Southend Charabanc
24 & 25 September

Venues:
- Southend High Street, SS1 1DG
- Big Screen Southend, SS1 1NS
- NetPark, SS0 8NB
- Metal, Chalkwell Hall, SS0 8NB
- The White Bus, SS0 7AB
- The Old Waterworks, SS0 7AB
- Focal Point Gallery, SS1 1NS
- Beecroft Art Gallery, SS2 6EX
- Francesca Maffeo Gallery, SS9 1BW
- Miss Annabel Dee* Gallery & Studios, SS9 1JF

Time:
11am–8pm (Sat)
12–4pm (Sun)

FREE (some activities require booking)

A charabanc is a type of horse drawn vehicle from the 1920s that was typically used for day trip excursions or sight-seeing. Later, it was adopted to describe the buses that took industrial factory workers from large cities for a ‘works day out’ – usually to the nearest seaside.

Such trips were a regular sight in Southend until the mid-twentieth century, as day-trippers flocked to witness the illuminations and seaside attractions of the Estuary town. Our charabanc weekend includes all the ingredients of the traditional weekend pleasure trip to the beach, with an added, packed itinerary of exhibition openings, specially commissioned events, artist’s talks, films, public realm installations, artists BBQs, performances and spectacle.
**Special Events**

**Saturday 24 September**

**11am–5pm:**
Street performance, art, theatre and music on Southend High Street.

**11am–5pm:**
Big Screen Southend hosts a series of newly commissioned video performances by Jefford Horrigan.

**12–2pm:**
Launch of *Everyday Fiction* by Alison Ballard: Metal / NetPark SS0 8NB

**12–2pm:**
*Play Southend: Now or Never.* Meet the artists: Metal / NetPark SS0 8NB

**12–2pm:**
Launch of *From the Shore and Beyond*, photography by Simon Fowler: Metal, Chalkwell Hall SS0 8NB.

**1–2pm:**
Archive Film Screenings. The White Bus at The Old Waterworks, SS0 7AB.

**4pm:**
Disco Turtle Party & Parade: Southend High Street.

**6–8pm:**
Sculpture and performance by Jefford Horrigan to accompany *Blue Gloves and Tigers* in Elmer Square, outside Focal Point Gallery, SS1 1NS. Drinks served.

Vintage buses from the Canvey Island Transport Museum will make hop-on / hop-off stops to all the venues, making sure you don’t have to miss out on anything. ([See bus route map on page 52](#)).

FREE, Running 11am–6pm

**Sunday 25 September**

**11am–4pm:**
Street performance, art, theatre and music on Southend High Street.

**11am–4pm:**
Big Screen Southend hosts a series of newly commissioned video performances by Jefford Horrigan.

**12–4pm:**
Radical Craft and other exhibitions, Beecroft Art Gallery, SS2 6EX.

**12pm:**
Artist’s Talk – Frank Watson: Francesca Maffeio Gallery, SS9 1BW

**12.30pm:**
Artist’s Talk and Tour by Frances Scott of her solo show CANWEYE { }: Focal Point Gallery, SS1 1NS (followed by screening at Beecroft Gallery at 2pm).

**1pm:**
Artist’s Talk and Walk: Public Record: Leigh on Sea, Justin Hopper. Meeting place – Leigh Community Centre, SS9 1SP.

**2pm:**
Screening of *The Devils* (1971) by Ken Russell at Beecroft Art Gallery, SS2 6EX.

**3pm:**
Artist’s Talk and Walk – Graveyard of Lost Species, Graham Harwood. Meeting place – Leigh-on-Sea Train Station.

**3pm:**
Southend Boys’ and Girls’ Choirs’ Special concert by Southend Boys’ and Girls’ Choirs’ in the Royal Pavilion, Southend Pier. Tickets £8 (incl Pier entrance fee). To book 01702 465460

**3pm:**
*Disco Turtle Party & Parade: Southend High Street.*

Vintage buses from the Canvey Island Transport Museum will make hop-on / hop-off stops to all the venues, making sure you don’t have to miss out on anything. ([See bus route map on page 52](#)).

