

Nancy Goldstone

204

The Maid and the Queen: The Secret History of Joan of Arc

10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £11

Biographer Nancy Goldstone debunks the myths and uncovers a secular source for Joan of Arc's incredible story, her rise to power in medieval France and her heroic exploits in defeating the English. She tells of the relationship between Joan and her mentor, Yolande of Aragon, that inspired an uprising against English domination. Yolande had a claim to the throne of Aragon and financed Joan's army. Goldstone tells how the two worked together to restore France's greatness.

Goldstone is travelling from the United States to be at the festival. She is author of several works of fiction and non-fiction including *Joanna: The Notorious Queen of Naples, Jerusalem and Sicily* and *Four Queens: The Provençal Sisters Who Ruled Europe*.

Nancy Goldstone



HSBC 
Premier

Roger McGough

212

An Imaginary Menagerie

10am / Corpus Christi / £8

Ages 7-11 and their families

One of Britain's best-loved poets for young and old reads from his latest witty and wicked collection of poems for children, *An Imaginary Menagerie*. This imaginary menagerie is an A-Z collection of imagined rare breeds of animals including the anaconda in a Honda, the zonk, the useful catapillow, the reliable teapet, the newt who plays the flute and the wordfish.

McGough's poetry is widely used in schools and he is twice winner of the Signal Award for best children's poetry book and a recipient of the Cholmondeley Award. He rose to fame in the 1970s with hit songs *Lily the Pink*, *The Scaffold* and his part in the Beatles' *Yellow Submarine*.

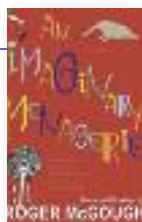
Roger McGough



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College Oxford 



Ursula Buchan

217

A Green and Pleasant Land: How England's Gardeners Fought the Second World War

10am / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £11

Sir Winston Churchill said war and gardening were the 'normal occupation of man'. The two famously came together during the Second World War when the nation was urged to 'dig for victory'. Award-winning gardening writer Ursula Buchan relates how the British Government encouraged people to contribute to the war effort by growing fruit and vegetables. And she shows how the act of gardening was more important than simply the provision of food to eat, it helped to combat the shocks of war and reminded Britons that their country was worth fighting for.

Buchan is author of 15 books and was named Garden Media Guild Gardening Columnist of the Year in 2011. She is a regular speaker on the gardening circuit.

Ursula Buchan

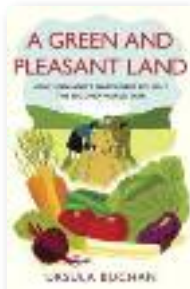


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THE MANOR

AT WESTON-ON-THE-GREEN



Ben Okri, Rachel Seiffert and
Romesh Gunsekera.
Chaired by Ellah Allfrey

224

The Best of Young British Novelists: Past, Present and Future

10am / Bodleian: Convocation House / £11

In 1983, *Granta's* 20 Best of Young British Novelists defined a generation and helped make Martin Amis, Pat Barker, Salman Rushdie, and Rose Tremain household names. This April, *Granta* will announce the fourth edition of this much-anticipated selection. What's in a list? In the past 30 years, which stories continue to matter at home and on the world stage? What makes us seek out certain voices again and again? What do we want to see from this next generation of British novelists?

Drawing on their experiences as past Best Young British Novelists, Rachel Seiffert (2003) and Ben Okri (1993) join author and judge of the 2013 list Romesh Gunsekera for readings and conversation about British writing, then and now. Chaired by *Granta* deputy editor Ellah Allfrey.



Ben Okri



Rachel Seiffert



Romesh Gunsekera



Bodleian Libraries

Triona Adams and
Oliver Ford Davies. 226
Introduced by Eileen Roberts
Larkin's Letters to Barbara Pym

10am / Bodleian: Divinity School / £11

In the centenary year of Barbara Pym's birth, actors Triona Adams and Oliver Ford Davies read a correspondence that celebrates the friendship between Pym and Philip Larkin. This is the first of a number of special celebratory Pym events during the year. This performance was devised by biographer Ann Thwaite and her husband Anthony Thwaite, the editor of Philip Larkin's letters. The event takes place in the Bodleian Library, which holds both Larkin's letters and Pym's, and will be introduced by Eileen Roberts of the Barbara Pym Society, whose headquarters is at St Hilda's College.

