
WHAT'S ON SPRING 2025



PROTEUS CREATION SPACE

Your local arts centre in Basingstoke

Theatre & Performance | Classes & Workshops | Café | Gallery
Family Events | Venue Hire | Youth & Adult Theatre Groups

WELCOME

Welcome to 2025! WHAT a season of events we have for you.... it's one of the most packed and exciting Spring seasons we've programmed for a long time, with everything from 5* genre-defying fringe theatre shows to live rock gigs, community performances, shows for the very youngest audience members, fine art exhibitions and not forgetting our fun-filled evening events like musical bingo and cocktails and playdoh! Dive into an entertaining Spring season with us!

We wanted to use this space to remind our regular visitors and encourage anyone who has not visited us before, that we welcome anyone from the local community who is interested in participating in 'the arts' to pop by and have a chat with us!

Our adult theatre group; The Proteans, are actively looking for new members to join the group in 2025. They are a creative, friendly bunch of theatre enthusiasts and welcome all ages and experience levels. From April the group will be working towards a show to commemorate VE day, in collaboration with local professional theatre-makers Pedlars and Petticoats. We also have spaces in our three youth theatre groups, all of whom are working on exciting projects this year, from Shakespeare to Arts Awards!

If you are a professional or emerging artist, performer, theatre maker or musician – do take a look at the 'artist support' section of our website, we have bursary opportunities through our Performance Lab programs that support artists to make new work and also several brilliant and affordable diverse spaces suitable for performance or rehearsal space.

If you want to get creative but don't know where to start, why not consider trying one of our regular classes or workshops or perhaps volunteering with us. Help build and paint theatre sets, make costumes, assist us in spreading the word about what we do, or even joining our board, which currently has a number of vacancies... we'd love to hear from you!

The Proteus Team x



VISITING US

The Creation Space is a dynamic, creative hub in the heart of Basingstoke, based on the corner of Southern Road and Council Road opposite the Bounty Inn and next to Fairfield's Primary School. We have limited free onsite parking for visitors and a parking system that requires **all visitors to log in with their vehicle registration number when they enter the building**. We are committed to making your visit as welcoming as possible, so please make us aware of any special requirements you have. The Creation Space is accessible to wheelchair users and all facilities are based on the ground floor. Disabled toilets and baby changing facilities available. Assistance dogs welcome.



The Late Night Assembly presents



Friday 31st January | Bar opens at 7pm, fun begins at 8pm
Tickets £10 +booking | 18+ Only +

Musical Bingo will take place on National Backwards Day (interpret that how you wish) and so will be the theme of the evening! Clothes on backwards, dessert before dinner, only listening to that part in Work It by Missy Elliot where she "reverse it", do anything and everything backwards!

Join us for a fun-filled evening of MUSICALBINGO, full of sing-along favourites, games & prizes to be won!

If you have never played musical bingo before, the premise is simple, the numbers are replaced by music; when you hear a song play that is on your bingo card, you can mark it off with a colourful pen (or 'dabber') and you are a step closer to a 'Full House'!

Expect to hear lots of your favourite pop songs through the decades right up to today; singing and dancing along is actively encouraged!

This fun twist on a traditional bingo night will be sprinkled with plenty of cheeky fun and surprises from your hostess-with-the-mostest, Becky Boobala.

Musical Bingo is the perfect night out for a group of friends who fancy something a bit different. There will of course be a full licensed bar with bingo-themed cocktails on offer to keep players 'hydrated', so eyes down, dabbers at the ready, and let the fun commence.

The Basingstoke Music Initiative presents

LIVE MUSIC –

A FORMAL HORSE | TWOTHIRTYTWO | DAHLIA'S COMET

Saturday 1st February | Doors 6pm, first band at 7pm

Tickets from £5 +booking | Age guidance: Over 18s

Join us for our first gig of 2025!

Proteus and RB Music have been building our Basingstoke Music Initiative project since November 2023, making a space for new musicians to experience gigging, and established artists to add Basingstoke to their tour dates. The project also provides musicians with a rehearsal space and mentoring from other musicians and music industry professionals.



LINE UP:

Headlining - A Formal Horse - 'avant-rock awkward squad'. A Formal Horse is a spicy Avant-rock quartet working out of Southampton.

