

# Bridgwater Quayside Festival

# 2023

**FREE**

**SAT 8<sup>th</sup> JULY**  
**11AM TO 5PM**

*Live music, Street Theatre,  
Dance, Circus, Street Bands,  
Family Activities, Food,  
Activity Stalls,  
Craft Fair*

High St, Fore St, Blake Gardens, West Quay,  
East Over, Engine Room, Bridgwater Library, Art Centre,  
Blake Museum, Brick and Tile Museum, Bridgy Gallery,  
Town Hall, Carnival Centre, Angel Place.



[www.bridgwaterquaysidefestival.uk](http://www.bridgwaterquaysidefestival.uk)



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





# WELCOME BACK TO THE Bridgwater Quayside Festival

The Bridgwater Quayside Festival is a free family-friendly annual festival of live music, street theatre, dance, circus, sports, games, stalls, arts, and family activities. The festival takes place every year during the second weekend in July. There's something for everyone to enjoy. Jam packed with arts and culture all around Bridgwater.

Follow us on social media and download the programme from the Festival web site to plan your day or pick up a programme from the local venues.

We have a fabulous line up of bands and musicians in the town centre on the Cornhill music stage with RSVP Bhangra, The Kahunas, The Clashnikovs and Seed Sedgemoor in the High St with the Tent of Wonders and Bridgwater-based community group of musicians who are behind the Clashmob an annual Clash pop-up performance. The town centre will be closed to traffic and there will be an array of stalls and performances in the town.

Bring a picnic to Blake Gardens. See the fabulous shows from Cirque De Silks, Angie Mack, and Ben Cornish. Enjoy listening to Claude Sandiford, Jon Maybey, Streetlinkz and The Roller DisGoat DJ's. Take part with Bowlore medieval sword school and the Green Top circus skills workshops. Watch local dancers. Take part in free festival Create and Make workshops and take something home with you.

Visit the Bridgwater Art Centre and take part in art tours, craft fair, indoor and outdoor exhibition, willow crafts along West Quay and the Beach'd Buoys Sea Shanty singers.

Visit The Engine Room in Clare St and meet the giant inflatable monster Berzerker, record your own unique growl at the library and join in. Bridgwater Blake Museum, Town Hall and Brick and Tile Museum are open. And there will be stalls and activities in Blake Gardens and in and around the town centre. Join in free workshops at Bridgy Gallery and visit the Town Hall with music and relax awhile in between shows and attractions.

Artists and young people in Bridgwater have been busy creating artwork to display in the eco arts festival trail, inspired by Bridgwater College Academy Eco podcasts of young people's voices sharing their vision of the future. There will also be a youth dance "River" highlighting themes, inspired by the River Parrett from its source in the Thorney Mills springs to the estuary.

The festival is free to attend but you can donate on the day. Thank you to our fabulous festival team of festival makers! If you would like to take part and join in volunteer some of your time, please contact us. Thank you to Fuse Performance, The Bridgwater Cultural Partnership, Somerset Council, Arts Council England, and Bridgwater Town Council.

If you have any questions or need further information, we would love to hear from you.

*Let's Create Together*

**Share your photos on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram**



BQuaysideFest



FuseOutdoorArts

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## Venues

### Cornhill Music Stage



Bridgwater Quayside Music Stage will be live in the town centre throughout the day with a mix of Bhangra, Street Bands, Indie Folk, and local singers, hosted by Sedgemoor FM.

11am	RSVP Bhangra
12noon	Big Noise Street Band
1pm	RSVP Bhangra
2pm	The Clashnikovs
3pm	RSVP Bhangra
4pm	The Kahunas

### Blake Statue Performance Stage



11.30am	XPLORE 'RIVER' Dance
12.30pm	Sweet Coppin Dance
1.30pm	Ben Cornish - Street theatre
2.30pm	Angie Mack Hooptastic Show
3.30pm	East Timor Dancers

### St Marys Church



St Marys Church Bell Ringers will be ringing the bells in Bridgwater opening the festival just before 11am. Visit the sculpture in the church grounds part of the festival trail. You can download the QR code and learn more about the wildlife sculptures, around the town by Nathan Slate, EMERGE commissioned artist. See map for details.

### High St

Bridgwater High Street will have an array of different activity and performance stalls of all shapes and sizes. Visit Seed Sedgemoor – Tent of Wonders, Bridgwater Area Cycling Campaign plus, food, drink, crafts stalls from local producers. Bridgwater has some fabulous cafés and restaurants and local shops.

