The 7th Stratford-upon-Avon Literary Festival

26th April to 4th May 2014

www.stratfordartshouse.co.uk

PLUS: Writing Competition | Children’s Book Day | Online Book Poll

Tim Brooke-Taylor
Baroness Shirley Williams
Ray Davies
Chris Beardshaw
Val McDermid
Gerald Seymour
Joanne Harris
Hugh Pym
Gavin Esler
Michael Rosen
Emma Bridgewater
Kirsty Wark
Jon Canter
Alan Johnson
Nick Sharratt
Axel Scheffler
Philip Ardagh

The Wimpy Kid Show

and much more…

Box Office: 01789 207100
or online at
www.stratfordartshouse.co.uk
MACDONALD
ALVESTON MANOR HOTEL

ONE OF THE FINEST 4-STAR HOTELS IN WARWICKSHIRE, OFFERING GREAT LUXURY ACCOMMODATION IN ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORIC PARTS OF ENGLAND.

- Set in its own grounds just 5 minutes walk from all the cultural attractions of Stratford-upon-Avon
- Perfect venue for leisure breaks, romantic weekends, business meetings, weddings and special occasions
- Our Vital Health & Wellbeing club provides you with an equal balance of luxury and tranquility
- Savor specialty dishes and fine wines in our award-winning Manor Restaurant

For more information or to book call 0844 879 9138
or email events.alvestonmanor@macdonald-hotels.co.uk

Macdonald Alveston Manor Hotel, Clopton Bridge, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 7HP
WWW.MACDONALDHOTELS.CO.UK/ALVESTONMANOR
Welcome to the 2014 Festival

It’s with enormous pleasure that we bring you the programme for the 2014 Festival, with more events on a wider range of topics than ever before.

This year’s theme for the Festival is ‘Journeys’ which we’ve interpreted in a multitude of ways from entertaining travellers at Birmingham Airport, to transforming the memories of older members of the community into a performance entirely devised, staged and performed by students studying in Stratford. Elsewhere we mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, explore the impact computer gaming has on creativity, hear about the impact of great leaders, the challenges of re-inventing Jane Austen, and we’ll be having huge fun at a day exclusively for children.

As ever our thanks to The Week, our media partners, Stratford Town Trust, and our increasing number of sponsors who are so important to the growth of the Festival. Thanks also to Arts Council England and those that care for the older members of the community for their support with our Journeys Project.

Box Office: 01789 207100 or book online at www.stratfordartshouse.co.uk

Festival Bookshop: Waterstones will be selling books by all the authors appearing at the Festival. Authors will be signing copies after each event.

Programme printed in partnership with Butler Tanner and Dennis with thanks.

Follow us on Twitter @stratlitfest and on Facebook

Please Note: The Civic Hall, Rother Street is now known as Stratford Artshouse.

We would like to thank the following for their support:
The story of long-term investment continues.

Baillie Gifford is delighted to support the Stratford-upon-Avon Literary Festival by sponsoring a series of events.

We are one of the UK’s largest investment trust managers. In our daily work in investments we do our very best to emulate the diligence and imagination that successful writers bring to the creative process.

Our free tri-annual Trust magazine offers you an engaging and insightful overview of the investment world along with details of our literary festival activity throughout the UK.

To find out more about our sponsorship or to enter our prize draw, visit us* at www.bgtrustonline.com/stratford

*To access the prize draw page you must use the full URL stated above. Baillie Gifford Savings Management Limited (B GSM) produces Trust magazine and is wholly owned by Baillie Gifford & Co, which is the manager and secretary of eight investment trusts. Your personal data is held and used by B GSM in accordance with data protection legislation. We may use your information to send you details about Baillie Gifford products, funds or special offers and to contact you for business research purposes. We will only disclose your information to other companies within the Baillie Gifford group and to agents appointed by us for these purposes. You can withdraw your consent to receiving further marketing communications from us and to being contacted for business research purposes at any time. You also have the right to review and amend your data at any time.
**Friday, 4th April**
Stratford Artshouse
7.30pm £5 *(no concessions)*

**Journeys - A Play on Memory**

To round off our Festival week in schools in and around Stratford, we present a unique inter-generational collaboration of older members of the community and students from schools and College in Stratford.

After gathering memories and recollections from residents of local care homes, drama students have devised a performance on the Festival theme of Journeys, working with theatre director David Calcutt. Students interested in other aspects of staging have worked with theatre designer Judy Reaves, composer Kirsty Devaney, visual artist Julie de Bastion, and the technicians at Stratford Artshouse to stage this remarkable performance.

Schools involved include: Stratford College, Stratford School, Stratford Girls Grammar and King Edward VI.

**Thursday, 10th April**
The Lazy Cow, Clopton Bridge
7.30pm £10 inc. burger and chips *(or veggie option)*

**Literary Pub Quiz**
in aid of The Shakespeare Hospice

Do you know your Hemingway from your Harry Potter, or your Macbeth from your McNab? And how are you on the star who played the hero in the film of the book, or the novels of that third Brontë sister?

Ahead of the Festival, gather a team of your cleverest friends and pit your wits in a fun quiz (loosely!) based on literary questions with proceeds donated to The Shakespeare Hospice, the Festival’s partner charity. We’ll be testing your knowledge on the films of books, authors and actors, villains and heroes.

**Prizes include** a stay at the four-star Charingworth Manor Hotel and afternoon tea at The Fourteas.

Maximum teams of six

In aid of:

Sponsored by:

With thanks to all those involved in this project including Lesley Frazer, Helen Wilks, Jane Hutton, Perry Mills, Ben Carr, Steve Davies, Michelle Flint, and Gareth Hills.
We would like to thank the following for their help and support:

All the authors who have given their time to the Festival, Butler Tanner Dennis, Mike Flowers and Set Square, all at The Week, Jill Samuda, all the Staff at Waterstones Stratford, Sam Aziz at The Alveston Manor Hotel, Roz Adams at Cooper Adams, Rupert Barnes, Susanna Wadeson, all who Steward at the Festival, Trustees of Stratford Town Trust, Diana Owen and all at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, Bennett Carr, Jane Hutton and the staff at KES, Martyn Balson, Sarah Crow and Elizabeth Morris at Stratford Artshouse, Tim Davis, Sandy Holt, Chris Towner, James Richards at Vin Neuf, Wendy Murphy at The Croft, Steve Blackman, 360° Events, Lesley Frazer and all the schools involved in the Festival, Steve Pitts, Tom, Louis and Toby Ashworth, Mike Nicholas at Shock the Senses, Ginny Gretton at Warwick School, Emily Quash and Playbox Theatre, Judy Reaves, Kirsty Devaney, Thomas Roberts at the Picture House, Michelle McLeod, Julie de Bastion, David Calcutt, Stratford Library, Colin and Michelle Flint and all staff at Stratford College, Gareth Hill, and all the publishers who have organised their authors to visit Stratford, Simon Milton at Thinkology, Michael Odell, Deirdre Shields and our chairpeople. And of course our audiences, sponsors and advertisers who make the Festival possible.

Photo Credits: 2013 Photographs courtesy of Rupert Barnes

Festival Team: Annie Ashworth (Director), Matin Kinoult (Director), Helen Watts, Jo James, Jennie Madden and Gail Francis

Teas at the Festival provided by The Fourteas.
Saturday, 26th April
Bancroft Gardens
From 11am FREE

**Shakespeare’s 450th Birthday Celebrations**

We’re joining in the 450th Birthday Celebrations with a day of free events to entertain you in the lovely location of the Bancroft Gardens beside the River Avon. Roll up for performance theatre, and music and stories from the Bookshop Band.

We welcome back **The Bookshop Band** to the Festival who will be entertaining you in their unique way with books set to music. Find them on The Bancroft Gardens or at Waterstones, High Street.

