

# T100

PRESENTED BY

KINETIKA 

## **T100 Festival 2026: Seeing Thurrock Differently – A Journey Home Friday 23 May – Saturday 7 June 2026**

A free festival of walks, talks and creative events exploring Thurrock's landscapes, stories and futures | All ages welcome



Featured Artists Left to Right: Man About Country (Credit: James Lawrence); Graffiti Artist Scotty Brave (Credit: Scotty Brave); Poet Rachel Morgan (Credit: Rachel Morgan)

**13 May 2026 – Thurrock, Essex:** This May and June, T100 Festival returns with *Seeing Thurrock Differently: A Journey Home* – a free programme of walks, talks, performances and creative experiences inviting people to rediscover Thurrock through movement, conversation and collective imagination.

Presented by Kinetika, the festival brings together artists, storytellers, scientists, young people and local communities across twelve events that explore how we connect to place, heritage and each other.

From hidden graffiti galleries and lost villages to citizen science walks, natural dye gardens and community feasts, this year's festival asks what it means to journey home – not only geographically, but emotionally, culturally and collectively.

Across two weeks, participants are invited to slow down, walk together and see familiar landscapes in new ways. Whether tracing forgotten histories, exploring wildlife habitats at dusk

---

or gathering around a shared table, the festival celebrates Thurrock as a place shaped by stories, movement and belonging.

Festival highlights include:

**The Thurrock Story Walk with Man About Country**  
**Saturday 23 May 2026**  
**Stanford-le-Hope Station to East Tilbury Station**

Join storyteller James Lawrence, also known as Man About Country, on an immersive journey through Thurrock's layered past. Travelling through landscapes shaped by land, water and labour, participants will hear stories of Saxons, soldiers, workers and WRENs while uncovering hidden histories woven into the local environment. Walkers can join for the full route or selected sections along the way.

**A Campaign of Colour: Graffiti Wall Guided Walk & Workshop**  
**Sunday 24 May 2026**  
**Purfleet-on-Thames to Grays**

Join graffiti artist Scotty Brave for a guided walk along Thurrock's riverside graffiti wall – a two-mile evolving outdoor gallery shaped by artists over more than two decades. Participants will explore themes of identity, public art and belonging before contributing their own marks and messages to the landscape.

**Thurrock Through a Bee's Eyes**  
**Thursday 28 May 2026 (Half Term)**  
**High House Production Park, Purfleet-on-Thames**

Created with Buglife, this family-friendly event invites participants into Kinetika's Natural Dye Garden to discover Thurrock through the perspective of pollinators and insects. Through creative activities and hands-on making, visitors will explore biodiversity, habitats and the importance of caring for local ecosystems.

**Purfleet Poems in the Garden**  
**Saturday 30 May 2026 (Half Term)**  
**Purfleet-on-Thames**

Join poet and gardener Rachel Morgan for a relaxed walk from Purfleet Station to the Kinetika Community Natural Dye Garden. Along the way, participants will share poems inspired by the local area before spending time in the garden writing, listening and reflecting together through welcoming, easy-to-join creative activities exploring place, language and home.

---

**The Amazing Estuary Walking Show**  
**Sunday 31 May 2026 (Half Term)**  
**Purfleet-on-Thames to Rainham Marshes**

Part walk, part performance and part playful exploration, this unique experience by Nigel Munson and 6FootStories transforms the Estuary into a live stage. Blending storytelling, humour and audience participation, the gentle loop invites people to encounter Thurrock's landscapes through curiosity and imagination.

**Swifts Citizen Science Walk**  
**Tuesday 2 June 2026**  
**Chafford Gorges Nature Park**

As dusk falls, join RSPB volunteer Katie Hargreaves for a guided walk focused on one of Britain's most extraordinary migratory birds. Participants will help count swifts while learning about local habitats, migration and how communities can support urban wildlife.

**A Place at the Table: Celebrating our Community (Finale Event)**  
**Saturday 6 June 2026**  
**High House Production Park, Purfleet-on-Thames**

The festival culminates in a joyful community celebration devised and delivered in partnership with Together Productions. Featuring performances, exhibitions, shared food, creative activities and a large-scale communal picnic, A Place at the Table invites people from across Thurrock to gather, reflect and celebrate the stories, connections and creativity that shape the borough.

This year's programme continues Kinetika's long-standing ethos of 'walking, talking and making' – using creativity and participation to strengthen social connection and encourage people to engage differently with the places around them.

*Seeing Thurrock Differently: A Journey Home* marks the 12th edition of T100 Festival, presented by Kineitka, which began as a 10-day walking festival and has evolved into a year-round cultural programme rooted in Thurrock's communities and landscapes.

Learn more and explore the full programme:

[T100 Festival 2026 Programme](#)

**ENDS**

Images are available for download here: [Press Pack](#)

**Media Contacts**

Emma Collins via [emma@kinetika.co.uk](mailto:emma@kinetika.co.uk)

---

## Notes to editors

### About T100

T100 is a free cultural programme rooted in Thurrock that brings people together through exploring, talking and creating. What began as a 10-day walking festival has evolved into a vibrant year-round programme celebrating local landscapes, communities and creativity. Each edition is shaped collaboratively with local people, artists and organisations, placing shared experiences and storytelling at its heart.

[t100festival.co.uk](http://t100festival.co.uk)

### #T100Festival

**Instagram:** [@T100Festival](https://www.instagram.com/T100Festival)

**Facebook:** [@T100Thurrock](https://www.facebook.com/T100Thurrock)

### About Kinetika

Kinetika unites communities through exceptional silk-based designs and public spectacles that inspire social action and enrich local environments. Guided by a vision to pioneer community-driven art and design, we aspire to ignite enduring positive change, celebrate cultural diversity, and cultivate resilient, sustainable communities worldwide. With 28 years of experience, we champion an adaptable and accessible approach to co-creating designs in silk. Our methods engage diverse communities, enhance social cohesion, and foster a sense of pride and belonging.

Flagship projects include *Thank You Dance* for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Pageant (2022); *Silk River*, a British Council commission for the UK/India Year of Culture (2017); *T100 Festival*, a walking, talking, and making outdoor arts festival in Thurrock; *En Flag* as part of the Cultural Olympiad for the Paris Olympics (2024); and *Beach of Dreams*, a UK-wide coastal arts festival (2025).

Founded in 1997 by Ali Pretty, Kinetika is a charity and a National Portfolio Organisation of Arts Council England.

[kinetika.co.uk](http://kinetika.co.uk)

**Instagram:** [@kinetikapeople](https://www.instagram.com/kinetikapeople)

**Facebook:** [/kinetikapeople](https://www.facebook.com/kinetikapeople)

**LinkedIn:** [/kinetika](https://www.linkedin.com/company/kinetika)