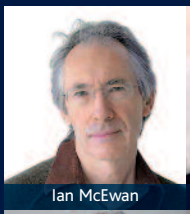
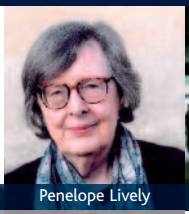
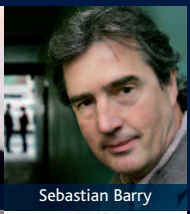
FT Weekend OXFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL

In partnership with HSBC

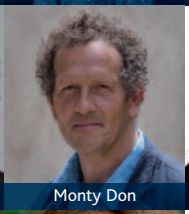
Saturday 17 to Sunday 25 March 2018


Ian McEwan

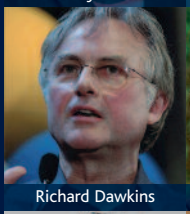

Penelope Lively


Sebastian Barry

Ruby Wax


Monty Don

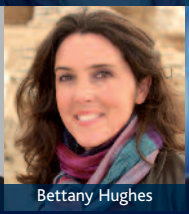
Lauren Child


Richard Dawkins

Claire Tomalin

David Olusoga

Antony Sher


Bettany Hughes

Robert Peston

POCKET GUIDE

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

22 YEARS 1997–2018

WORCESTER COLLEGE
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Bodleian Libraries
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
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Festival Ideas Partner

Box Office 0333 666 3366 • www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org

FT Weekend
OXFORD
LITERARY
FESTIVAL

WELCOME TO YOUR POCKET GUIDE TO THE 2018 FT WEEKEND OXFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL

Tickets

Tickets can be booked up to one hour before the event.

Online: www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org

In person: Oxford Visitor Information Centre, Broad Street, Oxford, seven days a week.*

Telephone box office: 0333 666 3366*

Festival box office: The box office in the Blackwell's marquee will be open during the festival.

Immediately before events: Last-minute tickets are available for purchase from the festival box office in the marquee in the hour leading up to each event. **You are strongly advised to book in advance as the box office can get busy in the period before events.**

* An agents' booking fee of £1.50 will be added to all sales at the visitor information centre and through the telephone box office.

This pocket guide was correct at the time of going to press. Venues are sometimes subject to change, and a few more events will be added to the programme. For all the latest times and venues, check our website at www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org

General enquiries: 07444 318986 **Email:** info@oxfordliteraryfestival.org

Ticket enquiries: tickets@oxfordliteraryfestival.org

colour denotes children's and young people's events

Blackwell's bookshop marquee

The festival marquee is located next to the Sheldonian Theatre. It is the place to experience the buzz of the festival. We will be open throughout the festival – buy your festival tickets, browse a wide range of books by festival speakers, enjoy refreshments from the coffee shop and take in some free author talks while you are there.

Blackwells pop-up bookshops. At every festival event you will find a book desk for buying the works of each speaker – and getting copies signed by the author.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
VSI

Oxford University Press will bring another series of free soap box talks from the *Very Short Introduction* series, with expert authors, twice a day in the Blackwells Marquee (see website for details).

STOP PRESS

The following events were either confirmed or provisionally added to the programme as the pocket guide went to press. Please check for new events and all times and details at **www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org**

Salley Vickers – Cousins and The Librarian

Sunday 18 March / 10am / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Acclaimed novelist Salley Vickers talks about her writing and her latest books *Cousins* and *The Librarian*.

Mark Purcell – Lincoln College Lecture: The Country House Library

Sunday 18 March / 4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Librarian and writer Mark Purcell explains the history of British and Irish country house libraries from Roman times to the present day.

Helena Matheopoulos – Prayers in Opera.

Thursday 22 March / 6pm / Check website for venue

Peter Kemp, David Grylls, Lynne Truss and Jane Thynne. Chaired by James Walton – Festival Literary Quiz

7.30pm / £7-12.50 / Check website for venue and date

Writers and critics Lynne Truss, Jane Thynne, Peter Kemp and Dr David Grylls go head to head in a fun literary quiz under the eyes of quizmaster and BBC Radio 4 presenter James Walton.

Bob Greenberg talks to Miles Young – Warden of New College Colloquy: Speaking to the World

Check website for venue, date and time

Founder and chief executive of the leading marketing agency R/GA, Academy Award Winner Bob Greenberg (Title Sequences for Special Effects for films including *Superman*, *Alien* and many others) talks about his life and career working with the world's leading brands and the responsibility that comes with promoting these brands to the world.

Rupert Younger – The Activist Manifesto

Check website for venue, date and time

Tours of Worcester College Library

Tues 20 and Weds 21 / 11am and 3pm / Worcester College / £15

The Librarian of Worcester College, Mark Bainbridge, invites you to explore the college's 18-century library and its 17th and 18th-century collections.

Access to the library is via a steep spiral staircase and limited. Suitable footwear should be worn. No stilettos.

Details of other college library tours will be added shortly – see website for details

FT Weekend

Title Sponsor

The 'FT Live' day at the festival

A day of events organised by *FT Weekend* and the Bodleian Libraries on Saturday 24 March at the Weston Lecture Theatre, Blackwell Hall and other venues.

Check website for details of programme

John Le Carré in the Sheldonian Theatre at the 2010 festival

Festival venues

A great many of the festival events are staged in some of the most beautiful and historic college and university buildings in Europe – a unique aspect of the Oxford festival experience.

SATURDAY 17 MARCH

Jem Poster

Jem Poster and Sarah Burton – Creative Writing Course: Where do you get your Ideas?

9.30am to 5.30pm / St Cross College / £90

The programme will address the writer's art and craft in ways both practical and thought-provoking, involving both writing and the discussion of writing. The focus will be primarily on fiction, but writers of poetry and creative non-fiction are likely to gain useful insights from the event. This event lasts all day. The price includes coffee, tea and a sandwich lunch.

Helena Kennedy – Gibraltar Lecture: A Passion for Human Rights

10am / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Barrister and television presenter Baroness Helena Kennedy talks about her life and her passion for human rights.

Anthony Horowitz

Anthony Horowitz talks to Nicolette Jones – Alex Rider: Never Say Die

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-£15

Bestselling author Anthony Horowitz opens our children's programme with an unmissable event. Fans were thrilled last year when he suddenly announced a new episode in the adrenaline-fuelled Alex Rider series, and *Never Say Die* is vintage Horowitz. **Age 10+**

Peter Brookes – Interesting Times

10am / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Award-winning political cartoonist Peter Brookes talks about how he sends up the British establishment in his satirical sketches of political life in *The Times*, shows some of his cartoons and draws for the audience.

Patricia Fara – A Lab of One's Own: Science and Suffrage in the First World War

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Historian Patricia Fara uncovers the forgotten suffragists of World War I who changed women's roles and paved the way for today's female scientists.

SATURDAY 17 MARCH (continued)

Danielle Marchant – Pause Every Day

10am / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Executive coach Danielle Marchant explains how you can take a breath and weave the power of 'pause' into your daily life.

Claire Alexander – Workshop: How to Create a Picture Book

11am / Story Museum: Long Room / £10

Learn the professional secrets of illustrating a picture book and have a go at creating your own mini book in colour. Author illustrator Claire Alexander will show her own work and explain how to tell a simple story with pictures successfully over 16 pages. This event lasts 2 hours. Ticket price is for one child and one adult who must stay on site. Coffee included. **Age 8+**

Antony Sher

Antony Sher talks to Jonathan Bate – Worcester College Provost's Lecture. Year of the Mad King: The Lear Diaries

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-£20

One of the greatest Shakespearean actors of modern times Sir Antony Sher reflects on his 2016 Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) performance as King Lear – described by the *Telegraph* as 'a crowning achievement in a major career'.

Sophy Henn – Almost Anything

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7

Join writer and illustrator Sophy Henn for stories, draw-alongs and plenty of cutting and sticking. This event will feature a number of Henn's popular picture books and she will also introduce us to her new character George, star of *Almost Anything*. And of course that sometimes grumpy panda, Pom Pom, will be featuring. Harrumphs and hoorays all round. **Age 3+**

Frances Hardinge – A Skinful of Shadows

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8

Hear Costa Book Award winner Frances Hardinge talk about ghosts, the Gothic, bears and Puritans, all of which feature in her latest book, the extraordinary *A Skinful of Shadows*. **Age 13-adult**

Mick Herron and Lucy Atkins – Secrets and Spies

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Novelists Mick Herron and Lucy Atkins talk about the secrets and spies at the heart of their new books and about writing about flawed and unlikeable characters.

Alice Thwaite

Matthew d'Ancona and Alice Thwaite – The Oxford Debates: Welcome to the Post-truth Era

12 noon / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Two journalists Matthew d'Ancona and Alice Thwaite discuss the post-truth era. What does it all mean and how can we champion truth in in a time of lies and 'alternative facts'?

Charles Saumarez Smith, Christopher le Brun and David Chipperfield – The Royal Academy of Arts

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Artist and President of the Royal Academy of Arts Christopher le Brun is joined by the academy's chief executive Charles Saumarez Smith and architect Sir David Chipperfield for a discussion about the academy's major new redevelopment.

Sally Bayley, Suzie Hanna, Nicole Panizza and Hannah Sanders – Butterflies off Banks of Noon: Emily Dickinson's Poetry through Music and Moving Image

2pm to 5pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £25

Writer and scholar Sally Bayley joins with pianist Nicole Panizza, folk musician Hannah Sanders and filmmaker Suzie Hanna to present the poetry and prose of Emily Dickinson through her relationship to music and poetic imagery. This event lasts three hours.