**Emergency Poet** is the world’s first and only mobile poetic first aid service set inside a touring 1950s ambulance. Step inside for a private poetic health consultation with acclaimed poet, Deborah Alma, and within 10 minutes you’ll be prescribed an appropriate poem, verse or lyric.

Meet Anna O’Brien, a storyteller to give you a tasty story to chew over or a funny story to send you on your merry way. She’ll have a bag full of stories for any age: folk tales, myths, songs and wisdom tales, or a story made up on the spot just for you.

Anna is part of the dynamic company of storytellers, Annamation, with Anna Conomos and Susanna Oldfield

---

Saturday, 26th April
Shakespeare Centre
5.30pm £10

**David Crystal**
**How to be an English Language Tourist**

In an illustrated talk based on his new book with Hilary Crystal, Wordsmiths and Warriors, David will be talking about some of the fascinating places in Britain which have helped to shape the character of the English language. A must for anyone interested in our heritage and language in general.

David is a celebrated writer, editor, lecturer, and broadcaster. He published the first of his 100 or so books in 1964, and is well-known chiefly for his research work in English language studies, in such fields as intonation and stylistics, and in the application of linguistics to religious, educational and clinical contexts, notably in the development of a range of linguistic profiling techniques for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes. He is now Honorary Professor of Linguistics at the University of Wales, Bangor.

David is perhaps best known for The Cambridge Encyclopaedia of Language and The Cambridge Encyclopaedia of the English Language. He is also an expert in Shakespearian language.
WE ARE PROUD TO SPONSOR THE STRATFORD-UPON-AVON LITERARY FESTIVAL

We believe decisions about insurance deserve the time and respect to get right. We believe you do too.

Visit our website to find your local branch

nfumutual.co.uk
Saturday, 26th April
Shakespeare Centre
7pm £12

Gavin Esler
Lessons from The Top

The award-winning journalist and presenter draws upon his 30 years’ experience at the BBC to show how leaders in all fields, from politics to business, showbiz to sport, are masters at crafting stories - about themselves, their origins and their beliefs. There are encounters with the likes of Clinton, Blair, Mandela, Branson, Thatcher, Merkel and also Angelina Jolie, Lady Gaga, Dolly Parton and even members of the IRA.

In a fascinating evening, he will explore how Osama Bin Laden became a modern ‘Saladin’, how an Old Etonian became ‘Dave’, the bloke next door who happens to be PM, how leaders plant counter-stories about their opponents and how the 24-hour media has changed storytelling forever. He also explains how creating a leadership story can promote success at all levels and offers a fascinating portrait of leadership in the modern world.

Gavin Esler is an award-winning television and radio broadcaster, novelist and journalist. He is the author of five novels and a non-fiction book, The United States of Anger. He was a BBC2 Newsnight presenter for many years and currently presents Dateline London which goes out weekly on BBC World and the BBC News Channel.

Sponsored by:

Sunday, 27th April
Three Ways House Hotel,
Mickleton From 2pm
From £299 per person
including two nights’ accommodation and all meals

Residential Creative Writing Course

A perfect opportunity to immerse yourself in the creative writing process. Over two days, you’ll work with the acclaimed author Christopher Wakling in the lovely surroundings of The Three Ways House Hotel to develop ideas, however far you are through the creative writing process.

The course is ideal for debut writers, those who need some encouragement, and those who want to fine tune their work. You will explore where stories come from and how they are best written.

We’ll look at what inspires you, help you develop your ideas, and give you advice - by way of examples and exercises - on beginnings, dialogue, characterisation, plot, genre, endings and editing.

The price includes accommodation for two nights, dinner on both nights of your stay, and lunch on Monday 28th April.
Poetry Reading from The Siegfried Sassoon Fellowship

The Siegfried Sassoon Fellowship, which was formed in 2001 to promote the life and works of the famous poet, will be reading a selection of poetry and prose relating to his experiences during World War I.

They will also be including some poems written by Wilfred Owen, whose name will forever be linked to that of Sassoon.

Tim Butcher
The Trigger - Hunting the Assassin who Brought The World to War

Tim Butcher is an award-winning journalist and best-selling author. British-born, he has climbed mountains in New Zealand, and learnt enough Albanian to smuggle himself into Kosovo during the 1999 war.

His first book, Blood River - A Journey To Africa’s Broken Heart, told the story of an epic journey he made through the Congo. It topped the Sunday Times best-seller list in 2008 and was shortlisted for various awards from the Samuel Johnson Prize in Britain to the Ryszard Kapuciski Award in Poland. For his second book, Chasing The Devil, he walked for 350 miles through Liberia along a trail blazed by a whisky-sozzled Graham Greene in 1935.

His latest book, The Trigger, explores the remarkable story behind Gavrilo Princip who shot the Archduke on that fateful day in Sarajevo which began the catastrophe that was World War 1.
Lest We Forget - Harry’s War and The Unreturning Army

In a terrible ironic twist, the horrors of the First World War produced some astonishingly talented writers who captured their experiences in diaries brought home from the Front.

Today we highlight two of the most remarkable: Local author Jon Cooksey talks about Harry’s War, The Great War Diary of Harry Drinkwater (former student at King Edward’s Grammar School) whose writings he co-edited and which has been called ‘One of the best diaries of the First World War,’ by the Imperial War Museum.

David Gordon discusses The Unreturning Army, the painfully honest memoir of his father Huntly Gordon which takes him from innocent schooldays to the carnage of Flanders.

Sally Magnusson Where Memories Go

Regarded as one of the finest journalists of her generation, Mamie Baird Magnusson’s whole life was a celebration of words - words that she fought to retain in the grip of dementia, a disease which is fast becoming the scourge of the 21st century. Married to writer and broadcaster Magnus Magnusson, they had five children of whom the broadcaster and author Sally is the eldest.

Sally Magnusson’s critically acclaimed memoir of her mother is both affectionate and questioning. As well as chronicling the anguish, the frustrations and the unexpected laughs and joys that she and her sisters experienced while accompanying their beloved mother on the long dementia road, Sally Magnusson sought understanding from a range of experts and asked penetrating questions about how we treat older people and what it means to be human. Where Memories Go is an extraordinary memoir and manifesto in one searingly beautiful narrative.
Our four star venue harmonises traditional historic Stratford with the modern and contemporary benefits expected by today’s guests.

The Legacy Falcon Hotel offers 83 contemporary style bedrooms, award winning restaurant and relaxing bar, lounge and secret garden.

Dating back to the 16th century and perfectly located in the heart of historic Stratford upon Avon.
Sunday, 27th April

Bear Pit Theatre
5.15pm £10

Hugh Pym
Inside The Banking Crisis

The UK economy is still bearing the scars of the banking crisis; banks are impaired, businesses struggle to get credit and public appetite remains high for explanations of what happened. Since the Lehman’s debacle and the bailout of Halifax/Bank of Scotland and Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS), there has been a Financial Services Authority report on the collapse of RBS but no equivalent enquiry into the drama at HBOS, and no comprehensive investigation into the whole banking crisis.

In his searching book, the BBC’s Economics Editor offers the definitive insider’s guide to the Banking soap opera of the last few years, and the drama and characters involved in the astonishing collapse of some of the major pillars of British banking. He will also look at the continuing impact on the economy, and give a unique insight gained by talking to those directly involved at Downing Street and the Bank of England.

Sunday, 27th April

Shakespeare Centre
7pm £10

Alan Johnson
This Boy

MP Alan Johnson’s autobiography has been received to major acclaim for the remarkable story it tells of his mother who struggled to raise her family in the slums of 1950s Notting Hill Gate, and whose son went on to hold one of the highest political offices in the land.

His childhood was not so much difficult as unusual, particularly for a man who was destined to become Home Secretary. Not just about poverty, it charts the transition in his life from two-parent family to no parents at all, and tells the story of two incredible women: Alan’s mother, Lily, who battled against poor health, poverty, domestic violence and loneliness to try to ensure a better life for her children; and his sister, Linda, who had to keep the family together and out of care when she herself was still only a child.

