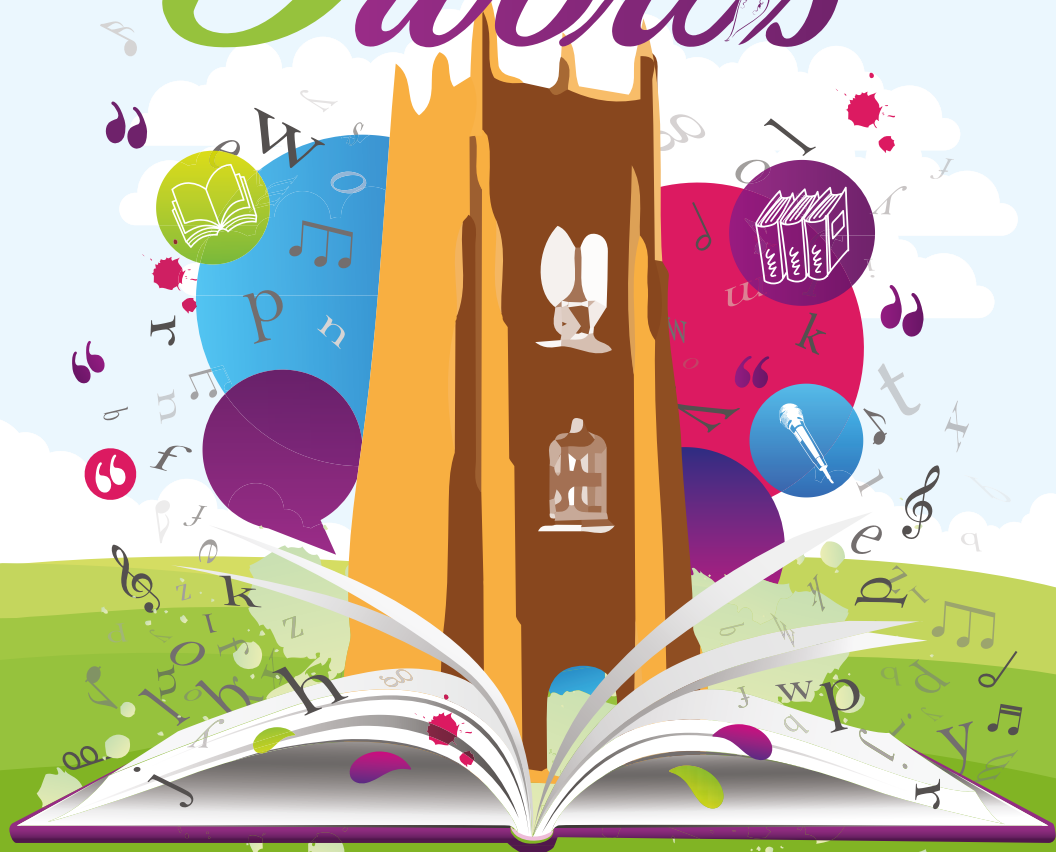


Evesham *Festival* of *Words*



2019

A YEAR-LONG FESTIVAL
MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND
28TH - 30TH JUNE 2019

www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org

info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org |  EVESHAM FESTIVAL OF WORDS  INFOFOW

WELCOME

PHOTO BY IAN TUSTIN



WHERE TO BUY TICKETS

SUE ABLETT

info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org
T: 0787 128 5606

ONLINE VIA OUR WEBSITE:

eveshamfestivalofwords.org

BY POST:

20 Allardene, Evesham,
Worcestershire, WR11 1EA

CHEQUES PAYABLE TO 'EVESHAM
FESTIVAL OF WORDS'. PLEASE
INCLUDE FULL CONTACT DETAILS.

THE ALMONRY MUSEUM & TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

T: 01386 446944

For some events it may be possible to buy tickets on the door but some events are bound to sell out. Book early to avoid disappointment!

Welcome to our fabulous 2019 Festival Brochure. Celebrating words in all their forms, we now have events all through the year, with the main Festival weekend packed with events from Friday 28th – Sunday 30th June.

Whatever your interest – writing, reading, poetry, listening to authors, meeting like-minded folk – the Festival really does offer something for everyone. With four extra pages, this year's Brochure reflects how the Festival continues to grow. We hope the new Quick Guide opposite helps you easily find your preferred events.

Putting on an enticing programme might be our main remit but we are also carrying on with two exciting projects we started in 2018. Our Festival Book Fairy continues to be busy, dropping in on a range of venues (from cafes to farm shops and care homes), and leaving behind piles of books to be read/enjoyed/borrowed/returned or passed on. We're also continuing to work with local schools, providing boxes of books for parents and pupils, to help encourage reading and hopefully foster a love of books.

