

THIS ISLAND
THIS ISLAND
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THIS ISLAND



b-side

7-10 SEPT 2023

PORTLAND, DORSET

THIS ISLAND
THIS ISLAND



*This land is your land,
this land is my land.*

WOODY GUTHRIE

THIS LAND

b-side festival 2023 is celebrating This Land, the limestone isle of Portland that is our home, in all its splendid, fragile beauty.

Our relationship to land isn't always an easy one. In telling its story we might want to talk about its geological formation, the history of farming and pastoral use, industrial heritage or the way habitat change has affected flora and fauna. We might feel frustrated by the current threats to biodiversity, the lack of equal access to land or fear of intrusive development. It could be that we are preoccupied with planning for its future: mitigating climate change, securing homes for our children or ensuring that the landscapes that mean so much to us and the species living within them, have protections that are enshrined in laws and designations.

Some of us may feel part of the land, connected by a powerful sense of belonging

where others feel separated, excluded or unsafe within it. Many people feel a sense of responsibility for the land and take on the role of custodian; all familiar experiences for people everywhere. As the poet Amie Whitemore expresses,

"There is no one way to be a human or a bird or anything else."

The Artists

For the past two years, b-side has been exploring this balance by researching the documents and memories of Portland's past and imagining ambitions for its future. A two year programme of knowledge sharing and creative exploration between residents, visiting researchers and artists comes together in this years festival through artists' commissions, exhibitions and conversations. Artists Anna Heinrich + Leon Palmer, Knead, Emily Tracy and Wildworks have created new artworks for this Festival - the result of

many hours of collaboration, imaginative making, oral history telling and data collection between artists, residents and enthusiasts of all ages.

The Sites

b-side has focused attention on two specific sites on the island: the derelict remains of a Tudor cottage at Brandy Row, Chiswell as an example of a neglected building in a vulnerable seafront position. The land at the windswept southernmost tip of the isle - the last area of Portland original limestone grassland landscape, supporting a delicate biodiversity and where traces of Portland's past farming history can still be seen - The Last Landscape.

Each offered the opportunity to explore different aspects of Portland's heritage and consider the future of these valuable but vulnerable sites.



ANNA HEINRICH + LEON PALMER

Entry

Anna Heinrich and Leon Palmer are two British artists who have worked in collaboration since the early 1990s. They have a cross disciplinary practice which encompasses installations, interventions, large scale projection events, films and photography. They work with digital media, projection, sound, light, optics and photography.

Earlier this year, Anna and Leon used 3D Lidar technology (usually used to create 3D high resolution surveys) to scan Brandy Row and the space

around the site. Lidar scans are made up of millions of measured 3D points called point cloud data that create detailed 3D copies of objects or sites. The artists have used this data, along with photogrammetry, archival imagery and time-lapse footage to create a unique journey through Brandy Row.

A specially composed soundscape has been created and together they form an immersive experience, exploring the transient and sometimes dramatic nature of memory and place.

"We are fascinated by the sense of time passing that seems to get captured and locked into these scans as they become digital twins of an actual place rather than the place itself."

You can see Anna and Leon's new commission ENTRY at Site 1, Islanders Club.

See page 16 for opening times and venue information



EMILY TRACY

Constant Effort

Emily Tracy creates socially engaged projects which invite collaboration with others. Inspired by museum and archive ordering systems, she makes small sculptural pieces, collage and artist books.

Fascinated by the tireless work of Portland Bird Observatory her commission for b-side 'Constant Effort' is a co-created artwork with local residents of Portland, creating a visualisation of the work done at Portland Bird Observatory since 1962 by local birdwatchers. This includes an incredible set of data, produced by daily sightings

collected at the observatory, and their stewardship of 27 acres of surrounding land which they manage with the aim of attracting birds and increasing the biodiversity of 'The Last Landscape' at The Bill. The data represents many things. It reveals Portland Bill as a microcosm of what is happening to birds and wildlife nationally and sometimes globally, it tracks the rise and fall of species which inhabit The Bill. It also represents people, the birdwatchers that have spent hour upon hour collectively amassing this invaluable resource of numbers.

'Constant Effort' attempts to start conversation, to explore and celebrate this data, and its collection through the presentation of a visual snapshot of species sightings at ten year intervals from 1962 to 2022.

You can see Emily's installation at Venue 17, Portland Bird Observatory.

See page 32 for opening times and venue information.

KNEED

The Weather Or Not Station

Over the past year, artists Ishwari Bhalerao and Leonie Rousham aka Kneed have collaborated with young people, island experts, community organisers and the people of Portland, gathering memories, stories, rumours and imaginations of the past, present, future 'weather' surrounding Brandy Row.

'Weather' here refers to both the atmospheric weather: storms, winds, temperature, changes due to the climate crisis and the social and

political 'climate' - our relationships to each other, the spaces we occupy and how we resist and organise during ongoing crises.

The remains of a cottage on Brandy Row have been witness to hundreds of years of stormy weather and social change. What will it continue to see, feel, hear and become?

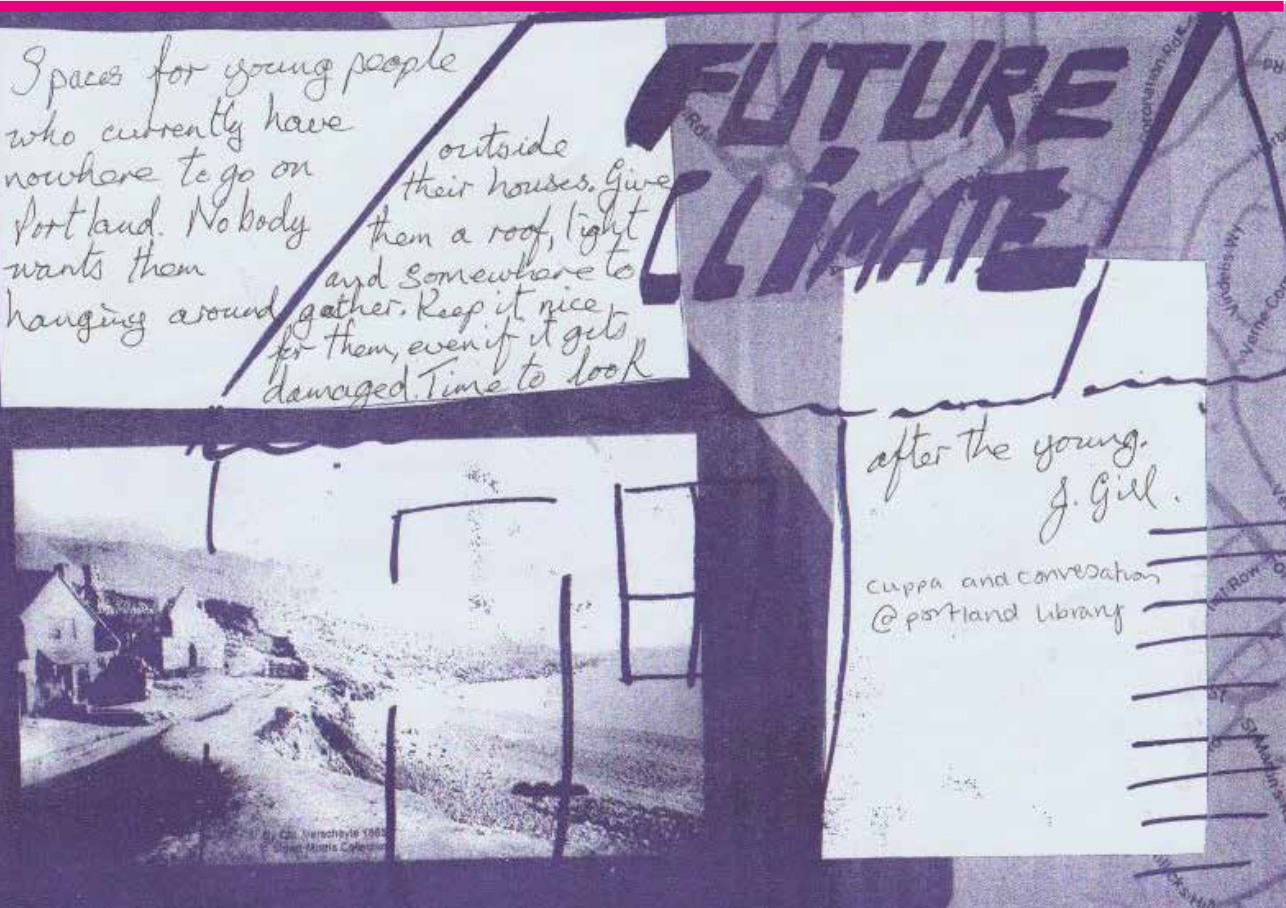
The Weather or Not Station is a vehicle to imagine: a provocation of an alternative future that can resist, sustain and combat such 'storms'.

