



Stratford-upon-Avon Literary Festival

in association with **THE WEEK**

Jacqueline Wilson
Alastair Campbell
Paul Merton
Simon Russell Beale
Harriet Walter
Nick Butterworth
Hugo Rifkind
Antonia Fraser
Christina Lamb
Alexander McCall Smith
Chris Riddell
Richard Davenport Hines
Helen Lederer
Jessie Burton
Douglas Hurd
David & Ben Crystal
and many more...



Box Office: **01789 207100**

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www.stratfordartshouse.co.uk

The Stratford-upon-Avon Literary Festival

25th April to 3rd May 2015 www.stratlitfest.co.uk



PLUS: Writing Competition | Song for Stratford | Book Group

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Welcome to the 2015 Festival



The theme of this year's Festival is My Voice – one that resonates through all the events in our programme

We bring you a wonderfully varied selection this year, which we hope includes something for everyone to enjoy. It would be churlish to ignore the up-coming general election so we've a smattering of politics in the mix – some reflective, some subversive – and for the first time at the Festival, we're bringing together that perfect blend: music and words. The programme includes four Dames, two Lords, and some exciting and award-winning fiction.

Our thanks as ever to our media partner The Week, to Guardian Masterclass, our new addition for 2015, to Stratford Town Trust who has so generously supported our community and schools project, and to all our other partners who have made the Festival possible.

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.



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and on Facebook



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

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Thursday, 16th April

Alveston Manor Hotel,

Clopton Bridge 7.30pm £15*

Lit Fest Quiz in aid of The Shakespeare Hospice



Following on from last year's bare knuckle fight, we're inviting you to pit your wits once again in aid of a great cause. Gather your team (maximum 6 people per team) and pool your literary general knowledge with the chance to win great prizes as we ask you to identify books,

films of books and actors who acted in the film of the book. Now play nicely!

Prizes include Picture House Membership, Afternoon Tea for Two at HR Cafe and Ivor Novello Tea for Two at The Fourteas.

Many thanks to Alveston Manor Hotel for hosting this event. Bar available.

***inc. burger and chips (or veggie option)**

For tickets please call 01789 470185

In aid of:



Saturday, 25th April

Stratford Artshouse

4.45pm £8

What the **** is Normal? Francesca Martinez



Francesca is a brilliant, award-winning comedian who just happens to have cerebral palsy. She will be talking about her book, *What The **** is Normal*, a warm, funny coming-of-age memoir about her refusal to be pigeon holed as disabled - she describes

herself as 'just wobbly' - and her inspiring determination to succeed as a comic a career.

She has had many sell-out runs at the Edinburgh Festival and internationally, including the Melbourne Comedy Festival, the Adelaide Fringe Festival, the Perth Festival, and the Just For Laughs Festival in Montreal. In 2013 she completed a 68-date UK tour and has had off-West End London runs at the Tricycle Theatre (twice), the Hackney Empire, and the Soho Theatre. She has challenged the government in a number of TV interviews, including on Newsnight and This Week. In April 2014, she was named as one of Britain's most influential women in the BBC Woman's Hour power list 2014.

'A cheerful optimistic, belly-laugh broadside at prejudice and a wonderful testament to the power of "being funny". I love Francesca Martinez.'
Steve Coogan

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Saturday, 25th April

Stratford Artshouse

6.00pm £8

The Story of Alice Robert Douglas-Fairhurst



Following his acclaimed life of Dickens, **Robert Douglas-Fairhurst** illuminates the tangled history of two lives and two books. Drawing on numerous unpublished sources, he examines in detail the peculiar friendship between the Oxford mathematician Charles Dodgson

(Lewis Carroll) and Alice Liddell, the child for whom he invented the Alice stories, and analyses how this relationship stirred Carroll's imagination and influenced the creation of *Wonderland*. It also explains why *Alice in Wonderland* (1865) and its sequel, *Through the Looking-Glass* (1871), took on an unstoppable cultural momentum in the Victorian era and why, a century and a half later, they continue to enthral and delight readers of all ages.

Robert Douglas-Fairhurst is a biographer and critic who is a Fellow and Tutor in English at Magdalen College, Oxford. He is the author of *Becoming Dickens* (Harvard UP, 2011), which was awarded the 2011 Duff Cooper Prize, and *Victorian Afterlives* (OUP, 2002), and has also produced editions of Dickens's Christmas stories, Henry Mayhew's *London Labour and the London Poor*, and Charles Kingsley's *The Water-Babies* for Oxford World's Classics. He writes regularly for publications including the *Daily Telegraph*, *Guardian*, *TLS*, *Art Newspaper* and *New Statesman*. Radio and television appearances include *Start the Week* and *The Culture Show*, and he has also acted as the historical consultant on BBC productions of *Jane Eyre*, *Emma* and *Great Expectations*.

Saturday, 25th April

Stratford Artshouse

7.30pm £17

Rêverie - Debussy's Diaries Lucy Parham and Simon Russell Beale CBE



© BBC Music Magazine

Written to celebrate the life of Claude Debussy, *Rêverie* is a biographical programme of the composer's words and music compiled and scripted by pianist Lucy Parham.

The narrative of *Rêverie*, which takes the form of a personal journal, follows him from his initial success with the Prix de Rome in 1885 to his untimely death in 1918, punctuated with solo piano works ranging from the ever-popular lyricism of *Clair de Lune*, *Rêverie* and *The Girl with the Flaxen Hair* to such virtuosic showpieces as *Jardins Sous La Pluie*, the *Etudes* and *L'Isle Joyeuse*.

Lucy Parham is a Professor at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She first came to public attention as the Piano Winner of the 1984 BBC TV Young Musician of the Year, and she has since appeared regularly at all the major concert venues in London and around the UK. She is a regular contributor to *The Guardian* and appears frequently as a broadcast presenter and guest on BBC Radio 3 and 4.

Simon Russell Beale CBE is one of the most critically acclaimed talents in British theatre, and a multi award-winning actor. He made his name at the RSC in the 1980s. Since 1995 he has been a regular player at the National Theatre, a BBC radio and television actor and presenter. He has won two Laurence Olivier and BAFTA awards.

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Sunday, 26th April
Stratford Artshouse
2.30pm £8

The Brothers McLeod Animation



BAFTA winning animation duo The Brothers McLeod will give you an insight into their creative process. Showing some of their innovative shorts and talking about how they develop an idea and bring it to the screen.

The McLeod brothers are a Stratford-based animation and writing team who describe themselves like this: 'We write, we draw, we make animations... mainly because it's fun and we like doing it, which is a really good reason to do anything.' They have won BAFTAs and Webbs for their work and have produced animations for Hit, Entertainment One, Disney, BBC, ITV, Channel 4, Aardman, Royal Shakespeare Company and many more.

This event is ideal for anyone aged 8+.

Sunday, 26th April
Stratford Artshouse
3.45pm FREE

The Brothers McLeod Dog Portraits

Bring along your pooch and Greg will do a free on-the-spot portrait for you. Well-behaved (and house trained) dogs welcome!



Sunday, 26th April
Stratford Artshouse
5.15pm £8

The Women's Institute 100 Years of Inspiring Women



Originally established to encourage country women to get involved in growing and preserving food to help increase the supply of food in a war torn nation, it now has many thousands of members who spend over 3.5 million hours each year in voluntary work and has championed causes from sustainable development to organ donation. The movement inspired the first naked calendar and the annual conference famously slow hand clapped prime minister Tony Blair. Our panel asks if the WI has been a force for change for and by women, or is it stuck in a jam-making mentality that will lose support from the next generation?



© Richard James

Paddy Greene plays Jill Archer in the Archers and is a famous member of the WI – though not in real life.

A former nurse and relationship counsellor, **Janice Langley** is the WI Chair.

Jane Robinson is the author of *A Force To Be Reckoned With – A History of the Women's Institute* and is an expert on its development.