TwoThirtyTwo - alt-rock band from Aldershot, influenced by The National, Springsteen, and Hell Is for Heroes.

Dahlia's Comet - prog straight from the cosmos.

Over the past year, we have had some incredible musicians play at Creation Space and many nights of amps to 11 and the crowd thrashing in unison. For our first gig of 2025, we will be keeping the party rocking with a lineup stacked with Indie Rock bands.

SAVE THE DATE! – March 22 | May 5 | June 14

Join the BMI mailing list on our website for upcoming events, information for bands and audience on the project, lineups and musician bios.

Find out more at www.proteustheatre.com/music

The Basingstoke Music Initiative presents

LIVE MUSIC – POLAR

Saturday 22nd March | Doors 6pm

Tickets from £7 +booking | Age guidance: Over 18s



March is all about METAL and this gig is going to be loud. So, if you are a fan of the UK metal scene and want to discover the next ones to watch, this is for you.

We are really, excited to announce our headliners: Polar, who will be fresh off the back of their Five Arrows European Tour.

Polar are a five piece "emotive, melodic hardcore band" Kerrang, originally hailing from Guildford after forming in 2009 and dropped their 6th studio album in late 2024 and their most recent two singles have been garnering support from BBC Radio 1 Introducing with regular airplay on the rock show.

"Five Arrows is the beginning of a brand new era of Polar and the record is a symbol of resilience. The album allows the band to break the mold musically to what has come before, pushing the sound sonically in a brand-new direction but at the same time not losing the rawness and energy that the band has come to be known for. To accompany the newfound sound, lyrically it digs deep into the theme of the destructive power of change and the positive and negatives that come with it."



exit 6

presents

Love 6

VALENTINES FILM SCREENING

Thursday 13th February | 7:30pm | Tickets £7 | Age guidance: 12+ (please see website for more details) | Running time: 95-110 minutes + interval

Join the Exit 6 team for an evening showcasing some of their favourite love-themed short films from previous festival years in honour of Valentine's Day!

Exit 6 Film Festival is a vibrant celebration of independent cinema set in the heart of Basingstoke. Every September, we curate an all-day diverse programme of short films from highly talented UK and international filmmakers, many of whom have gone on to stellar careers in the industry.

Ahead of the 10th edition of Exit 6 at the Vue Basingstoke in September 2025, we're hosting a series of themed showcase evenings featuring films from years gone by, so you can get a flavour of how amazing the Exit 6 Film Festival selection is every year, and we can enjoy watching them all over again!

If you love film, bring yourselves, your friends or your Valentine along for a fabulous evening of between 7-9 independent short films made by the stars of the future - we'll buy the popcorn!

The Late Night Assembly presents

COCKTAILS & PLAYDOH!

Friday 21st February | Bar opens at 7pm, fun begins at 8pm

Tickets £10 +booking | 18+ Only

It's been a little while since we picked up the playdoh for an evening of modelling challenges and fun but after the sell-out success of Cockta-doodle-do and Musical Bingo your host-with-the-most Becky Boobala, brings you another night of modelling mayhem with Cocktails and Play-Doh!

Come along, have a drink and play with clay, create something smutty with putty, make a scene with Plasticine or you simply just fancy a squish and a squeeze after a long week, this payday party is the perfect antidote! Indulge your creative side with an evening Play-Doh, cocktails and games, with prizes to be won.

The licensed café will be open from 7.00pm, offering themed cocktails (of course), wines, bottled beers, spirits and soft drinks. Places are limited and sell quickly so book yours today!



Created by Jill Rogati



Saturday 22nd February | 10:30am / 12pm / 2pm
Tickets £12 for adult with their baby (£5 for additional adult) | Age guidance 2 months to 2 years

Bring your baby to the diner! Meet Dottie. She's new on the job and she's ready to serve her first customers – your babies! What could possibly go wrong?

Whipped Up is a show that provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to spend quality time with their baby in a unique setting which is entertaining for BOTH babies and carers.

As the server waits on their "demanding" clientele (imagine babies doing what babies do best – creating adorable chaos!) the server grows increasingly frazzled – and more and more entertaining! Stimulating for tiny audience members with sensory play served up throughout the show, and hilarious for parents/adults watching their loved ones take on roles in an unfolding comedy.

