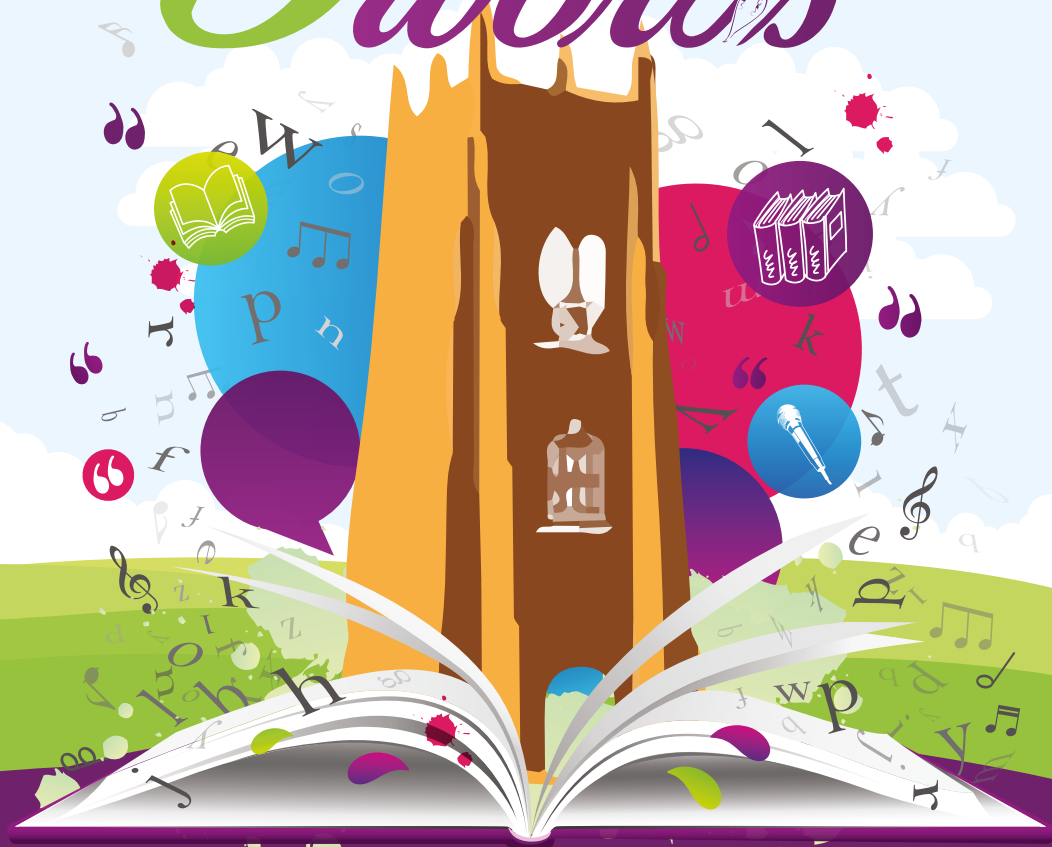


Evesham *Festival* of *Words*



2020

A YEAR-LONG FESTIVAL
MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND
26TH – 28TH JUNE 2020

www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org

INFO@EVESHAMFESTIVALOFWORDS.ORG |  EVESHAM FESTIVAL OF WORDS |  INFOFOW

WELCOME

Photo by Ian Tustin



WHERE TO BUY TICKETS

SUE ABLETT

info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org
T: 0787 128 5606

ONLINE VIA OUR WEBSITE WITH PAYPAL:

eveshamfestivalofwords.org

BY POST:

20 ALLARDENE, EVESHAM,
WORCESTERSHIRE, WR11 1EA

Cheques payable to
'Evesham Festival of Words'.
Please include full contact details.

THE ALMONRY MUSEUM & TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

T: 01386 446944

Tickets will not be posted but can be collected on the door. For some events it may be possible to buy tickets on the door but some events are bound to sell out. Check website for latest status.

Welcome to our 2020 Festival Brochure. Celebrating words in all their forms, we again have events all through the year, with the main Festival weekend packed with events from Friday 26th – Sunday 28th June.

Whatever your interest – writing, reading, poetry, listening to authors, meeting like-minded folk – the Festival really does offer something for everyone, and we now even have our very own Book Club.