During the Festival The Weather or Not Station takes several forms - an audio tour, LIVE broadcasts and a game of prediction.

Kneed will be based at Stone Hall, Brandy Row and The Royal Manor Theatre, all in Zone 1 at venues 6, 7 and 10.

See pages 18 & 19 for opening times and venue information.

#BSIDE23



WILDWORKS

UnCommon Lands

Wildworks is the UK's leading landscape theatre company. Based in Cornwall they create site-specific theatre with communities locally, nationally and internationally. Collaboration and partnerships are central to their creative process, the lived experience of local people is at the heart of the work and without their participation, the work cannot happen.

Wildworks have been working on Portland for a while now, getting a sense of the island, its inhabitants, human and animal, its history. The Isle's ancient beginnings and speculative histories tell stories of a land of

ritual, ruled by the seasons and their symbolism and where fire was used as celebration, as a source of community cohesion, as a beacon for seafarers.

"We have been looking for the traces of these ceremonies, in the land, in the archives, in the memories of people. We are inspired to create a modern ritual where people and symbolic animals will come together in celebration. At the coming of the dusk,

the borderline hour between light and dark, when anything is possible."

UnCommon Lands is an invitation to be part of a new ritual for Portland. Prepare to have your senses tantalised, to connect with others around you, and to experience the landscape like never before.

Chat with the team or get involved at the Pulpit Inn, near Portland Bill in Zone 3 or go to the performance at venue 19.

See pages 35 & 36 for more information, or book ticket at b-side.org.uk

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

At b-side festival the whole island becomes a venue – that's a big space! In this Guide we have divided the island into zones – each zone has its own map in the Guide so you can easily see all that is happening nearby and how to get to there.

We have listed all the great places to eat and drink along the way too!



One of the best things about a journey is all the amazing people you meet on the way. Look out for our amazing b-side volunteers in bright b-side t-shirts who will be happy to help you find your way around.

ACCESS

Please contact us by phone, email, letter, or by popping into our festival hub to discuss anything we can do to ensure your enjoyment of b-side festival.

Our fully accessible festival hub, St. George's Centre in Easton (site number 11) is the place to go to for information, booking tickets or finding out more. The hub will be staffed by one of our team throughout the festival to support you with any access requirements.



EASY READ

Download our Easy Read Guide from our website or see a print version at the Festival Hub.



LOST

OR CAN'T FIND SOMETHING?

CALL

**01305
568044**



SOUNDS LIKE AN ARTIST

Audio descriptions and insights into some of the artworks can be heard on your phone via QR links at the venues or online.



WHERE AM I? WHERE ARE YOU?

Our pull out festival map marks all the festival sites, Portland's accessible toilets, parking and bus routes.



WHAT3WORDS

Use WHAT3WORDS to help you navigate. Use this QR code to download the app or visit what3words.com



GETTING AROUND

TAKE A RIDE

We are pleased to be working with Cycling Without Age this year again to offer free trishaw rides for older people and people with disabilities.

BOOK YOUR RIDE AT
B-SIDE.ORG.UK
OR AT THE HUB



FREE BUT
BOOKING
ESSENTIAL



HOP ON BOARD

A free and accessible minibus courtesy of wonderful **Weyline** is available to take you to Festival sites and to areas less accessible if you do not have private transport.

Enjoy a tour of the Festival sites with time to enjoy the artworks too. A fully accessible bus is available on Sat and Sun.

FREE (donations welcomed)

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

HOW TO GET HERE

BY BUS



Buses run frequently between Weymouth and Portland.

Number 1 from Kings Statue [K4] Weymouth to Portland, does a circuit of the island as far as Southwell.

The 501 from Kings Statue Weymouth to Portland Bill via Portland Castle and Easton.

Portland Coaster runs from Weymouth up to Portland Bill.

For timetables visit First Group's website or call **0345 646 0707**
www.firstbus.co.uk

BY TRAIN



Trains to Weymouth run from London Waterloo via Southampton Central and Parkway (South West Trains) and from Bristol Temple Meads (First Great Western).

Take a look at Trainline for train times.
www.thetrainline.com

BY BOAT



There is a daily ferry service from Coastline Cruises from Weymouth to Portland.

www.coastlinecruises.com

BY CAR



From the South & London A35 towards Dorchester, then the A354 to Weymouth.

From the West Follow signs to Bridport then either the B3157 to Weymouth via Abbotsbury, or the A35 to Dorchester.

Welcome to b-side festival

This year is the final year of our Heritage Lottery Funded project This Land.

Over the past two years, artists have been working on Portland planning and creating new artworks in response to community research. The 2023 Festival is the big finale and our celebration of This Land - this amazing Isle, it's culture, biodiversity and most of all its residents.

We hope you enjoy, here's some bits to look out for...



TUNE IN ...
to Jo Tyler's podcast
'A Tithe To The Last Landscape'
See page 33



SITE 12

GRAB YOURSELF SOME B-SIDE MERCH
Head to Outpost site 12 to bag yourself some limited edition goodies



SITE 4

MAKE ART
from the land with artist Frances Hatch.
See page 20



HANDS ON



SITE 12

COME AND SEE US
The Festival Hub is back again at St Georges Centre, Easton for all your Festival info.



TAKE A WALK OR WHEEL
Great walks led by island experts and Trishaw rides for weary legs
pages 25,26 & 34



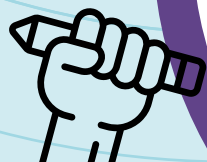
SITE 19

READ THE LAND
Spot our Haiku-your Bike-u bikes pedalling new poetry inspired by the landscape around the island