Played out against the background of a vanishing community living in condemned housing, the story moves from post-war austerity in pre-gentrified Notting Hill, through the race riots, school on the Kings Road, Chelsea in the Swinging 60s, to the rock-and-roll years, making a record in Denmark Street and becoming a husband and father whilst still in his teens.

Alan Johnson MP served as Home Secretary from June 2009 to May 2010. Before that, he filled a wide variety of cabinet positions in both the Blair and Brown governments, including Health Secretary and Education Secretary. Until January 2011, he was Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer.
THE ARDEN HOTEL
WATERSIDE, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

‘The star of Stratford’s hotel scene, The Arden’s sophisticated and contemporary take on a boutique hotel has won her admirers from across the globe.’

Pre-theatre dining
Jazz lunches
Waterside Brasserie Terrace and private dining
Traditional afternoon teas
Complimentary parking
2 AA Rosettes

www.theardenhotelstratford.com
enquiries@theardenhotelstratford.com
01789 298 682
Monday, 28th April
Menzies Welcombe Hotel
10am - 3pm £40 inc. light lunch

**Write On Workshop:** Writing Fiction with Julia Crouch

Do you have a story that’s sitting on your PC and needs some TLC? Or perhaps it hasn’t found its way beyond your imagination? Julia Crouch will help to guide you from idea to something with shape and form.

Julia is the author of three internationally published novels: Cuckoo, Every Vow You Break, Tarnished and The Long Fall is out in June. Her work - best described as domestic noir - has been hailed by Marie Claire as ‘Deliciously creepy’ and by Sophie Hannah as ‘Brilliant... truly chilling’.

Julia started out in theatre and has also been a teacher and a graphic/website designer. As well as appearing at festivals and events to promote her books and teaching in schools and universities, she also writes short stories and articles for national magazines and newspapers. She is co-founder of Brighton’s first crime genre festival - Dark & Stormy Brighton, launching in 2014 - and is proud to be a patron of the Stratford-upon-Avon Literary Festival.

---

**The Fourteas**
1940s Tea Room
24 Sheep Street, Stratford Upon Avon
01789 293908
www.thefourteas.co.uk.

All the fun of the forties but without the rationing.
Come and try our delicious homemade cakes and scones
and choose from a fine selection of loose leaf teas and coffees

Touch FM Pride of Stratford Awards
Town Outlet of the Year 2012

Book your table now to avoid disappointment.
Rip-roaring read?
You bet. I'm on the edge of my seat.

What are you going to read next?

Hadn't thought. How am I going to fill the void?!

Don't panic. Try LoveReading.co.uk.

Go on...

All our recommendations come from living, breathing, book-loving humans, like the ones here in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Definitely better than those computery robots.

There's Free Opening Extracts so you can try before you buy. And our Author Like-for-Like tool - type in your favourite writer and we'll suggest a few others. And eBooks, if you're that way inclined.

Sounds smashing.

Anyway, now that's sorted, you can relax and finish your novel.

Thanks. Can't relax though, it's a knuckle-whitening thriller.

LoveReading.co.uk
Helping you choose your next book
@loveReadingUK

For guidance on children's books visit LoveReading4Kids
**Monday, 28th April**  
*Stratford Artshouse*  
*5.30pm £10*

**Michael Rosen**  
**Alphabetical - A World of Letters**

From Alphabets to Zipcodes, million-selling author and engaging speaker, Michael Rosen, tells the surprising story of those magical 26 letters. From minding your Ps and Qs to wondering why X should mark the spot, Rosen's latest book, Alphabetical, is for everyone who loves words and language. He asks how letters are arranged on keyboards, he questions Viking runes, textspeak and post codes, and will change the way you think about letters for ever and take you on an unforgettable adventure through the history of the alphabet, fizzing with personal anecdotes and fascinating facts.

Michael Rosen is a former Children’s Laureate and the author of many bestselling books for children including We’re Going on a Bear Hunt. He presents Word of Mouth on BBC Radio 4. This is the (adult) book he has always wanted to write.

---

**Monday, 28th April**  
*Bear Pit Theatre*  
*7 to 9.30pm £10*

**Salon**  
**Journeys of The Mind**

It’s a truth universally unquestioned that travel broadens the mind. But how and why?

In this specially curated Salon to reflect the journey theme of the Stratford Festival, Salon takes a look at what is to be gained from travel and how the smallest detours from our familiar journeys can bring great benefits to our lives.

Contributing editor to the Observer Food monthly and author of the Edible Atlas: Around the World in 39 Cuisines, **Mina Holland** will explain what and why people eat what they do, and how the pleasures of eating can act as a guide to a richer understanding of cultures and countries.

Leading UK voice expert, **Juliet Russell**, will take us on a cross continent guided tour of the globe, showing how vocal and musical styles have evolved and influenced each other, and exploring humankind’s innate musicality and irrepressible urge to communicate.

Finally we’ll hear from the Natural Navigator, **Tristan Gooley**, who has spent his lifetime travelling and exploring the planet. The School of Life author will be explaining how we can connect deeper and better with nature, navigate by the stars and pick up on the clues from nature to bring enhanced exploration of the natural world in to your life.

Get ready for some armchair adventuring in a relaxed and informal setting.
THE PERFECT SETTING FOR ANY OCCASION

The four-star Menzies Stratford-upon-Avon Welcombe is the perfect place to dine. Enjoy a delicious three course dinner in the 2 AA rosette award winning a la Carte restaurant, which offers outstanding views over the beautiful Italian gardens and championship golf course. Why not bring all the family and enjoy a traditional Sunday lunch with us. For an indulgent afternoon enjoy afternoon tea in the lounge, relaxing next to the grand open fireplace.

THREE COURSE SUNDAY LUNCHEON £25.00 per person
THREE COURSE EVENING DINNER £35.00 per person
AFTERNOON CREAM TEA from £6.95 per person

We offer a variety of private dining rooms, ideal for a family occasions and celebrations.

To book your table contact the hotel on 01789 295 252
Monday, 28th April
Stratford Artshouse
7.30pm £14 with interval

Ray Davies
The Kinks and Beyond

Ray Davies CBE, one of the most successful and influential songwriters to emerge from the musical revolution of the 1960s, founded the rock band The Kinks with his brother Dave in London in 1964, and they celebrate 50 years this year. The band’s string of 14 top ten international hits began with ‘You Really Got Me’, followed by ‘All Day and All of The Night’, ‘Tired of Waiting’, ‘Set Me Free’, ‘Dedicated Follower of Fashion’, ‘Sunny Afternoon’, ‘Waterloo Sunset’, ‘Lola’, ‘Apeman’ and ‘Come Dancing’ among many others.

Davies has since released two solo albums, a choral collection of Kinks classics and his recent collaborations album, See My Friends, saw him return again to the top ten working with the likes of Metallica, Bruce Springsteen and Mumford and Sons.

Davies collaborated with Barrie Keeffe in 1981 on his first stage musical, Chorus Girls, and in 1988 wrote 80 Days with Snoo Wilson, which was produced at the La Jolla Playhouse. He returned with his third musical, Come Dancing, in 2008 at Stratford East which won the What’s On Stage Best off West End Musical Award.

He performed at the London Olympics followed by his most successful solo tour to date. He’ll be talking about his astonishing career recorded in his autobiography Americana.

Tuesday, 29th April
Legacy Falcon Hotel
10am - 3pm £40 inc. light lunch

Write On Workshop:
How to Write for Young People with Steve Voake

Writing for young people is one of the most popular choices for authors, but one of the most challenging. In a workshop called Finding Your Story, the highly-experienced novelist Steve Voake will use a mixture of discussion and writing exercises to explore a variety of different approaches to discovering and writing stories for young people.

Steve is Senior Lecturer in Writing for Young People at Bath Spa University and the author of several critically acclaimed books for young adults, including The Dreamwalker’s Child, The Starlight Conspiracy and Blood Hunters.

