

Evesham Festival of Words



1ST - 3RD JULY 2016

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
WWW.EVESHAMFESTIVALOFWORDS.ORG

FEATURING KATIE FFORDE, THE EMERGENCY POET,
MICHAEL LUNTS, A FULL DAY OF EVENTS FOR
CHILDREN & MANY MORE!

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 Evesham Festival of Words

Welcome

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The idea of Evesham's first Festival of Words was born in the summer of 2015. Since then, momentum has gathered and the Festival has evolved into something much bigger than we originally envisaged. It all feels incredibly exciting!

Evesham Festival of Words is a celebration of words in all their forms – written, spoken, sung. We have a fantastic selection of events, using a variety of venues in the town, and at a range of prices, even some free!

The programme really does offer something for everyone, whatever your age or interests, and we have a full day of fun-packed events just for children. The deadline for our 2016 Short Story Competition has now passed but watch out for details of next year's Competition (see back page).

Evesham has a well-established tradition as a Festival town. With your support the Festival of Words will become a popular annual event. Already we have the dates and some exciting events confirmed for 2017 (see back page).

If the Festival is your first visit to Evesham, do take the opportunity to explore our lovely, historic riverside town. Follow the story of Simon de Montfort and the Battle of Evesham, check out the legend of the swineherd after whom Evesham is named, explore the historic heart of the town, stroll by the river – home to many world class rowers, or enjoy some of the many great eating places. Why not make a weekend of it? You will be sure of a very warm welcome!

Sue Ablett

Festival Chair
On behalf of Evesham Festival of Words
Steering Group



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WHERE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS

Sue Ablett
info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org
T: 0787 128 5606

The Almonry Heritage Centre
T: 01386 446944

Tickets available to buy online via our website
www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org



CONTACT

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*Thursday 30th June
& Friday 1st July*

THURSDAY 30TH JUNE

'What the Dickens!

Literary Quiz'

7.30 pm

Raphael's Restaurant, Hampton Ferry. £5 per person, inc. interval nibbles.

With your friendly quiz masters, Helen Yendall and Chris Cherry. Don't worry it won't be too hard. Helen and Chris aim to entertain – not show how much they know! Teams of 4. Licensed bar.

FRIDAY 1ST JULY

'Around the World in 80 days'

10.45 am - 12 noon

All Saints Church House, Market Place, Evesham. £5, inc. tea/coffee & home-made cakes.

With Festival Chair and passionate traveller, Sue Ablett. A light-hearted travel talk with a literary twist, starting with Jules Verne, and stopping off around the world. Perfect for armchair travellers and book lovers!

'Winning the Bridport Prize'

11am - 12 noon

The Mulberry Room, Evesham Hotel, Evesham. £5. *

A talk by local author and Bridport Prize Winner, Chris Hill. Have you ever entered a writing competition? What does it take to be a winner? Chris reveals the secrets of what makes a good story a prize-winning story!

'Successful Self-publishing for All - what, why, who, when, how?'

1.30 - 3 pm

The Mulberry Room, Evesham Hotel, Evesham. £15 inc. refreshments. *

A workshop by Gloucestershire's self-publishing writer, Debbie Young. She's done it, so can you!

'Romance, history, psychology: inside the minds of three authors'

3.30 - 4.45 pm

The Mulberry Room, Evesham Hotel. £6. *

An afternoon with authors Alison May, Janice Preston and Lindsay Stanberry-Flynn. Three different writers and experts in three different literary genres!

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHT:



Photo by David O'Driscoll

'An evening with Katie Fforde'

7 - 9 pm.

Evesham Town Hall.

£7.50 inc. glass of wine & nibbles. *

One of Britain's best-selling and most popular authors. We're delighted to welcome Katie to Evesham Festival of Words just weeks after publication of her latest novel, 'A Summer At Sea' - signed copies available. Katie's talk will be followed by the presentation of prizes to this year's Festival of Words Short Story Competition winners.

*Special day price of £30 for anyone booking all four events (save £3.50).



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*Saturday 2nd
& Sunday 3rd July*

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SATURDAY 2ND JULY

Festival Village in Evesham

Market Place

10 am - 3.30 pm

Visit Deborah Alma, 'The Emergency Poet', who is ably assisted by her Nurse Verse, dispensing poems and poemcetamols from her 1970s' ambulance.

Meet Stroud-based letterpress printer/poet, Dennis Gould; local authors, Anne and John Bradford and children's author, Wolfren Riverstick.

'Asum Grammar'

12 noon - 1.30 pm

Red Lion Pub, Market Place, Evesham.