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Sunday, 26th April
Stratford Artshouse
6.30pm £8

Losing It Helen Lederer



© Andy Hillingworth

Helen Lederer is a comedian and comedy writer known for her unique observational humour, and has performed extensively with Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders (especially as the dippy Catriona in *Ab Fab*), Ben Elton and the late Rik Mayall.

She has written extensively for newspapers and magazines (she's currently agony aunt for *Woman's Weekly*) and has worked in theatre and TV. *Losing It* is her first foray into fiction, and concerns Millie – coincidentally a magazine agony aunt – in debt, divorced and about to lose her house, who resorts to desperate measures.

'Desperately funny, desperately engaging, desperately readable and desperately adorable.' Stephen Fry

Sunday, 26th April
Stratford Artshouse
6.45pm £8

I Never Promised You A Rose Garden John Crace



(An Insider's Guide to Modern Politics, the Coalition and the General Election)
Election overload? Here's a refreshing change from all the campaigning and promises. John is *The Guardian's* parliamentary sketch writer and author of the *Digested Read*.

Packed full of his usual wit, his latest book has been labelled the only must-read book about modern politics and our imminent general election – whatever side you are on. Look out Dave, Ed, Nick and Nigel...

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Stratford Literary Festival



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Do You Love To Read?

Books with Friends is a free, friendly, informal book group that meets in Stratford once a month. Come and join us for a chat over a cup of tea about a good read chosen by the group.

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Call us on **01789 470185** if you'd like to join us for details of Books With Friends meetings.

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We can loan audio books and listening devices free of charge if you need them.

Can't get to a book group in person?

We hold a monthly group which you can join from your phone at home. Ask us for details.

Sunday, 26th April
Stratford Artshouse
8.00pm £17

The Waste Land Dame Harriet Walter with Orchestra of the Swan Quartet



We mark 50 years since the death of TS Eliot with a reading of what many believe to be one of the most important poems of the 20th century, accompanied by the haunting Quartet for the End of Time by Messiaen.

Dame Harriet Walter is one of the country's most respected

actresses. She has worked extensively in theatre, television, film and radio and is appearing at the RSC in *Death of a Salesman*. Her many roles with the RSC, where she is an Associate Artist, include Cleopatra in *Antony and Cleopatra*, Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Lady Macbeth opposite Anthony Sher, Brutus in *Julius Caesar* and Henry in *Henry IV*. She won the Evening Standard Award for her role as Elizabeth in Phyllida Lloyd's production of Schiller's *Mary Stuart* and a Tony nomination on Broadway in 2009. Her best known TV roles include Harriet Vane in *Lord Peter Wimsey* series, *Law and Order UK* and *Downton Abbey*, and her numerous film credits include *Young Victoria*, *Atonement*, *Babel*, *Bright Young Things*, *Sense and Sensibility* and *Louis Malle's Milou et Mai*.

Orchestra of the Swan is based in Stratford and is Associate Orchestra at Town Hall Birmingham. It performs all over the UK and Associate Artists include Tasmin Little, Julian Lloyd Webber, Benjamin Grosvenor and Tamsin Waley-Cohen. OOTS received the prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society 'Composer in the House' award and has recorded extensively.

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Monday, 27th April
Stratford Artshouse
9.30-11.30am Free

Storytime and Activities



Come along for storytelling, colouring and activities for pre-schoolers. Let them play while you enjoy a cup of coffee in the Baillie Gifford Festival Hub Café.

Monday, 27th April
Stratford Artshouse
4.45pm Free

Discover New Writers Bardstown Writers Group



Bardstown Writers was formed almost four years ago, specifically to support writers working towards publication. With a steady growth in membership, it has produced its first anthology, *Shards from the Bards: A Bardstown Writers' Collection* - an eclectic collection

of short stories, articles and poems, much of it with a local theme. Come and hear some of the work of this Stratford-based group of writers and join in the discussion about today's challenging book market.

Monday, 27th April
Stratford Artshouse
5.00pm £10

A Life in Politics Lord William Waldegrave and Lord Douglas Hurd



© Raphael Levy

What is it about politics that has an irresistible draw? Two of Westminster's most experienced grandees chat about what lured them into the cut and thrust of debate and argument, ask what drives political ambition, and give their own expert thoughts on the likely outcome of the general election.



Douglas Hurd retired as Foreign Secretary in 1995 after a distinguished career in government spanning 16 years, holding many cabinet posts including Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and Home Secretary. He has written several novels, as well as biographies of other great politicians including Peel and Disraeli.

As an fearless young Conservative politician in the seventies and eighties, one who witnessed the fall of Heath and the triumph and eventual decline of Thatcher, **William Waldegrave** was firmly at the heart of one of the most exciting and tumultuous periods of modern British history. However just as his star was in the ascent, Waldegrave became embroiled in a scandal which tarnished his reputation, but could not dampen his voracious enthusiasm for the political game. One of the most fiercely intellectual governmental figures of the modern age, he gives an unembroidered account of the narcotic effect of politics in his much anticipated autobiography, *A Different Kind of Weather*.

Monday, 27th April
Stratford Artshouse
5.15pm £8

Teenagers: How To Survive Them Chloe Combi and David Bainbridge



© David & Michelle Bainbridge

You love them and despair of them in equal measure – but would it help to understand them better?

Chloe Combi, former teacher and TES columnist, is consultant on youth issues to the Mayor of London and author of *Generation Z Their Voices Their Lives* – a shocking, illuminating, heart-breaking and hilarious look at today's teenagers in their own words. She finds they are selfish, violent, scared, sex obsessed and apathetic, but that they are also delightful, curious, kind and worried about the world they live in.



David Bainbridge, Cambridge University veterinary anatomist, is the author of *Teenagers A Natural History* and argues that the second decade is the most important in the human lifecycle, and looks at the phenomenon of teenage years through a scientific lens seeing it as a key evolutionary factor in the success of the species. His latest book, *Curvology*, is a zoological account of female body shape from our ancestral past to our surgically-enhanced future.

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Monday, 27th April
Stratford Artshouse
6.00pm £8

Writing Wartime Britain Lissa Evans and Anna Hope



© Anna's: Jonathan Greet



Some astonishingly good wartime fiction has been published over the last 12 months to mark not only the centenary of the Great War, but about the Second World War too. We are pleased to bring together two authors whose work is amongst the best and looks at war from an unexpected perspective.

Lissa Evans is the author of three previous novels and her fourth, *Crooked Heart*, is a charming story of an unusual and moving relationship between a young boy left alone in Blitzed London, and Vera, desperate and drowning in debts, who uses the boy in her unscrupulous

and opportunistic money-making scheme.

Anna Hope's debut novel, *Wake*, was been described by the Irish Times as 'beautifully crafted'. It is set against the journey home of the Unknown Soldier from the battlefields of Northern France to the Cenotaph, and explores the grief of three women overcoming loss in their own way.

Lissa Evan's *Crooked Heart* is the Festival Read for 2015.

Monday, 27th April
Stratford Artshouse
6.30pm £8

Will Hutton How Good Can We Be?



(Ending the Mercenary Society and Building a Great Country) Britain is beset by a crisis of purpose. For a generation we have been told the route to universal well-being is to abandon the expense of justice and equity and so allow the judgments of the market to go

unobstructed. What has been created is not an innovative, productive economy but instead a capitalism that extracts value rather than creates it, massive inequality, shrinking opportunity and a society organised to benefit the top 1%. So says former Editor in Chief of The Observer, Will Hutton, and offers some compelling solutions to the nation's ills.

Will Hutton is a political economist who writes a weekly column in The Guardian. He is principal of Hertford College, Oxford, and chair of the Big Innovation Centre.

'Policymakers are searching for a big idea to wake the economy from its slumber, to shake it from its stagnation. We are in luck. Will Hutton has found one.' Andy Haldane, Chief Economist of the Bank of England.

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Monday, 27th April

Stratford Artshouse

8.00pm £12

Alastair Campbell Winners and How They Succeed



Alastair Campbell is the outspoken former Labour media strategist and Tony Blair's director of communications. He has written widely on the Blair years and his own battle with depression and has now taken on a new study of human psychology.