Besides offering an exciting and varied programme of events at numerous locations in and around Evesham, our Festival Book Fairy is still busy, dropping off books at a range of venues in the town. We support two local Telephone Box Book Exchanges, and a Spelling Bee between local schools.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our Festival events, and our delightful town. Please contact me about any accessibility concerns.

SUE ABLETT, FESTIVAL CHAIR

Writers Monthly Meets

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 10.30 AM, JELLYPICKLEJAM CAFÉ.

Local author Sue Johnson hosts an informal gathering of local writers, readers and aspiring writers. A great opportunity for networking, swapping ideas, or just enjoying a chat and a cuppa!

For more information, contact Sue:
sue.r.johnson@outlook.com or 01386 446477

Writers Prompt Swap

LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, 2.00 – 3.00 PM, WAITROSE CAFÉ.

Join Sue Johnson for an hour's writing, or call in and pick up a writing prompt to take home. Bring a prompt to share or swap, grab a coffee and write. Don't worry about getting it right, get it written!

Festival Book Club

SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7.15 – 8.45 PM, 117 HIGH STREET, EVESHAM.

Led by local writer/tutor, Helen Yendall, there is no charge. For more information, contact Helen: helenyendall@yahoo.co.uk

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THROUGH THE YEAR

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

WORKSHOP

Stepping into Social Media, with Ellie Stevenson

MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

A workshop looking at how social media can help sell your book, and choosing the right tools for you and your target audience.

Gloucestershire's Chosen Trio

MONDAY 2ND MARCH

A talk by Tony Conder about the poets, Ivor Gurney, Herbert Howells and FW Harvey, and how their work was stimulated by Gloucestershire, the Severn and the Malvern Hills.

A joint event with Holland House.

WORKSHOP

Developing Your Novel (Editing), with Alison May

SATURDAY 7TH MARCH

For anyone who has ever got part way through the draft of a novel and felt like giving up, or who has a draft sitting in a drawer and doesn't know what to do next.

COMING NEXT

EXHIBITION

Unfinished Threads

30TH MARCH – 30TH APRIL

**EVESHAM LIBRARY,
FREE EVENT**

Former 'Lady Thatcher' Amanda Davies is a dulcimer player and corn dolly tutor. She also finishes other people's patchwork. Amanda takes incomplete projects and sews the pieces together, trying to work out something that is in keeping with the pieces and works them into a finished article.

Sue Johnson stitches words and ideas into stories and poems. She takes her inspiration from fairy tales, the natural world and eavesdropping in cafes and weaves the threads together to form her own works of art.

Piecing Together the Story

**MONDAY 20TH APRIL,
2.00 – 4.00 PM**

EVESHAM LIBRARY, £6

Includes tea and home-made cake.

Linked to the Unfinished Threads Exhibition, and prompted by unfinished works of needlecraft, Amanda and Sue explore the ideas and stories behind the sharing of a creative effort. Please bring some needlework to do if you would like to. Come and share ideas and be inspired. There will be kits available to purchase if you would like to join in on the day.

An Afternoon with The Bard of Barnwood

**FRIDAY 10TH APRIL, 2.30 PM
RAPHAEL'S RESTAURANT,
£12.50**

*Includes afternoon tea.
Pre-booking essential.*

Enjoy a classic Raphael's afternoon tea in the company of the Bard of Barnwood, Margaret Daniels, also known as Gloucestershire's answer to Pam Ayres. Margaret has been entertaining audiences for years with her amusing poems and anecdotes, mostly based on her own life, and all written by her.

This event is supporting Evesham Adventure Playground, as part of Raphael's Easter Charity Weekend.



Travel Talk and Meal

**SATURDAY 25TH APRIL,
6.30 FOR 7.00 PM
RAPHAEL'S RESTAURANT, £18**

*Includes 2-course supper.
Pre-booking essential.*

Festival Chair, Sue Ablett, is a great traveller and an enthusiastic speaker, taking her audiences on wonderful jaunts around the world – armchair travel at its best! Join us for a 2-course supper, followed by an illustrated talk, 'Georgia: Crossroads of Europe and Asia'. Always a popular evening; good company, good food, and an interesting and enjoyable talk. Profits from this event to Evesham Abbey Trust.

The Mysterious Mrs Christie

**MONDAY 27TH APRIL, 7.30 PM
117 HIGH STREET, £8**

In this illustrated talk, best-selling author Andrew Wilson casts Agatha Christie as detective in his compelling series of crime novels – *A Talent for Murder*, *A Different Kind of Evil*, and *Death in a Desert Land*. Here he talks about Christie's own mysterious life and how he was inspired by the Queen of Crime.