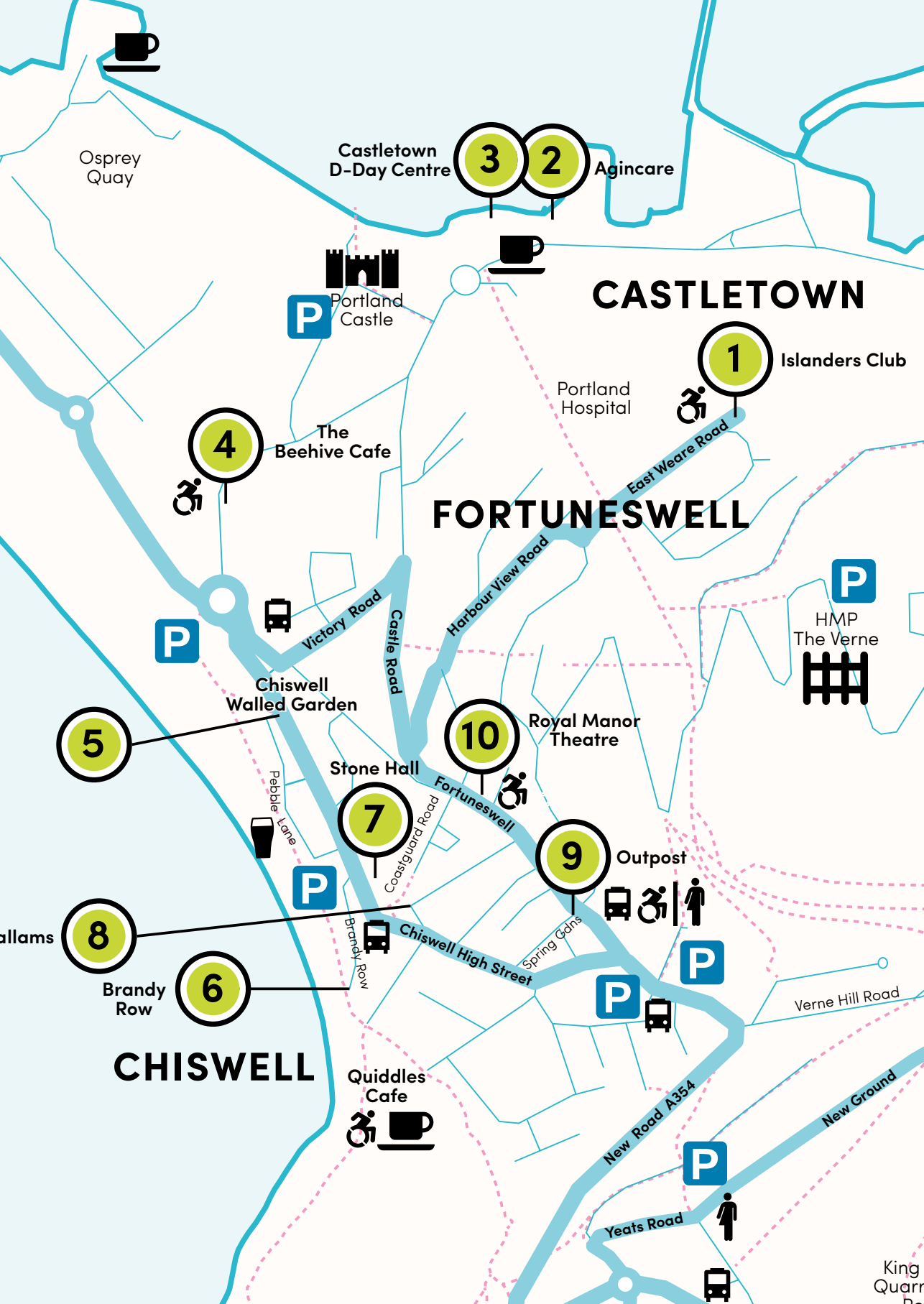


CELEBRATE
be part of a new Portland ritual and get creative with Wildworks
See pages 35 and 36

Any problems this is also the place to come



BOOK TICKETS & FIND OUT MORE INFO AT B-SIDE.ORG.UK



Zone 1



Brandy Row

An exploration of the remains of a Tudor cottage on the seafront at Chiswell.

On the seafront at Chiswell is a small plot of council owned land currently used for fishing stores. In one corner stands the derelict remains of a stone cottage - the last traces of what was once a picturesque row of 17th Century thatched cottages. Built directly on the beach and renowned for stories of smuggling, these cottages took the full brunt of the storms and tidal surges. What remains has survived the ravages of weather, sea, and demolition.

Researching the site with our group of community researchers has brought up many memories, connected families and sent us off in intriguing searches for lost documents to help tell the story of this neglected part of Portland. Situated in an at-risk area with sea levels rising, in very poor state of repair, with no listing or historical surveys, can this potential community asset be saved and what innovative ideas might be explored for its future use?

What are the challenges for coastal communities vulnerable to climate change?

Whilst posing these questions we have captured stories and recorded memories and gathered as much as we can to tell the story of these buildings and who lived here - creating an archive of this site and its context on Portland.

This festival shares those stories through the exhibition, artworks, walks and workshops.





Entry

Anna Heinrich + Leon Palmer

Daily 11am - 6pm

Entry is a new film installation inspired by Brandy Row. Built from local stone, these cottages have undergone various structural configurations throughout their history, shaped as much by the powerful forces of nature as by the hands of humans. Early photographs depict a building quite different to the one you can see today yet throughout time the doorway, known as 'Entry', has remained a constant threshold to the ebb and flow of community life and the elements.

Working with local company 4DSurveying, the artists have sought to capture a version of the building and its immediate surroundings, at this moment in time, using 3D laser technology to create a 'digital twin'. The results are ghost like, ephemeral images, layers of visual information like huge futuristic 3D engravings which appear to simultaneously tie the past and present together in a mesmerising projection and audio installation.



Artist Talk

Thursday 4 - 5pm

Meet Anna and Leon and find out more about how they created 'Entry'

Islanders Club
East Weare Road, DT5 1ES

[motoring.consented.distracts](#)



The Siren (of rOpes + Dreams)

Carrie Mason

Daily 11am - 6pm

"I whispered my wishes and sent them to sea" *

Made of knotted and braided rope The Siren holds the hopes and dreams of Portland residents collected over the last two years.

The title references both a warning sound and the mythological winged creature half bird half woman, whose singing of forbidden knowledge lured unwary sailors to an island in Homer's Odyssey.

The Siren has been commissioned by the New Curators, a group of early career creatives from Dorset who have been supported by b-side since 2020.

Agincare Headquarters,
Castletown, DT5 1BB

[troll.proven.infants](#)



Familiar Histories Vending Machines

Christopher Lee

Daily 11am - 6pm

Bag yourself an Earl of Abergavenny shipwreck souvenir from Chris Lee's bespoke vending machines. All proceeds go to charitable causes.

See Portland Museum listing [page 26](#) for full info.

Outside D- Day Centre + Museum,
Admiralty Buildings
Castletown, DT5 1BD

[scenes.kettles.pythons](#)



The red telephone box,
Mallams

[olive.loitering.renamed](#)



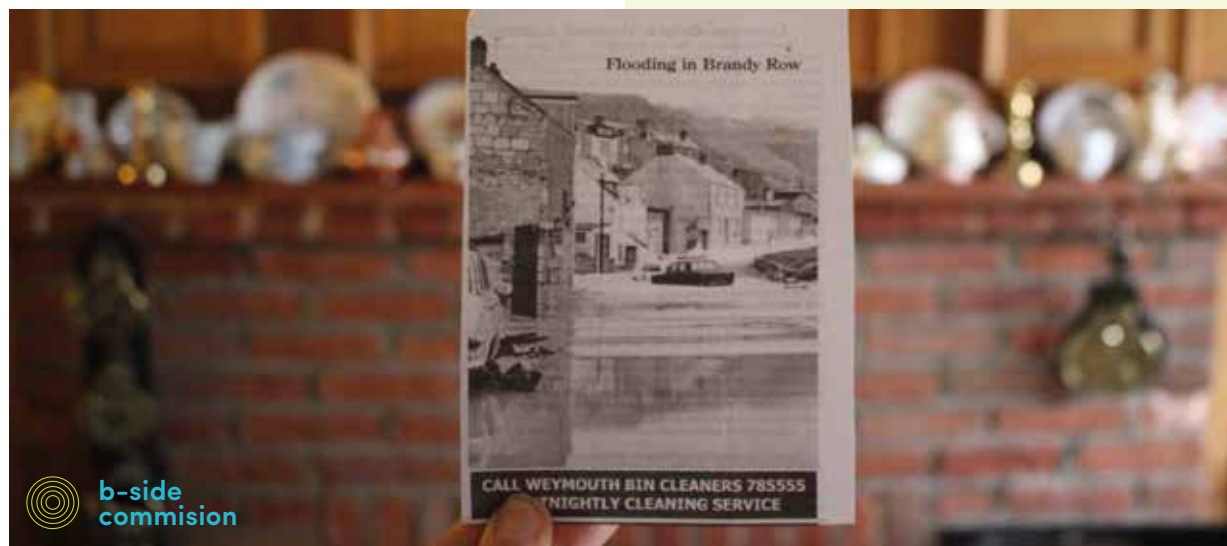
Outpost

77 Fortuneswell, DT5 1LY

[touches.sardine.mailboxes](#)



* from *Exquisite Corpse* game, b-side festival 2022



The Story of Brandy Row

An Exhibition bringing together the research of Brandy Row, Chiswell

Daily 11am - 6pm

Drop into Stone Hall - a former Congregational chapel in Chiswell and discover the story of Brandy Row. Over the past year Dr Jeanie Sinclair and a group of community researchers have been investigating the history of an inauspicious looking stone hut on the seafront at Chiswell. What stories lie behind this once iconic picture postcard row of Tudor cottages?

Help yourself to a cuppa, take a seat and spend some quiet time browsing this collection of books, pamphlets, documents, and photographs relating the story of this part of Chiswell.

Weather Or Not Station

Kneed

Over the past year, artist duo Kneed have been gathering memories, stories, rumours and imaginations of the past, present and future 'weather' surrounding Brandy Row. The Weather or Not Station is a vehicle to imagine and takes several forms - an audio tour, live broadcasts and a game of predication.