In his latest book, he talks about the behaviours and mindsets common to top politicians, sportsmen and entrepreneurs, drawing on his own experiences and a wealth of interviews with outstanding achievers. What does it take to make people winners and can we all learn from them?

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Tuesday, 28th April

Stratford Artshouse

9.30am-11.30am Free

Storytime and Activities Story Vine



What would happen if all the animals in the zoo got poorly at once? Will the butterfly make it to the ball in time? Have you ever seen a cat as vain as Bella?

Or how did a slug help Farley the fox find a place for his birthday party? All these questions and more will be

answered at Story Vine's workshop. Come along and enjoy mask-making, colouring and drawing your favourite animals while being whisked away on a fun animal adventure. Suitable for ages 2 to 7. Let them join in while you enjoy a coffee from the Baillie Gifford Festival Hub Café.

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Stratford-upon-Avon
Literary Festival
THIS WEEK



Tuesday, 28th April

Stratford Artshouse

10.00am-3.00pm £99

How To Make Your Ideas Work On The Page Mavis Cheek

theguardian**masterclasses**



Have you ever found yourself staring out of the window, scrolling through social media or cleaning your already-clean house when you had planned to be writing? Every author has been there. Whether you are new to writing or have lost your way through the first draft of a novel,

this confidence-boosting course offers practical guidance on how to stop procrastinating, start writing and keep the momentum going.

Taught by award-winning novelist **Mavis Cheek**, this interactive course comprises talks, discussions and hands-on exercises that will help you kickstart the writing process or recharge your creative batteries.

Go to theguardian.com/guardian-masterclasses/partners/stratford-literary-festival

Tuesday, 28th April

Stratford Artshouse

10.00am-3.00pm £99

How To Write Compelling Crime Fiction Dreda Say Mitchell

theguardian**masterclasses**



© Joseph Kaler

Crime fiction should be as fun to write as it is to read. If you're struggling to get started on your novel or short story, this course will help you to build your confidence and practical skills. You'll learn how to use plot, character and story to best effect, as well as how to build suspense

and narrative tension. You'll also get involved in fun practical exercises, with plenty of opportunities for positive, solution-based feedback.

Whether you're new to crime writing or have attempted it before, this course offers an essential guide to the key components of the genre. Using her vast reserves of experience and enthusiasm, award-winning author **Dreda Say Mitchell** will cover everything from how to write a great opening to how to create exciting characters.

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Friday 29 May 2015 8.00pm

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Tuesday 10 March 2015 7.30pm

SHOSTAKOVICH
WITH PETER DONOHOE

Friday 5 June 2015 8.00pm

RAPHAEL WALLFISCH PLAYS
JOHN IRELAND

Tuesday 21 April 2015 7.30pm

APRIL SINGS FOR
SPRING AND SUMMER

Friday 12 June 2015 8.00pm

TAMSIN WALEY-COHEN,
CRAIG OGDEN
& SOME SPANISH SUNSHINE

Friday 22 May 2015 8.00pm

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A MEDITATION AND
TAMSIN WALEY-COHEN

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Tuesday, 28th April

Stratford Artshouse

3.00-3.30pm Free

Discover New Writers Michelle Heatley and Glenys Newton



Michelle Heatley's book, *Fish Soup*, was inspired from a short story she entered into a Stratford Literary Festival creative writing competition. **Glenys Newton** is a trained story-teller and her first book, *Home Flown – The Laymamma's Guide to An Empty Nest* – is written from personal experience.



Our Favourite Read

We'll be asking businesses and shops in Stratford to nominate their favourite book.

Look out for there results published during Festival Week.

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Tuesday, 28th April

Stratford Artshouse

4pm £8 First 10 to book will receive
a free proof copy of the novel

Jakob's Colours by Lindsay Hawden



Told in three interlinking stories, this is the superb debut tale of Jakob, an eight year old, half-blood gypsy boy, his Roma father, Yavy, and his English mother, Lor. Set in Austria in 1944, Jakob is running, as his parents have taught him to do. With shoes of sack cloth,

still blood-stained with another's blood, he runs clutching in his dirty hands the only possessions he owns, a small polished stone and a box of coloured treasures. He is alone. He is pale, worn, bewildered and running from the world he has left behind him.

This graceful, agonising and hopeful story, is based on the little known persecution of the gypsy population across Europe, and written by **Lindsay Hawden**, a travel journalist who has visited over sixty countries, writing about the places and the people she has met along the way.



Stratford-upon-Avon
Literary Festival
Book Group

Tuesday, 28th April
Stratford Artshouse
5.30pm £8

The Miniaturist and The Mobile Library Jessie Burton and David Whitehouse

© Jessie's: Wolf Marohn, David's: James Burns



A superb opportunity to meet and discover the work of two of the most exciting authors of 2014.

Jessie Burton's debut *The Miniaturist* was a Sunday Times No 1 Bestseller and was the Waterstones and Specsavers' Book of the Year. On an autumn day in 1686, eighteen-year-old Nella Oortman knocks at the door of a grand house in the wealthiest quarter of Amsterdam. She has come from the country to begin a new life as the wife of illustrious merchant trader Johannes Brandt, who presents her with an extraordinary wedding gift.



David Whitehouse is a newspaper journalist whose first novel, *Bed*, was the winner of the To Hell with Prizes Award. Missing his mother and fearing his father, 12-year-old Bobby Nusku always thought that the kinds of things that happen in books couldn't possibly happen to him. But then he befriends Val and her daughter Rosa, and they find solace and escape in a mobile library. Encountering a mysterious stranger on their journey across the country, they form an unlikely family and experience an adventure to rival those in the books that surround them.

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Tuesday, 28th April
Stratford Artshouse
5.45pm £10

Charlotte Green The News is Read



For 27 years, **Charlotte Green** was one of the most iconic newsreaders on Radio 4. Her rich, velvety voice was a staple on the radio and a treat for millions of listeners. Charlotte joined the BBC in 1978 and became one of the regular readers on the Today programme. Her bulletins have

covered everything from the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 to the 7/7 London bombings in 2005. After leaving Radio 4 in 2013, Charlotte joined Classic FM, where she now presents an arts and culture programme, Charlotte Green's Culture Club.

She'll be talking about her life and highly-entertaining and touching autobiography, giving us the story of the woman behind the voice, some hilarious anecdotes of her career so far, and a peek at the invisible world of radio which floods our lives.

Tuesday, 28th April

Stratford Artshouse

6.00pm £8

The Power of Poetry to Heal **Rachel Kelly, Susanna Howard** **and Jill Fraser**



We all have a piece of literature or poetry that restores us, calms us or inspires us, but these things can work a deeper magic by triggering long lost memories, rebalancing mental health and giving hope where it may have been lost. These three women have experienced the power of words and poetry at first hand



and, in a fascinating discussion, will look at the power of words to heal.

Susanna Howard is a poet who runs Living Words and works with terminally ill patients and dementia patients weaving their words into poetry.



Jill Fraser is the director of Kissing It Better, the charity that works within the NHS brightening up patients' lives through activities, music, drama, and poetry.

Rachel Kelly is a journalist whose book, *Black Rainbow* –

How Words Healed Me, charts the story of her perfect world shattered by the savagery of depression and her recovery from it.



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simple ideas, big impact
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Tuesday, 28th April

Stratford Artshouse

7.30pm £10

Universal Man – The Seven **Lives of John Maynard Keynes** **Richard Davenport-Hines**



© Christopher Phipps

John Maynard Keynes saved Britain from financial crisis twice over the course of two World Wars, and instructed Western industrialised states on how to protect themselves from revolutionary unrest, economic instability, high unemployment and social dissolution. Published

in time to mark the 70th anniversary of the death of John Maynard Keynes, this thematic biography revives our understanding of the 20th Century's most charismatic and revolutionary economist, a man whose ideas continue to influence global finance today.

