



THE SUNDAY TIMES
OXFORD
LITERARY
FESTIVAL

Saturday 24th March to
Sunday 1st April 2012
at Christ Church, Oxford

Featuring

Vikram Seth
Anne Tyler
Peter Carey
Michael Morpurgo
Claire Tomalin
David Hare
Max Hastings
Diana Athill
Rowan Williams
Andrew Marr

Joanne Harris
Anthony Horowitz
Alan Parker
Donna Leon
Giorgio Locatelli
Simon Callow
Joan Bakewell
Robert Harris
Ben Okri
William Boyd

Philip Pullman
PD James
Alistair Darling
Jodi Picoult
Carlo Petrini
Jeremy Paxman
Eleanor Bron
Ian Rankin
Andrew Motion
Bettany Hughes

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Box Office 0870 343 1001
www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org



The Sheldonian Theatre, venue for twelve major festival events

THE SUNDAY TIMES
**OXFORD
 LITERARY
 FESTIVAL**

Director's welcome

We are very proud of the tremendous line-up of world-class speakers we have assembled for the 2012 Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival.

It is a year for firsts. The US author, Anne Tyler, makes her initial official appearance in the UK when she receives The Sunday Times Award for Literary Excellence. Poet and author Ben Okri launches his first collection of poetry in more than a decade; and we have the inaugural Oxford Debate at the Sheldonian Theatre – where AC Grayling and Roger Scruton go 'head to head' on the topic 'Do we need God to Survive?' Another first is a talk by writer and critic Lev Grossman on the American novel to mark the launch of a major American literature and culture programme – in partnership with the Rothermere Institute of the University of Oxford – which will get underway at the 2013 festival.

There is a rare opportunity to hear the twice Booker prize-winning author Peter Carey, on the eve of publication of his new novel, and witness him receive the prestigious Bodley Medal. Vikram Seth delivers this year's Chancellor's Lecture. Other major appearances at the Sheldonian Theatre include Michael Morpurgo, Anthony Horowitz, Sir David Hare, Sir Alan Parker, Philip Pullman, Simon Callow, Archbishop Rowan Williams and Robert Harris.



WELCOME

Inside these pages you will find a host of other exciting events, talks, debates, panels, half-day conferences, literary dinners, walks, tours and tastings across an incredible range of subjects. You can celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Dickens; debate current issues from the war in Afghanistan to last summer's riots; eat meals in ancient college halls; enjoy our exceptionally popular children's events – or simply meet your favourite author over a cup of tea or a glass of wine.

Once again, we are extremely grateful to *The Sunday Times* for its enthusiastic promotion of the festival, and to HSBC Premier, our global banking partner, for its wonderful support. We also thank our donors and partners, old and new, whose generous help means so much to us.

We look forward to the launch of the new Jeremy Mogford Prize for Food and Drink Writing; to announcing a new initiative with schools – supported by Chartwells; and to welcoming record numbers of people to the festival. Our events are staged in some of the most beautiful and historic university buildings in Europe – in ancient colleges, the Bodleian Library, the Ashmolean Museum and the Sheldonian Theatre – all told an inspirational, entertaining and provocative nine days to look forward to.

Sally Dunsmore Festival Director

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2013 FESTIVAL DATES
 Saturday 16th March
 to Sunday 24th March


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OXFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL

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Front cover photo: Oxford Picture Library

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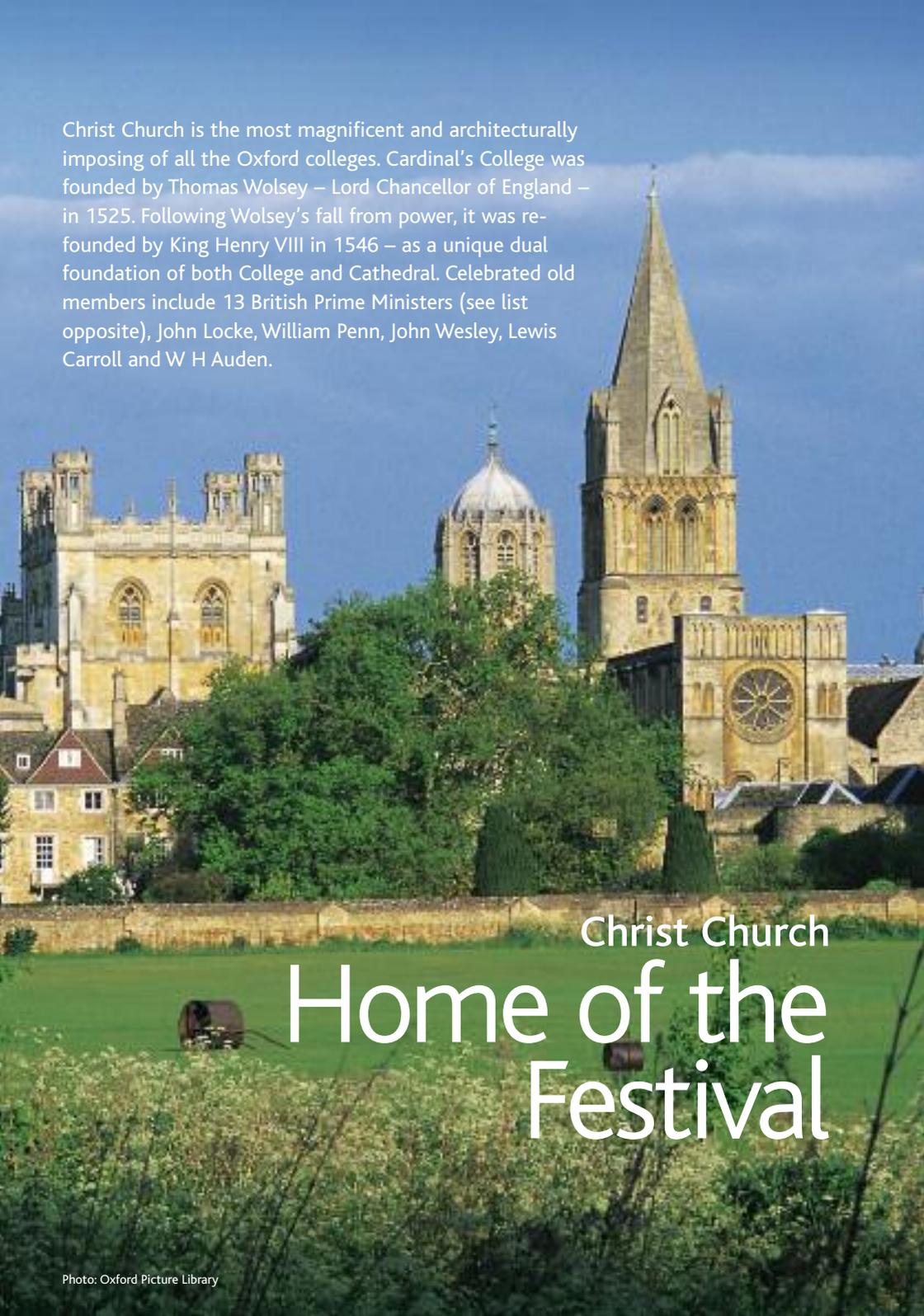
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Christ Church is the most magnificent and architecturally imposing of all the Oxford colleges. Cardinal's College was founded by Thomas Wolsey – Lord Chancellor of England – in 1525. Following Wolsey's fall from power, it was re-founded by King Henry VIII in 1546 – as a unique dual foundation of both College and Cathedral. Celebrated old members include 13 British Prime Ministers (see list opposite), John Locke, William Penn, John Wesley, Lewis Carroll and W H Auden.



Christ Church
Home of the
Festival

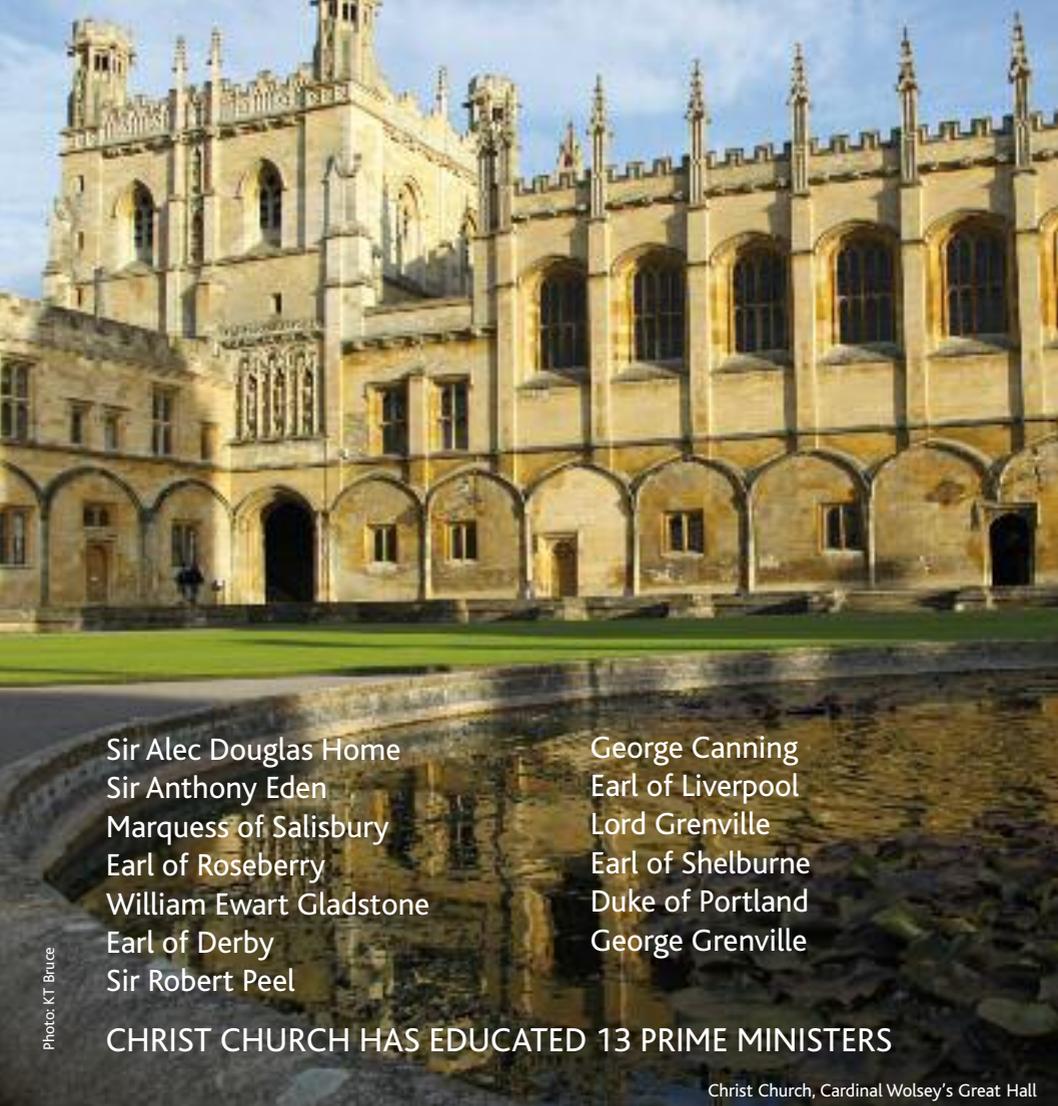


Photo: KT Bruce

Sir Alec Douglas Home
 Sir Anthony Eden
 Marquess of Salisbury
 Earl of Roseberry
 William Ewart Gladstone
 Earl of Derby
 Sir Robert Peel

George Canning
 Earl of Liverpool
 Lord Grenville
 Earl of Shelburne
 Duke of Portland
 George Grenville

CHRIST CHURCH HAS EDUCATED 13 PRIME MINISTERS

Christ Church, Cardinal Wolsey's Great Hall

The Great Hall – built by Wolsey, and the venue for the festival closing dinner, talks and tastings – is the largest Tudor college hall in either Oxford or Cambridge.

During the English Civil War, Oxford was the Royalist capital, with the King and court based at Christ Church (1642-1646). King Charles I addressed both houses of the Royalist Parliament in the Great Hall – which was the focus for all court pomp and ceremony. The Hall also provided the setting for Hogwarts Hall in the Harry Potter films.

Christ Church today is one of the foremost colleges in the University of Oxford – with undergraduate and postgraduate students from home and overseas reading a great range and variety of academic subjects. It has a major contingent of research fellows and leading scholars. The Cathedral (and College Chapel) serves the diocese of Oxford, as well as the student body – and the world-famous Christ Church Cathedral Choir reflects a tradition established by Cardinal Wolsey, who appointed John Taverner as the first organist.

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All events on the programme for young people are selected because they promise terrific entertainment, whether for pre-schoolers or 17-year-olds. We hope the 34 different events will be full of laughter, fun, ideas, information and inspiration. This year we celebrate some significant anniversaries: the bicentenary of Dickens's birth, with a unique discussion of his legacy to literature for the young; the 110th birthday of Peter Rabbit, with a special birthday show; the centenary of the Tarzan stories with Andy Briggs' survival skills quiz; and 25 magical years of Winnie the Witch.

In Olympics year both Jeanne Willis's and Jeremy Strong's new books have fun with sporting contests. After the premiere of Stephen Spielberg's adaptation of *War Horse*, we are privileged to welcome Michael Morpurgo. We are also delighted to have snatched from the West End actor-turned-author Mackenzie Crook with his debut children's novel. We remember Ian Fleming with Frank Cottrell Boyce, author of the sequel to *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, and Charlie Higson, creator of *Young Bond*.

Meanwhile, the Scarrow brothers (Alex and Simon), Joanne Harris, Kevin Crossley Holland, Francesca Simon, Kelly Gerrard, Emma Dodd and Caroline Lawrence will transport us elsewhere: to the worlds of the Romans, Egyptians, Norsemen and the Wild West, while Jewell Parker Rhodes will take us into the path of Hurricane Katrina and Christopher Lloyd back to the dawn of the universe.

We have an exceptional panel of sophisticated writers for young adults, including two Carnegie Medal winners, Tim Bowler and Patrick Ness, a Branford Boase winner, Sally Nicholls, and this



year's Costa Children's Novel prize-winner, Moira Young. There are events for wildlife lovers, Steve Bloom and Gill Lewis; for aspiring writers, with Katherine Rundell, the youngest ever Fellow of All Souls; for thrill-seekers, with Derek Landy's smart-talking skeleton detective Skulduggery Pleasant; and for fans of Blue Peter, in the company of the authors shortlisted for the Book Award and a mystery celebrity.

Young people can see unicycling and circus tricks at the Amazing Esme event, make their own graphic novel, decorate cakes with Flossie Crums, enjoy a cookery challenge at the Chartwells event, and handle real dinosaur bones with Jeanne Willis.

The lively programme of interactive events for under-6s includes some of our finest picturebook makers, with hilarious storytelling from, for instance, Andrew Weale and Giles Andreae, breathtaking live drawing with Axel Scheffler, Chris Wormell, and Janet Cronin, a back garden safari with Penelope Harper, crafts from collage to pom-pom sheep with Clara Vulliamy, Emma Chichester Clark, Clare Beaton, and Mei Matsuoka; and silly songs with festival favourite Kristina Stephenson.

Also back by popular demand is Bookcamp, a workshop for adults on how to get a children's book published, and the inimitably daft double act of Jeremy Strong and Andy Stanton. These were among the sell-out events of last year's programme. Do book early this year.

Nicolette Jones
Children's programme Director



Photos: KT Bruce



THE SHELDONIAN THEATRE PROGRAMME OF SPEAKERS

Philip Pullman, Christopher Edge
and J D Sharpe. Chaired by Marion
Dickens Lloyd

Dickens' Legacy

Saturday 24 March
10am



Sir David Hare

South Downs and
a Life in Theatre

Saturday 24 March
5:30pm



Michael Morpurgo talks to
Paul Blezard

War Horse:
The West End
and Hollywood

Sunday 25 March
10am



Craig Brown, Eleanor Bron and
Simon Callow

One on One
*Readings of literary
encounters*

Sunday 25 March
12.30pm



A C Grayling and Roger Scruton

The Oxford Debate:
Do We Need God to Survive?

Sunday 25 March
3pm



Sir Alan Parker talks to
Graham Benson

A Life in Film

Sunday 25 March
5:30pm



The Chancellor's Lecture
by Vikram Seth

The Rivered Earth

Tuesday 27 March
5:30pm



Rowan Williams, Archbishop of
Canterbury, talks to Eliza Griswold

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

Saturday 31 March
10am



THE SHELDONIAN THEATRE PROGRAMME OF SPEAKERS

Anthony Horowitz
talks to Peter Kemp

The House of Silk:
A New Sherlock
Holmes Adventure

Saturday 31 March
12:30pm



Robert Harris
Interviewed by Peter Kemp

The Fear Index

Saturday 31 March
4pm



Anne Tyler talks to Peter Kemp

The Beginner's
Goodbye

Sunday 1 April
11am



Peter Carey
Interviewed by Peter Kemp

The 2012 Bodley
Lecture: The Chemistry
of Tears

*Followed by the award of the
Bodley Medal to Peter Carey*
Sunday 1 April 4pm



John le Carré at the Sheldonian Theatre, 2010 festival

HSBC Premier & THE OXFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL

As Global Banking Partner we are delighted to be sponsoring the Oxford Literary Festival for a second year and continuing our support of literature as a way of opening up opportunities, making connections and stimulating debate.

The Festival programme challenges and inspires people to view the world from different perspectives and encourages exploration and discussion around some of the major topics and issues of our day – an ethos that is mirrored by HSBC Premier's belief that an appreciation of cultural diversity is highly valuable in building international trade relationships.

Our support of this year's Leadership Series is a particular highlight: the strand of events offers fascinating insight into the world of international business, finance and current affairs with leading names including Alvin Hall, Susan Cain, Tim Harford, Margaret Heffernan and Kevin Murray.

The prestigious Closing Dinner, this year hosted by Andrew Marr, is another high point of our sponsorship, which provides HSBC Premier customers and prospective clients with exclusive access to high profile speakers and a dedicated Premier lounge in the heart of Christ Church.

We look forward to welcoming our guests to Oxford, along with the thousands of visitors who will be joining us for nine days of inspiring talks and events.



Richard Knight
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Christ Church

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2-7 SEPTEMBER 2012

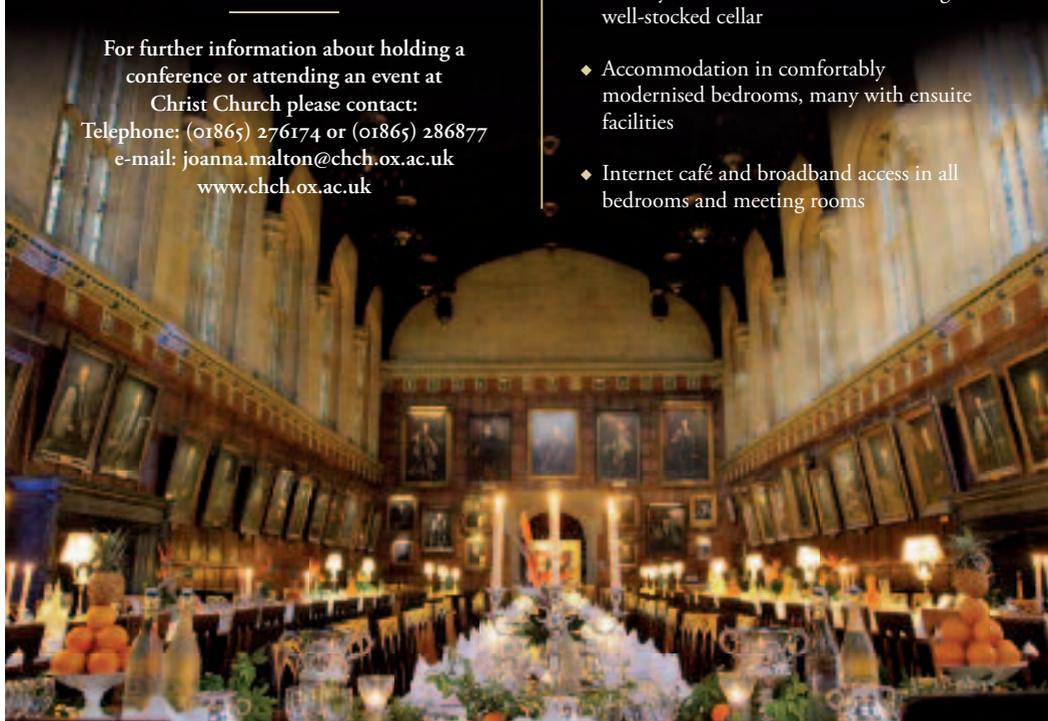
SPRING SPECIAL INTEREST WEEKEND
'THE ENGLISH COUNTRY HOUSE:
A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME'
11-14 APRIL 2013

For further information about holding a
conference or attending an event at
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CULTURALLY ENRICHING TELEVISION



Philip Pullman, Christopher Edge and J D Sharpe. 107
 Chaired by Marion Dickens Lloyd

Dickens' Legacy

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £6 - £10
 Family event



Philip Pullman

J D Sharpe

In the bicentennial year of Dickens' birth, three authors discuss the lasting influence of his work, particularly on young people's literature. Christopher Edge is a Dickens' fan and author of the Victorian thriller *Twelve Minutes to Midnight*; Philip Pullman is author of the Dickensian Sally Lockhart quartet; and J D Sharpe has introduced the paranormal to Dickens in *Oliver Twisted*. The event is chaired by publisher Marion Dickens Lloyd, great-great-granddaughter of Charles Dickens.



Christopher Edge

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THE
 SHELDONIAN
 THEATRE

Sue Prideaux 111

Strindberg: A Life

10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

August Strindberg is known as 'the mad inventor of modern theatre'. His *Miss Julie* was the first 'pyschodrama' and its lead role is one that all the great actresses aspire to play. More than most, Strindberg based a lot of his writing on his own life. Sue Prideaux became fascinated by his life when she was researching her previous book, *Edvard Munch: Behind the Scream*. She portrays Strindberg's dramatic and chaotic life in fin-de-siècle Paris and Berlin where he would work and debate with the likes of Munch, Paul Gauguin and Frank Wedekind. And Prideaux reveals for the first time the real people on whom the characters in *Miss Julie* were based and the suicide that inspired the play's dramatic ending.

Sue Prideaux



Peter Rabbit's Birthday Show 124

10am / Corpus Christi College / £5 Ages 4-7

Come and celebrate 110 years of Peter Rabbit! Hop along to this charming interactive puppet show where *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* is brought to life. Help Peter escape from Mr McGregor's garden and continue on his journey with lots of birthday fun along the way.



Sponsored by



Martin Bell

116

For Whom the Bell Tolls: Light and Dark Verse**10am / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £10**

Martin Bell has been many things – an icon of BBC war reporting, Britain's first independent MP for 50 years, a UNICEF ambassador, a staunch supporter of rights for the armed forces and the man in the white suit – a tireless campaigner for honesty and accountability in politics.

His new book, however, reveals he is also a talented poet of light verse. Here Bell's poems continue his war by other means on duplicitous politicians, our all-consuming media, the venality of celebrity culture and much more. He presents poems on Tony Blair and Iraq – a theme he returns to frequently as he laments the plight of the troops as they fought what he regards as an illegal war; on Radovan Karadzic, the Serbian War criminal whom he met on trial in the Hague; and on his hero, Reuters reporter Kurt Schork, killed on assignment in Sierra Leone.

Bell's collection of poems is a funny, honest and often moving account of his life and experiences.

Martin Bell



Helen Nathan

135

Flossie Crums and the Fairies' Cupcake Ball**10am / Christ Church Cathedral School / £5**

Join Helen Nathan, creator of baking star Flossie Crums, as she reads from the first book in the amazing Flossie series of baking adventures, *Flossie Crums and the Fairies' Cupcake Ball*, and decorate your very own Daisy cupcake to take home with you!

Flossie is seven-and-three-quarters and loves baking. When she finally meets the fairies that live at the bottom of the garden and they taste her delicious cakes, the fairies invite her to bake for the fairy queen. Will Flossie's cupcakes be good enough to impress Queen Romolonia?

Helen Nathan



Sponsored by



Benjamin Markovits 138

Childish Loves

10am / Bodleian: Divinity School / £10

Childish Loves completes Benjamin Markovits's trilogy of Byron-inspired novels. In it, the narrator, Peter Sullivan, inherits manuscripts relating to the poet. As with Byron, Sullivan's life is tarnished by whispers of an inappropriate liaison with a young boy. Markovits explores the issues around childhood and sexual awakening, innocence and attraction, both in the contemporary narrative and through flashbacks to a teenage Byron's youthful encounters with a choirboy in Cambridge. His well researched novels bring to life Byron and his circle. *Imposture*, the first novel in the trilogy, deals with Dr John Polidori, the tragic outsider during that creative summer in Geneva, whose ferocious jealousy of Byron drove him to commit suicide at a young age. The horrors of Byron's marriage to Annabella Millbanke and allusions to a possible incestuous affair with his half-sister Augusta, are revealed in *A Quiet Adjustment*.

Ben Markovits teaches creative writing at Royal Holloway, University of London. His previous novels include *The Syme Papers*, *Either Side of Winter* and *Playing Days*. Before taking up a writing career, he was a professional basketball player.

Benjamin Markovits



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Presented by the Bodleian Library



Bodleian Libraries

Film Oxford with Alastair Lack 141

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

From Charley's Aunt to the latest episode of Inspector Lewis, Oxford has proved a magnet for filmmakers and filmgoers alike. Whether it is a Bollywood spectacular or Harry Potter, the streets and quadrangles of Oxford are a familiar background to numerous films. In this walk, explore the city that has provided the setting for films as diverse as *The Golden Compass* and *A Yank at Oxford* and hear about 'film' Oxonians such as Rosamund Pike, Emma Watson, Kris Kristofferson and Rowan Atkinson.

Alastair Lack



Christopher Lloyd 130

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.

Lloyd is the founder of *What on Earth Publishing*. His books include *What on Earth Happened?* and *What on Earth Evolved?* He divides his time between writing, journalism and lecturing in schools, museums and at literary festivals.

Sponsored by



Alistair Horne 105
talks to Peter Conradi

**Soldier, Spy, Journalist and Historian:
A Literary Vagabondage**

12 noon / Corpus Christi / £10

Historian and biographer Sir Alistair Horne takes us on a wonderfully entertaining and evocative journey through his life from childhood as a wartime evacuee in America, to periods as a soldier, spy and journalist, and to his eventual career as a historian and biographer. *But What Do You Actually Do?* is the title of the second volume of Sir Alistair's memoirs, and he answers the question with a fascinating account of his adult life.

Along the way, Sir Alistair delights with portraits of the many entertaining and well-known characters he both befriended and lined up against. These include the likes of Harold MacMillan, whose biography he wrote, and George W Bush, who invited him to the Oval Office to talk about his book on the Franco-Algerian conflict, *A Savage War of Peace*.

Sir Alistair was knighted in 2003 for services to Franco-British relations and also holds the French Legion d'Honneur for his work on French history.

Here he talks to Peter Conradi, a journalist with *The Sunday Times* and co-author (with Mark Logue) of *The King's Speech: How One Man Saved the British Monarchy*.

Alistair Horne



Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Marina Lewycka 113

Various Pets Dead and Alive

12 noon / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

Marina Lewycka casts a witty eye on modern values in this her fourth novel. It features parents Marcus and Doro who spent more than 20 years until the early 1990s living in a left-wing commune. Their grown-up children are rather different – son Serge pretends to be doing a PhD at Cambridge but is really making a fortune in the City, Clara is a primary schoolteacher who craves order and clean bathrooms, while Oolie-Anna has Downs Syndrome and is desperate to live on her own.

Lewycka, whose first novel *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian* won the Bollinger Everyman Prize for Comic Fiction and the Waverton Good Read Award, brings her unique blend of irony and wit to bear on the characters and events.

Marina Lewycka



Jewell Parker Rhodes 115

Ninth Ward: Coming of Age and Hurricane Katrina

12 noon / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £5
Age 8+

The devastation caused in New Orleans by Hurricane Katrina forms the backdrop to Jewell Parker Rhodes' multi-award-winning children's novel *Ninth Ward*. Rhodes writes of Katrina's impact on Ninth Ward, a poor community in New Orleans. She weaves African-American spirituality and magical realism into suspenseful drama and social critique.

Ninth Ward is a deeply emotional story about transformation and a celebration of resilience, friendship, and family. The story follows 12-year-old orphan Lanesha, who is abandoned by her 'uptown family' after her mother dies giving birth to her and taken in by Mama Ya-Ya. Both Lanesha and Mama Ya-Ya have the gift of 'sight' and Mama Ya-Ya has a vision of a powerful hurricane approaching. *Ninth Ward* is Rhodes' first novel for young readers. 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



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Tamara Macfarlane and Gilbert Giggles 123

Amazing Esme Circus Event

12 noon / Christ Church: Master's Garden Marquee / £5
Age 5+

Step right up for the greatest show at the festival! Meet Tamara Macfarlane, author of *Amazing Esme*, and her infamous sidekick, leading children's comedian Gilbert Giggles. Be amazed by unicycling, confused by juggling and, if you are feeling brave enough, attempt some plate-spinning. And for the finale . . . discover how to build a story of your own through Gilbert's catastrophic antics and Tamara's tales of bad-mannered tea parties. Miss it and you'll miss out! Not for the faint of heart or people of a grumpy disposition.

Tamara Macfarlane



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Emma Dodd and K A Gerrard 127

How to Create Your Own Graphic Novel

12 noon / Christ Church: JCR / £6

Age 9+ Max 20

Join award-winning illustrator Emma Dodd and author K A Gerrard in a hands-on workshop on how to put together your own graphic novel. Their ancient historical comic strip books *A Roman Rescue* and *An Egyptian Escape* combine fun and learning in lively adventures. Whatever your favourite subject, they will offer step-by-step help and advice on layout, dialogue and illustration.