Lauren Child

Lauren Child talks to Nicolette Jones – The Magic of Reading and Writing

2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-£15

Get inspired by UK Children's Laureate Lauren Child as she explores the magic of reading and writing via some of her best-loved characters including Clarice Bean, Ruby Redfort, and Charlie and Lola. **Age 8+**

Shaun Greenhalgh

Shaun Greenhalgh talks to Waldemar Januszczak – A Forger's Tale: Confessions of the Bolton Forger

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

One-time art forger Shaun Greenhalgh explains how he managed to fool some of the world's greatest museums with work produced out of a shed in the garden of his parents' council house.

Tracey Corderoy and Steven Lenton – Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam

2pm / Story Museum: Story Exchange / £7

Join author Tracey Corderoy and illustrator Steven Lenton for some fabulous fun with their loveable creations, Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam. Hear all about the robber dogs turned crime-solving bakers and their latest adventures in this event full of storytelling fun, games and participation. Age 6+

Nick Ostler and Mark Huckerby – Writing Workshop

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8

Join Nick Ostler and Mark Huckerby for an energetic, funny and informative creative workshop for young writers and readers. Age 8+

Jessica Harris

Jessica Harris talks to Boyd Tonkin – My Soul Looks Back

2pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Writer and academic Jessica Harris recalls a lost era – the vibrant New York of her youth, where her social circle included Maya Angelou, James Baldwin, Tonni Morrison and other members of the black intelligentsia.

Jess Phillips – Everywoman: One Woman's Truth about speaking the Truth

2pm / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Labour MP Jess Phillips says speaking the truth is not always easy but it is empowering and can lead to greater equality.

Sarah Franklin

Paula Byrne and Sarah Franklin – Look to Your Wife and Shelter

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Two Oxford-based debut novelists Paula Byrne and Sarah Franklin discuss their entry into the world of fiction.

Ulrich Raulff – Farewell to the Horse: The Final Century of our Relationship

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

German writer and journalist Ulrich Raulff pays tribute to the horse and looks at how it helped to shape our world.

Allie Esiri – A Poem for Every Day of the Year

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8

Join Allie Esiri and her special guests for an inspiring hour of readings of some of the magical and humorous poems in her latest journey through history and human experience. **Family event**

Anthony Horowitz

Anthony Horowitz talks to Nick Higham – An Audience with Anthony Horowitz and Honorary Fellowship of Oxford Literary Festival

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-£15

Popular novelist and screenwriter Anthony Horowitz is in conversation with BBC television journalist and presenter Nick Higham in a special event to celebrate his life and work.

Ian Goldin – Are We Living in a Second Renaissance?

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Former vice-president of the World Bank Professor Ian Goldin argues that we are going through a second Renaissance and we could learn much about dealing with the challenges of globalisation and rapid change by stepping back and looking at the first Renaissance.

Julia Shaw and Giles Fraser – The Oxford Debates: The Nature of Evil

4pm / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Psychologist Dr Julia Shaw and theologian Rev Dr Giles Fraser discuss the nature of evil.

Laura Carlin

Lauren Child, Laura Carlin and Sara Fanelli – The Art of Illustration

5.30pm / Story Museum: Story Exchange / £8

Children's Laureate Lauren Child – a passionate advocate for visual literacy and for book illustration as an art form in its own right – is joined by two other exciting and internationally recognised picture book illustrators Laura Carlin and Sara Fanelli to discuss the art of illustration and why it is so important in all our lives. **Age 13 – adult**

Roger Norrington

Roger Norrington talks to Matthew Stadlen – A Life in Music

6pm / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

World-renowned Oxford-born conductor Sir Richard Norrington talks about his life and career in music.

Jillian Scudder – Astroquizzical: A Curious Journey Through our Cosmic Family Tree

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Astrophysicist Dr Jillian Scudder explains how our planet relates to its sibling planets in our solar system and how it would not exist without our grandparent the Sun and its own distant relatives in the Milky Way.

Claire Tomalin

Claire Tomalin talks to Richard Ovenden – Bodley Lecture and Award of Bodley Medal: A Life of My Own

6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-£15

One of the leading biographers of her age Claire Tomalin talks about her own life, in conversation with Bodley's Librarian Richard Ovenden, and receives the Bodley Medal – awarded to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the worlds in which the Bodleian is active including literature, culture, science and communication.

Zing Tsjeng – Forgotten Women

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Writer, editor and spokesperson for millennial women Zing Tsjeng looks at the influential women leaders and scientists that history has forgotten and puts them squarely back on the map.

Nadja Spiegelman

Nadja Spiegelman talks to Hannah Beckerman – I'm Supposed to Protect you from All This

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Writer and graphic novelist Nadja Spiegelman talks about her acclaimed memoir of mothers and daughters traced through four generations and about Resist!, a free print publication of graphics and comics mainly by female artists that she co-edits with her mother.

Neil MacGregor – Living with the Gods: 40,000 Years of Peoples, Objects and Beliefs

Event postponed until later in the year. New date to be announced.

8pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-£12.50

Former director of the National Gallery and the British Museum Dr Neil MacGregor looks at how different societies have understood and explained their place in the cosmos.

SUNDAY 18 MARCH

Catherine Barr

Catherine Barr and Steve Williams – The Story of Space: A First Book About our Universe

10am / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7

From the birth of the first stars to life on Earth, come and discover the story of our universe. Pull on planet T-shirts and help to create a timeline on stage when you join Catherine Barr and Steve Williams in a fascinating journey from the beginning of time. **Age 6+**

Asfa-Wossen Asserate

Asfa-Wossen Asserate talks to Nick Higham – African Exodus: Mass Migration and the Future of the West

10am / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £8-13.50

Prince Asfa Wossen Asserate looks at the current mass migration from Africa to Europe and argues that neither building higher fences nor finding better ways of integration will solve the problem in the long run.

Barbara Cooke – Evelyn Waugh's Oxford

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

English lecturer Dr Barbara Cooke looks at the importance of Oxford to the novelist Evelyn Waugh and how it was portrayed in various forms in his novels.

David Olusoga

David Olusoga talks to Janina Ramirez – Civilisations: First Contact and the Cult of Progress

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-12.50

Historian and broadcaster David Olusoga talks about his part in *Civilisations*, the much-anticipated BBC update of Kenneth Clark's landmark *Civilisation* television series, and about his work to highlight the truth about links between the British Isles and the people of Africa.

Michelle Robinson – Ten Fat Sausages

11am / Story Museum / £8

Ten fat sausages sizzling in the pan decide to escape... Join Michelle Robinson for a hilarious storytelling session about her brand new book *Ten Fat Sausages*. Imagine The Great Escape, but with sausages. **Age 6+**

Lauren St John

Lauren St John, S F Said and Tamsyn Murray. Chaired by Jonathan Stroud – RISE: A First-aid Kit for Getting Through Tough Times

12 noon / St Cross College / £8

Inspired by his Freedom to Think campaign, Oxford Literary Festival favourite Jonathan Stroud challenges us all to get creative. Joining him on stage will be other top talent from the books world including Lauren St John, SF Said and Tamsyn Murray. Age 6-adult

Cressida Cowell

Cressida Cowell and Mark Nicholas – Tantrum O'Furrily

12 noon / Story Museum: Story Exchange / £7

'One wild and windy night a stray cat called Tantrum O'Furrily and her three hungry kittens were dancing across the roof tops . . . ' Find out what happens next in this exciting new picture book, with author Cressida Cowell and illustrator Mark Nicholas. Storytelling magic. Age 5+

Richard Dawkins

Richard Dawkins talks to Nick Higham – Science in the Soul

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-20

One of the world's most talked-about scientists Professor Richard Dawkins discusses the passion for science and clear thinking that runs through his new collection of essays and polemics spanning 30 years, *Science in the Soul*.

Alexander Newley – Unaccompanied Minor: A Memoir

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Leading portrait artist Alexander Newley talks about growing up as the son of Hollywood stars Joan Collins and Anthony Newley and reflects on his life and art.

Clifford V Johnson – The Dialogues: Conversations about the Nature of the Universe

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Physicist Clifford V Johnson argues that science should be a topic of daily conversation for everyone and he invites us to listen in on some conversations about the nature of the universe that he has written and illustrated in graphic-novel form.

Peter Conradi

Peter Conradi and Angus Roxburgh – Putin and the New Russia

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Journalists Peter Conradi and Angus Roxburgh discuss the new Russia and its place in the world with the benefit of their years of first-hand experience of living in and reporting on the country. They will also reflect on the outcome of the Russian presidential election on March 18.

Will Gompertz

Will Gompertz and Anu Anand – BBC World Service Live

2pm / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / Free (but tickets must be booked)

BBC arts editor Will Gompertz and BBC World Service presenter Anu Anand present a two-hour live BBC World Service Radio broadcast from the stunning grounds of Worcester College, Oxford.

The event will feature interviews and discussions with authors, academics and musicians and will be broadcast around the world.