The acclaimed biographer, **Richard Davenport-Hines** – whose works include the biography of WH Auden - introduces the man behind the economics and explores why his ideas continue to instruct and encourage us 70 years after his death.

'An outstandingly evocative portrait of a hinge moment in our recent history.' Dominic Sandbrook, *Sunday Times*.

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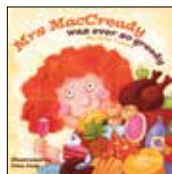


Wednesday, 29th April

Stratford Artshouse

9.30 -11.30am **Free**

Storytime and Activities Julie Fulton



Local children's author, **Julie Fulton**, creator of the rhyming Ever So picture books series, will entertain pre-schoolers with storytelling, colouring and activities from her books. Let them play while you enjoy

a coffee from the Baillie Gifford Festival Hub Café.

Wednesday, 29th April

Stratford Artshouse

10.00am-3.00pm **£99**

How To Write For Children And Young People with Steve Voake

theguardianmasterclasses



It's easy to forget that we were all children once. If you want to write a novel that young people will love, finding connections between your childhood memories and the stories you want to tell is a good place to start. During this interactive

course, award-winning author **Steve Voake** will teach you how to harness your inner child and create stories for literature's most demanding audience. Using a mixture of short, focused exercises and discussions, Steve will show you how to find new pathways into your story, as well as how to build ideas, characters and plotlines.

Go to theguardian.com/guardian-masterclasses/partners/stratford-literary-festival

Wednesday, 29th April

Stratford Artshouse

10.00am -1.00pm **Free**

How To Download To Your eBook Devices Surgery



Do you struggle to download eBooks and don't know who to go to for help? Drop in and ask a member of the Virtual Library team from Warwickshire Library Services in a free, friendly, drop-in, how-to session where

you can learn how to download eBooks, magazines and newspapers to your mobile device, and ask all those questions you've been dying to ask!



Wednesday, 29th April

Stratford Artshouse

3.00pm **Free**

Discover New Writers Robin Sinclair and Paula Coston



Robin Sinclair's first novel, a thriller called *Dance with the Enemy*, was the story of an embattled intelligence agent, and had rave reviews and this spring he published *Rise with the Enemy*. **Paula Coston's** fiction debut *On the Far Side, There's a Boy*, is a human story about an

Englishwoman who seeks out a Sinhala boy with whom she has lost contact. Set in Sri Lanka and London from the 1980s to the present day, against the backdrop of the Sri Lankan civil war and its 'resolution'.

Wednesday, 29th April

Stratford Artshouse

5.30pm £8

The People - The Rise and Fall of the Working Class Selina Todd



© Paul Cliff

In 1910, three-quarters of the population were 'working class'. Selina Todd's *The People* tells the hidden story of an entire nation, based on the first-person accounts of servants, factory workers, miners and housewives, revealing an unexpected Britain where cinema audiences shook their fists at footage of Winston Churchill, communities supported strikers, and where pools winners refused to become respectable.

Selina Todd is Fellow and Vice Principal of St Hilda's College, Oxford and a highly-respected social historian. Her previous book, *Young Women, Work, and Family in England*, won the Women's History Network Book Prize.

'A great and rousing book.' *The Times*

Wednesday, 29th April

Stratford Artshouse

6.00pm £8

Mad Men and Bad Men The Scandalous Story of British Politics' Love Affair With Advertising Sam Delaney



In a very timely event, journalist **Sam Delaney** asks how a bunch of unelected, unaccountable admen ended up running British politics. What happened when a rag-tag band of scruffs and smart-arses invaded Westminster, sprinkling creative fairy dust over earnest politicians? How much did (and do) snappy slogans and simplistic soundbites influence election results and even government policies?

He'll be talking about his interrogations of people at the heart of it: Alastair Campbell, Peter Mandelson, Tim Bell, Maurice Saatchi, Norman Tebbit, Neil Kinnock – about such memorable campaigns as 'Labour Isn't Working' poster and the infamous 'Demon Eyes' campaign. Here, too, are the stories they didn't want you to hear.

Wednesday, 29th April

Stratford Artshouse

7.00-9.00pm £39

Successful Self-Publishing Joanna Penn

theguardianmasterclasses



Self-publishing is an empowering way for authors to bring their work to a global market. With benefits including creative independence and a greater share of royalties, more and more writers are opting to publish independently. In this energetic and upbeat seminar, bestselling

author-entrepreneur **Joanna Penn** reveals how you can make self-publishing work for you.

You'll learn about the technical, marketing and business aspects of self-publishing, as well as the problems to watch out for along the way. Joanna will also explain the different publishing platforms available, helping you to choose the right format for your book.

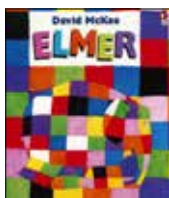
Go to theguardian.com/guardian-masterclasses/partners/stratford-literary-festival

Thursday, 30th April

Stratford Artshouse

9.30-11.30am Free

Storytime and Activities Elmer Book Start Party



Calling all under 5s and their parents or carers. Come and join in the fun with Elmer the patchwork elephant. Staff from Warwickshire Libraries will lead a lively sessions of songs and stories.



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Thursday, 30th April

Stratford Artshouse

10.00am-3.00pm £99

Life and Memoir Writing

Sally Cline

theguardianmasterclasses



If you have a personal story to tell, this course will show you how to find an original way to tell it. Celebrated biographer and fiction writer, **Sally Cline**, will introduce you to the genre of life writing and the different models it offers. You may be interested

in sharing details of your family history, or writing an autobiographical story that future generations can learn from. Using her extensive experience as a writer and teacher, Sally will explain the differences between more traditional autobiographies and more experimental approaches, helping you to choose the style that works for you.

Go to theguardian.com/guardian-masterclasses/partners/stratford-literary-festival

Thursday, 30th April

Stratford Artshouse

4.30pm £6

Dame Jacqueline Wilson



One of the nation's favourite authors, **Jacqueline Wilson** has sold millions of books worldwide and over 35 million in the UK alone. Best known perhaps for Tracy Beaker, she has been on countless awards shortlists and has won the Guardian Fiction Award, the Children's Book of The Year, the Smarties Medal, the Children's Book Award and the Blue Peter People's Choice Award. She's an OBE and in 2008 became a Dame.

She'll be delighting a young audience with details of her new book, *The Butterfly Club*, plus her Victorian series (Hetty Feather, Sapphire Battersea, Emerald Star and Diamond) and many others. A must for all fans.

She will not be signing copies on the day, but you can buy pre-signed copies of her books at the event.

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Thursday, 30th April

Stratford Artshouse 5.00pm £8

The Gory Details - How To Research For Crime Writing

The key to convincing and edge-of-the-seat thrillers is the quality of the research, and it's no coincidence that some of the greatest crime writers achieve acclaim thanks to their attention to detail. Whether you are writing or planning to write a crime novel, or simply want to hear about the skills needed for plot planning, this will be a fascinating discussion.

AJ Cross is a Birmingham-based forensic psychologist and the author of *Gone in Seconds* and *The Art of Deception* featuring the lead character Dr Kate Hanson.

JJ Franklin, aka **Brenda Littlewood**, comes from a mental health and counselling background. She wrote scripts for the BBC before penning her first novel, *Urge to Kill*, a psychological thriller featuring DI Turrell, set in and around Stratford-upon-Avon. The second book in the series, published this year, is *Echoes of Justice*. She runs a crime-writing group for the Bardstown Writers.

Kevin Robinson has had a 30 year career in the police and has an MSc in Forensic and Legal Psychology. He provides support and guidance to writers about the police, their procedures and methods. He writes an informative blog as well as producing the British Police Directory for Writers and Researchers.



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Thursday, 30th April

Stratford Artshouse

5.30pm £8

Thomas Cromwell: The Untold Story of Henry VIII's Most Faithful Servant Tracy Borman



Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall* has brought to life the story of Thomas Cromwell, but what is the real background behind the man who wielded such power and influence? Joint Chief Curator of Historic Royal Palaces and Chief Executive of the Heritage Education Trust, Tracy

Borman has written a gripping biography of Henry VIII's right hand man, and one of the most powerful figures in history. She reveals new research and insights into Cromwell's character, his family life and his close relationships.

