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ON THESE PAGES,
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simon@circusjournal.com

The Guide

Late summer events in the south-west

Words — Clemmie Millbank



Libby Dillon at Berdegat

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AWESOME EVENTS AT
circusjournal.com/whats-on

Art



Forest: Wake This Ground
Arnolfini, Bristol
Until September 18

In his first solo UK exhibition, Amitai Romm explores how scientific modelling relates to the world around us. Blending and blurring the lines between art and science, the artist encrypts and relays data from an environmental sensing system set up in a mature beech forest in east Denmark, to produce new works in sculpture and sound.
spikeisland.org.uk

Forest: Wake This Ground
Arnolfini, Bristol
Until October 2

Dig a little deeper into the forest floor with this major new group exhibition at Bristol's harbourside gallery. Featuring artists, writers, filmmakers and composers from across the globe, works will be inspired by forests' ancient rhythms and the changing climate, as well as exploring stories, myths and folklore passed down through the centuries.
arnolfini.org.uk

Mary Fedden: Simple Pleasures
Victoria Art Gallery, Bath
Until October 16

Celebrating the life and work of Bristol-born artist Mary Fedden, this exhibition concentrates on the joy she found in simple compositions and still-lives. Featuring over 100 of her works, from both private and public collections, this curation will shed new light on her working practices and showcase the development of her artistic career.
victoriagal.org.uk



Earth: Digging Deep in British Art 1781-2022

Until September 11
The summer exhibition looks at how artists have represented our environment over four centuries, inviting us to consider the planet in all its abundance, precarity and preciousness. With work by Richard Long (pictured), JMW Turner, John Constable, Yinka Shonibare and more.

After Hours at RWA
August 18, 6-9pm

A chance to see and enjoy the newly-transformed RWA, soak up the atmosphere outside on the remodelled forecourt and immerse yourself in the galleries after-hours with a drink in hand.

Art classes at RWA

Ongoing
Art classes for all abilities are back. Courses and workshops include woodblock printmaking, bookbinding, painting for beginners, life drawing and more.

Head to rwa.org.uk to see more

RWA



A Rose is a Rose is a Rose
Hestercombe Gallery, Taunton
Until October 23

Pulling together exciting new work from five different artists, this exhibition explores art and sustainability in the face of the climate emergency and declining biodiversity. The artists will continue to grow and develop their work throughout the summer, with highlights including a giant camera obscura created overlooking Hestercombe's formal garden.
hestercombe.com

Reveal and Conceal
East Quay, Watchet
September 10 - January 1

The latest exhibition by Welsh sculptor Laura Ford will present a surprising cast of both old and new characters in a reconfigured installation of more than 30 sculptures. Featuring human-sized comical cats, a pink-knitted poodle and a frog facing the wall, Ford's sculptures are easy to connect with, but complex in what they portray, combining the tender, satirical and political.
eastquaywatchet.co.uk

In partnership with
NEW BREWERY ARTS
Cirencester



Welcome to My World: ceramics with narrative

August 13 - October 15
Thirty-five contemporary artists address cultural, social and political issues through the medium of clay. Each find a powerful way of conveying messages using everyday, domestic and commonplace items as their canvas.

Autumn courses and workshops

Throughout autumn
Gain a taste for a particular craft in a workshop or create larger, more intricate work that requires time to progress during a course.

Autumn residential workshops

October 22 + 23
Have a break, immerse yourself in craft and enjoy a two-night stay in the heart of the beautiful Cotswolds at New Brewery Arts' stylish accommodation.

newbreweryarts.org.uk
[@newbreweryarts](https://www.instagram.com/newbreweryarts)





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Theatre + comedy

**Jane Eyre: Heartbreak
Productions**
The Bishop's Palace, Wells
August 11

Step right up to an outdoor production of Charlotte Brontë's classic – complete with acrobats, jugglers and death-defying escape artist Jane Eyre. With Bishop's Palace gardens as a backdrop, watch as Jane escapes from her school, the moors and (spoiler alert) finally finds safety with her true love, Mr Rochester.

bishops-palace.org.uk

The Beast Will Rise
The Holburne Museum, Bath
August 12

Created by playwright Philip Ridley, this show features two monologues written in lockdown. It's an out-there celebration of the 'glittering dark' and takes audiences to a place where a starling haunts a lover's fever, and Chihuahuas are held to ransom in an apocalyptic landscape.

