

Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, talks to Eliza Griswold 807

The Tenth Parallel: Dispatches from the Faultline between Christianity and Islam

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £10 – £25

Christianity and Islam collide on the tenth parallel – the line of latitude 700 miles north of the equator. More than half of the world's 1.3 billion Muslims and 60% of the world's two billion Christians live in Asia and Africa in the region of the tenth parallel. In countries such as Nigeria, Sudan, Somalia, Malaysia and the Philippines, faith is reawakening and encounters between Christianity and Islam are shaping the future.

Eliza Griswold, an award-winning investigative journalist and poet, spent seven years travelling in the area between the tenth parallel and the equator. In each country she visits, she asks whether it is possible to determine where faith ended and secular violence began, and she wonders what role religion has played in struggles over resources and power.

In conversation with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, she explores the relationship between faith and secular power, and the conflicts over religion, nationhood and resources that will define the future of our world. *The Tenth Parallel* is her first book and it was a New York Times bestseller. Griswold writes for a number of US journals and newspapers including *The New York Times* and *Harper's Magazine*.



Eliza Griswold



THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

Noo Saro-Wiwa talks to Alastair Niven 809

Looking for Transwonderland: Travels in Nigeria

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

Noo Saro-Wiwa describes the Transwonderland amusement park as the nearest thing Nigeria has to Disneyland. The rides are rusting and covered in weeds – but they are working. Saro-Wiwa, the daughter of murdered anti-corruption activist Ken Saro-Wiwa, sets out to capture the country of contrasts that is Nigeria in the 21st century. She was brought up and educated in the UK, returning every summer to Nigeria, until the death of her father.

She crossed Africa in her role as a travel writer for 15 years but did not return to Nigeria until 2007, ten years after the death of her father. Saro-Wiwa rediscovers the chaos and the beauty of a country her father loved so much.

Here she talks to Dr Alastair Niven, principal of Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, and author of several books on post-colonial writing.



Noo Saro-Wiwa



Photo: Noo Saro-Wiwa

Sherard Cowper-Coles

815

Cables from Kabul: Inside Story of the West's Afghanistan Campaign

10am / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles is one of the UK's most distinguished diplomats. His most recent roles included being British ambassador to Kabul and the Foreign Secretary's special representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan. This frank, highly praised and often opinionated memoir provides a unique insight into policy in Afghanistan, and looks at where Britain has gone wrong. He pays tribute to the work of our soldiers, but wonders whether it will be enough to secure a stable Afghanistan. Cowper-Coles explains how we got into Afghanistan and how we might get out. This is a trenchant and very important book.

'Vividly portrays the plight of an envoy who really cared about his brief, and felt unable to keep silent about looming failure in a vital region where western intervention has been bungled,' Max Hastings, *Sunday Times*

Sherard Cowper-Coles



In association with *The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies*



Bettany Hughes

820

talks to Nicolette Jones

The Hemlock Cup: Socrates, Athens and the Search for the Good Life

10am / Christ Church: Master's Garden Marquee / £10

Historian, author and broadcaster Bettany Hughes has spent the last 20 years bringing the past vividly to life. In *The Hemlock Cup* she reimagines the world of Socrates and of classical Athens. She follows Socrates across Greece and Asia Minor and looks at new archaeological discoveries that shed light on the times. *The Hemlock Cup* was Book of The Year in *The Times*, *The Telegraph*, *The Sunday Telegraph*, *The Independent*, *The Independent on Sunday* and *BBC History Magazine*, and was a *New York Times* bestseller.

Hughes is a research fellow of King's College, London. She was chair of the Orange Prize for Fiction in 2011 and has been given a special award by the Greek government for her contribution to Hellenic culture and heritage. Her first book, *Helen of Troy, Goddess, Princess, Whore*, has been translated into ten languages. Hughes has also made a number of factual films for the BBC, Channel 4, Discovery, The History Channel and National Geographic.

Bettany Hughes



This event is part of the St Hilda's College day.



Stefanie Powers
and Andrew Erish 837

Film and Television: An Expression of
American Culture

10am-1pm / Corpus Christi College / £25

Hollywood actress Stefanie Powers and TV and film consultant Professor Andrew Erish present a three-hour masterclass on American film and television and its expression of the country's culture. It is a unique opportunity to hear from someone who directly experienced the last years of the Hollywood star system and who worked with the likes of John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara, Bing Crosby and David Niven. Powers and Erish will cover the technical history of the industry, the media moguls, and the idealised view of life as expressed in films such as *Lassie*, and they will discuss the notion of film and Hollywood as an iconic US statement.