Andrew Wilson is also author of: *Alexander McQueen: Blood Beneath the Skin*; *Harold Robbins: The Man who Invented Sex*; *Beautiful Shadow: A Life of Patricia Highsmith*; and *Shadow of the Titanic: The Extraordinary Stories of Those who Survived*.



Hitting the Headlines

**WEDNESDAY 6TH MAY,
6.30 FOR 7.00 PM
ELLENDEEN FARM SHOP, £18**

*Includes 2-course supper, served
prompt at 7.00 pm. Pre-booking
essential.*

Ellenden Farm Shop at Harvington once again hosts a 2-course supper, followed by after dinner speaker, in what is always a very popular evening. Speaker John Butterworth has been a journalist for 44 years, and a newspaper editor for 28 years. He was awarded the MBE in 2008. He has been editor of four papers, plus running his own newspaper. Here he talks about the joys of being an editor, what goes on at a weekly newspaper, and shares some of his best stories. All of that combined with a delicious meal! This event always sells out very quickly. Book early to avoid disappointment!



THROUGH THE YEAR

WORKSHOP

What's Novel about the Novella?, with Cath Barton

**SATURDAY 9TH MAY, 1.00 – 3.30 PM
EVESHAM LIBRARY, £15**

Includes tea and home-made cake.

The Plankton Collector by Cath Barton won the New Welsh Writing AmeriCymru Prize for the Novella in 2017. Novellas and short stories are, however, notoriously difficult to sell and Cath finds people asking her when she's going to write a 'proper novel'. Nevertheless she has been successful in finding publishers for both a second novella and a collection of short stories. The Abergavenny-based writer talks in defence of the novella and other short fiction. She questions the concept of the 'full-length novel', and considers what's in the favour of shorter forms of literature from the point of view of both writers and readers.



In the Footsteps of Laurie Lee

WEDNESDAY 3RD JUNE,
2.00 – 4.30 PM

MEET AT THE WOOLPACK, SLAD,
£12 (Lifts available on request)

In 1994 TV Producer David Parker spent the summer recording interviews with much-loved author Laurie Lee, a man who generally did not 'do' television. Here we have the chance to join David for a special guided tour of the village enshrined in much of Laurie Lee's work.

Note: The terrain is uneven with some gradients. Please dress appropriately for the weather and wear suitable footwear. Why not arrive early and enjoy a nice pub lunch beforehand.

EXHIBITIONS

The Written Word (Calligraphy)

1ST – 30TH JUNE
EVESHAM LIBRARY, FREE EVENT

The art of beautiful writing ... or, in other words, Calligraphy. An exhibition by Severn Quills, a group of local calligraphers based in Upton-on-Severn. Themed around the spoken and written word, and the importance of libraries.

Try your hand at Calligraphy, check out the Christmas-themed Calligraphy Workshop (see page 13).

Music in Monochrome (Photography)

2ND – 30TH JUNE
REGAL CINEMA, FREE EVENT

Back for the fourth year running, Birlingham Photography Club will once again be putting on an exhibition of members' photos. Come along to the Circle Bar of Evesham's iconic Regal Cinema to see how the photographers have reflected the theme of music in this year's 'Music in Monochrome' Exhibition. The photos will be on display for the whole of June. Vote for your favourite – some great prizes to be won. Pop in after seeing a film, or call in for a coffee and make sure you visit the exhibition. All photos for sale.

The House That Sat Down

TUESDAY 23RD
JUNE, 2.30 PM

CAVENDISH PARK
CARE HOME, £8

Includes afternoon tea.

Alice May is a multi-tasking mother of four children, living in, what used to be, a ramshackle old cottage in the New Forest. Alice decided that 2016 was the year she would start writing. The result, inspired by true-life events, was *The House That Sat Down* trilogy. This talk is a positive and uplifting talk based on the events of 2014 when Alice's house partially collapsed. They were on the verge of losing everything, yet it was not the end of the world. Enjoy a delicious afternoon tea after the talk.

KINDLY
SPONSORED BY
CAVENDISH PARK
CARE HOME

The Muck and Shovel Brigade

WEDNESDAY 24TH JUNE, 7.00 PM
UNITARIAN CHAPEL, £10

Includes wine and nibbles.