Tracy Borman's books include *Henrietta Howard: King's Mistress, Queen's Servant*, the highly acclaimed *Elizabeth's Women: the Hidden Story of the Virgin Queen*, which was Book of the Week on BBC Radio 4. Tracy is also a regular broadcaster.

'A very good book.' *Time*

Thursday, 30th April

Stratford Artshouse

6.30pm £10

Political Satire: A Toothless Tiger or Too Dangerous for Words?



Razor sharp satire – whether on TV, film, in print or as a cartoon – was once a stroke of genius but seemed to have lost its edge as we became more PC. How we missed *Spitting Image* and poking fun at our leaders. Then came the abysmal events in Paris at *Charlie Hebdo*. Our panel look

at the impact of satire in the past and the present, and ask what the future holds for freedom to mock.

Hugo Rifkind is a columnist and leader writer for *The Times*, where he writes a weekly opinion column, the Saturday television review, and *My Week*, a diary parody. He also writes regular columns for *The Spectator* and *GQ* and is a frequent panellist on BBC Radio 4's *The News Quiz*. His novel is called *Overexposure*, and his collection of columns, *My Week: The Secret Diaries of Almost Everybody*, was published in 2013.

Howard McWilliam left a career as a financial journalist and editor in 2005 to concentrate on his growing illustration career. As well as children's books, he's perhaps best known for his sharp caricature covers for *The Week* both in the UK and US.

Ian Martin is a comedy writer and his TV credits include the BAFTA award-winning *The Thick of It*, *Veep* and *Time Trumpet*. He has written a book called *The Coalition Chronicles*.

Dr Tim Benson is an expert on cartoons and runs *The Political Cartoon Society*. He is the author of a number of books on cartoons and cartoonists, including the best of Britain's *Political Cartoons* series.

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Thursday, 30th April

The Guildhall, KES, Church Street

7.00-9.00pm £39

Persuasive Copywriting

Andy Maslen

theguardianmasterclasses



Good copywriting has as much to do with psychology as it does with words. Whether you're an author or an entrepreneur, this interactive course will teach you what makes audiences tick. You'll learn the essentials of writing persuasive copy and enticing headlines, with a focus on how to sell yourself or your business.

Led by author, copywriter and tutor, **Andy Maslen**, this evening course teaches simple techniques that will help you to promote your product, service or book. It includes some fun, practical exercises and plenty of time for discussion.

Go to theguardian.com/guardian-masterclasses/partners/stratford-literary-festival

Thursday, 30th April

Stratford Artshouse

7.45pm £12

Alexander McCall Smith



We are delighted to welcome back to Stratford one of the world's most prolific and popular authors, and great raconteur. His first novel, *The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency*, sold over 20 million copies, and his various stand-alone books and series – including the *Scotland Street*

novels, the *Isabel Dalhousie* novels, the *Von Igelfeld* and the *Corduroy Mansions* series – have been translated into over 46 languages. He's written over 30 books for children and re-written Jane Austen's *Emma* for the Austen Project. He has received numerous awards for his writing, including the British Book Awards Author of the Year Award and a CBE for services to literature. He holds honorary doctorates from nine universities in Europe and North America. In March of 2011, he received an award from the President of Botswana for his services through literature to that country.

He'll be talking about his latest books: *Fatty O'Leary's Dinner Party*, *The Handsome Man's Deluxe Café* and the latest *Isabel Dalhousie* novel.

This event is our chosen Great Big Books with Friends Event. Book group members are invited to read 44 *Scotland Street* in advance of the event.

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Friday, 1st May
Stratford Artshouse
9.30-11.30am Free

Storytime and Activities



We've storytelling, colouring and activities for pre-schoolers. Let them play while you enjoy a cup of coffee from the Baillie Gifford Festival Hub Café.

Friday, 1st May
Stratford Artshouse
10.30am-3.30pm £99

How To Turn Your Idea Into A Novel

Jill Dawson

theguardianmasterclasses



© Tim Allen

If you have an idea for a novel, this course will help you to stop planning and procrastinating, and dive into writing. Led by acclaimed author and tutor **Jill Dawson**, this is a 'work hard, play hard' course that will encourage you to suspend your inner critic and simply have a go.

Using her unique approach to teaching, Jill will show you playful techniques that will help you to grow your novel – and enjoy the writing process. You'll get involved in practical exercises where you dream up scenes, play with images and flesh out characters.

Go to theguardian.com/guardian-masterclasses/partners/stratford-literary-festival

Friday, 1st May
Stratford Artshouse
5.15pm £10

Dame Antonia Fraser My History – A Memoir of Growing Up



© Sue Greenhill

Antonia Fraser is one of the country's most highly-respected writers of history and historical biographers, and her subjects include Mary Queen of Scots, Cromwell and Charles II. She has also written movingly about her marriage to the playwright Harold Pinter in *Must You Go?*.

In a fascinating autobiography of her early life, she describes growing up in the 1930s and 40s, her parents Lord and Lady Longford, the birth of her passion for history and the chance offer of a job in publishing which changed her life.

'Wise, self-deprecating and always entertaining.'
The Telegraph

COTSWOLD
PREVIEW

Friday, 1st May
Stratford Artshouse
5.45pm £10

Getting The Facts Right For Fiction Adele Parks and Jill Dawson

© Jill: Tim Allen



Whether contemporary or historical fiction, how can a writer capture the essence of a time they haven't lived through? Where does the writer go to make sure they have the facts right, and when is it to okay to use artistic licence? Two acclaimed novelists share their experiences.



Adele Parks is the bestselling women's fiction author and has sold two-and-a-half million books in the UK alone. Her work has been translated into 26 different languages. Adele has written 15 bestselling novels in 15 years, including *Husbands*, *Young*

Wives' *Tales* and *Spare Brides*, about the lives of women who lost their men in the Great War.

Jill Dawson is the best-selling author of eight novels, including *Fred & Edie* (short-listed for The Whitbread and Orange Prize) and *Watch Me Disappear* (long-listed for the Orange Prize). Her novel *The Great Lover*, about the poet Rupert Brooke, published in 2009, was a Richard and Judy Summer Read. *Lucky Bunny* won a Fiction Uncovered Award. Her latest novel, *The Tell-Tale Heart*, was described by Hilary Mantel as 'an uncanny and atmospheric novel by a skilful storyteller'. Jill has won awards for poetry and screenplays. She has held many fellowships and teaches creative writing.

Friday, 1st May
Stratford Artshouse
7.00-9.00pm £12

including a free gin cocktail per person*

Salon: Known Pleasures



Come and relax, gin and tonic in hand (courtesy of the Cotswold Distillery), and consider where you take your gratification.

Pleasure: we're hardwired for it, and, what's more, it shouldn't be resisted. Award winning writer and Salon London co-founder,

Helen Bagnall (No 6 in GQ's List of Things to Do in the World) consulted over 200 scientists to get the facts behind our need to enjoy and will present their fascinating findings.

Food and drink historian, **Olivia Williams** (The Independent, The Times) takes us deep into the world of gin. From every fourth urban house having a distillery in the 17th century to the brand new 'ginnaissance' we are currently experiencing – Olivia explores our relationship with this very British drink.

Juliet Russell is a singer, composer and vocal coach, currently featuring on BBC 1's *The Voice*. She'll be exploring how and why certain music stimulates us, and what happens to us mind, body and brain when we listen to, or participate in, making music.



*Over 18s only



Friday, 1st May

Stratford Artshouse 7.30pm £12

The Big Issue Lecture: Dame Wendy Hall - Whose Web Is It Anyway?



In just 20 years the web has become our world, and it's a source of entertainment, shopping, information and communication. At best it's revolutionised our lives, but has it been a benefit for everyone, and what of the forces that are trying

to take it away from us? How is that battle going to play out? One of the pioneers behind the development of the World Wide Web looks at what the future means for it, and for the way we use it.