“[PARENTS ARE] DELIGHTED TO SEE THAT IT IS NOT JUST THEM WHO CAN HAVE TROUBLE MAKING THEIR BABIES DO WHAT THEY EXPECT”

- Fringe Review, Edinburgh

Produced by Watford Palace Theatre | Created by Jill Rogati | Directed by Eva Sampson

Run-time: 50 minutes (including 20 minutes of playtime on set). No interval.

The Last Baguette presents

PLAYTIME: CHEESY TUNES

Saturday 1st March | 10am / 11:30am / 2pm | Tickets Adult £8 / Child £6

Age guidance 2-6 years

Playtime! is play-along theatre adventures for 2-6 year olds and their grown-ups!

Come along for a fun, relaxed participatory theatre session with The Last Baguette theatre company. There'll be silliness, play-acting, games and music... Expect play-along storytelling, original music, puppetry, theatre games, movement, and lots of imaginative play.

Join Ratty and friends as they form their very own band, and they want you to join too! Ratty has lots of ideas but sometimes things don't go according to plan... can you help her by playing along and working together?

Run-time: Sessions last 1 hour

Age suitability: Created for ages 2-6 and their grown-ups. Younger and older siblings are welcome!

**"HIGHLY
RECOMMEND! WE
HAD GREAT FUN"**

- Basingstoke Audience member,
Playtime: A Woodland Wonder



Trott and Jennings presents

THE ASTONISHING ADVENTURES OF KITTY AND PEG

Thursday 6th March | 7:30pm | Tickets £10, £8 concession +booking

Age guidance: 14+

An 18th-century thrill ride packed with laughter, rivalry, and friendship!

Meet Kitty Clive and Peg Woffington, two notorious actresses fighting to stay relevant in a world that loves them one minute and casts them aside the next. Hilarious and heartfelt, this is the story of fierce women juggling careers, romance, and each other!

The Astonishing Adventures of Kitty and Peg, a hilarious two-hander set in 1745 at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. This uproarious period farce stars English actress Kitty Clive, famed for her voice, and Irish actress Peg Woffington, known for playing men. When they're suddenly sacked, they resort to outrageous schemes: spreading fake news, staging fights, and accidentally poisoning the cross-dressing puppeteer Charlotte "Mr Brown" Charke. Will they win back their jobs, face execution, or will the public's love of scandal save them? Fast-paced and cheeky, expect queer joy, wrestling, and true crime thrills in a play that's as daft as it is tender.

**“LOVED EVERY MINUTE
OF IT - UTTERLY BONKERS
AND TOTALLY REAL AT THE
SAME TIME”**

- Audience member





Bryn Strudwick presents

AN EVENING OF POETRY: FROM ME TO YOU

Friday 7th March | Doors 6.30, show starts at 7.30pm | Tickets £6 +booking
Age guidance: 12+

An evening of poetry with local award-winning actor and writer Bryn Strudwick.

We invite you to join him and his guests for another evening of poetry, sketches and reminiscences as part of his new show 'From Me to You'.

Bryn is a founding member of The Proteans and has appeared in numerous productions since 2002. Over the same period, he has won more than 50 awards for his creative writing. His poetry has been described as "reminiscent of Pam Ayres at her wittiest".

As ever, Bryn will be joined by some talented guests on stage, that regular audiences of Proteans productions may well recognise!



The PROTEANS

Adult Theatre Group

Wednesdays 7:30pm – 9:30pm | PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN

The Proteans are an adult community theatre workshop company run by Proteus, whose ethos is to explore creativity, performance and above all to come together for the sheer enjoyment of making, performing and experiencing live theatre.

The Proteans have a long history of performing popular plays each summer at Basingstoke's Walled Garden, the most recent being *The Tempest* in 2023 and just recently Noel Coward's *Hay Fever*.

The group can also choose to participate in other plays or projects throughout the year and have recently finished a successful and self-directed 3-night run of Dickensian spoof *Round the Twist* and prior to that a 4 night sell-out run of Terry Pratchett's *Mort*. The Proteans also frequently get involved in larger participatory projects that Proteus undertake from festivals to multi-generational immersive theatre shows.

Members are invited to see all of Proteus' professional performances and critically engage in the work, being a member also affords access to see work in development from some of the industry's most exciting artists and to work alongside professional theatre practitioners in specialist workshops.