He has also written many books for younger children, including the Daisy Dawson series, the Hooey Higgins series and the award-winning picture book, Insect Detective. His books have been translated into many different languages.

In association with
**Tuesday, 29th April**

**Stratford Artshouse**

**4.45pm £8 inc. tea and cake**

**Simon Stirling**  
*Who Killed Shakespeare?*

Discover the fascinating facts surrounding Shakespeare’s sudden death.

William Shakespeare lived in violent times; so much so, says Simon Stirling, that his death passed without comment. By the time he was adopted as the national poet of England, the details of his life had been concealed. He had become an invisible man, the humble Warwickshire lad who entertained royalty and then faded into obscurity.

But, he argues, his story has been carefully manipulated. In reality, he was a dissident whose works were highly critical of the regimes of Elizabeth I and James I. Stirling’s book examines the means, motive, and the opportunity that led to his alleged murder, and explains why Shakespeare had to be ‘stopped’. From forensic analysis of his death mask to the hunt for his missing skull, the circumstances of Shakespeare’s death are reconstructed and his life reconsidered in the light of fresh discoveries.

Simon Stirling is the author of The King Arthur Conspiracy. He received a Writers’ Guild Award in 1995 for his work on the BBC’s Between the Lines.

---

**Tuesday, 29th April**

**Stratford Artshouse**

**6pm £10**

**World War I - The War That Changed Women’s Lives**

The First World War is universally acknowledged to have been one of the worst conflicts in the history of mankind, but it’s an ill wind that blows nobody any good. A changing political mood and a shortage of men had a profound impact on the role of women in society, from the length of the skirts they wore to gaining suffrage and a stronger presence in the workplace.

Chaired by the writer Vik Groskop, our panel will discuss the effect of the war on women, some of the women who had the most impact on social change for women and ask how much further women have come on the road to equality.

**Baroness Shirley Williams** is a highly-respected and influential peer, was a founder of the SDP, and has held several cabinet posts. Her mother, Vera Brittain, wrote the moving WWI book, Testament of Youth.

**Melissa Benn** writes regularly for The Guardian and other publications on a range of social issues, including education. She is a founder of the Local Schools Network, and author of several books including What Should We Tell Our Daughters? The Pleasures and Pressures of Growing Up Female.

**Judith Allnatt** is a novelist whose latest book, The Moon Field, explores the impact of the war not only on those who experienced it first hand but on the women left behind at home.
Tuesday, 29th April
Stratford Artshouse
7.45pm £14 with interval

Baroness Shirley Williams
The 20th Century, the Century of Violence

Shirley Williams is one of the UK’s most respected and accomplished politicians with 50 years of experience of British and world politics. She began her career as a journalist and after being elected as a Labour MP in 1964, she rose quickly to a junior ministerial position and, between 1971 and 1973, served as Shadow Home Secretary. In 1974, she became Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection in Harold Wilson’s cabinet, then Secretary of State for Education and Paymaster General, holding both cabinet positions at the same time. She advocated comprehensive schools and, disillusioned by left wing politics, in 1981 co-founded the SDP Party.

Since leaving Parliament, she has worked at Harvard University and helped draft constitutions in Russia, Ukraine, and South Africa.

With this breadth of experience, she is well placed to look at why the 20th century was one of such violence, and what the future holds for the 21st century as a result.

Wednesday, 30th April
Stratford Artshouse
10am - 3pm £30

Write On Workshop:
Telling Your Family Story with Susan Walker

Have you been researching your family tree or thinking about starting out on that journey? The inspiration of TV’s Who Do You Think You Are plus access to genealogy records online means that many of us have been tracing our ancestors through the ages, and you may even have got as far as having amassed piles of census records and certificates. Amateur genealogist, Susan Walker, will help you add that essential ingredient – telling the family story.

Susan will show you how to bring the past alive through stories expressed through booklets, videos and visual family trees, transforming the information you have gathered into an interesting narrative to be shared with future generations. She will also be covering resources to trace your family, including ways you may not have investigated so far, and will look at how you can also share more recent memories to bring the family story up to date.

You are also invited to bring your own stories – and barriers encountered – to share with this workshop group.

Sponsored by:

In association with
Stratford-upon-Avon Poetry Festival
2 July – 3 August 2014
Join us for our 61st year of celebrating poetry with an exciting programme of inspiring events and special recitals.

- Dylan Thomas, Seamus Heaney, poets of the First World War and Shakespeare recitals
- Inspiring local poets’ evenings • Fun children’s activities • Free poetry events and workshops
- Readings from our poet in residence, Jo Bell.

Tickets go on sale from 23 April 2014.
For more information visit www.shakespeare.org.uk  Registered Charity Number 209302
Wednesday, 30th April
Stratford Artshouse
4.30pm £8 inc. tea and cake

The Book:
What’s The Next Chapter?

With online bookshops, ebooks and e-readers, our perception of the book and the bookshop has changed beyond measure and forever. Whilst reading has become cheaper and easier for the readers, getting books published, marketed and put in front of the public has become an enormous challenge for authors and publishers, who are still rethinking traditional publishing routes and methods. So where does that leave the writer, the publisher and the reader.

Journalist, Sam Jordison, is the author of Sod That: 103 Things Not to Do Before You Die and co-editor of Crap Towns. He writes about books for The Guardian.

Tim Davies has many years of experience in publishing and is director of The History Press. He is also founder of the self-publishing company Swift.

Wednesday, 30th April
Stratford Artshouse
6pm £12

Chris Beardshaw
100 Plants That Almost Changed The World

Chris is one of the best known faces and voices in the gardening world. Since childhood, he has immersed himself in a love of plants which has led to a life long career dedicated to horticulture.

He’s a regular presenter of Radio 4’s Gardeners’ Question Time and Chelsea Flower Show Coverage on BBC1, he’s presented many and varied programmes on TV, and this year will be presenting The Great British Garden Revival, In Pursuit of Paradise and DIRT on BBC4.

Chris is also a highly successful garden designer, has worked all over the world and has 9 RHS Golds under his belt. He also has a passion for teaching young people about the importance of the natural world. An inspired speaker, he’ll be talking about his latest book.

From cars made of carrot to tea-smuggling spies via Popeye’s spinach and the hallucinogenic effects of lettuce, 100 Plants that Almost Changed the World takes us on a journey through history’s most fascinating plants, flowers, vegetables and herbs.
Founded in 1907, Sheldon Bosley has over a century of property experience in the South Midlands. Our fully qualified Chartered Surveyors have been surveying and valuing properties for over 175 years between them. With such a wealth of knowledge and expertise you can be assured our professional opinion is the one to trust.

Stratford upon Avon Tel: 01789 292310
Shipston-on-Stour Tel: 01608 661666
www.sheldonbosley.co.uk
Wednesday, 30th April
Bear Pit Theatre
6.30pm £10

Jon Canter
A ‘Liff’ of Comedy

Jon is one of the leading comedy writers in the country and is arguably the finest comic novelist working in Britain today.

During his career, he has written for such comedians and comic actors as Rowan Atkinson, Dawn French, Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie, Lenny Henry, Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones, Richard Wilson and Arabella Weir. After studying law at Cambridge, where he was President of Footlights, he became a copywriter (writing radio commercials for Peter Cook) and was a housemate of Douglas Adams, before becoming a TV and radio scriptwriter.

He wrote the screenplay for the film The Full Monty, writes comment pieces for The Guardian and is an accomplished novelist. His first novel, Seeds of Greatness, was published in 2006 and was a Radio 4 Book at Bedtime. His second novel, A Short Gentleman, was dramatised on Radio 4 in 2012, with Hugh Bonneville playing the central character, Robert Purcell QC. His third novel, Worth, came out in 2011. He co-authored Afterliff with John Lloyd CBE.