With Sir Tim Berners-Lee and Sir Nigel Shadbolt,
Dame Wendy Hall co-founded the Web Science

Research Initiative in 2006 and she is currently a Director of the Web Science Trust, which has a global mission to support the development of research, education and thought leadership in Web Science. She is a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Southampton, Director of the Web Science Institute, a Fellow of the Royal Society, Senior Vice President of the Royal Academy of Engineering, and a member of the Prime Minister's Council for Science and Technology. She is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Council on Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, is a member of the Global Commission on Internet Governance and Chair of the British Council's Education Advisory Group.

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Saturday, 2nd May

Stratford Artshouse

10.00am-3.00pm £99

Self-Publicity For Authors

Adele Parks and

Jessica Killingley

theguardianmasterclasses



© Jill: Tm Allen

When it comes to self-publicity, there's a fine line between spreading the word and over-sharing. Led by bestselling author **Adele Parks** and Hodder & Stoughton marketing director, **Jessica Killingley**, this interactive course teaches published and unpublished authors the modern etiquettes of self-promotion, both online and offline.



Whether you're a self-published author or have published down the more traditional route, you'll learn how to drive publicity for your book or complement your

publisher's marketing campaigns. The course is also suitable for writers keen to get a sense of how the publishing industry works – and what might be expected of them as a published author.

Go to theguardian.com/guardian-masterclasses/partners/stratford-literary-festival

Saturday, 2nd May

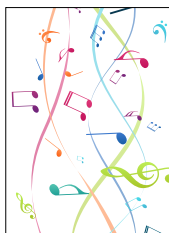
Stratford Artshouse

10.00am-3.30pm £10

Song for Stratford –

Scratch Choir

Come and join in the performance!



For 2015, the Festival gave people the opportunity to write the lyrics for a song, which has been put to music by **Juliet Russell**, singer, composer and BBC1's The Voice coach. The song title was My Voice, this year's Festival Theme, and will be performed after a days'

rehearsals. Come and along and be part of the choir who'll be performing this winning song.

No experience necessary – it's for fun!

Rehearsal from 10am-3.00pm with breaks

Performance at 3.30pm

Sponsored by:

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Saturday, 2nd May

Stratford Artshouse

11.00am, 12.30pm, 2.00pm £8

E - x - p - a - n - d - i - n - g: The History of the Universe in 45 Minutes



Join astrophysicist Professor **Trevor Ponman**, musician **Giancarlo Facchinetti**, and poets **Nadia Kingsley** and **Emma Purshouse**, in their

mobile planetarium dome, with 360 degree visuals. You will be fully immersed in the sounds sampled from the Universe, images taken by the Hubble Space Telescope, and a combination of both serious and comic poetry and 'lectures'. Prepare to feel both insignificant and unique, relaxed and stimulated. (You will be lying on the floor wearing headphones on. Please ask for a chair if you'd prefer.)

Saturday, 2nd May

The Guildhall, KES, Church Street

11.00-2.15pm £39 with lunch break

Price includes a copy of her book.

The Big Sketch - Rosa Roberts



Rosa Roberts is a visual artist, art tutor and the founder of Sketchout, one day drawing workshops that harness the visual and cultural wealth of world renowned settings. She is also author of The Big Painting

Challenge that accompanies a new BBC series this spring. Join her in an inspirational class sketching in the historic Guildhall, Shakespeare's Classroom, and be inspired by the atmosphere of this Tudor building.

No experience necessary. All materials provided (unless you prefer to bring your own paper and pencils). Numbers limited.

Saturday, 2nd May

Stratford Artshouse

2.00pm £8

Kelly's War – A WW1 Diary Jon Cooksey and Graham McKechnie



Frederick 'Clegg' Kelly was the ultimate embodiment of the talented but lost generation of the 1914-18 War: Olympic Gold medalist, renowned musician, friend of many of the academic, literary and political elite. He mixed with the likes of Winston Churchill, WB Yeats and Rupert

Brooke, then served as part of the Royal Naval Division in the Great War.

His diaries, edited by military historian Jon Cooksey and Graham McKechnie, offer an opportunity for a previously unheard yet authentic voice to tell the tale of the Gallipoli landings, a century on. Here they will discuss the astonishing and horrific insight his diaries provide.

Jon Cooksey is a leading military historian who specialises in the history of the world wars and the Falklands War. He is the current editor of Stand To!, and his articles have appeared in many of the foremost military magazines and in national newspapers. As an experienced battlefield guide, he regularly leads tours to the battlefields of both world wars as well as the Falkland Islands, and is a commentator on radio and TV.

Graham McKechnie studied modern history at Queen's College, Oxford before pursuing a career in sports journalism. He is currently Sports Editor at BBC Radio Northampton. He has produced and presented several radio documentaries for the BBC, including the stories of Reading Football Club in the First World War and Ronald Poulton Palmer, the England rugby captain.

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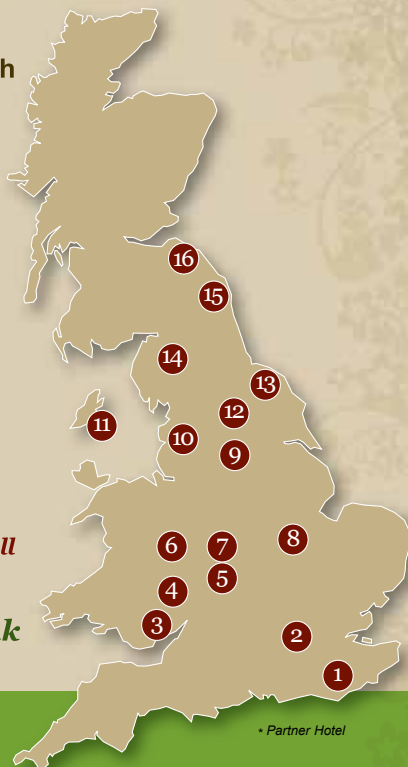
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Saturday, 2nd May**Stratford Artshouse****3.30pm Free** 15 minute performance

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Saturday, 2nd May**Stratford Artshouse****4.00pm £12**

Paul Merton Only When I Laugh



Paul Merton is as versatile as he is funny. He first appeared on our screens in *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* in 1988 and since 1990 has been a team captain on *Have I Got News For You?*. He is also one of the most successful

panelists on Radio 4's *Just A Minute*, has had his own sketch series and was the last person to interview Spike Milligan when he appeared on *Room 101*.

He'll be chatting to Fiona Lindsay about his journey from his working class Fulham upbringing to being one of the nation's best-loved comics, admired for his intelligence and surreal wit.

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Saturday, 2nd May**Stratford Artshouse****5.30pm £10**

News from Waterloo Brian Cathcart



The Duke of Wellington's victory over Napoleon at Waterloo 200 years ago in 1815 ensured British dominance for the rest of the nineteenth century. It took three days and two hours for word to travel from Belgium in a form that people could rely upon. At least five men were involved in

bringing the news or parts of it to London, and their stories began amidst terrible carnage and weaved through a world of politics and military convention, enterprise and roguery, frustration, doubt and jealousy, to end spectacularly in the heart of Regency society.

Brian Cathcart is professor of journalism at Kingston University London and a brilliant historian and storyteller. He was a founder of the Hacked Off campaign, served as specialist adviser to the Commons media select committee and has written books about the murders of Stephen Lawrence and Jill Dando, as well as on the history of nuclear science.

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Saturday, 2nd May

Stratford Artshouse

6.30pm £10

Christina Lamb: Farewell to Kabul - How the West Ignored Pakistan and Lost Afghanistan



The award-winning journalist asks just how the might of NATO, with 48 countries and 140,000 troops on the ground, failed to defeat a group of religious

students and farmers? How did it go so wrong? Christina Lamb, the acclaimed Sunday Times correspondent, will be discussing how the West turned success into defeat in the longest war fought by the United States in its history and by Britain since the Hundred Years War. It is the story of how what started out as good intentions ended as the conflict everyone wanted to exit, leaving Afghanistan still one of the poorest and most dangerous nations on earth.