They will look at the men who started the film industry and where they came from. Many originated in central Europe. And they will show how the film industry is one of the US's biggest exports and has done more than anything else to spread US culture around the world.

Powers portrayed Jennifer Hart in the hit US TV series *Hart to Hart*. She has appeared in 27 feature films, in many stage productions and runs her own production company. Powers has also carved a name for herself outside the film industry. She helped to found the William Holden Wildlife Foundation, in honour of the late actor, and serves as its president.

Erish has worked in TV and film for over 25 years variously as a writer, soundman, script reader and consultant. For the last four years he has been a consultant for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and curated its exhibition and screenings honouring the Los Angeles motion picture centenary in 2009. His book, *Col. William N. Selig: The Man Who Invented Hollywood*, was published last year.



Stefanie Powers

Corpus Christi
College Oxford

John Guy 821

Thomas Becket: Warrior, Priest,
Rebel, Victim

10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Award-winning historian John Guy throws new light on the relationship between Thomas Beckett and Henry II as he brings to life one of the biggest figures in British history. Guy shows how Beckett rose from an unremarkable middle-class background to become the most powerful man in the kingdom after the king and how he was then elevated to sainthood within a year of his bloody murder.

Guy suggests that Beckett and Henry were never great friends during the early stages of his career, contrary to the way history perceives them. He uncovered a list of books in Beckett's library while he was in exile, giving him an insight into his subject's ambition and thinking at that time. Guy's previous works include *My Heart is My Own: The Life of Mary Queen of Scots*, winner of the 2004 Whitbread Biography Award.

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Lawyers to the Festival

Andrew Weale 824

Nora: The Girl Who Ate and
Ate and Ate

10am / Christ Church JCR / £5 Ages 4-6

You have never met anyone like Nora Fatima Buffet. Join her and author and Oxford classics graduate Andrew Weale on a guzzle-icious romp as Nora gobbles up ice cream and mushy peas with a side order of all the things in her room. There will be lashings of slides, film, interactive fun and the chance to win a brilliant Nora prize. So knives and forks at the ready for a yumptious feast that will take you out of this world.

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Inspector Morse with
Alastair Lack

832

**11am-1pm / Meet outside Balliol College Lodge,
Broad Street / £25**

Mention Oxford, and dreaming spires, 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.

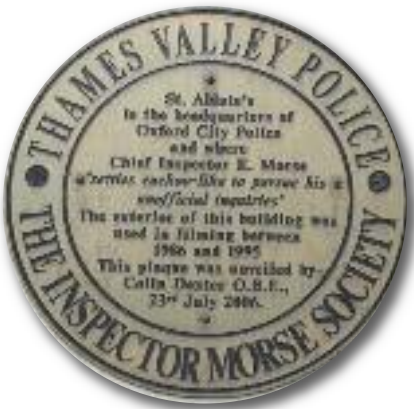
Alastair Lack



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**MACDONALD
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Christopher Lloyd

828

What on Earth Happened?

**11.10am / Christ Church: Next to Festival cafe,
Meadows Marquee / FREE**

Journey through the entire history of the world with Christopher Lloyd using his amazing technicolour coat of 20 pockets and a giant edition of the highly acclaimed *What on Earth? Wallbook* as a backdrop. This is a 45-minute family show suitable for ages five to adult.

Sponsored by



Eileen Battersby

801

Ordinary Dogs

12 Noon / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £10

Literary critic Eileen Battersby foregoes the world of modern fiction to celebrate two of the greatest loves of her life – her dogs Bilbo and Frodo. The two became her loyal companions for more than 20 years and were more important to her than most other humans. She describes their personalities, emotions and prejudices with passion and insight. Battersby explains why, for some people, there is more integrity in the relationship with an animal than there is in most of the relationships that human society can offer.

Battersby is literary correspondent of *The Irish Times* and has been reviewing fiction since 1984. She has also written on all aspects of the arts.

Elif Shafak

804

Storytelling and politics

12 noon / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

Elif Shafak is the most widely read female author in Turkey. She writes in Turkish and English, and her novels blend elements of East and West, feminism and tradition, and Sufism and rationalism. Above all, Shafak is a storyteller. She talks of the art of storytelling and argues that imaginative fiction can connect all of us, regardless of identity politics. Shafak's 2006 novel, *The Bastard of Istanbul*, resulted in charges being brought against her for 'insulting Turkishness'. They were later dismissed.