Judith Kerr

Judith Kerr talks to Nicolette Jones – Katinka's Tail

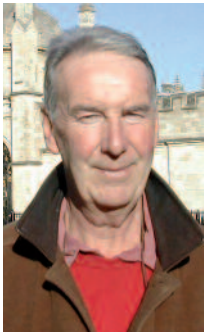
2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-£15

Author of classic picture books Judith Kerr talks about her picture books and her stories based on her own childhood and escape from Nazi Germany. Age 6+

Philip Ardagh – My Secret Diary

2pm / Story Museum: Story Exchange / £8

Join Philip Ardagh as he shares the silly secrets of being a knight in training in a medieval castle and find out what life was really like as a Victorian house maid in his *My Secret Diary* event. Expect a fun fact-filled session with lots of laughs. Age 7+



Literary Oxford with Alastair Lack

2pm / Meet outside St John's College Lodge, St Giles / £25

Explore Oxford colleges and landmark buildings in the company of the poets A E Housman, AC 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 Tolkein 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.

Johnny Ball – Wonders Beyond Numbers: A Brief History of All Things Mathematical

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Comedian, television presenter and maths enthusiast Johnny Ball explains how humanity built up the understanding of shapes, numbers and patterns that has led to the technological wonderland we live in today.

Peter Hunt
– The Making of Wind in the Willows

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Professor of English and children's literature Peter Hunt looks at the mysteries surrounding the writing of Kenneth Grahame's children's classic Wind in the Willows.

William Chislett
– The Independence Crisis in Catalonia

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Journalist and author William Chislett looks at Catalonia's unilateral declaration of independence and the recent regional elections and asks whether it is possible to accommodate both the pro-and anti-independence camps?

Ruth O'Callaghan – A Poetry Workshop: What we Don't Admit to

2pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Poet Ruth O'Callaghan leads a poetry workshop on the theme of 'what we don't admit to'. Relationships involving others or one's relationship with oneself – possibly even more complex – demand scrutiny.

David Bolchover

David Bolchover talks to Matthew Stadlen
– The Greatest Comeback, From Genocide to Football Glory, the Story of Béla Guttmann

4pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Author and commentator David Bolchover tells the story of Europe's first superstar football coach Béla Guttman, a survivor of the Holocaust who rose to twice lead the great Benfica team of the 1960s to the European Cup.

Holly Black

Holly Black talks to Imogen Russell Williams – The Cruel Prince

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £8

Join New York Times-bestselling author Holly Black as she discusses her new book *The Cruel Prince*, a thrilling new adventure about a mortal girl who finds herself caught in a dangerous web of royal faerie intrigue. **Age young adult**

Cressida Cowell – The Wizards of Once

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8

Bestselling children's author Cressida Cowell introduces her magical new series, *The Wizards of Once*. Expect an exciting event full of wizards, warriors and magical wonders. **Age 8+**

Ben Arogundade – Obama: 101 Best Covers: Power, Portraiture and Propaganda

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Writer and publisher Ben Arogundade looks at President Obama's time in the White House through a series of newspaper and magazine covers, compares the coverage with that now given to Donald Trump and discusses power, portraiture and propaganda.

Su Tong

Su Tong talks to Angus Phillips – An Audience with Su Tong

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Man Asian Literary Prize-winning Chinese novelist Su Tong talks about his life and work.

Ruth O'Callaghan – Poetry Reading: What we don't Admit to

6pm / St Cross College / Free (but tickets must be booked)

Participants in the afternoon's poetry workshop with Ruth O'Callaghan read the poetry they have written as a result.

MONDAY 19 MARCH

Joanna Snelling – Of Bees and Books: 500 Years of an Oxford College Library

10am / Corpus Christi:
Lecture Theatre / £13.50-£17.50

Corpus Christi College librarian Joanna Snelling explains the history of the college library and offers a tour of the original library building. The talk will be followed by three short tours of the original library building. Tickets are priced £13.50 for the talk only and £17.50 for the talk and a tour. All ticketholders will be offered coffee and biscuits at the close of the talk and while waiting for the tour.

Sabrina Ghayour

Sabrina Ghayour, Skye McAlpine and José Pizarro talk to Donald Sloan – Food and Drink: Defining a Sense of Place

12 noon / Oxford Martin School:
Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Well known chefs and food writers Sabrina Ghayour, Skye McAlpine and José Pizarro explore how food and drink define a sense of place.

Adrian Mourby – Rooms of One's Own: 50 Places that Made Literary History

12 noon / Oxford Martin School:
Seminar Room / £7-12.50

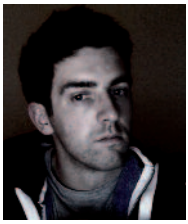
Travel writer, novelist and drama producer Adrian Mourby goes in search of the places where his literary heroes wrote some of their greatest works.

Rob Iliffe

Rob Iliffe talks to Andrew Robinson – Priest of Nature: The Religious Worlds of Isaac Newton

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Historian Professor Rob Iliffe takes a look at the little known religious views of one of the greatest scientists in history Isaac Newton and finds a man with some surprisingly radical thoughts.



John Danaher

John Danaher talks to Stephen Law – Robot Sex: Social and Ethical Implications

12 noon / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Law lecturer and expert in law and emerging technologies Dr John Danaher says it may not be long before humans can have sex with robots. He discusses the implications with author and philosopher Stephen Law.

Mike Wooldridge
– Artificial Intelligence: Fact and Fiction

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Computer scientist Professor Michael Wooldridge explains the reality of artificial intelligence today: what makes artificial intelligence work after half a century of effort, what is possible and what is not, and what are the implications for all of us?

WH Auden

Oxford Poets with Alastair Lack

2pm / Meet outside St John's College Lodge, St Giles / £25

Oxford University produced a rich crop of poets in the 20th century – from First World War poets such as Robert Graves and Edmund Blunden, through the 'pylon poets' of the 1920s and 1930s (such as WH Auden and Louis MacNeice) to Philip Larkin, Keith Douglas and distinguished contemporary poets, not forgetting, of course, John Betjeman. Enjoy readings from their poetry and prose, from St John's College to Merton. This walk lasts two hours and ends at Christ Church.

Jas Elsner – Imagining the Divine: Art and the Rise of World Religions

2pm / Corpus Christi College: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Classicist and art historian Professor Jas Elsner looks at some of the world's oldest religious art and explains how the images we now associate with the major religions of Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism were forged.

Brian Nolan – Children of Austerity: Impact of the Great Recession

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Expert in social policy professor Brian Nolan explains how children in rich countries were among the main victims of the 2008 financial crisis and the subsequent recession and asks what lessons can be learned.

Miranda Seymour

Miranda Seymour and Ursula Martin
– Ada Lovelace: The Making of a Computer Scientist

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Two biographers of Lord Byron's daughter Ada Lovelace, Miranda Seymour and Professor Ursula Martin, look at the extraordinary life of the woman whose work is seen as a precursor of modern computers and artificial intelligence.

MONDAY 19 MARCH (continued)

Michael Collins – Journey: An Illustrated History of Travel

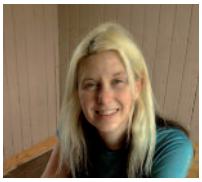
4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Writer, priest and former adviser to the Vatican Father Michael Collins looks at the history of travel and its themes of migration, exploration, scientific discovery, development of transport and the rise of tourism.

Martin Goodman – A History of Judaism

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Expert in Jewish studies Professor Martin Goodman takes a look at the history and evolution of Judaism.



Phoebe Smith – Wilderness Weekends

4pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Adventure travel magazine editor and author Phoebe Smith reveals the 26 best places for wild camping in Britain.

Louise Richardson

Louise Richardson and David Willetts – The Future of our Universities

5pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-12.50

Former universities minister Lord David Willetts and vice-chancellor of the University of Oxford Professor Louise Richardson discuss the future for the UK's universities.

Wendy Hall – Ada Lovelace Lecture: Artificial Intelligence through the Looking Glass

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / Free

Computer scientist Dame Wendy Hall explains how artificial intelligence can already outperform humans on some tasks and looks at the implications for human society. This event is free but tickets must be booked through the usual channels.

Lucy Cooke – The Unexpected Truth About Animals

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

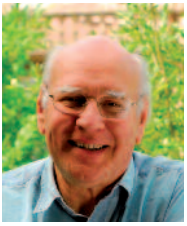
Zoologist, broadcaster and filmmaker Lucy Cooke dispels the myths about animals and reveals some surprising scientific truths.

John Boyne

John Boyne talks to Hannah Beckerman – The Heart's Invisible Furies

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Bestselling novelist John Boyne (*The Boy with Striped Pyjamas*) talks about his latest book, *The Heart's Invisible Furies*.



John Lister-Kaye – The Dun Cow Rib: A Very Natural Childhood

6pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

One of Britain's best-known naturalists, conservationists and nature writers Sir John Lister-Kaye talks about his memoir of childhood and his awakening to the wonders of the natural world.

Kevin Crossley-Holland

Joanne Harris and Kevin Crossley-Holland – Bringing the Gods of the Vikings to Life

6pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7

Two authors with a passion for Norse myth and storytelling Joanne Harris and Kevin Crossley-Holland discuss the gods of the Vikings and how they have brought them back to life in their own works.
Family event.

TUESDAY 20 MARCH

Claire Cock-Starkey – The Book Lovers' Miscellany and A Library Miscellany

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Writer and editor Claire Cock-Starkey celebrates books and libraries and the people behind them with a look at some curious facts, potted histories and lists from *The Book Lovers' Miscellany* and *A Library Miscellany*.