We are proud to be part of a thriving community of Festivals in Evesham. Come along and enjoy all that our Festival has to offer, explore the delights of our lovely market town. You'll be assured of a warm welcome, wherever you go.

SUE ABLETT,
FESTIVAL CHAIR ON BEHALF OF
EVESHAM FESTIVAL OF WORDS
STEERING GROUP

Writers Monthly Meets

**ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH, at
10.30 am in Jellypicklejam Café.**

Local author Sue Johnson hosts an informal gathering of local writers, readers and aspiring writers. A great opportunity for networking, swapping ideas, or just enjoying a chat and a cuppa! For more information, contact Sue Johnson: sue.r.johnson@outlook.com or **01386 446477**

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THROUGH THE YEAR

The Festival gets off the ground right from the start of the year – some time before our Brochure is in print. In case you wonder what you've missed this year, here are some brief details:

Ring the Changes: Bell-ringing in English History and Culture

FRIDAY 18TH JANUARY

An illustrated talk by Tim and Mary Anne Keyes. (A joint event with Holland House, Crothorne.)

Love Letters

SATURDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

A play, performed by Pauline Beale and John Horton, based on the story of two people who meet at primary school and maintain a correspondence throughout their lives, all recorded in the letters which pass between them.

WORKSHOP

Motivation and Moving Forward, with Ellie Stevenson

MONDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

A workshop designed to help writers make their book happen – for anyone with a work in progress needing help, either with motivation or practical issues.

Francis Brett Young – Worcestershire Poet and Novelist

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH

An illustrated talk by Dr Michael Hall, Chairman of the Francis Brett Young Society, about this famous Worcestershire poet and novelist. (A joint event with Holland House, Crothorne.)

WORKSHOP

Writing Historical Fiction, with Sue Johnson and Elizabeth Beacon

MONDAY 18TH MARCH

A workshop providing an ideal chance for participants to gain from the shared knowledge and considerable experience in this genre of local writers, Sue Johnson and Elizabeth Beacon.

“Murderously good fun!”
TP Fadden, author of *The Riviera Express*

**DEATH
IN
DULWICH**

**ALICE
CASTLE**

COMING NEXT

WORKSHOP

Writing Crime Fiction, with Alice Castle

**MONDAY 15TH APRIL
2.00 – 4.00 PM**

ALMONRY, £15*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.

Before turning to a life of crime writing, Alice Castle, author of the very successful London Murder Mystery series, with amateur sleuth, Beth Haldane, enjoyed a career as a UK newspaper journalist.

In this workshop, Alice will discuss the different types of genres, a guide to plotting, developing a protagonist, the advantages of series versus standalone stories, creating suspense, a flash writing exercise and an exciting denouement.



The Drum Horse in the Fountain

**WEDNESDAY 17TH APRIL
7.30 – 9.00 PM**

ECGWIN'S CLUB, £6

In this illustrated talk, author and Regimental Historian to the Household Cavalry, Christopher Joll, will talk about his new book, co-written with Sir Anthony Weldon, *The Drum Horse in the Fountain*. The talk will focus on some of the more extreme 'characters' in the book including one example each of the famous, the good, the brave, the non-military achievers, the mad and the downright bad. The aim will be to inform, amuse and amaze - in keeping with the Michael Caine principle of 'not a lot of people know that...'

Christopher has led a varied career as an officer in the Household Cavalry, an arms dealer, author, and organiser of large events, as well as being a regular speaker on cruise ships.



Behind the Scenes – a Humorous View of the Auction World

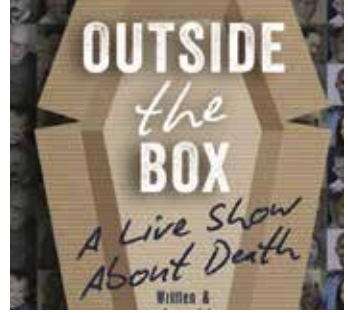
**THURSDAY 9TH MAY
6.30 FOR 7.00 PM**

**ELLENDEN FARM SHOP,
HARVINGTON, £18***

*INCLUDES 2-COURSE SUPPER, SERVED PROMPT AT 7.00 PM. PRE-BOOKING ESSENTIAL.

Ellenden Farm Shop once again hosts a 2-course supper, followed by after dinner speaker, in what is bound to be a fabulous evening. Who doesn't love an auction, or wonder about the value of what's hidden in their attic? In his after dinner talk Warwickshire based Auctioneer, Steven Bruce, will take a humorous view of the auction world and the many associated television programmes.