Shafak's eighth novel, *Honour*, was released in Turkey in July and will be published in the UK in April. It is the story of a half-Kurdish half-Turkish immigrant family set in 1970s London.

Elif Shafak



Supported by

Ian and Carol Sellars

Simon Brett and Sophie Hannah 814

Murder Mystery: Bloodbath or Brainteaser?

12 noon / Christ Church: Master's Garden Marquee / £10

Crime writers Sophie Hannah and Simon Brett debate the respective merits of the dark and twisted new school and the cosy old school of murder mysteries. Brett and Hannah are both regulars at the celebrated Mystery and Crime Weekend held every August at St Hilda's College, Oxford.

Brett is author of the Charles Paris, Mrs Pargeter and Fethering series of crime novels. His TV and radio writing includes *No Commitments* and *After Henry*. Hannah has written five internationally bestselling psychological thrillers *Little Face*, *Hurting Distance*, *The Point of Rescue*, *The Other Half Lives* and *A Room Swept White*.



Simon Brett

Sophie Hannah

Photo: Mark Mather

This event is part of the St Hilda's College day.



Justine Picardie

817

Coco Chanel: The Legend and the Life

12 noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Justine Picardie has spent the last decade puzzling over the truth about Coco Chanel, attempting to peel away the accretions of romance and lies. In her full-scale biography we finally discover the history of the incredible woman who created the way we look now.

Coco Chanel was an extraordinary inventor – she conjured up the little black dress, bobbed hair, trousers for women, contemporary chic, best-selling perfumes, and the most successful fashion brand of all time – but she also invented herself, fashioning the myth of her own life with the same dexterity as her couture. While Chanel was supreme innovator and vendor of all things elegant and beautiful, what lies beneath her own glossy myth is darker.

Justine Picardie was features director of *British Vogue* and is now fashion columnist for *Stella*. She is the author of four books, including her acclaimed memoir *If the Spirit Moves You*.

Justine Picardie

Clara Vulliamy and
Emma Chichester Clark

822

Introducing Lulu and Martha

12 noon / Christ Church: JCR / £5 **Ages 3-7**

Meet fabulous illustrators Emma Chichester Clark and Clara Vulliamy and join this delightful duo as they introduce two irresistible new picture book series, *Wagtail Town from Emma*, and *Martha and The Bunny Brothers* from Clara. Hear how they find their inspiration, and join in with fun and crafts.

Clara Vulliamy



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Anthony Horowitz
talks to Peter Kemp

808

The House of Silk: A New Sherlock Holmes Adventure

12.30pm / Sheldonian / £10 – £25

A new Sherlock Holmes novel more than 80 years after the death of his creator Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is a major literary event. Even more so when it has been written by Anthony Horowitz with the full endorsement of Conan Doyle's estate. Horowitz, the creator of the hugely popular *Foyle's War* TV series and author of the bestselling Alex Rider children's spy novels, is the first writer to receive the support of the estate for a new Sherlock Holmes novel.

Horowitz will discuss his new novel and his lifelong love of the Sherlock Holmes stories with *The Sunday Times* chief fiction reviewer Peter Kemp. The author says he first read the Holmes mysteries at the age of 16 and has read them many times since. *The House of Silk* stays true to the spirit of the originals and resurrects many familiar characters such as Inspector Lestrade, Mrs Hudson and the Baker Street Irregulars.

Horowitz, who has written more than 50 books and whose extensive TV writing includes *Midsomer Murders*, *Hercule Poirot* and *Collision*, will also talk about his immense love of 19th-century literature.



Simon Glendinning

826

Derrida: A Very Short Introduction

1.15pm / Christ Church: Meadows Marquee
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 in the Blackwell book tent.

Simon Glendinning says French philosopher Derrida's challenging ideas make a significant contribution to our philosophical heritage. Defending Derrida against many of the charges that were placed against him, the reader in European philosophy at the European Institute of the London School of Economics and Political Science attempts to show why Derrida's work causes such extreme reactions.

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The Bodleian Library

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THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

Gavin Stamp

805

Edwin Lutyens Country Houses: From the Archives of Country Life

2pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Edwin Lutyens is widely regarded as one of Britain's finest architects. His country houses are visited by hundreds of thousands every year. Gavin Stamp, one of our finest writers on architectural history, delves into the archives of *Country Life* to look at 22 houses from all stages of Lutyens's career. They include Goddards, Middleton Park, Lindisfarne Castle, Castle Drogo and the Viceroy's House in New Delhi. The archive material includes 200 stunning photographs. Lutyens had a close relationship with *Country Life* that extended to designing the magazine's offices in Covent Garden.