Emma Dodd



Sponsored by Critchleys.



Steve Jones 133

Evolution Versus Creationism

12 noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Many biologists are worried by the recent and unexpected return of an argument founded on belief – based on certainty and unsupported by evidence – that life did not evolve but appeared by supernatural means. Worldwide, more people believe in creationism than in evolution. Why do no biologists agree? Professor Jones will talk about what evolution is, about new evidence that men and chimps are close relatives and about how we are, nevertheless, unique. He will also outline why creationism does more harm to religion than it does to science.

Jones won the Aventis Prize for Science Books (then known as the Rhone-Poulenc Prize) in 1994 for *The Language of the Gene*. In 1997, he was awarded the Royal Society's Michael Faraday Prize, the UK's foremost award for communicating science to the public.

Steve Jones



Presented by Centre for Inquiry



Sister Wendy Beckett, 136
Anthony Wall and Randall Wright

Arena: Sister Wendy's Gospel Story

12 noon / Merton College / £10

BBC Two's flagship arts series *Arena* is making a major, revealing documentary with contemplative nun and arts writer Sister Wendy Beckett, to be broadcast Easter 2012.

Sister Wendy has a rare ability to get to the heart of a picture's narrative, and connect us to its big emotional insights, but she has told us nothing about her life, the unexpected international fame, or the core of her faith.

For the first time Sister Wendy looks back at her life, revealing intimate thoughts, reminiscences, and self-doubt. At the same time, she uses great old master paintings and examples of modern painting to tell us the gospel stories that were once universally familiar, but are now regularly disregarded. These are the stories that inspired her life of devotion, stories that she feels have relevance today

Film-maker and *Arena* series editor, Anthony Wall, director Randall Wright and Sister Wendy introduce the film.

A BBC Arena CTVC Co-production

Sister Wendy Beckett



Anthony Wall



Presented by BBC 2 – *Arena*



John Simpson 139

Filching-morts and Shabberoons:
Reviving Old Dictionaries

12 noon / Bodleian: Divinity School / £10

What do we gain from republishing curious old dictionaries? Well – quite a lot. John Simpson, chief editor of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, takes another look at *A Dictionary of the Canting Crew* (1699) and wonders whether the editor captured the concerns of the 17th-century Londoner or sensationalised his subject matter for the popular readership of the day.

John Simpson



Presented by The Bodleian Library

Published by

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS



Bodleian Libraries

Chartwells: Putting Fun into Food 140
Darren Pinkler et al

Family event

12 noon / Christ Church: Hall / £5

Two teams of children compete against the clock and in front of the audience to create the best healthy dish they can from mystery ingredients. Using two mini-mobile kitchens and all the utensils necessary to cook with, the teams work with Helen Nathan, author of the Flossie Crums books, and Laurane Marchive, editor of the Green Teen Cookbook, to create a healthy dish in under 15 minutes. Audience, get ready for on-the-spot nutritional questions and food tasting. Are you eating healthily?

This session is provided by festival partner Chartwells, the leading provider of contract catering and support services to the education sector in the UK. Its aim is to engage both the participants and the audience, and to get them excited about cooking and eating healthy, well balanced meals.

Sponsored by



Lavinia Greenlaw talks 103
to Jem Poster

Conversations with Poets

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £7

Lavinia Greenlaw has published three previous poetry collections, *Night Photograph* (1993), *A World Where News Travelled Slowly* (1997) and *Minsk* (2003), which was shortlisted for the T. S. Eliot, Forward and Whitbread Poetry prizes. Her new collection, *The Casual Perfect*, continues her explorations of light and the borders of vision. Questions of travel hover around many of these poems – questions which need to be ‘travelled fully’ rather than answered and which involve the overheard and the glimpsed, clues gleaned from traces and external signs. Greenlaw has also published two novels and a memoir.

Caroline Brothers and Kamin 102
Mohammadi

Chaired by Alastair Niven

Can Fiction and Memoir Change the World?

2pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Exile and the experience of being a refugee in a foreign land are at the heart of new works by journalists Caroline Brothers and Kamin Mohammadi. Brothers' novel *Hinterland* is an unsettling story of two young brothers who make the journey from Afghanistan to Europe with only the clothes on their back and an inheritance stitched into the lining of a belt. In *Cypress Tree: A Love Letter to Iran*, Mohammadi tells the true story of her flight to the UK from Iran in 1979, at the age of nine. She returns years later to discover the history of her family.

Together, Brothers and Mohammadi, explore whether fiction and memoir have the power to change the world.

The event is chaired by Dr Alastair Niven, principal of Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, and author of several books on post-colonial writing.

Caroline Brothers



Supported by

Ian and Carol Sellars



Andy Stanton and Jeremy Strong 106

Laugh Your Socks Off Again

2pm / Christ Church Hall / £6 Age 7+

Our sides are still aching from last year's appearance by Jeremy Strong and Andy Stanton, so we have invited them back for another hilarious hour of silliness this year. Two of our finest and funniest, they will share with you the latest about Mr Gum, Cartoon Kid, and The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog Goes for Gold!

Andy Stanton



Sponsored by



Peter Whitfield

128

There is No Foreign Land – It is the Traveller Who is Foreign

2pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £10

Peter Whitfield's new book, *Travel: a Literary History*, tours the historical motives for travel and travel writing – religion, conquest, gold, glory, adventure, aesthetics, science, sex, hedonism, poetry and wisdom – but shows how these overt motives have almost always been accompanied by that of self discovery – the discovery of the foreignness within ourselves.

Peter Whitfield is the author of more than a dozen works of history, literary criticism and poetry, including *A Universe of Books: Readings in World Literature*, and *English Poetry: a New Illustrated History*.

Presented by



Bodleian Libraries



Photo: Kit Bruce

John Gittings

118

The Glorious Art of Peace: Taking War off its Pedestal

2pm / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

The history of mankind is dominated by war, but journalist John Gittings argues that the progress and prosperity of humanity depend on a peaceful environment. He looks back as far as Confucius and Homer, to early Christian writers and to Shakespeare; traces the growth of the peace movement; and looks at the role played by Tolstoy and Gandhi. He says opportunities to end the Cold War earlier were missed and that, once again, we are missing opportunities for peace in the 21st century.

Gittings was chief foreign leader-writer and East Asian editor at *The Guardian* and is now a research associate of the Centre of Chinese Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies.

John Gittings



Published by

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**Blake
Lapthorn**

(Lawyers to the Festival)

Layn Marlow

119

Marlow and the Mole

2pm / Christ Church: JCR / £5

Ages 3-6

It is not easy being brave – even for Bramble, the bravest little mole in the burrow. The creator of Bramble and other delightful picture-book characters, local illustrator and international bestseller Layn Marlow studied history of art and has a first-class degree in illustration. Join her to find out what makes Bramble's tummy shudder, then have fun making a marvellous moley memento to take home with you. (Adult supervision required.)

Layn Marlow



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CHARTERS ACCOUNTANTS
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Introduced by Professor Ian Goldin, Director of the Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford

2pm-6.30pm / Merton College: TS Eliot Lecture Theatre / £47 (£55 including comedy event)

There is a 20% reduction for all participants in the science afternoon on the comedy event that follows at 6.30pm. (telephone bookings only)

Chaired by: Georgina Ferry, science writer and author

2.00–2.10pm

Introduction

We still have much to learn about the nature of the Universe. And we continually set ourselves new questions about the impacts that technology and social change will make on us and our environment. So how we deal with uncertainty in science?

2.10–3.10pm

Into the unknown

As our tools for studying the Universe get bigger and more expensive, the questions that still need answering become ever more intractable. Will the latest experiments find the answers? Or will there just be more questions? And does it matter?

Professor Frank Close, Department of Physics, University of Oxford, author of *The Infinity Puzzle*, the story of the search for the elusive Higgs particle; Joanna Dunkley, lecturer in astrophysics, University of Oxford, researching the nature of dark matter and dark energy – without which the Universe would collapse, but which have never been seen; and William Hartston, chess columnist and writer of the *Daily Express* 'Beachcomber' column, and author of *The Things Nobody Knows: 501 Mysteries of Life, the Universe and Everything*.

3.10–3.45pm Tea

3.45–4.45pm

Working with Uncertainty

Quantum physics and climate prediction are two areas of science particularly burdened with uncertainty. But can we use our understanding of that uncertainty for practical ends?



Professor Ian Goldin

John Gribbin, science writer and author of *In Search of Schrödinger's Cat* and *Erwin Schrödinger and the Quantum Revolution*, a new biography of one of the fathers of quantum theory; and Tim Palmer, Royal Society Research Professor at the University of Oxford, and co-director of the programme on modelling and predicting climate at the Oxford Martin School, and the artist Tim Head, whose works include projections based on quasi-random computer programs that explore the elusive material substance of the digital medium.

5–6pm

Are we safe (and do we need to be)?

Technology is changing our world at a breathless pace. How important is it to assess its risks accurately? And is there a place for risk in both artistic and scientific creativity?

Anders Sandberg, research fellow in the Future of Humanity Institute at the Oxford Martin School, working on social and ethical issues surrounding new technology; Jon Turney, author of *The Rough Guide to the Future*, shortlisted for the 2011 Royal Society Science Books Prize; and Sara Wheeler, polar traveller, author of *Terra Incognita* and *The Magnetic North*.

6.00 – 6.30pm

Drinks reception.

In partnership with the Oxford Martin School of the University of Oxford and Science Oxford



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The Business of Science®



Merton College
Oxford

Comedy Event: Hosted
by Helen Arney 121

Unknown Unknowns: A fusion of
stand-up comedy and science.

6.30pm / Merton College: TS Eliot Lecture
Theatre / £10 (£8 with Science and the Future)

Your host is geek songstress and comedian Helen Arney, as heard on Radio 4 and as seen on last year's Uncaged Monkeys national tour. Joining her will be Festival of the Spoken Nerd's Steve Mould, Edinburgh Fringe regular Rob Wells, and Oxford's own Dr Andrew Pontzen, all taking a look at the known – and unknown – universe with wit and comedic wisdom.

Helen Arney



Photo: Alex Bremner

In partnership with the Oxford Martin School of the
University of Oxford and Science Oxford



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Merton College
Oxford

Tony Benn, David Lammy
and Mary Riddell 132
Chaired by Harriet Sergeant

The 2011 English Riots:
What Can We Learn?

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

What caused the unthinkable riots, looting, arson, mugging, assaults, deaths across England last summer, were these riots just waiting for an excuse to kick off and why did no one see them coming – or did they?

Was this a riot by the feral underclass, when children as young as seven, and those from middle class backgrounds were also involved? Was it a result of poverty and deprivation, just a bit of fun, or is there an entitlement culture in our society? Who's to blame, politicians, bankers, big business, parents? Could the damage in London and the spread of riots across England be blamed on the police for losing control of the streets?

What are the lessons to be learned, will we see a repeat this summer, and what can be done to avoid one?

These and many other questions will be addressed by our distinguished panel of Tony Benn former MP, Cabinet Minister and Labour party chairman; David Lammy, MP for Tottenham since 2000, where the summer's riots began, who held several ministerial positions in the Labour government and recently published *Out of the Ashes: Britain after the Riots*; and Mary Riddell, columnist and political interviewer for the *Daily Telegraph*.

The panel is chaired by Harriet Sergeant, journalist and author of *Among the Hoods*, a book on a three-year friendship with a Brixton gang.



Tony Benn, David Lammy
and Mary Riddell

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Merton College Oxford

The award winning **TS Eliot Theatre** located in the Rose Lane gardens at Merton College opened in June 2010. This wonderful new addition is the most recent building to be opened in the College's almost 750 year history.

The theatre offers conference organisers state of the art facilities whilst enabling them and delegates alike to enjoy the historic buildings and gardens of a traditional College environment.

The theatre seats up to 140. It is equally suitable for smaller events, having 3 adjacent seminar rooms that can accommodate up to 20 delegates in each – boardroom style. There is also a large foyer area for the service of lunch, teas and coffees.



For more information on the TS Eliot Theatre, Merton College please contact Caroline Massey, Conference Manager on 01865 276 327 or email: caroline.massey@merton.ox.ac.uk



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Patrick Flanery and
Chibundu Onuzo
talk to Robert Collins

143

New Writing: Absolution and
The Spider King's Daughter

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Two new authors discuss their debut work with Robert Collins, assistant literary editor of *The Sunday Times*.

The festival is committed to showcasing new writing so we are delighted to welcome Patrick Flanery, author of *Absolution*, and Chibundu Onuzo, author of *The Spider King's Daughter*.



Absolution is set in contemporary South Africa as the two main protagonists confront the ghosts of their own pasts and the long shadow of the apartheid era. Flanery was born in California and completed a doctorate in 20th-century English literature at the University of Oxford.

The Spider King's Daughter is the story of an unlikely friendship between a male street hawker and the daughter of a member of the corrupt elite in Nigeria. Onuzo grew up in Lagos and is currently studying history at King's College, London.

Chibundu Onuzo



Patrick Flanery



Christopher Lloyd

131

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



David Lammy

125

Tottenham to Westminster: Has the Door Closed on Social Mobility?

4pm / Christ Church: Cathedral School / £10

David Lammy was one of five children raised by a single mother in the recession-and-riot-hit Tottenham of the 1980s. Through hard graft, luck and being pushed by a doting mother, Lammy would become the first black Briton to graduate from Harvard Law School and one of the youngest Members of Parliament in 2000.

Today, the recession politics of the 1980s has returned – the next few years will see thousands out of work and last summer saw social unrest return to the streets of Britain's inner cities. Join Lammy, author of an analysis of the August 2011 riots, *Out of the Ashes*, as he discusses whether social mobility can survive in the age of austerity?

David Lammy



Supported by
Ian and Carol Sellars

John Gray

108

Slightly Foxed presents John Gray on John Cowper Powys

4pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Political philosopher and author John Gray champions the work of 20th-century poet, lecturer, popular philosopher and novelist John Cowper Powys. The literary quarterly *Slightly Foxed* aims to revive interest in forgotten books and authors and Gray was commissioned to write about Cowper Powys for the spring issue.

John Gray is emeritus professor of European thought at the London School of Economics. He now writes full time, is the author of *Straw Dogs: Thoughts on Humans and Other Animals*, *The Immortalization Commission: The Strange Quest to Cheat Death* and many other books, and is one of Britain's most talked-about thinkers and philosophers.

John Gray



Sponsored by

Slightly Foxed 

Toby Musgrave

112

Heritage Fruits and Vegetables

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

Fruit and vegetables are as much part of our history as castles and historic manors – but heritage varieties are disappearing fast. Toby Musgrave, a leading authority on garden history and design, tells the fascinating stories behind our rich food heritage and celebrates the work of growers who are rediscovering older varieties of fruit and vegetable. And he explains why older varieties often have significant advantages over the new.

Musgrave's celebration of heritage fruit and vegetables is published in collaboration with the Royal Horticultural Society and features the sumptuous photography of Clay Perry. Musgrave is also the author of *The Head Gardeners* and *Cottage Gardens*.

Toby Musgrave



Photo: Renfriet Joew

Frank Cottrell Boyce and
Charlie Higson

117

Chitty and Bond: An Ian Fleming Celebration

4pm / Christ Church: Hall / £6

Age 8+

In celebration of Ian Fleming, author of the James Bond novels and of the children's novel *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, Frank Cottrell Boyce, film-maker and author of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Flies Again*, and Charlie Higson, comedian and author of the Young Bond books, discuss Fleming's originals and their own sequels. Cottrell Boyce was asked by the Fleming family to write a sequel to *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, in which the original vehicle becomes a camper van. Higson is author of many books including seven in the Young Bond series.

Frank Cottrell
Boyce



Charlie Higson



Sponsored by



Korky Paul

122

Abracadabra! Whizz Along with Winnie the Witch

4pm / Corpus Christi College / £5 **Age 5+**

Have fun celebrating Winnie the Witch's 25th anniversary with Korky Paul, the world's greatest portrait painter and dinosaur drawer! Join him for an energy-filled event of quick sketching, story book adventure and plenty of audience participation.

Korky Paul



Sponsored by



Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Masha Gessen talks to
Rachel Polonsky

137

The Man Without a Face: The Unlikely Rise of Vladimir Putin

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

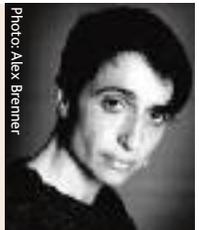
Masha Gessen's brave new book lifts the lid on Russian leader Vladimir Putin at a time when it is dangerous to criticise the country's government. As a journalist living in Moscow, Gessen experienced the extraordinary rise of Putin firsthand. She draws on exclusive sources to explain how a low-level member of the KGB rose to become president of one of the most powerful countries in the world. And she tells how he ended years of progress in Russia by seizing control of the media, sending his rivals into exile and concentrating power in the hands of his cronies. Publication of the book coincides with the first signs that the Russian people are beginning to run out of patience with their rulers.

Gessen was born in Russia but moved with her family to the United States in 1981. She returned to Moscow in 1991 where she is the Russian correspondent for *US News and World Report*.

She will be in discussion with Rachel Polonsky, author of *Molotov's Magic Lantern: Uncovering Russia's Secret History*, who lived in Moscow for ten years, coinciding with Vladimir Putin's first two presidential terms.

Masha Gessen

Photo: Alex Brenner



Supported by

Ian and Carol Sellars



David Hare

114

South Downs and a Life in Theatre

5.30pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £10 - £25



We are delighted to welcome one of our greatest living playwrights to the festival. Sir David Hare's work is performed around the globe, making him one of Britain's most internationally performed playwrights. Sir David is the author of 28 plays for the stage, 16 of which have been performed at the National Theatre. These include *Plenty*, *The Secret Rapture*, *Skylight*, *Amy's View*, *Via Dolorosa*, *Stuff Happens*, *Gethsemane* and *The Power of Yes*.

His many screenplays for cinema and television include *Licking Hitler*, *Damage*, *The Hours* and *The Reader*. He directed his most recent television film *Page Eight* for the BBC.

Sir David, whose awards include a Bafta, the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the Olivier Award and the London Theatre Critics' Award, will be discussing his latest play *South Downs*. It is set in 1962 at a public school similar to the one attended by Sir David. It features an adolescent's musings on education, faith and teenage friendship. He will also talk more generally about his life as a playwright.

THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

Duncan McRae and David Piper 142

A Genteel Tipple Through Gin in Literature

6pm / Christ Church: Hall / £15

'I like to have a martini, two at the very most. After three I'm under the table, after four I'm under my host.' So said Dorothy Parker. Gin has fuelled legendary writers, unforgettable characters and gripping plots. Come and enjoy some especially enlightening extracts and sample specially mixed Hendrick's cocktails with Hendrick's two British ambassadors Duncan McRae and David Piper. All drinks included.

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HENDRICK'S
— GIN —

Comedy Event: 121
Hosted by Helen Arney

Unknown Unknowns: A fusion of stand-up comedy and science.

6.30pm / Merton College: TS Eliot Lecture Theatre / £10 (£8 with Science and the Future)

Your host is geek songstress and comedian Helen Arney, as heard on Radio 4 and as seen on last year's *Uncaged Monkeys* national tour. Joining her will be Festival of the Spoken Nerd's Steve Mould, Edinburgh Fringe regular Rob Wells, and Oxford's own Dr Andrew Pontzen, all taking a look at the known – and unknown – universe with wit and comedic wisdom.

In partnership with the Oxford Martin School of the University of Oxford and Science Oxford



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Alex Preston and Oliver James 101
 Chaired by Robert Collins

God and Money – What Happens When the Two Collide?

6.30pm / Christ Church: Cathedral School / £10

God and money collide in novelist Alex Preston's new work, *The Revelations*. Here he discusses the issues with clinical psychologist, author and broadcaster Oliver James. What are the consequences when money and religion collide? How does a novelist tackle these themes and what is the perspective of the psychologist? Is money the new religion and can it deliver us happiness?

Preston's debut novel, *This Bleeding City*, was described as 'the definitive novel of the credit crisis'. It won the 2010 Edinburgh International Book Festival Readers' First Book Award and the 2010 Spear's Special Award for Best First Book.

James trained and practised as a clinical psychologist and has worked for more than 20 years as a writer, journalist, broadcaster and producer. His books include *Affluenza*, *They F*** You Up*, and *Britain on the Couch*.

The event is chaired by Robert Collins, assistant literary editor of *The Sunday Times*.

Alex Preston



Photo: Lucy Preston

Oliver James



Norman Stone 104

Turkey: A Short History

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

The story of Turkey's history is one of epic proportions, featuring big characters such as Genghis Khan, Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent and Kemal Attaturk. It is the story of a country that once had a vast empire and of a country in which east meets west, religion meets secularism and tradition meets modern values.

Norman Stone, a former professor of modern history at the University of Oxford and a former foreign policy advisor to Margaret Thatcher, has lived in Turkey since 1997. He examines the reasons for the decline of the Ottoman Empire, showing how it led to today's Turkish republic and helping us to understand what it feels like to be Turkish today.

Norman Stone



In association with The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies



Patrick Ness, Tim Bowler, 126
Sally Nicholls and Moira Young
Chaired by Rebecca Clee

Life, Death and Other Grown-Up
Subjects

6.30pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £5



Patrick Ness, Tim Bowler, Sally Nicholls and Moira Young
Four award-winning authors of young adult fiction
discuss why and how this genre is now tackling the
biggest themes..

Patrick Ness, winner of last year's CILIP Carnegie
Medal, is the author of the Chaos Walking trilogy
which explores love and war, truth and betrayal, as well
as of *A Monster Calls*, a story of love and death,
completed from an idea left by the late Siobhan Dowd.
He discusses the ambitiousness of young adult fiction
with Sally Nicholls, author of the life-affirming, tear-
jerking Branford Boase winner *Ways to Live Forever* and
of a new historical novel set at the time of the Black
Death, *All Fall Down*, and with Tim Bowler, author of
more than 20 books for teenagers with powerful
spiritual and social themes ranging from bereavement
to knife crime. Tim Bowler's works include the Carnegie
Medal-winner *River Boy*, *Starseeker*, *Apocalypse*, *Frozen
Fire*, *Bloodchild*, *Buried Thunder*, and the
groundbreaking BLADE series. His new novel *Sea of
Whispers* is due out in October 2012. They are also
joined by Moira Young, author of the Costa
prizewinning debut *Blood Red Road*, about survival in a
lawless future.

They will be chaired by 19-year-old English student
Rebecca Clee.

Sponsored by



Sally Bayley, Linda Gates, 129
Jack Harris, William May and
Lucia Simon

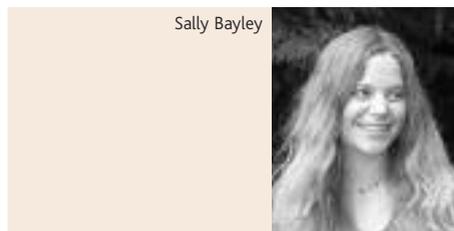
Representing Sylvia Plath: An Evening

6.30pm/ Corpus Christi College / £10

Interest in Sylvia Plath continues to grow, as does the
mythic status of her relationship with Ted Hughes, but
Plath is a poet of enduring power in her own right. Dr
Sally Bayley, teaching and research fellow at the
Rothermere American Institute University of Oxford,
hosts an evening celebrating the writer's work in song,
film, painting and theatre.

Composer Dr William May will present three Plath
poems for voice sung by Lucia Simon; singer-
songwriter Jack Harris will perform a Plath lullaby; and
Professor Linda Gates, head of voice in the Department
of Theatre at Northwestern University, will perform a
Plath monologue. The evening will end with a showing
of Professor Suzie Hanna's animated film, *The Girl Who
Would Be God*, and of paintings of Plath by the pop
artist, Stella Vine.

This event will last one hour and 15 minutes.



Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Mark Easton

134

Britain Etc

**6.30pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden
Marquee / £10**

Mark Easton invites you to look at Britain in a new way with his A-Z of essays on the nation. The BBC News home editor looks at the UK through its relationship to 26 subjects – one for each letter of the alphabet. His subjects range from alcohol, beat bobbies, cheese and dogs through immigration, justice, knives and murder to the Queen, umbrellas, vegetables and the Zzzz of a well-deserved rest. Together, the essays offer an insight into the psyche of Britain – our obsessions, prejudices, values and idiosyncrasies. What sort of place is it, what are we like, and how did we get to where we are?

Easton is an award-winning journalist. He was appointed BBC News home editor in 2004 and before that was home and social affairs editor and political editor at Channel Four News.

Mark Easton



The Chancellor's Lecture



Photo: KT Bruce

Each year, The Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Lord Patten of Barnes, CH, PC, invites a figure of international eminence to give the Chancellor's Lecture at the Oxford Literary Festival, in Sir Christopher Wren's Sheldonian Theatre.

In 2009 the lecture was given by the great Peruvian writer Dr Mario Vargas Llosa (who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2010).

In 2010 the lecture was given by Jung Chang, author of 'The Wild Swans' and 'Mao – the Untold Story'.

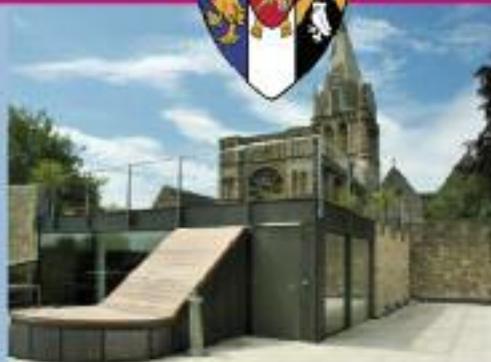
In 2011 the lecture was to be given by HM King Abdullah II of Jordan, but was postponed until a later date.



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Did you know... that Punch, our current summer refresher, derives from the Hindi word Paanch, meaning five. It represented the five ingredients contained in the original Indian drink – water, tea, fruit, sugar and a spot of alcohol – brought back by Company Officers on ships from the East.

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Photo shows The Library, Stevenstone, Devon

Julia Churchill and Leah Thaxton 202

Bookcamp: How To Get a Children's Book Published

10am / The Queen's College / £25

Old friends on opposite sides of the fence, Leah Thaxton, publishing director of Egmont, publishers of Kristina Stephenson, Andy Stanton and J D Sharpe (all of whom are appearing at the festival), and Julia Churchill, of the Greenhouse Literary Agency, talk through everything you need to know about getting your children's book published. That ranges from what an agent does, to what a publisher looks for, and includes everything in between and afterwards. It is a 360-degree guide to writing, pitching and publishing your children's book – from younger fiction for ages five and up, right through to sophisticated young adult books. We welcome back this popular three-hour session, including your chance to ask questions. Fun, revealing and incisive.

Julia Churchill



The Queen's College
Oxford



John Lanchester talks to Andrew Holgate 204

Capital – The Story of a Global Crisis

10am / Corpus Christi College / £10

Capital is the outstanding new novel by Whitbread award-winning writer John Lanchester. It takes place on Pepys Road, an ordinary street in the capital that has seen a hundred years of fortunes won and lost. One day in December 2007, a card drops through each letterbox, bearing the message: We Want What You Have. *Capital* is a post-economic-crash, state-of-the-nation novel that tells the stories of the residents of Pepys Road. It is the story of one street, but also the story of a global crisis and how it has affected us all. Lanchester, author of *The Debt to Pleasure*, *Mr Phillips* and *Fragrant Harbour*, talks to *The Sunday Times* literary editor Andrew Holgate.

John Lanchester



Photo: Jason Bell

Corpus Christi
College Oxford



Photo: KT Bruce

Peckwater Quad, Christ Church

Katy Darby and Kate Williams 205
Chaired by Peter Conradi

Bringing the Past to Life: The Whore's Asylum and The Pleasures of Men

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

Two darkly alluring novels set in the Victorian era form the backdrop to a discussion about the art of bringing the past to life. Authors and Oxford graduates Katy Darby and Kate Williams write about a world of murder, prostitutes, mystery, death and disease. In *The Whores' Asylum*, Darby, who studied at Somerville College, brings to life the seedy streets of Oxford's Jericho in 1887, where ill-lit taverns are haunted by drunkards and brazen women. Fellow Somerville graduate Williams is an expert on 18th and 19th-century history. She appears regularly on radio and TV, including as social historian on BBC's *Restoration Home*. Williams recreates 1840 Spitalfields in London for a tale of murder, *The Pleasures of Men*. Together, they discuss bringing the past to life.

The event is chaired by Peter Conradi, a journalist with *The Sunday Times* and co-author (with Mark Logue) of *The King's Speech: How One Man Saved the British Monarchy*.

Katy Darby



Kate Williams



Matthew Sturgis 206

When in Rome – 2,000 Years of Sightseeing

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

Rome has been exciting visitors for 2,000 years but tourists from different ages have been drawn by different things. Matthew Sturgis takes a fresh perspective on the 'Eternal City' by considering what it was that, for example, drew Renaissance visitors, the Lords on their Grand Tour and the Victorians. Today, few seek out sights such as the Cloaca Maxima, Forum of Trajan, the bones of St Pancras or the reclining Cleopatra, but they were at one time or other among the great attractions of Rome and the world.

Sturgis, the author of a number of books, including biographies of Aubrey Beardsley and Walter Sickert, uses a wealth of sources to reclaim many forgotten aspects of Rome's history.

Matthew Sturgis



Marian Stamp Dawkins 213

Why Animals Matter: Animal Consciousness, Animal Welfare and Human Well-Being

10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

What can science tell us about the quality of life of animals? And are we justified in projecting human emotions on to animals? These are some of the questions examined by Marian Stamp Dawkins, professor of animal behaviour at the University of Oxford, in *Why Animals Matter*. She argues for a radical rethink about animal welfare, saying we should place less emphasis on the conscious experience of suffering in animals, and more emphasis on the importance of animal welfare to human health and well-being.