Triona Adams, Barbara Pym and Ann Thwaite are all St Hilda's alumnae – and Oliver Ford Davies, who has played Larkin on stage and is currently appearing in *Goodnight Mister Tom*, is himself an Oxford alumnus and the father of a St Hilda's graduate.

This event is one of a series in the festival's St Hilda's day.

Triona Adams



Oliver Ford Davies.



Winnie the Pooh 232

Winnie the Pooh and Honey
Sandwiches

10am / Christ Church: JCR / £6



Join us for honey sandwiches and stories about our best-loved bear, Winnie the Pooh. Children will delight listening to tales from the original Winnie the Pooh books and more recent Pooh adventures from *Return to Hundred Acre Wood*.

Sponsored by



Alastair Lack 201

SOLD OUT

Literary Oxford with Alastair Lack

11am / St John's College College Lodge / £25

Explore Oxford colleges and landmark buildings in the company of the poets A E Housman, A C Swinburne, Edward Thomas and Robert Bridges, as well as writers such as Dorothy Sayers, Graham Greene, Kingsley Amis and Barbara Pym – not forgetting J R R Tolkien and Lewis Carroll (Charles Dodgson). Starting from St John's College, where Housman and Philip Larkin were undergraduates, the walk lasts two hours and ends at Christ Church.



Kristina Stephenson

205

Sir Charlie Stinky Socks and the Tale of Two Treasures

12 noon / Christ Church: JCR / £6

Join bestselling author/illustrator and festival favourite Kristina Stephenson for a wonderful hour of interactive musical storytelling based on her latest book *Sir Charlie Stinky Socks and the Tale of Two Treasures*, complete with hilarious songs and silly sound effects. In his latest adventure, Sir Charlie Stinky Socks sets off on a terrifying quest to bring back some long lost treasure.

Stephenson had a successful career in theatre and children's TV before turning to illustration. She began to write the Sir Charlie Stinky Socks stories after being inspired by her own son Charlie.

Kristina Stephenson



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Peter Hitchens and Simon Jenkins

206

The Oxford Debate: War on Drugs: Should We End It or Are We Not Tough Enough?

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £11-£25

Politicians and commentators frequently suggest that the war on drugs has failed. Two of our best-known journalists, Peter Hitchens and Simon Jenkins, might agree that the war is not working, but the consensus stops there.

In his new book, *The War We Never Fought: The British Establishment's Surrender to Drugs*, Hitchens argues that there has not been a 'serious war' on drugs since 1971 when a Tory government adopted a Labour plan to implement the Wootton Report giving cannabis soft-drug status. It led to a progressive reduction in penalties for possession and effectively disarmed the police, he says. Hitchens, who writes for the *Mail on Sunday*, is well known for his support for a much more hardline policy on drugs.

Jenkins sat on Lady Runciman's Police Foundation inquiry in 2000 which said that criminal law had failed to end drug use or reduce harm. It argued for a softening towards cannabis and for efforts to concentrate on treatment of hard drug use. Jenkins, a former editor of *The Times* and now a columnist for *The Guardian* and *The London Evening Standard*, argues that politicians are gripped by fear when it comes to drugs policy. He says they should legalise drugs and test and regulate their supply.



Simon Jenkins



Peter Hitchens

THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

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LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

Colin Mayer 210

Firm Commitment: Why the Corporation Is Failing Us

12 noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £11

Financial economist and former dean of the University of Oxford's prestigious Said Business School Professor Colin Mayer examines how corporations are failing us and what can be done to restore trust in them. Mayer explains how corporations are the source of our employment and prosperity yet, at the same time, can be the cause of poverty, pollution and financial crisis. Mayer looks under the surface of the corporation, at ownership, governance, accountability and trust, and sets out an ambitious agenda for change. He challenges the world to convert the corporation into a 21st-century organisation that we can trust to promote the interests of the economy and of society.

Mayer was dean of the Said Business School between 2006 and 2011 and is currently Peter Moores Professor of Management Studies. This event is part of a series at the festival on the theme of leadership.

Colin Mayer



HSBC 
Premier

WOMEN IN SOCIETY PROGRAMME

Edna O'Brien talks to Robert Hewison 211

Country Girl: A Memoir

12 noon / Christ Church: Hall / £11

Celebrated Irish novelist and short-story writer Edna O'Brien's early works were banned in her home country when they first appeared because of the frank portrayal of the sex lives of their characters. Today, O'Brien is widely seen as changing the face of Irish fiction, and among her many awards are the Irish Pen Lifetime Achievement Award and the Ulysees Medal.