The Ellenden event in 2018 was our fastest selling event, so do book early to avoid disappointment!



Outside the Box (A Live Show About Death)

**FRIDAY 24TH MAY
7.00 – 9.00 PM**

**FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE
£10***

*INCLUDES SOFT DRINKS AND NIBBLES.

Outside the Box is a unique one-woman show about death, written, directed and performed by Liz Rothschild. Liz trained at the Bristol Old Vic. She went on to become a theatre practitioner, then a celebrant, then a burial ground manager. Realising the need to reach people before they have been bereaved or died, she set up the first Kicking the Bucket Festival in 2012 in Oxford. Liz's unique insight into the 'business of dying' has created a highly original and beautifully cathartic show. Totally unique and original, Outside the Box asks its audience to embrace mortality and look on the bright side of life.

The evening will include a raffle in aid of St Richard's Hospice.

THROUGH THE YEAR

It's All There in Black and White

**1ST – 30TH JUNE
REGAL CINEMA, FREE EVENT**

For the third year running, members of Birlingham Photography Club will be putting on an exhibition of members' photos. With a theme for 2019 of 'It's All There In Black and White', the exhibition is a new take on old films with a collection of monochrome photographic images showcasing a world of black and white cinematography. The photos will be on display for the whole of June in the Circle Bar of Evesham's iconic Regal Cinema. So come along, treat yourself to a pre-film drink, and enjoy a great exhibition.

An Evening with Simon Brett

**WEDNESDAY 5TH JUNE
7.30 – 9.00 PM**

ECGWIN'S CLUB, £7

Simon Brett has written over a hundred books, including the Charles Paris, Mrs Pargeter, Fethering and Blotto & Twinks series of crime novels. His writing also includes comedy in radio and television series, such as No Commitments and After Henry. Simon was awarded an OBE in 2016 'for services to literature' and around the same time elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. In 2014 he was presented with the CWA Diamond Dagger, one of the highest accolades in the crime writing world. Simon is a wonderfully entertaining speaker, so come along and hear more about his career in radio, television and the world of books.

Bookworms Quiz Night

**WEDNESDAY 26TH JUNE
7.30 PM**

**RAPHAEL'S RESTAURANT,
£6 PER PERSON*
(TEAMS OF 4)**

*LIGHT SUPPER INCLUDED.
PRE-BOOKING OF TEAMS ESSENTIAL

Now a regular part of our main Festival weekend warm-up, the Bookworms Quiz Night is always a popular and very enjoyable event. Quizmasters, Helen Yendall and Chris Cherry, will once again be setting a mix of easy and challenging questions - to tax your brain, or let you shine. As always the questions will include a mix of knowledge of novels, nursery rhymes, poetry, plays, and anything 'wordy'.

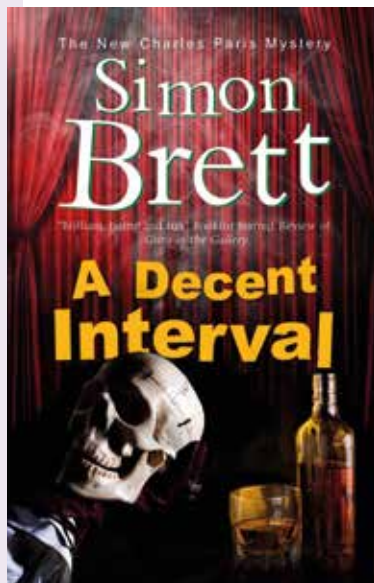


Crime Panel

**THURSDAY 27TH JUNE
7.00 – 9.00 PM**

**EVESHAM ROWING CLUB,
£7.50**

Everybody loves a crime novel. In this new event for Evesham Festival of Words, Debbie Young, popular local crime writer of the Sophie Sayers series, and founder of the Hawkesbury Upton Literary Festival, will be chatting to a panel of experienced and very different crime writers. David Penny, author of historical thrillers, sets his stories in Moorish Spain at the end of the 15th century. Angela Buckley writes about real-life Victorian crime. Her own shady ancestors struggled to survive in the dangerous slums of Victorian Manchester. Barry Faulkner, best-selling author of the DCS Palmer Detective books, was born into a family of petty criminals, his father, uncle and elder brothers running with the notorious Richardson gang in the 1980s. Barry did not follow the family tradition!



MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND

WORKSHOP

Introduction to Playwriting: Finding your Voice, with Caroline Summerfield

**FRIDAY 28TH JUNE
10.30 AM – 12 NOON**

EVESHAM HOTEL, £15*

*INCLUDES TEA AND COFFEE.

If you have a story to tell and love theatre, TV, film or radio plays, then this is the workshop for you. Designed to be interactive, fun and informative, this workshop, led by experienced playwright, Caroline Summerfield, will introduce you to the key structural elements in a play; and a series of practical exercises - *The Interview* - Establishing Character; *The Witness* - The art of story telling; *A Game of Consequences* - Creating dramatic dialogue, and *A journey through my senses* - Pushing the boundaries of your writing. No previous writing experience is required.

A Globetrotter's A-Z

**FRIDAY 28TH JUNE
10.45 AM – 12.00 NOON**

WALLACE HOUSE, £6*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE



Flawed Characters: Real-life Issues

**FRIDAY 28TH JUNE
2.00 – 3.00 PM**

EVESHAM HOTEL, £6

With author, Kate Hewitt. From high concept, heart-wrenching dramas to cosy village sagas, whatever the genre Kate enjoys writing emotionally compelling stories peopled with flawed characters who struggle with real-life issues. She got her start writing short stories for magazines, then moved on to writing romance for Mills & Boon. As a mum of five children, and the wife of a former vicar, Kate is often asked how she manages to write as many books as she does. Come along and find out!

Back again by popular demand, Festival Chair, Sue Ablett, returns for another of her illustrated travel talks with a literary twist, this time with 'A Globetrotter's A - Z', featuring some of Sue's favourite, or most interesting, or disastrous, destinations of her many and varied travels. Sue is a passionate traveller with a wealth of stories and an equally enthusiastic speaker. Always fun and fascinating!



The Prince who Beat the Empire

**FRIDAY 28TH JUNE
3.30 – 4.30 PM**

EVESHAM HOTEL, £6

Author, Moin Mir, has written extensively on 19th century India and empire. His latest book, *The Prince who beat the Empire: How an Indian ruler took on the might of the East India Company*, traces the true and untold story of an Indian prince's epic quest for justice against the might of the Empire in Victorian England. Having been unjustly stripped of his lands, estates and possessions by the English East India Company, the Prince of Surat twice travelled to England to expose the corruption of the colonising corporation, finding unlikely allies in Victoria and Albert, with a campaign for justice playing out in the House of Commons, and ultimately finding true love in Victorian England. Moin Mir is a direct descendent of the Prince of Surat and weaves a fascinating story.

MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND



An Evening with Mike Gayle

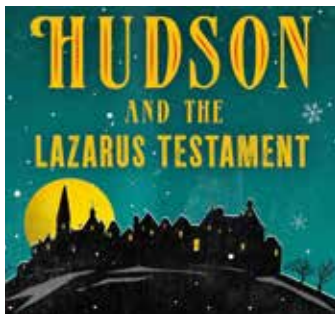
**FRIDAY 28TH JUNE
7.00 – 9.00 PM**

NORTHWICK HOTEL, £7.50*

*INCLUDES A GLASS OF WINE AND NIBBLES.

Our main Festival weekend opening night features popular author, Mike Gayle. Mike's early career involved working as an agony uncle for teenage girls' magazine, Bliss, before becoming features editor on the now much missed Just Seventeen. Mike became a full-time novelist in 1997 following the publication of his Sunday Times Top Ten bestseller, *My Legendary Girlfriend*, hailed by The Times as a "funny, frank account of a hopeless romantic." To date Mike is the author of twelve best-selling novels, including *Mr Commitment*, *Turning Thirty*, and *Turning Forty*.

Mike's talk will be followed by the presentation of prizes to the winners of our 2019 Festival of Words Short Story Competition.



The Bewildering Business of Book Covers

**SATURDAY 29TH JUNE
10.30 – 11.30 AM**

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, £6*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.

In this fast-paced session, best selling novelist, Martin Davies, will talk about book covers old and new, and about his own personal joys and frustrations in discovering how a book gets its cover. Funny and highly visual, this session is a must for anyone who has ever judged a book by its cover!

Martin's writing career picked up after a rocky start! His first novel, *The Conjuror's Bird*, was selected for the Richard & Judy Book Club, and sold over 150,000 copies. *Havana Sleeping*, an espionage thriller, was shortlisted for the 2015 CWA Historical Dagger Award. He is also author of the Holmes & Hudson Series, about Sherlock Holmes' housekeeper.



Dorothy Parker – Men, Misery and Mirth

**SATURDAY 29TH JUNE
12.00 – 1.00 PM**

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, £6*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.