The Muck and Shovel Brigade, written and performed by former Worcestershire Poet-Laureate, Heather Wastie, begins with a Parliamentary Act which legally abandoned the Droitwich Canals in 1939. This one-woman show follows the life, and near death, of the waterway as volunteers campaigned, cajoled and laboured for over fifty years to bring it back into use. A moving tale, told in poetry, song and projected photographs, of reeds and brambles, wellies, anoraks and mud up to your knees.



Bookworms Quiz Night

THURSDAY 25TH JUNE, 7.30 PM
RAPHAEL'S RESTAURANT, £7.50
PER PERSON (TEAMS OF 4)

**Light supper included.
Pre-booking of teams essential.**

An essential warm up to our main Festival weekend, the Bookworms Quiz Night is always a really popular and enjoyable evening. Quizmasters Helen Yendall and Chris Cherry will once again be posing a range of questions – some easy, some challenging – but guaranteed to be fun!



WORKSHOP

Writing Psychological Suspense, with Amanda Reynolds

FRIDAY 26TH JUNE,
10.30 AM – 12.00 NOON

EVESHAM HOTEL, £15

Includes tea and coffee.

Join best-selling author of three thrillers, Amanda Reynolds, for a writers' workshop focussing on the ever popular genre of psychological suspense. With practical tools and inspirational exercises, Amanda will take you through the process of writing a page-turning crime novel that will grip your readers. Amanda's third novel, *The Hidden Wife*, was chosen as the first book for our new Evesham Festival of Words Book Club.



Libraries of the World

FRIDAY 26TH JUNE,
10.45 – 11.45 AM
WALLACE HOUSE, £6

Includes tea and home-made cake.

Back once more by popular demand, Festival Chair Sue Ablett again combines her love of travel with a love of books. You can be assured of a fun session, and you'll go away knowing more about libraries than when you started. Think it's a dry subject – not at all! As an attendee at one of Sue's previous travel talks with a literary twist said: "It's always fascinating to try and work out where Sue is going to take us in these talks." Come along and enjoy the ride – you won't be disappointed!

Wrestling with an Octopus

FRIDAY 26TH JUNE,
2.00 – 3.00 PM
EVESHAM HOTEL, £6

Author Susanna Beard is fascinated by human relationships. She can be found people-watching wherever she goes, always finding material for her writing. A relatively new author, having changed her career in her late 50s to take up writing novels, Susanna writes psychological fiction. Her debut novel, *Dare to Remember*, was published in February 2017 and her second, *The Truth Waits*, in November 2019.

Join us as Susanna shares her journey, full of joy and disappointment, to becoming a published author, and find out where that octopus fits in!



The Real Sherlock Holmes

FRIDAY 26TH JUNE,
3.30 – 4.30 PM
EVESHAM HOTEL, £6

A master of disguise and expert in deduction, Detective Jerome Caminada tracked ruthless criminals through the dangerous underworld of nineteenth century Manchester. Bearing all the hallmarks of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Detective Caminada's compelling story establishes him as a true Victorian supersleuth and a real-life Sherlock Holmes.

Angela Buckley is a crime writer and author. Her first book, *The Real Sherlock Holmes: The Hidden Story of Jerome Caminada*, was inspired by her own family's roots in Manchester. Angela's work has featured in national newspapers and magazines. She has also appeared on BBC radio and TV.



An Evening with Vaseem Khan

FRIDAY 26TH JUNE, 7.00 PM

NORTHWICK HOTEL, £8

Includes wine and nibbles.

Author Vaseem Khan takes readers on a journey from the days of the Raj to the heart of modern India, with its conflict of new wealth and historical problems. He will explore the background to his Baby Ganesh novels, examining life in a country being transformed and answer the question: how do you fit an elephant into a crime story?

Born in London, Vaseem spent a decade working in India. He is the author of the bestselling Baby Ganesh Detective Agency series, featuring Indian detective Ashwin Chopra and his baby elephant sidekick. Latest in the series is *Bad Day at the Vulture Club* about the murder of a wealthy Parsee in Mumbai's notorious Towers of Silence where the Parsee dead are left to be eaten by vultures.

Vaseem's talk will be followed by the presentation of prizes to the winners of our 2020 Festival of Words Short Story Competition.



Something of His Art: Walking to Lubeck with JS Bach

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE, 10.30 – 11.30 AM

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, £6

Includes tea and home-made cake.