Gavin Stamp



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Corpus Christi
College-Oxford

Ben Macintyre

812

Double Cross: The True Story of the D-Day Spies

2pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden
Marquee / £10

Times columnist and associate editor Ben Macintyre will talk about his latest work, *Double Cross: The True Story of the D-Day Spies*, just days after its publication. Macintyre uses new material to piece together the story of the spies who hoodwinked Hitler and ensured the invasion of Europe was a success. The story includes the previously unknown efforts of one spy who saved the landings from catastrophe. The D-Day spies convinced the Germans that the landings would take place in Calais and Norway. They were only five in number and included a bisexual Peruvian playgirl, a Polish fighter pilot, a Serbian seducer, a Spaniard with a diploma in chicken farming and a hysterical Frenchwoman.

Macintyre is author of eight previous books including *Agent Zigzag, the story of the wartime double-agent Eddie Chapman*, and the number-one bestseller *Operation Mincemeat*.

Ben Macintyre



Photo: Jerry Bauer

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Lawyers to the Festival

Andy Briggs

813

Tarzan: The Greystoke Legacy

2pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £5 Age 9+

Tarzan celebrates his 100th anniversary in 2012, and Andy Briggs has set out to retell the classic story in a contemporary setting. His Tarzan is a little edgier and more untamed. And he has to deal with some modern dangers, including guerrillas, armed poachers, illegal logging and the desecration of the environment. The story features some of the classic Tarzan characters. Jane appears as a modern technology-savvy 14-year-old girl who is thrown into the jungle world.

Briggs began his writing career working for Hollywood movies and has written children's books and horror thrillers. He has been passionate about Tarzan since childhood.

Andy Briggs



Sponsored by



Jewell Parker Rhodes

818

Hurricane

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £10

Hurricane is the conclusion to US author Jewell Parker Rhodes's award-winning Voodoo-inspired mystery trilogy. Dr Marie Levant is the great-great granddaughter of Marie Laveau, the 19th-century Voodoo queen in the first of the trilogy, historical novel *Voodoo Dreams*. Levant has achieved fame herself after saving New Orleans from a vampire. Now, as she searches for answers to some strange deaths in a backwater town, a hurricane threatens to break the levees of Louisiana. Rhodes weaves the themes of medicine, shamanism, corporate crime and environmental devastation into a spine-tingling mystery.

Rhodes will be speaking about her first children's novel, *Ninth Ward*, also based on the events of Hurricane Katrina, at a second festival event. Her adult books, including *Voodoo Dreams* and *Douglass Women*, have won awards such as the American Book Award and the Black Caucus of the American Library Award for Literary Excellence.

Jewell Parker Rhodes



Photo: KT Bruce

Corpus Christi College

Chris Wormell

823

Big Ugly Monsters

2pm / Christ Church: JCR / £5 **Ages 3-6**

Acclaimed picture-book artist Chris Wormell, of *George and the Dragon*, *The Big Ugly Monster* and the *Little Stone Rabbit*, introduces Eric, a little boy who sometimes gets things wrong. But Eric learns that, while you cannot be good at everything, sometimes it takes a little time to find out what you are good at. And when a huge monster stomps down the mountain to Eric's village, Eric just might have his chance to shine. This event features live illustration and input from the children.

Chris Wormell



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Kathy Lette talks to
David Freeman

830

The Boy Who Fell to Earth

2pm / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

Novelist Kathy Lette draws on her personal experience of Asperger's for her heartwarming and hilarious new novel *The Boy Who Fell to Earth*. It is the story of a mother, Lucy, her autistic son Merlin, and Lucy's attempts to return to dating some years after husband Jeremy left her and Merlin in the lurch. Things do not go to plan, and then Jeremy arrives back on the scene begging for forgiveness.

Lette has won acclaim for her comic novels and the way they speak directly to women. Her 10 titles have been published in 14 languages. Lette's many TV appearances include ones on *Loose Women*, BBC Breakfast, Newsnight and Sky News. She is also a regular on BBC Radio 4.

Here she talks to literary journalist and broadcaster David Freeman.

Kathy Lette



Photo: Nicky Johnstone

Christopher Lloyd

829

What on Earth Evolved?

**3.10pm / Christ Church: Next to Festival Cafe,
Meadows Marquee / FREE**

Join Christopher Lloyd and Dippy the Diplodocus on a whistle-stop voyage through four billion years of life on Earth flanked by a giant edition of the Natural History Museum's newly published What on Earth? Wallbook of Natural History.