Benedict le Vay – Eccentric Oxford

12noon / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Journalist and travel writer Benedict le Vay looks beyond the dreaming spires of Oxford, suggests some out-of-the way places to visit and offers some quirkier facts about the festival's host city.

Miranda Kaufmann – Black Tudors: The Untold Story

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

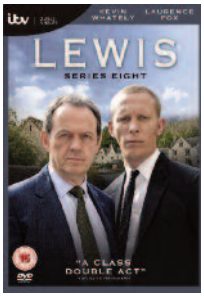
Writer and academic Miranda Kaufmann reveals some of the extraordinary stories about the roles played by black people in Tudor times.

Joanne Harris

Joanne Harris – A Pocketful of Crows

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Novelist Joanne Harris talks about her new and original modern fairytale, *A Pocketful of Crows*, a story of loss, love and revenge.



Alastair Lack – The Oxford of Inspector Morse, Lewis and Endeavour

2pm / Meet outside Balliol College Lodge, Broad Street / £25

Mention Oxford and dreaming spires, and colleges and quadrangles come to mind – plus, of course, Inspector Morse. The television series featuring John Thaw was based on the novels of Oxford writer Colin Dexter and remains immensely popular worldwide. Morse and Sergeant Lewis encounter heads of houses, dons, murderers and criminals in the course of their detective work – pausing only for a pint or two in a favourite pub. This walk visits the scenes of some of the best known cases of Inspector Morse, Lewis and Endeavour. This walk lasts two hours and ends at Christ Church.

Christopher Priest

Christopher Priest – An Afternoon with Brian Aldiss: Celebrating his Life and Work

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Novelist and science fiction writer Christopher priest leads a session celebrating the life and work of Brian Aldiss, one of the most influential and prolific authors of the 20th century.

Richard Mabey – The Cabaret of Plants: Botany and the Imagination

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Nature writer Richard Mabey celebrates the plants that have challenged our imaginations and upturned our ideas about history, science, beauty and belief.

Declan Kiberd – After Ireland: Writing the Nation from Beckett to the Present

2pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

One of Ireland's best-known literary critics Professor Declan Kiberd examines the crisis of Irish statehood through its postwar writers.

Monty Don and Derry Moore – Paradise Gardens: A Journey Through India and Turkey to Morocco and Spain

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-20

Britain's best-known gardener Monty Don and one of the greatest photographers of his age Derry Moore talk about their book on Islamic gardens and the accompanying BBC television series that airs this spring.

Monty Don (right) and Derry Moore

John Kiszely – The British Fiasco in Norway, 1940

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Lieutenant General Sir John Kiszely draws on 40 years' experience in the British Army to assess the military campaign in Norway in 1940 – a fiasco that led to the fall of Neville Chamberlain and his replacement by Winston Churchill.

Stephen King

Ian Goldin and Stephen King – Globalisation : A Beast without a Nation?

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Former vice-president of the World Bank Professor Ian Goldin and economist Stephen King look at the fallout from globalisation.

Rachel Joyce

Rachel Joyce and Joanna Cannon – Novels of Kindness

4pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Novelists Rachel Joyce and Joanna Cannon talk about their latest novels. Are they a response to the bewildering and unkind world we live in? And what can they teach us about how to be?

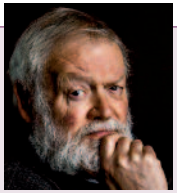
Philip Pullman and Claire Armitstead – An Afternoon with Brian Aldiss: Science Fiction as Literature

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

One of the UK's leading authors Philip Pullman and Guardian journalist Claire Armitstead explore the place of science fiction in the literary canon in a tribute event to the science fiction writer Brian Aldiss.

Philip Pullman

TUESDAY 20 MARCH (continued)


Michael Longley

Michael Longley talks to Kevin Crossley-Holland – A Life in Poetry

6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-12.50

Celebrated Northern Irish poet Michael Longley talks to fellow poet Kevin Crossley-Holland about his life and work.

Scilla Elworthy – The Business Plan for Peace: Building a World Without War

6pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Three-time Nobel Peace Prize nominee Dr Scilla Elworthy looks at the forces that drive armed conflict and explains what can be done to build peace both locally and internationally.

William Whyte

William Whyte talks to Diarmaid MacCulloch – Unlocking the Church: The Lost Secrets of Victorian Sacred Space

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Social and architectural historian Professor William Whyte explains the revolution in thought and architecture that led to an explosion in the building of Victorian churches and whose legacy still stands round every street corner today.

Ece Temelkuram

Sarah Winman and Ece Temelkuram – Women who Blow on Knots and Tin Man

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Two successful novelists from home and abroad, Sarah Winman and Ece Temelkuran, join to discuss their latest novels.

Madhur Jaffrey

Monty Don and Madhur Jaffrey – Black Tie Literary Dinner: Hosted by James Calladine of HSBC

7pm / Keble College / £150

Reception **7pm**, dinner **7:45pm** in Keble College Hall. Price of £150 includes reception, dinner, wines, and a copy of Monty Don and Derry Moore's *Paradise Gardens*. Dress code: black tie. Dinner hosted by James Calladine, chief risk officer at HSBC UK. Join Britain's best-known gardener Monty Don for an Indian-themed dinner in the magnificent Victorian Gothic dining hall of Keble College prepared by the doyenne of Indian food Madhur Jaffrey.

WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH

BBC Four previews

A series of events to preview up and coming BBC Four documentaries including those below. **Check website for details of all events.**

Broadcast Media Partner

- A N Wilson talks about his new film *Return to Eliotland* and introduces clips
- *The Prime of Dame Muriel Spark*
- Waldemar Januszczak on *Made in the USA – Jackson Pollock*
- Bettany Hughes talks about her new documentary *Bacchus Uncovered*

Thomas Charles-Edwards

– Corpus Christi College, Oxford: A History

10am / Corpus Christi: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Historian Professor Thomas Charles-Edwards looks at the history of Corpus Christi College and offers new insights into its founding and the movements that shaped its development.

Sarah Wyndham Lewis

– Planting for Honeybees: The Growers Guide to Creating a Buzz

10am / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Beekeeper and gardener Sarah Wyndham Lewis explains how you can help honeybees to flourish by creating a garden made for them.

Victor Mallett – River of Life, River of Death: The Ganges and India's Future

10am / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Foreign correspondent Victor Mallett explains how India is killing the Ganges and how the river is in turn killing India.

Diana Moran

Diana Moran and Muir Gray

– Sod Sitting, Get Moving!

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-12.50

The Green Goddess of *BBC Breakfast Time* Diana Moran joins forces with one of the country's leading public health experts Sir Muir Gray to explain how to keep fit and healthy in later life.

Rebecca Louise Law

Rebecca Louise Law talks to Janina Ramirez – Life in Death

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Internationally acclaimed installation artist Rebecca Louise Law talks about her new book and Kew Gardens exhibition, *Life in Death*, which showcase her use of preserved flowers as sculptural material.

Rodric Braithwaite – Armageddon and Paranoia: The Nuclear Confrontation 1945-2016

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Former British ambassador in Moscow Sir Rodric Braithwaite explains how nuclear weapons came into being and how the world has grappled with the possibility of global annihilation.

Kate Young – The Little Library Cookbook

12 noon / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Food writer Kate Young talks about her book of recipes based on those taken from her favourite works of fiction and offers some tastings.

Steven Price Brown – Riddle the Waves. Sailing the Spirit of Falmouth

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Afghanistan veteran Steven Price Brown tells the story of how he and a group of fellow veterans traumatised by their experiences in conflict zones sailed the tall ship, *Spirit of Falmouth*, from Cornwall to Liverpool the long way. He will show a short film about the journey.

Sam Leith – Write to the Point: How to Master the Fine Art of Persuasion

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Writer and literary editor Sam Leith explains how to get your way with the art of persuasive writing.

Will Wyatt – Oxford Boy: A Post-War Townie Childhood

12 noon / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Former BBC executive Will Wyatt tells the story of his humble Oxford upbringing in the 1940s and 50s and how his childhood was transformed by a scandalous and unexpected event.

Alan Johnson

Alan Johnson talks to Matthew Stadlen – The Long Winding Road

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-12.50

Labour cabinet minister in the Brown and Blair governments Alan Johnson talks about his life and career and reflects on the future of the Labour Party and the trade union movement.

Joe Studholme – Joseph Banks' Florilegium: Botanical Treasures from Cook's First Voyage

2pm / St Cross College / £7-£12.50

Fine art publisher Joe Studholme explains the modern printing of Joseph Banks' collection of botanical engravings and shows some of the fine illustrations.

Fiona Sampson – Mary Shelley: The Girl who Wrote Frankenstein

2pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £8-13.50

Poet and writer Fiona Sampson looks beyond the well-known story of Mary Shelley to uncover the complex yet generous friend, intellectual, lover and mother behind it.

The Blowfish – Blowfish's Oceanopedia

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Marine biologist and star of ITV's *Fishing Impossible* series 'The Blowfish' reveals some of the more fascinating creatures that live beneath the ocean waves from the meiofauna living in the sand of our beaches to the 'vampire squid from hell'.

Christian Wolmar – Railways and the Raj: How the Age of Steam Transformed India

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Transport writer and broadcaster Christian Wolmar explains how the British built the Indian railway network to control the country but in doing so unwittingly created the preconditions for the country's independence.

Helena Kelly and Rachel Hewitt – Jane Austen, the Secret Radical and A Revolution of Feeling

2pm / Corpus Christi: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Two authors Helena Kelly and Rachel Hewitt take a look at a revolution in thinking at the end of the 18th-century through their books on Jane Austen and on political life.