In the depths of winter in 1705 the young Johann Sebastian Bach, then unknown as a composer, and earning a modest living as a teacher, and organist, set off on a long journey by foot to Lubeck. This journey and its destination were a pivotal point in the life of possibly the greatest composer the world has yet seen. In his book, *Something of His Art: Walking to Lubeck with JS Bach*, critically acclaimed author and journalist, Horatio Clare, retraces part of Bach's journey. In the words of one reviewer, "The evocative writing really makes you walk each step with him, just as the author must have thought Bach was walking with him."



Nine Pints

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE, 12.00 – 1.00 PM

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, £6

Includes tea and home-made cake.

Rose George is a highly acclaimed journalist and author. After a spell abroad working at Colors Magazine, a bilingual global magazine about local cultures, she returned to London in 1999 and began a freelance career, writing for various national newspapers. She is the author of four non-fiction books.

For her latest book, *Nine Pints: A Journey Through the Money, Medicine and Mysteries of Blood*, Rose headed inside the body to look at blood, a marvellous substance that can kill us or save us, that is feared and revered, and always has been. She travelled widely to understand the place of blood in our world; learned a dazzling array of facts about blood, and discovered some wonderful characters. Described by The Guardian as "an absorbing, vital book by one of the best non-fiction writers working today".

WORKSHOP

Crime Writing, with Alice Castle

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE, 1.30 – 3.30 PM

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, £15

Includes tea and home-made cake.

Before turning to crime writing, Alice Castle was a feature writer on various national newspapers. She writes psychological thrillers under the name A.M. Castle. The first, *The Perfect Widow*, was published in November 2019. She also writes the London Murder Mystery cosy crime series as Alice Castle. The seventh in the series, *The Slayings in Sydenham*, came out in December 2019.

In this workshop Alice will discuss the different types of genres, a guide to plotting, developing a protagonist, creating suspense and an exciting denouement.

Talk and Tour: Evesham Abbey Site

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE, 1.30 – 2.30 PM

MEET OUTSIDE THE ALMONRY MUSEUM, FREE EVENT

The project to open up the site of Evesham Abbey, which was the third largest Abbey in the country, prior to Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries, is the dreamchild of Abbey Trust Chairman, Barrie Baldelli. In this talk and tour, hear about the vision for the site and how it is becoming a reality – the challenges along the way, and what the ultimate aim for the site entails. There will be an opportunity to walk around the site: suitable footwear recommended.



The Housman Society Lecture: Bredon and Other Hills

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE, 3.00 – 4.00 PM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, £6

Includes tea and home-made cake. (No charge for Housman Society members, but please reserve tickets).

For our second collaboration with the Housman Society, we welcome acclaimed author Peter Parker whose recent book *Housman Country: Into the Heart of England* shows how A.E. Housman's *A Shropshire Lad* has permeated English life and culture for over a century.

Our local Bredon Hill is the focus for one of the best-loved of A.E. Housman's verses from the famous 1896 collection, and its imagery of "the coloured counties" speaks of a deep feeling for English landscape. In this wide-ranging talk, which takes in poetry, music and topography, Peter Parker explores the allure of the hills, not only for Housman but for other writers and composers.



Once Upon a Song, with EODS

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE, 7.30 PM
BENGWORTH CHURCH, £10

Includes wine and nibbles.

We are thrilled to include in our 2020 programme a return visit by members of EODS (Evesham Operatic and Dramatic Society), who will once again be performing some of their favourite songs and readings. Always a wonderful evening, this event really does showcase the wealth of fantastic local musical talent. See the Church transformed with stunning lighting effects. Back at the Festival for the third time, an evening with EODS really is an event not to be missed!

MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND

WORKSHOP

Travel Writing, with Solange Hando

**SUNDAY 28TH JUNE,
10.30 AM – 12.30 PM**

HAMPTON COMMUNITY HALL, £15

Includes tea and home-made cake.

Solange Hando is an award-winning travel writer. Her articles are published in magazines and travel websites. Solange leads workshops around the country and is also a competition judge and public speaker. She is a member of The British Guild of Travel Writers and Travel Writers UK.

If you've enjoyed a holiday or an exciting trip, at home or abroad, and you would love to write about it, in print or on the web, this is the workshop for you. Covering the nuts and bolts of travel writing, and how to publish your article, this workshop really will give you a start on the road to success.