Wednesday, 30th April
Stratford Artshouse
7.45pm £12

Frank Gardner
Blood and Sand

Frank Gardner is the BBC’s Security Correspondent, and a remarkable journalist who not only covers some of the world’s most violent theatres of war reporting on events from Afghanistan to piracy off the Somali coast, but does so having been shot six times at point blank range by an Islamist gunman in 2004.

His work takes him all over the world, especially the Middle East, an area on which he is an expert. But the travel bug bit him early - something he describes as ‘the deep-down instinctive quickening of the pulse as you arrive in a new country and breathe its air for the first time’.

He was awarded the OBE in 2005 and won the prestigious El Mundo Prize for his services to journalism, and not even the catastrophic shooting in Saudi has managed to dim his love of travelling and discovery. He’ll be talking about an extraordinary career, his books Far Horizons and Blood and Sand, and how no longer having the use of his legs hasn’t quashed the desire to find those horizons.

What’s Your One for The Road?

Journeys is this year’s Festival theme so we’re asking: if you could only squeeze one novel into your suitcase, what would it be?

Go to www.onefortheroad.org.uk and let us know.

Results will be announced during the Festival.
She’s inheriting a love of books you hope will last a lifetime

We can ensure her other legacies last even longer

Independently ranked by Legal 500 as a top tier Private Client team, at Lodders we offer clear, practical and cost effective advice on all aspects of wills, trusts, inheritance tax planning and care and capacity. This tailored service will support your family and protect your wealth, ensuring you leave much more than shared passions and precious memories to those you care about most.

Stratford upon Avon office 01789 293259
Henley in Arden office 01564 792261
Cheltenham 01242 228370

www.lodders.co.uk @LoddersLawyers
Thursday, 1st May
Stratford Artshouse
10am - 3pm  £30

Write On Workshop:
How to Write Crime with
Louise Welsh

Do you have a spine-chilling plot in your head, but just can't get it down on paper? Crime fiction is probably the most popular genre and, written well, thrills the imagination more than crime films or TV thrillers. But just how easy is it to write?

Louise Welsh, who we welcome back to the Festival, is well qualified to guide you through the process from the initial plot idea to the refined story. She’ll show you what plot devices work and how to sustain the tension.

Louise is an accomplished, award-winning writer and the author of six novels: The Cutting Room, Tamburlaine Must Die, The Bullet Trick, Naming the Bones and The Girl on the Stairs. Her latest, A Lovely Way to Burn, is just published. She has won the Crime Writers’ Association John Creasey Memorial Dagger, the BBC’s Underground Award and was chosen by The Guardian as one of Britain’s Best First Novelists. She’s also produced many short stories and articles and written for radio and the stage including a libretto for opera. Louise was writer in residence for The University of Glasgow and Glasgow School of Art.

Thursday, 1st May
Stratford Artshouse
10am - 3pm  £30

Write On Workshop:
The Blank Screen -
Productivity for Creative Writers with William Gallagher

This workshop gets to the nitty gritty: how to make the very most from your limited writing time, how to find out when you work best - and when you really don’t - and how to remove most distractions and minimise all of them. Learn how to get started when it’s the last thing you want to do. Turn email back into a useful tool, make phone calls a little easier and a lot more useful. See how to stay creative yet become the writer everyone turns to because you always deliver and you never forget anything.

William Gallagher is a writer, dramatist and lecturer. He writes Doctor Who audio dramas, stage plays and has an extensive journalism experience. William is also the author of the British Film Institute book BFI TV Classics: The Beiderbecke Affair, B7 Media’s Blake’s 7: The Ultimate Guide and co-author of Radio Times Cover Story. His work has appeared regularly in Radio Times magazine and BBC News Online plus The Independent, the Los Angeles Times and on BBC local and national radio. He is also a performer on the spoken-word cabaret circuit in Birmingham and teaches writing in schools and prisons.

In association with
Thursday, 1st May  
Shakespeare Centre 
3.30pm £3 inc. tea and cake

Festival Book Group:  
Phil Hogan  
A Pleasure and A Calling

A unique opportunity to discover the work of an author then to talk about the book with the author himself.

This year’s Book Club choice is Phil Hogan’s A Pleasure and a Calling, a chilling story of a small town estate agent.

You won’t remember Mr Heming. He showed you round your comfortable home, suggested a sustainable financial package, negotiated a price with the owner and called you with the good news. The less good news is that, all these years later, he still has the key. That’s absurd, you laugh. Of all the many hundreds of houses he has sold, why would he still have the key to mine? The answer to that is, he has the keys to them all. William Heming’s every pleasure is in his leafy community. He loves and knows every inch of it, feels nurtured by it, and would defend it - perhaps not with his life but if it came to it, with yours.

Read the book in your Book Group then come along and meet Phil Hogan. Phil is a staff writer and TV critic at The Observer. He has written four novels.

Thursday, 1st May  
Shakespeare Centre 
5.00pm £8 inc. tea and cake

The Inside Secrets to Getting Published

There have never been so many routes to getting your writing published and read by the world as there are in these days of self-publishing and the internet. But the traditional route of editor and mainstream publisher is as important to the creation of great books as ever. Our panel will give you ideas about getting that manuscript right, read by key people and a reasonable chance of hitting the bookshops.

Susanna Wadeson is a senior editor at Transworld, a subsidiary of Random House, and has many years of experience in machinations of the publishing world. She is behind the success of...

Rachel Joyce, whose debut novel, The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry, was an international best-seller and won the UK National Book Award for New Writer of The Year.

Phil Hogan is a staff writer and TV critic for The Observer and has written four novels and a collection of his columns. His latest novel, A Pleasure and A Calling (see left), has just been published.

Event courtesy of Transworld.

Contact the Festival on 01789 470185 to buy Phil’s book for your Book Group at a discount.
Thursday, 1st May
Shakespeare Centre
5.45pm £10

Women of Crime:
Val McDermid and Louise Welsh

Never mind being ladylike or faint hearted. Women write some of the darkest and cleverest crime fiction. Not least Val McDermid and Louise Welsh, who will be sharing with chair Michael Odell how they weave their plots to keep their readers so gripped.

Val McDermid is one of the best-selling crime writers in the UK. She grew up in Scotland and read English at Oxford (the first undergraduate from a Scottish state school to do so). She has been a journalist and playwright, and published her first crime novel in 1984. She has since written over 30 novels including the Dr Tony Hill series.

Louise Welsh is an accomplished, award-winning writer and the author of six novels: The Cutting Room, Tamburlaine Must Die, The Bullet Trick, Naming the Bones and The Girl on the Stairs. Her latest, A Lovely Way to Burn is just published. She has won the Crime Writers’ Association John Creasey Memorial Dagger, the BBC’s Underground Award and was chosen by The Guardian as one of Britain’s Best First Novelists. She’s also produced many short stories and articles and written for radio and the stage including a libretto for opera.

Thursday, 1st May
Stratford Artshouse
7pm £12

The Big Issue Lecture:
Clive Stafford Smith -
The Injustice of the American Justice System

On 16 October 1986, two murders took place in a hotel room in downtown Miami. The victims were father and son, Derrick and Duane Moo Young. One year later, Kris Maharaj, a British man, was convicted for their murders and sentenced to death (later commuted to life in prison).

The initial case against Maharaj was strong and there was an eye witness. Except the eyewitness lied; Maharaj had an alibi - he was 30 miles away; the original judge was arrested three days into the trial for taking bribes; and the victims were actually money launderers for the Colombian drug cartels. In short, Maharaj was innocent.

Now 75, Maharaj waits in prison whilst his lawyers - led by Clive Stafford Smith - work to have him freed and the defence arguments are powerful. And yet the American justice system is almost designed to ignore Kris’ innocence and the prosecutors oppose Stafford Smith’s efforts at every turn. Maharaj’s petition, they argue, used the wrong font.

