

More Free Family Fun and Fundraising at Guildford Live II 28 May 6.30pm – Live on Facebook

We are proud to support the borough's second free family friendly variety performance, dedicated to our NHS staff and keyworkers, by Guildford Fringe Theatre which takes place on Thursday 28 May at 6.30pm live on Facebook.

Following the incredible success of Guildford Live I on 30 April, which provided one and a half hours of non-stop entertainment with a range of stars from The Jam's Bruce Foxton to Strictly's Flavia to Spandau Ballet's Tony Hadley, raising money for The Royal Surrey County Hospital Charity and the Wysch Foundation, Managing Director of Guildford Fringe Theatre, Nick Wyschna decided we would do it all again and we can't wait.

The second show gives our local communities another chance to experience fantastic live performances and celebrate the incredible work of NHS staff and key workers. The event is open for anyone to watch and this time we are asking for everyone to bring a 'virtual' friend. As previously there are no tickets but the audience has the opportunity to donate to two good causes again, this time its Guildford Philanthropy and The Wysch Foundation.

Guildford Philanthropy was set up in 2014 by the Council with support from the Community Foundation to raise money for the borough's more vulnerable residents and those who find themselves homeless. Since the start of the coronavirus, they have raised a fantastic £100,000 to help support local charities.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Caroline Reeves said:

"The first Guildford Live was absolutely brilliant, so many residents have told me how their whole family enjoyed it and we helped raise nearly £3000 for our local NHS workers at the Royal Surrey County Hospital Charity and The Wysch Foundation. We're asking all residents to watch again and this time virtually 'bring' a friend!'

Guildford Philanthropy is a truly great cause helping the most vulnerable in our communities. They have done an outstanding job raising £100,000 since the start of the coronavirus but they still need more help and your support will go a very long way. It's great that Guildford Live have chosen to support them for their second show. Helping those in need has been at the forefront of this epidemic and I am so proud of all our residents for showing tremendous community spirit, making huge sacrifices and following the government guidelines."

Guildford Live II will be hosted by Nick Wyschna and boasts a star-studded line-up with confirmed guests including Atomic Kitten's Liz McClarnon, Shane Richie, Jeremy Vine, Debbie McGee, actor Alex Ferns (best-known as EastEnders' super-villain Trevor Morgan), award-winning magician, juggler and stunt artist Mark Watson and vintage vocal group The Bluebirds. It also includes returning guests Charley Farley Sunday Four and Guildford's Rock Choir plus messages of tribute to our NHS and key workers.

Nick Wyschna, Managing Director of Guildford Fringe commented: "As soon as the last Guildford LIVE finished I sat down with my wife Charlotte and a glass of bubbly and said, 'I want to do that again!'. The comments and live reactions from the public gave me the biggest buzz. Pairing the performing buzz with the buzz of being able to publicly thank our key workers was more

than I could have imagined and I am over the moon to be doing it again. I have a few goals this time, one being raising even more money than we did last time for our charities and the other being spreading the word even further so more people can enjoy the show!"

Cllr Caroline Reeves added:

"The challenges our NHS staff and key workers have overcome have been remarkable and we want to demonstrate our thanks and appreciation whenever we can. The first show was a huge success, raising a great deal of money and we are hoping that we can do the same for Guildford Philanthropy. They are doing an amazing job raising money to help our local charities and vulnerable residents.

The Coronavirus outbreak (Covid-19) has already had a huge impact on all of our lives and will continue to in the months and years to come, and it is these community spirited events which help to bring us all together."