WORKSHOP

Writing Poetry, with Anna Saunders

**SUNDAY 28TH JUNE,
10.30 AM – 12.30 PM**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, EVESHAM
TOWN HALL, £15**

Includes tea and home-made cake.

Anna Saunders is a published poet and the Director/Founder of Cheltenham Poetry Festival, which has become one of the UK's most vibrant poetry festivals. She works as a creative writing tutor, a journalist, broadcaster and a copywriter/editor. Described as "a poet of quite remarkable gifts", Anna is bound to inspire – a must for all budding, and established, poets. Why not head off to join the Poetry Picnic afterwards.

Poetry Picnic

**SUNDAY 28TH JUNE,
1.00 – 2.30 PM**

**FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE,
FREE EVENT**

Once again popular Worcester-based poet, Suz Winspear, will lead the Poetry Picnic. She is a wonderful performance poet, and equally great at encouraging others to perform their work.

The Poetry Picnic is being held in the delightful setting of the Friends Meeting House, with its hidden gem of a secluded garden. There will be some invited poets but also opportunities for poets to bring their own poetry.

Bring a sandwich. Tea/coffee will be provided.

The Reduced Literature Degree

SUNDAY 28TH JUNE, 3.00 – 4.00 PM

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, £6

Includes tea and home-made cake.

With rising tuition fees and the value of higher education being increasingly called into question, Shirley Halse has condensed three years' worth of the BA curriculum down into a far more efficient one-hour show. The show focuses on key areas of English Language and Literature through history in a fast-paced manner. "A fantastic show!"

Shirley is a writer and performer based in Gloucestershire. She is passionate about making literature accessible and approachable.



Miss Potter's Tailor's Tale

**SUNDAY 28TH JUNE, 7.00 PM
FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, £10**

Includes soft drinks and nibbles.

Beatrix Potter, now Mrs William Heelis and a dedicated hill farmer in the Lake District, takes a break from lambing on a snowy night to share with us her candid recollections of how she became the most successful children's author and illustrator of all time – how she lost the man she loved – how, after nineteen books, she regrets that she will not have a new one finished for Christmas of 1916. But, revelling in the joy she finds in her hard-working life and with her habitual good humour and wit, she delights in telling us the true tale of her favourite tailor. Performed by Gloucestershire based Brandywine Theatre Company.



EXHIBITION

The Story Behind... (Textiles)

1ST – 31ST JULY

**EVESHAM LIBRARY,
FREE EVENT**

Three very talented textile artists (Chrissie Beamish, Julie Bowler and Sue Hutchings) who belong to different textile groups have come together to present a body of work entitled 'The Story Behind...' Two local artists and one from further afield, whose work includes patchwork and quilting and machine embroidery, tell the stories that lead to the work on display.

Walking the River Isbourne

THURSDAY 2ND JULY, 2.00 PM

**MEET MERSTOW GREEN CAR PARK
£2.00 PP PAYABLE ON THE DAY**

A circular walk on field paths to the village of Hinton on the Green, returning following the Isbourne Way to Evesham. A short talk on the history of this north-flowing river will be given by Mike Lovatt, author of *The River Isbourne: In the Service of Mankind*. This walk forms part of the 2020 Evesham Walking Festival and is presented as a joint event with Evesham Festival of Words.

Further details of this and other Walking Festival events can be found on their website www.eveshamramblingclub.org.uk



Beyond the Footpath

**THURSDAY 2ND JULY, 7.00 PM
EVESHAM ROWING CLUB, £8**

Clare Gogerty is a journalist and award-winning editor and writer with an interest in pilgrimage, paths and prehistory. She edited Coast Magazine, was interim editor of the National Trust Magazine, deputy editor of The Sunday Times Insideout Magazine, and editor of Grand Designs Magazine. She has written the National Trust's Book of the Coast (now in its second edition), as well as a number of other National Trust publications. In April 2019 her latest title, *Beyond the Footpath: Mindful Walking for Modern Pilgrims*, was published. In her spare time Clare loves pottering in the garden and writing a novel about the search for a missing hairdresser in post-punk Manchester in the 1980s.

This event is presented jointly with Evesham Walking Festival www.eveshamramblingclub.org.uk



The Forgotten Films of WWII

**THURSDAY 30TH JULY, 7.00 PM
EVESHAM ROWING CLUB, £8**

TV producer, David Parker, has been making documentary television programmes for the BBC, ITV and Channel 4 for the last 25 years. In this illustrated talk, David covers The Forgotten Films of WW2, shot by amateur home movie enthusiasts in both Britain and Germany. In David's words "There is some truly remarkable material." David has spoken to audiences in Evesham previously about his films on Laurie Lee and Johnny Kingdom. Always a popular speaker, this should be a truly memorable event.



