



2025 OUTLINE PROGRAMME – SAVE THE DATE!

Note: * Holland House events are open to book now.

Date	Time	Event
Fri 21 March	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	Illustrated Talk: 'Gloucestershire and Worcestershire and the Atlantic Slave Trade' with Tony Conder. Holland House, Crothorne * Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org) <i>Tony is a firm Festival favourite. Always a delight and a great talk.</i>
Fri 18 April (Good Friday)	2.30 pm	'Afternoon tea at Raphael's Restaurant, Evesham, with talk by Kath Ryan, also known as The Cake Lady' <i>Kath has been making cakes for a decade for injured and ex-service men and women. Hear her fascinating story.</i>
Tues 22 April	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	Illustrated Talk: 'Lost Women of Shakespeare' with Jeremy Holmes Holland House, Crothorne * Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org) <i>This is Jeremy's third visit to Holland House. Previous talks covered John Donne and Lord Byron.</i>
Wed 14 May	7.00 pm	Illustrated Talk: 'Mohanda K Gandhi – 'seditious Middle Temple lawyer' or 'the most enlightened of all political men'? with Galen Bartholomew Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham. <i>Repeated by popular demand having been a sell-out event in 2024.</i>
Wed 21 May	7.00 pm	Illustrated Talk: 'How we Made the Golden Age of Steam' with David Parker Evesham Rowing Club <i>Independent TV producer, David Parker, is another Festival favourite, with previous talks on Laurie Lee, Johnny Kingdom and the Flying Scotsman.</i>
Wed 11 June	7.00 pm	'Long Lost Families' with Ariel Bruce Evesham Rowing Club. <i>Ariel is the Social Worker/Senior Researcher on the popular ITV programme Long Lost Family, reuniting family members who have never met in fascinating and emotional stories.</i>
Sat 14 June	7.30 pm	'Music, Music, Music' (A Concert with EODS) Bengeworth Church <i>This annual joint event with EODS is now a firm favourite and annual event. Bengeworth Church is the perfect setting.</i>

Date	Time	Event
Wed 18 June	2.30 pm	Illustrated talk: 'Chance Findings' with Sue Ablett, Galen Bartholomew and Noelle Chambers Cleeve Prior Field Barn <i>Sue, Galen and Noelle describe a selection of chance findings in their family history research. Hear too about the amazing chance find of the Edgar Wheeler Hovel. Hovel visit included.</i>
Mon 23 June	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	Illustrated Talk: 'A.E. Housman: A Worcestershire Lad and his Abiding Appeal' with Linda Hart and Max Hunt Holland House, Crophorne * Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org) <i>Linda will introduce you to just how many writers, in their own work, quoted lines or phrases from one of Housman's poems. With readings by Max Hunt.</i>
Thurs 26 June	2.00 pm (to be confirmed)	'Bredon Hill Walk' <i>Enjoy a leisurely stroll over Bredon with a reading of A.E Housman's poem Bredon Hill by Max Hunt. Joint event with Evesham Walking Festival. Tickets via www.eveshamwalkfest.org.uk.</i>
MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND Fri 27 June	10.45 am - 12.00 noon	Illustrated talk: 'WW11 at Blenheim Palace – Evacuees and Espionage' with Antonia Keaney Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham. <i>Antonia returns for the third year running to share more fabulous tales from Blenheim Palace.</i>
Fri 27 June	2.00 – 3.00 pm	'Author Event with Ruth Hogan' Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham. <i>Ruth's debut novel, The Finder of Lost Things, has sold over a million copies. Hear how she became a full-time writer.</i>
Fri 27 June	3.30 – 4.30 pm	'How Words Get Good' with Rebecca Lee Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham <i>Rebecca is Senior Editor at Penguin Random Press, and author of How Words Get Good: The Story of Making a Book..</i>
Fri 27 June	7.30 pm	'Festival Quiz Night' with Quizmasters Helen Yendall and Chris Cherry Raphael's Restaurant. Light supper included. (Teams of 4) <i>A very popular annual Festival event with a bit of a wordy theme..</i>
Sat 28 June	10.30 am – 12 noon	Event to be confirmed. Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham
Sat 28 June	1.00 – 2.00 pm	'A Shropshire Lad's Journey from Gloucester to Cambridge' with Linda Hart and Max Hunt Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham <i>In this presentation Linda and Max attempt to unravel a literary mystery. It is also a biography of a book and its mysterious journey from Gloucester to Cambridge.</i>
Sat 28 June	3.00 – 4.00 pm	'Author event with Sue Moorcroft' Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham <i>Sue is a Sunday Times bestselling author of novels of love and life. Always a great read. She is current President of the Romantic Novelists' Association.</i>

