



**THE
ATKINSON**

**April —
June '24**

**Music
Theatre
Comedy
Exhibitions
Museum
Shop
Café
Library**

Cover image: Suffolk Pastoral, Phillip Connard (1875-1958)

Sefton Council 

WELCOME

This handy guide is your invitation to explore all that we offer. Whether you're seeking a solo adventure or a shared experience, we have something for you. We've been at the heart of Southport's iconic Lord Street for **150 years** and been your gateway to a cultural pick 'n' mix. Discover something new today!

The **Sefton Open** is back (23 Mar – 4 May) celebrating the creativity and artistic talent across our borough. Show your support by picking up an exhibition catalogue, voting for your favourite work to win the People's Prize (until 20 Apr) or purchasing artworks.

We are honoured to exhibit the works of **Philip Connard** alongside works from leading **Edwardian Impressionists** in our galleries (from 1 Jun). If you're feeling inspired, we encourage you to get involved with our **Inspirations** Creative Writing Competition.

Dive into classics reimagined like the darkly comic **Austen's Women: LADY SUSAN** (17 Apr) and **You're Bard** (18 Apr) which turns Shakespeare on his head in an improv journey with endless possibilities. Or explore bold new works like **Fat Chance** (13 Apr) which is funny, honest and heartfelt.

The Atkinson is fantastic for families! **Claytime** (5 Apr) is interactive theatre for small children at its most engaging, whilst **Treasure Island** (18 May) invites you to set sail on an action-packed trip to find the legendary buried treasure. We also offer regular free **Make It!** craft workshops during school holidays specially designed with little hands in mind.

We've got a lineup of hilarious stand-up comedians who are guaranteed to tickle your funny bone. From witty observations to outrageous stories, **Geoff Norcott** (27 Apr), **Nurse Georgie Carroll** (31 May), and **Mark Simmons** (20 Jun) have got you covered. Laughter is the best medicine!

Tickets are selling fast for performances from Irish legends **The Fureys** (20 Apr), Strictly Come Dancing lead singer **Tommy Blaize** (4 May) and singer-songwriter **Newton Faulkner** (22 May). You can also book onto a unique **guitar workshop** experience with Newton Faulkner before the show.

Membership is your way to be at the heart of The Atkinson. From £36 per year, you can enjoy a programme of exclusive events and discounts. Your generous donation enables **The Atkinson Development Trust** to support The Atkinson as a centre for communities to enjoy art and learn together.

MUSEUM



Free
Entry

Between Land & Sea

In our local history museum you can bring objects to life by scanning QR codes with your phone, send a digital postcard from Sunny Southport and take a selfie in a historic costume from the dressing up wall.

Discover Ancient Egypt

Journey to Ancient Egypt and discover the rituals and beliefs that were at the heart of everyday life for rich and poor. Anne Goodison's personal and varied collection is presented in an interactive display.

FAMILY



Book
Now!

KD Theatre Productions Ltd

Treasure Island

Sat 18 May. 2pm & 6pm, Age 5+

£16 / £14 Concessions / £56 Family of 4



OPEN CALL

Entry forms with full submission details are available online and at The Atkinson.

Get
involved

Sefton Young Artist of The Year 2024

Submission deadline: 24 May

Winners announced: 19 June

We invite Young Artists in High School, College or equivalent who live or go to school in Sefton to submit one piece of artwork to our annual competition. Winners receive a prize awarded by The Arts Society Southport and their artworks will be displayed at The Atkinson.

Inspirations: Poetry & Creative Writing Competition

Submission deadline: 17 August

Winners announced: 4 September

We invite anyone over 18 with links to Sefton to respond to artworks featured in our [Philip Connard](#) and [Edwardian Impressionists](#) exhibitions. Winners receive a prize awarded by The Arts Society and their creative writing will be displayed in the Art Gallery.

EXHIBITIONS

Free
Entry

The Sefton Open

23 March – 4 May 2024

An annual exhibition celebrating the creativity and artistic talent across the borough. Visitors can support local artists by purchasing artworks and voting for The People's Prize.

Tony Heywood & Hannah Stippl

30 March – 6 July 2024

The Sefton coast is re-imagined in this exciting collaboration between Southport-based artist Tony Heywood and Austrian artist Hannah Stippl.