Edna O'Brien

O'Brien published her first novel, *The Country Girls*, in 1960, and has since written more than 20 novels alongside biographies of James Joyce and Lord Byron. Among her most recent works is a collection of short stories *Saints and Sinners* and the biography *Byron in Love*. In *The Country Girl*, O'Brien looks back at her life, at how she was driven into exile after publication of her first novel, and at her encounters with Hollywood giants, literary masters and pop stars. It is a story of a life well lived but also one of painful and poignant memories.

Here she talks to Robert Hewison, theatre and arts correspondent for *The Sunday Times*, and author of some 20 books in the field of 19th- and 20th-century cultural history. His most recent work, with Chris Orr, is *Chris Orr: The Making of Things*.

'What a banquet indeed. A book of magics, truths, stories, and quiet immensity. No one else could have written it, and no one else could have lived it. The book is a poetic testament to what Scott Fitzgerald called our "capacity for wonder".' **Andrew O'Hagan**

HSBC 
Premier

Stuart Nadler talks to
Bill Heine

213

Wise Men

12 noon / Bodleian: Convocation House / £11

Exciting new writer Stuart Nadler flies in from the United States to discuss his debut novel *Wise Men*. The novel is a multi-generational story of love and regret. It has been described as 'a sweeping epic of race and family in America' and an exciting debut novel from a new writer.

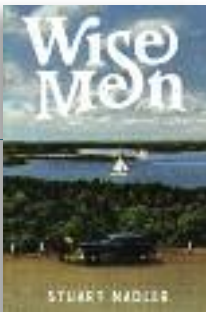


Nadler is a graduate of the Iowa Writer's Workshop where he won a Truman Capote Fellowship and a Teaching-Writing Fellowship. He has also published a collection of short stories *The Book of Life* on the subjects of faith, family, grief, love, temptation and redemption. Here he talks to BBC Radio Oxford broadcaster Bill Heine.

Stuart Nadler



Photo: Nina Subin



Val McDermid talks to
Nicolette Jones

215

The Vanishing Point

12 noon / Bodleian: Divinity School / £11

Award-winning crime fiction writer Val McDermid talks to Nicolette Jones about her latest novel, *The Vanishing Point*, and her life as a writer. The novel opens with Stephanie Harker taken to one side at an airport security gate, screaming as five-year-old Jimmy is led away by a uniformed officer. The shouts are misinterpreted and Stephanie is brutally tasered as Jimmy disappears with his abductor. Ultimately, the novel is a tale of how far a parent will go to protect a child.

McDermid is a former journalist who is now a full-time writer of crime fiction, plays, non-fiction and a children's book. Her best-known leading characters are journalist Lindsay Gordon, private investigator Kate Brannigan, and psychologist Tony Hill. Her work is often considered to be part of the 'Tartan noir' crime fiction genre.

Both McDermid and Jones, children's and young people's programme director of the Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival, are graduates of St Hilda's College, Oxford, and this event is part of the festival's St Hilda's day.

Val McDermid



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Bodleian Libraries

Julia Bradbury

219

Julia Bradbury's Wainwright's Walks: Coast to Coast

12 noon / Corpus Christi / £15

BBC presenter Julia Bradbury is one of the most recognised faces on our TV screens. The presenter of the popular *Countryfile* programme and of a series of walking programmes based on the books of Alfred Wainwright, she talks about her walk across England in the footsteps of Wainwright. The coast to coast route from the Lake District to the North Sea via the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors was created by Wainwright and is now a popular walking challenge. Bradbury's book collects together the six stages of the walk from the BBC television series.

Julia Bradbury



Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Gerri Kimber and
Kathleen Jones

227

Katherine Mansfield 90 Years On

12 noon / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £11

Two experts on Katherine Mansfield look at the life and legacy of the writer on the 90th anniversary of her death. Mansfield was one of the 20th century's most accomplished short story writers and counted D H Lawrence and Virginia Woolf among her close friends. Among her best-known stories are *The Garden Party*, *The Daughters of the Late Colonel* and *The Fly*. She died at the age of 34 after contracting tuberculosis.