Clive Stafford Smith OBE is a world renowned lawyer specialising in defending people accused of the most serious crimes and is Founder and Director of legal action charity Reprieve. He has represented over 300 prisoners on the Death Rows of the southern US and secured the release of 65 detainees from Guantanamo Bay. Amongst other awards, he has received the Gandhi Peace Award.
Discover England through Classic Lodges

From Northumberland to the Devon countryside, take your pick from 15 Classic Lodge Hotels and Partner Hotels dotted throughout England. Choose Edwardian elegance or Cotswold manor house, town centre convenience or baronial splendour in acres of secluded grounds, with each property surrounded by beautiful locations to explore.

Reservations number: 08456 038892

Classic Lodge Hotels
For wherever your travels take you
www.classiclodges.co.uk
Thursday, 1st May
Shakespeare Centre
7.30pm £10

Reinventing Jane Austen: Val McDermid and Jo Baker

Just to prove that the themes of Jane Austen’s great novels are as relevant today as ever, the crime novelist Val McDermid is the latest best-selling author to write a 21st century Austen update - this time Northanger Abbey, the second book in the HarperFiction’s Austen Project.

The original book follows a young Catherine Morland, who goes to stay with General Tilney and his children at Northanger Abbey, where she imagines some gruesome things. McDermid’s version opens with heroine Catherine at a Scottish Book Festival and moves to a gothic mansion in the Scottish borders.

She’ll be joined by debut author Jo Baker, whose excellent novel, Longbourn, is the downstairs story of Pride and Prejudice and runs parallel with Austen’s famous plot.

With chair, Deirdre Shields, they’ll be discussing the challenges and joys of re-working one of the greatest writers in English literature.

Friday, 2nd May
Stratford Artshouse
2-3pm £15

Write On Workshop: Poetry with Simon Armitage

Simon Armitage CBE is one of the UK’s most celebrated and accomplished poets and, since his first collection of poetry was published in 1989, he has established himself as a giant amongst his peers and has won or been shortlisted for all the major poetry prizes.

He was the Millennium Poet in 1999, is Vice President of the Poetry Society, is a novelist and has written for radio, TV and film, as well as stage plays and libretto. In 2010, for services to poetry, Armitage was awarded the CBE.

Few poets are as prolific and as qualified to help those who write or yearn to write poetry and, in an intensive hour, Simon will guide you through the processes of getting your inspiration into shape and on to paper.

In association with
Friday, 2nd May
Stratford Artshouse
4pm £8

Poetry Reading:
Jean Binta Breeze

Jean ‘Binta’ Breeze MBE is an internationally renowned Jamaican poet and playwright, well known for her mastery of the ‘dub’ art form. Her words carry powerful political and personal messages, and she is the author of many poetry collections most recently Third World Girl, which combines writing from previous collections and new poems. Her former awards include a NESTA and a Writing Fellowship at the University of Leicester.

Now based in Jamaica, she is touring the UK, including events marking International Women.

In 2013 she was awarded an MBE for Services to Literature.

Friday, 2nd May
Stratford Artshouse
6pm £10

Poetry Reading:
Simon Armitage

Simon Armitage CBE is one of the UK’s most celebrated and accomplished poets and, since his first collection of poetry was published in 1989, he has established himself as a giant amongst his peers and has won or been shortlisted for all the major poetry prizes. He was the Millennium Poet in 1999, is Vice President of the Poetry Society, is a novelist and has written for radio, TV and film, as well as stage plays and libretto. Armitage’s 2012 non fiction book Walking Home, an account of his troubadour journey along the Pennine Way, was a Sunday Times best-seller for over a month and was shortlisted for the 2012 Portico Prize. In 2010, he was awarded the CBE for services to poetry.

Simon will be reading from his wide collection of poems, as well as those from his latest book: The Last Days of Troy, a retelling of The Iliad, a vivid new dramatic adaptation that is published to coincide with the Royal Exchange’s stage performance this spring.

2014
Creative Writing Competition
Write a Poem or Short Story with the title ‘Journeys’

Go to www.stratfordliteraryfestival.co.uk for full details. Book of The Winning Stories on sale at Waterstones Stratford.
The Real Jeeves: Brian Halford and Jim Troughton

Local author, Brian Halford’s, latest book tells the real life story of the former England and Warwickshire cricketer Percy Jeeves, the inspiration for PG Wodehouse’s famous butler. But as Jeeves the butler smoothed the dramas of Bertie Wooster, the Real Jeeves was contracting trench foot in the deadly mudbath of Arras in WW1.

A fan of cricket, Wodehouse explained more than 50 years later: ‘I suppose Jeeves’s bowling must have impressed me, for I remembered him in 1916 when I was in New York and starting the Jeeves and Bertie saga, and it was just the name I wanted. I remember admiring his action very much.’

Brian Halford and Warwickshire cricket captain, Jim Troughton, will talk about the fascinating and tragic story of a young cricketer whose glorious life was snuffed out, but whose name will live forever.

‘This true-life story is as memorable - and surely more poignant - than any of [P G Wodehouse’s] much-loved creations.’ Simon Briggs, The Telegraph

Scandimania - Our Love Affair with Nordic Storytelling

From The Killing to The Bridge, Stieg Larsson to Jo Nesbø, we have an unquenchable thirst for Scandinavian drama and writing over recent years. But the culture of storytelling is part of the fabric of this part of the world. Danish novelists, Elsebeth Egholm and Lene Kaaberbol will be talking about this phenomenon and exploring the culture of legend and epic tales.

Elsebeth Egholm’s first novel, The Free Women’s Club, was a best-seller and in 2002 she introduced Dicte Svendsen, an investigative reporter from Aarhus and the protagonist in seven crime novels so far. The Dicte Svendsen books were adapted for a TV-series in 2012 with a second season ready for Autumn 2014.

Lene Kaaberbol published two novels when aged 15, inspired by JRR Tolkien and her more recent fantasy novels for young adults have found success. In 2008 Lene published the first volume of the Nina Borg series of adult crime novels and The Boy in The Suitcase was awarded the prestigious Harald Mogensen Award for Best Danish Crime Novel and was a New York Times bestseller in 2012.

This event is supported by The Danish Cultural Institute.
Friday, 2nd May
Stratford Artshouse
7.15pm £10

Gerald Seymour
Thrillers in His Blood

Gerald Seymour is the international best-selling author who came to fiction after spending 15 years as an international television news reporter with ITN, covering Vietnam and the Middle East, and specialising in the subject of terrorism across the world. Seymour was on the streets of Londonderry on the afternoon of Bloody Sunday, covered the Great Train Robbery and was a witness to the massacre of Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics.

His first novel was the acclaimed thriller Harry’s Game, set in Belfast, and he has since written 29 novels, including The Glory Boys and The Contract, of which six have been filmed for television in the UK and US and most recently A Deniable Death has been optioned for an ITV Drama.

In a rare festival appearance, he’ll be talking about his latest thriller, The Corporal’s Wife, set in the dust of Iran, the offices of Whitehall and the mountains of Austria.

A fresh approach to your financial needs

Providing all the accountancy support and advice you need. Choose from our wide range of services including personal tax, accounts preparation, corporation tax, audit, payroll, VAT and book-keeping

Cooper Adams Ltd, 12 Payton Street, Stratford upon Avon CV37 6UA
Tel 01789 205916 Fax 01789 295615
www.cooperadams.co.uk
Delighted to support the Festival
Friday, 2nd May
Bear Pit Theatre
7.30pm £8

Joanne Harris
The Gospel of Loki

Known to millions for her general fiction, including Chocolat which was made into an Oscar nominated film, Blackberry Wine, Five Quarters of The Orange and Coastliners, Joanne Harris has now written a powerful fantasy novel, using her passion and her life-long obsession with Norse mythology to weave an exciting tale.

Joanne, who reads Old Norse, chose Loki, the seductive trickster god, as her protagonist and she narrates his story from his recruitment by Odin from the realms of Chaos to his fall from grace in the build up to Ragnarok. She has created a compelling re-telling in her distinctive voice, and will share the challenges of this departure from her familiar genre.

