

TEN THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

EDITOR'S CHOICE



1 SEE SOME SKIN TATTOO MUSEUM, SOUTHPORT, MERSEYSIDE This new attraction on Southport's seafront not only has 5,000 artefacts collected by local tattoo connoisseur brothers Willy and Tony Robinson, but also two tattoo artists and even a laser removal room (visitsouthport.com).

2 SCARE YOURSELF STUPID BRAM STOKER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, WHITBY, NORTH YORKSHIRE **28-31 October** Whitby famously inspired Bram Stoker's *Dracula* (see p104) and now hosts a yearly horror film festival in memory of the author. This year, with grizzly movies, there is a Vampire Ball, a Feast of Blood and a Midnight Séance (bramstokerfilmfestival.com).

3 GET CREATIVE KENT'S COASTAL WEEK **22-30 October** More than 100 events, held cleverly during half-term, include

workshops, boat and beach trips. Pick up a guide at Whitstable Harbour for a list of what's on – many events are free (kent.gov.uk/coastalweek).

4 BE TRANSPORTED TO AN ISLAND CALEDONIART EXHIBITION, LONDON **Until 1 October** Yearning to get out of the city? Get along to this exhibition by painters (such as Erni Upton, right) and sculptors to celebrate the Year of Scotland's Islands. Caledoniart, The Air Gallery, 32 Dover Street, London (020 7409 1255); (scotlandsislands.com).

5 WEAR A SHELL NECKLACE SEA SPARKLE JEWELLERY Coastal designer Harriet McAlonan makes jewellery inspired by the seaside, with many pieces involving sea glass. This silver necklace takes the shape of an abalone and is available through her website (seasparkle.co.uk).



£48.00

6 RELIVE THE VINTAGE DAYS OF GLAMOUR VINTAGE WEEKEND, VENTNOR, ISLE OF WIGHT **14-15 October** The Isle of Wight's most gracious hotel, The Royal, is holding a weekend of a capella singing, vintage bus sightseeing rides, cinema screenings and an Edwardian dinner. Tickets for the weekend cost £295 per person for two nights including breakfast (royalhoteliow.co.uk).

7 FEAST LIKE A KING FOOD FESTIVAL, EXMOOR, SOMERSET **30 September-9 October** Much seafood to be eaten and many coastal walks to enjoy at this celebration of local produce (exmoorfoodfestival.co.uk).

8 BUY A MARINE PRINT COASTAL LIGHT EXHIBITION, BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET **1 September-2 October** Working with thin layers of ink and printing on fine tissue, artist Ruth Ander captures the ethereal nature of the Somerset coastline in work of great delicacy. The Glass Room Gallery, Colston Hall, Bristol (ruthander.co.uk/coastal-light).

9 LISTEN TO SOME NEW MUSIC HALCYON BY SAFFRON SUMMERFIELD This Hastings-based singer/songwriter's new CD references the local area, including songs about Dungeness and the *Mary Stanford* lifeboat disaster. Delicate, atmospheric and with some nifty guitar picking. CD, £11 (motherearthmusic.co.uk).



10 HAVE A LAUGH COMEDY FESTIVAL, BRIGHTON, EAST SUSSEX **7-22 October** This year Brighton's best venues echo with thigh-slapping laughter from a line-up including Rich Hall, Sarah Millican and Jack Whitehall (brightoncomedyfestival.co.uk).