Dawkins looks at how animal welfare is important to food security and climate change and explores the latest evidence about animal consciousness and animal emotions.

Marian Stamp Dawkins



Published by

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Giles Andreae and Janet Cronin 219

World of Happy

10am / Christ Church: JCR / £5 Ages 3-6

Football-playing tortoises! A knitting gorilla! Burping sharks! Join Giles Andreae, creator of cartoon character *Purple Ronnie* and author of *Giraffes Can't Dance*, and illustrator Janet Cronin for an hour of craft activities and hilarious and unexpected tales full of wisdom from the 13 little books of Andreae's World of Happy series. Adults will be amused too.

Giles Andreae



Photo: Martin Salter

Sponsored by



Michael Morpurgo talks to Paul Blezard 212

War Horse: The West End and Hollywood

10am / Sheldonian Theatre / £6 – £15



Michael Morpurgo

We are delighted to welcome one of our most magical storytellers to this year's festival. Michael Morpurgo will talk about his highly acclaimed 1982 work *War Horse*, which was recently adapted into a hugely successful West End and Broadway production and has now been made into a big-budget film by Steven Spielberg. *War Horse* is set in World War I. It tells of Joey, the horse of a young boy Albert that is sold to the cavalry and taken to France. Joey's rider dies and the horse serves on both sides of the fighting before finding itself in No Man's Land. Albert, still too young to join the army, sets off to find Joey and bring the horse home.

Morpurgo, the third children's laureate (2003-2005), has written more than 120 books. His children's novels, which include *Private Peaceful*, *The Butterfly Lion*, and *The Wreck of the Zanzibar*, have won many awards both at home and abroad. Above all, they are loved by children and their parents. His most recent book is *Little Manfred*. It is the story of how a wooden Dachsund carved by a German prisoner of war for a British family came to be in the Imperial War Museum.

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Richard Fortey 226

Survivors: The Animals and Plants that Time has Left Behind

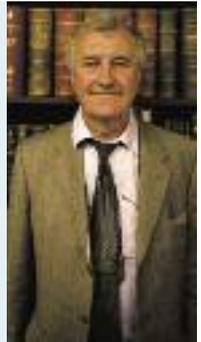
10am / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

In this wonderful and eye-opening piece of scientific detective work, Richard Fortey takes us on a journey across the globe in search of traces of evolution in creatures that have survived from long ago. He follows the history of life on Earth not through fossils but through the living stories of plants and animals that have survived almost unchanged for millions of years. The writer's subjects range from algal mats dating back two billion years to the musk oxen survivors of the Ice Age.

Fortey is a former senior palaeontologist at the Natural History Museum. He has won acclaim for his engaging writing style and is author of several books including *The Hidden Landscape*, which won The Natural World Book of the Year.

'A true delight: full of awe-inspiring details . . . the book blends travel, history, reportage and science to create an unforgettable picture of our ancient earth.'
Sunday Times

Richard Fortey



Dan Cruikshank and
Cassian Harrison 245

Tale of Two Cities

10am / Merton College / £10

Dan Cruikshank follows in the footsteps of two of London's greatest chroniclers to explore one of the most dramatic centuries in the history of the British capital in a BBC documentary.

The 17th century saw London plunged into a series of devastating disasters. The Civil War, a murderous plague and the destruction that was the Great Fire of London should have seen the small medieval city all but destroyed. Yet, somehow, London not only survived, but emerged as one of the wealthiest and most influential cities in Europe.

Using two remarkable surveys written at either end of this momentous century, Cruikshank discovers how a unique combination of innovation, ambition and the sheer spirit of enterprise saw Londoners thrive.

Engaging and revealing, Cruikshank's journey uncovers a London never seen before, delighting in the twists and turns of a century that laid the foundations of one of the most important cities on the planet.

After a screening from the programme, Cruikshank will be interviewed by Cassian Harrison, BBC commissioning executive producer, knowledge.

Dan Cruikshank



Presented by



Merton College
Oxford

Literary Oxford with
Alastair Lack 239

**11am-1pm / 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, A C Swinburne, Edward Thomas and Robert Bridges, as well as writers such as Dorothy Sayers, Graham Greene, Kingsley Amis and Barbara Pym – not forgetting JRR Tolkien and Lewis Carroll (Charles Hodgson). The walk starts at St John's College, where Housman and Philip Larkin were undergraduates, and finishes at Christ Church.

Christopher Lloyd 234

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.

Lloyd is the founder of What on Earth Publishing. His books include What on Earth Happened? and What on Earth Evolved? He divides his time between writing, journalism and lecturing in schools, museums and at literary festivals.

Christopher Lloyd



Sponsored by



Matthew Collings and Mark Bell 244

Turner's Thames

12 noon / Merton College / £10

As people flock from all around the globe to join the London Olympics this summer, a new BBC documentary presented by art critic Matthew Collings explores a home-grown talent of remarkable ability; a painter whose work remains one of the greatest bequests to the nation, and for whom the River Thames was an enduring inspiration.

Following a screening of clips from the film, Collings will talk to BBC commissioning editor arts, Mark Bell.

Matthew Collings



Mark Bell



Presented by



Clive Aslet

203

The Arts & Crafts Country House:
From the Archives of Country Life**12 noon / Corpus Christi College / £10**

Clive Aslet draws on the archive of *Country Life* to showcase 25 major country houses designed by the foremost architects of the Arts and Crafts movement, including Lutyens, Webb, Williams-Ellis and Blow. The movement was a reaction to the Industrial Revolution and was inspired by a vision of life based on the revival of traditional building crafts and use of local materials. *Country Life*, founded in 1897, championed the movement in a series of weekly articles accompanied by specially commissioned photographs. These now constitute a unique record of the Arts and Crafts houses.

Aslet, who was editor of *Country Life* for 13 years and is now editor-at-large, explains how the Arts and Crafts movement is still influencing architects today.

Clive Aslet



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Tim Jeal

208

Explorers of the Nile: The Triumph and Tragedy of a Great Victorian Adventure

12 Noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Seven Victorian adventurers braved spear wounds, malaria, flesh-eating ulcers and illness as they competed to find the source of the White Nile – the last great challenge in the field of land exploration.

Tim Jeal uncovers the extraordinary characters at the heart of this drama and explains what drove them to brave so many physically and psychologically damaging experiences in their quest.

Jeal is the author of acclaimed biographies of Livingstone and Baden-Powell. His memoir *Swimming with My Father* was shortlisted for the PEN Ackerley Prize for Autobiography. His biography of Henry Morton Stanley was named *Sunday Times* Biography of the Year and won the National Book Critics' Circle Award for Biography in 2007.

'Tim Jeal's masterly book ... can safely supplant Alan Moorehead's 1960 classic, *The White Nile* ... Jeal also knows how to tell a fabulous story, and he lets old-fashioned epic adventure sit at the heart of his fine book.' –*Sunday Times*

Tim Jeal



Photo: Matthew Lewin

Presented by *The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies*



Axel Scheffler

209

Pip and Posy with Axel Scheffler

12 Noon / Christ Church JCR / £5 For ages 2-5

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

Axel Scheffler



Sponsored by



Richard O Smith

215

Oxford Student Pranks

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

If you have ever complained about students, be grateful that you did not live in Oxford in past centuries. Richard O Smith has delved into the archives to retell student mischief and mayhem from the 13th to the 21st century. He recalls the greatest stunts and practical jokes in the University of Oxford's history, including those by Oscar Wilde, Percy Shelley and Richard Burton. His witty and often hilarious talk highlights the competing debauchery between town and gown over the last 800 years. Smith is a writer for Radio 4's *The Now Show* and writes the popular *The Oxford Times* column Oxford Examined.

Richard O Smith



Mackenzie Crook

222

From Hollywood Star to Children's Author

12 noon / Christ Church: Hall / £5 Age 7+

Actor Mackenzie Crook, star of the film *Pirates of the Caribbean*, BBC TV's *The Office* and the stage show *Jerusalem*, introduces his debut novel for children, *The Windvale Sprites*, which he illustrated himself. Funny, charming and occasionally dark, it tells the story of Asa, a young boy who discovers a mysterious creature after the big storm of 1987. Come and hear all about Mackenzie's passion for writing, drawing and acting.

Mackenzie Crook



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Adam Nicolson

225

The Gentry: Stories of the English

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

The landed gentry have made England what it is, argues award-winning author Adam Nicolson. The virtues of honesty, affability, courtesy and liberality all had their origins in the life of the gentry. Nicolson looks at the history of 14 English families from 1400 to the present day. Some of the families are divided by politics, some took different sides during the Reformation and others destroyed their inheritance through reckless gambling or investments. Nicolson, a winner of the Somerset Maugham Award, writes on history, travel and the environment. His works include *Sissinghurst*, *Power and Glory* and *Seamanship*. He lives at Sissinghurst Castle in Kent.

Adam Nicolson



Sponsored by



Lawyers to the Festival

Stephen Landrigan and Qais Akbar Omar
Chaired by Alastair Niven

228

Shakespeare in Kabul

12 noon / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

Stephen Landrigan and Qais Akbar Omar helped to stage a remarkable production of *Love's Labour's Lost* in Afghanistan in 2006. Landrigan, an aid worker and playwright, adapted the script, while Omar, a writer and carpet designer, was assistant director. The play was performed by Afghan actors in the Dari language, and it was the first time in a generation that men and women appeared on the stage together.

Landrigan and Omar explain how the actors adapted Shakespeare to their own tradition of epic poetry and describe the challenges in putting on a production. They also offer a glimpse into an Afghan cultural life that is rarely seen on the news.

The event is chaired by Dr Alastair Niven, principal of Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, and author of several books on post-colonial writing.

Stephen Landrigan



Qais Akbar Omar



Menaka PP Bora

236

Dance, Manuscript and Gestures: A Lecture-performance of Indian Sanskrit Manuscripts

12 noon / Bodleian Library: Divinity
School / £10

Oxford ethnomusicologist and award-winning dance artist Menaka PP Bora will present an innovative lecture-performance drawn from academic research on Bodleian Sanskrit manuscripts, including a rare 16th-century text, and classical performance traditions of India. Some examples of the Sanskrit manuscript collection will be on display to accompany the lecture-performance.

Menaka is Wingate Scholar-Artiste, Faculty of Music, University of Oxford.

Menaka PP Bora



Presented by The Bodleian Library



Bodleian Libraries

Craig Brown, Eleanor Bron
and Simon Callow 231

One on One

12.30pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £10 - £25



Craig Brown, Eleanor Bron
and Simon Callow

Craig Brown's *One on One* was chosen as their 'book of the year' by, among many others, Julian Barnes, Polly Samson, A N Wilson, Philip Hensher and Miranda Seymour. It is a joyous daisy-chain of 101 true encounters between the famous and the infamous (Rudyard Kipling meets Mark Twain meets Helen Keller meets Martha Graham meets Madonna, etc).

'It is partly a karmic parlour game, partly a dance to the music of chaos – and only the genius of Craig Brown could have produced it.' Hermione Eyre, Evening Standard

Brown, a critic and satirist, probably best known for his work in *Private Eye*, is joined by Eleanor Bron, stage, film and television actress and author, and by Simon Callow, acclaimed actor, writer and theatre director. Bron and Callow will be reading the parts of Marilyn Monroe, Nikita Khrushchev, The Queen Mother, TS Eliot and many others.

This event will last one hour 15 minutes.

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THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

Stephen Smith 227

Environmental Economics:
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.

Stephen Smith, professor of economics at University College, London, discusses environmental issues including pollution control, reducing environmental damage, and global climate-change policies, answering questions about how we should balance environmental and economic considerations, and what form government policies should take.

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Max Hastings

207

All Hell Let Loose: The World at War 1939-1945

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

What was it like to live through the Second World War? In this universally acclaimed book, one of our greatest living journalists and historians Sir Max Hastings sets out to answer this question with an immensely powerful portrayal of the triumphs and tragedies of ordinary people, both military and civilian. He explores both the meaning of the conflict for its participants and the bigger picture. He argues that the Nazis displayed 'stunning incompetence' in the conduct of the war and that the navies of the UK and the US were the outstanding fighting services.

Hastings is the author of more than 20 books, many of them about the Second World War. He is a former editor-in-chief of the *Daily Telegraph* and former editor of the *London Evening Standard*.

'This is the book he was born to write: a work of staggering scope and erudition, narrated with supreme fluency and insight, it is unquestionably the best single-volume history of the war ever written' – Dominic Sandbrook, *Sunday Times*

Max Hastings



Photo: AP Press Assoc Images

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Lawyers to the Festival

Nicholas Kenyon

210

The City of London: Architectural Tradition & Innovation in the Square Mile

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

Sir Nicholas Kenyon gathers together some of the leading authorities on London's architecture for a journey through the history of the 'Square Mile'. London has been England's capital for nearly 2,000 years. It has seen the rise of the Romans, when it became a thriving military base; the Great Fire, which destroyed 13,500 buildings; the Blitz; and has been reborn today with its towering skyscrapers. *The City of London* focuses on eight different districts of the Square Mile and celebrates in words and pictures the buildings, public squares and gardens. It is edited by Sir Nicholas, managing director of the Barbican Centre and a former controller of BBC Radio 3 and director of the BBC Proms.

Nicholas Kenyon



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Sarah Raven

217

Wild Flowers

2pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Writer and broadcaster Sarah Raven travelled the length and breadth of the British Isles to find 500 beautiful wild flowers for her latest book, which was named the 2011 Sunday Times Gardening Book of the Year. She describes trips to see pulsatillas, fritillaries, bluebells, wild garlic, harebells, forget-me-nots, foxgloves, deadly nightshade, orchids and many more. Raven, who has been a regular on the BBC's *Gardeners' World* and runs her own cookery and gardening school, shows how to identify the plant families and how the wild flowers are adapted to their environment. The book is illustrated by the work of Jonathan Buckley, an award-winning garden and plant photographer.

Sarah Raven



Photo: Jonathan Buckley

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FLORIS
LONDON

Mei Matsuoka

218

The Great Sheep Shenanigans

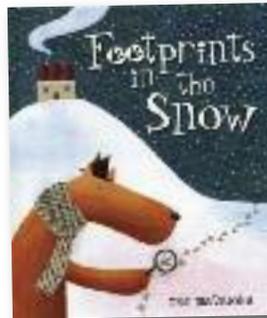
2pm / Christ Church JCR / £5**Ages 4-6**

Mei Matsuoka is one of the most exciting young illustrators in the UK today (see www.meimatsuoka.com). Her picturebooks include *Footprints in the Snow*, *Burger Boy*, *The Great Dog Bottom Swap*, and *Tell Me a Story Mummy*, and she is here to tell you all about her latest hilarious story, *The Great Sheep Shenanigans*. And she will teach you how to make your very own sheep pom pom.

Mei Matsuoka



Sponsored by



Jay Griffiths talks to Jem Poster 221

Wild: An Elemental Journey

2pm / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

In her prizewinning *Wild: An Elemental Journey* Jay Griffiths produced a remarkable evocation of the songlines of the earth, the result of long journeys among indigenous cultures. The book came out in 2007 to tremendous acclaim: it has been praised by, among others, John Berger, Richard Mabey and Philip Pullman. Five years on, its concerns are equally pertinent and even more pressing. She will be discussing her work and views with novelist and poet Jem Poster.

Caroline Lawrence 224

Historical Detective: Roman Mysteries and Western Mysteries

2pm / Corpus Christi College / £5 Age 9+

Caroline Lawrence is an historical detective. She travels back in time by using artefacts as clues and primary sources as her witnesses to re-create the 'scenes of the crimes' that fascinate her and are described in her Roman Mysteries and Western Mysteries series of books. In an exciting, illustrated talk, Caroline will tell how her research has taken her to exotic places to meet fascinating people and witness jaw-dropping events. And, for no extra charge, she will let you in on her secrets of writing plot and character.

Caroline Lawrence



Sponsored by



Ruth Richardson talks to Will Gompertz 233

Dickens and the Workhouse: Oliver Twist and the London Poor

2pm / The Queen's College / £10

Historian Ruth Richardson talks to BBC arts editor Will Gompertz about her new book on the discovery that, as a young man, Dickens lived only yards away from a major London workhouse. The discovery made headlines and led to a campaign to save the workhouse from demolition.

Richardson, affiliated scholar in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge, and visiting professor in humanities, Hong Kong University, did a lot of the detective work on the workhouse. She tells the story of the find and reveals how important the two periods spent living in this area of London were for Dickens' writing career.

Ruth Richardson



Photo: Jane Willgoose

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The Queen's College
Oxford

Michael Hughes and
Katherine Bosworth

237

**Titanic Calling: Wireless
Communications during the
Great Disaster**

2 pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £10

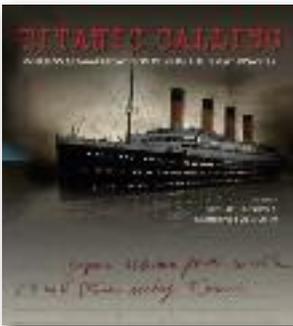
The role of wireless is an often-overlooked aspect of the story of the Titanic. Published to mark the centenary of the sinking, *Titanic Calling* draws on the Marconi Archives in the Bodleian Library to recount the fateful events of April 1912, from the first warnings of ice to the brief and poignant messages of the survivors.

The author, Michael Hughes, and co-editor, Katherine Bosworth, discuss the effectiveness of the use of wireless as the disaster unfolded. There is no doubt that it was instrumental in the rescue effort, but was there a failure to communicate ice warnings, and did this relatively new technology help or hinder as events unfolded?

Presented by The Bodleian Library



Bodleian Libraries



A C Grayling and Roger Scruton 220

**The Oxford Debate: Do We Need
God to Survive?**

3pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £10-£25



A C Grayling

Roger Scruton

Two of our leading philosophers lock horns on the question of God and whether we need Him to avoid destroying our culture and ourselves. Roger Scruton, a visiting professor and research fellow at a number of universities and institutes, and A C Grayling, a former professor of philosophy at Birkbeck College, University of London, and now Master of the New College of Humanities, go head to head in the 2012 Oxford Debate.

Scruton's new book, published on the eve of the festival, is *The Face of God*. In it, he aims to show how atheist culture and a turning away from God is self destructive for us and our culture. Scruton is a writer and philosopher who specialises in aesthetics, particularly in relation to music and architecture. He has published more than 30 books including *Culture Counts: Faith and Feeling in a World Besieged* and *England: An Elegy*.

Grayling is president elect of the British Humanist Association. His latest work, *The Good Book*, is described as a 'secular bible'. It draws on many ancient traditions and civilisations to offer a compendium of secular wisdom. Grayling has written more than 20 books on philosophy including *Ideas That Matter*, *Liberty in the Age of Terror* and *To Set Prometheus Free*.

THE
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The Oxford Times

Christopher Lloyd

235

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.

Lloyd is the founder of What on Earth Publishing. His books include *What on Earth Happened?* and *What on Earth Evolved?* He divides his time between writing, journalism and lecturing in schools, museums and at literary festivals.

Sponsored by



Fiona MacCarthy

201

talks to Colin Harrison

The Last Pre-Raphaelite: Edward Burne-Jones and the Victorian Imagination

4pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

The work of renowned artist Edward Burne-Jones is all around us – on Christmas cards, in stained glass windows and in art galleries. Broadcaster and critic Fiona MacCarthy re-evaluates his art and life and explains his battle against vicious public hostility, the susceptibility to female beauty that inspired his art but would ruin his marriage, and how he was dogged by ill health and depression. She also explores the rift with his great friend and collaborator William Morris.

MacCarthy is one of the leading biographers in Britain today. Her biography of William Morris won two literary awards and she was awarded the OBE for services to literature in 2009. She will be talking to Colin Harrison, senior assistant keeper of Western art at the Ashmolean Museum.

Fiona MacCarthy



Robin Farquhar-Thomson

Presented by the Ashmolean



Sponsored by



Phil George and Steven Clarke 243

Shakespeare: The King's Man

4pm / Merton College / £10

A new three-part BBC series presented by world-renowned American scholar James Shapiro re-examines the work of the world's greatest playwright during the troubled first decade of the reign of King James.

This is not the familiar Shakespeare of the time of Elizabeth, but the dark, complex Jacobean Shakespeare, at the height of his powers in truly turbulent times.

These 10 years mark an extraordinary 'Jacobean moment', argues Shapiro, a lost decade sandwiched between the high romance of Elizabeth and the cataclysm of the Civil War. Yet it produced many of the high points of English culture, from the masterworks of Jacobean theatre to the King James Bible to the work of John Donne. In government, science and finance, this was a decade that marked the beginnings of the modern British state, and saw Shakespeare's countrymen sow the seeds of Empire.

Shapiro casts a fascinating new light on Shakespeare's finest Jacobean works, including *Measure For Measure*, *Macbeth*, *King Lear*, *Coriolanus* and *The Winter's Tale*.

After a screening from the film, Phil George, the creative director of the production company Green Bay Media, talks with Steven Clarke, the film's producer/director.



Phil George and Steven Clarke

Presented by

Bruce Hood 214

The Self Illusion

4pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Who are we? We may believe that we are an independent, coherent self – an individual inside our head who thinks, watches, wonders and dreams. But this is an illusion, argues Bruce Hood, professor of developmental psychology at Bristol University and the 2011 Royal Institution Christmas lecturer. In *The Self Illusion*, he reveals that we learn to become our self as children, while as adults we develop and elaborate this story – a narrative that our brain creates. Prof Hood concludes that the 'self' is an illusion we must continue to embrace to live happily in human society. And be prepared: he is planning to challenge the brains of the audience with a few puzzles.

Bruce Hood



Alistair Darling
talks to Vernon Bogdanor

216

Back from the Brink:
1000 Days at No 11

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

Back from the Brink tells the gripping story of Alistair Darling's one thousand days in Number 11 Downing Street. As Chancellor, he had to avert the collapse of RBS hours before the cash machines would have

ceased to function; at the eleventh hour he stopped Barclays from acquiring Lehman Brothers in order to protect UK taxpayers; he used anti-terror legislation to stop Icelandic banks from withdrawing funds from British banks. From crisis talks in Washington to dramatic meetings with the titans of international banking, to dealing with the massive political and economic fallout in the UK, Darling places the reader in the rooms where the destinies of millions weighed heavily on the shoulders of a few. Here he gives a candid account of life in the Downing Street pressure cooker and his relationship with Gordon Brown during the last years of New Labour.

Alistair Darling is the Member of Parliament for Edinburgh South West, successively Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, Transport, and Scotland. In 2006 he served as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, before Gordon Brown promoted him to Chancellor in 2007, a post he held until the change of government in May 2010.

He will be talking to Vernon Bogdanor, research professor, Institute of Contemporary History, King's College, London, and a former professor of government at Oxford University. His books include *The Coalition and the Constitution*.

Supported by

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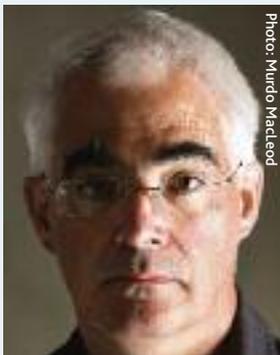


Photo: Mundo MacLeod

Kapka Kassabova talks to
David Freeman

223

Twelve Minutes of Love: A Life
Through Tango

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

Novelist and poet Kapka Kassabova has long been captivated by the tango. To tango fanatics, it is more than a dance – it is a way of life. Kassabova talks to literary journalist and broadcaster David Freeman about her life and how the tango has run through it. She describes the tango as 'the international anthem of the existentially, romantically and culturally sick'. Tango music will be woven into the discussion.

Kassabova, who now lives in Scotland, grew up in Bulgaria and has variously lived in New Zealand, Marseilles and Berlin. Her latest work is a memoir *Twelve Minutes of Love, A Tango Story*. She has also written poetry and novels including the recently published *Villa Pacifica*.

Kapka Kassabova



Photo: Liz March

Brian Aldiss

240

An Exile on Planet earth

4pm / Bodleian: Divinity School / £10

The master of science fiction, Brian Aldiss, presents personal and revealing reflections from his new book *An Exile on Planet Earth* and discusses the influences behind his writing. The book is a collection of essays showing how the circumstances and events of his childhood have been translated into his work.

Aldiss is a celebrated science-fiction writer but is also known as a poet, mainstream novelist, science fiction historian and critic.

Presented by the Bodleian Library



Bodleian Libraries

Kate Clanchy 229
 Chaired by Steve Matthews
 Other Worlds in Oxford

4pm / The Queen's College / £7

Oxford's city poet Kate Clanchy will lead a session of poetry reading and discussion that will include Oxford poets, young and old, celebrating the different heritages around Oxford. It will tie in with a project Clanchy is doing with Oxford's Story Museum. Clanchy is a poet, script-writer, prose artist and creative-writing fellow at Oxford Brookes University. She has won numerous awards including the BBC National Short Story Award, the Writers' Guild Award, the Forward Poetry Prize (twice) and the Scottish Arts Council Book Award.

The event is presented by Oxford Brookes University and will be chaired by Professor Steve Matthews, director of the poetry centre at the university's Department of English and Modern Languages.

Presented by

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The Queen's College
 Oxford

Joanne Harris, Francesca Simon 230
 and Kevin Crossley-Holland.
 Chaired by Paul Blezard

Norse Code: Writers Inspired by
 Norse Myths and Legends

4pm / Christ Church Hall / £6 Age 9+

Three celebrated authors discuss the Norse influences on their work. Francesca Simon's comical adventure *The Sleeping Army* explores what Britain would be like if we still worshipped Norse gods today. Joanne Harris's fantastical *Runelight*, the second volume of her Runemarks series, also imagines our society shaped by the Vikings rather than by the Romans. And Kevin Crossley-Holland is the author of *The Penguin Book of Norse Myths*, and of the Viking saga *Bracelet of Bones*.

The event is chaired by author and broadcaster Paul Blezard.

Joanne Harris



Francesca Simon



Sponsored by



Kate Williams

241

Young Elizabeth: The Making of our Queen

4pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II celebrates 60 years on the throne this summer. To mark the Diamond Jubilee, Kate Williams has written the first book to focus on the Queen's early life before she acceded to the throne. Williams looks at the sheltered upbringing of a princess who did not know she was destined to be Queen. She examines the relationships with her father, her domineering mother and with her nanny, Marion 'Crawfie' Crawford. And she explains the profound impact of the abdication crisis when Elizabeth, at the age of 11, suddenly found herself heir to the throne.

Williams is a biographer, novelist and historian who appears regularly on radio and TV, including as social historian on BBC's *Restoration Home*. She has written biographies about Emma Hamilton and the young Queen Victoria, and a historical novel, *The Pleasures of Men*.

Kate Williams



Sponsored by



Lawyers to the Festival

Sir Alan Parker talks to
Graham Benson

211

A Life in Film

5.30pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £10 - £25

Sir Alan Parker is one of the most distinguished and celebrated figures in contemporary British cinema with a remarkable body of work, made both in the UK and the USA over 30-plus years. His work includes the controversial *Midnight Express*, *Fame*, *Angel Heart*, *Mississippi Burning*, *Bugsy Malone*, *The Commitments*, *Evita* and *Angela's Ashes*.



Sir Alan was born in North London and started work as a copywriter in the vibrant world of 1960s advertising, soon graduating to writing and directing commercials. These included the unforgettable series of Cinzano advertisements with Joan Collins and Leonard Rossiter. Sir Alan was nominated for best director Oscar for both *Midnight Express* and *Mississippi Burning*, and he has received numerous other international awards. He has been chairman of both the British Film Institute and the UK Film Council and has been a persistent observer and critic of the British film establishment. He is also celebrated for his incisive and hilarious cartoons.

Sir Alan will be in conversation with Graham Benson, a trustee of the Oxford Literary Festival and its film, television and theatre consultant. During a 35-year career, Benson has produced *Fox*, Ruth Rendell's TV mysteries, Mike Leigh's *Meantime* and Jon Amiel's *Queen of Hearts*. He is a former chairman of both BAFTA and PACT and currently chairs Screen South.

Graham Benson



THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

Sponsored by



Simon Callow

238

Charles Dickens and the Great Theatre of the World

5.30pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden
Marquee / £10

Acclaimed actor and writer Simon Callow talks about the Dickens who was driven as much by performance and showmanship as by literary endeavour. His new biography, *Charles Dickens and the Great Theatre of the World*, explores the central importance of the theatre to the life of the greatest storyteller in the English language. Dickens was obsessed with the stage, beginning with his early years as a child entertainer in Portsmouth. He was a great mimic who wrote, acted in and stage-managed plays. And, says Callow, his imaginative writing was theatrical, both in terms of plot and characterisation.

Callow is an actor, writer and director who has appeared in many films, including *Four Weddings and a Funeral*. He played Dickens in a hugely successful one-man show *The Mystery of Charles Dickens* on the London stage and on Broadway.

Simon Callow



After Eight with Adrian Snell

232

Beyond Words: A Reflective Service with Contemporary Music and Conversation

8pm / Christ Church: Cathedral / FREE

Musician Adrian Snell joins the sub-dean of Christ Church, Edmund Newell, to explore the effect of music therapy on those who cannot use words. After a long and successful international career as a performer and recording artist, and perhaps best-known for his album *The Passion* (recorded with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and premiered on BBC Radio 1), Adrian Snell has focused increasingly on music therapy. This service draws on his work with children and adults with severe learning disabilities in the UK and Albania. All are welcome to attend this act of worship lasting approximately one hour. There is a retiring collection but no admission charge.