Sarah Wood – Stepping Up: How to Accelerate your Leadership Potential

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Co-founder and chief executive of the leading tech business Unruly Dr Sarah Wood says traditional management texts are no longer fit for purpose and argues that success now depends on harnessing technology, embracing our humanity and meeting change.

Tim Pears

Tim Pears and Marie-Elsa Bragg – Love of the Land: The Wanderers and Towards Mellbreak

4pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Novelists Tim Pears and Marie-Elsa Bragg discuss their new books, in which love of the land and nature feature strongly.

Lucy Moore – Lady Fanshawe's Receipt Book: The Life and Times of a Civil War Heroine

4pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Writer Lucy Moore reveals the struggles and joys of an ordinary woman fighting to keep her family together in mid-17th-century England.

James Attlee – Guernica: Painting the End of the World

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Publisher and writer James Attlee looks at the genesis, creation and afterlife of perhaps the most famous painting of the 20th century, Picasso's *Guernica*.

Stephen Law – The Oxford Debates: How to Raise Good Citizens

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Philosopher and author Stephen Law leads an interactive debate with the audience on one of the most challenging questions of our time: How can we best raise good citizens. Come along, be challenged and join in the debate.

Maggie Gee

Maggie Gee and Jacob Ross – Protest: Stories of Resistance

6pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Authors Maggie Gee and Jacob Ross look at stories of people fighting for justice and consider how change in society is often driven by the protest of ordinary people against injustice.

John Crace – I Maybot. The Rise and Fall

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

John Crace, the parliamentary sketch writer who coined the satirical name Maybot, takes a wry look at Theresa May's time in Downing Street.

David Cohen

Kevin Crossley-Holland, Richard Mabey and David Cohen

– A North Norfolk Man: Writers and Place

6pm to 7.30pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Director David Cohen introduces the first showing of his 30-minute film, *A North Norfolk Man*, about the writer and poet Kevin Crossley-Holland and how his writing is rooted in his Norfolk home. The showing will be followed by readings and discussion about writing and place between Cohen, Crossley-Holland and another Norfolk writer, Richard Mabey.

Sophie Kinsella

Sophie Kinsella talks to Suzi Feay

– An Interview with Sophie Kinsella

6pm / Sheldonian theatre / £7-12.50

International bestselling chick-lit author Sophie Kinsella talks about her life and career and about her latest novel of love and the long-term survival of a relationship, *Surprise Me*.

John McHugo

– A Concise History of Sunnis and Shi'is

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

International lawyer and expert on the Arab world John McHugo explains how the 1,400-year-old schism between Sunnis and Shi'is came about and how it has come to define Islam and the Muslim world.

NOMA Physical Theatre Company

– Nozze di Sangue

7.30pm / St Cross College / £20

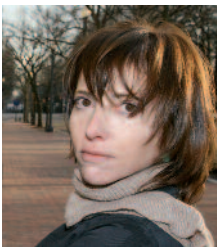
NOMA Physical Theatre Company presents its premiere of an adaptation of Lorca's Spanish classic, *Nozze di Sangue* or *Blood Wedding*, in movement and dance. The performance lasts 55 minutes and is followed by a discussion with the directors and actors.

THURSDAY 22 MARCH

Thomas Weber – Becoming Hitler: The Making of a Nazi

10am / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Historian Professor Thomas Weber charts the rise of Hitler from the awkward post-World War One loner to ruthless dictator and offers new evidence that a biography that helped his rise to power was written by Hitler himself.



Christina Oxenberg – Dynasty: A True Story

10am / Bodleian: Divinity School/ £7-12.50

Writer, fashion designer and direct descendant of the Serbian royal family Christina Oxenberg tells the gripping story of her own family's past and its part in Europe's royal dynasties from the 18th century to the present day.

Simon Courtauld – Footprints in Spain: British Lives in a Foreign Land

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Journalist and author Simon Courtauld looks at the history of Britons in Spain and at the cultural and historic links between the two nations.

Ronald Hutton

Ronald Hutton talks to Diarmaid MacCulloch – British Academy Lecture – The Witch: A History of Fear

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-£20

Leading authority on witchcraft and ancient, medieval and modern paganism Professor Ronald Hutton looks at why societies across the world have feared witchcraft and how that fear can be eradicated.

Ian Stewart – Significant Figures: Lives and Works of Trailblazing Mathematicians

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Popular science writer and mathematician Professor Ian Stewart looks at the lives and works of 25 of the world's greatest mathematicians.

Nicholas Rankin – Defending the Rock: How Gibraltar Defeated Hitler

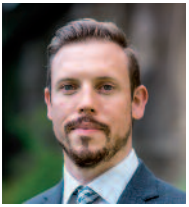
12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Writer Nicholas Rankin looks at the role of Gibraltar in the fight against fascism and the rise to independence of the Gibraltarians.

Alex Preston – As Kingfishers Catch Fire

12 noon / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Bestselling novelist Alex Preston takes his audience on an illustrated journey through his new book – an exploration of birds through literature.



Brian Klaas – The Despot's Apprentice: Trump's Attack on Democracy

12 noon / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Expert on authoritarianism Brian Klaas says Donald Trump is behaving like a despot's apprentice and is eroding democratic norms in the world's most powerful democracy.

Robert Tobin – Hubert Butler: Witness to the Future

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Biographer and priest Dr Robert Tobin talks about the great Irish essayist and human rights activist Hubert Butler and introduces a film about his life, *Hubert Butler: Witness to the Future*, directed by Johnny Gogan.

Ben Goldacre

Ben Goldacre talks to Matthew Stadlen – A Life in Science

2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-15

Doctor and scientist Dr Ben Goldacre talks about his work, his writing and his campaigns against the misuse of science and statistics by journalists, politicians, drug companies and plain old quacks.

Katie Hickman – The House at Bishopsgate

2pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Bestselling historical novelist Katie Hickman talks about her new book – a haunting and magical story set in 17th-century London.

James Stourton – British Embassies: Their Diplomatic and Architectural History

2pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Art historian and writer James Stourton looks at how Britain has expressed its character to foreign nationals through its embassies abroad.

David Kynaston – Till Time's last Sand: A History of the Bank of England

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Bestselling historian Dr David Kynaston takes a look at the fascinating and largely unknown history of one of Britain's great institutions, the Bank of England.

Alastair Lack – Literary Oxford with Alastair Lack

2pm / Meet outside St John's College Lodge, St Giles / £25

See Sunday 18th March for full details.

Joanne Limburg

– Small Pieces: A Memoir of Loss and Consolation

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Poet Joanne Limburg talks about her new memoir that grew out of her grief following the suicide of her brother and death of her mother.

Robert Peston

Robert Peston talks to Matthew Stadlen

– WTF: What have we done? Why did it happen? How do we take back control?

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-20

Journalist and television presenter Robert Peston gives a personal and passionate account of what our rulers have got so badly wrong in the last few years and what we need to do to mend the fractures in our society that have led to so many political shocks.

James Suzman – Affluence without Abundance: The Disappearing World of the Bushmen

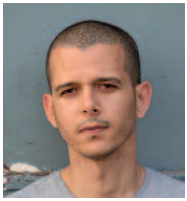
4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Anthropologist Dr James Suzman gives a vivid portrait of the 'original affluent society' – the Bushmen of southern Africa he has been studying for 25 years.

Fergus Garrett and Lucille Savin talk to Ambra Edwards – Head Gardeners

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Journalist and garden historian Ambra Edwards speaks to two of the nation's best-known head gardeners, Fergus Garrett and Lucille Savin, both of whom feature in Edwards's *Head Gardeners*.



Abdellah Taïa – Another Morocco: Selected Stories

4pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Moroccan novelist and filmmaker Abdellah Taïa, who became the first openly gay Arab writer in 2006, talks about his selection of short stories, Another Morocco.

Johann Hari – Lost Connections: The Real Causes of Depression – and Unexpected Solutions

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Journalist and writer Johann Hari says depression and anxiety are not caused by chemical imbalances in our brain but by the way we live today.

Sebastian Barry

Sebastian Barry talks to Chris Patten – Chancellor's Lecture: Days Without End

6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-20

One of Ireland's finest writers Sebastian Barry talks about his life and distinguished career, at the personal invitation of the chancellor of the University of Oxford Lord Chris Patten.

Bijan Omrani – Caesar's Footprints: Journeys to Roman Gaul

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Historian and classicist Bijan Omrani argues that Julius Caeser's most enduring legacy is his conquest of Gaul – now modern France – in 58 BC.

Douglas Murray – The Strange Death of Europe: Immigration, Identity, Islam

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Journalist and political commentator Douglas Murray draws a picture of Europe in demise and a continent and culture caught in the act of suicide.

Roger Scruton – Englishness

6pm / St Cross College / £8-13.50

Philosopher Sir Roger Scruton talks about his vision of Englishness and how it is threatened by the likes of the European Union, devolution and elitist scorn.

FRIDAY 23 MARCH

Phil Harris

Phil Harris and Ivan Fallon
– Lord Harris of Peckham

10am / Corpus Christi College: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Entrepreneur, philanthropist and creator of the first academy school in London Lord Phil Harris talks to his biographer, financial journalist Ivan Fallon, about his life and career.