The leading journalist on the region, with unparalleled access to all key decision makers, **Christina Lamb** is the best-selling author of *The Africa House* and *I Am Malala*, co-authored with Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai.

Saturday, 2nd May

Stratford Artshouse

6.45pm £10

Decoding Shakespeare David and Ben Crystal



This famous father and son linguistics team have produced the definitive dictionary of Shakespearean words and meanings, to help students - and anyone who loves the Bard - to get a better understanding of his works. They'll be explaining how to decypher some of the trickier bits, will share some of Shakespeare's juicier insults, and give a full background on how to visualise the plays and their times.



David Crystal is a writer, editor, lecturer and broadcaster, and Honorary Professor of Linguistics at Bangor University. With his son, he has written *Shakespeare's Words* and *The Shakespeare Miscellany*.

Ben Crystal is an actor, author and producer. His first solo book, *Shakespeare on Toast – Getting a Taste for the Bard*, was shortlisted for the 2010 Educational Writer of the Year Award.

Saturday, 2nd May

Stratford Artshouse 8.00pm Details to be confirmed

Did We Mention The Free Wine? A Tribute to Felix Dennis



We are putting together a very special evening to celebrate the life of Felix Dennis: poet, publisher and a great supporter of the Festival. Come and hear stories about his life and his best poetry accompanied in true Felix Dennis style with good wine and canapés.

We hope the actor Robert Lindsay will be with us for the evening to read Felix's work.

**Please refer to our website
for the latest details.**

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Children's Day

Sunday, 3rd May

Stratford Artshouse 10am-4pm

10.00 am

Neill Cameron -

How to make comics 6+

Neill Cameron is a cartoonist and writer, creator of How To Make Awesome Comics. His work appears in the weekly children's comic The Phoenix, where he produces the dinosaur adventure serial The Pirates of Pangaea. He's also currently artist in residence at The Story Museum in Oxford. Join him for a fun workshop making your own comic strip.

Nikki Smedley - Storytelling 4+

Nikki is a festival favourite and performs beautiful interactive stories for young children to fire the imagination.

John Roberts and PuppetCraft
Monkey - A Puppet Show 4+

A charming puppet show for all the family with a script specially written by **Michael Rosen**. With stunning string puppets, antique shadow puppets and live music, Monkey is an adaptation of one of China's great classic stories and one of the world's most popular folk heroes. Hatched from a stone egg, the mischievous Monkey can fly on a cloud, turn invisible and transform into anything...!

11.15 am

Nick Butterworth 4+

Meet the award-winning author and illustrator most famous for his Percy the Parkeeper series. He has sold over 12 million books, and produces animated programmes for CBeebies. He's a Nestlé Prize winner and an enthralling story-teller.

Neill Cameron -

How to make comics 6+

Another chance to join in a workshop. See 10am Session for details.

Nikki Smedley -
Storytelling 4+

Another chance to join in a workshop. See 10am Session for details.



**Make
a day
of it!**

12.15 am

Chris Riddell 7+

Chris' distinctive illustrations and drawings have appeared in many books for children including *The Edge Chronicles*, *Something Else* and *Gulliver's Travels*. He has won two Kate Greenaway Medals, the British Librarians' annual award for the best-illustrated children's book, and three Nestlé Smarties Book Prizes. He'll be talking about his latest book, *Goth Girl*, as well as how he creates his superb drawings.

Lantern Making 6+ (from 4 accompanied)

John Roberts is a very talented puppeteer whose Monkey puppet show is on at 10am. He will be showing you how to make the lanterns that appear in the show, and will tell you about his training in China learning their puppet tradition.

Tracey Corderoy & Steven Lenton 3-7

Tracey returns after a brilliant workshop with us last year and this year she has teamed up with the illustrator **Steven Lenton** on *Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam*, about two hapless robber dogs who decide on a career change. Great fun!



2.00 am

Cakes in Space Sarah McIntyre and Philip Reeve 6+

Astra's family are all snoring in their sleeping pods aboard their spaceship, but Astra is wide awake. With her robot friend, Pilbeam, she goes off exploring and soon finds out the ship is in deep trouble. **Sarah** (illustrator) and **Philip** (writer of, amongst other books, *Mortal Engines*) are acclaimed in their own right, but have teamed up to produce a series of hilarious and wonderful books including this latest adventure.

Art Workshop 9-11

Sara Huxley Edwards is a very talented artist who has appeared at the Festival several times. She'll help you to create wonderful handmade sketchbooks for your own drawings and exploring text and typography to create art.

3.15 am

Fizzlebert Stump and The Girl Who Lifted Quite Heavy Things AF Harrold

It's the great Circus of Circuses competition and Fizzlebert Stump has no act. What does the boy who puts his head in the lion's mouth do without a lion? **AF Harrold** is a poet and performer who writes for children and adults. He was Poet-in-Residence at Cheltenham Literature Festival, won the Cheltenham All Stars Slam Championship and is very funny.

Art Workshop 6-9

Sara Huxley Edwards will work with you using old magazines and book pages to create interesting art and sculpture.

Sara Huxley Edwards

Neill Cameron

Chris Riddell

Nikki Smedley

Nick Buttenworth

Monkey



Schools Festival

23rd March to 27th March 2015

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

Authors for 2015 include:

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| ■ Ali Sparkes | ■ Simon James | ■ Steven Lenton |
| ■ Neill Cameron | ■ Tanya Landman | ■ Sharon Hopwood |
| ■ Helen Watts | ■ Mary Evans' Story Stew | ■ Kathryn White |

We are also working on a 'My Author' project with John Dougherty, Linda Newbery and Ian Billings, Escape Community Art, Playbox Theatre and local author Helen Watts, supported by Stratford Town Trust. Five schools will be exploring in depth the themes and ideas of the author's books through art, drama and creative writing.



We would like to thank the following for their help and support:

All the authors and illustrators who have given their time to the Festival, Mike Flowers and Set Square, Mike Nicholas at Shock the Senses, all at The Week, Louisa Markwart and Sean Ryan from Guardian Masterclasses, all the Staff at Waterstones Stratford, the general managers of all our partner hotels, all at Ladders and Sheldon Bosley, 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 and the staff at KES, Clare Allen and the staff at Stratford Artshouse, Tim Davis, the Stratford Herald, James Richards at Vin Neuf and Alex Graham at Prontaprint, all the schools involved in the Festival, Ginny Gretton at Warwick School, Emily Quash and Playbox Theatre, Judy Reaves and David Hamblett, Karen Williams at Escape Community Art, Thomas Roberts at the Picture House, Michelle McLeod at Baillie Gifford, Michelle Flint at Stratford College, Jennie Dobson, and all the publishers who have organised their authors to visit Stratford, our chairpeople, and of course our audiences, sponsors and advertisers who make the Festival possible.

Photo Credits: 2014 Photographs courtesy of Rupert Barnes

Festival Team: Annie Ashworth (Programme Director), Martin Kinoulty (Director), Helen Watts (School Coordinator), Gail Francis (Steward and Books With Friends Coordinator), Rachel Key (Fundraising), Jennie Madden (PR) and Jo James (Author Care).

Baillie Gifford Festival Hub Café



Open throughout the day in the Artshouse from 9.30 to 5pm and serving delicious coffees, teas, and soft drinks, cakes, scones and light refreshments.