Daily 11.30am

Listen to a live Weather or Not Station Broadcast, delivered by our local 'Weather or Not Reporters'

Daily 11 - 6pm

Flick through and draw out your own Weather or Not Forecast cards as you browse and listen to the vast collection of conversations and stories gleaned from conversations with residents and visitors to the Island.

Weather or Not Station

Kneed

Daily 11am - 6pm

Pick up a pair of wireless headphones and take a short walk along Brandy Row. A 10 minute curated sound piece will transport you across memories and imaginations. Available to listen to any time during festival opening hours. Look out for the listening stop outside Brandy Row.

Brandy Row, Chiswell, DT5 1AP

headlight.crowbar.corrupted

LEVEL ACCESS



Stone Hall
Chiswell, DT5 1AP
(former United Reformed Church)

shaky.validated.inquest



ARTISTS TALK

Fri 2-4pm

Materials of Practice- a conversation with Kneed, Dhaqan Collective and Antje Rook

See page 23



Who Lived in a House Like This?

Saturday 11am - 1pm & 2pm - 4pm

TICKETS £3.50

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Join This Land Researcher Dr Jeanie Sinclair and James Barker from Portland Buildings Preservation Trust on a gentle wander exploring the historic buildings of Chiswell and who lived in them.

Walks take approx 2 hours.

Meet at Chiswell
Community Garden,
Chiswell DT5 1AW

lecturing.applied.racetrack



COME AND SAY HELLO AT THE HUB!



Letters to the Earth

Wild Rumpus

Daily 11am - 6pm

"Once upon a time, words began to vanish from the language of children..."

This immersive audio installation includes readings from the Letters to the Earth and Lost Words by Robert Macfarlane that examines the loss of vocabulary to describe the Natural world in the new edition of the Oxford Junior Dictionary, words like acorn, bluebell and kingfisher, no longer used enough by children to merit inclusion in the dictionary.

Sit amongst the natural glory of the garden, take a moment, and dial in to hear Letters to the Earth or The Lost Words in audio form. Sit at the vintage telephone tables, dial the number for Kae Tempest, Emma Thompson, Sam Lee or Jenny Ngugi, and close your eyes with the receiver to your ear, as you listen, reflect, and let their words resonate.

Chiswell Community Garden
Chiswell DT5 1AW

lecturing.applied.racetrack



Meet at The Beehive Café
Unit 1 Victoria Park
Lerret Road DT5 1GB

submerge.nuance.lends



Drawing on Chiswell

Frances Hatch

Thursday 10.30am - 1.30 pm

TICKETS £3.50

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

A guided drawing walk along the shoreline and back to the artist's studio, making drawings using tools and materials foraged on route. Explore mark making and capturing the material 'personality' of place at a nearby shore. Participants will be provided with paper and very limited tools. Less art kit the better! Studio open until 3.

An outdoor workshop - whatever the weather! An interest in working outside is essential. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear.



HANDS ON

COMMON LANDS PART 2

Who do **we** think we are?

Some people are born in the mountains, while others are born by the sea. Some people are happy to live in the place they were born, while others must make a journey to reach the climate in which they can flourish and grow. Between the ocean and the mountains is a wild forest. This is where I want to make my home. Maia Kobabe

Common Lands is b-side's ongoing theme that explores land through our physical and environmental relationship, such as climate change and biodiversity together with our human relationship such as migration, displacement and ownership.

As part 1, This Land culminates this year in a celebration of community research and artworks, part 2 begins in October with Who Do We Think We Are? a creative exploration into the human story of our island and an invitation to collaborate in discovering all our stories of migration, from around the corner to across the world.

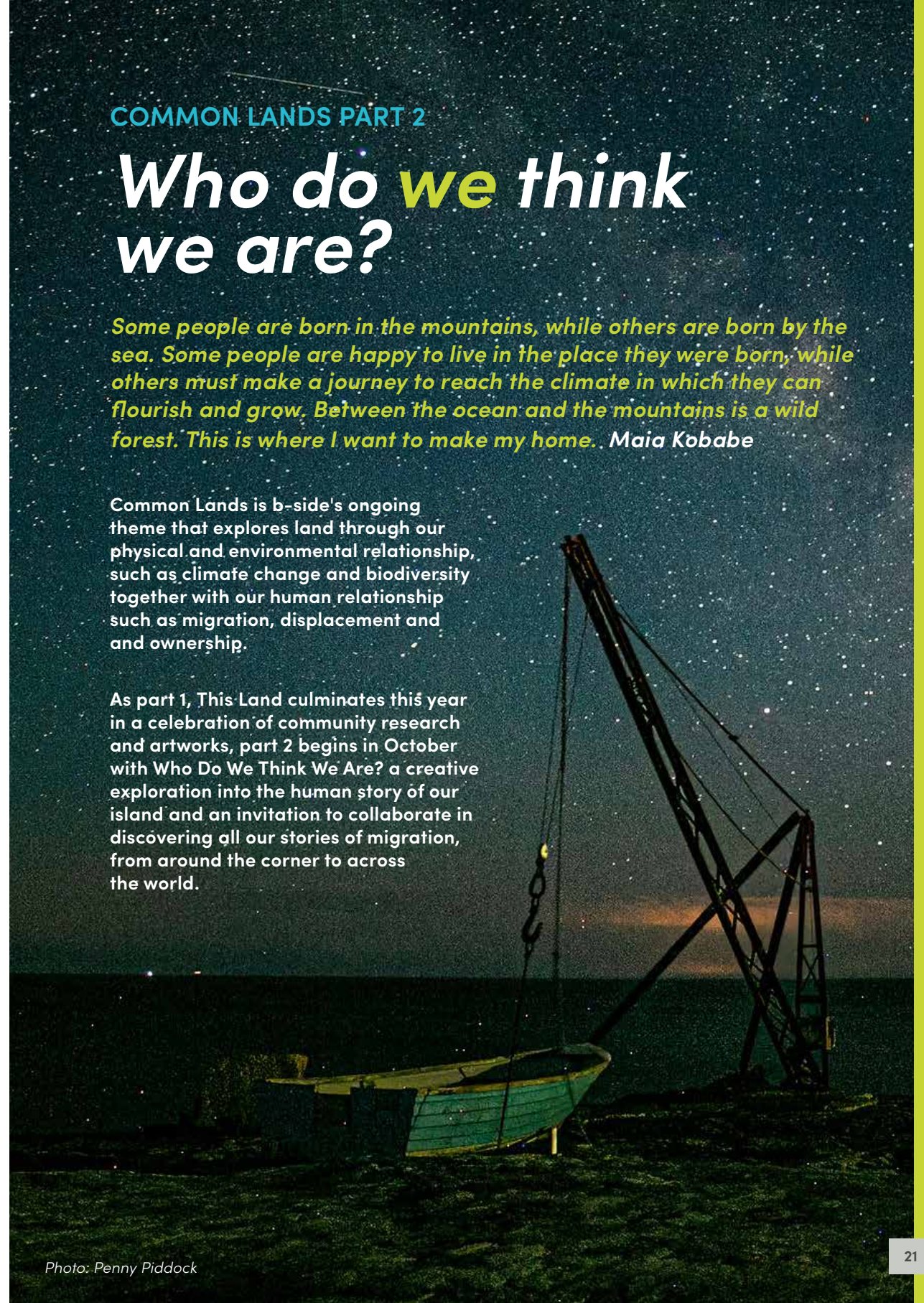


Photo: Penny Piddock



Rafts & Undercurrents

Two films by Turner prize nominated artist Rory Pilgrim that explore the climate crisis.

The Undercurrent

2019 (50 mins)

Courtesy andriessse-eyck galerie

Screening daily throughout the day
(see website for times)

The Undercurrent asks how we deal with such an overwhelmingly global issue on a deeply intimate and personal scale. Filmed in Idaho, the film was made with 10 Youth Climate Activists who explore how climate change interconnects with other aspects of their lives too. Sound-tracked by an original orchestral score composed by Pilgrim, the Undercurrent questions what makes us feel like we belong somewhere - is it a home, a country or each other?