Adrian Snell



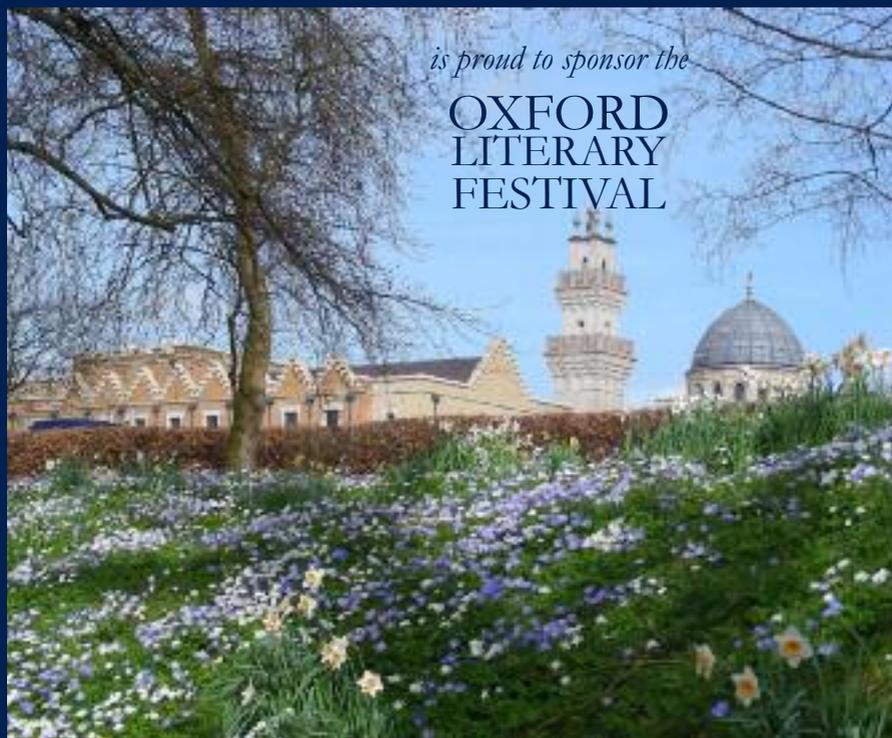
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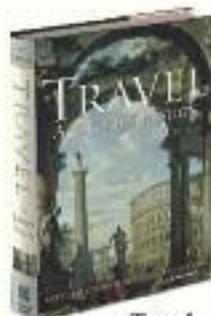
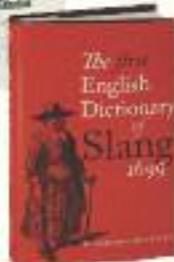
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Carlo Petrini 318
Introduced by Sarah Miller

Go Slow with Carlo Petrini

10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £12

Italian writer and editor Carlo Petrini led a campaign opposing the opening of a branch of McDonald's at the foot of the Spanish Steps in Rome more than 30 years ago. From it emerged the Slow Food movement. Its aim was to put pleasure back into eating, counter the rise of fast food, support local food traditions and look at how food choices affected producers and the planet. Under Petrini's inspiring leadership, the organisation now has around 100,000 members in more than 150 countries.

In this talk, Petrini will reflect on the impact of Slow Food, and on his personal campaign against the standardisation of taste and culture. The talk will be introduced by Sarah Miller, editor of *Condé Nast Traveller*.

This session forms part of a series by Oxford Gastronomica, Oxford Brookes University's centre for the study of food, drink and culture.

Carlo Petrini



Presented by

Sponsored by

oxfordgastronomica

Condé Nast
Traveller

Christopher Lloyd 311

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.

Lloyd is the founder of *What on Earth Publishing*. His books include *What on Earth Happened?* and *What on Earth Evolved?* He divides his time between writing, journalism and lecturing in schools, museums and at literary festivals.

Christopher Lloyd



Sponsored by



Richard Moore, Chris Cooper, 310

Dave Farrar

Chaired by Daniel Friebe

Cheating in Sport**12 noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10**

Is cheating in sport endemic, will the London Olympics be 'clean', what are the lasting effects on sport, why would an athlete risk going from national hero to a figure of contempt and, most importantly in the case of drugs, what are the lasting effects on the human body?

The whole issue of cheating in sport will be discussed by Richard Moore, award-winning sports journalist with several books to his name including the soon-to-be-published *The Dirtiest Race in History: Ben Johnson, Carl Lewis and the Olympic 100m Final*; Dave Farrar, a commentator and writer on a variety of sports, who has personal knowledge of gambling and is author of *The Perfect Punt: A Year of Losing Everything and Trying to Win it All Back*; and Chris Cooper, a top biochemist at the University of Essex, who looks at drugs in sport in *Run, Swim, Throw, Cheat: The Science Behind Drugs in Sport*.

The discussion is chaired by *Pro Cycling* magazine's European Editor Daniel Friebe.



Richard Moore, Dave Farrar
and Daniel Friebe



Matthew Fort and Claudia Roden 316

Food writing – the state of the art**12 noon / Christ Church: Master's Garden Marquee / £10**

Food writing has been an invaluable source of information for cooks and chefs, has helped maintain cultural traditions and revealed the changing nature of culinary taste. As success as a food-writer is increasingly linked to media exposure, primarily through television, is there still a place for well-researched, thoughtful and inspiring food literature? Join Claudia Roden and Matthew Fort to discuss the state of the art of food writing.

In 1968, Roden published her first book, *Middle Eastern Food*, which revolutionised Western attitudes to the cuisines of the Middle East. She went on to write with unparalleled authority on the food of the Mediterranean, of Italy, and on Jewish food. Fort has written about food for the *Guardian* since 1989, and his multi award-winning work has also appeared in many magazines. He currently appears as a judge on the BBC television series *Great British Menu*.

This session is part of a series presented by Oxford Gastronomica, Oxford Brookes University's centre for the study of food, drink and culture.



Matthew Fort

Claudia Roden

Sponsored by Oxford Gastronomica

David Jones 305

Angels: 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.

David Jones, director of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre, Oxford, outlines some of the more prominent stories and speculations about angels in Judaism, Islam, Christianity and post-Christian spiritualities. Jones talks about the nature of angels, where they were first encountered and reflects on their portrayal in art.

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Tiffany Atkinson talks
to Jem Poster 301

Conversations with Poets

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £7

Tiffany Atkinson's first collection, *Kink and Particle* (2006), gave notice of a striking poetic talent. The book was a Poetry Book Society recommendation, and also won the Jerwood/Aldeburgh prize for the best debut collection of the year. Now, with *Catulla et al*, she has produced an even more remarkable collection. The central sequence, which revisits and reinterprets the poetry of Catullus, is a tour de force, described by Patrick McGuinness in the *Guardian* as being 'in the finest tradition of creative adaptation'.

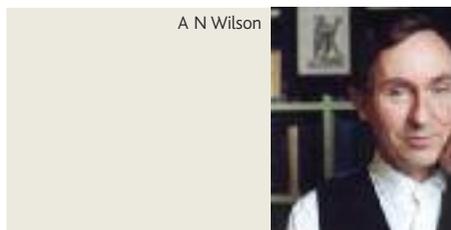
A N Wilson 304

Tolstoy

2pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Novelist and biographer A N Wilson is an acknowledged expert on the great Russian novelist Tolstoy. He rejects the belief that Tolstoy's works were an exact mirror of his life, arguing instead that the roots of his writing lie in his relationship with God, with women and with Russia. Wilson examines Tolstoy's turbulent life, his privileged but emotionally deprived childhood, his womanising and gambling and the eventual realisation of his literary genius. Along the way, he also portrays the turmoil of 19th-century Russia.

Wilson has written 20 novels. The most recent, *Winnie and Wolf*, was long-listed for the Man Booker in 2007. His non-fiction work includes *Dante in Love*, *Betjeman: A Life*, and *C S Lewis: A Biography*. He will be discussing Dante at a separate event at this year's festival.



A N Wilson

In association with *The Royal Society of Literature*



Stewart Lee, Josie Long and Alan Moore 315
Chaired by Dr Simon Kövesi

What's the Point of the Arts and Humanities?

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

What's the point of the arts? Is there any social utility in studying humanities subjects? Should the state fund the study of such things? Should we be pleased at the withdrawal of state support for university-level study? Should such creative and scholarly practices be freely marketised? Can the arts and humanities develop without university study and scholarship? How do the arts and humanities survive in times of economic crisis? Do they benefit from poverty? Is there a current state of emergency in the arts? Comedian and co-founder of the Arts Emergency Service Josie Long, comedian and writer Stewart Lee, and world-renowned graphic novelist and magician Alan Moore discuss the value, the purpose, and the current discourse surrounding the subjects, disciplines and practices which universities commonly label the arts and humanities.

The session is organised by Oxford Brookes University in association with the Arts Emergency Service (www.arts-emergency.org) and is chaired by Dr Simon Kövesi, the university's head of English and modern languages.



Stewart Lee, Josie Long and Alan Moore

Presented by

**OXFORD
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Christopher Lloyd 312

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



Jennifer Potter 303

The Rose: A True History

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

Name one flower and it would likely be the rose for many people. It has been held in fascination throughout history, a symbol of life and death, of the blood of Christ, of womanhood, of chastity and of consummation. Acclaimed horticultural historian Jennifer Potter reveals what makes the rose such a symbol for societies across the world. She looks at ancient Greece and Rome, and ranges across Europe, the Middle East, Asia and the Americas, and she shows how the rose evolved into the perfection found in today's gardens.

'Potter has succeeded in uncovering just why the rose has insinuated itself so tenaciously into the consciousness of every age and corner of the world.' Kate Colquhoun, *Sunday Times*



Jennifer Potter

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FLORIS
LONDON

Giorgio Locatelli talks to Donald Sloan 317

Made in Sicily

4pm / Old Bank Hotel / £15

Renowned Italian chef Giorgio Locatelli was recently seen on BBC TV with art critic and presenter Andrew Graham Dixon travelling around Sicily and sharing their love of Sicilian food and art. In his new book, *Made in Sicily*, a follow-up to *Made in Italy*, Locatelli explores the ingredients and history and introduces the reader to some of the cooks, fishermen and growers that make Sicily what it is. There are regional recipes ranging from insalata di rinforzo, a famous island salad made with cauliflower, to four kinds of caponata, pasta with anchovies and breadcrumbs, Sicilian couscous, and the celebrated dessert, cassata.

Locatelli is producing his own olive oil on Sicily and the Locatelli family spends a part of every summer there. He says: 'Sicily has had a big influence on the way I cook. I have always loved simplicity, but there you have true simplicity. You have no preconceptions, you have a knife and some salt and pepper and then you go out and see what is in the market. It is such a natural way of cooking that makes you feel so free.'

Locatelli will discuss his love of Sicily and the huge influence the island has had on his cookery with Donald Sloan, head of the Oxford School of Hospitality Management at Oxford Brookes University and chair of Oxford Gastronomica. And there will be tastings for the audience made from recipes in the book and prepared by students of the Oxford School of Hospitality.

This event is part of the launch of a new annual short story competition "The Jeremy Mogford Prize for Food & Drink Writing 2013", in association with Oxford Gastronomica.

Giorgio Locatelli



Sponsored by The Mogford Group and Oxford Gastronomica

oxfordgastromonica

Oxford Gastronomica Literary Dinner and Reception with Giorgio Locatelli and Launch of *The Jeremy Mogford Prize for Food and Drink Writing 2013* 320

7pm / Gee's restaurant, Banbury Road, Oxford / £95

This dinner prepared by renowned Italian chef and *Made in Italy* and *Made in Sicily* author Giorgio Locatelli will be a celebration of Oxford Gastronomica's association with the festival. Guests will be joined by leading figures from the culinary scene, including Raymond Blanc, Charles Campion, Matthew Fort, Tom Parker-Bowles, Carlo Petrini, and Claudia Roden, and by novelists Joanne Harris and Donna Leon. Oxford Gastronomica is a specialist centre for the study of food and drink based within the Oxford School of Hospitality management at Oxford Brookes University.

The dinner will also launch a new annual short story writing competition The Jeremy Mogford Prize for Food and Drink Writing 2013.

Sponsored by The Mogford Group and Oxford Gastronomica



Professor Sir Roger Penrose and
Matthew Collings Introduced by
Professor Christopher Butler

319

Art and Science: Where the Two
Collide

4pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Renowned physicist and mathematician Professor Sir Roger Penrose and artist and broadcaster Matthew Collings discuss the different paths to their understanding of our universe and their representations of aspects of it.

We may initially perceive scientific equations and art as being far apart. Beauty and truth feel present equally for both scientists and artists in their work, but are so different in the ways articulated.

Could it be that 'artistic' and 'scientific' sensibilities and processes are more similar than we might think – maybe advances in science stem as much from the imagination and creativity as works of art? Could it be that the 'artistic' process is more disciplined, and regulated than might seem?

Penrose's mathematical and scientific interests are frequently based on geometrical notions, and many striking visual images feature strongly in his work. Among the best known of these are his never-repeating tiling patterns which exhibit a crystallographically forbidden five-fold symmetry, now believed to underlie the atomic structure of some of the recently Nobel-awarded quasi-crystals.

Collings works in collaboration with Emma Biggs on paintings based on geometric division and colour relationships. Their process is intuitive, without scientific knowledge, and influenced by the natural world with recourse to 20th century western abstract art, early Islamic and Christian mosaics and early Renaissance art.

They will be introduced by Christopher Butler, emeritus Professor of English Language and Literature at the University of Oxford.



Sir Roger Penrose

Matthew Collings

Donna Leon and Joanne Harris. 313
Chaired by Jessica Harris

Food in Fiction

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

The power of food to stimulate contrasting emotions is well documented. It can fuel cultural pride, promote conviviality and provide a sense of security. Equally, culinary occasions can prove to be isolating, reminding us we do not belong and stirring up memories best forgotten. Join Donna Leon, Joanne Harris and Jessica Harris to discuss the evocative role that food plays in fiction.

Leon is best known for her Venetian-based crime novels featuring the food-loving Commissario Guido Brunetti. Harris is author of 11 best-selling novels including *Chocolat*, which was made into an Oscar-nominated film starring Juliette Binoche, Judi Dench and Johnny Depp. Jessica Harris, author of 11 cookery books documenting the foodways of the African Diaspora, holds the Ray Charles Chair in African-American Material Culture at Dillard University, New Orleans.

This session is part of a series presented by Oxford Gastronomica, Oxford Brookes University's centre for the study of food, drink and culture.



Donna Leon

Photo: Regine Wosmann



Joanne Harris

Photo: Takasumi

Sponsored by Oxford Gastronomica



Peter Holland

307

Animal Kingdom: 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.

Peter Holland begins a modern tour of the animal kingdom with the definition of animals. The Linacre Professor of Zoology at the University of Oxford describes the high-level groupings of animals and new views on their evolutionary relationships based on molecular data. He also provides an overview of the biology of each group of animals.

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V S I

A N Wilson

302

Dante in Love

6.30pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Poet and thinker Dante Alighieri wrote one of the seminal works in world literature, *The Divine Comedy*. A N Wilson paints a new portrait of the 14th-century writer who has influenced so many writers who have followed. Wilson argues that it is impossible to understand Dante's great poem without understanding medieval Florence, the feuding Italian states and competition between the Holy Roman Empire and the papacy. He also explores Dante's immortalisation of Beatrice, a woman he greatly admired but barely knew.

Wilson has written 20 novels. The most recent, *Winnie and Wolf*, was long-listed for the Man Booker in 2007. His non-fiction work includes *Tolstoy*, *Betjeman: A Life*, and *C S Lewis: A Biography*. He will be discussing Tolstoy at a separate event at this year's festival.

A N Wilson



Photo: KT Bruce

Sandy Gall and Jonathan Steele 306

What went wrong in Afghanistan?

**6.30pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden
Marquee / £10**

Veteran news broadcaster Sandy Gall interviewed more than 100 Afghan politicians, business people, ordinary people, and British, American and European diplomats and soldiers in pursuit of the truth about what has gone wrong in Afghanistan for his book *War Against the Taliban: Why it All Went Wrong in Afghanistan*. He throws fresh light on the failure to capture Osama Bin Laden and on US and British gullibility over Pakistan.

In *Ghosts of Afghanistan: The Haunted Battleground*, journalist and author Jonathan Steele places the recent Afghan conflict in the context of the Soviet war in Afghanistan and British imperial wars in the region. Steele is a former Washington bureau chief, Moscow bureau chief, and chief foreign correspondent for *The Guardian*. He is now a columnist for the newspaper on international affairs.

Together, Gall and Steele discuss what went wrong in Afghanistan and look at what the future holds for the troubled country.

Sandy Gall



Supported by
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Jonathan Freedland
aka Sam Bourne
talks to Ross King 314

Pantheon

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

Today we pride ourselves on the belief that the Second World War was fought out of moral revulsion at the ideas embodied by the Nazis. But as Jonathan Freedland reveals in his new novel – *Pantheon*, written under the pseudonym Sam Bourne – the truth is not so neat. Intellectuals on both sides of the Atlantic were deeply in thrall to a set of principles we would now regard as horribly close to Nazism.

The idea in question is eugenics – the belief that society should encourage the strongest and brightest to breed, while pushing, or even forcing, those deemed inferior to produce fewer children or none at all. In some, that fed dreams of a new breed of supermen, a pantheon of almost godlike men and women. In others, it meant dangerous – and lethal – schemes to weed out those branded unfit for life.

Freedland will name and shame the surprising figures who signed up for this now discredited creed and reveal the true events – including a wartime episode centred on Oxford – that inspired *Pantheon*.

He talks to Ross King, a novelist and art historian whose books include *Brunelleschi's Dome* and *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*.

Jonathan Freedland



Jonathan Arnold and Jim Godfrey 309

Christ Church in Words and Music

7.30pm / Christ Church: Cathedral / £50
(includes a drinks reception)

An exclusive behind-closed-doors tour of Christ Church Cathedral, telling the fascinating story of this unique institution through readings and music. Discover the history and hidden secrets of Oxford's cathedral with expert guide Jim Godfrey. Songs are performed by Jonathan Arnold, who has sung with, amongst others, The Sixteen, the Tallis Scholars and the Hilliard Ensemble. The tour concludes with a drinks reception.

Numbers are limited to 50, and the tour lasts two hours.

Jonathan Arnold

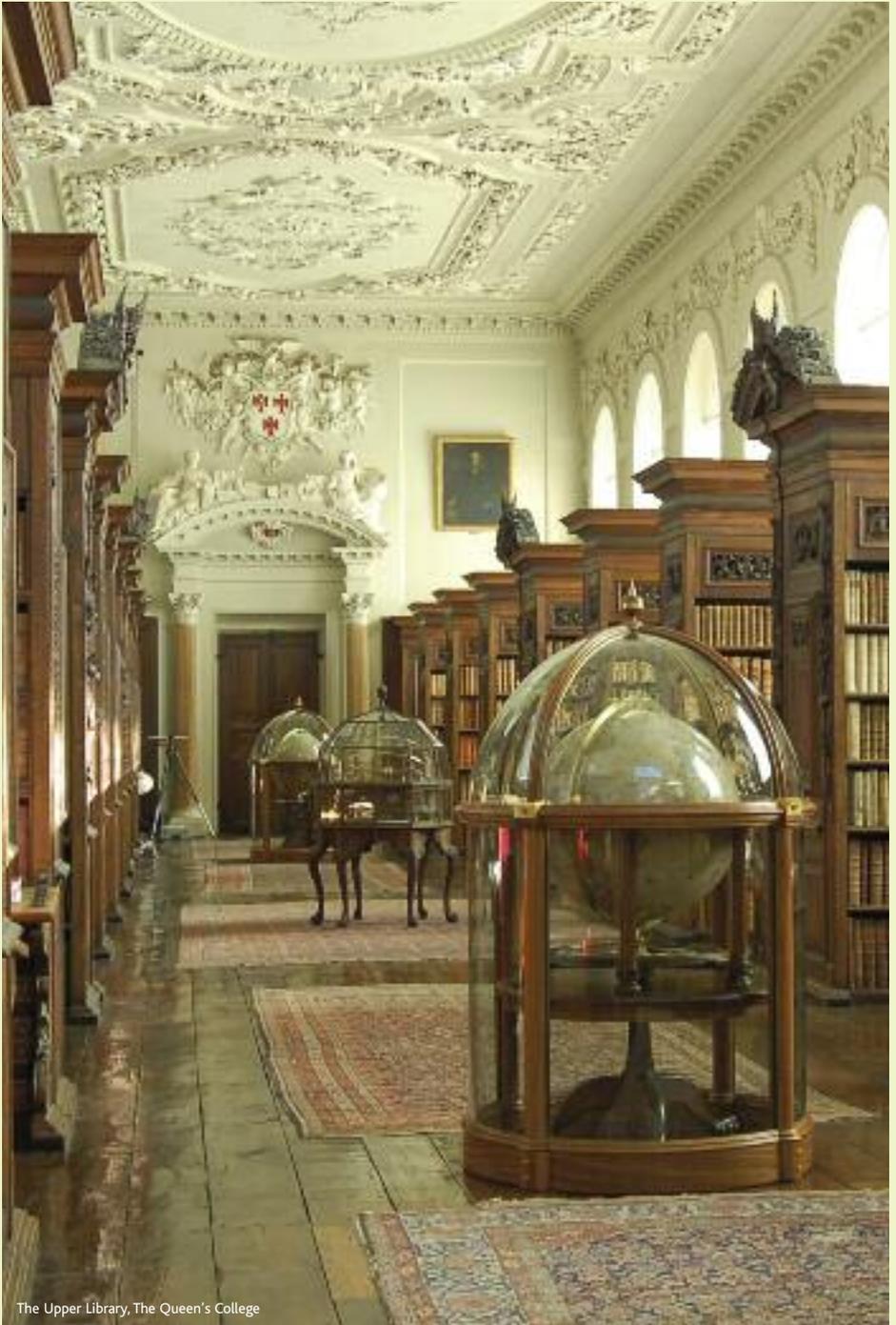


Presented by Christ Church Cathedral



All Souls College

Photo: KT Brnce



The Upper Library, The Queen's College

TACKLING THE CHALLENGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY



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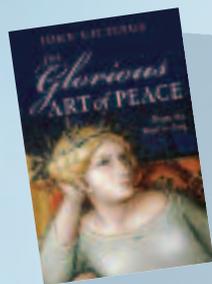
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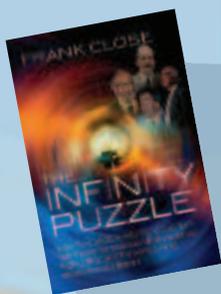
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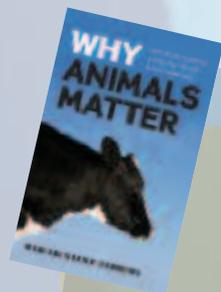
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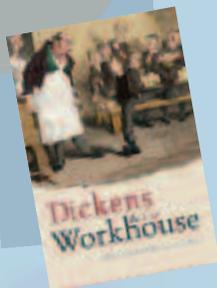


A stellar range of authors, peppered throughout the Festival:

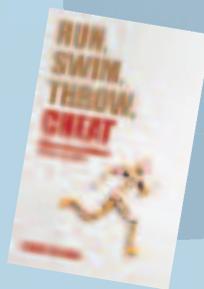


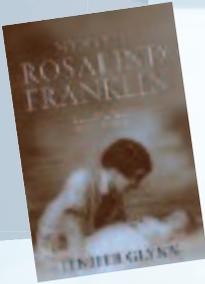
Frank Close goes on the hunt for the *Higgs Boson*; **John Gittings** argues that

peace has shaped the world more than war; **Marian Stamp Dawkins** considers why *animal welfare* really matters to us;



Ruth Richardson recounts how she discovered *Oliver Twist's Workhouse*; **Chris Cooper** gives the inside track on *drugs in sport*.





Jenifer Glyn talks to Brenda Maddox about her sister *Rosalind Franklin*; **John Welshman** discovers twelve untold stories from the *Titanic*; **Jan Zalasiewicz & Mark Williams** investigate the long history of our planet's climate; **Matthew Flinders** takes

the fight to those who believe *politics is broken*; and **Ritchie Robinson** talks *Kafka*.



Very Short Introductions Soap Box Lectures

Catch the pop-up mini talks, and get primed on Angels, Derrida, Engineering, Magic, Plague, Privacy Laws, Quakers, Viruses, and the Animal Kingdom.



Plus *Korky Paul* and *Winnie the Witch* celebrate 25 years of magical children's books



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Jill Dawson

403

Lucky Bunny

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

Queenie Dove, the daring thief at the heart of Jill Dawson's *Lucky Bunny*, has been likened to a 20th-century Moll Flanders. She is born into an East End criminal family during the Depression and embarks on a life of crime, constantly outwitting the police. But beneath the daring escapades, lies a darker tale of loss and heartbreak.

Dawson's latest novel is similar to her Orange Prize and Whitbread-shortlisted *Fred and Evie*. Both were inspired by real women whose stories shed light on their times.

Jill Dawson



Judith Curthoys

413

The Cardinal's College: Christ Church, Chapter and Verse

10am / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Christ Church, home to the Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival, is for many the grandest of the University of Oxford colleges. It was founded by Cardinal Wolsey in 1525 and, over the centuries, has produced an amazing list of famous and successful men and women. Judith Curthoys, the college archivist, has produced a new history of Christ Church. She tells of the college's unique constitution of college and cathedral, and of its traditions and eccentricities. We also hear of the college's early emphasis on prayer and discipline and of its battles with student drunkenness.

Curthoys has been archivist at Christ Church since 1994. She is co-editor of *Christ Church: A Portrait of the House* and has contributed to the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*.

Gerard Baker and

426

Joanna Blythman

Chaired by Donald Sloan

The British Food Revolution: Rhetoric or reality?

10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Food dominates our broadcast and print media, chefs achieve celebrity status, the restaurant sector is burgeoning and almost every town seems to have its own food festival. Does this reflect a widespread and positive transformation in our relationship with food? Or, in reality, does it reinforce divisions between those who have achieved an 'ideal' lifestyle and those for whom this will never be an option. Join Joanna Blythman, Gerard Baker and Donald Sloan to discuss Britain's complex relationship with food.

Blythman is an award-winning investigative journalist, the author of five landmark books on food issues and an authority on the British food chain. Baker, a chef, food writer and broadcaster, has recently reworked a culinary classic – *Mrs Beeton: 220 Recipes Updated for the Modern Cook*. Sloan is head of the Oxford School of Hospitality Management at Oxford Brookes University and chair of Oxford Gastronomica.

This session is part of a series presented by Oxford Gastronomica, Oxford Brookes University's centre for the study of food, drink and culture.

Sponsored by Oxford Gastronomica

oxfordgastronomica

Joanne Harris

422

Reader, I married him

10am / Corpus Christi College / £10

Happily ever after . . . but was it peace at Pemberley, romance with Rochester, magical after Manderly – what did happen ever after? Novelist Joanne Harris gives us her own picture of what might have happened after the last page was turned. Then we will be putting the same question to the audience so come prepared to share what you think might have happened to some of literature's happy couples.

Harris is an award-winning writer of many novels including *Chocolat*, which was made into an Oscar-nominated film.



Christopher Lloyd

417

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.

Lloyd is the founder of *What on Earth Publishing*. His books include *What on Earth Happened?* and *What on Earth Evolved?* He divides his time between writing, journalism and lecturing in schools, museums and at literary festivals.

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Franny Moyle

401

Constance: The Tragic and Scandalous Life of Mrs Oscar Wilde

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

Constance Wilde was the victim of one of the greatest betrayals of all time. She married Oscar Wilde in 1884 and lived a decadent celebrity lifestyle for more than 10 years. When Oscar was jailed for homosexual crimes, Constance, a children's author, fashion icon and campaigner for women's rights, was forced to flee the country with her two sons.

Franny Moyle had access to more than 300 of Constance's unpublished letters and she throws fresh light on the life of the couple at the heart of fin-de-siècle London. Moyle is also the author of *Desperate Romantics*. Before leaving to pursue a career as a freelance writer and producer, she was the BBC's first commissioner for arts and culture.

Franny Moyle



Photo: Caroline Ibby

Lucille Turner talks to
Martin Kemp 408

Gioconda: A Novel of Leonardo da
Vinci

12 noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Britain has celebrated the work of genius, artist, inventor and visionary Leonardo da Vinci with an unprecedented exhibition of his art at the National Gallery. Lucille Turner has now also provided us with the first literary work of fiction of Leonardo's life. In *Gioconda*, Turner, a former translator and journalist turned university teacher, imagines Leonardo's life. She throws light on many of the mysteries surrounding him. Is there a lost manuscript? What did the Mona Lisa mean to Leonardo? And who is the woman behind the enigmatic smile?

Turner's imagining of Leonardo's life is so astute that it has won praise from Leonardo scholar Martin Kemp, emeritus professor of the history of art at the University of Oxford. Here she discusses her book and Leonardo's life with Kemp.

Lucille Turner



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Tim Harford 412

Adapt and Iraq: Why Success Always
Starts With Failure

12 noon / Corpus Christi College / £10

Tim Harford, the Financial Times's 'undercover economist', looks at management lessons from the war in Iraq in one of a series of festival debates on leadership. He compares the success of top-down and bottom-up decision-making in that war and looks at the role of technology in decision-making. Harford also weaves in psychological research on conformity and 'groupthink', and asks what it takes to turn around a failing organisation at a time of crisis.

Harford writes the undercover economist column for the *Financial Times* and runs the 'Dear Economist' problem page. His first book, *The Undercover Economist*, has sold one million copies worldwide. He has also published *The Logic of Life* and *Dear Undercover Economist*. He also presented the BBC TV series *Trust Me, I'm an Economist*.