Free event

What is it? As regional accents are back in fashion, find out more with the town's resident 'Asum experts', Mike Edwards, and Will and John Dallimore.

'Musical Miscellany'

2 - 4 pm

Red Lion Pub, Market Place, Evesham.

Free event

Singer, songwriter and storyteller Ash Mandrake with an exciting mixture of music, prose, comedy, hats, theatrics! There's no one quite like him!

'Open Mic'

2 - 5 pm

Friends Meeting House, Cowl St, Evesham. £3, inc. tea/coffee

With Lindsay Stanberry-Flynn and former Worcestershire Poet Laureate, Fergus McGonigal. A great opportunity for writers to read their work to an audience. For those who don't want to read, a chance to listen to a wonderful range of prose and poetry. This promises to be an interesting and enjoyable afternoon of words.

'More than Words' by EOOS (Evesham Operatic & Dramatic Society)

7.30 pm

St Peter's Church, Bengeworth.
£10, inc. glass of wine & 'nibbles'

Join this award-winning group for a wonderful evening of songs, dance and readings. Enjoy musical numbers that have been influenced by famous novelists and writers, plus some extracts from their favourite books.

See next page for children's events on 2nd July.

SUNDAY 3RD JULY

'Poetry Walk'

10.30 - 12 noon

Starting at the Bell Tower, Abbey Park, Evesham.

Free event

Visit some highlights of the town with Croome Poet, Polly Stretton.

'The Page Turner's Dilemma, & other poems and songs'

3 - 4 pm

Unitarian Chapel, Oat Street, Evesham. £5, inc. tea/home-made cake; children £2 (suitable for children 7+)

Join Heather Wastie, Worcestershire Poet Laureate 2015-16, accordion player and all round entertainer, for this family show with some familiar pieces and opportunities to join in.

'Creative Alchemy'

3 - 5 pm

The Mulberry Room, Evesham Hotel, Evesham.

£15 inc. refreshments

'12 steps from inspiration to finished novel', a workshop with local author Sue Johnson. They say everyone has a book inside them. Have you found yours and, if you have, how do you go about writing it? Sue reveals the inside information all aspiring writers need to make their story a reality!

See next page for Festival Finale.

Children's Events

A FULL FUN DAY OF EVENTS FOR CHILDREN SATURDAY 2ND JULY

Places on all children's workshops are limited to 15. Parents or other adults welcome to come along. Children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult.

'Make your own colouring book'

10.30 - 11.30 am. (4 - 7 year olds) 12.30 - 1.30 pm (6 - 9 year olds) Almonry Heritage Centre.
£3 per child per event

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'Make your own colouring book' - two workshops by Roz Streeter, based on her very popular colouring book range Rosie Flo. You get to take home your own colouring book made in the style of Rosie Flo or Johnnie Joe.

at encouraging and inspiring youngsters in their love of books and writing.

Storytelling

2 - 2.40 pm
Evesham Town Hall.
£3 per child per event

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Come and listen to Karen and Ann telling their own stories and colour in a picture to take home. (Perfect for accompanied 4 - 7 year olds.)

'Creating characters for children'

3 - 3.40 pm
Evesham Town Hall.
£3 per child per event

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Characters make stories. Come along and create your own characters and story ideas with help from Karen and Ann. (Ideal for children aged 8 and above.)

'Stories, rhyme and pirates ahoy!'

11.45 am - 12.30 pm
Evesham Library, upstairs meeting room. £3 per child

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For 3 - 7 year olds with local children's writer Julie Fulton. Aaarr! Pirates have landed in the fictional town of Hamilton Shady in Julie's latest rhyming 'Ever So' picture book story. Come and hear what happens, try creating your own rhyme and maybe even something piratey to take home!

Q & A-Writing & getting published

4 - 4.40 pm
Evesham Town Hall.
£3 per child per event

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Is writing your thing? Multi-published authors, Karen King and Ann Evans, will be on hand to answer your writing and publishing questions. (All ages welcome. Children 7 and under must be accompanied.)

FESTIVAL FINALE:



'Coward at Sea' with Michael Lunts
Sunday 3rd July, 7.30 pm
Evesham Arts Centre
£13. (Available only from Evesham Arts Centre or Almonry).

Internationally acclaimed actor and musician, Michael Lunts, closes the Festival with an amusing rendition of Noel Coward's 'P&O 1930'.

Michael takes us back in time to the former glory of international travel, white tie evenings, silver service lunches and onboard shenanigans! This is an absolute must for anyone who enjoys the gentle art of well written humour!

Picnic at the Almonry
Saturday 2nd July
1.00 – 2.00 pm
Bring along a picnic lunch and enjoy free entry to the Almonry Museum Garden. A rare opportunity for all the family to visit Evesham's hidden gem.