Rafts

2022 (67 mins)

Courtesy of Arts Council Collection UK and andriessse-eyck galerie

Screening daily throughout the day
(see website for times)

At the heart of RAFTS is a concert broadcast that interweaves stories, poetry and reflections around a seven-song oratorio that makes connections between our everyday life and our environment. In moments of change and transition, what supports us and keeps us afloat? A raft is the simplest and most fragile vehicle of survival on open water. Ancient as human language, rafts are still needed during urgent crossings.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, artist and composer Rory Pilgrim developed RAFTS as the second chapter in a body of performance, film and sonic work about climate change.




Materials of Practice - A conversation

Dhaqan Collective, Kneed and Antje Rook.

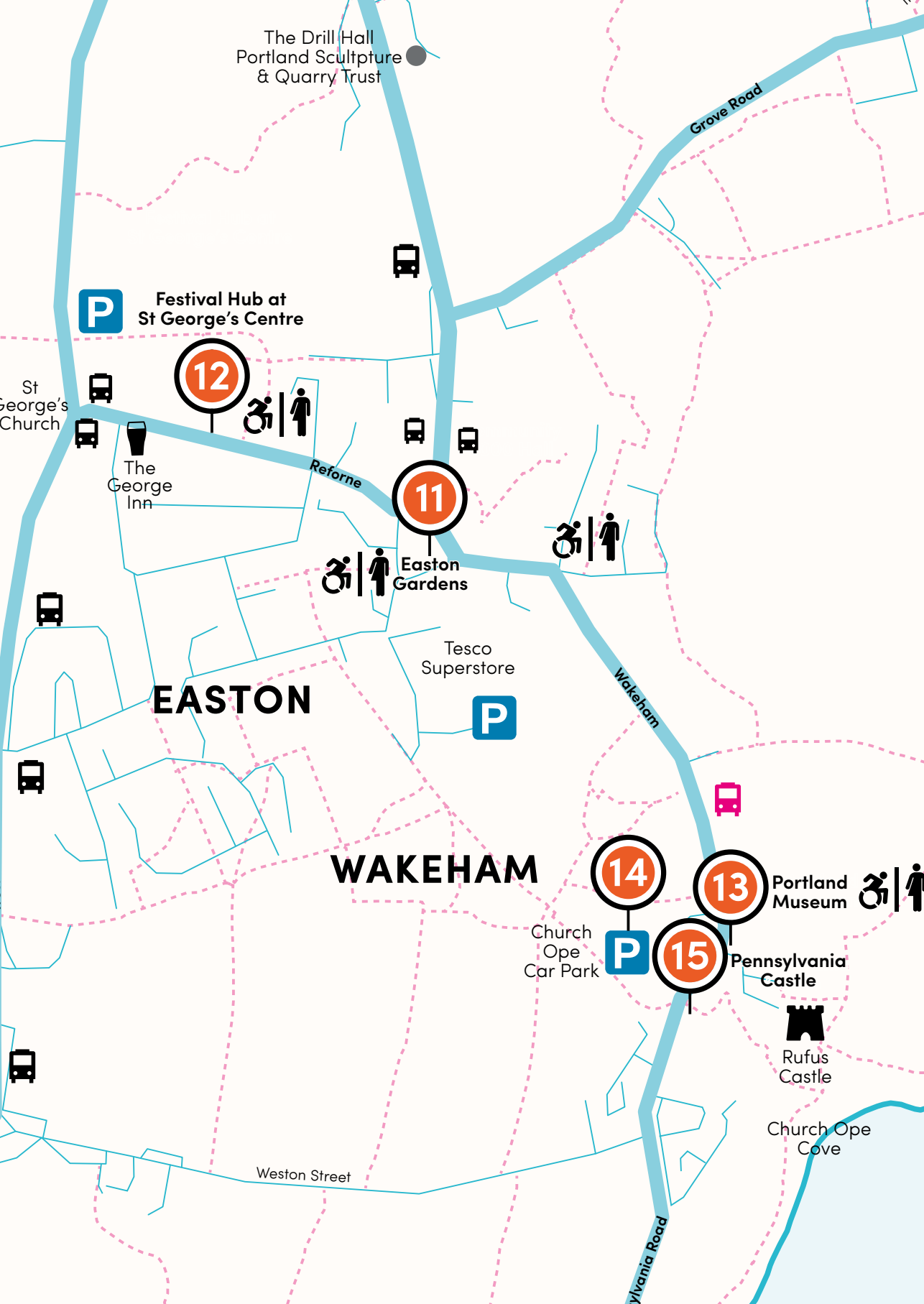
Friday 2pm - 4pm

Join Dhaqan Collective, Kneed and Antje Rook with b-side curator Sally Watkins in a discussion about materials of practice. Using weaving, song, broadcast and textiles, they go on a patient journey of making to tell stories of care, home, migration and relationships to land.

Royal Manor Theatre
138A Fortuneswell,
DT5 1LT

 supplier.backhand.dynamics





Zone 2

b-side hub

Find out where to go, what to do, book tickets, pick up a Festival Guide or get some top tips from our friendly b-side front of house team.

Open Daily 11am - 6pm



St Georges Centre
Reforme, DT5 2AN
speedily.fall.entire



New Landscapes

Richard Edmonds

Sunday 11am

TICKETS £3.50

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Explore the new landscapes of Portland with this walk lead by Geologist, Richard Edmonds. A wander through the old quarries of Portland.

Duration: approx. 2.5 hrs

Distance: about two miles, uneven terrain

Please wear suitable clothing and footwear



Modern Mining

Katie Surridge

Daily 11am - 6pm

Phones, laptops, tablets and chargers are part of everyday life now. What happens to all that stuff when we upgrade? Much of it is sent overseas and dismantled in an unregulated, informal and manual sector.

After visiting Mumbai to see the situation first hand, artist Katie has devised a creative solution to the global problem of electronic waste and it could begin in that dreaded drawer where broken electrical items go to die. Bring your unwanted devices and cables to our sculptural workstations and extract precious metal to be recycled into a new sculpture.



HANDS ON



Trishaw Tours

Cycling Without Age

Daily

BOOKING ESSENTIAL



Familiar Histories

Christopher Lee

Daily 10.30am - 4pm

Artist Christopher Lee has been working with volunteers at Portland Museum to respond creatively to finds from the shipwreck of the Earl of Abergavenny shipwreck, an East India Company vessel that sank in Weymouth Bay in 1805. The finds are being digitised in a landmark project for the museum, and Familiar Histories continues their journey through the social, digital, and physical realm. The resulting work is a sculptural installation of 'souvenirs', handcrafted in clay then digitally captured through photogrammetry, manipulated and then 3D printed to create the souvenirs on display.

The work is an exploration of the museum souvenir, it's value, and it's relationship to the original artefact from which it is derived.

The 'souvenirs' are also available to purchase at a small fee, so look out for the bespoke vending machines at **SITE 3** and **SITE 8** and our own travelling salesman.

Portland Museum
217 Wakeham, Easton, DT5 1HS

[skip.evaded.salmon](https://www.skip.evaded.salmon)



The Line

Fran Cottell and Marianne Mueller

Saturday 11am + 1pm

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Fran Cottell and Marianne Mueller are an Artist and an Architect who have been collaborating on public interventions since 2010. The Line is a walking performance, a re-drawing of a lost path on Portland's heavily quarried landscape. You are invited to walk The Line to form a temporary 'bridge' re-instating the original path to Portland's medieval windmills. The Line builds on b-side's pathways research project, continuing the conversation around rights of way and access, developing proposals for a temporary/permanent structure across this landscape in the future.