This is a 45-minute family show suitable for ages five to adult.

Sponsored by



Robert Harris talks
to Peter Kemp

803

The Fear Index

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £10-25

Best-selling thriller writer Robert Harris steps into the topical and murky world of high finance for his latest novel *The Fear Index*. Here he talks to *The Sunday Times* chief fiction reviewer Peter Kemp about the book, which features a revolutionary form of artificial intelligence that tracks human emotions and can predict movements in the financial markets. It has made its creator Dr Alex Hoffman rich, but his world and the financial markets are about to be thrown into turmoil.

Harris has written eight popular novels, including *Archangel*, *Enigma* and *The Ghost*. His first novel, *Fatherland*, is about to be released in a 20th anniversary edition. Many of his works have been turned into films for TV or the big screen. He is currently working on a screenplay of *The Fear Index*.



THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

Raymond Tallis

806

Aping Mankind: Neuromania, Darwinitis and the Misrepresentation of Humanity

4pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Not everything we do can be explained by neuroscience and evolutionary theory, argues renowned neuroscientist, philosopher and fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences Professor Raymond Tallis. He fears that government social policy is increasingly being informed by the notion that the physical processes of the brain, not our conscious mind, directs our actions. Tallis, former professor of geriatric medicine at the University of Manchester and now a full-time writer, exposes the faulty philosophical foundations of biologically-based thinking and its attempts to explain criminality, art, economic behaviour and religious belief.

Neuroscience is making astounding progress and will help us to manage brain diseases, says Tallis, but it has a dark companion in neuromania – the belief that human consciousness and behaviour can be reduced to purely neural terms.

Raymond Tallis



Alastair Hazell and Dan Lyndon

811

Dr John Kirk and Walter Tull: Hidden Heroes

4pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £10

Dr John Kirk and Walter Tull are names that may not be well known to you. They are just two of the many people that are hidden heroes of history. First-time author Alastair Hazell brings to light the role of the retiring Dr John Kirk in abolishing the slave trade in *The Last Slave Market*. And did you know that Walter Tull, grandson of a slave, was a double pioneer? – the first black professional football outfield player in England and the first black infantry officer to take command of white troops during World War I. Tull is the hero of Dan Lyndon, a teacher and author of the Black History series for Hachette, who reveals his story in *Walter Tull: Footballer, Soldier, Hero*. We will also be recovering other heroes and heroines from the hidden pages of history.

Alastair Hazell



Dan Lyndon





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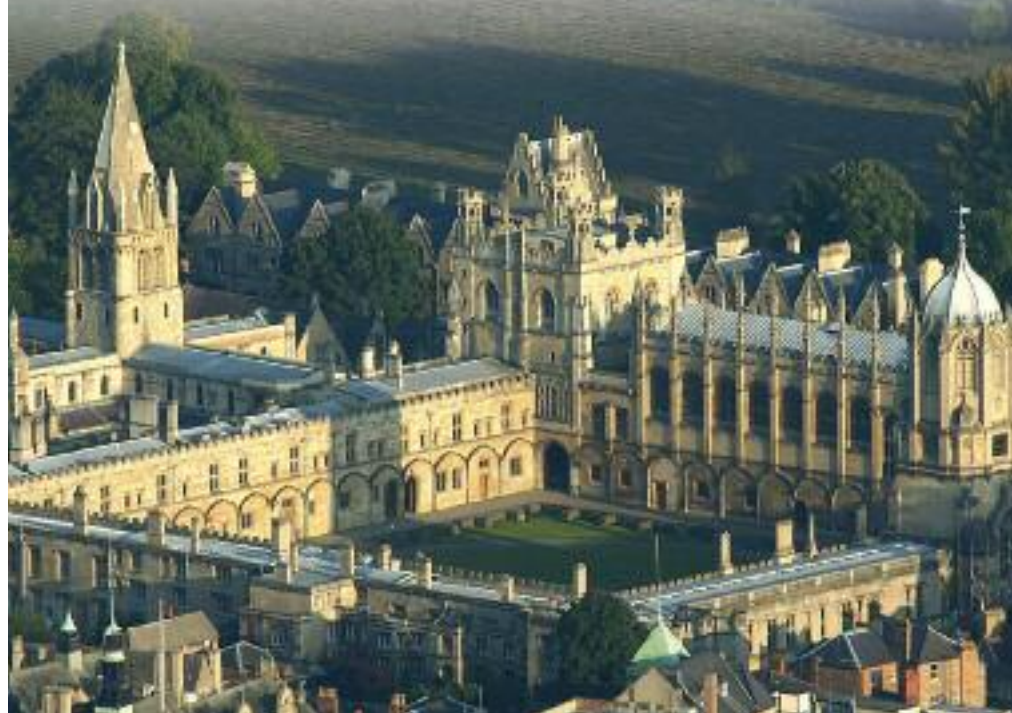
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www.chch.ox.ac.uk