Liver Sketching Club

11 May – 22 June 2024

Founded in 1872, the club host regular life and portrait drawing and painting classes. Artworks on the Landing Gallery are available to purchase.

The Ties That Bind

25 May 2024 – 15 March 2025

This exhibition examines how artists have taken inspiration from our personal and communal bonds. Featured artists include Linda Stein, Gillian Wearing and Laura Knight.

Eternal Summer: Paintings by Philip Connard

1 June – 30 November 2024

From an unpromising start as a Southport painter and decorator, Philip Connard rose to prominence as a successful Impressionist artist and a Royal Academician. This exhibition brings the work of an overlooked artist back into the spotlight, featuring examples of his work from our national collections.

Edwardian Impressionists: Philip Connard's contemporaries

1 June – 23 November 2024

This exhibition features key works from our fine art collection, including paintings by Philip Wilson Steer, Walter Sickert, Wilfrid de Glehn and Henry Scott Tuke.

Bill Tidy: "Is there any news of the iceberg?"

8 June – 5 October 2024

The late cartoonist, TV personality and author Bill Tidy MBE lived for many happy years in Southport. This exhibition pays tribute to the comic genius.

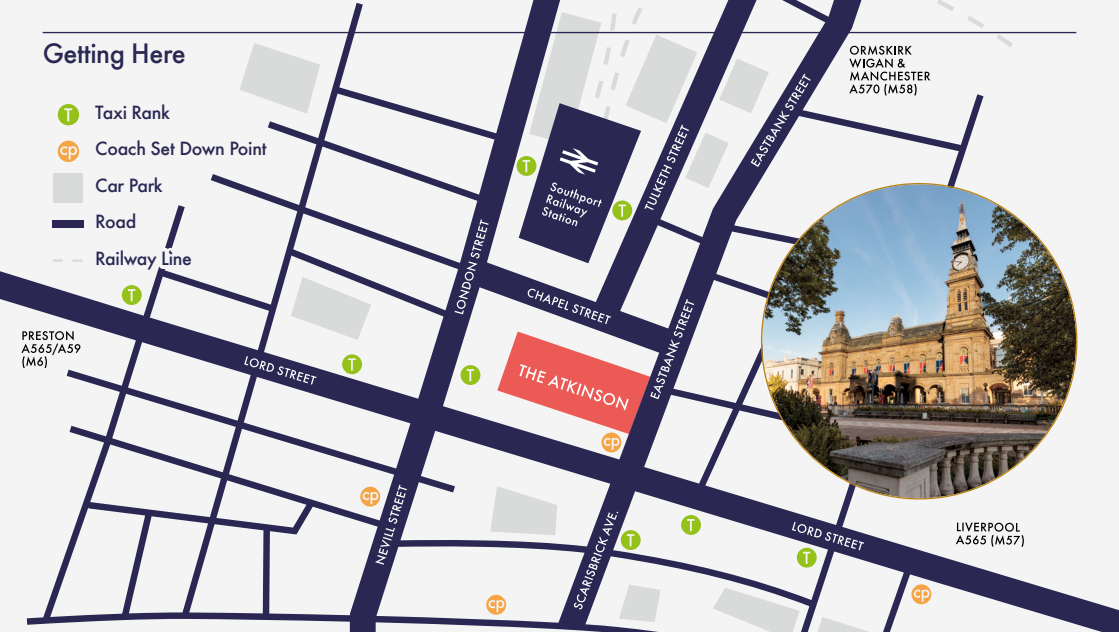
Sefton Art Group

29 June – 10 August 2024

Presenting a variety of artworks from their members. Artworks on the Landing Gallery are available to purchase.

Getting Here

-  Taxi Rank
-  Coach Set Down Point
-  Car Park
-  Road
-  Railway Line



HELPFUL INFO

Opening Hours

Box Office

Monday – Saturday 10am – 4pm
(Open one hour before performance start times)

Museum, Gallery & Shop

Monday – Saturday 10am – 4pm

A Great Little Place Café

Monday – Friday 10am – 4.30pm
Saturday 10am – 4pm

Southport Library

Monday – Friday 10am – 5pm
Saturday 10am – 2pm

The Atkinson is closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays.
Please check opening hours before visiting.