Tim Harford



Donna Leon talks to Janet Beer 419

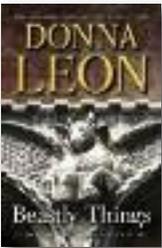
Beastly Things and a Life of Crime Writing**12 noon / Christ Church: Master's Garden Marquee/ £10**

Donna Leon was recently named one of the 50 greatest crime writers by *The Times*. Here she discusses her latest novel *Beastly Things* and her life of writing and contribution to crime fiction with the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford Brookes University Professor Janet Beer.

Beastly Things is the latest novel in a series set in Italy and featuring Commissario Brunetti. The Commissario recognises a dead body found floating in a canal from a farmers' protest, but there is no identification on the body. The trail leads to a slaughterhouse, as the novel explores the dark side of Italy's meat industry.

Leon has lived in Venice for 30 years. Her previous Brunetti novels include *Friends in High Places*, which won the CWA Macallan Silver Dagger for Fiction.

Beer has researched widely late 19th- and early 20th- century American literature and culture and contemporary Canadian women's writing. She recently completed a study of the late writing of Edith Wharton.



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Alex James and Henrietta Green 423

British Cheese – The Young Pretenders**12 noon / Christ Church: Hall / £10**

British cheese production is thriving, and many new, small-scale producers of artisan cheeses are bringing additional variety to the market. Join Alex James and Henrietta Green to taste six new British cheeses, each representing a different production method and geographical region.

James, best known for achieving world-wide success as the bass player with Blur, is now a cheese-maker. From his farm in Kingham, Oxfordshire, he produces a range of cheeses, including the award-winning Farleigh Wallop. Green is an award-winning food writer and broadcaster, and founder of FoodLovers Britain, through which she champions superb quality, great-tasting, local and regional food.

This session is part of a series presented by Oxford Gastronomica, Oxford Brookes University's centre for the study of food, drink and culture.



Alex James

Henrietta Green

Sponsored by Oxford Gastronomica



David Blockley 415

Engineering: 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.

David Blockley, former head of the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Bristol, considers the role of engineering in the modern world, demonstrating its need to provide both practical and socially acceptable solutions, and explores how engineers use natural phenomena to embrace human needs.

David Blockley



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V S I

Sam Moorhead and David Stuttard 404

The Romans Who Shaped Britain

2pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Sam Moorhead and David Stuttard take a fresh approach to the story of Roman Britain through the eyes of the characters who conquered and ruled the land. The cast includes well-known figures, such as Caesar, Agricola and Boudica, and some less well-known ones, such as Carausulus, Magnentius and Valentius. They show how Roman Britain was shaped by men and women driven by ambition, aspiration and passion.

Moorhead, voted Archaeologist of the Year 2011 by readers of *Current Archaeology*, and Stuttard, who has written numerous works on the classical world, combine expertise, enthusiasm and a genius for storytelling.



Sam Moorhead and David Stuttard

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Lawyers to the Festival

Merlin Waterson

410

A Noble Thing: The National Trust and its Benefactors

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

Many of us enjoy our country's uplands, coast, historic houses and gardens thanks to the generosity of people who gave their homes, land, time and expertise to the nation. Merlin Waterson, former director of historic properties at the National Trust, considers in *A Noble Thing* the motives behind these gifts. He explores what makes someone with little or great wealth give it away – or, in some cases, change their minds. Gifts vary from a small boat to a large cash donation from a lady recalling Colin Firth emerging from a National Trust lake in his wet shirt.

Merlin Waterson



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Janet Beer and Avril Horner
Chaired by Dr Alex Goody

420

Edith Wharton: Sex, Satire and the Older Woman

2pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

In 2012 we mark 150 years since the birth of the American author, Edith Wharton. She is best known for novels charting the lives of young women in New York society at the start of the 20th century such as *The Age of Innocence*. Professor Janet Beer, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford Brookes University, and Avril Horner, emeritus professor at Kingston University, examine the later stages of her career in *Edith Wharton: Sex, Satire and the Older Woman*.

In the later stages of her career, Wharton turned her attention to the fate of older women in cultures that place a premium on youth. In these later works, she explores, with wit and passion, not only the fate of the older woman but some challenging and controversial themes, drawing, in the process, on literary traditions of gothic, European drama and high romanticism.



Janet Beer and Avril Horner

The event is presented by Oxford Brookes University.

OXFORD
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Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Christopher Lloyd 418

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.

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William and Helen Bynum 406

Great Discoveries in Medicine

4pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Medical knowledge and practice have come a long way since the ancient Egyptians. William and Helen Bynum explore how various cultures have viewed the sick and healthy. They examine medical practice through the ages, from the letting of blood to keyhole surgery and the latest surgical breakthroughs, and from the theory of humours to the genetic revolution. The Bynums contrast the holism of non-Western traditions with the concentration of Western medicine on ever smaller parts of the body.

William Bynum is professor emeritus of the history of medicine at University College London and Helen Bynum is the author of *Tropical Medicine in the 20th Century*.



William and Helen Bynum



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Sarah Hall talks to Jem Poster 405

The Beautiful Indifference**4pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £10**

Sarah Hall, whose novels have twice been listed for the Man Booker Prize (*The Electric Michelangelo*, shortlisted 2004, *How to Paint a Dead Man*, longlisted 2009) has now produced an absorbing and exquisitely well-crafted sequence of short stories, *The Beautiful Indifference*. It is a remarkable collection of intensely erotic and disarming tales which span past, present and the future, and evoke landscapes as diverse as the London streets, a desolate lake in the Finnish wilderness and (in a story shortlisted for the BBC National Short Story Award) the Cumbrian fells.

'Hall is an artist of considerable and concise skill. Each story is a gem, but together they form a collection of astonishingly sensuous power' – *The Sunday Times*

Sarah Hall



Photo: Richard Twiss/ates

Mark Billingham and Christopher Priest. Chaired by Christian House 416

But is it Literature?**4pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10**

Science fiction, crime and historical novels tend to be categorised under those separate headings rather than taking their place as an integral part of mainstream literature. *The Islanders*, the latest book by Christopher Priest, whose novels include award-winning science fiction, explores themes of love and war in the midst of a reality both familiar and strange. Bestselling crime writer Mark Billingham's latest Tom Thorne detective book, *As Good As Dead*, went straight to number one in the *Sunday Times* Bestseller list. Chaired by reviewer and critic Christian House, Billingham and Priest discuss why some branches of literature are confined by such labels and argue that, rather than being separate genres, they are very much part of our literary tradition.

Mark Billingham



Christopher Priest



Sponsored by the Macdonald Randolph Hotel



Tim Palmer, Roger Scruton, 421
Tom Burke, James Delingpole,
Chaired by Tony White

Humanity's Impact on the Climate

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

It is by no means clear whether our panel will have a common view of humanity's impact on the climate, judging from their writings. It will be entertaining to explore common ground between Professor Tim Palmer FRS, President of the Royal Meteorological Society and Royal Society Research Professor in Climate Physics at Oxford University, James Delingpole, journalist and author of *Watermelons*, Tom Burke, environmentalist, advisor to Rio Tinto and previous director of Friends of the Earth, and Roger Scruton, philosopher and author of *Green Philosophy: How to Think Seriously about the Planet*.

Even if the discussion reaches a common position on humanity's impact on climate change, our speakers hold diametrically opposed views on whether mankind should mitigate greenhouse gas emissions or simply seek to adapt. Chairing this lively session will be energy consultant Dr Tony White.

This event will last for an hour and 15 minutes

Professor Tim Palmer



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Ashmolean Museum 427

Tour of the New Galleries
of Ancient Egypt and Nubia

4.30pm / Ashmolean Museum / £25

Dr Paul Collins, assistant keeper for the Ancient Near East at the Ashmolean Museum leads you round the six new galleries of Ancient Egypt and Nubia at Britain's oldest museum. The new galleries, designed by Rick Mather Architects, opened in November and feature state-of-the art lighting and showcases. They have allowed the museum to bring out of storage some of its most significant and delicate objects, and follow a celebrated redevelopment of the museum two years ago.

Dr Collins will describe how the Ashmolean has redisplayed its collections to tell the stories that have made Egyptology so popular and fascinating.

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ASHMOLEAN

Ben Pink Dandelion 414

Quakers: 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.

Ben Pink Dandelion, director of the Centre for Postgraduate Quaker Studies at the University of Birmingham, places Quakerism in the wider religious picture and outlines what the future may hold for the group. He looks at the origins and history of the Quakers: how they emerged from the social unrest of the English Civil War, and how they have since gone on to have an influence way beyond their numbers.

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VSI

The Chancellor's Lecture: By Vikram Seth

The Rivered Earth

5.30pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £15 - £50

At the personal invitation of the Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Lord Patten of Barnes, Vikram Seth will deliver the Chancellor's Lecture at the Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival in the form of a conversation with Lord Patten.

Indian novelist, travel writer, poet, librettist, children's author and essayist, Vikram Seth is one of the most versatile writers living today. His new book, *The Rivered Earth*, is a series of four libretti written to be set to the music of Alec Roth. They are called *Songs in Time of War*, *Shared Ground*, *The Traveller* and *Seven Elements*. The works are inspired by Chinese and Indian poetry and by the Salisbury home of English poet George Herbert now owned by Seth.

Seth was born in Calcutta in 1952 but was largely educated in the UK and the United States. He attended Tonbridge School before going on to study philosophy, politics and economics at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He then did a graduate degree in economics at Stanford University.

His novel, *A Suitable Boy*, published in 1993, is one of the longest in the English language at 591,552 words. It is set in post-independence India and follows four families over 18 months as a mother searches for a suitable man to marry her daughter. A sequel, called *A Suitable Girl*, is due to be published in 2013.

His first novel, *The Golden Gate* (1986), was a novel in verse about the lives of young professionals in San Francisco, while his third novel, *An Equal Music* (1999), is set in the world of classical music in modern Europe.

Seth has published several volumes of poetry including *Mappings* and *Beastly Tales* and a number of works of non-fiction, including *From Heaven Lake* and *Two Lives*. He has won many awards, notably the Commonwealth Writers Prize, the Commonwealth poetry prize and the WH Smith Literary Award.



Lord Patten of Barnes,
Chancellor of the
University of Oxford



THE
SHELDONIAN
THEATRE

Ian Rankin

402

The Impossible Dead

6.30pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden
Marquee / £10



Photo: Ian Rankin

The UK's bestselling crime writer talks about the second in his new series of novels featuring Malcolm Fox from the internal affairs department of Edinburgh Police. Fox and his team are sent to Fife to investigate whether officers covered up for a corrupt colleague. The trail leads to a brutal murder committed with a weapon that should not exist and back to 1985 when terrorists intent on engineering a split between Scotland and the UK were plotting kidnap and murder.

Ian Rankin lives in Edinburgh and the city forms a backdrop to his Inspector Rebus and Malcolm Fox novels. He wrote the first of his 18 Rebus novels, *Knots and Crosses*, in 1987. The books have been dramatised for television and translated into 36 languages. He is the winner of prestigious awards for crime writing both in the UK and in the United States

Though an acknowledged master of the crime genre, Rankin says he did not set out to be a crime writer but rather to be a writer of mainstream fiction. Indeed, his novels have a rich social dimension, portraying a dark and morally complex Scotland, that has led to the coining of the phrase 'Tartan Noir'.

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Tony Curtis, Jenny Lewis,
Jane Draycott

411

Tokens for the Foundlings

6.30pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Tokens for the Foundlings is a book launch for the charity anthology in support of the Foundlings Museum in Bloomsbury, recently published by Seren Books. This is a collection of poems about childhood, orphans and families and features many significant contributors from the UK and the USA, including Seamus Heaney, Carol Ann Duffy, Charles Simic and Philip Gross.

The event will feature readings by the editor Tony Curtis, fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, a poet with nine published collections and author of critical books and anthologies; by Jenny Lewis, poet, children's author, playwright, songwriter and screenwriter; and by Jane Draycott, whose most recent collection *Over* (Oxford Poets) was shortlisted for the 2009 T S Eliot Prize.

Tony Curtis



Jenny Lewis



Jane Draycott



Lisa Hilton

424

The Horror of Love: Nancy Mitford and Gaston Palewski in Paris and London

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

Nancy Mitford's novel *The Pursuit of Love* was inspired by her intense and agonising love affair with the Free French commander Gaston Palewski. Author and biographer Lisa Hilton tells the story of the relationship and of the extraordinary post-war times during which it was conducted. Hilton has written a number of biographical works and a novel, *The House with Blue Shutters*. Her second novel, *Wolves in Winter*, will be published in April.

'Nancy Mitford was elegant, clever, witty and exceptionally beady-eyed about the world. So why did she have such awful taste in men? This is the subject of the historian Lisa Hilton's entertainingly caustic *The Horror of Love* . . . Her book is not just a crisply written account of their relationship but also something of a manifesto for a more pragmatic, Gallic approach to human relations.' Daisy Goodwin *The Sunday Times*

Lisa Hilton



Photo: Guy Sparwood

Edmund Newell

425

The Choice

6.30pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Every day we make choices. Increasingly, we are faced with a wide range of possibilities: whether it is the type of coffee to drink, television channel to watch or religion to follow. Taking as a starting point the story of Jesus, Martha and Mary, and Jesus's comment that, in taking the time to stay close to him, it is Mary who has chosen the better part, Edmund Newell's *Choice* explores how we can choose the better part when confronted by the bewildering array of choices in our globalised society.

Newell is sub-dean of Christ Church, Oxford, and was previously Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral and founding director of St Paul's Institute. He has edited and contributed to many publications including *Seven Words for the 21st Century*, *Seven Words for Three Hours*, *The Worlds We Live In*, *What Can One Person Do?*, *Faith to Heal a Broken World*, and *Ethics in Investment Banking*.

Edmund Newell



Corpus Christi
College: Oxford



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Eat, Learn, Live is Chartwells commitment to nurturing a happy, safe and healthy lifestyle, contributing to a sustainable world. Through our relationship with the Oxford Literary Festival we can bring this philosophy to life with particular focus on nurturing healthy minds.

After the success of last year and the delightful contributions from hundreds of children of all ages, we are re-launching a letter writing competition for 2012. The children had written to relatives, friends and heroes to tell them of a favourite food, a fantasy feast or special meal. Some of them really went to town with their descriptions, but all showed an enthusiasm and a passion for food, that we share.

We are also aware that letter writing is a much neglected pastime these days, and we want to continue to introduce young people to its possibilities and at the same time encourage the development of important skills.

Our 2012 competition will be launched when the Oxford Literary Festival commences in April and we look forward to even more letters. You can see the 2011 winning entries and details of this year's competition at www.chartwells.co.uk/oxford-literary-festival-competition.

Please feel free to contact us via web, telephone or mail where we would be delighted to talk to you in further detail.

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Email: richard.moran@compass-group.co.uk
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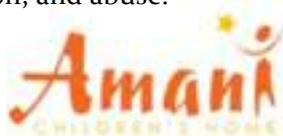

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John Sutherland

506

Lives of the Novelists: A History of Fiction in 294 Lives

10am / Corpus Christi College / £10

Does it matter whether we know about the lives of authors? Yes, says Professor John Sutherland, emeritus Lord Northcliffe professor of English Literature at University College London and a noted columnist and critic. 'Literary life and work are inseparable and mutually illuminating,' he says. His latest book, *Lives of the Novelists: A History of Fiction in 294 Lives*, takes a comprehensive look at the lives of 294 novelists. It is pithy, witty, opinionated, moving and sometimes hilarious and shocking. He describes authors of many types of fiction, from penny dreadfuls and erotica to gothic horror and high literature. Among the intriguing facts revealed are the name of the writer who penned the first best seller and how often Kenneth Grahame changed his underpants.

John Sutherland



CorpusChristi
College(Oxon)

Jenifer Glynn talks to
Brenda Maddox

513

**My Sister Rosalind Franklin:
Discovering Structure of DNA**

10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Rosalind Franklin is famous among scientists for her part in the discovery of the structure of DNA, an event that has revolutionised modern biological science. Her sister, writer and historian Jenifer Glynn, takes a full look at Rosalind's life and shows how much she achieved and how she was influenced by the social and intellectual climate of her time. Here she discusses her sister with critic and Rosalind Franklin biographer Brenda Maddox.



Rosalind Franklin

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LiAISON

George Magnus

526

The Age of Ageing: Global Timebomb or Economic Triumph?

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

Life expectancy in the developed world is rising by two years with each decade. The older are rapidly outnumbering the younger. But ageing is not confined to Western Europe. In China, Japan and elsewhere, there may not be enough children growing up to become workers to support the rapidly growing elderly population. Different societies treat their older members very differently. Some retire them at 55. For some, retirement does not exist. In some societies, older people are revered, in some, they are, in effect, reviled.

George Magnus is senior economic adviser UBS Investment Bank and was one of very few to see the credit crunch coming in 2007. His recent books, including *The Age of Ageing*, take a panoramic look at the global dimension of ageing. This, coupled with his critique of emerging economies in his latest book *Uprising*, puts him in an unrivalled position to lead a debate about where the world is going with its population structures and the economies they support – or not.

George Magnus



In association with AGE UK Oxfordshire



Christopher Lloyd

524

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.

Lloyd is the founder of *What on Earth Publishing*. His books include *What on Earth Happened?* and *What on Earth Evolved?* He divides his time between writing, journalism and lecturing in schools, museums and at literary festivals.

Christopher Lloyd



Sponsored by



Jodi Picoult

501

Lone Wolf

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



The dreadful decision on whether or not to terminate the life of a loved one is at the heart of Jodi Picoult's new novel *Lone Wolf*. It features Luke Baxter, a man driven by his desire to explore the lives of wolves. His decision to leave his wife and children for two years to live with a pack leads to divorce and the break-up of the family. When Luke suffers irreparable brain damage in a car crash, his son Edward, on the advice of doctors, takes the decision to terminate his life. He knows Luke wished to be an organ donor and that in wolf society he would be allowed to die. Edward's sister Cara, however, is racked with guilt and takes Edward to court for attempted murder.

Picoult is a multi-award-winning US author of 19 novels including *Sing You Home*, *My Sister's Keeper*, *Nineteen Minutes*, *Change of Heart* and *Handle with Care*. She has won wide praise for her compelling works, which combine huge readability with thought-provoking reflections on the human condition. *My Sister's Keeper* has been turned into a major film starring Cameron Diaz and Abigail Breslin. We are delighted that she is flying in from the States especially to be with us at the festival.

Nick Barratt

508

Roots: Our Rural Ancestors

12 noon / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Most of us find we have some agricultural labourers among our ancestors. But when we find one in our family line, do we pass quickly on thinking them of no interest? Gray's poem reminds us 'let not ambition mock their useful toil'. Noted genealogist Dr Nick Barratt, of the BBC's *Who Do You Think You Are*, explains why we can take pride in those experienced in rural crafts who fed the nation during the 18th and 19th centuries. He also shares ways we can find out more in the archives about the lives of those workers and sets out to shed more light on their story. Barratt has written a number of books on genealogy, including *Who Do You Think You Are – How to Trace Your Family*. He also writes a weekly column for the *Daily Telegraph*, *The Family Detective*.

Nick Barratt



Sponsored by



Lawyers to the Festival

Jonathan Fenby

514

Tiger Head Snake Tails: China Today**12 noon / Corpus Christi College / £10**

Jonathan Fenby has spent years researching and reporting on modern China. In *Tiger Head Snake Tails*, he presents a coherent portrait of the most heavily populated country on earth and explains why China matters so much. China will continue to grow in importance, argues Fenby, adding that it is not some giant Ponzi scheme, nor will it rule the world because of its inner complexity and complexities.

Fenby is author of the *Penguin History of Modern China*. He was editor of the *South China Morning Post* in Hong Kong between 1995 and 2000 and is China director of the research service Trusted Sources. His other books include *The General: Charles de Gaulle and the France He Saved*, *Alliance* and *Generalissimo: Chiang Kai-shek and the China He Lost*.

Jonathan Fenby



Supported by

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Peter Watson

520

The Great Divide: History and Human Nature in the Old World and the New**12 noon / Festival Room 2 / £10**

Historian and former journalist Peter Watson looks at the rise and fall of the great civilisations and what this meant for mankind. He compares the development of humankind in the 'old world' and the 'new' between 15000BC and 1500AD. Before 15000 BC sea levels were lower, and early humans spread out from Africa to colonise the whole of the planet. With the end of the Ice Age and a rise in sea levels, humans in the old and new worlds grew up unaware of each other until the discovery of America at the end of the 15th century. By comparing and contrasting the separate developments, Watson offers a fascinating insight into what it means to be human.

Watson is a former member of *The Sunday Times* Insight team. He is now a historian best known for his work on the history of ideas. His previous works include *The German Genius* and *The Medici Conspiracy*.

Sponsored by



Lawyers to the Festival

A Guided Coffee-Tasting with The East India Company 532

The Story of Coffee

12 noon / Christ Church: Hall / £12



Coffee is one of the world's most widely consumed drinks, and its story has its roots in Ethiopia. As legend states, an Ethiopian goatherder by the name of Kaldi first discovered the potency of the coffee bean after observing his goats 'dancing' after chewing coffee cherries.

This session explores how coffee, first cultivated in the Arab world, spread around the globe. It looks at the difference between coffees of Asia, Africa and the Americas, and at where the word mocha comes from. Discover the differences between various coffee types and enjoy stories of the first British coffeehouses – including a famous one named Lloyds.

The afternoon will also include tastings of several coffees and discussions on what influences their flavours.

Sponsored by



John Reynolds and Edmund Newell 522

Ethics in Investment Banking

12 noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

The financial crisis has focused unprecedented attention on ethics and ethical failures in investment banking. Investment banker John Reynolds and sub-dean of Christ Church, Edmund Newell, discuss their book *Ethics in Investment Banking*. Reynolds, who studied theology at Cambridge University, has been described in the media as a 'world class investment banker' and 'exceptionally bright but abrasive'. Newell, who was a research fellow in economic history at Nuffield College, Oxford, was also canon chancellor of St. Paul's Cathedral and founding director of St. Paul's Institute.



John Reynolds



Edmund Newell



Paul Slack

519

The Plague: 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.

Paul Slack explores the historical impact of the plague over the centuries, looking at the ways in which it has been interpreted, and the powerful images it has left behind in art and literature. The emeritus professor of early modern history at the University of Oxford examines what plague meant for those who suffered from it, and how governments began to fight against it. He demonstrates the impact plague has had on modern notions of public health and how it has shaped our history.

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V S I

David Frith and Barry Norman. 510
Chaired by Duncan Hamilton

Bodyline to the Modern Day: Why Test Cricket Matters**2pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden Marquee / £10**

With the 80th anniversary of the infamous 'bodyline' series approaching, David Frith and Barry Norman look back at the recent history of test cricket and forward to its future. Can it survive as the twenty20 format of the game becomes increasingly dominant?

David Frith is the world's foremost cricket historian and the author of the award-winning *Bodyline Autopsy*.

Barry Norman is well known as a television film critic and journalist. He is also a cricket obsessive and author of *The Bumper Book of Cricket*, which examines every aspect of the game he loves.

Chairing the panel is Duncan Hamilton, author of *Harold Larwood: The Authorised Biography* and *A Last English Summer*.



David Frith

Barry Norman

Sponsored by

The Oxford Times

Photo: KT Bruce



A Guided Chocolate-Tasting 533

Beans of Paradise

2pm / Christ Church: Hall / £12



The cocoa bean is classified as *cacao theobroma*, which literally translates as 'food of the gods'.

Chocolate-lovers are invited to join The East India Company on this tasting journey through luxurious chocolates and delicious flavours. Explore the flavour profiles of one of the world's most-loved sweets, and discover how its unique taste complexities are created.

The afternoon is designed as a journey of chocolate discovery, allowing people to enjoy rich and unique samples while learning a bit more about this delectable treat.

Sponsored by



Helen Dunmore 503
talks to Jem Poster

The Greatcoat: A Ghost Story

2pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Helen Dunmore will be talking about the power of the past to imprint itself on the present, until the present is possessed by the past, and discussing her new book *The Greatcoat*, a ghost story set during and after the Second World War. Dunmore is a poet, novelist and children's writer. Among other awards her work has received the Orange Prize for Fiction, the McKitterick Prize and the Alice Hunt Bartlett Award. Her poem *The Malarkey* won the 2010 National Poetry Competition.

Helen Dunmore



Photo: Caroline Forbes

Tim Birkhead 515

Bird Sense: What it's Like to be a Bird

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

Tim Birkhead has written the first popular book about the senses of birds. If you ever wanted to know what it is like to be a swift and fly at more than 100kph, or what is going on inside the head of a nightingale when it sings, then those questions and many more are answered here. Birkhead has spent a lifetime observing and studying birds. His *Wisdom of Birds* was widely acclaimed for its grasp of the subject and for its entertaining and informative style.

Birkhead, a professor in the University of Sheffield Department of Animal and Plant Sciences, says we have consistently underestimated what is going on in a bird's head.

Nigel Warburton

511

Little History of Philosophy

2pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Nigel Warburton makes difficult philosophical concepts easy with his *Little History of Philosophy*. The senior lecturer in philosophy at the Open University follows humanity's quest for answers to some of the big questions: what is reality? and how should I live? Warburton, author of several popular introductions to philosophy, takes a chronological look at key moments in the history of Western thought from the execution of Socrates to the modern animal rights movement. Warburton presents more than a history of ideas, he invites the reader to think for himself.

Nigel Warburton



Presented by The Centre for Inquiry



Oxford Poets with Alastair Lack

527

2pm-4pm / 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 like Robert Graves and Edmund Blunden, through the 'pylon poets' of the 1920s and 1930s, such as W H Auden and Louis MacNeice, to Philip Larkin, Keith Douglas and distinguished contemporary poets. That is not to forget, of course, John Betjeman. Enjoy readings from their poetry and prose, from St John's College to Merton.

Nicolas Sagovsky

521

I've always meant to read . . .
The Waste Land

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

T S Eliot's *The Waste Land* is a defining text of 20th-century literature. But what do we make of it now? To what extent is it about a post-war wasteland, or about the journey of the human soul? Is it a series of fragments, or one poem with many voices? Why does it have notes? Is it a poem of unrelieved despair, or one with glimmers of hope? Is the joke on us, for taking it so seriously? Nicholas Sagovsky, canon emeritus of Westminster Abbey, where he lectured on 'T S Eliot and the Human Journey', continues to struggle with a poem that has haunted him all his life. This event is part of a series at the festival on 'books I've always meant to read'.

Christopher Lloyd

525

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



Helen Berry

502

The Castrato and his Wife

4pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

The elopement of the famous castrato Giustro Ferdinando Tenducci and his young Dublin singing pupil Dorothea Maunsell gripped Georgian society. Historian Helen Berry tells the story of a scandalous marriage and of the castration of a young boy in a Tuscan hill town. It is a story of ambiguous sexuality, of a relationship that hovers on the wrong side of the law, of a 'kiss and tell novel' and ultimately of financial ruin and the collapse of the relationship.

Through Tenducci's story, Berry, an author and reader in early modern history at Newcastle University, throws light on the meaning of marriage in 18th-century society and examines patronage and the artistic elite.

Helen Berry



LEADERSHIP EVENT

Kevin Murray and Tim Phillips. 509
Chaired by John Smythe

Talk Normal: Stop the Business Speak, Jargon and Waffle

4pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Spin and lack of transparency from those heading our organisations is a frequent criticism. Here are two books that cut through the obfuscation to bring clarity to leadership communication. Chairman of Bell Pottinger Kevin Murray interviewed 60 leading chief executives for *The Language of Leaders* to show how leaders can achieve great results when communicating transparently. In *Talk Normal: Stop the Business Speak, Jargon and Waffle*, journalist Tim Phillips, steers a path to better communication while giving some hilarious examples of the worst excesses of management speak at work. The session is chaired by John Smythe, chairman of Engage for Change and author of *The CEO: Chief Engagement Officer*. The session is part of a series on leadership at the festival.



Kevin Murray



Tim Phillips

HSBC 
Premier

CorpusChristi
College Oxford 

A Guided Tea-Tasting with The East India Company 531

The Finest Teas with the Tea Master

4pm / Christ Church: Hall / £12



Join The East India Company on a tea-tasting experience through India, China, Sri Lanka, Japan, and beyond, and explore the finest teas.

Journey back to where it all began, when China had the world's monopoly on tea, and see how this beverage has travelled through the centuries to become one of Britain's most famous traditions. Learn the difference between a white, green and black tea, learn the best way to brew a truly bewitching cup, discover some of the rarest teas in the world, and taste an Earl Grey like no other.

Led by The East India Company tea master, Lalith Lenadora, this guided tasting session is sure to delight and surprise.



Sponsored by

Lalith Lenadora



T D Griggs and Alison McQueen 512

Empire in 21st-Century Fiction

4pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Two new novels by T D Griggs and Alison McQueen portray the clash of cultures in the days of the British empire. The authors join to discuss writing about the empire in 21st-century fiction and how different cultures interact and collide.

Griggs's *Distant Thunder* is set in 1890s Bangalore, Sudan and London. It features Frank Gray, a boy who saw his mother savagely beaten to death by a cavalry officer in Bangalore, and Grace Dearborn, who grows up in a privileged family in England, but comes to realise the true human cost of her family's fortune. McQueen's *The Secret Children* opens in 1920s Assam and tells the story of two girls born to an Indian woman and a colonial father, growing up caught between two different worlds. It is based on the writer's own family history.



T D Griggs

Alison McQueen

Patrick and Henry Cockburn 523

Henry's Demons: Living with Schizophrenia, a Father and Son's Story

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

Henry Cockburn was diagnosed with schizophrenia at the age of 20, shortly after he nearly drowned trying to swim across an estuary because 'the trees had told him to do it'. Henry and his father Patrick, an award-winning journalist, have written an extraordinary account of Henry's illness and of Patrick's journey towards understanding the changes it has brought. Patrick writes about schizophrenia's history and reveals how little we still know about the illness. The book also includes Henry's own account of his experiences, written from hospital. Together, they provide both a revealing portrait of mental illness and a moving story of a family's battle to come to terms with it.