Will Hutton

Will Hutton and Andrew Adonis
– Hertford Conversations. Saving Britain: What Europe Does For Us and How to Keep the Best of It

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-12.50

Former editor of the *Observer* Will Hutton and Labour politician Lord Andrew Adonis look at how Britain benefits from the EU, show how those benefits might be kept and explain why the UK must improve living standards for those in the poorest parts of the country.

Beatrice Groves

Beatrice Groves talks to Peter Kemp
– Literary Allusion in Harry Potter

10am / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Expert in literary allusion Dr Beatrice Groves explains how J K Rowling's Harry Potter series of novels draws on great literary works of the past including the works of Shakespeare, Homer, Ovid, Chaucer, Milton, Tennyson, Hardy, Chaucer and Dickens.

Mary Hollingsworth – The Medici

10am / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Italian Renaissance expert Mary Hollingsworth explodes the myth that the Medicis were wise and enlightened rulers and argues that the family that dominated Florentine life for three centuries was as devious and immoral as the Borgias.

James Hamilton
– Gainsborough: A Portrait

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Art historian and biographer James Hamilton offers some fresh understandings about the artist Gainsborough and how he rose from rural Suffolk to the height of society in Bath and London.

Kamin Mohammadi – Bella Figura: How to Live, Love, and Eat the Italian Way

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Journalist, travel writer and broadcaster Kamin Mohammadi tells how she fled to Italy to escape increasingly unrealistic expectations at work, weight and health issues and a non-existent love life – and found a new lease of life by living the Italian way.

Adam Kay

Adam Kay talks to Hannah Beckermann – This is Going to Hurt: Secret Diaries of a Junior Doctor

12 noon / Corpus Christi: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Comedian and former junior doctor Adam Kay gives a painfully funny account of why he gave up the stethoscope and swapped it for comedy.

Francesco Dimitri – To Read Aloud: A Literary Toolbox for Wellbeing

12 noon / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Italian author Francesco Dimitri says not only children benefit from having a story read to them – it also helps adults by promoting reflection and mindfulness.

Nicholas Parsons – Just a Laugh a Minute: A One-man Comedy Show

12 noon / Bodleian: Divinity School / £8-13.50

Entertainer Nicholas Parsons returns to the festival by popular demand with some new and hilarious stories taken from his long and eventful life in show business. Parsons sees the funny side of every situation as he highlights with superb and often hilarious observation those events that have shaped his career.

Andrea Williams

Andrea Williams and Stephen Law – The Oxford Debates. Are British Christians being Persecuted?

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Lawyer and Christian campaigner Andrea Williams and well-known atheist and humanist Stephen Law discuss whether or not there is a rising tide of intolerance towards Christian believers in the UK

Mark Price

Mark Price talks to Andrew White – Workplace Fables

12 noon / Saïd Business School: Lecture Theatre 4 / £7-12.50

Former Waitrose managing director and government minister Lord Mark Price highlights good and bad business practice through a series of true stories gathered over a 35-year career.

Lucy Newlyn

Lucy Newlyn and Paula Byrne talk to Jem Poster – Words to Heal Troubled Minds

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Two writers with a deep personal interest in the relationship between writing and mental illness, Lucy Newlyn and Paula Byrne, discuss their ideas and insights with poet and novelist Jem Poster, the festival's director of academic programmes.

Doaa Abdel-Motaal – Antarctica: The Battle for the Seventh Continent

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Climate expert Doaa Abdel-Motaal says the thawing Antarctic offers previously inaccessible living space and marine and mineral resources. As a result she says it is imperative the world looks again at the Antarctic Treaty to avoid conflict in the region.

Eleonora Galasso

Eleonora Galasso talks to Anne Menzies – A Kitchen Conversation: Women and Food Across the Centuries

2pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Food activist and writer Eleonora Galasso looks at how women have related to food across the centuries and gives a short cooking demonstration based around her book *As the Romans Do*.

Penelope Lively

Penelope Lively talks to Peter Kemp – Life in the Garden

2pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £8-13.50

Booker prize-winning novelist Dame Penelope Lively talks about her new book – a series of reflections on gardening, art, literature and life.

Paolo Ciucci

Paolo Ciucci and William Richards
– Saving the Marsican Brown Bear

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

World expert on the Marsican brown bear Professor Paolo Ciucci and chairman of the Anglo Italian Society for the Protection of Animals (AISPA) William Richards discuss the fate of the critically endangered Italian species.

Richard Carwardine
– Lincoln's Sense of Humour

2pm / Corpus Christi: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Historian Professor Richard Carwardine explains how Abraham Lincoln was the first president to make storytelling, jokes and laughter tools of his office.

Stephen Bayley – Taste: The Secret Meaning of Things

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Leading design critic and founder of the Design Museum Stephen Bayley looks at shifting attitudes towards art, architecture, design, fashion, food and shopping and asks: what is good taste?

James Fergusson

James Fergusson and Sara Khan talk to Yasmin Alibhai-Brown
– British Islam: Identity and Extremism

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Foreign correspondent James Fergusson and human rights activist Sara Khan look at what it means to be Muslim in Britain today and discuss how to defeat extremism.

David Sainsbury

David Sainsbury talks to Georgina Ferry
– A Better World is Possible: The Gatsby Charitable Foundation and Social Progress

4pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

One of Britain's most generous philanthropists Lord David Sainsbury talks to science writer and author Georgina Ferry about the Gatsby Charitable Foundation he launched almost exactly 50 years ago and about how the wealthy can contribute to the common good.

Ian McEwan

Ian McEwan talks to Matthew Stadlen – A Writing Life

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-20

Booker winner and one of Britain's greatest modern novelists Ian McEwan talks about his life and writing career.

Patrick Zutshi – Rome, 1378: the Disputed Papal Election and the Great Western Schism

4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Historian Dr Patrick Zutshi explains how the Great Schism of the western church came about in 1378 and describes how the debate between the supporters of each pope, one in Rome and one in Avignon, was framed.

Valeria Vescina – That Summer in Puglia

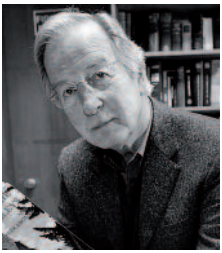
4pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Debut novelist Valeria Vescina launches her first work at the festival, *That Summer in Puglia* – a story of love, loss, self-deception and the power of compassion.

Tricia Cusden – Living the Life More Fabulous: Beauty, Style and Empowerment for Older Women

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Beauty vlogger and businesswoman Tricia Cusden says there has never been a better time to be an older woman and offers advice on how to make the most of our longer and healthier lives.


Roy Davids

Bodleian Library Curators – Magic and Meaning: Celebrating Poetical Manuscripts in Memory of Roy Davids

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Bodleian curators honour the memory of Roy Davids, an important collector of literary manuscripts as well as a long-term friend and major benefactor to the Bodleian.

Peter Atkins – Conjuring the Universe: The Origins of the Laws of Nature

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Chemist Professor Peter Atkins argues that the laws of nature can spring from very little or even nothing at all.

Julia Hobsbawm

– Fully Connected: Surviving and Thriving in an Age of Overload

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Author, entrepreneur and expert in social connectedness Julia Hobsbawm argues that we need new ways to manage the information overload that is affecting our wellbeing in this technology-driven age.

Ben Okri

Ben Okri talks to Suzi Feay

– The Magic Lamp: Dreams of our Age

6pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Booker prize-winning novelist and poet Ben Okri talks about a new collection of meditations and stories that have been illustrated by Rosemary Clunie in a collaboration between author and artist.

George Carey – Just Five Ingredients. Making Britain Great Again.

6pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £7-12.50

Former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord George Carey applies Jamie Oliver's famous dictum to a post-Brexit Britain, exploring in a light-hearted way how we may overcome Brexit fears.

Stefano Papi

– Jewellery of the House of Savoy

6pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Jewellery expert Stefano Papi talks about the precious jewellery that was created for three queens of Italy and accompanied them on their travels

Anne Enright

Anne Enright talks to Louise Richardson

– Vice-Chancellor's Lecture: An Audience with Anne Enright

6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-15

Booker Prize-winning novelist Anne Enright talks about her life and writing in the second lecture in an annual series in which the vice-chancellor of the University of Oxford, Professor Louise Richardson, invites an eminent figure to be in conversation with her.

SATURDAY 24 MARCH

Sarah Burton

Jem Poster and Sarah Burton
– Creative Writing Course: Getting down to detail

9.30am to 5.30pm / St Cross College / £90

Focusing on the specific matters of location, point of view, narrative voice, character, dialogue and plot, this course can either be taken on its own or as a follow-on from the festival's earlier creative writing course, 'Where do you get your ideas?', held on March 17. This event lasts all day, and the price includes coffee, tea and a sandwich lunch.

Jane Ray – Mirrors and Masks: A Crafts Session

10am / Story Museum: Long Room / £7

Join celebrated artist Jane Ray to hear the story, *The Glassmaker's Daughter*, a beautiful Venetian fairytale about looking for – and finding – joy, sometimes where you least expect it. See some of Ray's original artwork and feel inspired to make your very own mirrors and masks. Guaranteed to make you feel happy. Age 6+

Tim Hayward
– The Modern Kitchen: Objects that Changed the Way we Cook, Eat and Live

10am / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Food writer and broadcaster Tim Hayward explains how the modern kitchen is a neat illustration of our beliefs, tastes, aesthetics and aspirations.