General Information

Booking fees apply to purchases made online and over the phone.
The Atkinson's refund policy is available online and at Box Office.
All information is correct at the time of printing.

 LOVE, DEVELOP,
CONSERVE

You can support The Atkinson in many different ways; by donating,
becoming a member, or sponsoring a seat.

www.theatkinson.co.uk/trust

Contact Us

The Atkinson, Lord Street, Southport, PR8 1DB

Sign up to our e-newsletter to keep up to date with what's on.

Online: theatkinson.co.uk |     

Email: info@theatkinson.co.uk | Phone: 01704 533 333

Accessibility

-  Wheelchair and visually impaired spaces are available, please call the Box Office on 01704 533 333
-  Changing Places toilet facility
-  Assistance dogs are welcome in all areas of the venue
-  Lift access to all areas of the venue
-  Induction Loop available for any space in the venue

The Atkinson would like to thank our Funders & Supporters and Exhibition Partners



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Helped made with
**Heritage
Fund**



Edge Hill University

April – June '24

Key:

- On stage
- Family
- Talks
- Workshop
- Community

Book online



Box office:
(Booking fees apply)
theatkinson.co.uk
01704 533 333



The Atkinson
Lord Street
Southport
PR8 1DB



April 2024

Museum

The Garden in Ancient Egypt

Wed 03, 10 & 17 Apr, 1pm, £35 for 3 sessions
This short course with Dr Jo Backhouse will consider depictions of the natural world in tombs, temples, and on papyrus, in addition to archaeological evidence.

Ancient Worlds

Saving Amy: A talk by Eric Watkiss

Wed 03 Apr, 7pm, £5 for public / Free for Members
The 'Saving Amy' project aims to restore an original WW2 Airspeed Oxford Trainer aircraft in memorial to Amy Johnson, the first woman to fly solo from London to Australia.

Grateful Fred's: Americana & Roots Music Rachel Croft

Wed 03 Apr, 7.30pm, Advance £13 / Doors £15
Rachel Croft is an emotive and uncompromising alternative artist at the top of her game. With support from Barry Jones and the Silver Fred's.

Make It!

Craft Workshop

Thu 04 Apr, 11am – 3pm, Free, donations welcome
Be inspired by our museum, art gallery & theatre programme in a family craft workshop. There's something for all ages, with all materials supplied and all for free.

Indefinite Articles

Claytime

Fri 05 Apr, 11am & 2pm, £12 / £10 Groups of 10+
Age 3–6

A play with clay, where the audience are invited to participate! Each Claytime is totally unique, creating its own stories drawn directly from its young audience.

DBY Interactive

Murder Mystery:

The Talent Search - You Decide!

Sat 06 Apr, 8pm, £25 including arrival drink
The search for the act to take the crown of Britain's next big thing has been long and gruelling... Join us on the Jury panel for this talent competition inspired Murder Mystery show.

Cake & Classical Music

Dell'Arte

Mon 08 Apr, 1pm, £13
Dell'Arte strings play The Mendelssohn Octet. Ticket price includes a hot drink and a piece of cake. Refreshments from 12.30pm / Concert begins 1pm.

Object of the Month

Ecclesfield: Southport's Forgotten Suburb

Wed 10 Apr, 1pm, Free, donations welcome
Join David Walshe for a local history talk about his latest book, focusing on a forgotten suburb of Southport.

SONG

Les Misérables (School Edition)

Wed 10, Thu 11, Fri 12 April, 7.30pm, Sat 13 April, 2.30pm & 7.30pm, £18 Full Price / £15 Concessions
Adapted from Victor Hugo's epic novel, this timeless tale of redemption and struggle has captivated audiences worldwide for decades.

Make It!

Craft Workshop

Thu 11 Apr, 11am – 3pm, Free, donations welcome
Be inspired by our museum, art gallery & theatre programme in a family craft workshop. There's something for all ages, with all materials supplied and all for free.



Rachel Stockdale

Fat Chance

Sat 13 Apr, 8pm, £14 / £12 Concessions
This funny, celebratory, and politically powerful one-woman play explores Rachel Stockdale's true-life experience of weight gain from size 8 to 18.

Dyad Productions

Austen's Women: LADY SUSAN

Wed 17 Apr, 8pm, £16 / £14 Concessions
Return to the Regency (or rather, Georgian) in this darkly comic tale of society and the women trapped within it; their struggles, their desires, their temptations and manipulations!