A Dog's Tale

**FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER,
7.00 PM**

RAPHAEL'S RESTAURANT

A Mikron Theatre Company Production. Linda and her wayward rescue dog Gary are pursued by security through the halls and history of Crufts, accused of a terrible crime. Help cheer the underdog as we celebrate canines past and present and explore the enduring love between people and their dogs. One of two brand new shows for 2020.

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

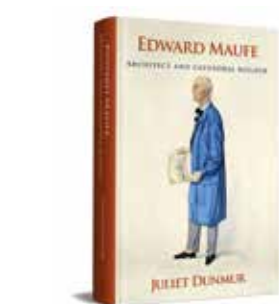
The Creative Lives of Edward and Prudence Maufe

**FRIDAY 2ND OCTOBER,
12.30 FOR 1.00 PM**

HOLLAND HOUSE, £18

Includes 2-course lunch, Pre-booking essential. Tel: 01386 860330.

The architect Sir Edward Maufe and his wife Prudence, the 'eye' behind Heal's furnishing business, were a power couple in British architecture and design between the wars. He was one of the 20th century's



most prolific British architects, his best known work being Guildford Cathedral. The book *Edward Maufe: Architect and Cathedral Builder*, written by grand-daughter, Juliet Dunmur, and published in November 2019, is the first biography of this important architect. Juliet is uniquely placed to present a vibrant portrait, revealing them as complex yet engaging personalities whose influence on 20th century architecture and design was far greater than is commonly supposed.

Words and Music of the Vale

**SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER,
7.30 PM**

UNITARIAN CHAPEL, £10

Includes wine and nibbles.

Featuring local musician, Colin Pitts, and friends, playing some of their favourite music inspired by people and places of the Vale. Much of Colin's inspiration for songs comes from hours spent sitting in local cafes. Come along to this very special venue for what is sure to be a great evening.

STOP PRESS

Link with Evesham Garage Art Group

**SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER,
10 AM – 1.00 PM
EVESHAM TOWN HALL**

For the first time we are linking with Evesham Garage Art Group to mark World Mental Health Celebration Day. More details on website.

WORKSHOP

Your Writing Toolkit

**SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER,
10.00 AM – 4.00 PM**

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, £25

Includes tea and home-made cake.

What are your writing goals? Do you need help with achieving these? This full day event, organised by local author Sue Johnson, is suitable for new and more experienced writers. It will cover a wide range of subjects including generating ideas and what to do with them, magazine fiction, getting that novel written and staying focused. It will also feature information about audio book production, social media and promotion. There will be special offers on author photos as well as networking opportunities and information about where to go for further help. There will be some short writing exercises and plenty of opportunity to ask questions. Tea, coffee and cake will be available all day. Bring your own lunch.



Mrs Churchill: My Life with Winston

**FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER,
7.00 PM**

BENGEWORTH CHURCH, £10

Includes wine and nibbles.

Winston Churchill is arguably one of the most famous Englishmen that has ever lived. His inspirational leadership helped win the Second World War, and his parliamentary career of 62 years ensured he was responsible for momentous decisions.

They say that behind every great man, there is a great woman. Was this true in Churchill's case? What of Clementine, his wife for 56 years? Did he bully her like he did so many other people? Was he as grumpy and irascible at home as he often was in the House of Commons? Given his strength and conviction, did Clem have any influence on him at all? Or was she 'the little lady at home'?

All these questions will be answered, and many more, in Liz Grand's superb, moving, sensitive and informative portrayal of Clementine Churchill. Liz's previous shows are 'The Second Best Bed' and 'Where is Mrs Christie?'

WORKSHOP

Short Story Competitions, with Helen Yendall

**SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER,
10.30 AM – 12.30 PM**

EVESHAM LIBRARY, £15

Includes tea and home-made cake.

Entering writing competitions can be fun and inspiring but also a source of frustration. If you're not placed or shortlisted, how do you know how close you were? As we launch our 2021 Short Story Competition, this workshop will provide an insight into what makes a good competition story (and what doesn't!). There will be practical exercises and Helen will refer to some of the stories she has read as part of the 2020 Competition. Whether you regularly enter competitions, or are taking the plunge for the first time, you'll feel better equipped to start sending your stories out into the big wide world.