holburne.org

Sun & Moon Theatre:
Much Ado About Nothing
Windmill Hill City Farm, Bristol
August 20-21

While away an afternoon with this Shakespeare favourite about love, deception and second chances. Set in 1945 and featuring live music and razor-sharp wit, it takes place in the open-air surroundings of south Bristol's city farm.

windmillhillcityfarm.org.uk

Adventure Cinema:
The Princess Bride
Dyffryn Gardens, Glamorgan
August 28

Experience the 1987 cult classic in one of the National Trust's most beautiful outdoor locations. With the film starting at around 7.15pm (just after sunset), snuggle up on a picnic blanket for a daring tale of swashbuckling romance and comedy that turns the old damsel-in-distress trope on its head. Inconceivable?

nationaltrust.org.uk

Ed Gamble, Electric
Bristol Old Vic
September 4

You've probably seen Ed popping up on *Taskmaster*, *Great British Menu*, *Mock the Week* and *Live at the Apollo*, or you may have heard him on his hilarious podcast *Off Menu*, which he hosts with fellow comedian James Acaster. His latest stand-up tour, *Electric*, has had dates added due to its popularity, so be sure to catch him when he rolls into Bristol's iconic Old Vic.

bristololdvic.org.uk



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Music



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Green Gathering
Near Chepstow,
Monmouthshire
August 4-7

Going beyond the usual festival hedonism, Green Gathering focuses on environmental and social justice. Powered by wind and solar (and the passion of those that run it), this not-for-profit event features an impressive lineup of great music – headliners include Seize the Day and 3 Daft Monkeys – as well as ethical traders, inspiring raconteurs and craft and wellness workshops. greengathering.org.uk

The Bristol Ball, Part 1
Trinity Centre, Bristol
August 13

Strike a pose. The Bristol Ballroom Community is inviting you to Bristol's first official voguing ball. Witness the spectacular fusion of dance, fashion, performance and gender expression. If you're feeling in the mood you can even 'walk' the ball. Beware, there are different tickets for spectators and a whole load of categories to choose from for walkers, so do your research before you pick. trinitybristol.org.uk

If Opera: La rondine
by Puccini
Belcombe Court,
Bradford on Avon
August 26 + 29, September 1 + 3

Where better to set a tale of young love and heartbreak than in the stunning grounds of the Grade I-listed Belcombe Court? Immerse yourself fully in the waltzes, foxtrots and soaring melodies, including one of Puccini's most beautiful compositions, the quartet Bevo al Tuo Fresco Sorriso, which translates to 'I drink to your beautiful smile'. ifopera.com

**Summer Solstice: Outdoor
Garage Rave**
Motion, Bristol
August 27

Get your fill of old-skool garage bangers with ten hours of anthems and a top-secret headliner spot. Enjoy a one-day festival vibe with an outdoor rave space, glitter stations and lineup of UK garage legends, including Artful Dodger, Lisa Maffia & Romeo, Crazy Cousinz, and DJs Redhot, M1 and Bad Boy Brown (plus many more). motion-bristol.com

Kurt Vile and the Violators
The Forum, Bath
August 27

Join the acclaimed Philadelphia musician, songwriter and producer for an excellent night of offbeat indie rock, accompanied by his band The Violators, plus special guests. The European leg of Kurt Vile's tour will feature tracks from his epic ninth studio-length solo album, Watch My Moves, brought to life in Bath's former Art Deco cinema. bathforum.co.uk



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David Hockney Love Life

Drawings 1963–1977

27 May to 18 September

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WWW.HOLBURNE.ORG

The exhibition has been
generously supported by:
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The Guide

Wim Hof fundamentals at Goldney House



**Bookbinding – decorative
and dyed papers**
Dillington House, Ilminster
September 5

This in-depth course encourages participants to crumple, colour, manipulate, dye, rearrange and weave paper to make one-of-a-kind decorative sheets for use in bookbinding and crafts. You'll experiment with spirit and water-based dyes, paste-papers and layering. Come armed with plenty of ideas and dressed for many messy experiments.