IK Productions Ltd

You're Bard

Thu 18 Apr, 7.30pm, £20, Age 10+
This hilarious and unpredictable new show features four actors, four Shakespeare productions and endless possibilities! You – the audience – decide everything!

Phil McIntyre Live Ltd / Headway Talent

Clinton Baptiste: Roller Ghoster!

Fri 19 Apr, 7.30pm £27.50
Britain's most celebrated clairvoyant returns! Clinton Baptiste comes armed with tales from his extraordinary childhood and offers his unique spirit readings.

The Fureys

Sat 20 Apr, 7.30pm, £25.50
One of Ireland's most influential traditional bands, renowned for their hit songs 'I Will Love You', 'When You Were Sweet Sixteen' and 'The Green Fields Of France'.

JMG Music Group

Legends of American Country

Tue 23 Apr, 7.30pm, £25
A fantastic night of toe tapping Country nostalgia featuring tributes to Dolly Parton, Johnny Cash, Don Williams and many more, with countless singalong hit songs.

Live Nation Presents

Troy Hawke: The Greeters Guild

Thu 25 Apr, 8pm, £20.50, Age 14+
The greetings and compliments aficionado examines his unlikely genesis and explores exactly why a well-dressed man simply being nice to people has caused such a kerfuffle.



Live Nation / Sophie Chapman Talent

Geoff Norcott: Basic Bloke

Sat 27 Apr, 8pm, £17.50
With his playfully provocative brand of humour, Geoff Norcott casts his everyman eye over what's happening in society, and tries to unpick what's happening with your average bloke. Remember them?

May 2024

Ancient Worlds

Evening Talk

Wed 01 May, 7pm, £5 for public / Free for Members
A brilliant way to delve deeper into our exhibitions programme. The talks are delivered by a wide range of experts and offer insight into their field.

Grateful Fred's: Americana & Roots Music

The Often Herd

Wed 01 May, 7.30pm, Advance £13 / Doors £15
The Often Herd transcend the traditional boundaries of bluegrass music. With support from Jenny Colquitt and Paul Dunbar.

Corrie McGuire Management

The Magic of Terry Pratchett

Fri 03 May, 7.30pm, £17 / £15 Concessions
Join author and comedian Marc Burrows on a journey through the life and work of Sir Terry Pratchett, based on his Locus Award-winning biography.

A Way with Media Productions Ltd

Tommy Blaize

Sat 04 May, 7.30pm, £26 – Tickets selling fast!
As the lead singer on Strictly Come Dancing, Tommy Blaize has one of the most recognisable voices in the UK. Tommy sings songs and tells stories about the legends he's worked alongside.

Object of the Month

The portrait of William Atkinson by Lowes Cato Dickinson (1877)

Wed 08 May, 1pm, Free, donations welcome
Join art historian Dr Anna Maddison as she looks at the portrait of our very own William Atkinson and discusses the work of Lowes Cato Dickinson.



DFO - International Music Agency

The Manfreds

Thu 09 May, 7.30pm, £27.50
Key members of Manfred Mann re-formed as The Manfreds in 1991. The band, with original front man Paul Jones, perform many of their timeless hits including 'Do Wah Diddy Diddy'.

Prestige Productions

Seven Drunken Nights: The Story of the Dubliners

Fri 10 May, 7.30pm, Sat 11 May, 7.30pm, £27.50
A hugely talented cast of musicians and singers tell the incredible story of a career spanning 50 years, invoking the spirit of The Dubliners.

Prestige Productions

That'll Be The Day

Tue 14 May, 7.30pm, £28.50
Celebrate the most iconic moments in comedy, rock 'n' roll and pop culture from the 50s right the way through to the 80s.

Phil Aldridge Productions Ltd

Illegal Eagles

Thu 16 May, 7.30pm, £34
The Illegal Eagles return with a brand new production featuring their trademark musical prowess, acute attention to detail and incredible showmanship.

Hot Water Comedy Club

Paul Smith: Pablo

Fri 17 May, 7.30pm, £29
Get ready to experience the jaw-aching, laugh out loud comedy that only Paul Smith can deliver. Expect hysterics from start to finish.