A friendly and sociable group, they only undertake performances when they feel like it, and even then, not all the members of the group have to be involved. Whilst many of the current members are very active participants - anyone who has previously participated is always welcome to pick back up with the group when the time is right.



The Proteans present

ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD

Thursday 3rd April - Saturday 5th April | 7:30pm | Tickets £10, £8 concession +booking
Age guidance: 12+

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead is a play by Tom Stoppard which, as it were, takes place in the wings of Hamlet, and finds both humour and poignancy in the situation of the ill-fated attendant lords.



Influenced by *Waiting for Godot* and influencing *Withnail and I* and *Groundhog Day*, the plays' wit, stagecraft and verbal verve remain as exhilarating as they were when it was first produced, and the play has become a contemporary classic with actors from Gary Oldman to Daniel Radcliffe taking on the central roles.

The Proteans take on Stoppard's legendary comedy and bring a fresh perspective on this groundbreaking work. Funny, surreal, thoughtful and highly physical, this is a real theatrical treat.



Helen Percival presents

PHOENIX

Thursday 10th April | 7:30pm | Tickets £10, £8 concession +booking
Age guidance: 14+

Phoenix is a riot of spoken word poetry, movement and music which takes theatre audiences on a joyous and at times challenging exploration of transformation, healing and the messy joy of being alive. Brimming with wit and vulnerability the show is a call to arms, investigating how we all might step more boldly into our power and our most authentic selves.

Helen Percival is an actor and poet who has been performing spoken word poetry since 2017. She graduated from RADA's MA Theatre Lab programme in 2023, and Phoenix is her first solo show. The piece is set to the live, razor sharp beats of international percussionist Harry Lovell-Jones (Philharmonic Orchestra, the London Philharmonic Orchestra and BBC Symphony Orchestra) and will grab you by your heart strings and won't let go until the final beat has been drummed.



James Rowland presents

JAMES ROWLAND DIES AT THE END

Friday 18th April | 7:30pm | Tickets £10, £8 concession +booking

Age guidance: 14+

**JAMES ROWLAND RETURNS FOR HIS THIRD SHOW;
JAMES ROWLAND DIES AT THE END.**

What would you do with an hour? What if it was your last hour ever?

For James the answer is easy: he wants to tell you a story. A story full of laughter and music and joy. A story about living.

The third and final part of a trilogy that began with Learning to Fly (★★★★★ (Guardian)) and Piece of Work (★★★★★ (Morning Star)) from the creator of the Songs of Friendship Trilogy (★★★★★ (Stage), ★★★★★ (ThreeWeeks), ★★★★★ (Skinny)).

“ROWLAND
FREQUENTLY CATCHES
US OFF GUARD NOT
ONLY WITH CLEVER
PUNCHLINES, BUT
WITH MOMENTS OF
SINCERE EMOTION”

- Binge Fringe



Katie Hurley presents

YOU'RE SO F***ING CROYDON

Thursday 24th April | 7:30pm | Tickets £10, £8 concession +booking

Age guidance: 14+

You're SO Fking Croydon!** is a bold, unapologetic dive into the female working-class experience and noughties club culture, seamlessly blending music, dance, comedy, spoken word, and Croydon's most infamous celebrities.

"It was my nemesis, I hated Croydon with a real vengeance. It represented everything I didn't want in my life, everything I wanted to get away from. I think it's the most derogatory thing I can say about somebody or something: 'God, it's so f**king Croydon!'" - David Bowie

Set against the gritty backdrop of Croydon's reputation, this dynamic and interactive show aims to challenge Bowie's quote. It's not just a

story about a place, but about every woman who's been defined by where she comes from. With a cheeky "Love of Huns" aesthetic and a euphoric 'Save the Last Dance'-esque finale, the show celebrates resilience, power, and the refusal to be pigeonholed.

Whether you've walked Croydon's streets or not, this show resonates with humour, heart, and a strut down memory lane, featuring David Bowie in the most unexpected ways.

Basingstoke audiences will well appreciate the irony of stereotypes attached to certain locations, but this very funny and joyful show strives to dispel the notion that being from a particular place diminishes someone's worth.