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Fringe Events

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Festival Fringe

Enjoy our exciting range of Fringe events, before and after the Festival, with some run in partnership with other groups.

Compton Verney

Wednesday 4th May 2016,

11 am - 12 noon

Almonry Heritage Centre.

£4

An illustrated talk by Christine Cluley about this award-winning Art Gallery and park. Where is Compton Verney? Who designed it? Why is it important? Come along and get answers to these questions and more!

Evesham & District Music Club Summer Concert

Saturday 11th June 2016, 2 pm

Springhill, Fladbury, WR10 2PE

£8 or £3 (students)

For tickets, tel: 01386 861206.

Relax in the lovely setting of Springhill, a hidden joy sitting alongside the River Avon. Bring a picnic, and chairs! The programme consists of music performed by pupils of local music teachers, all outstanding musicians, with internationally renowned concert pianist, Marcel Zidani, and pupil, performing the 1st movement of Schubert's Fantasia in F minor for piano four hands.'

'Picnic at the Valley'

Sunday 26th June 2016, 1 – 4 pm

The Valley (formerly Evesham Country Park).

Free event

Free fun family event. Fancy dress competition for children, and adults – why not dress as a character from your favourite book? Bring a picnic – enjoy the storytellers and other entertainers. Optional extras: explore the steam train, grounds and fort, and shops and cafes.

Lunch & talk

at Holland House

Tuesday 28th June 2016, 1 pm

Holland House, Croftorne.

£15 per person. Contact Holland House (T: 01386 860330, or E: enquiries@hollandhouse.org)

You will find this delightful timbered heritage building slightly off the beaten track. Enjoy the gardens which are packed with traditional varieties of roses and other English garden favourites. Holland House is renowned for its excellent cuisine and your two course lunch will be followed by a fascinating talk from Evesham Bell Tower Ringing Master, Chris Povey, on 'The History of Evesham Bell Foundry'.

'Feature Writing Workshop'

Friday 22nd July, 2 - 3.30 pm

Mercia Digital,
Walker Hall, Evesham.

£10

Feature writing workshop with Maureen Butler. Whether you write for your village newsletter, your own blog or for a wider audience, Maureen will help you learn some tricks of the trade to help get your feature article into print.

Other fringe events are in the pipeline. Check our website for new events being added.

'BRIDGE THE GAP'

With the help of local schools and businesses, the Rotary Club of Evesham plan to create a paper chain that will link the new Evesham Bridge with the old Workman Bridge, a distance of 876 metres along Waterside. As a Festival fringe event this year, children will be encouraged to write their favourite words on the link.

www.therotaryclubofevesham.org.uk/bridge-the-gap



PLANT A NEW WORD:

Invent a new word and its definition for a possible prize, and some great fun exploring the sheer joy of language. All words submitted will be 'planted' around the town in June. Send your suggestion to Cotswold & Vale Magazine, with a short description of what the word means. Include full name, address, daytime telephone number, email, and age if appropriate (if you are under 18, please include your parent or guardian's permission).

Email: info@valemagazine.co.uk with Plant a New Word in the subject line.
Deadline for submission is 20th May 2016.



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Evesham Festival of Words 2017

Save the date – Friday 30th June – Sunday 2nd July 2017!

Confirmed for 2017 –

former Times Journalist, Rachel Kelly, on the 'Healing Power of Poetry';
romantic novelist, Phillipa Ashley; former Chief Editor Oxford English Dictionary,
John Simpson, and editor/short story writer, Alexa Radcliffe-Hart.

Short Story Competition – Deadline for submission Friday 24th March, 2017

A huge thank you to:

Our wonderful contributors, our audiences, our Festival Patrons: TV and Radio presenter, Michael Collie; local MP, Nigel Huddleston; TV presenter and comedian, Alistair McGowan.

Sponsors and supporters: Alison's Bookshop, Tewkesbury; Allchurch Bailey; Almonry Heritage Centre; Councillor Bob Banks; Cotswold and Vale Magazine; The Elmley Foundation; Evesham Town Council; John Martin's Charity; Mercia Digital; Rooftop Housing; Tesco; The Valley; VECTA; The Rotary Club of Evesham, and Wychavon District Council.

Local businesses which supported production of this Festival Brochure: Abbey Appliances; Butcher; Raphael's Restaurant; Tom the Barber; Word of Mouth Café.

Festival Brochure design: Kitty Kovacevic

Printing and production: Create Design and Print, Port Street, Evesham.



Rooftop
Awarded three stars for 'Excellence'

John Martin's Charity

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