Helen Yendall is a writer, tutor and blogger, who has won or been placed in several writing competitions. She is a member of the Festival Steering Group and leads our Book Club.

WORKSHOP

Calligraphy at Christmas, with Josie Brown

**SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER,
10.00 AM – 1.00 PM**

EVESHAM LIBRARY, £15

Includes tea and home-made cake.

Following on from her Beginners Calligraphy Workshop in 2019, Josie Brown returns with a Christmas themed Workshop. The perfect chance to learn a script suitable for gift tags, gift boxes/bags, or Christmas cards. All materials will be supplied. There will be a small extra charge for these, but you can take them home afterwards.

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





Christmas is coming!

Our 2020 'Christmas Wordy Quiz Sheet' will be out from 1st December, with a closing date of Saturday 2nd January 2021. Free to enter. £10 book token to the winner. Available to download from the Festival website, or pick up from the Almonry or St Lawrence's Church.

Come along from mid-December to Evesham's fourth Christmas Tree Festival in the beautiful setting of St Lawrence's Church. Admire our Festival tree, and all the others, and don't forget to pick up a copy of our Christmas Wordy Quiz Sheet and Outline Programme for 2021.

Want to help?

A Festival like Evesham Festival of Words is a significant undertaking, run entirely by volunteers. If you are interested in joining the Steering Group, or helping in other ways (book-keeping, website updates, serving drinks, making cakes, book sales, brochure distribution etc) we would love to hear from you. We work hard but it is incredibly rewarding, and fun. It really is a great event to be part of.

If you would like to know more about volunteering or sponsorship opportunities, get in touch – email: info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org, or telephone Sue Ablett, Festival Chair, 07871 285606.

Short Story Competition 2021

Our Short Story Competition will be launched on 1st November 2020. Closing date: midnight on Friday 19th March 2021.

The 2021 Competition is open to adults only (i.e those over the age of 16 at closing date). Entry fee

£5 per story. Cash prizes of £150, £50 and £30 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd, with engraved trophy to the winner. Competition Rules will be added to the Festival website on 1st November. Note: there will be no Junior Competition in 2021.

Festival Map

- Almonry**
ABBEY GATE, WR11 4BQ
- Abbey Remains & Bell Tower**
- All Saints Church / Church House**
MARKET PLACE, WR11 4RW
- Town Hall / Council Chamber**
MARKET PLACE, WR11 4RS
- Abbey Park & Riverside Walk**
- Friends Meeting House**
COWL ST, WR11 4PN
- Library**
OAT ST, WR11 4PJ
- Evesham Rowing Club**
ABBEY RD, WR11 4ST
- Wallace House**
OAT ST, WR11 4PJ
- Bengeworth Church**
PORT ST, WR11 3LF
- Evesham Hotel**
COOPERS LANE, WR11 1DA
- Hampton Ferry & Raphael's Cafe**
BOAT LANE, WR11 4BP
- Northwick Hotel**
WATERSIDE, WR11 1BT
- Hampton Community Hall**
PERSHORE RD, WR11 2PQ
- Waitrose**
MERSTOW GREEN, WR11 4BD
- Cavendish Park Care Home**
OFFENHAM ROAD, WR11 3D
- Regal Cinema**
PORT ST, WR11 3LD
- 117 High Street**
WR11 4EQ
- Unitarian Chapel**
OAT STREET, WR11 4PJ





A huge thank you to:

Our wonderful contributors, audiences, volunteers, and Festival Patrons:

TV and Radio presenter, Michael Collie; local MP, Nigel Huddleston;
TV presenter and comedian, Alistair McGowan.

Sponsors and supporters:

Alison's Bookshop, Tewkesbury; Almonry Museum & Tourist Information Centre;
Cavendish Park Care Home; Cotswold and Vale Magazine; Ellenden Farm Shop & Café,
Harvington; Evesham Library; Evesham Rowing Club; Holland House, Cropthorne;
Jellypicklejam; Regal Cinema; Richmond Villages, Wood Norton; The Rotary
Club of Evesham; Tesco; Undervale Ltd, and Waitrose & Partners.

Production of this Festival Brochure was supported by:

Vale of Evesham Commerce & Tourism Association (VECTA)

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