### Blake Gardens

Take part and join in free outdoor shows, Green Top workshops and a variety of activities including Make and Take art and green crafts workshops and, creative wild craft activities plus hula hooping, dance, juggling and circus skills, Somerset Wildlife Trust, 2BU, Brick and Tile Museum, Bridgwater Library, Diversity Voice + more stalls in Blake Gardens.



Explore the Art Trail around the town created by local artists and young people raising awareness of environment, climate action and wildlife conservation.

11am	Cirque de Silk Show
11.10am	Cirque de Silk circus aerial workshop
11.30am	Green Top Circus workshop
12.30pm	Angie Mack Hooptastic Show
1pm	Cirque de Silk Show
1.10pm	Cirque de Silk aerial workshop
1.30pm	Green Top Circus workshop
2pm	Cassia Chloe
2.30pm	Lisa Jane School of Dance
3.30pm	Cirque de Silk Show
3.40pm	Cirque de Silk aerial workshop
4pm	Ben Cornish

### Blake Gardens Band Stand

11.10am	DJ Powell Bros
12noon	Jon Maybey
1.10pm	DJ Powell Bros
1.30pm	Claude Sandiford
2.05pm	Duo Da Camera
3pm	Big Noise Street Band
3.45pm	DJ Powell Bros / Streetlinkz

Bring a picnic and blanket and enjoy the free music, shows.





## Bridgwater Library



Bridgwater Library will be buzzing with excitement, they have the talented Mr Bert, offering a fun show at 2pm and 3pm with interactive circus skills in the library, as well as spontaneous storyteller Sarah Mooney in Blake Gardens, sparking the imaginations of all ages with her stories in Blake Gardens. The library will be host to fun crafts, designing and creating colourful rosettes, as well as a fun photobooth, summer reading challenge sign up, games and quizzes galore.



## Eco Arts Trail



Follow the Eco Art Festival Trail around the town from West Quay, Blake Gardens, St Marys Church grounds, and outside the Town Hall and Engine Room in Clare St. See an array of art works created by local artists, WWT and young people in Bridgwater exploring themes of environment, climate action and wildlife conservation. The Brick and Tile Museum will have clay craft

activities in Blake Gardens and connect to nature with Forest Catkins, forest school. The Bridgwater Arts Centre, Visual Arts Committee will be offering an opportunity to create a wildlife willow sculpture with Sophie Courtier along West Quay. Learn more about the Bridgwater Blue Heritage project and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust. Visit 'Out of the Blue' exhibition at the Bridgwater Arts Centre an Exhibition of Photography Celebrating the Meads, in Bridgwater.

## Bridgwater Arts Centre



The Bridgwater Art Centre will be open 11 am to 4 pm with an Arts Craft Fair, music, Heritage Walks, art & craft activities, have a go at painting and exhibition 'Out of the Blue'.



11am to 4pm Steve Gathercole, spray painting workshop in the Studio

11am to 12.30pm and 2pm to 3.30pm. Chris Sidaway will be offering two "Heritage Walks" starting from the Arts Centre. The walks will take in the surrounding area in Castle Street and will be completed with a tour of the Arts Centre.

1pm to 1.45pm The Beach'd Buoys Sea Shanty Singers

"OUT OF THE BLUE" 30th JUNE – 30th JULY

An Exhibition of Photography Celebrating the Meads, Bridgwater

Spending time in watery blue spaces is brilliant for our wellbeing. Join us in celebrating Bridgwater's most recently restored wetland, the Meads, with a diverse and colourful community photo project display in the gallery at Bridgwater Arts Centre in association with the Bridgwater Blue Heritage project, led by WWT.



## Somerset Film and The Engine Room

### Babblesnatch Exhibition

Free entry At the Engine Room

Into an immersive space of cascading, rebounding Sound, a sonic 'snowglobe' in which voices to dart and fly. Recognisable words emerging from the hubbub take on a significance that only listeners can decide.

Sound artist Leona Jones, working with local artist and academic Caroline Wilkins have created a new piece of work, which will receive its world premiere at Quayside Festival.

During lockdown live gatherings had to rush online. Everyone virtually listened to and watched each other even more than previously, creating an overwhelming digital Infostorm.

Does digital technology enable an ever expanding world of increased freedom and power? Or is this an illusion? How can individuals protect themselves from being rendered inert by overload? Big questions. Questions that generated babblesnatch.

The installation celebrates and explores every day social media life, sparking debate around tensions such as surveillance and mental health, corporate/personal, community and callousness, mis/information.