Patrick Cockburn has been a Middle East correspondent – for the *Financial Times* and, currently, for the *Independent* – since 1979. He has written four books on the recent history of Iraq and has won the Martha Gellhorn prize, the James Cameron prize and the Orwell Prize for journalism.



Bryan Appleyard 903

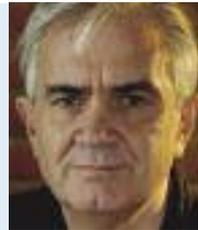
The Brain is Wider than the Sky: Why Simple Solutions Don't Work in a Complex World

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

Smart phones track our movements, automatic call machines demand answers and offer us options, and social networks steal away our information. Machines are changing the human species, argues *The Sunday Times* journalist Bryan Appleyard, stripping away natural human complexity and replacing it with a barren simplicity.

But Appleyard also celebrates the human complexity that cannot be read by a machine, in particular the way that poetry and art can illuminate the human imagination. He reflects on interviews with Bill Gates, James Cameron, Steven Spielberg, Marilynne Robinson, Shigeru Miyamoto, Nassim Nicholas Taleb and many others. The child of a scientific family, Appleyard has written extensively about science and art, and *The Brain is Wider than the Sky* is for lovers of both.

Bryan Appleyard



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LIASON

Ashmolean Museum

530

Tour of the Ancient World Floor and New Galleries of Ancient Egypt and Nubia

4.30pm / Ashmolean Museum: Randolph Sculpture Gallery / £25

Mr Henry Kim, project director at the Ashmolean Museum, leads you round the Ancient World floor and six new galleries of Ancient Egypt and Nubia at Britain's oldest museum. The new galleries, designed by Rick Mather Architects, opened in November and feature state-of-the-art lighting and showcases. They have allowed the museum to bring out of storage some of its most significant and delicate objects, and follow a celebrated redevelopment of the museum two years ago.

Mr Kim will describe how the Ashmolean has redisplayed its collections to tell the stories that have made Egyptology so popular and fascinating.

Sponsored by

ASHMOLEAN

Raymond Wacks

518

Privacy: 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.

Raymond Wacks examines our need for privacy, and looks at why it is so highly valued, and what constitutes an invasion of privacy. The emeritus professor of law and legal theory at the University of Hong Kong explores the tension between free speech and privacy.

Raymond Wacks



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V S I



Photos: Richard Bryant & arcaid.co.uk

Clare Conville, Liz Hoggard, 504
Sarah-Jane Lovett
Chaired by David Freeman

*Dangerous Women: The Guide to
Modern Life*

6.30pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

The authors of *Dangerous Women* challenge womankind to 'live as well as you dare'. Through their guide to modern life, they provide some of the answers to what it means to be a woman in the 21st century. Drawing on their own experiences and that of an eclectic range of writers, artists and iconic women, they tackle questions including whether you need to establish the weight of the soul, how to enter a convent, when to ring your lawyer, and whether to plan your wardrobe for a stint in hospital. Above all, *Dangerous Women* urges you to trust your instinct.

Clare Conville is a literary agent, Liz Hoggard is a columnist and interviewer, and Sarah-Jane Lovett has delivered The Bad Sex Awards and hosted numerous literary salons. The event is chaired by literary journalist and broadcaster David Freeman.

John Crace and John Sutherland 505

Brief Encounters – Charles Dickens

**6.30pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden
Marquee / £10**

'One must have a heart of stone not to laugh at the death of Little Nell,' said Oscar Wilde – but if you have tears (of laughter), prepare to shed them here. John Sutherland, professor, author and critic, joins John Crace, who regularly reduces great literature to size in the *Guardian's Digested Reads* and in his *Brideshead Revisited* book, to take a humorous look at one of our greatest authors, Charles Dickens, on the 200th anniversary of his birth. Both are firm believers that literature should be fun – and here it is.

Richard Mabey and Paul Farley 516
Chaired by Simon Kövesi

*Edgelands: Nature Writing in
Estranged Places*

6.30pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

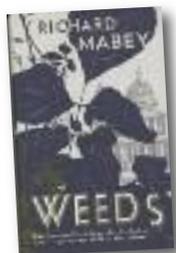
As Richard Mabey has charted in a wide array of celebrated publications, nature writing has always been central to how humans understand the world they live in. But contemporary pressures, problems and possible environmental futures have given such writing a purpose, a necessity and an edge it has perhaps never had before now. Author of *Flora Britannica*, *The Unofficial Countryside* and most recently *Weeds*, Mabey joins poets Paul Farley and Michael Symmons Roberts, authors of *Edgelands: Journeys into England's True Wilderness*, to discuss 'the most despised and ignored of landscapes' – nature on the edges, and in the marginal wastelands, of contemporary society.

The event is presented by Oxford Brookes University and chaired by Dr Simon Kövesi, head of English and modern languages at the university.



Richard Mabey

Paul Farley



Presented by

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Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Festival Choral Evensong 529

With biblical readings by Ben Okri

6.30pm / Christ Church: Cathedral / Free

This service combines music from the Anglican choral tradition sung by the Cathedral Choir, Biblical readings by Ben Okri and the liturgy of the Book of Common Prayer. The music includes Prayer from the recently published Choirbook for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, with words by George Herbert, set to music by Francis Grier.

All are welcome to attend this act of worship lasting approximately 45 minutes, and there is no charge for admission.

Ben Okri



Presented by Christ Church Cathedral



Laetitia Maklouf 517

Sweet Peas for Summer: How to Create a Garden in a Year

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

Laetitia Maklouf was hailed as a fresh voice on the horticultural scene with her book for novice gardeners, *The Virgin Gardener*. For a decade, Maklouf did her own gardening on a balcony, in window boxes and inside her flat. Now living in a home with a garden, she tells the story of creating her own first garden in a year. In ten easy steps she sets out to plan, plant and maintain her garden.

Maklouf set out on the road to becoming a gardener after discovering a packet of sweet peas at the bottom of a Christmas stocking. She left an office job to enrol on a course at the Chelsea Physic Garden and has never looked back.

Henry Volans and Michael Bhaskar. Chaired by Angus Phillips 528

Digital Futures

6.30pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Last Christmas in the UK around one million ebook readers and half a million tablet computers were given as presents. Publishers are responding by producing apps and ebooks, some of which have already become bestsellers. What is the digital future for the book in a world where the expectations of both authors and readers are changing fast? A panel of experts give their views on the evolving digital landscape in publishing.

Henry Volans is head of digital publishing, Faber & Faber, where he has produced successful apps such as *Solar System* and *The Waste Land*. Michael Bhaskar is digital publishing director at leading independent publisher Profile Books. He is responsible for spearheading their digital strategy, their ebook program, web presence, social media and digital business. The discussion is chaired by Angus Phillips, director of the Oxford International Centre for Publishing Studies at Oxford Brookes University. His books include *The Future of the Book in the Digital Age* (edited with Bill Cope).



Henry Volans and Michael Bhaskar

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Laetitia Maklouf

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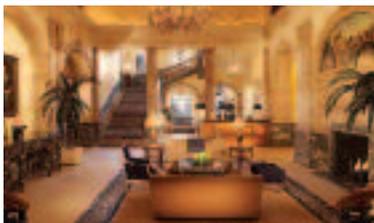
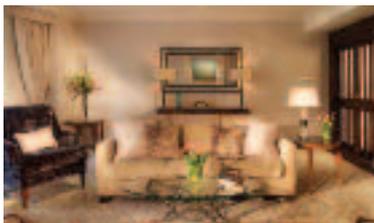
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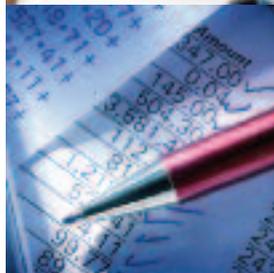
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P D James talks to Peter Kemp 607

Death Comes to Pemberley and
a Passion for Jane Austen

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



One of our best-loved crime novelists, P D James weaves her love of Jane Austen and her mastery of the art of detective fiction into her new novel *Death Comes to Pemberley*. James recreates the world of *Pride and Prejudice* where we find Darcy and Elizabeth six years into a happy marriage and with two sons in the home. But their perfect world is shattered on the eve of the autumn ball when an uninvited guest rolls up to announce her husband has been murdered. The events reawaken old sins and misunderstandings.

Oxford-born James, who has won awards for crime writing in Britain, America, Italy and Scandinavia, and was made a life peer in 1991, will discuss her new novel with *The Sunday Times* chief fiction reviewer Peter Kemp. She will also explain her passion for the novels of Jane Austen.

Sponsored by the Macdonald Randolph Hotel



Nic Compton, Frances Wilson 610
and John Welshman.
Chaired by David Grylls

Voices from the Titanic

10am / Corpus Christi / £10

The sinking of the Titanic 100 years ago still resonates deeply. To mark the centenary this April, three writers, Nic Compton, Frances Wilson and John Welshman, give voice to some of those who died in the disaster and to some who lived to tell the tale.

In his *Voices from the Sea*, Compton tells the stories of those who have explored the oceans, done battle with the weather and survived shipwreck. Wilson's highly acclaimed *How to Survive the Titanic or the Sinking of J Bruce Ismay* tells the story of Ismay, the ship's owner, who survived after jumping into a lifeboat with the women and children, and then had to live with the guilt for the rest of his life. Welshman reconstructs the stories of 12 individuals who were on the ship the night it sank in *Titanic: The Last Night of a Small Town*.

The event is chaired by Dr David Grylls, a fellow of Kellogg College, Oxford, and director of studies for the literature and creative writing courses.

John Welshman



Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Stephen Law

617

Believing Bullshit**10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10**

Disturbing, and sometimes dangerous, forms of religious belief are on the rise around the world. We need to be on our guard.

The central aim of Stephen Law's latest book, *Believing Bullshit*, is to immunise readers against the wiles of many cultists, creationists, 'New Age' faddists, self-styled gurus, psychics and healers and other purveyors of snake oil by providing a 'How to . . .' pocket guide to the tricks of the trade. By such means, an impregnable fortress can be constructed around a set of beliefs, rendering it immune to any sort of rational criticism – an intellectual black hole. Law flags up eight main mechanisms involved in producing such psychological fly-traps and reveals how they succeed in imprisoning minds.

Law is senior lecturer in philosophy at Heythrop College, University of London, and Provost of Centre for Inquiry UK. He has written several popular introductions to philosophy including *The Philosophy Gym* and *The Philosophy Files*.

Stephen Law



Presented by Centre for Inquiry



Peter Frankopan

624

**The First Crusade:
The Call from the East****10am / The Queen's College / £10**

Peter Frankopan uses new sources to throw fresh light on one of the most written-about events in history, the First Crusade. Frankopan is the first to address the history of the crusade from the point of view of the east, in particular examining the role of the Byzantine Empire and Emperor Alexios I Komnenos. He uncovers close cooperation between Rome and Constantinople and a complex triangular relationship between the west, Byzantium and the Muslim world. And he raises new questions about what provoked western Europe to take up arms in 1096 and why there was a First Crusade at all.

Dr Peter Frankopan is director of the Centre for Byzantine research at Oxford University.

Peter Frankopan



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Lawyers to the Festival



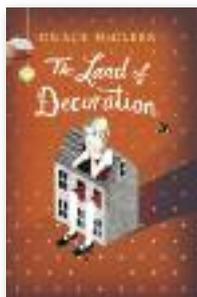
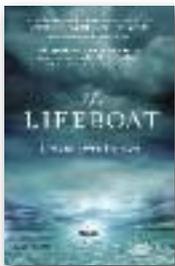
The Queen's College
Oxford

Grace McCleen and Charlotte Rogan talk to Andrew Holgate 632

New writing: *The Land of Decoration* and *The Lifeboat*

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

Two fine new authors discuss their debut work with Andrew Holgate, literary editor of *The Sunday Times*. The festival is committed to showcasing new writing so we are delighted to welcome Grace McCleen, author of *The Land of Decoration*, and Charlotte Rogan, author of *The Lifeboat*. Both were picked out by Holgate in *The Sunday Times* last December as the authors of outstanding debuts, and two of the fiction highlights of 2012.



The Land of Decoration features a miniature world imagined by the 10-year-old narrator Judith McPherson. Judith's mother has died and her father is a member of an eccentric religious sect. McCleen was brought up in a fundamentalist religion and says she was transformed by her experience of studying English literature at the University of Oxford.

The lifeboat of the second novel's title is home to a group of survivors for three weeks after an explosion sinks their ship. The story follows their struggle for survival and the aftermath, as the main character Grace Winter finds herself on trial for her life. Rogan graduated from Princeton University in 1975 and did many jobs before writing her debut novel.



Grace McCleen

Charlotte Rogan

Christopher Lloyd 622

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



Philip Marsden 603

The Levelling Sea: The Story of a Cornish Haven and the Age of Sail

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

The rise of the Cornish port of Falmouth is symbolic of a glorious period of the UK's maritime history. Acclaimed travel writer Philip Marsden lives in St Mawes, across the bay from Falmouth, and draws on his deep connection with Cornwall to trace the town's rise to become one of the busiest harbours in the world. In a 'wonderfully poetic exploration' (*Sunday Times*), he evokes the unparalleled power of the sea and writes about its place in the history of Britain.

Marsden, winner of the Somerset Maugham Award and Thomas Cook Travel Book of the Year Award, is also author of *The Crossing Place: A Journey Among the Armenians*, and *The Bronski House*.

Philip Marsden



Claire Tomalin

604

Charles Dickens: A Life

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



Dickens was our greatest novelist, yet the brilliance of his writing concealed a complex and contradictory character. How did he rise from humble origins to become one of the greatest Britons of all time? What drove him to leave his wife for a woman 30 years her junior, and why could he be so generous on the one hand and yet so mean-spirited to his own children on the other?

These are some of the questions explored by highly acclaimed biographer Claire Tomalin, former literary editor of the *New Statesman* and *The Sunday Times*, whose account of Dickens' relationship with the actress Ellen Ternan in *The Invisible Woman* won three literary awards.

Claire Tomalin

Marian Partington
and Stephen Cherry

635

Chaired by Marina Cantacuzino

A Question of Forgiveness

12 noon / Christ Church: Cathedral / £10

The question of forgiveness is being raised ever more frequently in the aftermath of unjust suffering and violently inflicted loss. But what can the 'F-word' mean? Three writers explore the use and meaning of this word, often 'barnacled by aeons of piety' (as one of them has written).

Marian Partington brings a careful attention to poetry and narrative to bear upon the wrenching reality of her sister Lucy's murder. In her writing, she seeks to reclaim her sister from the labels of 'missing person' or 'Fred West victim'. The Reverend Canon Dr Stephen Cherry, best-selling author of *Barefoot Disciple* and an experienced parish priest and adult educator, seeks to re-imagine forgiveness between people as a 'healing agony'.

The discussion is chaired by Marina Cantacuzino, an award-winning journalist and founder of The Forgiveness Project charity, who describes how forgiveness processes can emerge when convicted prisoners encounter the human cost of their actions.

Marian Partington



John Crace and Ed Smith 608

Play up! And play the game!

12 noon / The Queen's College / £10

Can we apply what we learn on the sports field to our everyday lives? Former England cricketer turned writer Ed Smith examines the role of chance in sport and life in *Luck*, while John Crace, journalist and writer of the *Guardian's* witty *Digested Reads*, describes the highs and lows of being a Spurs football fan in *Vertigo*. Now Smith and Crace join together to share what sport has taught them about life in a fascinating and funny session that will appeal to those who love sport – and to those who do not.

John Crace



Ed Smith



The Queen's College
Oxford



Margaret Heffernan 615

Willful Blindness: Why We Ignore the Obvious at Our Peril

12 noon / Corpus Christi College / £10

Entrepreneur and author Margaret Heffernan argues that organisations and individuals can become better leaders by facing up to the truth and by managing their strategies around the truth. In one of a series of festival debates around leadership, she discusses the concept of 'willful blindness'. She looks at what makes humans prone to 'willful blindness' – the failure to observe or find out what is really going on – and suggests ways in which individuals and organisations can combat it.

Heffernan's CV includes spells writing and producing for BBC Radio, as a television producer for *Timewatch*, *Arena* and *Newsnight*, running leading Internet businesses and as a writer.

Margaret Heffernan



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College Oxford 

David Aaronovitch

626

Voodoo Histories: How Conspiracy Theory has Shaped Modern History

12 noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Our age is obsessed by the idea of conspiracy. We see it everywhere – from Pearl Harbour to 9/11, from the assassination of Kennedy to the death of Diana. David Aaronovitch's *Voodoo Histories* entertainingly demolishes the absurd and sinister conspiracy theories of the last 100 years. Aaronovitch reveals why people are so ready to believe in them and the dangers of this credulity.

He explodes the conspiracy theories surrounding the Protocols of the Elders of Zion; Pearl Harbour; the deaths of Kennedy, Monroe and Princess Diana; 'pseudohistory' such as the Holy Blood and Holy Grail, the 9/11 Truth Movement; and the moon landings.

Aaronovitch is a writer, broadcaster and commentator on culture, international affairs, politics and the media.

David Aaronovitch



Presented by Centre for Inquiry



Muthoni Garland, Peter Ike Amadi, Geoff Ryman.

627

Chaired by Emma Dawson Varughese New African Fiction

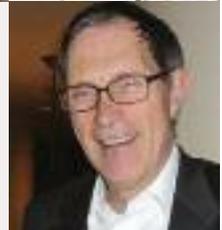
**12 noon / Christ Church:
Festival Room 1 / £10**

Our panel will explore recent developments in writing and publishing new fiction from within Africa, particularly in West and East Africa. It will ask if the 'renaissance in African writing' is real or whether it remains a perception of the West, encouraged by Western activity such as The Caine Prize for African writing, whose winner is announced annually in Oxford. The panel will offer reader, writer and publisher perspectives – so come ready with your questions for them all.

Muthoni Garland, based in Nairobi, writes fiction for adults and children and has been shortlisted for the Caine Prize. Peter Ike Amadi lives in Lagos, Nigeria, working as a writer and graphic artist. Geoff Ryman, a Canadian citizen, teaches creative writing in Nigeria and at the University of Manchester. Emma Dawson Varughese has edited anthologies of short stories from Cameroon, Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya and Malaysia. A short story in the Ugandan Collection, *Butterfly Dreams* by Beatrice Lamwaka, was shortlisted for the 2011 Caine Prize.



Muthoni Garland,
Peter Ike Amadi and
Geoff Ryman



Tim Stanley-Clarke

630

Blandy's Madeira Masterclass

12 noon / Christ Church: Hall / £15

Blandy's Madeira, has long been renowned for producing some of the finest wines from the remote Atlantic island of Madeira. Established in 1811 and still family owned, Blandy's recently celebrated their 200th anniversary.

The island of Madeira was discovered, by happy accident, in 1419, by the Portuguese explorer, Joao Goncalves Zarco. The early settlers soon discovered that the volcanic soil of the island allowed crops to flourish, and vineyards were soon established. Later, the island provided an ideal victualling stop for European traders on their way to the East and West Indies. Thus, Madeira wines gained great popularity and reputation, particularly in Britain and on the Eastern seaboard of America, where they are still much sought after.

Today's tasting will encompass seven wines from the four "Noble" grape varieties of Madeira: Sercial, a crisp and fresh aperitif; Verdelho, tangy and medium-bodied; Bual, full-bodied, with an attractive smokey complexity and, finally, Malmsey, full-bodied, complex and lusciously rich. You will be able to taste a variety of five and ten-year-old wines, finishing with a superb 1992 Colheita Malmsey.

The late Auberon Waugh wrote of Tim Stanley-Clarke: "I have learnt to value his judgement, enjoy his hospitality, rejoice in his company, and above all, open my eyes to the splendour of the wines he promotes."

Tim Stanley-Clarke



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Lynda Mugglestone

613

Dictionaries: 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.

Lynda Mugglestone shows that all dictionaries are partial and all are selective. They are human products, reflecting the dominant social and cultural assumptions of the time in which they were written, says the Pembroke College, Oxford, fellow in English language and literature.

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Donna Dickenson

605

God, Mammon and Biotechnology

2pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

It is a truth universally acknowledged - particularly in Oxford - that science and religion are implacable foes. Yet in her new book *Bioethics*, author and academic Professor Donna Dickenson argues that what really threatens the progress of science is not religion, but rampant commercialisation. It is not Opus Dei that holds patents on human genes: it is private firms, who can use their monopoly to raise prices beyond what the NHS can afford. Using film clips from *Frankenstein*, *Inherit the Wind* and *The Man in the White Suit*, Donna Dickenson will argue that the 'war' between God and biotechnology is a diversion from the real threat: Mammon.

An Afternoon with Anthony Trollope

631

2pm / The Queen's College / £47

Introduction

The Victorian novelist Anthony Trollope wrote some of the most entertaining, perceptive, and best-loved works of English literature, including *The Warden*, *Barchester Towers*, *The Way We Live Now* and many more. An Afternoon with Anthony Trollope, with Oxford University Press in conjunction with The Trollope Society, explores the reasons for his enduring popularity, and celebrates some of his most famous characters. The afternoon will feature a panel of Oxford World's Classics editors and crime writer PD James.

2pm: Trollope, Politics, and the Press

Dinah Birch, Nicholas Shrimpton and Helen Small.
Chaired by Prof John Bowen

Trollope tried unsuccessfully to enter Parliament and in the Palliser series he charted the fortunes of Plantagenet Palliser, who rises to become Prime Minister. Then, as now, politics was bound up with intrigue, bribery, compromise, wealth, and sexual scandal, and a gutter press that could make or break a political career. How was public life conducted in such circumstances, how does Trollope treat it in his fiction, and has anything really changed? A panel discussion led by John Bowen of the University of York.

3pm: Trollope and Conflict

Dinah Birch, Nicholas Shrimpton and John Bowen.
Chaired by Professor Helen Small

The themes that loom large in Trollope's novels are relations between men and women and the pressures of money, power, and rank. The marriage stakes were high, and some of Trollope's most memorable scenes – some hilarious, some horrifying – depict struggles for control, conflict within marriage, and the internal clash of minds and emotions under enormous stress. What were the social factors that influenced Trollope's descriptions, and how recognizable are they today? A panel discussion led by Helen Small.

4pm: Tea**4.30pm: Trollope, Women, and Love**

Dinah Birch, Nicholas Shrimpton, Helen Small,
John Bowen and PD James

Trollope's female characters are portrayed with great psychological insight, from the redoubtable Mrs Proudie to the tortured Lady Laura Kennedy. How does he create such memorable characters, and uncover the vacillations of the human heart? A panel discussion with author PD James and the editors of Trollope's novels.

**5.30pm: Launch and drinks reception for *Can You Forgive Her?* edited by Dinah Birch**

A toast will be made to mark the publication of the new edition of *Can You Forgive Her?* and the completion of the Palliser series in *Oxford World's Classics*. Join Oxford University Press and The Trollope Society for a drinks reception in The Queen's College magnificent library with the panel of *Oxford World's Classics* editors.



Dinah Birch



PD James

The Queen's College
Oxford



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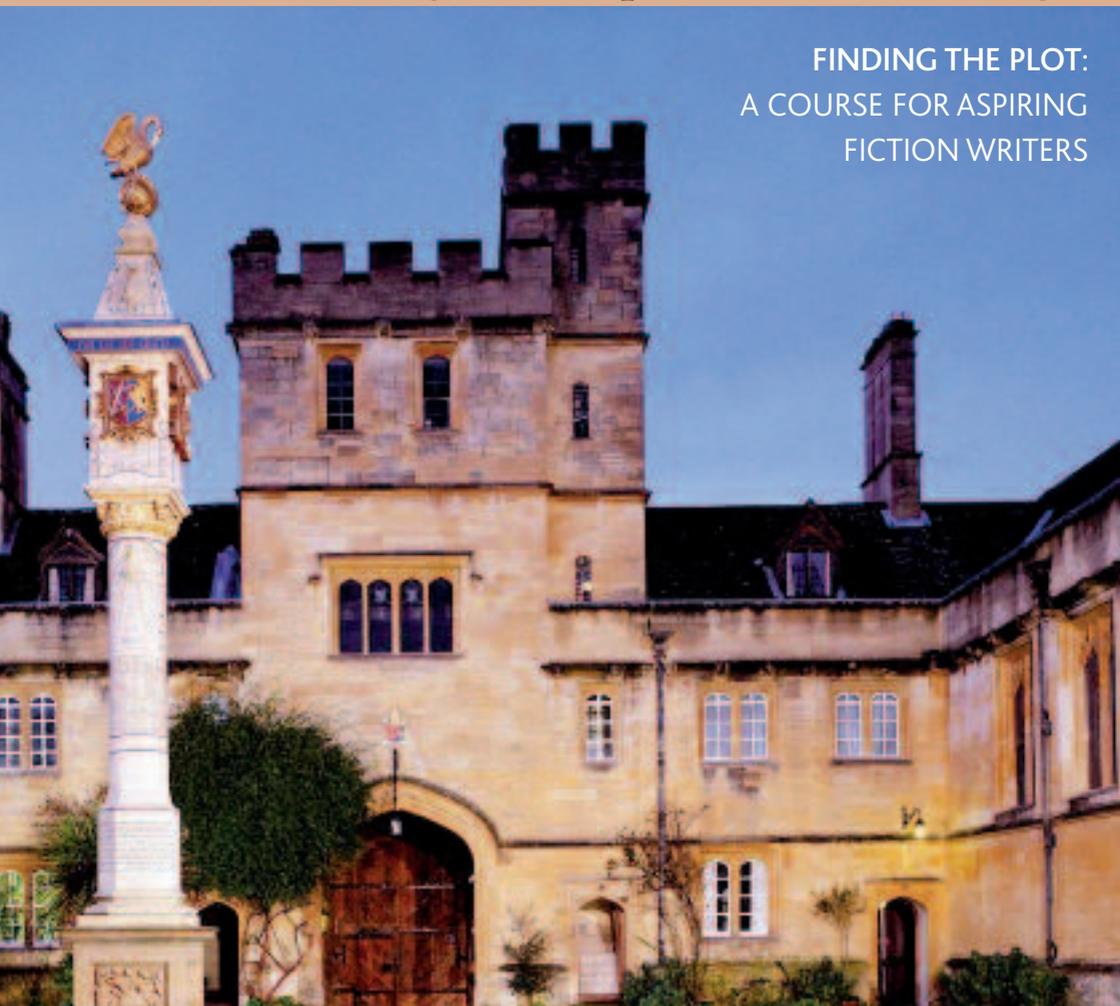
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Bill Heine

609

The Hunting of the Shark: The Sculpture that Crash Landed in an Oxford Street

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Oxford celebrity broadcaster Bill Heine has ended his silence on why and how a giant shark ended up sitting out of the roof of his Oxford home. The shark quickly became an iconic landmark when it was installed 25 years ago. Heine tells of his hilarious and sometimes frightening battles with the planners who wanted the shark removed. American-born Heine has worked for BBC Radio Oxford since 1983. He is known for speaking his mind and hosts a phone-in show where his listeners are invited to do just the same. He has also written his autobiography *Heinstein of the Airwaves*.

Andrew Holgate and Peter Kemp 619
talk to David Grylls

The Power of the Critic

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

The literary editor of *The Sunday Times*, Andrew Holgate, and the newspaper's chief fiction reviewer, Peter Kemp, discuss what it is like to be a literary editor and reviewer. How do they select the books to review? What is the power of the critic? And what influence do they believe they have on whether a book succeeds or not? Both Holgate and Kemp are actively involved in the Oxford Literary Festival as part of their work for our title sponsor *The Sunday Times*. So why do they get involved in literary festivals and why do they think festivals are important?

Holgate and Kemp will be talking to Dr David Grylls, a fellow of Kellogg College, Oxford, and director of studies for the literature and creative writing courses. His publications include the books *Guardians and Angels: Parents and Children in Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *The Paradox of Gissing*, and *Dickens: A Viewers' Guide*. He is a regular reviewer of contemporary fiction for *The Sunday Times*.

Sponsored by Oxford University Department for Continuing Education and Kellogg College, Oxford



KELOGG COLLEGE

Simon Armitage talks
to Jem Poster

407

Conversations with Poets

2pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Broadcaster, novelist and poet, recipient of numerous literary prizes and awards, as well as the CBE for services to poetry, Simon Armitage has published ten collections of poetry, including *Selected Poems* (2001), *Seeing Stars* (2010), and his acclaimed translation of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (2007). Now he has turned to the alliterative *Morte Arthure*, with its vivid narrative involving battles on land and sea, partings, swoonings, and dream sequences: this event will centre on his new translation, *The Death of King Arthur*.

Armitage, whose awards include The Sunday Times Young Author of the Year, also writes for radio, television, film and stage. He has written for more than a dozen television films and pioneered, with director Brian Hill, the docu-musical format. He received an Ivor Novello Award for his song lyrics in the Channel 4 film *Feltham Sings* which won a Bafta. He recently presented films for BBC4 on Arthurian literature and the *Odyssey*. In 2011, he was appointed Professor of Poetry at the University of Sheffield.

Simon Armitage



Photo: Liz Pickering

Corpus Christi
College Oxford



Andrew Holgate

Lindsey Hilsum

611

Sandstorm: The Inside Story of Gadaffi's Regime

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

Renowned television journalist Lindsey Hilsum was in Libya when dictator Muammar Gadaffi met his end at the hands of his own people in 2011. She tells the story of Gadaffi's bizarre regime from its early days of popular appeal to the paranoia and corruption that characterised its final years. Hilsum, a Royal Television Society Journalist of the Year, follows the stories of five Libyan people, and through them she shows how the Libyan people overcame their fear and rebelled against the regime.