Daniel Wakelin

Daniel Wakelin and Hannah Bower
– Revolting Remedies from the Middle Ages

10am / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Experts in medieval manuscripts Professor Daniel Wakelin and Hannah Bower look at some of the weird and wonderful remedies outlined in manuscripts held by the Bodleian Libraries.

Rania Abouzeid – No Turning Back: Life, Loss and Hope in Wartime Syria

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Award-winning foreign correspondent Rania Abouzeid tells the tragedy of the Syrian War through the dramatic stories of four young people.

Ruby Wax

Ruby Wax talks to Lucy Atkins – How to be Human: The Manual

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-£20

Comedian and writer Ruby Wax presents the only manual she says you will need to upgrade your mind as much as you upgrade your smart phone.

Sally Bayley and Suzie Hanna – Girl with Dove: A Childhood Spent Graphically Reading

10am / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Author Dr Sally Bayley talks about her recently completed literary memoir, *Girl With Dove: A Childhood*, that tells the story of a young girl escaping from an all-female household by reading.

Fiona Ross – Shakespeare Workshop: Julius Caesar

11am / Story Museum: Story Exchange / £8

Join actor, director and RSC artist Fi Ross and plunge into the world of ancient Rome. **Age 10+**

Lara Feigel – Free Woman: Life, Liberation and Doris Lessing

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Literary critic and cultural historian Dr Lara Feigel explains how her intense exploration of the life and works of Doris Lessing was sparked by the realisation that the author captured perfectly her experiences as a writer, woman and mother.

Nina Caplan – The Wandering Vine: Wine, The Romans and Me

12 noon / Lincoln College: Buttery Dining Room / £8-13.50

Food and travel writer Nina Caplan explains how she went in search of the origins of our wine-loving culture and offers tastings of some wines she met on the way.

Tim Bentinck

Tim Bentinck talks to Stephen Dunk – Being David Archer

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-12.50

Actor Tim Bentinck takes a behind the scenes look at the hugely successful radio series *The Archers*, where he has played David Archer for 35 years, and looks back at a varied life that has seen him be the voice of 'mind the gap' on the Piccadilly Line and sit in the House of Lords.

Miriam Halahamy

Bali Rai

Miriam Halahmy, Bali Rai and Anna Bassi. Chaired by Miranda McKearney – Stories for Empathy and a Better World

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8

In our divided world, empathy is a vital force for connection, and one of the most crucial skills young people need. Chaired by Miranda McKearney, founder of new organisation EmpathyLab, this event brings together Miriam Halahmy and Bali Rai, authors who understand the power of books to develop understanding and combat prejudice, and Anna Bassi, editor of *The Week Junior*. Come along to join this important conversation and debate. **Age 10+**

Kate Pankhurst

Kate Pankhurst – Fantastically Great Women Who Made History

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7

Stand tall with daring suffragette leader Flora Drummond (aka the General) to get votes for women. Send secret messages with the astoundingly brave WWII undercover wireless radio operator, Noor Khan. Search for treasure with pirate queen, Sayidda Al-Hurra. And meet a whole host of women who made history with the help of author and illustrator Kate Pankhurst. There will be drawing, there will be dressing up and plenty of inspiration on how to make history. **Age 5+**

David Pilling – The Growth Delusion: Why Economists are Getting it Wrong

12 noon / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Journalist and writer David Pilling says the economist's cult of growth has hijacked policy-making and argues for a new way of measuring our success.

Lyndall Gordon – Outsiders: Five Women Writers Who Changed the World

12 noon / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Award-winning biographer Lyndall Gordon looks at the lives of five women writers who were outsiders and who changed the world – Mary Shelley, Emily Brontë, George Eliot, Olive Schreiner and Virginia Woolf.

Oxford Poets with Alastair Lack

2pm / Meet outside St John's College Lodge, St Giles / £25

See Monday 19th March for full details.

Holly Sterling – Creating Characters

2pm / Story Museum: Long Room / £7

In this family-friendly, storytelling and drawing event you will discover how Holly Sterling creates her lovable picture book characters including the puppies in her latest book, *15 Things Not to Do With a Puppy*. Then you will have the chance to create your very own puppy and your own hilarious take on what not to do with a puppy. **Age 4+**

David Almond and Alex T Smith – The Tale of Angelino Brown

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £8

Carnegie Medal-winning author David Almond and bestselling *Claude* creator Alex T Smith come together to discuss their new collaboration, *The Tale of Angelino Brown*. With bold, quirky drawings and a typically moving yet funny story, young readers will be delighted by this warm and witty tale, following a tiny angel who appears in bus driver Bert's top pocket and brings joy to everyone's lives. The book has been nominated for the Carnegie and Kate Greenaway medals. **Age 7+**

Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Geraldine McCaughrean

Kiran Millwood Hargrave, Geraldine McCaughrean and Julia Green. Chaired by Damian Kelleher – Once upon an island…

2pm / Story Museum: Story Exchange / £8

Three star authors, three different but equally wonderful stories, all set on islands. Kiran Millwood Hargrave, Geraldine McCaughrean and Julia Green have all set their new books on islands – what is it about islands that makes them such special settings for stories, how did these islands at the edge of the world set free their authors' imaginations? Find out in this session chaired by Damian Kelleher, journalist, writer and former editorial director of *Young Telegraph*. **Age 10+**

David Cannadine – Victorious Century: The United Kingdom 1800 -1906

2pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £8-13.50

Historian Professor Sir David Cannadine talks about his new history of Britain in the 19th century – a work that describes both its dynamism and its darkness.

Ann Thwaite

Ann Thwaite talks to Nicolette Jones – A A Milne and the Making of Goodbye Christopher Robin

2pm / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Biographer Dr Ann Thwaite tells the true story that inspired the 2017 film *Goodbye Christopher Robin* – a drama about the lives of *Winnie the Pooh* creator A A Milne and his son Christopher Robin.

Rick Stein

Rick Stein talks to Matthew Stadlen – Rick Stein – A Life in Food

2pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-£20

Celebrity chef and television presenter Rick Stein talks about his life and work.

Robin Butler

Robin Butler and Michael Jago – Robin Butler: At the Heart of Power from Heath to Blair

2pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Lord Robin Butler talks about his life and career as a public servant at the heart of the Heath, Wilson, Thatcher, Major and Blair governments in conversation with his biographer Michael Jago.

James Bloodworth

James Bloodworth and Claire Fox – The Oxford Debates: Our Fractured Society

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Journalist and author James Bloodworth and director of the Institute of Ideas Claire Fox discuss how we should go about healing our increasingly divided society.

Sally Nicholls

Sally Nicholls and Sheena Wilkinson – Votes for Women! Suffragette Event

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre /£8

The Suffragette movement inspired award-winning authors Sally Nicholls and Sheena Wilkinson to write their new books, *Things a Bright Girl Can Do* and *Star by Star*. Join them as they discuss their books and the amazing women who 100 years ago were fighting for the right to vote. To check how far we have come, this session will be chaired by Manon Bradley of the Women's Equality Party. And watch out for our special guests from 1918. All bright girls and boys welcome. **Age 11+**

Ben Lyttleton – Football School

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £8

Welcome to the Oxford Literary Festival's very own pop-up football school. Get on the touchline with your coach Ben Lyttleton for the kick-off. **Age 7+**

Wendy Cope

Wendy Cope – Anecdotal Evidence

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-12.50

Poet Wendy Cope talks about her new collection of poems, *Anecdotal Evidence*, and reads some of her verse.

John Lloyd – The Power and the Story: The Global Battle for News and Information

4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Journalist and media commentator John Lloyd looks at the state of journalism in the modern post-truth age.

Shaista Aziz

Sabrina Mahfouz and Shaista Aziz – The Things I Would Tell You. British Muslim Women Write

6pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Performance poet and playwright Sabrina Mahfouz and journalist and comedian Shaista Aziz read extracts from the collection *The Things I Would Tell You* and talk about what it is to be a Muslim in Britain today.

Sarah Crossan

Sarah Crossan and Kwame Alexander – Stories for Our Time

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £8

This transatlantic event brings together stars of young adult fiction Sarah Crossan and Kwame Alexander. Both authors use free verse to tell their stories. Hear them discuss their books, their writing style, and why pared down verse is best for describing the really big emotions. **Age 12-adult**

Bettany Hughes

Bettany Hughes talks to Claire Armitstead – Istanbul: A Tale of Three Cities

6pm / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Award-winning historian and broadcaster Dr Bettany Hughes returns to the festival to tell the story of Istanbul – of the three great cities of Byzantium, Constantinople and Istanbul.

Desmond de Silva – Madam, Where are your Mangoes: An Episodic Memoir

6pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Lawyer and former UN chief war crimes prosecutor in Sierra Leone Sir Desmond de Silva looks back at a colourful life that has ranged from bringing about the arrest of Liberian war lord Charles Taylor to defending former England football captain John Terry.

Mervyn King

Mervyn King talks to Lionel Barber – The FT Weekend Lecture. Ten Years On: The Global Economy after the Financial Crisis

6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-20

Former governor of the Bank of England Lord Mervyn King discusses what we have learned from the financial crisis of 2008 and where the global economy goes from here, in conversation with the editor of the *Financial Times* Lionel Barber.

Charlie Covell

Charlie Covell talks to Claire Armitstead – The End of the F***ing World: Adapting a Graphic Novel for Screen

7.30pm / Worcester College: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Actress and writer Charlie Covell talks about her adaptation for Channel 4 television of Charles S Forman's comic series, *The End of the F***ing World*.