JUBILEE CONCERTS 2012

CELEBRATE IN TOM QUAD, CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD
FRIDAY 22 – SUNDAY 24 JUNE

We have reason to celebrate 2012 and we hope you will join us. It is The Queen's diamond jubilee year and Her Majesty is the Visitor of Christ Church in a personal capacity (our founder was her predecessor Henry VIII). 1812-2012 makes it the bicentenary of the Battle of Borodino, the inspiration for Tchaikovsky's 1812 overture. Those of a certain age may remember the thrilling 1961 concert in Tom Quad, when the 1812 was also the centrepiece. Add the Olympics, our close links with New Zealand (Christ Church led to Christchurch) and our position in the wonderful county of Oxfordshire and the programme is hardly a matter of choice.

The Very Revd Christopher Lewis, Dean of Christ Church



THE PROGRAMME



Friday 22 June at 7.45pm
Dame Kiri Te Kanawa
and the BBC Concert
Orchestra

Conductor: Julian Reynolds

With a programme to include:
Mozart, Handel, Strauss,
De Falla, Carlebockle,
and Puccini



Saturday 23 June at 8.00pm
Oxford Philomusica re-enact
the great concert of 1961

Conductor:
Marios Papadopoulos

Dvořák: Symphony No. 9 In
E minor, Op. 95, 'From the
New World'; Walton: Crown
Imperial, 'Coronation March';
Verdi: Grand March from Aida;
Tchaikovsky: Overture '1812'

Sunday 24 June at 6.30pm
The Oxfordshire
County Music Service

Present a Gala Concert of
British Music, featuring young
people from all over the
county performing choral and
instrumental music from the
British Isles with a rousing finale
of 'Land of Hope and Glory'.



HOSPITALITY PACKAGES

In addition to the normal alfresco concert seats Christ Church is offering a number of special hospitality packages.

The Diamond Package (from £199) Pre-concert and Interval Champagne Receptions • Banquet in Hall • Covered Grandstand Seat
The Gold Package (from £1,025 per box) Pre-concert Butler Service • Covered Seating (for up to 8) in Private Marquee Box • Interval Champagne Reception in Hall

The Silver Package (from £99) Pre-concert and Interval Champagne Receptions • Covered Grandstand Seat
The Bronze Package (from £79) Pre-concert and Interval Champagne Receptions • Front Row Alfresco Seat in Tom Quad



Sunday Afternoon Tea in Hall (£7)
Mixed Filled Finger Sandwiches • Scones with Clotted Cream and Jam • Tea/Squash

Book on-line at www.chch.ox.ac.uk

TICKETS

Tickets for our alfresco seats in Tom Quad may be purchased through Tickets Oxford at the Oxford Playhouse. Website: www.oxfordplayhouse.com/ticketsoxford Ticket Office: 01865 305305

Concert Date	Friday 22 June	Saturday 23 June	Sunday 24 June
Prices (Dec-Feb)	£19, £29, £39, £49	£18, £22, £27, £33	£5, £10, £15, £20
Prices (Mar-Jun)	£25, £35, £45, £55	£20, £24, £29, £35	£5, £10, £15, £20

Bettany Hughes, Zeinab Badawi, 831
Gillian Shephard
Chaired by Sarah Baxter

The State of Education.

4pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Historian Bettany Hughes, who campaigns for the teaching of classics in schools, newsreader Zeinab Badawi, a trustee of the new University of the Arts, and Baroness Gillian Shephard, former secretary of state for education, share their passions and experience in a discussion on the state of education, chaired by *The Sunday Times Magazine* editor Sarah Baxter. All four are graduates of St Hilda's College.

Zeinab Badawi



This event is part of the St Hilda's College day.



Derek Landy

825

Death Bringer and the Skulduggery
Pleasant Adventures

4pm / Christ Church Cathedral School / £5

Derek Landy is the creator of the bestselling, comic and action-packed crime/horror/fantasy adventure series about smart-talking skeleton detective Skulduggery Pleasant and his erstwhile schoolgirl sidekick Valkyrie. The first book won the Red House Children's Book Award, the second, *Playing with Fire*, was the Irish Children's Book of the Year, and the sixth, *Death Bringer*, is now out in paperback. Landy is coming all the way from Ireland to talk about his own adventurous life, and the inspirations behind the series.