Hilsum is Channel 4 news international editor. She was in Belgrade when NATO bombed Serbia, in Baghdad during the 2003 US invasion and was Channel 4 News China correspondent between 2006 and 2008.

Lindsey Hilsum



Supported by

Ian and Carol Sellars

Christopher Lloyd

623

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.

Gavin Pretor-Pinney

601

Clouds That Look Like Things

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

If you hate 'blue-sky thinking' and would rather dreamily contemplate the heavens to see what you can picture in the clouds, this is the event for you. Gavin Pretor-Pinney, creator of the Cloud Appreciation Society, takes a witty look at clouds and the wonderful shapes they form. The beautiful collection of clouds photographed by members of the society includes ones in the shape of dolphins, elephants, UFOs, Alfred Hitchcock and Andy Murray.

Pretor-Pinney is author of the bestselling *The Cloudspotter's Guide* and has recently appeared on the BBC's *Coast* and *The Great British Weather*. He also headlined the first Irish Cloud Festival in July 2011. His book *The Wavewatcher's Companion* won the 2011 Royal Society Winton Prize for Science Books.

Gavin Pretor-Pinney



Photo: Jonny Wilde

Fiona Neill, Elizabeth Noble and Jane Fallon 633

Emotional Flashpoints in Women's Lives

4pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Three popular writers come together to discuss the key moments in nearly every woman's life that inspire their hugely successful work.

Fiona Neill found fame through her column in *The Times*, which was the basis of her first novel *The Secret Life of a Slummy Mummy*. Her new novel, *What the Nanny Saw*, is a satire about the rise and fall of a wealthy and dysfunctional banking family, seen through the eyes of their nanny.

Elizabeth Noble is the author of internationally bestselling novels including *The Reading Group*, *Things I Want My Daughters to Know*, *The Way We Were* and her new novel *Between a Mother and A Child*, which is an exploration of mother love.

Jane Fallon created a whole new genre called 'chic-noir' when she stormed into print with *Getting Rid of Matthew*. Her fourth novel is *The Ugly Sister*, which explores the relationship between two sisters.

Richard Harries and Stephen Law 618

Does God Exist?

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

How reasonable, or unreasonable is belief in God? Are there good arguments for the existence of God? Might belief in God be reasonable even in the absence of good arguments? Can a persuasive case be made against the existence of God, for example an argument based on the amount of pain and suffering the universe contains?

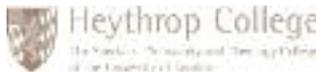
Richard Harries was Bishop of Oxford from 1987-2006 and is now Gresham Professor of Divinity. His latest books include *Faith in Politics? Rediscovering the Christian Roots of our Political Values* and *The Re-enchantment of Morality*, which was short-listed for the 2011 Michael Ramsey Prize for Theological writing.

Stephen Law is senior lecturer in Philosophy at Heythrop College, University of London, and Provost of Centre for Inquiry UK. He has written several popular introductions to philosophy including *The Philosophy Gym* and *The Philosophy Files*. His latest book is *Believing Bullshit*.

Richard Harries



Sponsored by Heythrop College University of London



Peter Conrad talks to
David Freeman 616

Verdi and/or Wagner: Two Men, Two
Worlds, Two Centuries

4pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Music from Verdi and Wagner will accompany this discussion as cultural historian Peter Conrad talks to literary journalist and broadcaster David Freeman about whether it is possible to like both composers. The two great operatic composers achieved similar things but their personalities and approach to music made them incompatible. Conrad says Verdi and Wagner offer a choice between two kinds of art and two ways of life. And he explains how they each helped to define the identity of their nations.

Conrad is a noted cultural critic. His previous books include *A Song of Love and Death: The Meaning of Opera* and *Modern Times, Modern Places*.

Peter Conrad



Bhavit Mehta, Nilanjana
Bhattacharya, Sampurna Chattarji,
Alex Tickell. 628

Chaired by Emma Dawson Varughese

New India, New Voice

4pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

As India celebrates its 65 years of independence from Britain in 2012, we go to the pages of the growing number of Indian novels written in English to hear the new, emerging voices and in order to better understand this 'New India', the India of the noughties and beyond. So what does this new writing say about 'New India'? This panel will discuss some of the departures in contemporary Indian fiction, crime fiction, chick lit and science-fiction/fantasy, exploring what they say about this rapidly changing nation.

Bhavit Mehta is a director of the annual DSC South Asian Literature Festival and runs an independent children's publishing house, Saadhak Books. Nilanjana Bhattacharya is assistant professor of comparative literature at the Institute of Languages, Literature and Culture in Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan. Dr Alex Tickell has published widely on South Asian and colonial literature and is the author of *Arundhati Roy's The God of Small Things: A Readers' Guide*, and *Terrorism, Insurgency and Indian-English Literature, 1830-1947*. Sampurna Chattarji is a poet, novelist and translator whose works include a poetry collection *Absent Muses* and two novels *Rupture* and *Land of the Well*.

Emma Dawson Varughese researches world literature in English through fieldwork and textual analysis and is the author of *Beyond The Postcolonial: World Englishes Literature and Reading New India*.



Bhavit Mehta



Sampurna Chattarji

Ashmolean Museum: 634

Tour of the New Galleries of Ancient Egypt and Nubia

4.30pm / Ashmolean Museum: Randolph Sculpture Gallery / £25

Dr Paul Collins, assistant keeper for the Ancient Near East at the Ashmolean Museum, leads you round the six new galleries of Ancient Egypt and Nubia at Britain's oldest museum. The new galleries, designed by Rick Mather Architects, opened in November and feature state-of-the-art lighting and showcases. They have allowed the museum to bring out of storage some of its most significant and delicate objects, and follow a celebrated redevelopment of the museum two years ago.

Dr Collins will describe how the Ashmolean has redisplayed its collections to tell the stories that have made Egyptology so popular and fascinating.

Sponsored by

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The Ashmolean Museum

Tim Stanley-Clarke 629

Graham's Port Masterclass

5pm / Christ Church: Hall / £15

Since 1820, the name Graham's has been synonymous with the greatest ports to be produced in the beautiful and remote Douro Valley of Northern Portugal. Centred on the famous Quinta dos Malvedos, Graham's owns some of the finest vineyards in the Douro and its wines consistently win top accolades and medals in all the major international tasting competitions. Owned by the Symington family, whose connection with the port trade goes back to the 17th century, Graham's is particularly noted for its outstanding vintage ports.

The tasting of seven wines today will include, amongst others, the flagship Graham's Late Bottled Vintage 2005, the delicate and sensual chilled Twenty Year Old Tawny and the trophy-winning Crusted Port. These will be followed by Quinta dos Malvedos 1999 Vintage Port and the outstanding Graham's 1980 Vintage Port.

Chairman of the port judging for the International Wine and Spirit Competition, Tim Stanley-Clarke has also served as a judge at port and wine festivals around the world.

Supported by Graham's Port



Owen Davies 612

Magic: 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.

Owen Davies does not attempt to provide a concluding definition of magic: it is beyond simple definition. Instead, the professor of social history at the University of Hertfordshire explores the many ways in which magic, as an idea and a practice, has been understood and employed over the millennia.

Sponsored by Oxford University Press

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VSI

Gwyneth Jones and Andy Sawyer 602

Science Fiction – But Not As We Know It

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

'Who are we?', 'why are we here?', and 'what does the future hold?' Just some questions posed by the British Library's first exhibition exploring science fiction through literature, film, and illustration from the second century to the latest best-selling novels. Guest curator Andy Sawyer, science fiction collections librarian, Liverpool University, tells how he undertook the difficult task of selecting what to include from this wealth of material. Science fiction author Gwyneth Jones, winner of numerous awards, for her mostly science fiction and near future fantasy with strong gender themes, gives a science fiction writer's view of this groundbreaking exhibition and what might lie ahead – especially for women science fiction writers.

Andy Sawyer

Helen Rappaport
talks to Ross King

606

Magnificent Obsession:
Victoria, Albert and the Death that
Changed the Monarchy**6.30pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10**

The death of Prince Albert 150 years ago at the age of 42 sent a whole nation into shock and grief. It was a catastrophe for Queen Victoria, who had relied on him utterly, and it defined the last 40 years of her reign.

Oxford-based historian Helen Rappaport examines the circumstances leading up to

Albert's death and offers new theories on what killed him. She looks at the dramatic effect on the nation and examines how Queen Victoria set out to preserve the memory of her adored husband.

Rappaport started out as an actress on television and in films but abandoned acting for history and writing. She is an expert in Russian history and 19th-century women's history. Her books include *Ekaterinburg: The Last Days of the Romanovs* and *No Place for Ladies: The Untold Story of Women in the Crimean War*. Here she talks to Ross King, a novelist and art historian whose books include *Brunelleschi's Dome* and *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*.



Helen Rappaport



Sponsored by



Ritchie Robertson 621

Franz Kafka: A Hunger Artist and Other Stories

6.30pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Taylor Professor of German at the University of Oxford, Ritchie Robertson introduces two new translations of Franz Kafka's work. A translation by Joyce Crick combines two collections, *A Country Doctor* and *A Hunger Artist*, with other uncollected stories, aphorisms and parables. The translation comes with an introduction and notes by Robertson, author of *Kafka, A Very Short Introduction*. Robertson has also completed a new translation of Kafka's first novel, *The Man Who Disappeared (America)*, which follows the adventures of young immigrant Karl Rossman in America.

Ritchie Robertson



Daniel Kawczynski and 620

Lindsey Hilsum
Chaired by Yasmin Alibhai-Brown

Libya: Imposing Western Democracy on the Middle East

6.30pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden Marquee / £10

For four decades Gaddafi was absolute ruler of Libya, a country where basic civil liberties were virtually nonexistent, and opposition not tolerated. In recent years, he sought a more open relationship with the countries of the West, touring Europe with his troop of female bodyguards and receiving Tony Blair and other world leaders in his tent. But despite indulging the British and French, the Arab world's most bizarre dictator was brought down by his own people with the aid of NATO aircraft.

Are we the West hypocritical, motivated by economic and strategic considerations rather than human rights? What does the West do next? Should we try to impose Western democracy in Libya and other Arab countries? Will we stand ready to condemn any human rights violations by the new leadership, regardless of our interests?

These and other questions will be discussed by Daniel Kawczynski, MP for Shrewsbury and Aitcham, chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Libya; and Lindsey Hilsum, author of *Seeking Gaddafi* and *Sandstorm: Libya in the Time of Revolution* and Channel 4 News' international editor, who reported from Alexandria and Cairo on the uprising in Egypt, and from Libya on the 2011 revolt. The discussion is chaired by Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, author, columnist and broadcaster.



Daniel Kawczynski



Lindsey Hilsum



Yasmin Alibhai-Brown

Supported by
Ian and Carol Sellars

Anthony Wall and Dick Fontaine 625
Chaired by Graham Benson

Sonny Rollins – Beyond the Notes

6.30pm / Corpus Christi / £12



Photo: BBC/Bebop Productions & BBC Arena/Sonny Rollins

This is the 82nd year in the extraordinary life of the greatest saxophone player in the world – Sonny Rollins. Four decades ago, as a young filmmaker and aspiring musician, Dick Fontaine followed Rollins up onto the Williamsburg Bridge in Manhattan during one of his legendary escapes from the perils of 'the jazz life'. Today, still resisting stereotype and compromise, and revered by a new generation of young musicians, Rollins continues his single-minded search for meaning in his music and his life.

Dick Fontaine's film, made for the BBC's prestigious art series Arena, is built around the explosive energy of Sonny's 80th-birthday concert, where legendary figures Roy Haynes, Jim Hall and Ornette Coleman, join him to celebrate his journey so far, his music and its future for a new generation.

Arena series editor Anthony Wall will introduce the film. Wall and Fontaine will then join in a panel discussion on jazz in film and its place as a seminal 20th-century art form. The discussion will be chaired by Graham Benson, a trustee of the Oxford Literary Festival; its film, television and theatre consultant; and a former chairman of BAFTA.

This event will last one hour 30 minutes.

A BBC Arena Bebop Productions co-production.

Presented by



Corpus Christi
College-Union

Jonathan Arnold and
Jim Godfrey 614

Christ Church in Words and Music

7.30pm / Christ Church: Cathedral / £50
(includes a drinks reception)

An exclusive behind-closed-doors tour of Christ Church Cathedral, telling the fascinating story of this unique institution through readings and music. Discover the history and hidden secrets of Oxford's cathedral with expert guide Jim Godfrey. Songs are performed by Jonathan Arnold, who has sung with, amongst others, The Sixteen, the Tallis Scholars and the Hilliard Ensemble. The tour concludes with a drinks reception.

Numbers are limited to 50, and the tour lasts two hours.

Jonathan Arnold



Presented by Christ Church Cathedral



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finally get
a moment
to relax,
make the
most of it.

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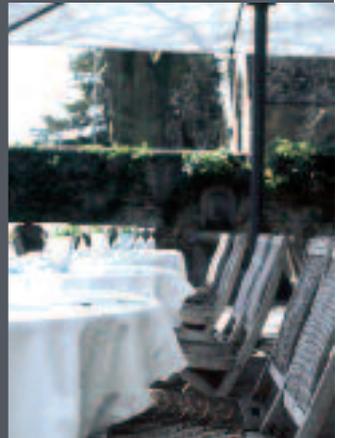


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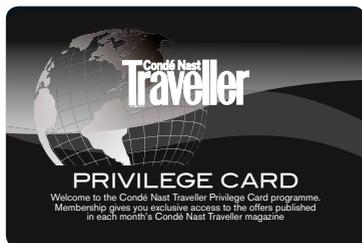
A talk by the founder of the Slow Food movement, introduced by Editor Sarah Miller at 10am on 26 March 2012

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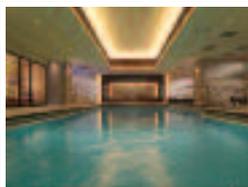
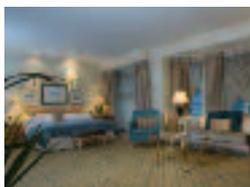
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'What I have most wanted to do...

is to make political writing into an art'

THE ORWELL PRIZE

www.theorwellprize.co.uk

The Orwell Prize, Britain's most prestigious prize for political writing, is delighted to be at the *Sunday Times* Oxford Literary Festival for a fifth year.

Each year, the Prize rewards the book, the journalism and the blog which comes closest to George Orwell's ambition 'to make political writing into an art'. But we do much more than, taking discussion about Orwell, politics and literature around the country.

At this year's festival, we'll be looking to the past - it's 75 years since Orwell's *The Road to Wigan Pier* was published, and 75 years since he fought in the Spanish Civil War - and to the future - specifically, of the British press as the Leveson Inquiry continues.

This year's Orwell Prize longlists will be revealed on 28th March, with the shortlists coming on 25th April. The winners will be announced on 23rd May.

If you'd like more details on this year's Prize, extracts from previous winners, essays and articles by and about George Orwell and video of our previous events in Oxford and elsewhere, visit our website:

www.theorwellprize.co.uk

The Spanish Civil War

Friday 30th March | 2pm

Paul Preston (historian, *We Saw Spain Die*, *The Spanish Holocaust*)

And others

The Road to Wigan Pier, 75 years on

Saturday 31st March | 6.30pm

Stephen Armstrong (author, *The Road to Wigan Pier Revisited*)

Beatrix Campbell (author, *Wigan Pier Revisited*)

Juliet Gardiner (historian, *The Thirties*, *Wartime: Britain 1939-45*)

Paul Mason (economics editor, *BBC Newsnight*)

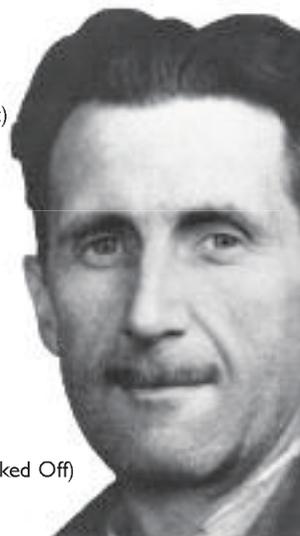
Chaired by D. J. Taylor (writer and Orwell biographer)

Politicians and the Press

Sunday 1st April | 6.30pm

Martin Moore (director, Media Standards Trust; co-founder, *Hacked Off*)

And others



Sophia Hillan

706

May, Lou & Cass: Jane Austen's Nieces in Ireland

10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

The real-life dramas experienced by Jane Austen's nieces Marianne, Louisa and Cassandra Knight were straight out of a novel by the great writer herself. Author Sophia Hillan follows May, Lou and Cass from middle-class England to famine-ravaged Ireland in the early 19th century. It is a story of elopements, early deaths, years of exile and an unsuitable marriage regarded as so inappropriate it was mentioned in the House of Lords.

Hillan, a former assistant director of Queen's University of Belfast's Institute of Irish Studies, tells the extraordinary story of the three women who had Austen as an early companion and teacher. Through it, she uncovers new material on Jane Austen and her family and sheds light on a fascinating period in history.

Sophia Hillan



Val Bourne

709

Colour in the Garden

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

Recognising the struggle to create colour combinations that are suitable to site and soil, and which take gardens through the seasons, award-winning gardener, photographer and writer Val Bourne has created this inspirational source on the use of colour in the garden with tried-and-tested planning schemes suitable for all seasons. Bourne, *The Oxford Times* gardening correspondent and a regular contributor to the *Daily Telegraph*, has also written several 10-minute gardening guides. With summer coming up, this session will give you many ideas for a varied and vibrant planting in your garden.

Alvin Hall

715

The Stock Market Explained

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

Financial guru and renowned broadcaster Alvin Hall explains how to get smarter with our money in these difficult economic times. He presents a beginner's guide to stocks, shares and other investment choices. Investing in stocks and shares can be a complicated affair, but Hall uses practical examples to simply explain how you can make more informed choices, learn basic techniques to maximise reward, understand your own tolerance to risk and assess what investments suit you best.

Hall is an internationally known financial educator, broadcaster, author and columnist. In the UK, he is best known for hosting for five years the award-winning BBC series *Your Money or Your Life*, in which he helped people to take control of their finances. Hall lives in New York and is flying over to the UK to be at the festival.

Alvin Hall



HSBC 
Premier

Marcus Berkmann

729

A Shed of One's Own: Midlife Without the Crisis

10am / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Journalist and comedy writer Marcus Berkmann says his new book about men in middle age is about 'humiliation, loss of dignity, crushing disappointment and aching knees'. But, he adds, although it moans incessantly and loses its temper once or twice, his book is at heart hopeful and optimistic. To compensate for what they have lost, middle-aged men have gained self-knowledge, guile and gravitas, he says.

Berkmann has contributed to a number of newspapers and magazines. He compiles the Dumb Britain column for *Private Eye* and is credited as one of the writing team for the BBC 3 comedy show *Monkey Dust*.

Name



Photo: Sophie Baker

Martin Kemp

734

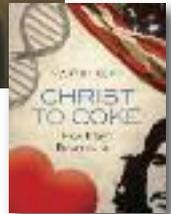
Christ to Coke: How Image Becomes Icon

10am / Corpus Christi College / £10

Image, branding and logos are obsessions of our age. But what makes an image achieve such mega stardom that it is instantly recognisable, instantly conveys powerful associations, and transcends its original purpose and meaning; in short – what makes an image iconic?

To answer this question, Martin Kemp, emeritus professor in the History of Art at The University of Oxford, selects 11 very different images. He begins with the image of Christ's face, the founding icon – literally. Other icons include the Mona Lisa, Che Guevara and the famous photograph of the napalmed girl in Vietnam. Others come from business, led by the Coca-Cola bottle, and from science, most notably the double helix of DNA.

Kemp tells the funny, improbable and illuminating stories woven around each icon. You will have your own opinion about the images – but you will not fail to be entertained and challenged by the narratives that emerge.



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Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Christopher Lloyd

721

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.

Lloyd is the founder of *What on Earth Publishing*. His books include *What on Earth Happened?* and *What on Earth Evolved?* He divides his time between writing, journalism and lecturing in schools, museums and at literary festivals.

Sponsored by



Helena Matheopoulos

701

Fashion Designers at the Opera

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

Opera is the most theatrical of arts, so it is no surprise that it has inspired top fashion designers such as Giorgio Armani, Karl Lagerfeld, Zandra Rhodes and Gianni Versace to create fabulous costumes. Helena Matheopoulos, a former fashion editor of *Tatler* and contributor to *The Times*, *Gramophone* and *Opera Now*, profiles ten leading designers working in opera. As well as those already mentioned, they include Marc Bohan, Christian Lacroix, Ottavio and Rosita Missoni, Miuccia Prada, Emmanuel Ungaro and Viktor & Rolf.

Matheopoulos, author of several books on opera, examines the challenge of designing for the opera and looks at the key differences between designing for the catwalk and for the stage.

Helena Matheopoulos



Andrew Lambert

702

The Challenge: Britain Against America in the Naval War of 1812

12 noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Naval historian Andrew Lambert brings to life a little-known naval conflict between Britain and America in 1812. As Britain focused on the threat from Napoleon, America seized its opportunity to challenge her, invading Canada and attacking British merchant shipping.

Lambert tells how Britain emerged victorious, in part thanks to history's greatest frigate battle when HMS Shannon, under Captain Philip Broke, captured the USS Chesapeake in 13 blood-soaked minutes. Broke's triumph secured control of the Atlantic.

Andrew Lambert is professor of naval history at King's College, London. His books include *Nelson: Britannia's God of War*; *Admirals: The Naval Commanders Who Made Britain Great* and *Franklin: Tragic Hero of Polar Exploration*. His highly successful history of the British Navy, *War at Sea*, was broadcast on Channel 5.

Andrew Lambert



LEADERSHIP EVENT

Susan Cain

707

Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking

12pm / Corpus Christi College/ £10

We live in an age when loud and forceful personalities thrust themselves into the spotlight. As many as one third of us are introverts, however, and are often seen as the underdogs. And yet, introverts have given us the theory of relativity, Van Gogh's sunflowers and the Apple computer. Writer Susan Cain flies in from her home in the US to lead one of a series of festival events on leadership. She argues that the introverted quiet leader has much to offer.

Cain, who has been a negotiation consultant to many major corporations, shows how the brain chemistry of introverts and extroverts differs. And she offers introverts some tools to help them gain from introspection in their personal and professional lives.

Susan Cain



HSBC 
Premier

Corpus Christi
College Oxford 

Diana Athill and Joan Bakewell

713

A Life Fully Lived

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

Diana Athill is one of the most remarkable writers you could hope to meet. She won the Costa Biography Award at the age of 82 for her memoir *Somewhere Towards the End*. She helped André Deutsch set up the publishing company and worked as an editor at Deutsch for four decades. Added to that, she has written five volumes of highly acclaimed memoirs. Her latest work is *Instead of a Book: Letters to a Friend*, her correspondence with American poet Edward Field from 1981 to the present day.

In one of a series of events around the theme of ageing in association with Age UK Oxfordshire, she talks to broadcaster, journalist and novelist Dame Joan Bakewell about a life that has been fully lived. Bakewell has criticised the absence of older women on British TV and was appointed as the 'voice' of the elderly by the last Labour government. She has had a long and fulfilling career as a broadcaster and journalist, and recently published her second novel at the age of 78.

'Athill's memoirs display a vivacious appreciation of the life she has lived and what is still to come'
New Statesman

Diana Athill



Joan Bakewell



In Association with

 Oxfordshire
ageUK

Students of Oxford Academy and of Oxford Brookes MA Creative Writing Course. Chaired by James Hawes

714

Chocolate is the Word

12 noon / Christ Church Hall / £7

'Chocolate is the Word' is a unique collaboration between pupils in Year 7 and 8 at the Oxford Academy in Littlemore and MA in creative writing students at Oxford Brookes University. Under the Brookes students' guidance, academy pupils have devised, written, and will perform here, a series of stories and poems based on chocolate, a theme they have also been studying in their classes.

The event is presented by Oxford Brookes University and chaired by Dr James Hawes, director of creative writing at the university's Department of English and Modern Languages, and author of *Speak For England, A White Merc With Fins, Excavating Kafka* and *Rancid Aluminium*.



Oxford Academy Students

Presented by

**OXFORD
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Simon Stokes, Christine Plews and Caroline van Zyl

733

Getting the Most out of the Law (and Lawyers)

12 noon / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £5

Negotiating a well drafted author/publisher contract is key to a successful author/publisher relationship. Authors also need to focus on how they deal with their literary assets and royalty streams both during their lifetime and after their death. This workshop, presented by festival lawyers Blake Laphorn, will explore the legal issues facing authors from the creation of their works onwards. It will offer practical advice on what to look out for in publishing contracts, how to avoid expensive libel law suits and what steps to take to protect and preserve your copyrights and other intellectual property whether on breakdown of a relationship or after your death.

The workshop will be led by partner Simon Stokes, of Blake Laphorn's publishing team, and supported by Christine Plews, partner, and Caroline van Zyl, senior solicitor, from Blake Laphorn's private client team.

Stokes is a publishing partner with Blake Laphorn and has been advising authors and publishers for almost 20 years. He is the author of several books, including *Art & Copyright* and *Digital Copyright Law & Practice* (3rd edition). The UK legal directories recommend him for his expertise in copyright, technology and publishing law.

Plews is a partner and heads up the family team at Blake Laphorn. She has particular expertise in divorce and financial issues on separation including cohabitee disputes and cases involving business assets, trusts and cases where substantial assets are involved. Plews also deals with disputes between executors and beneficiaries and claims. *Chambers UK, A Client's Guide to the Legal Profession 2012* features Plews as a leader in her field.

Sponsored by

**Blake
Laphorn**

Lawyers to the Festival

George Garnett

717

Norman Conquests: 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.

George Garnett, fellow in modern history at St Hugh's College, Oxford, reveals how dramatically the Norman conquests changed English life, from the language to the law, and focuses on the different ways in which the conquest has been viewed by historians and in folklore ever since.

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V S I



Photo: KT Bruce

Rachel Cusk and Jane Shilling
Chaired by Rebecca Abrams

704

Aftermath and The Stranger in the Mirror: Women in Middle Age

2pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Writers Rachel Cusk and Jane Shilling have a frank and thought-provoking discussion about some of the issues facing women in middle age.

Rachel Cusk explores the issues that arise for a woman after she has experienced the defining years of femininity in her work *Aftermath: On Marriage and Separation: Life After Marriage*. She discusses marriage, separation, motherhood, work, money, domesticity and love. Cusk considers the kinds of generational knowledge the contemporary woman harbours, and the terrors or expectations that have been passed down to her and that are refracted through the modern transformation of female status.

Shilling, a journalist who writes on books for the Telegraph and *Daily Mail*, says middle age took her by surprise. *The Stranger in the Mirror* is an attempt to come to terms with what middle age means for her. She considers whether a revolution is under way as a new generation of women turn 50 and discovers that there is fun to be had in middle age.

Rachel Cusk



Photo: Adrian Clarke

Jane Shilling



Jeremy Paxman

711

Empire: What Ruling the World Did to the British

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

One of our foremost broadcasters Jeremy Paxman takes a typically forthright look at what the Empire did for the British. He argues that the influence of empire is everywhere. It is there in the very existence of the United Kingdom, in the ethnic makeup of our cities, in the sports we think we are good at and in the architecture of our buildings. It influences our decisions to go to war as well as the way we travel and the food we eat. Paxman, presenter of *Newsnight* and *University Challenge*, has written five books. His latest accompanies a major new BBC TV series on the impact of the British Empire.



Sponsored by



Lawyers to the Festival

Sasha Dugdale talks to Jem Poster 705

Conversations with Poets

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £7

In *Red House*, her third collection, Sasha Dugdale evokes the ghosts and presences that flit about on the margins of our lives, finding them at the edge of towns where superstores and allotments blur an older landscape, in Europe where emigrants leave their gods, their neighbours, their memories 'jettisoned like old clothes', and across the chalk downs of her native Sussex. Haunted by history, confronted by primal brutalities, the poems in *Red House* proclaim the fierce, bright authenticity that is 'all the proof we need that we're alive'.

Richard Bradford talks
to DJ Taylor

723

Martin Amis: The Biography

2pm / Christ Church: Hall / £10

Richard Bradford's *Martin Amis: The Biography* was one of the most controversial books of 2011. In conversation with fellow biographer D.J. Taylor, Bradford discusses some of the difficulties involved in writing the life of a living subject, his view of Amis's achievements, his relationship with Amis during the time that the book was being written and the occasionally tortuous path from completion to publication.

Bradford is also author of biographies of Philip Larkin, Kingsley Amis and Alan Sillitoe. Taylor has written biographies of Thackeray and Orwell.

D J Taylor



Helen Graham, Paul Preston 727
and Francisco J. Romero Salvadó.
Chaired by Jean Seaton

Homage to Catalonia:
The Spanish Civil War

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

George Orwell fought in the Spanish Civil War 75 years ago, an experience that nearly killed him but was crucial to his later political work and formed the basis of *Homage to Catalonia*. Our experts look back at the Spanish War, and reflect on the place of this crucial conflict in modern European history.

Helen Graham is professor of Spanish history at Royal Holloway, University of London and author of *The Spanish Republic at War* and *The Spanish Civil War: A Very Short Introduction*. Paul Preston is professor of contemporary Spanish studies at the LSE and author of *We Saw Spain Die* and the forthcoming *The Spanish Holocaust*. Francisco Romero Salvadó is a senior lecturer in modern Spanish history and politics at the University of Bristol. The discussion is chaired by Jean Seaton, director of the Orwell Prize.