Leona Jones is supported by PRS Foundation's Women Make Music.



## Monster Delights at The Engine Room

Free activity throughout the day



Bezerker comes to Bridgwater - come and see this amazing inflatable monster and make him growl. While you're here make your own monster out of recycled materials

to take home. Visit Bridgwater library to use our interactive platform to generate a unique monster name and record your growl.

## Walkabouts / Musicians on the Move / Dancers

Explore and discover the eco arts festival trail, performances, dances, and walkabout acts throughout the day in the town centre.

## Fore St/West Quay

11am to 1pm Chloe Marie Aston  
11.30am to 12.15pm Beach'd Buoys

Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust and the Bridgwater Arts Centre Visual Arts bring a free participatory willow craft workshop. Come and make a small willow animal and take part in witty craft wildlife workshops with Sophie Courtier.

## Brick and Tile Museum

### Somerset Brick & Tile Museum

Come and see us at the Brick and Tile Museum between 10am and 4pm, learn about the Brick and Tile industry in Bridgwater and see what activities the museum runs. There will be a trail for children to complete on the day.



The museum will have an activity stall in Blake Gardens where you can take part in some activities, one of which will be creating with air dry clay. There will be historic photos of Bridgwater on display to show case Bridgwater's vast heritage. The Somerset Brick and Tile Museum is part of the Southwest Heritage Trust,

there will be information on the stalls about all our sites and upcoming events and exhibitions and several members of staff will be on hand to chat to and answer any of your questions. We look forward to seeing you at Quayside.

## Bridgy Gallery



Award winning Gallery in Bridgwater Bridgy Gallery - will be showing off Local Artists work while working on phase two The Memorial Sculpture Walled Garden and running Art experience sessions for beginners, children, and families. Lovely Bridgwater venue to visit, have a cuppa and a chat &/or make some art.

Colouring for Children and Adults. Discover all about the history of this old Coach house and the plans for the gallery's future.

Disabled friendly with good access and facilities.

Well behaved Dogs welcome water provided.



# Bridgwater Quayside Festival



## KEY:

- A** Blake Gardens
- B** Blake Museum
- C** Blake Statue / Fore St
- D** Bridgwater Library
- E** Bridgwater Arts Centre
- F** Angel Place
- G** High Street
- H** W Quay/E Quay/ East Over
- I** Engine Room
- J** Cornhill Music Stage
- K** Brick and Tile Museum
- L** Town Hall
- Stalls in the High Street
- Festival Eco Arts Trail
- Bridgy Gallery



## Bridgwater College



Bridgwater and Taunton college as a member of the Bridgwater Cultural Partnership are pleased to be a part of the Quayside festival, come, and find us on the High Street to ask questions about all courses, employer engagement and future opportunities. See what students have been involved in, trips they have been on and understand the amazing opportunities to 'Bring out Your Best'.

That's not all, we are not only on the High Street, but we have also taken over the Town Hall to showcase creative student work on stage. Pop in for a short break; sit down, relax, and be entertained.

## Bridgwater Blake Museum



From Stone Age to Modern Age, there's something for everyone.

Blake Museum is a 16th century house located in the heart of Bridgwater, a historic market town and port, first mentioned as Brugie in the Domesday Book of 1086. The Museum was first opened to the public in 1926 and it is said that Robert Blake, the town's most famous citizen, was born in the house in 1598. With the collections covering Bridgwater and the surrounding areas, we have fascinating displays waiting for you to discover.

Meet Bowlore medieval knights of the round table. Watch a hands-on armour display, listen to talks on medieval battle-medicine plus ad-hoc Q&As, watch displays of quaterstaves and swords, and the popular sword-school, suitable for all ages. Sword-school is with soft 'boffer' swords,

teaching moves and footwork. It's suitable for adults and children - but under 10s must be accompanied by an adult.

PLEASE NOTE For one day only, entry to the museum will only be available from Blake Gardens

During the Quayside Festival, Teas/Coffees with biscuits will be served from the back of the museum adjoining the Blake Gardens. All proceeds to the Friends of Blake Museum.

[www.bridgwatmuseum.org.uk](http://www.bridgwatmuseum.org.uk)

## Seed Sedgemoor



This year Seed Sedgemoor stage opposite Angel Place.

Come and meet Grandfather Jem, the Victorian Showman in his Little Tent of Wonders where you can choose to hear the extraordinary story of one of the exhibits in his Museum of Curiosities. Enjoy a performance by Seed Sedgemoor's Guitar and Bass Group. A Bridgwater-based community group that brings new players and old together to play covers and original music. They are the group behind Clashmob an annual Clash pop-up performance.