Date	Time	Event
Sat 28 June	7.00 pm	<p>'An Evening with Miranda Krestovnikoff' Evesham Rowing Club</p> <p><i>Miranda is a radio and TV presenter, specialising in natural history and archaeology. She appears regularly on The One Show and Coast. She is also a diver and author. Miranda is currently Vice-President of the RSPB, having been President for 9 years.</i></p>
Sun 29 June	10.00 am – 12 noon	<p>Guided Walk: 'Evesham and its People' with Gill Pawson Meet Almonry Museum</p> <p><i>Gill is Chair of Evesham Civic Society. The walk will visit various parts of Evesham and include stories about the people who formed part of the town's history</i></p>
Sun 29 June	2.00 – 4.00 pm	<p>'An afternoon with Author Jo Thomas' Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham Afternoon tea included.</p> <p><i>Jo's debut novel, The Oyster Catcher, was a runaway success. She writes romances about food, love, family and fun, all in beautiful settings.</i></p>
Sun 29 June	7.00 – 9.00 pm	<p>'An Evening with Ian Boskett: The Great Train Robbery Revisited' <i>The Henrician. Tickets only from: www.henrician.org.</i></p> <p><i>Ian thrilled the audience in 2023 with his talk to mark the 60th Anniversary of The Great Train Robbery. He is back again with more new stories about this fascinating subject..</i></p>
Sat 19 July	2,00 pm	<p>'Bikes and Books' with Helen Russell Meet at Evesham Velo Park. A joint event with Cycle Evesham Vale</p> <p><i>Join leading local cyclist and book lover, Helen Russell, on a leisurely ride with a literary interest. Route to be confirmed.</i></p>
August/September	Date and time to be confirmed	<p>'Top Secret' with Mikron Theatre Company Raphaels Restaurant, Hampton Ferry.</p> <p>Outdoor event, whatever the weather. Back for the 5th year running, Mikron are simply brilliant!</p>
Fri 3 Oct	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	<p>Illustrated Talk: 'Eyam: The Plague Village' with Ian Braisby Holland House, Cropthorne *</p> <p>Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org)</p> <p><i>Ian is a Blue Badge Guide with a wide interest in history, and a regular speaker to a range of groups.</i></p>
Mon 3 Nov	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	<p>Illustrated Talk: 'Reasons for Treason: some truths behind the Gunpowder Plot of 1605' with Alan Tolley Holland House, Cropthorne *</p> <p>Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org)</p> <p><i>We all know the story of Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot, or maybe we don't. Alan will reveal among other things the real reasons behind the plot, the stories of the plotters, and so much more.</i></p>

NOTE:

This list is not comprehensive. Other events are still to be added.

Further details of all these and other, events, including ticket prices, will be on the Festival website (www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org) by the beginning of 2025, and in our Festival Brochure out early March 2025.

*The five joint events at Holland House, Cropthorne are available to book now.
(www.hollandhouse.org, or tel: 01386 860330)*

For the 2024 Festival, Sue Ablett put together a talk, 'Bums on Seats', which tells the story of how the Festival came to be, how its grown to what it is now, how we find our speakers and whether anything ever goes wrong. If you are a member of a local group and would like to book this talk, please contact Sue (details below).

For more information on any of the above, or for ticket enquiries, please email: Festival Chair, Sue Ablett (info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org) or tel: 0787 1285606.



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