Dorothy Parker was an American poet, short story writer, critic and satirist based in New York; she was best known for her wit and wisecracks. Her one-liners are legendary: "Men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses" and "I don't care what is written about me so long as it isn't true", to name but two. Reading from her works, American-born Linda Hart's one-woman performance reveals Dorothy's fascinating life, her struggle with depression, masked by her biting wit; her career as a drama critic and book reviewer, and her involvement in politics.

Linda returns on 5th October 2019 when, together with John Burns, they will bring to life the famous correspondence in 84 Charing Cross Road which began on 5th October 1949.

MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND



AE Housman: A Worcestershire Lad

SATURDAY 29TH JUNE
4.00 – 5.00 PM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, £6*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE. (NO CHARGE FOR HOUSMAN SOCIETY MEMBERS, BUT PLEASE RESERVE TICKETS)

AE Housman was the leading classical scholar of his day, yet he is better known as the author of *A Shropshire Lad*, a perfect evocation of lost love and a vanishing English landscape. He was not actually born in Shropshire, but in the Worcestershire town of Bromsgrove. In this illustrated talk by Julian Hunt we will hear how the poet's view of the world was shaped by the early death of his mother, the financial failure of his father, and above all, by his hopeless attachment to a fellow student at Oxford.

Julian Hunt's father was co-founder of the Housman Society. Julian has written numerous histories of Buckinghamshire towns, several articles about AE Housman and is Editor of the Housman Society Newsletter.

We are delighted to present this talk as a joint event between Evesham Festival of Words and the Housman Society.

Housman fans may be interested in the first Evesham Walking Festival, which features a Housman-themed walk on Bredon Hill on Wednesday 3rd July.
www.eveshamramblingclub.org.uk/walkfest



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•
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Jane Austen at Home

SATURDAY 29TH JUNE
7.00 – 9.00 PM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, £10*

*INCLUDES A GLASS OF WINE & NIBBLES.

Jane Austen has enduring popularity the world over. Described as a "lively and varied recital/performance, with engaging drawing-room intimacy" this one-woman show celebrates the life and mind and writings of one of our greatest novelists.

Consisting entirely of Jane Austen's words, 'Jane Austen at Home' celebrates the variety and wit of her writings, with extracts from her memoirs, letters, juvenilia, poetry and novels, and takes us into the attitudes, imagination and sensations of those who lived in country houses and rectories in the early nineteenth century. Although designed for country-house drawing rooms, this is an event which will fit beautifully in the lovely setting of All Saints Church. Jane Austen at Home is devised and directed by Stephen Siddall.

WORKSHOP

Kickstarting your Novel, with Martin Davies

SATURDAY 29TH JUNE
1.30 – 3.30 PM

ALMONRY, £15*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.

Martin Davies's workshops are fun, very fast moving and quite light-hearted, but address serious issues and hopefully will send people on their way eager to put pen to paper. This workshop, Kickstarting your Novel, is less about the craft of writing but more about overcoming all the obstacles that prevent people from starting their novels, or from finishing the work they've started but set aside. Martin will cover plotting and planning and scene setting and character development, etc, but with the emphasis always on building momentum, enthusiasm and reinvigorating the imagination.

MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND

WORKSHOP

Calligraphy for Beginners, with Josie Brown

SUNDAY 30TH JUNE
10.30 AM – 1.00 PM

AUSTEN COURT CARE HOME,
£15*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.

Are you fascinated by the beauty of calligraphy and have perhaps just given it a little go, or are a complete novice? If so, this is the perfect workshop for you.

Come along and learn the art of using the dip pen and complete a small project, using the popular Mouse Roman script. All materials (nibs etc.) will be supplied. There will be a small charge for these (approx. £5) but you can take them home.

Josie Brown is a professional calligrapher and heraldic artist, carrying out commissions for the private, academic and military sectors. Teaching has always been an important feature of Josie's work.

A Tale of Two Cities

SUNDAY 30TH JUNE
11.00 AM – 12.15 PM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH HOUSE,
FREE EVENT.

A Tale of Two Cities – nothing to do with Charles Dickens – was a transatlantic poetry project set up by poet, Nina Lewis, as her Laureate Legacy. It involved 47 poets from Worcester UK and Worcester USA, exchanging call and response poems. In the first half, UK poets start with live readings of their call poems sent to the USA, and then their American partner reads their response poem on video. The second half starts with video call poems first followed by UK response poems.

Nina Lewis was crowned Worcestershire Poet Laureate 2017.