The 15th Century Divinity School – one of many Festival historic venues

SUNDAY 25 MARCH

Ian Black
– Enemies and Neighbours: Arabs and Jews in Palestine and Israel, 1917-2017

10am / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Guardian journalist Ian Black looks at the long struggle between Arabs and Jews over the Holy Land, explains why hopes for a two-state solution have all but disappeared and asks what the future might hold.

Jennifer Makumbi – KINTU

10am / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Novelist Jennifer Makumbi talks about her highly acclaimed debut novel KINTU.

Emer Stamp – The Big, Fat, Totally Bonkers Diary of Pig

10am / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7

Hooray, Pig is back in *The Big, Fat, Totally Bonkers Diary of Pig*. Life at the farm is completely crazy - -you wouldn't believe some of the things that happen. But Pig says they are 10,000% true and he is not pig-ing around. Author-illustrator Emer Stamp will have you oinking with laughter as she reads from Pig's diary. Can you believe his stories? There's only one way to find out . . . come along and join in the fun. **Age 5+**

David Acheson – Mathematics, Magic and the Electric Guitar

10am / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Mathematician and author of popular books on the subject David Acheson asks why people are so afraid of maths.

Allan Jenkins – Morning

10am / St Cross College / £7-12.50

You will need to be up early on this Sunday to enjoy writer and editor Allan Jenkins's celebration of the morning and everything that is good about getting stuck into the day early.

Jane Jelley – Traces of Vermeer

12 noon / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Artist and writer Jane Jelley explains how she used old materials and experimental techniques to uncover the mystery surrounding how the Dutch painter Vermeer created his work.

Nicola Davies – Animal Adventures

12 noon / Story Museum: Story Exchange / £8

Calling all animal lovers. There are lots of creatures in the world, on the tops of the tallest jungle trees, at the bottom of the coldest oceans, even under the feathers of birds and in boiling volcanic pools. Find out all about them from author and zoologist Nicola Davies. Find out what inspires her, ask her all your questions and share stories about your favourite and not-so-favourite animals. Davies is a writer and zoologist and one of the original presenters of the BBC children's wildlife programme, *The Really Wild Show*. Age 5+

Nicholas Parsons – Just a Minute

12 noon / Sheldonian Theatre / £7-12.50

Entertainer Nicholas Parsons returns by popular demand with some guests for another special festival edition of the long-running BBC Radio 4 show *Just a Minute*.

Katherine Rundell

Katherine Rundell talks to Horatio Clare – Go Exploring

12 noon / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8

Katherine Rundell's stories take readers on amazing adventures, whether that's across the roofs of Paris, over the Russian steppes, or deep into the Amazon jungle. Here she discusses adventuring, faraway places and storytelling with author and award-winning travel writer Horatio Clare. Age 9+

Lily Blacksell

Lily Blacksell, Mary Jean Chan, and Patrick James Errington. Chaired by Niall Munro – Poetry Ignites

12 noon / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Join Oxford Brookes Poetry Centre in celebrating the arrival of three fresh and exceptional international voices, Lily Blacksell, Mary Jean Chan, and Patrick James Errington.

Lucy Hughes Hallett

Lucy Hughes Hallett talks to Nick Clark – Peculiar Ground

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £7-12.50

Award-winning biographer Lucy Hughes-Hallett talks about her first novel – a haunting tale about game keepers, witches, agitators and aristocrats.

Sarah Baxter and Christopher Bertram. Chaired by Stephen Law – The Oxford Debates: Too Much Immigration?

12 noon / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Journalist Sarah Baxter and social and political philosopher Professor Christopher Bertram look at whether people should have a right to move freely around the world and at the consequences of both freedom of movement and restrictions on immigration.

Michael Pennington – Chekhov in Siberia: A One-Man Show

2pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £8-13.50

Actor, writer and director Michael Pennington brings Russian playwright Anton Chekov's 4,000-mile journey across Russia to report on the Sakhalin penal colony vividly to life in this one-man show.

M G Leonard – Beetle Queen

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £8

How well do you know the humble beetle? Did you know they are one of the most important creatures on the planet? That some are super strong, able to pull a thousand times their own weight? That some are able to light up the night sky and others are able to navigate using the Milky Way? Come and discover the wonderful world of beetles with M G Leonard, author of the bestselling *Beetle Boy*, *Beetle Queen* and *Battle of the Beetles*, in an hour of fun, facts and stories. **Age 9+**

Nadia Shireen – Picture Book Party

2pm / Story Museum: Story Exchange / £7

Join Nadia Shireen for a noisy storytime with live drawing. Shireen introduces her adorable animal characters – such as Norman, the bear in a bumble-bee onesie who starred in *The Bumblebear and Dave*, and the cutest little calf this side of the moon from *The Cow Who Fell to Earth*. Packed with child appeal, Shireen's books are a clever, funny and adorable celebration of identity, learning and friendship. **Age 3+**

Shrabani Basu – Victoria and Abdul

2pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Writer and journalist Shrabani Basu discusses her book about the relationship between Queen Victoria and Abdul Karim and the recent film starring Judi Dench that was based on it. The talk will be illustrated by clips from the film.

Erica Wagner – Chief Engineer: The Man Who Built the Brooklyn Bridge

2pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Writer and critic Erica Wagner looks at the life and achievements of the engineer Washington Roebling, who built New York's iconic Brooklyn Bridge.

Elaine Wickson – Planet Dinosaur

2pm / Museum of Natural History / £7

Join author Elaine Wickson at the Museum of Natural History for an event packed with infographics, dinosaurs and space inspired by her brand new book *Planet Stan*. **Age 8+**

Ian Archie Beck – Through the Lens of Janet Stone

2pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £7-12.50

Author, illustrator and printmaker Ian Archie Beck looks at portraits of leading 20th-century cultural figures taken by the photographer Janet Stone.

Robin Stevens – Murder Most Unladylike

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Seminar Room / £8

Festival favourite Robin Stevens returns for an event filled with murder mysteries, dastardly villains and bun breaks. Hear Stevens read from the brand new Wells and Wong mystery collection *A Spoonful of Murder*, share her inspiration behind the series and do some sleuthing. There will also be the chance to ask your burning questions, like any good detective. A jolly event that promises lots of foul play. **Age 9+**

Susie Boyt – Love & Fame

4pm / Lincoln College: Oakeshott Room / £7-12.50

Novelist Susie Boyt talks about her new comic novel set in the world of show business, *Love & Fame*.

Gary Kemp

Gary Kemp talks to Simon Kövesi – An Audience with Gary Kemp

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-20

Actor and musician Gary Kemp, who rose to fame as a songwriter and guitarist in Spandau Ballet and later starred with his brother Martin in the title roles of the 1990 British film *The Krays*, talks about his life and work.

Robert Dawes

Robert Daws and Felix Francis – What Makes a Good Thriller?

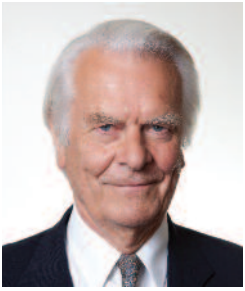
4pm / St Cross College / £7-12.50

Two leading thriller writers Robert Daws and Felix Francis explain what makes a good thriller and why crime fiction is the most popular genre of them all.

Nicola Davies – Tales from the North

4pm / Weston Lecture Theatre / £8

Join Nicola Davies to hear the story of the fur trapper Elias Martin and other stories from her *Shadows and Light* series of folk tales rooted in real stories and retold with some magic and mystery. **Age 8-11**


David Owen

David Owen and Mariot Leslie. Chaired by Stephen Law – The Oxford Debtaes. A Post-Brexit UK: How Should it Look?

4pm / Oxford Martin School: Lecture Theatre / £8-13.50

Two leading experts on Brexit former Foreign Secretary Lord David Owen and former leading diplomat Dame Mariot Leslie join in a discussion with the audience on where we go from here.

Simon Sebag Montefiore

Simon Sebag Montefiore talks to Nick Higham – An Audience with Simon Sebag Montefiore

6pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £8-20

Historian, biographer, novelist and broadcaster Simon Sebag Montefiore talks about his life and work including his award-winning novels, works of history and television series.

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BRITISH HUMANIST ASSOCIATION

LIAISON

ISTITUTO italiano DI CULTURA LONDRA

THE SHELDONIAN THEATRE

Keble College

Marshall

MASERATI

City Audio Visual

The Oxford Times

Regional Media Partner

Bear Ram Elk

ASHMOLEAN

MACDONALD BEAR HOTEL

THE OXFORD CULTURAL COLLECTIVE

EATING · DRINKING · THINKING

Eynsham Hall

"WHOLEHEARTEDLY"

thestory museum

FBA FELICITY BRYAN ASSOCIATES

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

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1 Festival Marquee – Box Office and Bookshop
2 Sheldonian Theatre
3 Exeter College
4 Divinity School
5 OMS Lecture Theatre
6 OMS Seminar Room
7 Weston Library – Lecture Theatre, Blackwell Hall, Exhibition Galleries, and Café and Toilets
8 St. Cross College
9 Lincoln College
10 Corpus Christi College
11 Worcester College
12 Story Museum
13 Keble College
14 Natural History Museum
15 Jesus College
16 Saïd Business School (not on map)
17 New College (not on map)

Walking tours, start outside
18 Balliol College
19 St John's College