[www.seedsedgemoor.com](http://www.seedsedgemoor.com)

## 2023 EMERGE Commissions

The commissions are supported by Arts Council England, Fuse Performance, Mayday Creative Communities. This is the 7th year. We have supported 14 artists, dancers, carnival arts, including Bev, Nature Weave, Ella Frampton "Every Lines the Same", Charlotte Ackary-Hawthorn "Dance Like No-one is Watching", Outward Bound Theatre, Beware of Pirates.

This year we welcome Nathan Slate and Cassia Chloe. Nathan's sculptures will be part of the eco arts trail around the town. Download a QR code reader before the festival and visit each artwork and scan the code for more information. Cassia Chloe will be performing her winged character. Watch her light painting in shaded areas in the town centre and gardens where you can see her performance in which environmental messages are painted in the air with Earth imagery.

## Artists

### Blake Gardens

Picnic in the park, watch great shows, listen to the funkiest DJ ready to turn your frown upside down. Take part with Green Top Circus, Aerial Arts, Bowlore medieval games, Green crafts, Arts Workshops, and Angel Art face painting.



### Cirque De Silks

Discovered the joy of aerial arts. Cirque de Silk was born out of a huge passion for aerial arts, and the positive impact it can have on people's lives. We focus not only on the physical gains but also the chance to improve your wellbeing and feel great about yourself! Watch the shows and take part in workshops in Blake Gardens.

**Angie Macks hooptastic, interactive comedy show** is jam packed with highly skilled hula hoop tricks, iconic music and a whole lot of heart. Angie is a highly skilled and captivating hula hooper spinning her way around the town and indeed the world to perform for you in the town centre and Blake Gardens.

### Ben the Juggler

A one-man circus comedy cabaret show. Juggling, balancing, spinning, audience participation and a hint of danger.

### Lisa Jane School of Dance

We are delighted to have back the Lisa Jane School of Dancers performing at Quayside in Blake Gardens at 2.30pm.



## Blake Gardens Band Stand



### Powell Brothers DJ

The one and only finest and funkiest DJ ready to turn your frown upside down.



### Jon Maybey

Guitar and mandolin player fusing acoustic roots, jazz and blues styles with loops and FX to make uplifting instrumental music.



### Big Noise Street band

The mini brass band played tunes that speak to our times. Back by popular demand to Big Noise Street band will be playing in the streets and garden during the festival.



### Claude Sandiford

Claude Sandiford, from Bridgwater is an acoustic singer-songwriter playing a mix of popular covers and original material. Expect soulful vocals teamed with an energetic and vibrant delivery.

### Duo da Camera

An enchanting piano and flute duet. The soft notes of the flute and the harmonious chords of the piano come together to create magical moments.



## Grounds and Around



### Rachel's Arts

Rachel brings a scrap store, recycled, repurposed, variety of arts activities for the day to make and create with. Join her in Blake Gardens.

### Bowllore

Visit Blake Gardens and meet Bowllore medieval knights of the round table

Watch their hands-on display, listen to talks plus ad-hoc Q&As, watch displays of quaterstaves and swords, and the popular sword-school, suitable for all ages.





## Forest Catkins

Connect to nature and join in with forest crafts and create and make with natural materials some fabulous creations to take home. Free play all day with their mud kitchen, build animal homes toy cars and gutters. Plus

11am wooden necklaces  
12 noon peacock eyes  
1pm Clay creatures  
2pm Painting with nature  
3pm foraging walk and woodland games.



## West Quay

The Beach'd Buoys are an authentic shanty band. Their songbook comes from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, although they include some more modern songs too. They like the traditional call-and-response format, with one shanty man leading the chorus. They perform along West Quay and at the Bridgwater Arts Centre.



**Merlin** brings a touch of magic to the Bridgwater town centre and West Quay, Fore St, East Over.



## Mr Lemon

Meet Mr lemon. He is the tallest man in the festival you won't be able to miss him.

## Cornhill Music Stage

### RSVP Bhangra



RSVP are spearheading the renaissance of live Bhangra in the UK, From massive stages at Glastonbury and WOMAD, to Bridgwater. RSVP Bhangra's unique

blending of Punjabi Indian music with dance beats and mainstream pop has created a new and irresistible sound that audiences love everywhere. Immediately involving, compulsive and extremely addictive!