Come along and enjoy this event, and then follow up at 1.00pm with the Poetry Picnic, led by Suz Winspear.

Music at the Red Lion

SUNDAY 30TH JUNE
2.00 – 4.00 PM

RED LION PUB, FREE EVENT

Enjoy an afternoon of Songs of My Years with popular local musician, Griff Collins. The Red Lion is the perfect venue to while away a couple of hours, sipping a pint (or whatever takes your fancy) while listening to some great music from one of our very talented local musicians. Tucked away in the corner of Evesham's Market Square, the Red Lion was first recorded as a public house in 1728. It now provides a very welcoming and informal venue, with a good range of music throughout the year.

Poetry Picnic

SUNDAY 30TH JUNE
1.00 - 2.30 PM

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE,
FREE EVENT.

Popular Worcester-based poet, Suz Winspear, will lead this year's Poetry Picnic. In her own words, Suz "writes Gothic fiction, lives in a disused church, and has a day-job in the local museum!" She was Worcestershire Poet Laureate in 2016. Usually dressed in all her Gothic finery, Suz is a fabulous performance poet, really

making her poetry come to life.

The Poetry Picnic is being held in the delightful setting of the Friends Meeting House. With its hidden gem of a beautiful secluded garden, this is the perfect setting for a meeting of poetry minds. There will be some invited poets but also opportunities for poets to bring their own poetry, or poems that they love, or have found inspiring, written by other poets. Bring a sandwich. Tea/coffee and soft drinks will be provided.



MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND



The Trouble with Goats and Sheep, with Joanna Cannon

**SUNDAY 30TH JUNE
3.00 – 4.00 PM**

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, £6*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.

The Trouble with Goats and Sheep was the Sunday Times best-selling debut novel. Selling over 250,000 copies in the UK alone, and now published in more than 15 countries, this is the book that launched the writing career of Joanna Cannon. Since then Joanna has been on TV and radio. Her second novel, *Three Things about Elsie*, was published in January 2018.

As an only child of an only child, a great number of Joanna's friends lived within the pages of a book, and she soon discovered what would become a life-long fascination with words, stories and character. Abandoning her A-levels, it wasn't until her 30's that Joanna went back to college and subsequently qualified as a doctor. A favourite with book clubs, this really is a session not to be missed.



Three Men in a Boat

**SUNDAY 30TH JUNE
7.00 – 9.00 PM**

BENGWORTH CHURCH, £10*

*INCLUDES WINE AND NIBBLES.

Giles Shenton, who in 2018 wowed Evesham Festival of Words with his performance of *Old Herbaceous*, returns by popular demand, with a rip roaring barrel of fun, *Three Men in a Boat*, with Giles playing the part of Jerome K Jerome. Join Jerome as he recounts the hilarious story of his boating holiday along the magnificent River Thames, with his two companions and Montmorency the dog. Come and join in the fun as Giles expertly takes the helm and pilots you through the ridiculous tale of men behaving badly while messing about in boats!

Three Men in a Boat is a wonderfully timeless book, and Giles Shenton is a superb performer. This event promises to be a great ending to our main Festival weekend.



WORKSHOP

Songwriting, with Colin Pitts

**SATURDAY 6TH JULY
2.00 – 4.00 PM**

ALMONRY, £15*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.

Which comes first, the words or the tune? If you've ever wondered about this, then this workshop is for you.

Colin Pitts is a popular local songwriter with a rapidly growing reputation. He has appeared at many festivals, events and on radio in the UK and abroad, and has released a total of seven albums, including one with local poets, Sue Johnson and Bob Woodroffe.

The songwriting workshop will provide you with the opportunity to try your hand at writing a song. You will hear songs written by a range of writers, performed in Colin's own unique style, and pick up useful tips. The workshop is ideal for those who do not have experience but want to put that line from a notebook into a song. No specific musical training is required. Feel free to bring an instrument if you wish, but not essential.

THROUGH THE YEAR



Remembering Johnny Kingdom

**THURSDAY 18TH JULY
7.00 – 9.00 PM**

EVESHAM ROWING CLUB, £6

Johnny Kingdom, gravedigger, wildlife enthusiast and utterly unique television personality, who died tragically in 2018, did more than anyone since Lorna Doone to bring the wonderful landscape and wildlife of Exmoor to millions of people.

David Parker was the man who brought Johnny to television. The two worked together for more than 15 years. David will use clips from the more than 50 television programmes they made together and talk about why Johnny was so brilliant at bringing us closer to the world of wildlife he himself enjoyed so much. David Parker's book, written with Johnny's photographs, 'Johnny Kingdom's Wild Exmoor', is published by Halsgrove.