Meet at

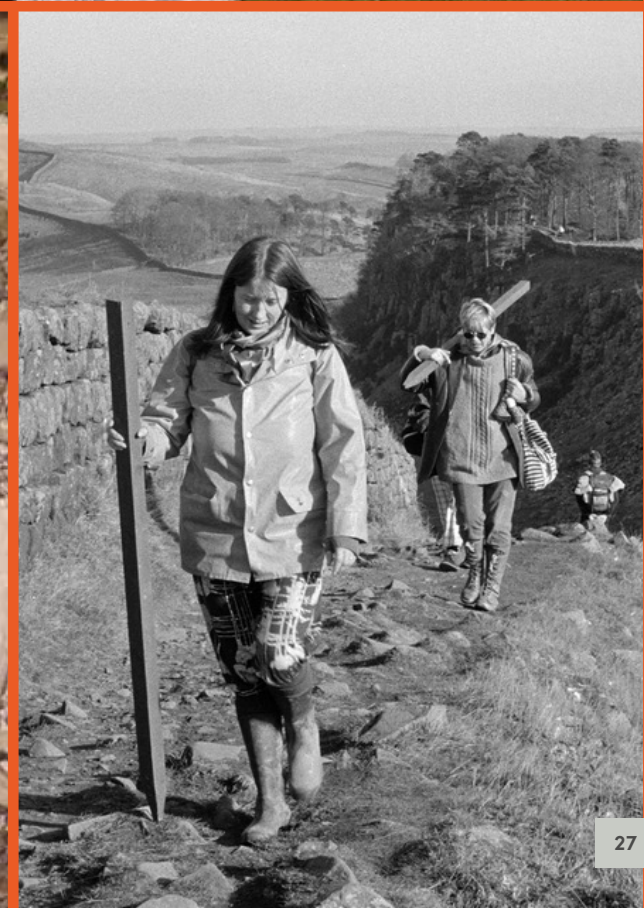
Church Ope car park
Wakeham, Easton DT5 1HS
pitchers.reckoned.snatched



ARTISTS TALK

Saturday 3pm -4pm

St George's Centre
Q&A with Fran and Marianne and an opportunity to see the of 2D and 3D models of their proposal for a temporary bridge.



A FILM BY SYLVAIN CHOMET

BELLEVILLE RENDEZ-VOUS

OUTDOOR CINEMA

INFO & TICKETS B-SIDE.ORG.UK



Belleville Rendez-vous

Electric Pedals

Thursday Doors 7.45pm / Starts 8.15pm

TICKETS £4.50 - £10 (Pay what you can)


BOOKING RECOMMENDED

b-side and Artsreach invite you to a special pedal-powered cinema screening in the stunning gardens of Pennsylvania Castle on Portland.

Enjoy the animated classic Belleville Rendez Vous, the story of Champion a Tour de France racer kidnapped en route by sinister mafia types; an unlikely motley crew of his gran, his dog Bruno and three elderly jazz singers come to Champion's rescue. A visual treat for young and old alike, this stunning film has captured the imagination of audience's the world over with its unique blend of classic animation and razor-sharp wit.

Power up! Take a turn in the saddle - we've got bikes suitable for both adults and children to pedal. All the electricity for the screening is produced by the cyclists. There are no batteries, generators or back-up power sources it's all in the thighs! The Hayloft Café Bar will be open - and picnics are welcome.

Pennsylvania Castle
Pennsylvania Road,
DT5 1HZ

 pampered.limped.needed

Assistance dogs only.



This is an outdoor event. Bring your own chair/blanket to sit on.





Zone 3

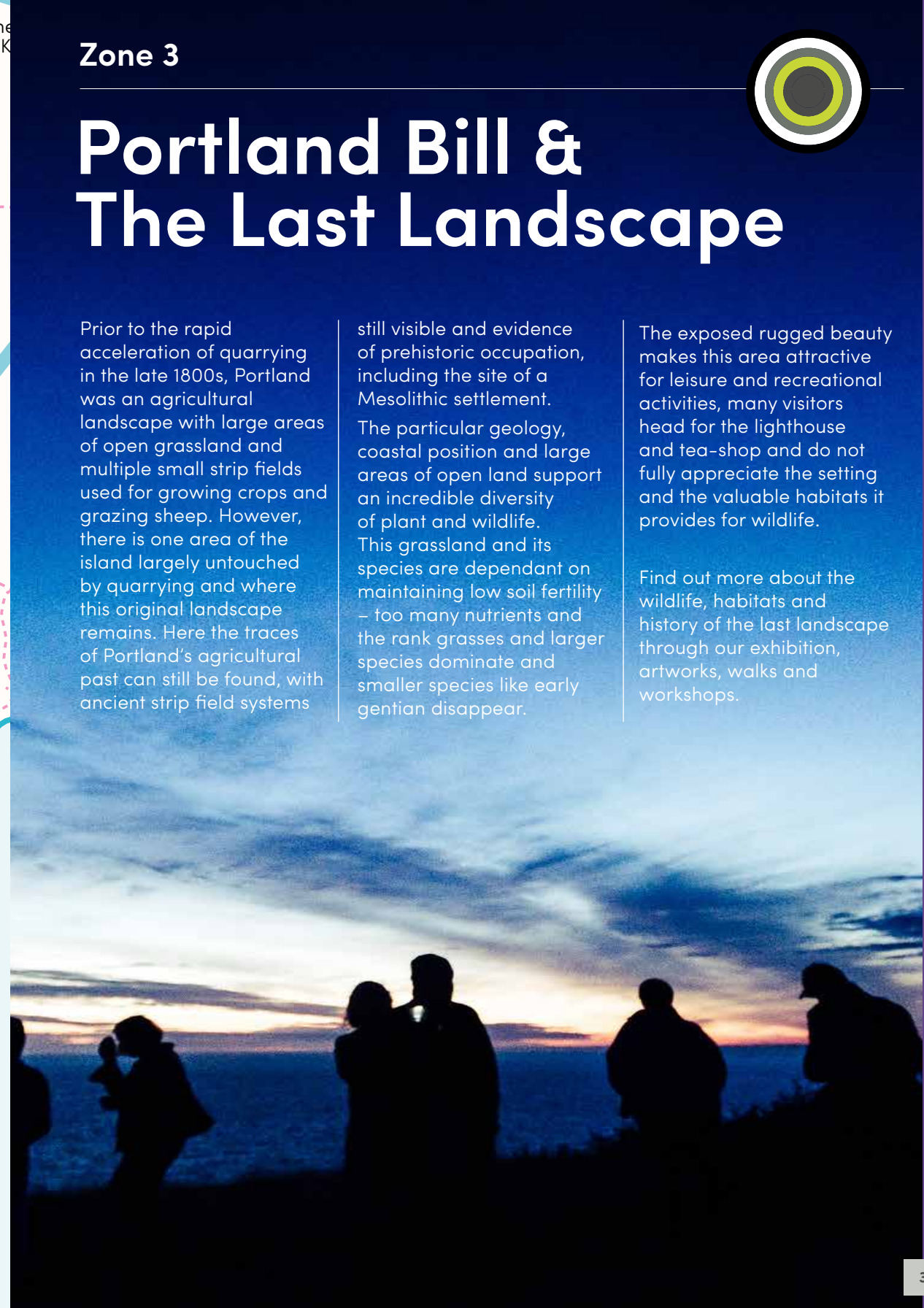
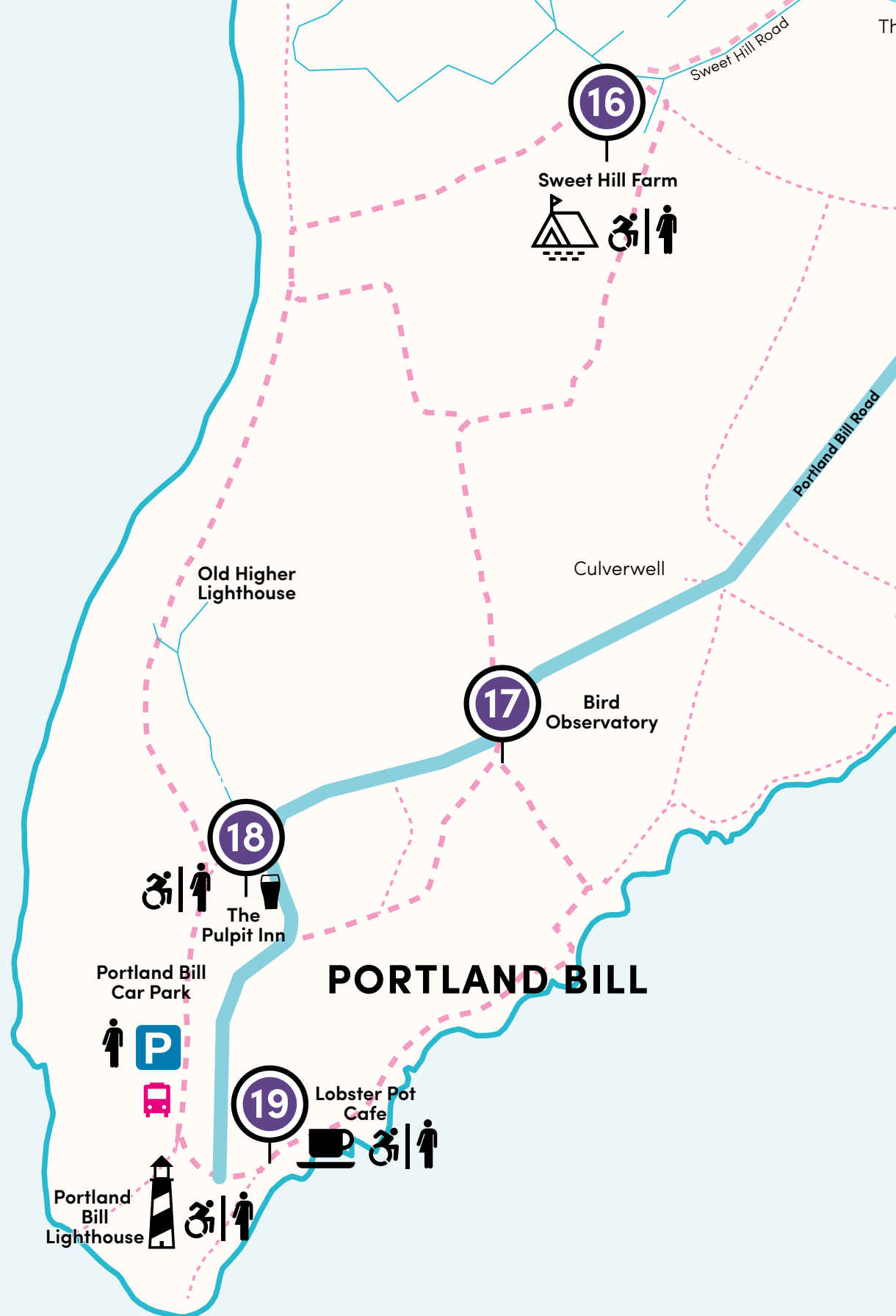
Portland Bill & The Last Landscape