FREE, Running 11am–4.30pm
**Disco Turtle**

The well loved Greenwich based outdoor arts company Emergency Exit Arts make their own weekend excursion out to Southend, bringing with them the perfect mobile party machine and festival favourite Disco Turtle, accompanied by a troupe of mermaids, an octopus, prawns and fish. All day workshops all weekend to create your own accessories for a mass parade (at 4pm Sat and 3pm Sun) led by Disco Turtle at the end of each day - as he heads down to the sea in search of his lost love waiting patiently in Adventure Island.

Where: Victoria Circus, Southend High Street  
When: 11am–5pm  
[Party and Parade at 4pm Sat / 3pm Sun]

**Performance on Southend High Street**

As part of a legacy project with Southend BID and the Town Centre management, specially designed busking sites will host musicians, cabaret artists, street theatre troupes and live art performances all weekend on Southend’s pedestrianised High Street and nearby seafront and Pier. Full listings will be posted on: estuaryfestival.com

Where: Various locations – Southend High Street  
When: 11am–5pm

**Focal Point Gallery presents: The Table**

To accompany his commission Blue Gloves and Tigers, Jefford Horrigan creates a large sculptural stage for Elmer Square that resembles an enlarged dining room table. Performances by different artists will take place underneath. To open, Horrigan will perform a dance on top, in which he manipulates and animates domestic objects suggesting that they become something other. Programme accompanies the live performances at 6pm.

Where: Elmer Square, SS1 1NB  
When: Sat 24 10am–8pm  
and Sun 25 11am–5pm

**CANWEYE { }**

First solo exhibition by British artist Frances Scott. This ambitious commission develops the artist’s interest in the apparatus of film. Different vantage points are offered on a new moving image work, filmed on 16mm in Essex and Venice. Developed from research around Derek Jarman’s Plague Street (1972), a drawing she speculates to be one of his set designs for Ken Russell’s The Devils (1971).

Where: Focal Point Gallery, SS1 1NB  
When: Sat 24 10am–6pm / Sun 25 11am–5pm

**Frances Scott CANWEYE { }**

Frances Scott leads a tour of her Focal Point Gallery exhibition with Director Joe Hill. Followed by screening of Ken Russell’s The Devils (1971) at Beecroft Gallery (see listing on page 33).

Where: Focal Point Gallery, SS1 1NB  
When: Sun 25 12.30pm  
focalpointgallery.org.uk

**Big Screen Programme**

The Big Screen in Elmer Square hosts a series of newly commissioned video-performances by Jefford Horrigan in which he manipulates and animates domestic objects suggesting that they become something other. Programme accompanies the live performances at 6pm.

Where: Elmer Square, SS1 1NB  
When: Sat 24 10am–8pm  
and Sun 25 11am–5pm

**Beecroft Art Gallery**

Part of the Southend Museums Service, Beecroft Art Gallery presents an eclectic collection of paintings and brings together the best of local and historic talent, spanning fine art, film, installation and costume. Opening on Sunday (especially for Southend Charabanc) this is your opportunity to catch two fantastic curated exhibitions:

**The Devils (1971)**

To follow the gallery tour at Focal Point Gallery, a special screening of Ken Russell’s controversial 1971 film The Devils, will take place in the Beecroft Art Gallery lecture theatre, a space which was used in the making of Frances Scott’s ‘CANWEYE { }’.

Where: Beecroft Art Gallery, SS2 6EX  
When: Sun 25 2pm

**Radical Craft: Alternative Ways of Making**

Touring exhibition showcasing artworks by historically renowned artists associated with Outsider Art.

**A Present from Southend: Memories of a Seaside Holiday**

Paintings, posters, photographs and souvenirs from the art and social history collections representing seaside holidays in Southend.