(In 2018 David enthralled us with his talk on Laurie Lee. We are delighted to see him back in 2019.)



Poetry in Colour

2ND – 30TH SEPTEMBER

**EVESHAM LIBRARY,
FREE EVENT**

An exhibition of illustrations by artist Lindsay Tether, inspired by Sue Johnson's poetry, and poems by Sue in response to Lindsay's paintings. Each poem and illustration tells a story. They are all linked in some way.

WORKSHOP Art and Poetry, with Sue Johnson and Lindsay Tether

**MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER
10.00 AM – 12.00 NOON**

EVESHAM LIBRARY, £6*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.

Working with Sue Johnson and Lindsay Tether, participants will be invited to create their own poem and artwork inspired by the exhibition.



Fearful Symmetry, Blake's Jerusalem

**THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER
7.00 – 9.00 PM**

HAMPTON CHURCH, £8*

*INCLUDES A GLASS OF WINE
AND NIBBLES.

William Blake is described as the greatest of the English rebel poets that still cannot be 'put in a box'. In this one-man play, we join William Blake in 1824 on a regular walk from Hampstead Heath to his home in the Strand after spending a day with his friend John Linnell and family. As usual for Blake, he is full of song and singing, often using his own verse as lyrics to pass the time as he strolls home.

Playing Blake is Robin Hillman, who will be remembered for his performance as John Clare in 2018. Robin has spent many years performing as an actor, fiddle player and singer. He is co-founder of Theatre 17.



Mikron Theatre Company present Redcoats (celebrating 80 years of Butlins splendour)

WEDNESDAY 28TH AUGUST, 7.00 PM, RAPHAEL'S RESTAURANT

Outdoor event, weather permitting. No tickets required, a cash collection will be taken after the show. See website for more details.



WORKSHOP

Developing Your Novel: From Idea to First Draft, with Alison May

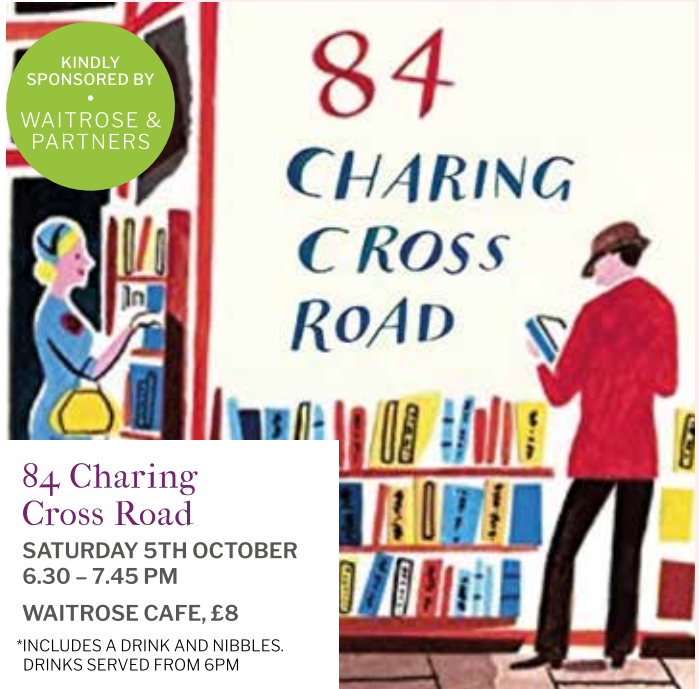
**SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER
10.30 AM – 4.30 PM**

ALMONRY, £20*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.
BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC LUNCH.

'Developing your Novel: From Idea to First Draft' is for anyone who has an idea for a novel they'd love to write, or a draft that's lost its way, whether it's your first, second, third or twenty-third novel. On this one-day course Alison will demystify plot structure, characterisation and setting, and introduce ways to motivate yourself to stick with your draft through the highs and lows of writing a novel.

Alison May is a writer, tutor, editor and blogger.



84 Charing Cross Road

**SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER
6.30 – 7.45 PM**

WAITROSE CAFE, £8

*INCLUDES A DRINK AND NIBBLES.
DRINKS SERVED FROM 6PM

Join Linda Hart and John Burns in this dramatised reading of *84 Charing Cross Road*, the famous story of a 20-year transatlantic correspondence between Helene Hanff, an American writer, and Frank Doel, a London second-hand bookseller. A shared love of literature was the basis of what became a warm friendship, as Helene sends Frank off in search of Quiller-Couch, Elizabethan love poems, The Canterbury Tales, and many other tomes. It is a story full of charm, warmth and humour that has been the subject of a successful book, film and play.