Dr Gerri Kimber has co-edited *The Collected Fiction of Katherine Mansfield* to coincide with the anniversary. It is the first truly complete collection of Mansfield's stories. Kimber is a senior lecturer at the University of Northampton and co-editor of the journal, *Katherine Mansfield Studies*. Kathleen Jones is a biographer and poet. Her most recent biography is *Katherine Mansfield: The Story-Teller*.

Gerri Kimber



Lucy Hughes-Hallett

228

The Pike: Story of Gabriele d'Annunzio

12 noon / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £11

Cultural historian and critic Lucy Hughes-Hallett tells the story of the turbulent years of the early 20th century through the life of poet, writer, novelist, dramatist, daredevil and precursor to the Fascists Gabriel D'Annunzio. D'Annunzio was an acclaimed poet and writer with a legendary charm. He came to instigate right-wing revolt against democratic authority, notably declaring himself Commandante of Fiume, now in modern day Croatia.

Hughes-Hallett uses D'Annunzio's life to explore the society and politics of the early 20th century. It is both the story of a flamboyant and charismatic character and of the rise of nationalism and political extremism. Hughes-Hallett is also author of *Cleopatra: Queen, Lover, Legend* and of *Heroes: Saviours, Traitors and Supermen*.

Lucy Hughes-Hallett



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Delia Davlin

229

Mao: A Very Short Introduction

1.15pm / Blackwell Bookshop / Free

Welcome to a Very Short Introduction soapbox. A short talk lasting 15 minutes from an expert in the field. The talk is free and takes place at Blackwell Bookshop, Broad Street.

Emeritus professor of Chinese at Leeds University Delia Davlin introduces the Chinese leader Mao, showing him in all his complexity – a ruthless, brutal and ambitious man, yet one of enormous talent and perception. She shows why he is both detested and venerated.

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VSI

Axel Scheffler and Kate Wilson 203

Pip and Posy with Axel Scheffler

2pm / Corpus Christi College / £6 Ages 2-5

Join Gruffalo illustrator Axel Scheffler as he introduces the latest adventures of his characters Pip and Posy. Good friends (most of the time!) this charming pair, Pip (a rabbit) and Posy (a mouse) negotiate the trials and tribulations of toddlers' lives, and will delight toddlers and parents alike. There will be live drawing and storytelling, and maybe even a personal appearance from Pip and Posy themselves.

Kate Wilson, founder of the independent publisher of children's books Nosy Crow, will be on hand to read some stories while Scheffler draws.

Axel Scheffler



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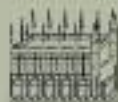
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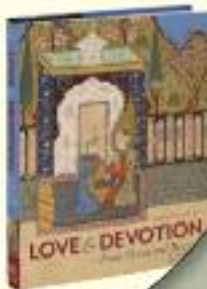
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WOMEN IN SOCIETY PROGRAMME

Gillian Shephard talks to Sarah Baxter 208

The Real Iron Lady:
Working with Mrs T

2pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £11

Baroness Gillian Shephard invited written recollections from some 40 people for *The Real Iron Lady*. They include John Major, Douglas Hurd, Geoffrey Howe and other Cabinet colleagues, a Cabinet Secretary, an ambassador, two distinguished journalists, and a leading trade unionist. A French perspective is provided by Hubert Vedrine, former adviser to President Mitterand and French foreign minister.

The result is a fascinating close-up portrait of Margaret Thatcher from the people who were with her throughout the dramas of her extraordinary political career, laced with Shephard's own recollections as an MP and junior minister. The book portrays Thatcher as a creature of contrasts, courageous, kind, ferocious and feminine. Shephard will be talking to Sarah Baxter, editor of *The Sunday Times Magazine* and former *News Review* editor of *The Sunday Times*.

Shephard and Baxter are both St Hilda's College alumnae and this event is part of the St Hilda's College day at the festival. It is also part of the festival's leadership strand.

Gillian Shephard



Photo: John Maloney

HSBC 
Premier



Bodleian Libraries



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Jeremy Barlow 209

A Dance Through Time: Images of
Western Social Dancing

2pm / Bodleian: Convocation House / £11

Jeremy Barlow looks at social dancing from the Middle Ages to modern times. His look at dance includes a knees-up at a country fair, children around a maypole, ballroom champions, decadent masquerade and celebrations in London on VE Day. Barlow uses 600 years of imagery of social dancing, drawing widely on materials from the Bodleian Library, to paint the major themes and looks at how artists have responded to the challenge of representing dance. He shows how jive and rock and roll finally broke the conventions of dance.