Where: Beecroft Art Gallery, SS2 6EX  
When: Sat 24 10am–5pm and Sun 25 12pm–4pm  
southendmuseums.co.uk

**NetPark presents: Everyday Fiction by Alison Ballard**

Launch of a new app for NetPark, a short story derived from the artist’s residency at Chalkwell Hall, exploring the ambiguities between reality and fiction that we encounter in everyday life. Real events and imagined lives are brought together in a heart-breaking story of loss, grief, and mental illness. Geolocated within the park, a relationship is forged between the story, the location, and your presence within it.

**Play Southend Now or Never by Idit Nathan & Helen Stratford**

Following its popular launch at Village Green in July, a second opportunity to meet the artists who created this playful app that asks you to take a fresh look at the urban furniture we all take for granted.

Where: Chalkwell Park, SS0 8NB  
When: Sat 24 12–2pm  
NetPark open 24 hours

NetPark is the World’s first Digital Art Park, created by Metal, in association with curator Simon Poulter. Engaging and playful artworks and stories – experienced through an iPad – take you on different journeys around Chalkwell Park.

where: playthecitynowornever.com  
netpark.zone
**Wish You Were Here**

Ten artist-designed Beach Huts on Southend Pier take audiences on an artist-led journey through the heyday of the classic Estuary seaside experience to the present day. (See page 36 for full listing).

**Where:** Southend Pier, SS1 1EE  
**When:** Sat 24 & Sun 25 8.15am–8pm

**Museum of the Thames Estuary – Pop-Up**

A brand new collection of shipwreck finds from the Estuary bed, recently accessioned into Southend Museum, exhibited alongside a stunning new Shipwreck Drawing by Adam Dant that reveals the secrets still hidden beneath the waters. (See page 37 for full listing).

**Where:** Cliff Gardens, Southend Seafront, SS1 1EE  
**When:** Sat 24 & Sun 25 11am–4pm

**From the Shore and Beyond: the photographs of Simon Fowler**

Views of the estuary photographed at discrete moments over the past decade which capture the varying mood and transient atmosphere of the river from the shore.

**Where:** Metal, Chalkwell Hall, SS0 8NB  
**When:** Sat 24 12–2pm  
**Exhibition open:** Sat & Sun 17–18 & 24–25 Sept & 1–2 Oct or by appointment

**Public Record Estuary: Justin Hopper**

An audio poetry project that explores the land- and seascape of Leigh-on-Sea by creating poetry from 19th-century newspaper reports of minor shipwrecks in the estuary. Join Justin on a walk to experience the poetry audio in the sites that inspired the work, with live readings, recordings and new work based on the piece’s methods performed on location.

**Where:** Meeting Place, Leigh Community Centre  
**When:** Sun 25 1pm  
**Booking required:** estuaryfestival.com metalculture.com

**The Old Waterworks presents:**

**The FTPs and Friends**

A diverse group showcasing of artists linked through friendship, shenanigans and a healthy Do It Yourself work ethic. From local bedroom doodlers to international art thugs. From the furthest reaches of Europe and Africa, the show promises a lot to look at!

**Where:** The Old Waterworks, SS0 7AB  
**When:** Sat 24 12–5pm

**Artist’s and Audiences BBQ**

**Where:** The Old Waterworks, SS0 7AB  
**When:** Sat 24 1pm–4pm

**The White Bus**

An archive film show, looking at life in the seaside town from 1920’s onwards. Alongside films by local artists responding to the estuary and surrounding area.

**Where:** The Old Waterworks, SS0 7AB  
**When:** Sat 24 1pm–2pm  
[theoldwaterworks.com](http://theoldwaterworks.com)  
[thewhitebus.org.uk](http://thewhitebus.org.uk)

**Francesca Maffeo Gallery presents:**

**Sophie Harris-Taylor MTWTFSS Chapter 1. (2010–2015)**

A solo exhibition by Sophie Harris-Taylor, a vulnerable, honest and intimate body of work from the private moments of her photographic diary. A book of the same name, designed by Joseph Carter in the form of a discrete, classic, leather-bound diary with handwritten notes bring to life some of the reminiscences and context surrounding the images.