5th October 2019 marks 70 years to the day since the date of the first letter from Helene. Join us on this auspicious occasion!

WORKSHOP

Stepping into self-publishing: Marketing your book, with Ellie Stevenson

**MONDAY 21ST OCTOBER
2.00 - 4.00 PM**

ALMONRY, £15*

*INCLUDES TEA AND HOME-MADE CAKE.

Following on from her very popular workshop 'Motivation and Moving Forward', held in February, Ellie Stevenson returns by popular demand with a follow up workshop offering guidance on marketing your forthcoming or published book - both ebook and print versions. Always a popular topic so do book early to secure a place.

MORE INFO

Christmas is coming!

Our 2019 'Christmas Wordy Quiz Sheet' will be out from 1st December, with a closing date of Sunday 5th January 2020.

Free to enter. £10 book token to the winner. Available to download from the Festival website, or pick up from the Almonry or St Lawrence's Church.

Come along from mid-December to Evesham's third Christmas Tree Festival in the beautiful setting of St Lawrence's Church. Admire our Festival tree, and all the others, and don't forget to pick up a copy of our Christmas Wordy Quiz Sheet and Outline Programme for 2020.

Festival Volunteers

A Festival like Evesham Festival of Words is a significant undertaking and is very reliant on volunteers for overall management and support. We are always keeping an eye open for willing volunteers with a range of skills (book-keeping, website updates, serving drinks, making cakes, book sales, brochure distribution, etc.). It really is a great event to be part of.

Christmas at the Almonry

**MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER
7:30PM**

ALMONRY, £5

TICKETS FOR THIS EVENT AVAILABLE ONLY FROM THE ALMONRY

Join us for a fabulous evening concert with Musyck Anon and David Howe performing music, songs, readings and anecdotes to celebrate the festive season, and all served with a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie! (A joint Almonry/Evesham Festival of Words event).

Festival Sponsorship

The Festival Steering Group is committed to keeping costs of events affordable so that the Festival is accessible to as many people as possible. Corporate or individual sponsorship of particular events, or of the Festival as a whole, helps greatly and is hugely appreciated.

If you would like to know more about volunteering or sponsorship opportunities, do please get in touch – email: info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org, or telephone Sue Ablett, Festival Chair, **0787 1285606**.

Short Story Competition 2020

Our 2020 Competition will be launched on 1st November 2019. Closing date: midnight on Friday 20th March 2020.

The competition is open to adults and juniors, with two junior age categories (8-11, and 12-15).

Cash prizes and trophies to all winners, with a trophy also to the school of the two winning juniors. Entry £5 (adults) and free for juniors. Competition Rules for the 2020 Competition will be added to the Festival website on **1st November**.

Festival Map

- 1. Almonry**
ABBEY GATE, WR11 4BQ
- 2. Abbey Remains & Bell Tower**
- 3. All Saints Church / Church House**
MARKET PLACE, WR11 4RW
- 4. Red Lion Pub**
MARKET PLACE, WR11 4RW
- 5. Abbey Park & Riverside Walk**
- 6. Friends Meeting House**
COWL ST, WR11 4PN
- 7. Library**
OAT ST, WR11 4PJ
- 8. Evesham Rowing Club**
ABBEY RD., WR11 4ST
- 9. Wallace House**
OAT ST, WR11 4PJ
- 10. Bengeworth Church**
PORT ST, WR11 3LF
- 11. Evesham Hotel**
COOPERS LANE, WR11 1DA
- 12. Hampton Ferry & Raphael's Cafe**
BOAT LANE, WR11 4BP
- 13. Northwick Hotel**
WATERSIDE., WR11 1BT
- 14. Hampton Church**
PERSHORE RD, WR11 2PQ
- 15. Waitrose**
MERSTOW GREEN, WR11 4BD
- 16. Austen Court Care Home**
DAVIES RD, WR11 2LE
- 17. Regal Cinema**
PORT ST, WR11 3LD
- 18. Ecgwin's Club**
HIGH ST, WR11 4EQ





A huge thank you to:

Our wonderful contributors, audiences, volunteers, and 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; Almonry Museum & Tourist Information Centre;
Cotswold and Vale Magazine; Ellenden Farm Shop & Café, Harvington; Evesham Library;
Holland House; Jellypicklejam; Red Lion Pub; Regal Cinema; The Rotary Club
of Evesham; Tesco; Undervale Ltd, and Waitrose & Partners.

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Major Sponsors:



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