Prior to the rapid acceleration of quarrying in the late 1800s, Portland was an agricultural landscape with large areas of open grassland and multiple small strip fields used for growing crops and grazing sheep. However, there is one area of the island largely untouched by quarrying and where this original landscape remains. Here the traces of Portland's agricultural past can still be found, with ancient strip field systems

still visible and evidence of prehistoric occupation, including the site of a Mesolithic settlement. The particular geology, coastal position and large areas of open land support an incredible diversity of plant and wildlife. This grassland and its species are dependant on maintaining low soil fertility – too many nutrients and the rank grasses and larger species dominate and smaller species like early gentian disappear.

The exposed rugged beauty makes this area attractive for leisure and recreational activities, many visitors head for the lighthouse and tea-shop and do not fully appreciate the setting and the valuable habitats it provides for wildlife.

Find out more about the wildlife, habitats and history of the last landscape through our exhibition, artworks, walks and workshops.





Constant Effort

Emily Tracy

Daily 11am - 6pm

For 60 years, The Portland Bird Observatory and its dedicated voluntary birdwatchers, have closely observed the skies amassing a huge and valuable set of data, which is used to understand what is happening to the UK Bird population and our environment.

Emily Tracy's installation made through collective creation, visualises some of the data on Portland species, in order to spark conversation and understanding of the rich intertwined ecology that exists in 'The Last Landscape'.

During the festival visitors will be able to chat with the artist, observatory staff and birdwatchers, and see their work in action.



Portland Bird Observatory
The Old Lower Lighthouse
Portland Bill Road DT5 2JT

removed.counts.stiffly



Campfire Conversation

Saturday 5pm - 6.30pm

Join us around the campfire for a conversation about our relationship with land. With guest speakers - see website for details.

Followed by a walk along the coastpath to Portland Bill to see UnCommon Land Live Performance by Wildworks



STAY FOR FOOD

Food available on site
from Sweethill Canteen



Sweet Hill Farm
Nearly Wild Camping
Sweet Hill Road,
Southwell, DT5 2DS

remotest.create.blessing



A Tithe to the Last Landscape

Jo Tyler

www.b-side.org.uk

Listen to the latest episode of Jo Tyler's podcast series. Imagine you can capture with a net the cloud of voices and sound that rise from a space, floating in the air we breathe.

What would we hear? What are the solaces and the tensions of living at the end of a landscape that supports ancient land laws, biodiversity and an increased population?



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ALL THE ARTISTS AT B-SIDE.ORG.UK

EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS AT THE PULPIT INN

Looking out over The Last Landscape, The Pulpit is the ideal place to grab some food, enjoy a pint, experience some art, join in with some fun activities or take a guided walk with our island experts.

Pick up our unique
ACCESS TO NATURE
map here



Ancient Portland Myths & Legends

Gary Biltcliffe

Saturday 2pm - 4pm

TICKETS £3.50

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

A walk through the last landscape with Gary Biltcliffe - author of *The Spirit of Portland - Revelations of a Sacred Isle*, and later edition *Mysterious Portland*.

Find out more about a cave with legends of guardian dogs, a sacred well next to a Mesolithic site, and the old surviving field systems.

Info and Access:

A walk on footpaths and across fields. Uneven terrain, please wear suitable footwear and dress appropriately for the weather.



The Last Landscape Exhibition

Daily 11am - 6pm

Find out more about the Last Landscape in this exhibition featuring the project research and stories of this landscape and life at the most southerly tip of the island.

Grab a cuppa and browse maps, photos, booklets and documents celebrating this special area of Portland.



Rock, Paper, Scissors Bus

Daily 11am - 6pm

FREE DROP-IN

MATERIALS PROVIDED

Hop on the WillDoes double decker bus parked up for the duration of the Festival as it becomes a cut and paste emporium for the whole Island. Make paper stories using vintage and found materials with artist Jodie House. No experience required and each day there will be a creative prompt or you can go freestyle - be part of a live gallery.

The Willdoes bus is a double decker bus that tours Dorset introducing young people to sports and other activities to help them connect and engage socially. Willdoes is a charitable organisation dedicated to the memory of William Paddy, a sporty, charismatic child with a cheeky smile who grew up in Dorset.

RAMPED ACCESS TO LOWER LEVEL OF BUS

GREAT FOR ALL AGES



HANDS ON



Pots N Pints

Sunday 1pm - 2.30pm

£3.50

BOOKING RECOMMENDED

Join POTS N PINTS for a pottery-in-the-pub sweet Sunday afternoon in The Pulpit.

Get down and dirty with a big ol' wet lump of red clay and let your imagination run wild.

You'll be given hand-building instructions and a set of tools, and the rest is up to you.

No experience or artistic ability necessary, just bring some over-ambition and good humour. Anna is on hand to be your pottery guru, so pick her brains, she's there to guide you as much or as little as you need!



HANDS ON



UnCommon Land

Wildworks

**Friday - Sunday
12.30pm - 2.30pm**

FREE DROP-IN

Drop-by and meet the Wildworks team in the tent beside the Pulpit Inn where you can find out about the event and how you can be part of the ritual at dusk. Get involved with a few simple activities. No experience or booking required. Everyone welcome.



HANDS ON

Access:

Grassed area, potentially uneven ground



The Pulpit Inn
Portland Bill DT5 2JT

onion.deform.daunted

UnCommon Land*Wildworks***Friday, Saturday & Sunday 7.30pm - 8.30pm****FREE BUT BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

Experience a new ritual at dusk created for Portland.

Congregate in The Last Landscape at the coming of the dusk, the borderline hour between light and dark, when anything is possible and experience a new ritual for Portland created by the UK's leading landscape theatre company and our community.

Inspired by Portland's ancient beginnings and speculative histories telling stories of a land of ritual, ruled by the seasons and their symbolism, where fire was used as celebration, as source of community cohesion and as beacon for seafarers.

We are nothing without community. Look out for opportunities to get involved and contribute to the making of this new creation.

Prepare to have your senses tantalised, to connect with others around you, and to experience the landscape like never before.