"KATE HURLEY IS OUTSTANDING"





LET'S GO CAMPING!

26th July – 3rd August

A brand-new show for 2025, *Let's Go Camping!* features a mix of interactive storytelling, delightful puppetry, music and sensory elements.

This walkthrough adventure is perfect for children aged 2-8 and their families.

If you love our magical in-house Christmas shows, then you are in for a treat this summer, as we team up with Scratchbuilt Productions once again for a fun-filled, immersive family adventure with a summertime twist!

WE NEED YOU!

Proteus are actively looking for new people to join to our Board of Trustees and we would love to hear from you if you have a passion for the arts and are curious about to what it means to be a charity trustee.

Being a Trustee of a charity like Proteus is a fulfilling and enjoyable experience. You'll help shape the future of one of the most exciting arts organisations in the South, one that creates work for stages across the UK & beyond, whilst also serving our local communities with high quality art provision.

One of the key benefits of becoming a charity Trustee is **the chance to make a positive impact on your local community**, however there are many other benefits that you may not have previously considered such as;

A chance to learn new skills and gain experience in a non-profit management, fostering your own professional and personal growth. Board membership is also widely-valued by prospective employers.

Expand your professional network. Being a trustee often involves working closely with other professionals, fellow trustees, and stakeholders, providing opportunities for collaboration, partnerships, and learning from others with diverse backgrounds and expertise.

We actively encourage people from a variety of backgrounds with different skills, experiences and stories to join us and influence and develop our working practice.

If you would like to find out more, get in touch directly.

PROTEUS

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

More information can be found on our website at:
www.proteustheatre.com/classes-and-workshops

WATERCOLOUR FOR BEGINNERS AND IMPROVERS

Mondays 10am – 12pm



PHOENIX DRAMA & MOVEMENT

Mondays 10:30am – 12pm

TAI CHI

Mondays 2pm – 3pm

SING FOR FUN – ADULT COMMUNITY CHOIR

Mondays 7pm – 9pm

MAMACANTA – MOTHER & BABY SINGING

Tuesdays 9:30am – 10:45am



THE CREATIVE CLUB

Tuesdays 4:30pm – 5:30pm

DISCOVER THE ARTIST WITHIN YOU – MIXED MEDIA CLASS

Tuesday & Wednesdays 10am – 12:30pm

DRU YOGA

Thursdays 10.30am – 12pm

SING STAR! VOCAL COACHING – 7-11 YEARS

Thursdays 4:30pm – 5:15pm



CHRONIC PAIN SUPPORT GROUP

Monthly 1pm – 2:30pm

BDDF ART CLUB

Monthly 10am – 12pm

PROTEUS YOUTH THEATRE

Groups:
7-11 years, Tuesdays
11-14 years, Mondays
14-18 years, Thursdays
£70 per term



Creating amazing experiences, promoting education and enriching the lives of young people in Basingstoke and North Hampshire through the power of performing arts.

Proteus Theatre Company are working with the support and leadership of professional theatre practitioners to bring accessible theatre experiences for all young people through Proteus Youth Theatre (PYT). From our home at Proteus Creation Space, we run weekly term-time skills workshops and specialist masterclasses for young people aged 7-11 years, 11-14 years & 14+ years, to explore theatre and the arts.

Open to everyone, we welcome young people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities. Being part of a youth theatre is a fantastic way to help build confidence, social skills, teamwork, encourage creativity and make new friends.

“I COME TO YOUTH THEATRE BECAUSE I LOVE ACTING BUT ONE OF THE BEST THINGS ABOUT IT IS ALL THE FRIENDS I’VE MADE. I FEEL LIKE THE ACTING I DO HERE HELPS ME EXPLORE MYSELF AS A PERSON!”

- Current Youth Theatre member



PROTEUS

www.proteustheatre.com



FIND US

Proteus Creation Space, Council Road, Basingstoke RG21 3DH

Open Monday – Thursday 9.30am - 5.30pm.

For events, please refer to individual event timing information on our website www.proteustheatre.com

Open for artisan coffee and cakes
Monday – Thursday 9.30am - 1pm
(and for all events taking place unless otherwise stated)

 proteuscreationspace  @proteustheatre  @proteustheatre

Proteus Creation Space
Council Road, Basingstoke, RG21 3DH



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