2027 OUTLINE PROGRAMME – SAVE THE DATES!

Date	Time	Event
Tues 23 March	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	**Illustrated Talk: 'Nut Wood and Cotton Reels – a Short History of Wood Norton Hall' with Tony Gleave.** Holland House, Cropthorne Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org) *Discover more about this historic local institution.*
Fri 26 March (Good Friday)	2.30 pm	**'Folklore and Folksongs of Warwickshire and Worcestershire' with Richard Churchley, followed by Afternoon Tea** Raphaels Restaurant Raphaels Good Friday Charity Event. Always an enjoyable afternoon. *Richard is back again after a great event in 2026.*
Fri 30 April	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	**Illustrated Talk: 'Rags to Riches to Giving It All Away – Andrew Carnegie, the world's richest man' with Jeremy Holmes** Holland House, Cropthorne Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org) *This is Jeremy's fifth visit to Holland House. Always fascinating.*
Wed 12 May	7.00 pm	**'Ernest Shackleton: The Ultimate Polar Hero' with Ash Jones** Evesham Rowing Club *The story of Shackleton continues to fascinate long after his death.*
Fri 14 May	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	**Illustrated talk: 'John Masefield's Herefordshire Paradise' with Tim and Mary Anne Keyes** Holland House, Cropthorne Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org) *Join us to mark the 60th Anniversary of the death of John Masefield.*
Wed 2 June	7.00 pm	**Illustrated talk: 'Remarkable Women' with David Parker** Evesham Rowing Club *Share film maker David Parker's encounters with some astonishing women – and a couple of men!*
Thurs 17 June	2.00 pm	**'Modern Day Market Gardening the Daylesford Way' with Jez Taylor** Cleeve Prior Field Barn *Jez Taylor has run the Market Garden at Daylesford since 2008. His diverse horticultural background guarantees a lively and fascinating talk.*
Sat 19 June	7.30 pm	**'A Concert with EODS'** Bengeworth Church *This annual event with EODS is now a firm favourite and annual event.*

Date	Time	Event
Thurs 24 June	2.00 pm	**Guided Walk, joint with Evesham Walking Festival** **'John Moore – Brensham Village'** *5 mile walk from Bredon. Booking via Evesham Walking Festival.*
MAIN FESTIVAL WEEKEND – FRIDAY 26 – SUNDAY 28 JUNE		
Fri 25 June	10.45 am	**Illustrated talk: 'Frida Kahlo' with Fiona Rose** Ecgwins Club, Evesham. *Discover more about this amazing Mexican artist. The talk explores Frida's life through her most iconic paintings.*
Fri 25 June	2.00 pm	**'Mr and Mrs Charles Dickens' with Annie Elliot** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *Mrs Dickens tells how she persuaded Annie Elliot to write her story!*
Fri 25 June	3.30 pm	**Illustrated talk: 'The Bewildering Business of Book Covers' with Martin Davies** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *Last with us in 2019, and back by popular demand, we guarantee you'll never look at book covers in the same way again.*
Fri 25 June	7.30 pm	**'Festival Quiz Night' with Quizmasters Helen Yendall and Chris Cherry** Raphael's Restaurant. Light supper included. (Teams of 4) *Always a very popular Festival event. Pre-booking essential.*
Sat 26 June	All day	**'Pop up Poetry on Demand' with Emily Holtom** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *Back by popular demand. Let Emily compose a very special poem for you.*
Sat 26 June	All day	**'Read Easy South Worcestershire' with Joanne Dowsett** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *A chance to learn more about support available locally for adults wishing to improve their reading confidence.*
Sat 26 June	10.45 am	**Illustrated talk 'Mary Queen of Scots' with Gillian White** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *This talk explores Mary Queen of Scots' remarkable story and looks at the causes of the failure that led to her execution.*
Sat 26 June	1.15 pm	**'New Chapters – Second Chances' interview with author Helen Watts** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *Local author, Helen Watts' books are light-hearted but cover themes such as turning 50, the menopause, empty nest syndrome and dementia.*
Sat 26 June	3.00 pm	**Illustrated talk: 'The Bayeux Tapestry' with Imogen Corrigan** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *Who made the tapestry – where and why? This talk looks at many of the scenes in detail.*
Sat 26 June	7.00 pm	**'BOOKISH – a Love Letter to Reading' interview with Lucy Mangan** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *BOOKISH, described as a love letter to all who come alive when they pull a new treasure off the shelf, with journalist and columnist, Lucy Mangan*
Sun 27 June	11.00 am	**Illustrated talk: 'The Secret Life of Words' with Colin Davison** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *Colin, a man who knows his English language, lots of humorous anecdotes and some dark secrets.*