Derek Landy



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Photo: K.T. Bruce

Jeanne Willis

827

Olympic Laughs and Dinosaur Bones

4pm / Christ Church: JCR / £5 **Ages 6-10**

Come and get in the mood for this year's Olympics and meet the Downtown Dinosaurs. They are the stars of a new series by award-winning Jeanne Willis, one of the funniest authors around, who has written more than 80 children's books. The Dino-Olympics involve Darwin Stigson, a brave young Stegosaurus, as quick in his thinking as he is on his scooter; Flint Beastwood, the gangster-like T-Rex, never without his sidekicks Mr Cretaceous and Terry O-Dactyl; Dippy Egg, the Gallimimus; and Boris, the remarkably familiar-looking mayor. Plus, you will get to handle some real dinosaur bones, and even put your dinosaur questions to Flint Beastwood himself.

Jeanne Willis



Photo: Justine Stoddart

Sponsored by

Sherard Cowper Coles
and Ivor Roberts

833

Chaired by Sir Leslie Fielding

Is Diplomacy Dead?

4pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden
Marquee / £10

Donald Rumsfeld and the White House sidelined their experienced and able American diplomats – a major factor in the Iraq disaster. Downing Street and 'sofa government' turned a deaf ear to what they did not want to hear. Probably what was, in Britain's case, the best diplomatic service in the world found itself overstretched, under-resourced and uncertain. Do we still need diplomacy? What is its future? And what makes a good diplomat?

To tackle these questions, we have on our panel Sir Sherard Cowper Coles, former British ambassador to Kabul and author of *Cables from Kabul: Inside Story of the West's Afghanistan Campaign*, and Sir Ivor Roberts, President of Trinity College, whose long diplomatic career included spells as Ambassador to Yugoslavia, Italy, and the Republic of Ireland. The discussion is chaired by Sir Leslie Fielding, whose own diplomatic career has taken him from Cambodia in the 1960s to Paris, Brussels and Tokyo.

Sir Ivor Roberts



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Ian and Carol Sellars

Jonathan Bate

835

English Literature: A Very Short Introduction

5.15pm / Christ Church: Meadows Marquee 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 in the Blackwell book tent.

Jonathan Bate, professor of Shakespeare and Renaissance literature at the University of Warwick, will discuss why literature matters, how narrative works, and what is distinctly English about English literature.

Jonathan Bate



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V S I

William Boyd.

810

Introduced by Nicolette Jones

Waiting for Sunrise

6pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden Marquee / £10

William Boyd introduces his new novel, *Waiting for Sunrise*, a love story and a thriller about secret intelligence set in Vienna just before and during World War I, and discusses its themes of Freudian psychoanalysis, suspicion and betrayal. Boyd, a former tutor at St Hilda's College, is author of ten novels including *A Good Man in Africa*, *An Ice-Cream War*, *Brazzaville Beach*, *Any Human Heart* and *Restless*. His awards include the Whitbread Prize and Somerset Maugham Award. This event is part of the St Hilda's College media day.



William Boyd will be the recipient of the 2012 Honorary Fellowship of the Oxford Literary Festival. The previous recipients have been Kazuo Ishiguro (2011), Dame Antonia Byatt (2010), and Baroness PD James (2009).

This event is part of the St Hilda's College day.



Rebecca Stott

802

Darwin's Ghosts: In Search of the First Evolutionists

6.30pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £10

Darwin was not the first to speculate about the origin of species. Among the many letters of both praise and outrage that he received on the publication of his theory of evolution was one that accused him of failing to acknowledge the work of his forbears. Novelist and historian Rebecca Stott tells the story of those predecessors who dared to advance similar theories at a time when it was incredibly dangerous to do so. The story goes back as far as Aristotle and includes Leonardo da Vinci's search for fossils in Tuscany and Diderot's explorations under the watch of the French secret police.

Stott, professor of English literature and creative writing at the University of East Anglia, was shortlisted for the Jelf First Novel Award and Society of Authors First Book Award for *Ghostwalk*. She has written eleven books including three works on history of science.

Rebecca Stott



Ben MacIntyre and Kim Newman

816

Can You Love a Villain?