**Soundings from the Estuary: Frank Watson**

A collection of photographs taken during a series of walks over a seven year period examining the Thames Estuary. The images reflect both the maritime and industrial past as well as future effects of global warming on the estuary’s topography. The artist will give a talk about his work at 12 noon on Sun 25.

**Where:** Francesca Maffeo Gallery, SS9 1BW  
**When:** Sat 24 10am–5pm and Sun 25 12pm (artists talk)  
[francescamaffeoagency.com](http://francescamaffeoagency.com)

**Miss Annabel Dee* Gallery & Studios:**

**Exploring The Estuary**

Pop Up Exhibition and Open Studio in the popular, artist-run Leigh-on-Sea gallery and studios, featuring artists interpretations of the Estuary. Open all weekend. Music and drinks throughout the day on Saturday.

**Where:** Miss Annabel Dee, SS9 1JF  
**When:** Sat 24 11am–6pm and Sun 25 11am–4pm  
[missannabeldee.co.uk](http://missannabeldee.co.uk)

**YoHa presents:**

**Wrecked on the Intertidal Zone: YoHa**

An ongoing enquiry into the genealogical, ecological and political complexity of the Thames estuary by YoHa, with Critical Arts Ensemble and Arts Catalyst. Take a walk with the artists on Sun 25 Sept to find out more and visit Graveyard of Lost Species. Please bring waterproof shoes or wellies!

**Graveyard of Lost Species: YoHa**

One part of YoHa’s Wrecked project has been to create this ambitious collaborative project and public monument. Recorded ‘species’ from: wildlife, marine creatures, livelihoods, fishing methods, landmarks and local dialect, that once comprised of the Estuary and which are now disappearing have been carved into a local boat wreck, a 40ft 12 ton Thames bawley, reclaimed from the estuary. The final phase of the project saw the Souvenir refloated back to the marsh in July this year.

**Where:** Meeting place: Leigh-on-Sea Railway Station  
**When:** Sun 25 3pm  
[yoha.co.uk/graveyard](http://yoha.co.uk/graveyard)
Wish You Were Here
17 September – 2 October
Mon – Fri 8.15am – 6pm Sat & Sun 8.15am – 8pm

Museum of the Thames Estuary – Pop-Up
17 September – 2 October
11am–4pm daily

An installation of ten brand new, cultural Beach Huts installed on the shore-end platform of Southend Pier takes audiences on an artist-led journey through the heyday of the classic Estuary seaside experience to the present day.

The exterior of each hut has been designed by an artist/designer, including two by Southend school pupils. Each Beach Hut acts as a small cultural venue for ideas, exhibitions, sound works, film and even a small library.

For Estuary 2016, the Gallery Beach Hut features a solo exhibition Billy Childish in Print (A Survey) with music and live art from the performance Hut during the weekends of 24–25 Sept and 1–2 Oct.

Southend Pier, Western Esplanade, Southend SS1 1EE

Please Note: £2 fee to walk onto Southend Pier (installation continues beyond festival dates)

Created by Metal, in partnership with Southend Museums Service as part of Estuary 2016.

Southend Museums hold significant national and international standard collections – of fine art, costume and archaeology. This includes hundreds of Thames Estuary wreck objects ranging from pieces of ship, boat and aircraft, to the cargo and personal possessions of those who were on board the doomed vessels.

Our pop-up Museum in a shipping container presents a small selection of these wreck objects alongside a specially commissioned, large-scale drawing revealing some of the 1000 shipwreck stories of the Estuary bed.

Plans for a new, purpose built building to house Southend Museum’s outstanding collections are underway, to be built on this same location. This will provide of the permanent display of the comprehensive, multimedia story of the Thames Estuary, South Essex and Southend-on-Sea.

Cliff Gardens, Western Esplanade, Southend SS1 1EE

southendmuseums.co.uk
Facebook: /SouthendMuseums
Twitter: @SouthendMuseums

Museum of the Thames Estuary – Pop-Up is supported by Pentalver.