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Sun 27 June	2.00 pm	**'Body of Lies' with author Jo Callaghan** Ecgwins Club, Evesham. *Two detectives: one human, one A.I. Jo Callaghan writes original and fascinating crime novels.*
Sun 27 June	7.00 pm	**'Old Herbaceous' with Giles Shenton** The Henrician. *Tickets only from: www.henrician.org.* *Described as "Downton Abbey with gardening tips", Old Herbaceous is pure joy with Giles Shenton playing Head Gardener, Herbert Pinnegar.*
Sat 3 July	2.30 pm	**'One Woman Walks Europe' with Ursula Martin** Ecgwins Club, Evesham. *Join Ursula Martin as she talks about her books, her ovarian cancer, a 3,700 mile walk in Wales and a 5,500 mile walk across Europe.*
Wed 7 July	7.30 pm	**'Ballads & Blues, Devils & Booze' with Robin Hillman and Kevin Clifton** The Fleece Barn, Bretforton *Step into a smoky, soul-stirring night of heartbreak, mischief, and melody. Featuring Robin Hillman who last year starred in Death of a Clown.*
Mon 12 July	2.30 pm	**Illustrated talk: 'Family Secrets and Surprises' with Sue Ablett, Galen Bartholomew and Noelle Chambers** Offenham Village Hall *Back by popular demand to share more of their intriguing findings from family history research.*
Wed 4 August	7.00 pm	**'An Evening with Melvyn Hayes'** Evesham Rowing Club *Best known for It Ain't Half Hot Mum and Summer Holiday, Melvyn has a wonderful collection of stories from his long career in film, television and theatre. In a fabulous interview, hear more about his new biography It Ain't Half Late Mum.*
Wed 25 August	7.00 pm	**'The Railwaymen and Other Stories' with Charlotte Wild** Evesham Rowing Club *Local musician, Charlotte, presents this storytelling and music show based on true accounts of her father's time working on the Isle of Wight Railway in the 1970s. A truly unique event.*
August/Sept	Date and time to be confirmed	**'She Sells Sea Shells – the Story of Mary Anning' with Mikron Theatre Company** Raphaels Restaurant, Hampton Ferry. Outdoor event, whatever the weather. Bring your own chairs. Sunday lunch can be booked direct with Raphaels.
Mon 13 Sept	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	**Illustrated Talk: 'The Gloucester and Berkeley Canal' with Tony Conder** Holland House, Cropthorne Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org) *Gloucester Docks are 200 years old in 2027. Hear all about it from this very popular Festival speaker.*

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Thurs 30 Sept	2.30 pm	**'How Roman was Britannia?' with Jacquie Rogers** Richmond Villages Wood Norton *Author of two mystery series both set in Roman Britain, join Jacquie as she talks about the challenges of writing crime set in Roman Britain.*
Sat 2 Oct	7.00 pm	**'Tongue in Cheek' with Michael Lunts** Bretforton Theatrebarn. *Tickets will be via the Theatrebarn.* *Gilbert and Sullivan meet Tom Lehrer in a feast of musical satire served up by the wonderfully talented musician and actor, Michael Lunts.*
'AUTUMNFEST': FRIDAY 15 - SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER		
Fri 15 Oct	7.30 pm	**'Orwell: The Road to 1984' with Mark Stratford** The Henrician. *Tickets only from: www.henrician.org.* *Following on from his fabulous performance in 2026 as Macready, Dickens' Theatrical Friend, Mark returns with a treat for all lovers of George Orwell.*
Sat 16 Oct	10.00 am	**Illustrated talk: 'England's Bears – The Blood and Glory of The House of Warwick' with Aaron Manning** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *The dramatic story of the House of Warwick, a thousand-year dynasty that shaped the fate and fortunes of England.*
Sat 16 Oct	11.30 am	**'The Songs That Find Us' interview with author Andrea Darby** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *A novel about dementia told through the eyes of three members of a family, exploring the relationship between music and memory.*
Sat 16 Oct	1.30 pm	**Illustrated talk: 'Royal Funeral Trains' with Nicholas Wheatley** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *Learn more about the use of railways in Britain for transportation of deceased members of the Royal Family.*
Sat 16 Oct	3.00 pm	**'The Edinburgh Fringe: The Showbiz Olympics' with Matthew Partridge** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *A fascinating insider's guide that reveals how this nearly 80-year old cultural phenomenon really works.*
Sat 16 Oct	7.00 pm	**'Kiftsgate Court Gardens: Three Generations of Women Gardeners' with Anne Chambers and Vanessa Burridge** Ecgwins Club, Evesham *Join Kiftsgate owner, Anne Chambers, and author, Vanessa Burridge, for a look at the remarkable history of Kiftsgate's women gardeners.*
Fri 22 Oct	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm lunch	**Illustrated Talk: 'Nobody Comes – The True Story of the Rescue of a Child from a Romanian Orphanage' with Tony Cleary** Holland House, Cropthorne Tickets, incl 2-course lunch, via Holland House. (www.hollandhouse.org) *Tony Cleary shares his true story of the endeavour to find, extract and adopt an infant from an orphanage in post-revolutionary Romania.*
Wed 3 Nov	7.00 pm	**Illustrated talk: 'Sir Mark and Isambard Brunel' with Galen Bartholomew** Ecgwins Club, Evesham

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		Galen Bartholomew has had a lifelong interest in the Brunels and he will talk about these remarkable men and some of their famous projects.
December		**'Evesham Christmas Tree Festival'** All Saints and St Lawrence Churches *Featuring as always the incredibly popular Festival Secret Santa book gifts.*

Further details of all these and other, events, including ticket prices, will be on the Festival website (www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org) from 1st January, and will be in our Festival Brochure out late February/early March 2027.

Tickets from other organisations, e.g. Holland House or The Henrician, can be purchased via links from our website.

We regularly have sell-out events so, if you see something you fancy, don't leave buying your tickets too long.

For more information on any of the above, or for ticket enquiries, please email: Festival Chair, Sue Ablett (info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org) or tel: 07871 285606.

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