Friday, 2nd May
Picture House
7.30pm FREE

Open Mic Poetry Evening

A great opportunity to read your poetry to an interested audience and then listen to the work of other local poets. Join us for a relaxed evening in the bar at The Picture House Cinema and settle back with a drink and an open ear, or take to the mic. No previous experience necessary!

Poets joining us for the evening include Festival favourite David Calcutt, who has published several anthologies and the artist and writer Nadia Kingsley.

Admission free.

What's Your One for The Road?

Journeys is this year’s Festival theme so we’re asking: if you could only squeeze one novel into your suitcase, what would it be?

Go to www.onefortheroad.org.uk and let us know. Results will be announced during the Festival.

Supported by
Emma Bridgewater
Toasting and Marmalade and Other Stories

With her husband, Matthew Rice, Emma Bridgewater founded and runs one of the country’s most successful companies and her distinctive designs - from mugs to tea towels - grace countless homes across the country.

Founded in 1985 when she couldn’t find the right gift for her mother, Emma Bridgewater as a company is one of the largest pottery manufacturers based entirely in the UK, with all of its products made in its factory in the city of Stoke-on-Trent, England, where it is one of the largest employers.

She’ll be talking about how it all began, the challenges of running a business in the UK and riding a recession, and what the future holds for British manufacturing. Her memoir, Toast and Marmalade and Other Stories, combines beautiful photographs of Emma’s life and designs with a collection of warm stories of her family, along with the inspirations for and characters involved in the success of this particularly English brand.

Gaming: The New Storytelling?

What place does computer gaming have at a literary festival? An important one says our panel, who’ll be discussing the surge in gaming as a past-time and how it fits into the culture of storytelling.

Is it a powerful storytelling medium, or is it too contrived, not allowing the gamer to use their imagination?

They’ll also talk about how narrative develops and if we are just at the foothills of the potential games have as a storytelling medium and if there is much more we can achieve.

And finally, they’ll consider where this leaves the traditional book with reading amongst teenagers, and boys especially, becoming less and less appealing.

Helen Lewis is deputy editor of the New Statesman, and has written about video games for The Sunday Times, Observer, New York Times and Financial Times.

Rhianna Pratchett is an award-winning, 15 year veteran of the video games industry, and she has now become one of the most respected writers and narrative designers in her field. She has wrestled the wild beasts of narrative for companies such as Sony, EA, SEGA, 2k Games, Codemasters and Square Enix. Her titles include: Heavenly Sword, Mirror’s Edge, the entire Overlord series and the recently rebooted Tomb Raider.
**Saturday, 3rd May**
**Shakespeare Centre**
7pm £10

**Kirsty Wark**
**The Legacy of Elizabeth Pringle**

Born just before the First World War, Elizabeth Pringle has been a familiar yet solitary figure on the Scottish island of Arran. A dutiful daughter, an inspirational teacher, a gardener. But did anyone really know her? When Elizabeth dies, her will contains a surprise. She has left her home and her belongings to someone who is all but a stranger, a young mother she watched pushing a pram down the road more than 30 years ago.

The Legacy of Elizabeth Pringle is Kirsty Wark’s debut novel.

Kirsty’s better known as a journalist, broadcaster and writer who hosts a variety of BBC programmes including Newsnight, The Review Show and arts documentaries. Her home has always been Scotland and her family’s connection to Arran goes back over many years. She’ll be talking about moving from factual TV to the world of fiction.

--

**Saturday, 3rd May**
**Stratford Artshouse**
7.30pm £12

**Tim Brooke-Taylor**
in conversation with Chris Serle

Tim has been delighting audiences with his gentle, zany humour ever since he rocketed from Cambridge Footlights into West End stardom trading custard pies with John Cleese and one-liners with Bill Oddie in the hugely successful Cambridge Circus revue.

That was just the start of a sparkling career that has included TV’s The Goodies, BBC Radio’s I’m Sorry I’ll Read That Again and I’m Sorry I Haven’t a Clue, as well as countless other TV appearances.

Tim, who was awarded an OBE in 2011, has also appeared in many stage productions and written several humorous books. He’ll be chatting with the broadcast journalist and former That’s Life! co-presenter, Chris Serle, about comedy, how it’s changed in style over the years, and his prolific writing career.
Children’s Book Day
at The Croft School, Alveston Hill, Stratford CV37 7RL
A fantastic day of events for children from 3 to 11 years
Sunday, 4th May

10am
Nicholas Allen (4-7 years)
The award-winning author and illustrator Nicholas Allen has written over 30 books, including the cheeky best-selling titles, The Queen’s Knickers, Father Christmas Needs a Wee, Jesus’ Christmas Party, Cinderella’s Bum, Heaven, and Where Willy Went. Nicholas will be sharing one of his latest books, The Royal Nappy, and inviting the children to design their own nappy for a royal baby.

10am
Paul Cookson (All Ages)
Get ready for some rib-tickling fun in Paul Cookson’s Joke Shop. With poems, songs, rhymes and puns on everything from football and monsters to jumper-knitting grannies and scary teachers, Paul will be inviting you to help him celebrate 25 years as a ukulele-playing performance poet.

10am
Lego fun with Duncan Titchmarsh (8+)
Duncan is the UK’s only professional (and Lego approved) Lego Builder. Watch some inspiring Lego building demonstrations and have fun making your own models.

11.15am
Alison Milford – storytelling (3-5 years)
Alison Milford is a storyteller and author who runs multi-sensory storytelling sessions for young and pre-school children, and who has worked with many students with cerebral palsy. Join her for an interactive storytelling session, combining stories with music, movement and games.

11.15am
Tracey Corderoy (6 and over)
The award-winning author of more than 35 books, including the popular Willow Valley series (latest title, Toffee Apple Night) and the deliciously entertaining, Hubble Bubble: The Glorious Granny Bake-Off, will entertain you with her tales.

11.15am
Chris Bradford – Young Samurai (8+)
Join author Chris Bradford and learn how to be a Young Samurai, witness an authentic Samurai sword display and enjoy an all-punching reading from one of his Young Samurai books.

11.15am
Playbox Theatre (All Ages)
An inspiring session with the acclaimed Playbox Theatre. Create a mini performance, working with professional drama leaders to devise characters and stories in one great session.
12.30pm  
**Nick Sharratt** *(4+)*

Arguably one of the UK’s most prolific illustrators and authors, Nick has illustrated books by top authors including Julia Donaldson, Jeremy Strong and Jacqueline Wilson and his series of books about the lovable Daisy have become a firm family favourite. He’ll tell you how he does it.

12.30pm  
**The Wimpy Kid Show** *(8+)*

The Wimpy Kid Show (8+)

A must for all Diary of a Wimpy Kid fans. Fun activities - including a Draw-Along and a Wimp Wars Quiz - will bring the books to life and introduce a brand new title, Wimpy Kid: Hard Luck. Plus, there’s video clips of Jeff Kinney talking about the books and showing how he draws the Wimpy Kid characters.

1.15pm  
**Lunch Break**

Browse the pop-up Waterstones bookshop, watch Paul Cookson performance poetry and meet the authors as they sign their books.

1.45pm  
**Alison Milford** – storytelling *(3-5 years)*

Alison Milford is a storyteller and author who runs multi-sensory storytelling sessions for young and pre-school children, and who has worked with many students with cerebral palsy. Join her for an interactive storytelling session, combining stories with music, movement and games.

1.45pm  
**Chris Bradford – Bodyguard** *(9+)*

Join Chris on his mission to become a qualified bodyguard, take part in an interactive reading to protect the President’s daughter and test your reaction skills in this lively presentation linked to Chris’ Bodyguard books.