6.30pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Becky Sharp, Ripley, Flashman – all villains, but ones for whom we have a sneaking admiration. What makes a villain alluring? Ben MacIntyre, journalist, historian and author, explains the attraction of Eddie Chapman – named Agent Zigzag by M15 – who was irresistible to women, and convincing to spymasters in both the UK and Germany. Chapman was both a villain and a hero of World War II. MacIntyre's book *Agent Zigzag: The True Wartime Story of Eddie Chapman: Lover, Betrayer, Hero, Spy* was recently turned into a BBC documentary. Writer, critic and journalist Kim Newman, author of the *Anno Dracula* series, recently chose the '10 top literary villains' to mark the launch of his book *Moriarty – the Hound of the D'Urbervilles*. His own favourite is probably Dracula.

Kim Newman



Merton College from the Meadows

Emrys Westacott

819

The Virtues of Our Vices: In Defence of Gossip, Rudeness and Other Bad Habits

6.30pm / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

American philosophy professor Emrys Westacott challenges us to rethink conventional wisdom about our everyday moral behaviour. He argues that the five common vices of rudeness, gossip, snobbery, bawdy humour and disrespect are an important part of our daily interactions. There are times, he says, when rudeness may be needed to help someone with a problem or to get across an important message. Gossip can foster intimacy and curb power, and dubious humour can ease existential anxiety. *The Virtues of Our Vices* is both funny and philosophically sophisticated.

Westacott is professor of philosophy at Alfred University, New York. He is co-author of *Thinking Through Philosophy: An Introduction*.

Emrys Westacott



Stephen Armstrong, Beatrix
Campbell, Juliet Gardiner, Paul
Mason. Chaired by D J Taylor

834

The Road to Wigan Pier: 75 years on

6.30pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

A classic of reportage, Orwell's *The Road to Wigan Pier* and the experiences he wrote about were critical in the development of his political views and his commitment to democratic socialism. Our panellists make the journey back to the 1930s, and recount their own experiences of following in Orwell's footsteps, accompanied along the way by Orwell biographer, D J Taylor.

Journalist and broadcaster Stephen Armstrong is author of the forthcoming *The Road to Wigan Pier Revisited*. Journalist, broadcaster and playwright Beatrix Campbell wrote *Wigan Pier Revisited* in 1984. Historian Juliet Gardiner is author of *The Thirties: An Intimate History*, and *The Blitz and Wartime: Britain 1939-1945*, which was shortlisted for the Orwell Prize. Paul Mason is the economics editor of *BBC Newsnight*. He was part of the *Newsnight* team awarded a Special Orwell Prize in 2007. DJ Taylor is a novelist, biographer and critic. *His George Orwell: The Life* won the Whitbread Biography Prize.

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Closing Festival Dinner

836

Hosted by the Dean (Head of House) of Christ Church, Christopher Lewis

Alice's Banquet in Wonderland
Guest Speaker Andrew Marr

6.45pm Reception, 7.15pm Dinner in Christ Church Hall. £120 (includes reception, dinner, wines and signed copy of Andrew Marr's *The Diamond Queen*). Dress Code – Black Tie.

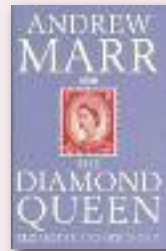
The menu for this year's closing festival dinner marks the 150th anniversary of Alice in Wonderland – and it is fit for a Queen in Jubilee year. Rightly so, as our guest speaker Andrew Marr, one of the UK's best-known broadcasters, will talk about his book of the BBC series *The Diamond Queen: Queen Elizabeth II and her People*.

Dinner will be in the Great Hall of Christ Church where *Alice in Wonderland* author Lewis Carroll, or Charles Dodgson as he was known in college, would have enjoyed a lifetime of meals both as a student and teacher. It was at Christ Church that the children of the then Dean inspired him to write the Alice stories, and Christ Church the place inspired many of the locations. The college continues to inspire today, the Great Hall being the model for Hogwarts Hall in the Harry Potter movies.

Food historian Anne Menzies has created a menu inspired by the Alice stories. During her game of chess, Alice had been told that when she became Queen she would have to give a banquet exactly like one at Christ Church. The food will be produced by Christ Church executive chef Chris Simms and his team.

Following dinner, Andrew Marr, will talk about his new book, published to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and to accompany his flagship BBC series celebrating the monarch's reign. It is an account of the Queen's reign that draws heavily on Marr's many years as one of the UK's top political journalists.

He has worked for many leading newspapers and was the BBC's political editor between 2000 and 2005. He now presents the weekly *Andrew Marr Show* on Sunday mornings on BBC1 and *Start the Week* on Radio 4.



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