Barlow specialises in English popular and dance music from 1550 to 1750 as a performer, broadcaster, writer and lecturer.

Jeremy Barlow



Philip Pullman talks to
Peter Kemp

214

Grimm Tales: For Young and Old

2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £6-£15



Photo: KT Bruce

His *Dark Materials* author Philip Pullman talks to *Sunday Times* chief fiction reviewer Peter Kemp about his favourite classic fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm. He explains the background to the stories and discusses why they have lasted so long and become such a big part of our collective storytelling imagination.

Pullman recently published a collection of his 50 favourite Brothers Grimm tales retold in his own unique voice. The collection includes romantic favourites such as *Rapunzel*, *Snow White* and *Cinderella* but also some lesser known tales such as *The Three Snake Leaves*, *Hans-my-Hedgehog* and *Godfather Death*.

Pullman is best known for the *His Dark Materials* trilogy, which was turned into the Hollywood film *The Golden Compass*. His other work includes a series featuring Victorian adventurer Sally Lockhart that opens with *Ruby in the Smoke*.

In association with Oxford University Department for Continuing Education and Kellogg College, Oxford.



THE KELLOGG COLLEGE

THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

Alister McGrath

216

C S Lewis: A Life

2pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £11

Theologian and historian Professor Alister McGrath marks the 50th anniversary of the death of C S Lewis with a new and definitive portrait of the author of the Narnia chronicles. McGrath studied newly published correspondence for this biography and challenges previously held beliefs about the timing of Lewis's move from atheism to Christianity. It is the portrait of an eccentric thinker who became an inspiring prophet for our times.

McGrath is professor of theology, ministry and education at King's College London and president of the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics. He is a prolific writer and his works include *Why God Won't Go Away* and *The Dawkins Delusion? Atheist Fundamentalism and the Denial of the Divine*.

Alister McGrath



Lee Gutkind talks to
Jem Poster 220

Creative Non-fiction

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £11



Lee Gutkind talks to poet and novelist Jem Poster about creative non-fiction.

Gutkind was recognised by *Vanity Fair* as 'the Godfather behind creative non-fiction' and is the author and editor of more than 25 books and founder and editor of *Creative Non-fiction*, the first and largest literary magazine to publish narrative non-fiction exclusively.

Gutkind is Distinguished Writer-in-Residence in the Consortium for Science, Policy & Outcomes at Arizona State University and a professor in the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication. He has appeared on many radio and television shows in the USA. His most recent books include *An Immense New Power to Heal: The Promise of Personalized Medicine*, an anthology, *At the End of Life: True Stories About How We Die* and *You Can't Make This Stuff Up*.

Lee Gutkind



Charlie Higson 222

The Sacrifice

2pm / Christ Church: Hall / £6



Photo: Andy Paradise

Writer, actor and comedian Charlie Higson, author of the phenomenally successful Young Bond series of novels and best-selling zombie adventure series for teenagers, *The Enemy*, will be talking about his writing and his latest teen book, *The Sacrifice*. The star of the *Fast Show* has three sons of his own and knows how to terrify and captivate teenagers in equal measure.

Sponsored by



Julia Churchill and Leah Thaxton 230

BookCamp: From Pitch to Publication with your Children's Book**2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £25****A three-hour master-class on children's publishing.**

Old friends on opposite sides of the fence, Leah Thaxton, children's publisher at Faber and Faber, and Julia Churchill, of the Greenhouse Literary Agency, talk through everything you need to know about getting your children's book published. That ranges from what an agent does, to what a publisher looks for, and includes everything in between and afterwards. It is a 360-degree guide to writing, pitching and publishing your children's book – from picture book right through to sophisticated young adult fiction. We welcome back this popular three-hour session, including your chance to ask questions. Fun, revealing and incisive.

2pm – 3pm The Agent

What agents do, how to get one and what they look for. This talk combines a look at the children's book business – how it works and prevailing trends, top tips on how to find the right match for you, and finally an in-depth analysis of what agents look for in a stand-out submission.

3pm-4pm The Publisher

What publishers are looking for and how the publishing process actually works – what drives publishing decisions, the power of the retailers, an insight into the packaging and marketing of books, building classics of the future, and the commercial versus the literary.

