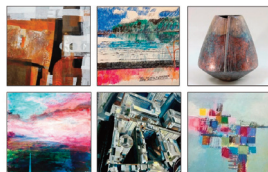
The WVAS was formed back in 1945 with just a few like-minded artists who put on their very first show exactly 80 years ago in the spring of 1946. Our Spring '26 show celebrates 80 years of creativity with art and sculpture – a seasonal highlight for all art lovers. For details of Society activities visit www.wellandvalleyartsociety.co.uk

TUESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY – SATURDAY 7TH MARCH

STAMFORD COLLEGE CREATIVE ART EXHIBITION

Discover the talent of tomorrow at Stamford College's Creative Arts Exhibition! Featuring exciting work from Level 1–3 students across diverse specialisms, this vibrant showcase celebrates creativity, innovation, and artistic growth. Join us to experience painting, design, photography, fashion, and more, all crafted by our inspiring young artists.

VIEWPOINTS



TUESDAY 28TH APRIL –

SATURDAY 9TH MAY

VIEWPOINTS

This exhibition brings together the work of six artists whose work is inspired by landscape, urban and rural. Each artist has a unique interpretation of this theme and uses different media and techniques, including mixed media, collage, acrylics, ceramics and oil paint.

BOOKING INFORMATION

The box office is open from 10am-2pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday plus 45 minutes prior to events. Online bookings are open 24/7 and gift vouchers and credit can also be used when booking via our website. Tickets can be printed in person or sent via email as a PDF. Simply show your ticket on your smart phone as you enter the theatre – no need to print!

SIGN UP TO OUR DIGITAL MAILING LIST

Join our digital mailing list via our website or contact the box office if you would like to sign up to receive the brochure, as well as exclusive discounts, offers and exciting updates.

CONCESSIONS

Concessions are available on selected performances, indicated in brackets. We are proud to say that we are part of the Blue Light Card and SKDC Armed Forces Discount Card schemes, and discounts are available on Arts Centre Promoted events – please see logo on website listings for participating events.

CHILDREN

Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult when attending unless otherwise specified. Babes in arms tickets are available on selected performances for children. These are for toddlers aged 2 and under. Please speak directly to the box office to check for eligibility. These are lap tickets only and they will not be assigned a seat, therefore one babes in arms ticket per adult.

REFUNDS

We are unable to refund money or tickets once a purchase has been made. If an event is sold out, we will try to sell unwanted tickets and if successful, your Stamford Arts Centre account will be credited the money.

GIFT VOUCHERS

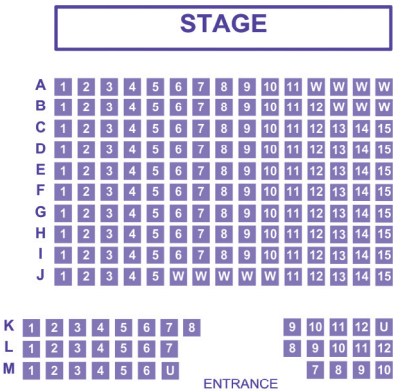
You can buy a gift voucher for any amount you require over the phone, via our website or by popping into the box office.

HIRE THE VENUE

From our magnificent ballroom to meeting rooms we have a variety of spaces to suit your needs. Visit our website or email us at Stamford.Events@southkesteven.gov.uk for more information.

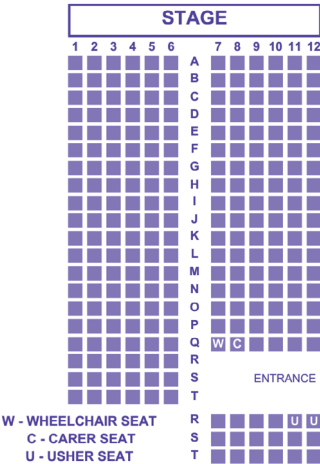
The management reserves the right to change the programme, if necessary, without notice.

THEATRE SEATING PLAN



U - USHER SEAT
W - WHEELCHAIR/CARER SEATS

BALLROOM SEATING PLAN



W - WHEELCHAIR SEAT
C - CARER SEAT
U - USHER SEAT