dillington.com

**Mini masterclass in oil paint
with Libby Dillon**
Berdoulat, Bath
September 13

Feel free to explore any subject matter, whether it's still-life, portraiture or landscape, with this two-and-a-half-hour masterclass from professional painter and teacher Libby Dillon. Bring along photos and ideas for your composition, get to grips with oil paints and learn tips for working in an *alla prima* (wet-on-wet) style. All materials and a glass of wine from the Berdoulat cellar included.

berdoulat.co.uk

Forest bathing at Miserden
Miserden Estate, near Stroud
September 16

Start this three-hour experience in a private woodland clearing of the Miserden Estate. Led by Rosie Mockford, learn to slow down and tune into the natural world around you as you bathe in the sights, sounds and smells of the forest. Oh, and don't panic, you do keep your clothes on for this kind of bath.

miserden.org

Workshops

Campfire cooking
Brocks Adventures, Bath
Throughout August

Have you always wanted to master the perfect outdoor fire? Get your Bear Grylls on in this relaxed course, where a friendly instructor will assist your group in building the ideal campfire in your own little woodland glade. Once it's roaring away, it's time to cook a basic dinner, followed by cuddling up with a hot choc and toasted smores.

brocksoutdooradventures.com

Wim Hof fundamentals
**Goldney House,
Chipping Sodbury**
August 28

Known in the health and wellness world as the Iceman, the Wim Hof method uses breathing techniques and cold water therapy to challenge the body and improve mindset. At Goldney, you'll work with a certified instructor, Jack Witts, on a four-hour fundamentals workshop and finish with an (optional) ice-bath.

goldneyhouse.co.uk





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Food + drink

Sheppy's cider tours
Bradford on Tone, Taunton
Various dates until November

Dating back to 1917, this family-run cider farm is a Somerset institution. Treat yourself to a guided afternoon around the site, with a visit to the orchards, press house, vat house and rural-life museum. Round off the tour by sampling the vast array of award-winning ciders and picking up something to swig at home.

sheppyscider.com

Cook & Dine: Spanish tapas
Thyme, Southrop Manor Estate, Gloucestershire
August 18

This half-day course starts in the kitchen garden, where attendees learn all about Thyme's field-to-fork techniques. Then take a trip through the flavours of Andalusia and Catalonia, with a look at traditional Spanish plates, learning how to recreate these flavour sensations in your own kitchen.

thyme.co.uk



Thyme

Vegan Fast & Delicious: cookery course
Demuths, Bath
August 20 + September 17

Looking for some more go-to midweek meals? This full-day course will improve your plant-based repertoire, introduce you to some new cupboard essentials and sharpen up your knife skills. Expect to create dishes such as miso-glazed aubergines and sesame tofu chips.

demuths.co.uk

Fire & Feast Summer at Wild Herb
Glove Factory Studios, Bradford on Avon
September 2

Experience what the chefs at the Wild Herb kitchen can do with the very best seasonal produce cooked over roaring coal fire-pits. Enjoy a welcome drink and three-course dinner overlooking the idyllic fields and lakes at Wild Herb, where much of the produce has been locally sourced.

glovefactorystudios.com

Introduction to fermented veg with Get Pickled
Lo Rapitenc, Frome
September 12

Get to know your kimchi from your sauerkraut, and unscrew the jar on the history, process and health benefits of fermentation with this fantastic two-hour introductory course. Inspired by a zero-waste approach, Get Pickled aims to make the most of fresh food surplus and transform it into food with a longer shelf-life. You'll also come away with a one-litre jar of your very own pickled creation.

getpickledsomeset.com

The Guide

MUST DO

In partnership with
CASTLE FARM
Bath

Tuscan summer supper clubs

August 6 + 13 + 20

Head over to the barn this August as the Castle Farm team cook up favourite dishes from Italy. The menu is inspired by balmy summer holidays in Tuscany, and paired with sun-kissed organic produce from the garden and specially selected wines.

Welcome to Hawkins

August 27 + September 3

For two nights only, the folk at Castle Farm will be dressing up, giving the venue a makeover and rustling up a menu entirely inspired by the hit show *Stranger Things*. A must for fans to immerse themselves in total 1980s joy.

Castle Farm Curry Club

Fridays

Friday night is curry night! With an array of delicious, spicy Malaysian and South Indian dishes on the menu, mopped up with the ever-popular roti canai, booking is highly recommended for this weekly feast for the senses.

castlefarmcafemidford@gmail.com
castlefarmmidford.co.uk

All supper clubs are booked through the website