Every show comes with an introduction to Bhangra dance - everyone's included with RSVP's emphasis on partying Punjabi style.



### The Kahunas

Foot stomping, melodic indie folk music. The Kahunas bring a mix of violin, harmonies and a driving dance beat. The Kahunas bring an infectious energy to the stage.

'Fantastic folk duo. Incredibly talented musicians playing their own modern, original songs with a beat that got the whole audience moving. A very rich sound from a combination of vocals, guitar, violin and base drum.



## Clashnikovs

Old school Punk Rock/ Reggae/Ska/New Wave 1976-80 style High energy band guaranteed to get you dancing. The band are busy writing and recording their own self penned material, and are inspired by the clash but also all the other great bands of that 76-80 era. See them at 2pm on the Cornhill music stage.



## Big Noise Street Band

Also performing in the bands stand in Blake Gardens.

## Blake Statue Performance Area



### Sweet Coppin

A wonderful team of clog dancers with their own musicians. They will perform a mixture of both Clog Stepping, Northwest Morris and other dances from around the British Isles.



**Ben Juggling** balancing, spinning, audience participation and a hint of danger, Also appears in Blake Gardens at 4pm and 1.30pm Blake Statue, town centre.



**Angie Mack 'Hooptastic'**, interactive comedy show is packed with highly skilled hula hoop tricks, iconic music and a whole lot of heart. Appearing in Blake Gardens at 12.30pm and 2.30pm by Blake Statue.



## East Timor Dancers

We welcome back the Bridgwater East Timor Association with their fabulous dancers. They will be performing their traditional cultural dances in Bridgwater by the Blake Statue performance area at 3.30pm. Don't miss them!

# DID YOU KNOW?



## Festival Quiz

On which building can you see a pineapple in Bridgwater?

Where will you find Berzerker at the Festival?

How many sculptures can you find along the festival trail?

How many hoops can Angie Mack spin?

Where will you see Mr Bert?

Where is the Arts, Craft Fair at the Festival?

Who is behind the Clashmob in Bridgwater?

Visit the festival information stall in Blake Gardens and take part in the quiz. You can be entered into our free festival prize draw.

## Green Top Circus

Join in with circus skills and take part in juggling, hula hooping, plate spinning, diabolo, devil sticks, poi spinning and more. The will have visiting artists, during the day. Why not learn a new skill, take away tips for new tricks. They come from traditional community circus with a tip of the hat to Reg Bolton, circus for education, health and wellbeing.

**Blake Gardens has lots of stalls and activities to join in and take part. You can also visit the Blake Museum and Library.**

## West Quay, Fore St, East Over



### Chloe Marie Aston

Also known as the Piano Bike Girl. Chloe has busked in Birmingham, Brighton, Isle of Wight and London, Channel 4 "The Piano". Chloe also writes and produces her own music and film music

videos in Ilfracombe. I will be playing in Fore Street/West Quay area from 11 am to 3:30 pm.

## Festival Arts Commission



### Nathan Slate

Nathan uses everyday materials that are generally waste products from building sites or naturally found to create sculptures.

Nathan will be creating *"recycled material sculptures highlighting the vital role of insects in our eco system"*. Reminding us to appreciate and protect their significance" You can download a QR code reader before the festival and visit each artwork and scan the code for more information about each art work.

The sculptures will be part of the eco arts trail around the town including landscape banners from the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, creative youth art works from Bridgwater young people and festival activity areas with the Brick and Tile Museum in Blake Gardens.



### Cassia Chloe

Cassia will be performing her LED Winged Character, highlighting the beauty of the natural world. Watch her light painting in shaded areas in the gardens where you can see her performance in which environmental messages are painted in the air with Earth imagery

Cassia said *"she would love to expand on her work in relation to the environment"*.

Cassia finely tunes her performance whilst bringing inspiration & magic to her audience. Her passion is to inspire wonder in nature and to bring appreciation to the beauty of the moment.



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The commissions are supported by Arts Council England, Fuse Performance, Mayday Creative Community projects and FUSE EMERGE Festival arts commissions.



### XPLORE 'RIVER' Dance in Bridgwater

Young dancers across Bridgwater have been creating new choreographies with Lucy highlighting themes, inspired by the River Parrett from its source in the Thorney Mills springs, the Somerset Levels, flood and the powerful bore of the tidal River Parrett. Young dancers will perform at Blake. Statue performance area at 11.30am.

XPLORE 'RIVER' Dance is supported by Fuse Performance, Creative Community projects and Arts Council England.