1.45pm  
**Nicholas Allen** *(4-7 years)*

The award-winning author and illustrator Nicholas Allen has written over 30 books, including the cheeky best-selling titles, The Queen’s Knickers, Father Christmas Needs a Wee, Jesus’ Christmas Party, Cinderella’s Bum, Heaven, and Where Willy Went. Nicholas will be sharing one of his latest books, The Royal Nappy, and inviting the children to design their own nappy for a royal baby.

1.45pm  
**Shadow Puppet Workshop** *(6+)*

A unique opportunity to work with stage designer, Judy Reaves, to bring stories alive by making your own shadow puppets. A very popular event at last year’s festival but numbers are limited, so book early!

3.00pm  
**Philip Ardagh and Axel Scheffler** *(6+)*

Festival patron, best-selling author and wearer of enormous beard, Philip Ardagh, teams up with Axel Scheffler, the multi-best-selling illustrator – most famous for The Gruffalo - for a lively and entertaining session on their hilarious series starring The Grunts.

All events: £20 per child
All events: £35 for two children (and £15 per subsequent child)
OR £5 per session
Adults attending events: £3 per session
Café open for refreshments!
Schools Festival

31st March to 4th April

The Festival provides an extensive selection of events and workshops for schools throughout the area.

Authors and illustrators include:

Giles Paley-Philips
Antony Lishak
Lauren Child
Tony Bradman
Geraldine McCaughrean
Linda Newbery
Nigel Hinton
Taffy Thomas
Helen Watts

Ian Billings
Jane Ray
Korky Paul
Julia Golding
Eileen Browne
Alison Milford
Philip Ardagh
Escape Community Art

Our 2014 Creative Writing Workshop is with Nestlé Children’s Book Prize Winner Julia Golding.

Our education programme is supported by Stratford Town Trust.

The Journeys Theme

This year the Festival is exploring the theme of Journeys. We hope you enjoy travelling with us!

Wednesday, 23rd April
The Natural Theatre Company at Birmingham Airport

To coincide with Shakespeare’s 450th birthday.
In association with NFU Mutual.

Friday, 4th April
Journeys - A Play on Memory
(See page 5).

Creative Writing Competition
Poems and short stories on the theme of Journeys, with the winning stories published in a special Festival book.
(See page 25)
This year we’ve linked up with cafés and restaurants in town to offer Festivalgoers special discounts and offers whilst you’re visiting the Festival.

Simply show your ticket - which must be valid for the day of your visit - when you place your order.

**The Fourteas**
24 Sheep Street
Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 6EF
www.thefourteas.co.uk
A free tea/coffee/soft drink per ticket holder

**Church Street Townhouse**
16 Church Street
Stratford upon Avon
CV37 6HB
www.churchstreettownhouse.com
A free glass of bubbly when you dine

**The One Elm**
1 Guild Street,
Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 6QZ
www.oneelmstratford.co.uk
15% off your bill

**McKechnies**
37 Rother Street
Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 6LP
20% off your bill

Terms and conditions may apply. Please ask at your chosen venue.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 4th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Journeys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 10th April</td>
<td>The Lazy Cow</td>
<td>7.30 pm</td>
<td>Literary Pub Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 23rd April</td>
<td>Birmingham Airport</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>The Natural Theatre Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 26th April</td>
<td>Bancroft Gardens</td>
<td>From 11am</td>
<td>Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 26th April</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>David Crystal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 26th April</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>7pm</td>
<td>Gavin Esler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 27th April</td>
<td>Three Ways House Hotel</td>
<td>From 2pm</td>
<td>Residential Creative Writing Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 27th April</td>
<td>The Guildhall, KES</td>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>The Siegfried Sassoon Fellowship Poetry Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 27th April</td>
<td>The Guildhall, KES</td>
<td>4pm</td>
<td>Tim Butcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 27th April</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>5.15pm</td>
<td>Lost We Forget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 27th April</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Sally Magnusson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 27th April</td>
<td>Bear Pit Theatre</td>
<td>5.15pm</td>
<td>Hugh Pym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 27th April</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>7pm</td>
<td>Alan Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 28th April</td>
<td>Menzies Welcombe Hotel</td>
<td>10am - 3pm</td>
<td>Write On: Writing Fiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 28th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>Michael Rosen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 28th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Ray Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 28th April</td>
<td>Bear Pit Theatre</td>
<td>7 to 9.30pm</td>
<td>Salon Journeys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 29th April</td>
<td>Legacy Falcon Hotel</td>
<td>10am - 3pm</td>
<td>Write On: How to write for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 29th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>4.45pm</td>
<td>Simon Stirling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 29th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>WWI and Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 29th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>7.45pm</td>
<td>Baroness Shirley Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 30th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>10am - 3pm</td>
<td>Write On: Write Your family history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 30th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>4.30pm</td>
<td>The Book - What’s the next chapter?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 30th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Chris Beardshaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 30th April</td>
<td>Bear Pit Theatre</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Jon Canter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 30th April</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>7.45pm</td>
<td>Frank Gardner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 1st May</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>10am - 3pm</td>
<td>Write On: How to write crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 1st May</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>10am - 3pm</td>
<td>Write On: The Blank Screen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 1st May</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Festival Book Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 1st May</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>Inside Secrets on Getting Published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 1st May</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>5.45pm</td>
<td>Women of Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 1st May</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>7pm</td>
<td>Big Issue Lecture: Clive Stafford Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 1st May</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Reinventing Jane Austen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 2nd May</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>2-3pm</td>
<td>Write On: Poetry with Simon Armitage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 2nd May</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>4pm</td>
<td>Poetry Reading: Jean Binta Breeze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 2nd May</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Poetry Reading: Simon Armitage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 2nd May</td>
<td>Bear Pit Theatre</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>The Real Jeeves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 2nd May</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Scandimania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 2nd May</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>7.15pm</td>
<td>Gerald Seymour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 2nd May</td>
<td>Bear Pit Theatre</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Joanna Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 2nd May</td>
<td>Picture House</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Open Mic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 3rd May</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>Emma Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 3rd May</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Gaming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 3rd May</td>
<td>Shakespeare Centre</td>
<td>7pm</td>
<td>Kirsty Wark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 3rd May</td>
<td>Stratford Artshouse</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Tim Brooke Taylor with Chris Serle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 4th May</td>
<td>The Croft School</td>
<td>11-5pm</td>
<td>Children’s Book Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
» Disabled access: please check with the Box Office for each event.
» All seats are unreserved unless stated otherwise.
» Children under 14 years must be accompanied by an adult (over 18 years of age). We cannot accept responsibility for unaccompanied children. Children over 14 may attend alone but must be delivered and collected by a responsible adult. For adults attending the Children’s Book Day on 4th May there will be refreshments available all day.
» Concessions of £1 are offered to those 16 and under and those 60 and over unless stated.

We reserve the right to alter the programme or substitute performers if circumstances dictate. Go to www.stratfordartshouse.co.uk for the most up-to-date information.

» Tickets are non-refundable and cannot be exchanged.
» All events are an hour long unless otherwise stated. Events with an interval are two 45 minute halves.
» All details and prices are correct at time of going to press.
» There will be a collection for The Shakespeare Hospice at some of our events.
Your FREE copy of THE WEEK magazine
courtesy of the Stratford Literary Festival

You may well have heard about The Week, but if you’ve never seen the magazine, why not allow us to send you a copy absolutely FREE?

The Week is a joy to read, distilling the best of British and international media into a succinct digest. It will keep you entertained as well as informed. See for yourself how you can stay up to date with the most important stories, views and opinions in news and politics from the past 7 days, including a review of the arts and the most interesting insights on the latest books and plays.

Time is precious. If you’ve found yourself getting swamped by information overload, it’s time you tried The Week. Once you start reading the magazine, you’ll wonder how you ever managed without it.

Call freephone 0808 1783 970 to request your FREE copy and quote ‘Stratford Literary Festival’.

Call freephone 0808 1783 970 for your FREE copy, quoting Stratford Literary Festival

Freephone is only from landlines. Charges vary dependent on mobile provider.