4pm-5pm Q&A session/panel discussion

Julia Churchill

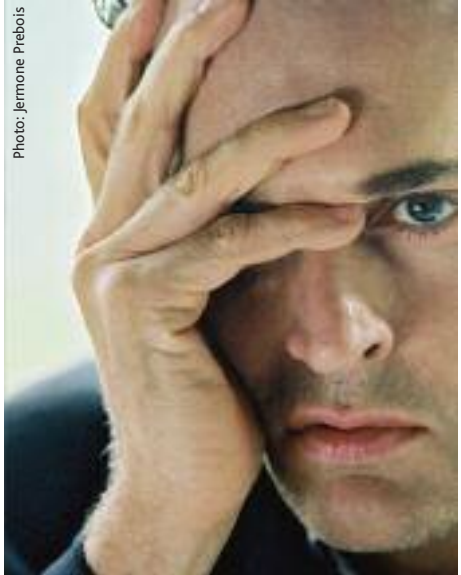


Leah Thaxton

Rupert Everett talks to Paul Blezard 202

Vanished Years**4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £11-£25**

Photo: Jerôme Prebois



Hugely successful actor and writer Rupert Everett follows up his acclaimed first volume of memoirs with a second, *Vanished Years*. There are lots of amazing new encounters and stories from the celebrity circuit and beyond. Everett tells of a hilarious but deeply moving pilgrimage to Lourdes with his father, and of a step into reality TV that goes badly wrong. The first memoir, *Red Carpets and Other Banana Skins*, was hailed as a classic, with Everett compared to Evelyn Waugh, David Niven, Noel Coward and Lord Byron. This second was the Sunday Times's Memoir of the Year.

Everett rose to fame in the film *Another Country* in 1984 and has since gone on to star in many others including *The Madness of King George III*; *My Best Friend's Wedding*; *Shrek II* and *Shrek III*; *Shakespeare in Love* and *St Trinian's*. Here he talks to author and broadcaster Paul Blezard.

Sponsored by

THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

The Oxford Times

James Sallis talks to
Bill Heine 207

Driven

4pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £11



American crime writer, poet and musician James Sallis joins us from the United

States to talk about his latest crime novel *Driven* and his life as a writer, poet and musician.

Sallis is best known for his series of crime novels set in New Orleans and featuring Lew Griffin.

His 2005 novel *Drive* was adapted into an award-winning film. Its sequel, *Driven*, picks up the main character, Drive, some years later after he has turned his back on his old life. The past, however, is about to catch up with him.

Sallis has published 14 novels, several collections of short stories, poetry, and a biography of the writer Chester Himes. He teaches advanced novel writing at Phoenix College, is a regular reviewer in newspapers and magazines, and plays in a band. He is a winner of the Hammett Award for literary excellence in crime writing. A new novel, *Others of My Kind*, is due soon. Here he talks to BBC Radio Oxford broadcaster Bill Heine.

James Sallis



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Simon Jenkins 218

The Challenge for Britain's Historic Houses

4pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £11

Britain's historic houses are changing. They are attracting an ever wider range of visitors, most of them unversed in art and architectural history. The appeal of costume dramas and *Downton Abbey* has encouraged an interest in who lived in these houses and what such living was like for all involved. People want to understand the family dynamic, to understand how a great house worked. They also want to be welcomed as guests, not tolerated as outsiders, to return time and again, not just visit once. The National Trust and other custodians are grappling with this challenge. One of our best-known journalists and chairman of the National Trust, Sir Simon Jenkins, explains how.

Philip Ardagh and
Axel Scheffler 225

The Grunts In Trouble

4pm / Christ Church: JCR / £6

Age 7+



Philip Ardagh and Axel Scheffler

Are you ready to meet The Grunts? That's Mr and Mrs Grunt and their son, Sunny, who has that kind of sticky-up hair which never goes flat, even if you massage glue into it and then jump on it. Join writer Philip Ardagh and illustrator Axel Scheffler for some frankly improbable but very funny adventures!

Sponsored by



Linda Aronson, Pooky Quesnel 231
and Jean Buchanan.
Chaired by Elizabeth Edmondson
Challenging the Hollywood Rules

4pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £11

'Yes, Virginia, you can use flashbacks (but whether you'll be allowed to is another matter).' A conversation about films, screenwriting, and challenging the Hollywood rules with scriptwriter, novelist and script guru Linda Aronson (*Kostas, Dinkum Assorted, Singles, Kelp, The 21st Century Screenplay, Screenwriting Updated*), with screenwriter Jean Buchanan and with actor, singer and scriptwriter Pooky Quesnel (*Doctors, Family Affairs*). Chaired by novelist Elizabeth Edmondson. All four were undergraduates or postgraduates at St Hilda's College, and this event is part of the St Hilda's day at the festival.