Access info:**grassed area, uneven ground****Public toilets at The Bill car park**

"We have been looking for the traces of these ceremonies, in the land, in the archives, in the memories of people. We are inspired to create a modern ritual where people and symbolic animals will come together in celebration. At the coming of the dusk, the borderline hour between light and dark, when anything is possible."



The Lobster Pot Cafe
Portland DT5 2JT

 [pricier.certified.evolution](https://www.pricer.certified.evolution)



**KEEP
PORTLAND
WEIRD AND
WONDERFUL**



JOIN THE PARADE

4pm Sunday 17th Sept
Starting from Easton
Square Gardens
FREE

SITE
11

Register to take part
www.b-side.org.uk

**SEPT
07-17**

*The b-side Fringe is back,
sharing the Isle of Portland's
creative juices!*

*Pick up a Fringe Guide and look out for some
creative gems in windows, front gardens, on
doorsteps and in studios too. We don't know what
you will find but we do know Portland is full of
creative talent, so enjoy and explore!*

FRINGE



Black and white
reveal
Moonlit caps on
warm tides
Where the land
meets the sea
Justin Clason

Haiku
YOUR bike-u

MADE POSSIBLE BY **print team**

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Please check opening times on the organisations websites.



We think Portland is a very special place and we aim to take you to as much of the Island as possible as you discover b-side artworks and events. Here are some other places that we think you will enjoy visiting - many near b-side sites and events.

TOUT QUARRY

Just off Wide Street,
Tophill
Open daily

FREE

Tout Quarry Sculpture Park and Nature Reserve is a disused site of former stone quarries, now a sculpture park and nature reserve. Since 1983 artists have been visiting Tout and creating sculptures and as a growing exhibition it contains around 70 works including work by b-side 2018 artist Rosie Leventon.

www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/Tout_Quarries_Nature_Reserve
www.learningstone.org/tout-quarry-sculpture-park

NICODEMUS KNOB

[ruffling.detergent.urban](#)

Nicodemus Knob is a

30-foot pillar located at the spectacular East Cliff. A relic of the quarrying industry, many believe it records the natural ground level prior to the area being quarried.

PORTLAND MUSEUM

217 Wakeham, Easton
DT5 1HS

Open: 10.30 – 4pm daily
(last entry 3.30pm)

Admission £4 (conc £3.50)
children (5-16) £1

www.portlandmuseum.co.uk

Founded in 1930 by Dr Marie Stopes. The Museum houses many artefacts associated with the history and culture of the island.

CASTLETOWN D-DAY CENTRE

Admiralty Buildings,
Castletown, DT5 1BD

Open 10.30 – 3.30 daily
Adult £9, Child £6, Young
Adult (12-17) £7, Family £26

www.castletownddaycentre.com

The D-Day Centre is situated in Castletown's impressive Admiralty buildings, a stone's throw from the historic Portland Castle. Staffed by true enthusiasts, it offers an

immersive visitor experience telling the story of embarkation in WW2 from a busy wartime dockyard.

GROVE MUSEUM

104 Grove Rd, DT5 1DZ
Sat 10am-2pm | FREE

A fascinating museum situated within the former deputy governor's house showing the history of the HMP Young Offenders with film, information, photographs and items of interest on show.

PORTLAND BILL LIGHTHOUSE VISITOR CENTRE

Daily 10am – 5pm (Closed Fri)
Portland DT5 2JT
Visitor centre: Adult £8.50,
Conc £7.50, Child £6.50
Family £25.

www.trinityhouse.co.uk/about-us

Portland Bill Lighthouse is a functioning lighthouse at Portland Bill. Visitors can climb the lighthouse and see for miles along the beautiful Dorset Coastline, the world famous Jurassic Coast and out to the treacherous Portland Race.

PORTLAND BIRD OBSERVATORY & FIELD CENTRE

The Old Lower Lighthouse,
DT5 2JT
Bookshop 10-3pm Sat & Sun
www.portlandbirdobs.org.uk

Situated in the Old Lower Light at Portland Bill, Portland Bird Observatory and Field Centre is a place of interest for naturalists and in particular birdwatchers and is open throughout the year. Accommodation available and a great bookshop too.

PLACES TO EAT



We know looking at art and exploring the landscape can be thirsty work, most of our installations and events are near some great places to eat and drink.

ZONE 1

DORSET ADVENTURE CAFE

Castletown, DT5 1BD
[glow.trials.swimsuits](#)

CHESIL CHIPPIE

1A Olde Stables,
Victoria Square Roundabout,
DT5 1BJ
[dugouts.prospered.opts](#)

BEEHIVE CAFE

Unit 1, Victoria Park, Lerret
Road, Portland DT5 1GB
[vets.cheetahs.regarding](#)

THE FLAT CAFE

78 Fortuneswell
DT5 1LZ
[musically.decently.garages](#)

QUIDDLES CAFE

The Esplanade, Chiswell
DT5 1LN
[likening.bookmark.curated](#)

THE COVE HOUSE INN

91 Chiswell, DT5 1AW
[boxing.rephrase.salaried](#)

HOTEL AQUA

The Aqua, Castletown
DT5 1BD
[pound.complier.timeless](#)

MOBI DECK MOBILE CAFE

Riggers Row Car Park
[sweeter.intruding.disposal](#)

ZONE 2

WHITESTONES ART CAFE

13 Easton Square
DT5 1BS
[invented.shares.masterful](#)

SUGARLOAF CAFÉ

4 Reforme, Easton
DT5 2AL
[gasping.unguarded.wakes](#)

LUNA LOUNGE

Easton Shopping Centre
DT5 1EB
[song.interviewer.watching](#)

THE GEORGE INN

113 Reforme
DT5 2AP
[conquests.shimmered.firelight](#)

MISS PIGGY'S PANTRY

12 Easton Shopping Centre,
Easton, DT5 1EB
[candles.carefully.large](#)

HAYLOFT CAFÉ

Pennsylvania Road
DT5 1FI
[district.photocopy.cube](#)

ZONE 3

LOBSTER POT CAFÉ

Portland Bill Rd,
DT5 2JT
[essays.nozzles.coats](#)

THE EIGHT KINGS

40 Southwell Street, DT5 2DP
[cashiers.makes.unclaimed](#)

B-SIDE IS PROUD TO BE SPONSORED BY



The Penn

The Estate is part of the Morris Group, which focuses on supporting innovative organisations and projects with meaningful social, economic, and environmental impacts. One of the areas of impact we focus on is supporting people and communities to

embrace changes associated with climate change through community engagement. The pedal-powered cinema provides an exciting experience with minimal impact on our environment, which is something we are really proud to be a part of.



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Enabling everyone to enjoy the Festival this year with free and accessible transport.

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Details & times of accessible tours on the b-side bus at b-side.org.uk

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our stewards and volunteers who help make b-side's festival happen. A massive thank you also to our Friends of b-side, and to all the custodians of venues and sites who have said yes to our often unusual requests!

Thank you to all our artists and residents of Portland for taking part this year. Thank you for your talent, good humour, and for bringing such wonderful ideas to this magical island.

Thank you to our Partners: Artsreach, Portland Museum, The Drop In, Island Community Action, Islanders Club, Chiswell Walled Garden, The Arts Development Company, Visual Arts South West, Activate, Bournemouth Arts by the Sea, Counterpoints Arts, Houseworks, Dorset CIC, Budmouth Academy, The Portland Building Preservation Trust and 3 Hours West Design.

Thank you to some other great people: Our wonderful b-side volunteers, zone leaders and feedback collectors, Joshua Hallett & Paige Noyce (b-side festival 2023 work placement) The Front of House Team, Jane McGregor, Jo Jackson, Dave Warren, Chris Holleyoak, Lucy Watkins & Andy Matthews.

Thank you to our Funders

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IF YOU'D LIKE TO SPONSOR AN EVENT OR GET INVOLVED WITH THE FESTIVAL CONTACT US AT info@b-side.org.uk



THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

GIVE LOVE TO B-SIDE



Help us to keep
wowing you with **new
art** all year round.

Last year we reached
over **5,700** people,
commissioned
58 artists, and worked
with **1,640** community
members.

If you believe in culture
as a **force for change**
and a way to **bring
people from all walks
of life together**, please,
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support-us](https://b-side.org.uk/support-us)



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wonderful happen.



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