KD Theatre Productions Ltd

Treasure Island

Sat 18 May, 2pm & 6pm, £16 / £14 Concessions / £56 family of 4 (min 1 adult), Age 5+
Gather your crew and join us aboard the Jolly Roger for a swashbuckling pantomime adventure that guarantees fun, thrills, and excitement. Oh yes it will!

The Gig Cartel

Newton Faulkner: Feels Like Home Tour 2

Wed 22 May, 7.30pm, £28.50 / £75 VIP Meet & Greet / £150 Guitar Workshop – Tickets selling fast!
The singer-songwriter, known for his percussive style of guitar playing and the phenomenal success of his debut album 'Hand Built By Robots', performs songs from his impressive career.

Make It!

Craft Workshop

Thu 30 May, 11am – 3pm, Free, donations welcome
Be inspired by our museum, art gallery & theatre programme in a family craft workshop. There's something for all ages, with all materials supplied and all for free.

Prestige Productions Ltd

The McCartney Songbook

Thu 30 May, 7.30pm, £26.50
Featuring 'All The Best' of McCartney, Wings and The Beatles, this exciting show consists of over 30 monster hits such as 'Jet', 'Let It Be', 'Live And Let Die' and 'Hey Jude'.

Live Nation Presents

Nurse Georgie Carroll: Sista Flo 2.0

Fri 31 May, 7.30pm, £22.50, Age 14+
Just what the doctor ordered! Nurse Georgie Carroll has seen it all and is bringing her hilarious award-winning stand-up back on tour.

June 2024

GS Promotions

The Lancashire Hotpots:

Non Stop Saturday Night Tour
Sat 01 Jun, 7.30pm, £19 / £17 Concessions
Bernard and the boys are back with a fun filled evening packed with their silly songs and trademark humour!

Cake & Classical Music

The Schubert Octet in F major. D803

Mon 03 Jun, 1pm, £13
The Octet boasts the largest scale for any chamber work by Schubert. Ticket price includes a hot drink and a piece of cake. Refreshments from 12.30pm / Concert begins 1pm.

Ancient Worlds

Evening Talk

Wed 05 Jun, 7pm, £5 for public / Free for Members
A brilliant way to delve deeper into our exhibitions programme. The talks are delivered by a wide range of experts and offer insight into their field.

Grateful Fred's: Americana & Roots Music

Brooks Williams & Aaron Catlow

Wed 05 Jun, 7.30pm, Advance £13 / Doors £15
Brooks Williams & Aaron Catlow create music that tugs at the heartstrings but also gets you up on your feet. With support from The Jesse Janes and The Silver Fred's.

Object of the Month

Volunteer spotlight:

Bedtime Boy by Laura Ford

Wed 12 Jun, 1pm, Free, donations welcome
Dave has volunteered at The Atkinson since 2016 and has chosen this artwork to discuss as he has an appreciation of sculpture and an MA in Sculpture Studies.



Going Live Productions

Diana & Lionel: Endless Love The Show

Fri 14 Jun, 7.30pm, £26.50
Starring a sensational cast, incredible vocals and a stellar live band, this feel good show celebrates two legendary artists. Expect Motown classics and timeless smash hits!

Counterfeit Group Ltd

The Counterfeit Sixties

Sat 15 Jun, 7.30pm, £22 / £20 Concessions
Re-live the sounds of the swinging sixties, as Britain's No. 1 tribute show brings alive the magic of the sixties, with their tribute to over 25 bands of that era.

Away With Media

John Lydon:

I Could Be Wrong, I Could Be Right

Wed 19 Jun, 7.30pm, £33 / £50 VIP / £90 Meet & Greet
John Lydon – aka Johnny Rotten – changed the face of music and sparked a cultural revolution. In his spoken word show, he talks about his unique and extraordinary career.

RBM Comedy

Mark Simmons: Quip Off The Mark

Thu 20 Jun, 8pm, £17
The award-winning comedian presents his new shand-up show, structured in a way you've never seen before!... Don't miss this master of one-liners and social media phenomenon!

Community Activities

Regular community events at The Atkinson include the Wellbeing Choir, Tea Dance, Sefton Art Group and Construction Club. Please visit our website or ask our staff for more information.

Southport Library offer a range of services to the local community. Please visit the Sefton Council website or ask the library staff for more information.
www.sefton.gov.uk/libraries