Linda Aronson



Pooky Quesnel



John Holmes 233
The Politics of Humanity:
The Reality of Relief Aid

4pm / Bodleian: Convocation House / £11

Former UN Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs Sir John Holmes exposes the often depressing difficulties behind providing humanitarian aid to some of the most troubled spots in the world. Holmes explains how difficult it was to carry out the role he held between 2007 and 2010. It took him to places such as Sri Lanka, Darfur, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he often found UN humanitarian programmes were tolerated but undermined and mistrusted by both sides in the conflicts. Efforts to help those in trouble were too often frustrated by people working for purely political ends.

Holmes worked in the Foreign Office for 34 years, finishing as Ambassador in Paris, before taking up the UN role in 2007. He is now Director of the Ditchley Park Foundation.

John Holmes



Supported by
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Liza Klausmann, Benjamin Markovits and John Sutherland. Chaired by Robert Hewison

234

Lighting out for the Territories – American Fiction Since Mark Twain

4pm / Corpus Christi / £11

Authors Liza Klausmann and Benjamin Markovits and academic and critic

John Sutherland discuss the colossus that is American fiction – is it bigger, brighter, better than its counterparts?

Klausmann, great-great-great granddaughter of Herman Melville,

worked as a journalist for the *New York Times* for over a decade and is now based in London. Her acclaimed first novel, *Tigers in Red Weather*, was published in 2012.

Markovits grew up in Texas, London and Berlin. His novels include *The Syme Papers*, *Either Side of Winter*, *Imposture*, *A Quiet Adjustment*, and *Childish Loves*, the last three a fictionalised trilogy about the life of Byron. Markovits teaches creative writing at Royal Holloway, University of London. Sutherland is the Lord Northcliffe Professor Emeritus at University College, London, and author of many books, including *Lives of the Novelists: A History of Fiction in 294 Lives*. He has edited literary texts for the Folio Society. Sutherland was for several years visiting professor at California Institute of Technology.

The discussion is chaired by Robert Hewison, theatre and arts correspondent for *The Sunday Times*, and author of some 20 books in the field of 19th and 20th-century cultural history. His most recent work, with Chris Orr, is *Chris Orr: The Making of Things*.

This event is part of a series organised in partnership with the Folio Society.

John Harris

235

Malt Whisky Tasting

4pm / Christ Church: Hall / £17

Enjoy a tutored tour of distinctive malt whisky styles, sampling the varieties and nuances of flavour, texture and aroma which characterise this fine, complex and much-loved product of the distiller's art.

John Harris, who was Steward of Christ Church for 25 years, leads this journey – not only a discovery of the sophistication of this world renowned Scottish product, but also an exploration of whisky's adventurous relationship with food. This year's festival tasting offers five contrasting malt whisky samples and culminates in a rare opportunity to taste Christ Church's own unique and precious Port-cask and Madeira-cask matured Islay malt.

Although this event is a book-free oasis amidst the festival's literary treats, loquacity and expressiveness are never far away: does your dram recall the salty tang of a storm-tossed sea, the warm fragrance of harvest on an August evening, pear drops, chocolate, heather honey or haggis-flavoured crisps? You can expect your own wordsmith powers to be much enhanced by this (responsibly managed) experience.

This event lasts 90 minutes.