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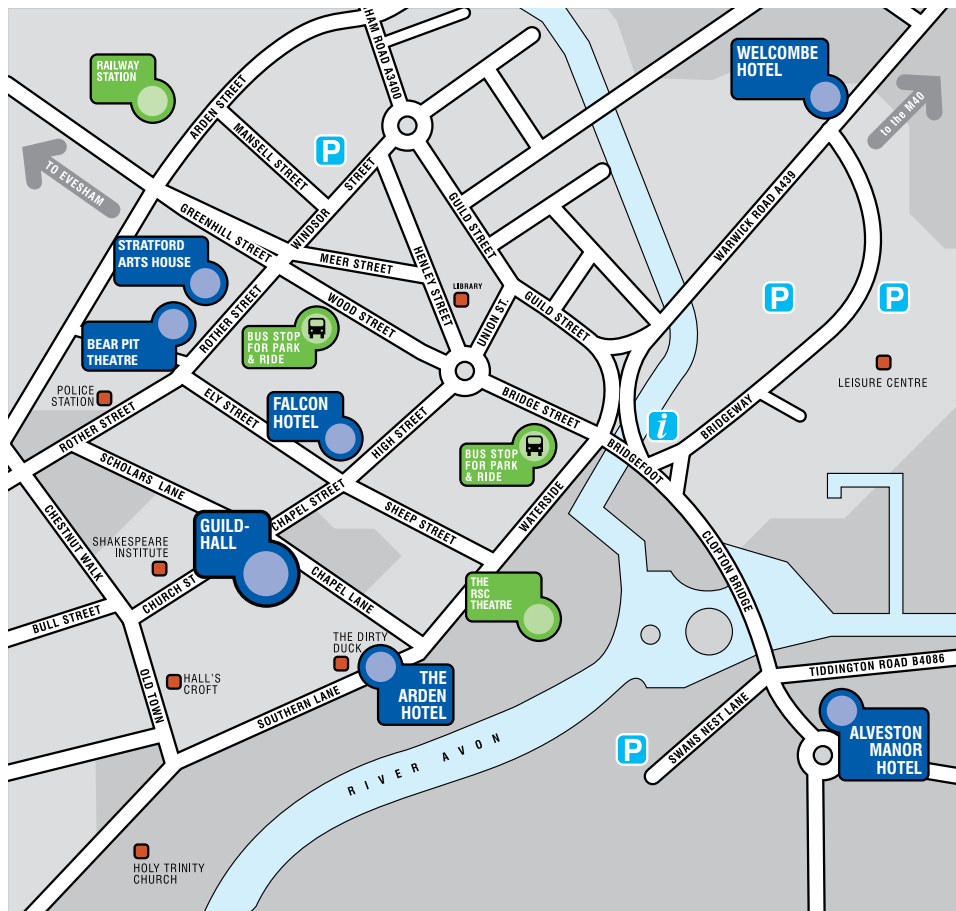
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Terms and conditions may apply. Please ask at your chosen venue.

Thursday, 16th April	Alveston Manor Hotel, Clopton bridge	7.30pm	Festival Quiz
Saturday, 25th April	Stratford Artshouse	4.45pm	Francesca Martinez
Saturday, 25th April	Stratford Artshouse	6.00pm	Robert Douglas-Fairhurst
Saturday, 25th April	Stratford Artshouse	7.30pm	Lucy Parham and Simon Russell Beale CBE
Sunday, 26th April	Stratford Artshouse	2.30pm	Brothers Mcleod
Sunday, 26th April	Stratford Artshouse	5.15pm	The Women's Institute
Sunday, 26th April	Stratford Artshouse	6.30pm	Helen Lederer
Sunday, 26th April	Stratford Artshouse	6.45pm	John Crace
Sunday, 26th April	Stratford Artshouse	8.00pm	Harriet Walter reads The Waste Land
Monday, 27th April	Stratford Artshouse	9.30-11.30am	Storytime and activities
Monday, 27th April	Stratford Artshouse	4.45pm	New Voices
Monday, 27th April	Stratford Artshouse	5.15pm	Chloe Combi and David Bainbridge
Monday, 27th April	Stratford Artshouse	5.00pm	William Waldegrave and Douglas Hurd
Monday, 27th April	Stratford Artshouse	6.00pm	Lissa Evans and Anna Hope
Monday, 27th April	Stratford Artshouse	6.30pm	Will Hutton
Monday, 27th April	Stratford Artshouse	8.00pm	Alastair Campbell
Tuesday, 28th April	Stratford Artshouse	9.30-11.30am	Storytime and Activities
Tuesday, 28th April	Stratford Artshouse	10.00am-3.00pm	Guardian Masterclass Mavis Cheek
Tuesday, 28th April	Stratford Artshouse	10.00am-3.00pm	Guardian Masterclass Dreda Say Mitchell
Tuesday, 28th April	Stratford Artshouse	3.00-3.30pm	New Voices
Tuesday, 28th April	Stratford Artshouse	4.00pm	Festival Book Club Lindsay Hawden
Tuesday, 28th April	Stratford Artshouse	5.30pm	Jessie Burton and David Whitehouse
Tuesday, 28th April	Stratford Artshouse	5.45pm	Charlotte Green
Tuesday, 28th April	Stratford Artshouse	6.00pm	The Power of Poetry to Heal
Tuesday, 28th April	Stratford Artshouse	7.30pm	Richard Davenport-Hines
Wednesday, 29th April	Stratford Artshouse	9.30-11.30am	Storytime and activities
Wednesday, 29th April	Stratford Artshouse	10.00am-3.00pm	Guardian Masterclass Steve Voake
Wednesday, 29th April	Stratford Artshouse	10.00am-1pm	Devices Surgery
Wednesday, 29th April	Stratford Artshouse	3.00pm	New Voices
Wednesday, 29th April	Stratford Artshouse	5.30pm	Selina Todd
Wednesday, 29th April	Stratford Artshouse	6.00pm	Sam Delaney
Wednesday, 29th April	Stratford Artshouse	7.00-9.00pm	Guardian Masterclass Joanna Penn
Thursday, 30th April	Stratford Artshouse	9.30-11.30am	Storytime and activities
Thursday, 30th April	Stratford Artshouse	10.00am-3.00pm	Guardian Masterclass Sally Cline
Thursday, 30th April	Stratford Artshouse	4.30pm	Jacqueline Wilson
Thursday, 30th April	Stratford Artshouse	5.00pm	The Gory Details
Thursday, 30th April	Stratford Artshouse	5.30pm	Tracy Borman
Thursday, 30th April	Stratford Artshouse	6.30pm	Political Satire
Thursday, 30th April	The Guildhall, KES, Church Street	7.00-9.00pm	Guardian Masterclass Andy Maslen
Thursday, 30th April	Stratford Artshouse	7.45pm	Alexander McCall Smith
Friday, 1st May	Stratford Artshouse	9.30-11.30am	Storytime and activities
Friday, 1st May	Stratford Artshouse	10.30am-3.30pm	Guardian Masterclass Jill Dawson
Friday, 1st May	Stratford Artshouse	5.15pm	My History Dame Antonia Fraser
Friday, 1st May	Stratford Artshouse	5.45pm	Adele Parks and Jill Dawson
Friday, 1st May	Stratford Artshouse	7.00-9.00pm	Salon - Known Pleasures
Friday, 1st May	Stratford Artshouse	7.30pm	The Big Issue Lecture Dame Wendy Hall
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	10.00am-3.00pm	Guardian Masterclass Adele Parks and Jessica Killingley
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	10.00am-3.30pm	Song for Stratford
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	11am, 12.30pm, 2pm	The History of the Universe in 45 minutes
Saturday, 2nd May	The Guildhall, KES, Church Street	11.00am-2.15pm	The Big Sketch Rosa Roberts
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	2.00pm	Kelly's War
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	3.30pm	Performance of Song for Stratford
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	4.00pm	Paul Merton
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	5.30pm	Brian Cathcart
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	6.30pm	Christina Lamb
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	6.45pm	David and Ben Crystal
Saturday, 2nd May	Stratford Artshouse	8.00pm	A Tribute to Felix Dennis
Sunday, 3rd May	Stratford Artshouse	10.00am-4.00pm	Children's Book Day

Festival Map



- » Disabled access: please check with the Box Office for each event.
- » Most seats are unreserved. We will be offering reserved seating for some events in the Lodders Auditorium. Please enquire on booking.
- » 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 3rd 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.
- » 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.

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