Liza Klausmann



John Sutherland

John Harris

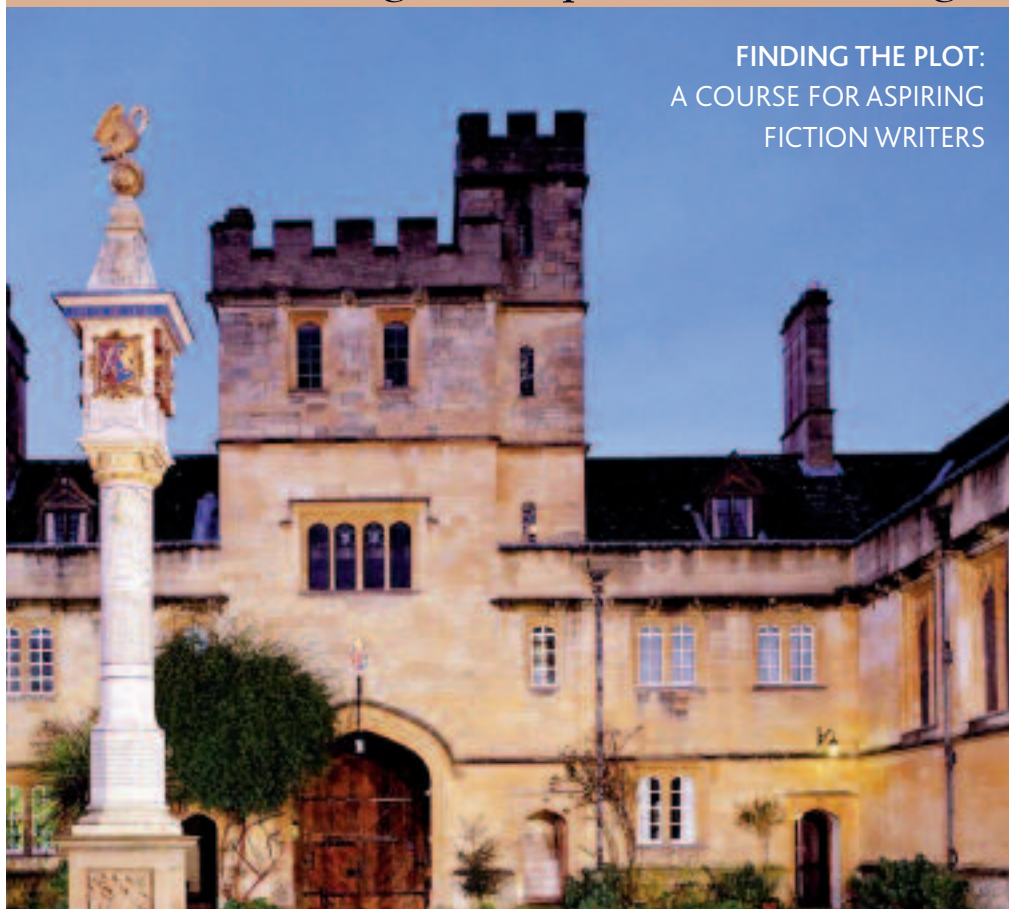



THE SUNDAY TIMES
OXFORD
LITERARY
FESTIVAL

Saturday 16th to
Friday 22nd March 2013

Creative Writing at Corpus Christi College

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Christ Church

OXFORD

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS
OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MAD HATTER TEA PARTIES
IN THE GREAT HALL

9 APRIL 2013, 9 MAY 2013,
30 MAY 2013, 4 JUNE 2013

SPRING SPECIAL INTEREST WEEKEND
'MEDIEVAL WOMEN'

3 - 6 APRIL 2014

OR BOOK BED & BREAKFAST WITH US
DURING THE UNIVERSITY VACATION

For further information about holding
a conference or attending an event at
Christ Church please contact:

Telephone: (01865) 276174 or (01865) 286877
e-mail: joanna.malton@chch.ox.ac.uk

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- ◆ Tours of Christ Church and an opportunity to visit the Picture Gallery
- ◆ A range of function rooms to suit different conferences and events
- ◆ Outstanding catering in the Great Hall
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New for 2013: OXFORD ALUMNI AT THE OXFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL

Saturday 23 March

The Oxford Literary Festival in partnership with the University of Oxford Alumni Office presents a series of Oxonian author events, including:

- Anne Applebaum
- Richard Bradford
- John Carey
- Diarmaid MacCulloch
- Robert MacFarlane
- DJ Taylor
- Kathleen Taylor

Meet the authors and other Oxonians at our exclusive drinks reception on the Saturday evening.

For more details of this special programme and how to book, please see www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/events

Would you like to attend other Oxford alumni events? Coming up in 2013:

- 159th Oxford v Cambridge Boat Race
31 March
London
- Oxford European Reunion
26-28 April
Madrid
- Alumni Careers Day
15 June
London
- Summer Debate at the London Film Institute
18 July
London
- Oxford Alumni Weekend
20-22 September
Oxford

Join our mailing list at www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/mailling-lists to be kept informed of the full events programme.



Oxford Alumni Reunion 2012, The Chancellor's Lecture

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