Sponsored by *The Orwell Prize*



Jan Zalasiewicz and 728
Mark Williams

The Goldilocks Planet: The Four-
Billion-Year Story of Earth's Climate

2pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Earth is known as the Goldilocks Planet because it is 'not too hot, not too cold and not too dry' and so has consistently supported life for more than three billion years. University of Leicester geologists Jan Zalasiewicz and Mark Williams show how Earth's climate has continuously changed over its 4.5-billion-year history. They demonstrate how geologists are becoming ever more adept at reading the changes in the climate from the evidence left behind, despite some of it being puzzling and often contradictory. Zalasiewicz and Williams map the extreme changes in climate and explain the impact on plant and animal life and on the Earth's physical appearance.

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Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Christopher Lloyd 722

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.

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THEATRE AND ARTS
FOR ALL

Hanif Kureishi, Joe Dunthorne 731
and Andrew Holgate.

Short Fiction: Choosing the Best

4pm / Christ Church: Hall / £10

The *Sunday Times* EFG Private Bank Short Story Award has established an international prize for a beloved form of fiction that's never been more vital.

How is the short story evolving? Where is new talent emerging? Just a few hours before the winner of the £30,000 award is announced, these questions will be debated by master storyteller, novelist and playwright Hanif Kureishi and Joe Dunthorne, known for his first novel *Submarine* and previously shortlisted for the prize. They will be joined by the literary editor of *The Sunday Times*, Andrew Holgate and some of the shortlist.

The event is chaired by Cathy Galvin, award director and deputy editor of *The Sunday Times Magazine*.

Sponsored by



Rosie Thomas 726

A Love of Travel and Adventure

4pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

Author Rosie Thomas travelled the same routes as the ancient pashmina trade, crossing the Himalayas from Ladakh to the Vale of Sringar in Kashmir, to research her recent novel *The Kashmir Shawl*. She spent time in Cairo and the desert as she worked on *Iris and Ruby*, named 2007 Romantic Novel of the Year. Here she talks about how her love of travel and adventure has inspired her writing.

Thomas has competed in the Peking to Paris car rally, sailed across the Atlantic and travelled the Silk Road through Asia. In this polar anniversary year, she recently recreated Shackleton's sea journey across the southern ocean to South Georgia, then followed his epic mountaineering journey across the island to the Stromness whaling station.

Bill Cash 703

John Bright: Statesman, Orator, Agitator

4pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

A series of *Punch* cartoons in 1878 featured John Bright alongside Disraeli and Gladstone as one of the three greatest politicians of the age. Unlike Disraeli and Gladstone, Bright's role has largely been forgotten. Bill Cash, a prominent backbench Conservative MP and descendant of Bright, sets out to put that right. Bright played a central role in most of the important political movements of the Victorian age. He was a founder of the Anti-Corn Law League and played a big part in achieving the abolition of the Corn Laws in 1846. Cash makes links between Bright and the modern Conservative Party and argues that his striving for a vibrant democracy makes him a man for our times.

Bill Cash



Sponsored by



Lawyers to the Festival

Joan Bakewell

712

She's Leaving Home**4pm / Corpus Christi College / £10**

Broadcaster and journalist Dame Joan Bakewell returns to Liverpool for her second novel, *She's Leaving Home*. It is the 1950s and Bakewell tells the story of three members of one family, a suppressed mother, a projectionist father working at a rundown cinema and their daughter Martha. Liverpool is on the verge of an unprecedented era of freedom with Beatlemania and the sexual revolution, and Bakewell chronicles the impact of this new age on the family.

Bakewell is a veteran journalist and broadcaster. She is particularly known for being the main presenter on the BBC's discussion and documentary series *Heart of the Matter* between 1988 and 2000. She has written one other novel, *All the Nice Girls*.

Joan Bakewell



Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Clare Morgan and Susan Sellers

720

Fictional Freedoms: Rewriting Virginia Woolf**4pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £10**

How might a writer go about rewriting an iconic figure like Virginia Woolf? How might this relate to Woolf's own attitude to (re)writing life – her own and that of her family and friends? Clare Morgan and Susan Sellers explore these questions through the lens of their own rewritings of Woolf, and their critical engagement with Woolf and other writers.

Clare Morgan's novel *A Book for All and None* reveals mysterious and unexpected links between Woolf and Friedrich Nietzsche, which reverberate down to the present day. Susan Sellers's *Vanessa and Virginia* imagines the intricate artistic and emotional relation between Woolf and her sister, Vanessa Bell. How might these novels relate to other 'remakings', whether in biography, stage, film or fiction? 'Fictional Freedoms' invites the audience to contribute to this consideration of a writer whose ability to compel the imagination of readers, writers and scholars throughout the world remains unabated.

Clare Morgan



Susan Sellers

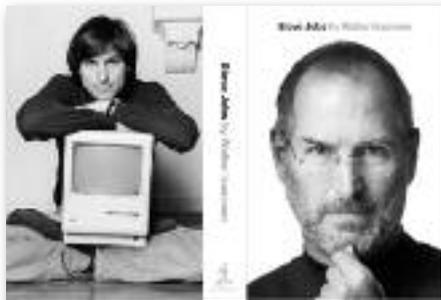


Walter Isaacson

730

Steve Jobs: The Exclusive Biography

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



Walter Isaacson has written the landmark biography of Steve Jobs, the man who gave us the Apple computer, the iPhone and the iPad. Isaacson drew on 40 exclusive interviews to paint a portrait of arguably the most innovative and creative business leader of the modern age. He uncovers the public and private life of Jobs, throwing light on his childhood, the influence of Buddhism, and his drive to explore the intersection of art and technology.

Isaacson, who is flying over from the United States to be at the festival, has written bestselling biographies of Benjamin Franklin and Albert Einstein. He was approached by Jobs to write the biography shortly before Jobs underwent his first operation for the cancer that was to eventually claim his life. Jobs encouraged those who spoke to Isaacson to be open and honest and the result is a highly acclaimed, bestselling book that captures the passions, desires, demons and artistry of its subject.

Walter Isaacson



Sponsored by The Oxford Times.

The Oxford Times

Dorothy Crawford

716

Viruses: 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.

Dorothy Crawford demonstrates how tiny parasites are by far the most abundant life forms on the planet. With up to two billion of them in each litre of sea water, viruses play a vital role in controlling the marine environment and are essential to the ocean's delicate ecosystem, says the emeritus professor of medical microbiology at the University of Edinburgh.

Dorothy Crawford



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Andy Hamilton

724

Booze For Free: Tasting and Talk**6pm / Christ Church: Hall / £10**

Carrot whisky, sloe and damson rum, parsnip sherry and pumpkin beer are all on Andy Hamilton's menu. Hamilton is an experimental brewer and expert forager who has produced a guide to making wines and beers from vegetables, fruit and foraged plants. All his recipes are cheap, easy to follow and simple to execute, with no need for expensive equipment. And there will be an opportunity to taste the results for yourself.

Hamilton is founder of the Bristol Brewing Circle and runs brewing workshops and an allotment. He writes a 'wild drinks' blog for *The Guardian* online, a foraging column for *Home Farmer* magazine and features for BBC's *Countryfile* magazine and for *Kitchen Garden* magazine. He is a frequent consultant for TV and radio.

Andy Hamilton



Photo: Roy Hunt

Sponsored by *The Litmus Partnership*

Ben Okri

732

Wild: Official Launch of a New Collection of Poetry Including Drinks Reception**6pm / Queen's College Library / £20**

Booker prize winner Ben Okri launches his first collection of poetry in more than a decade at this year's Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival. Okri will read from his new collection, *Wild*, and the launch will be followed by a drinks reception.



The poems range widely across many subjects. Some are autobiographical and some are philosophical. They treat subjects as diverse as war, love, nature and the difficulty of truly seeing. For Okri, 'wild' is an alternative to the familiar, 'where energy meets freedom, where chaos can be honed'.

Okri is author of nine novels including *The Famished Road*, which won the 1991 Booker Prize, and *Starbook*. He has published various volumes of short stories and two previous works of poetry, *African Elegy* and *Mental Fight*. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and has been awarded the OBE and a number of international prizes, including the Commonwealth Writers Prize for Africa.

Sponsored by *Chartwells***Reception and Nigerian Dinner with Ben Okri and Patti Boulaye**

736

7pm / The Queen's College / £95

Singer Patti Boulaye has designed a special Nigerian menu to mark the launch of Ben Okri's new poetry collection, *Wild*. Boulaye is a singer, painter, actor and choreographer. She has released nine albums and 25 singles and has starred in a number of West End productions. In recent years, she has been organising, presenting and producing shows for her charity Support for Africa. Boulaye will sing an African song during the event.

Sponsored by *Chartwells*

Patti Boulaye

Simon Jenkins 708

A Short History of England

**6.30pm / Christ Church: Master's Garden
Marquee / £10**

'This is English history, not as isolated stories and incidents, but as a linked biography,' says Simon Jenkins, chairman of the National Trust and author of classic books about England's best churches and best houses. 'It was in response to pleas for a return to narrative history, to the core events that shaped the English nation over time.' From the early dark ages to today's Coalition Government, the book traces England's journey through its challenges, tribulations and triumphs. Jenkins focuses on the vital dates, events and individuals, combining a strong narrative thread with telling insights to convey the country's story in this definitive, concise history of England.

Sponsored by



Lawyres to the Festival

Michael Arditti 710

I've Always Meant To Read . . . A La Recherche du Temps Perdu

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

Novelist and critic Michael Arditti shares his passion for Proust, with whom he has always felt a personal connection. He reveals why he feels this is the greatest novel of the 20th century and why you should read – or return to – this classic about love in its many forms. The nature of love is the subject of Arditti's latest novel *Jubilate*. Arditti has written seven novels including *Easter*, which won the first Waterstone's Mardi Gras award. He is a regular book reviewer for newspapers and an occasional arts critic for the BBC. This event is part of a series on books 'I've always meant to read . . .'

Philip Hensher and Zaved Mahmood. Chaired by James Hawes 718

Scenes from Early Life

6.30pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Novelist Philip Hensher discusses his new novel *Scenes from Early Life* with his husband, Zaved Mahmood, on whose early life the work is based. Mahmood was born in Dacca, then in Pakistan, in late 1970. Shortly after his birth, East and West Pakistan split during a vicious war of independence. The war led to millions of innocent deaths and the emergence of a new country, Bangladesh. *Scenes from Early Life* is part novel, part autobiography and part history of a brutal civil war.

Hensher has published a number of novels including *The Mulberry Empire*. In 2003 he was listed as one of Granta's 20 best young British novelists. His semi-autobiographical novel *The Northern Clemency* was shortlisted for the Man Booker in 2008. Mahmood is a human rights lawyer.

The discussion will be chaired by Dr James Hawes, director of creative writing at Oxford Brookes University's Department of English and Modern Languages and author of *Speak For England*, *A White Merc With Fins*, *Excavating Kafka* and *Rancid Aluminium*.



Rupert Sheldrake

719

The Science Delusion: Freeing the Spirit of Enquiry

6.30pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Biologist and writer Rupert Sheldrake is the bestselling author of *Dogs That Know When Their Owners Are Coming Home* in which he argued there was a connection between animals and humans beyond what science understood. Now, in *The Science Delusion*, he argues that science is being constricted by assumptions that have hardened into dogma. He says that science would be better off without beliefs that all reality is material or physical; that the world is a machine, made up of dead matter; that nature is purposeless; that consciousness is nothing but the physical activity of the brain; and that free will is an illusion.

Sheldrake, a former research fellow of the Royal Society, examines this dogma from a scientific viewpoint, and says science would be freer and more fun without it.

Rupert Sheldrake



Lev Grossman

725

Storytelling: The Past and Future of the American Novel

6.30pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

American writers have been trying for almost a century to move past an idea of the novel that was established by the modernists. With hybrid works – like the fiction of Michael Chabon, Paul Auster, Kelly Link, Jonathan Lethem, Neal Stephenson and Lev Grossman himself – writers are beginning to cross the divide between literary fiction and genre fiction. The old hierarchies are collapsing, and the emphasis on high style is falling away. Storytelling is becoming central to the art of the novel.

Lev Grossman is a journalist at *Time Magazine* and the author of best-selling novels *Codex*, *The Magicians* and *The Magician King*.

Read more about his talk at www.rai.ox.ac.uk

This event marks the launch of an American literature and culture strand within the festival to be based at the Rothermere American Institute of Oxford University from 2013. The RAI is the foremost academic institution for teaching and research in US culture, history and politics beyond America's shores.

Lev Grossman



In association with the Rothermere American Institute



Nick Bicât, Nicholas Pitts-Tucker 735
and Peter Champness

Perpetua: Music in the Making

7.30pm / Christ Church: Cathedral / £12

Composer Nick Bicât, librettist Nicholas Pitts-Tucker and director Peter Champness discuss the art of crafting words, music and staging for their new multimedia dramatic cantata *Perpetua*, which tells the story of the martyrdom of St Perpetua in English, Greek and Latin. The event includes extracts from the production.

Nick Bicât has written more than 150 scores for film, television and theatre, and 11 operas and musicals. Peter Champness was for 12 years a producer and director at the BBC before becoming a freelance filmmaker. Nicholas Pitts-Tucker, who studied classics at Christ Church, makes his debut as a librettist.

Presented by Christ Church Cathedral



Michelle Obama in Christ Church Great Hall, 2011



Photo: Jon Lewis/Newsquest (Oxfordshire)

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St Hilda's College Writers' Day

Saturday 31st March 2012

At the Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival, Christ Church

Chaired by Nicolette Jones, Sarah Baxter and Eileen Roberts



**The Hemlock Cup: Socrates, Athens and the Search
for the Good Life 10am**

Bettany Hughes

Murder Mystery: Bloodbath or Brainteaser? 12 noon

Simon Brett and Sophie Hannah

The State of Education, 4pm

Zeinab Badawi, Bettany Hughes, Gillian Shephard

Waiting for Sunrise, 6pm

William Boyd





Philip Pullman

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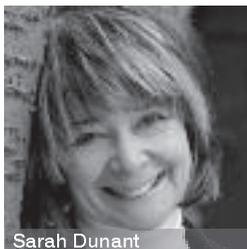
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Tower Poetry is an organization based at Christ Church, University of Oxford, which offers opportunities and resources to young British poets. The winners of the 2012 competition for 16-18 year olds in the UK will be announced on 19 April at a lunchtime reception in Christ Church.

Since 2000, when Tower Poetry was created, over 7,000 students have taken part in the annual competition, over 80 have attended 7 summer schools, 7 volumes of contemporary poetry have been published and over 10 workshops and events have been organized.

Visit www.towerpoetry.org.uk to see more and sign up for our email newsletter or join our Facebook or Twitter groups.





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

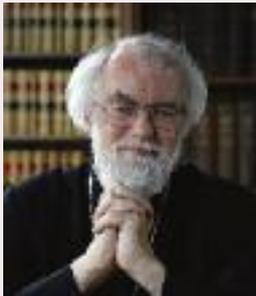
The Tenth Parallel: Dispatches from the Faultline between Christianity and Islam

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.

Sponsored by



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.

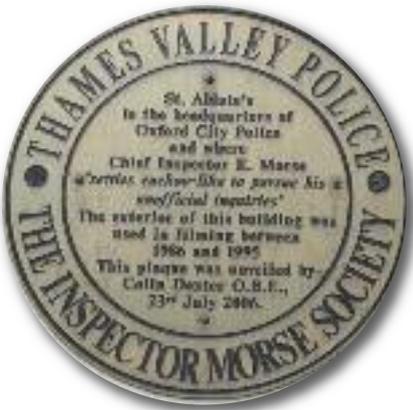
Alastair Lack



Sponsored by the *Macdonald Randolph Hotel*



**MACDONALD
RANDOLPH HOTEL**



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



Sponsored by



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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VSI



The Bodleian Library

HSBC 
Premier

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



Sponsored by



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

Sponsored by



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



Sponsored by

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

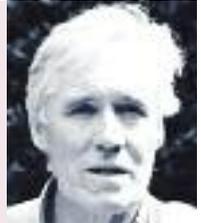
811

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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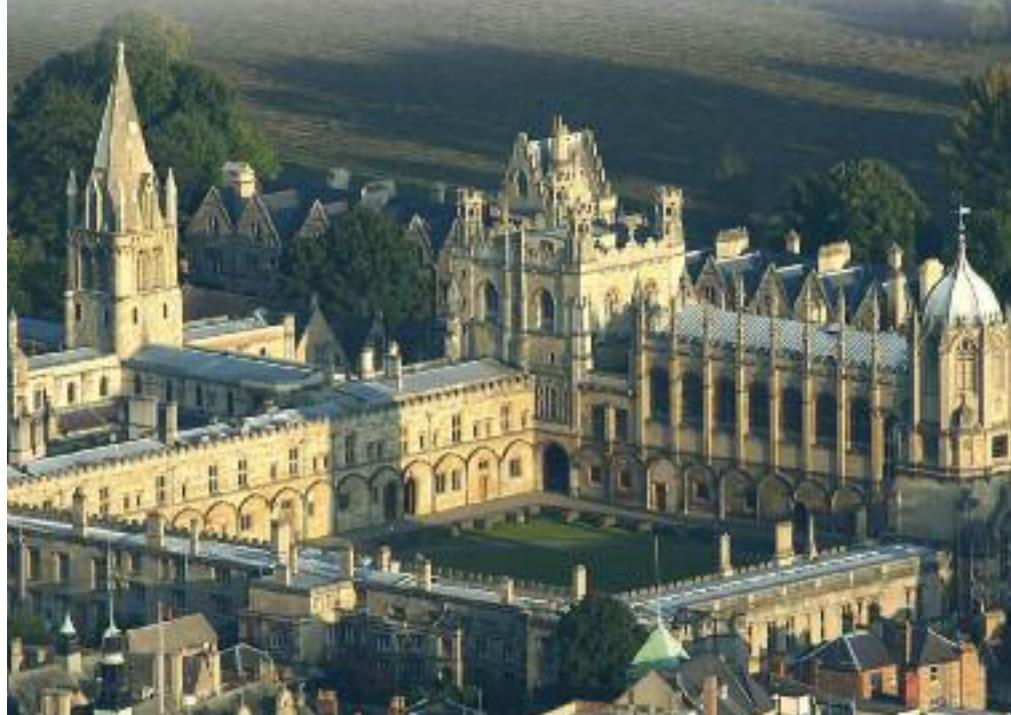
For full details please visit
the Christ Church website at:
www.chch.ox.ac.uk

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, Carlsbad, 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'; **Waltton:** 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 Reception • 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 Reception • Covered Grandstand Seat
The Bronze Package (from £79) Pre-concert and Interval Champagne Reception • 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



Sponsored by



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.

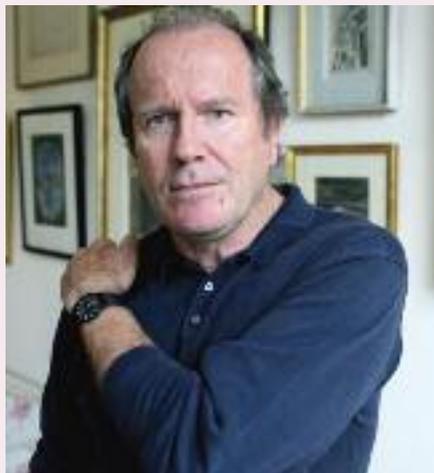
810

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

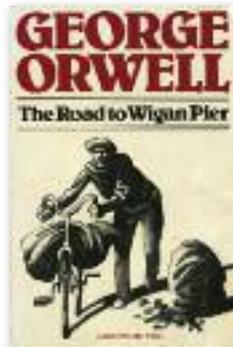
A classic of reportage, Orwell's *The Road to Wigan Pier* and the experiences he wrote about were critical in the development of his political views and his commitment to democratic socialism. Our panellists make the journey back to the 1930s, and recount their own experiences of following in Orwell's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

Sponsored by The Orwell Prize

THE ORWELL PRIZE

AN ANNUAL AWARD FOR THE BEST WRITING IN
THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



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.

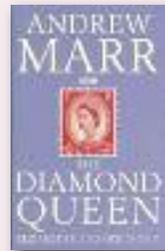
The menu for this year's closing festival dinner marks the 150th anniversary of Alice in Wonderland – and it is fit for a Queen in Jubilee year. Rightly so, as our guest speaker Andrew Marr, one of the UK's best-known broadcasters, will talk about his book of the BBC series *The Diamond Queen: Queen 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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The Litmus Partnership is proud to support The Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival 2012.

It has once again been a great pleasure to work with The Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival to assist in enhancing the festival experience. We wish the festival every success for 2012.



Whether a newly planned or established event, Litmus will assist you to significantly enhance the consumer experience and improve financial performance.

Litmus is an experienced advisor for festivals and events within Oxford and offers services including:

- Event management and co-ordination expertise
- Stewardship of Third Party arrangements:
 - ~ Food and refreshments
 - ~ Infrastructure (marquees, furnishings, equipment hire)
 - ~ Stage management
- Improved financial efficiency via cost base review and rationalisation
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The English-Speaking Union

Janie Hampton

907

The Austerity Olympics: When the Games Came to London in 1948

10am / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £10

When the Olympics came to London in 1948, post-war Britain was in an economic crisis far worse than today. Blending Heath Robinson improvisation with the spirit of Ealing Comedy, competitors brought their own towels, slept in schools and travelled by Underground. Despite food rationing and terrible weather, great Olympians such as Emil Zatopek and Fanny Blankers-Koen attracted cheering Londoners to Wembley Stadium.

Janie Hampton's meticulous research brings the era of 'Make-do and Mend' to life with songs, anecdotes and original artefacts. *The Austerity Olympics* was shortlisted for the prestigious William Hill Sports Book of the Year and was described by Peter Kemp of *The Sunday Times* as 'incredibly heartening...absolutely fascinating.'

Bert and Dickie, a film starring Matt Smith based on this book, is the BBC's contribution to the Cultural Olympiad.

Janie Hampton



Tom Holland

913

In The Shadow Of The Sword: The Battle for Global Empire and the End of the Ancient World

10am / Corpus Christi College / £10

Historian Tom Holland chronicles the end of the ancient world ruled over by the Roman and Persian empires and the rise of Islam. In the sixth century, the Near East was divided between the two ancient empires, but 100 years later it was the Arabs that ruled. Holland examines how this happened. He uncovers the dramas and the horrors of this age and portrays the remarkable leaders who played a part in the transformation.

Holland is the author of three other acclaimed works of history, *Rubicon*, *Persian Fire*, and *Millennium: The Ending of the World and the Forging of Christendom*. He has also written a number of novels.

Tom Holland



Sponsored by



Lawyers to the Festival

Choral Matins 932

Speaker Andrew Motion

10am / Christ Church: Cathedral / FREE

The speaker at this special service for Palm Sunday is Andrew Motion, former Poet Laureate.

All are welcome.

Matthew Flinders 921

Defending Politics: Why Democracy Matters in the 21st Century
10am / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £10

Have we, the public, become 'democratically decadent', taking for granted what the democratic process delivers for us? Why have we become distrustful of politicians and disillusioned about their power to deliver change and resolve social concerns? Matthew Flinders, professor of politics at the University of Sheffield, tackles these issues head on. He argues that democratic politics delivers far more than people acknowledge or understand. And he says the media, public, pressure groups, academics and politicians are part of the problem but also part of the cure.

Flinders has written a number of books on politics and government. He has acted as an adviser to the government of Thailand, and recently recorded a three-part series, *In Defence of Politics*, for BBC Radio 4.

Published by

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UNIVERSITY PRESS

Francesca Kay and Will Wiles 935
talk to Rachel Hore

Writers Round Table

10am / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Two gifted story-tellers with acclaimed novels come together to discuss their own and each others' work, as well as the joys and sorrows of writing fiction.

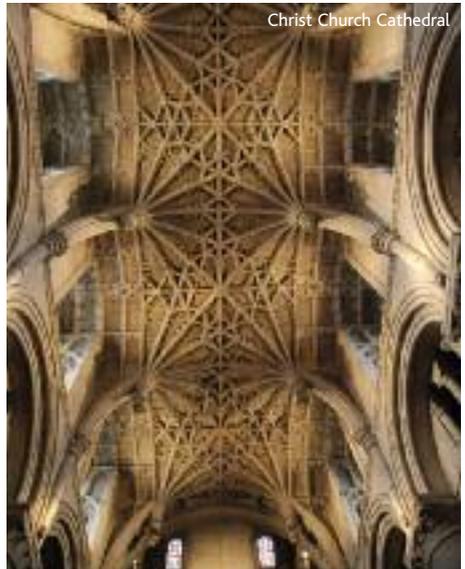
Francesca Kay, winner of the Orange Award for New Writers for *An Equal Stillness*, joins the table to discuss her new novel, *The Translation of the Bones*. Will Wiles will talk about his debut novel *Care of Wooden Floors*, described as a black comedy of death, destruction and interior decoration.

They will be in conversation with novelist Rachel Hore, author of *The Dream House*, *The Memory Garden* and *The Glass Painter's Daughter*, shortlisted for Romantic Novel of the Year 2010.

Will Wiles



Christ Church Cathedral



D J Taylor and Sadie Jones. 927
Chaired by Ross King

Historic Mystery: Enveloping the Reader in the Past

10am / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

Two award-winning writers, D J Taylor and Sadie Jones, discuss the art of writing historical mystery – the importance of atmosphere and characterisation and of creating a storyline for modern readers whilst authentically recreating the past.

Taylor's new novel *Secondhand Daylight* is set in the 1930s and follows struggling writer James Ross in Soho as Mosley's Blackshirts prowl the streets. It is the sequel to *At The Chime of a City Clock* which won praise for its evocation of the sleazy side of 1930s London.

Jones's latest novel *The Uninvited Guests* is a mystery set in an Edwardian manor house in 1912. Her first work *The Outcast* won the Costa First Novel Award and was praised for its portrayal of the repressive social climate of the 1950s.

The event is chaired by Ross King, a novelist and art historian whose books include *Brunelleschi's Dome* and *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*.

D J Taylor



Sadie Jones



Photo: Charlie Hopkinson

Clare Beaton 931

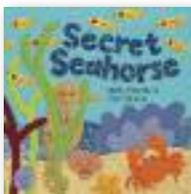
The Secret Seahorse

10am / Christ Church: JCR / £5 Age 3-6

Clare Beaton has illustrated more than 25 books in fabric collage using felt, fabrics, buttons, sequins and other bric-a-brac.

She will be bringing original artwork and showing you how to create your very own fabric collage picture. Based on her popular book, *Secret Seahorse*, dive down amongst the sparkling seas and hide a seahorse amongst the fronds!

Clare Beaton



Sponsored by



Anne Tyler talks to Peter Kemp 917

The Beginner's Goodbye

11am / Sheldonian Theatre / £10 - £25

This is a very rare opportunity to see and hear the hugely popular Pulitzer-prize-winning US author Anne Tyler in the UK. Tyler is flying over from the US specially to talk to *The Sunday Times* chief fiction reviewer Peter Kemp about her new novel, *The Beginner's Goodbye*, due to be published in April, and to accept the *Sunday Times* Award for Literary Excellence from the newspaper's literary editor Andrew Holgate.

The Beginner's Goodbye is a story about love and marriage and about two people so close they cannot be separated by death. Dorothy dies in an accident, leaving Aaron bereft. He keeps himself busy working for the family publishing firm, and then Dorothy starts to appear in the strangest places, at first for a short while, and then for longer. They talk and then they argue.

Tyler lives in Baltimore, where her novels are set. Her works include the Pulitzer-Prize-winning *Breathing Lessons* and a series of bestsellers, including *The Accidental Tourist*, *Saint Maybe*, *Back When We Were Grown-ups*, *The Amateur Marriage*, *Digging to America* and *Noah's Compass*. She has twice been shortlisted for the Orange prize and was shortlisted for the International Man Booker in 2011.

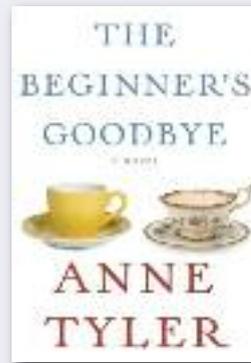
'2012 is the 25th year of the *Sunday Times* Award for Literary Excellence. Since 1987, the prize has been given to a remarkable range of authors, from Anthony Burgess, Muriel Spark and Margaret Atwood to Ted Hughes, Seamus Heaney and John le Carre. I can think of no modern English-language author, though, who more deserves to be added to that list than Anne Tyler. The apparent effortlessness of her prose is matched by her empathy for her characters, the depth of her human understanding and the consistency of her literary vision. Readers the world over treasure Anne Tyler for the profound way she seems to peer into their hearts, and we are thrilled that she has decided to make this rare visit to the UK to accept the award.'

Andrew Holgate, *Sunday Times* literary editor

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Geraint Lewis: geraint@geraintlewis.com

Inspector Morse
with Alastair Lack 928

**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.

Sponsored by the Macdonald Randolph Hotel



Christopher Lloyd 925

What on Earth Happened?

**11.10 / 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



Carvery Lunch 934

**Family Carvery
Lunch in Hogwarts Hall**

12 noon / Christ Church: Hall / £27

£27 Two-course adults' menu

**£18 Two-course children's menu
(suitable for age 10 and under)**

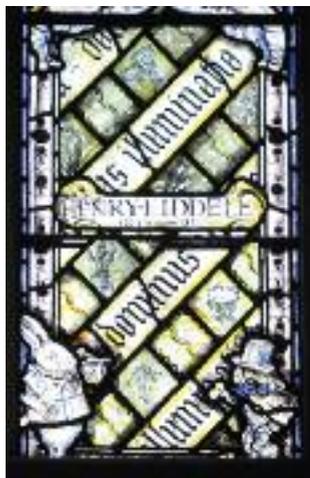
Come and enjoy a traditional carvery Sunday lunch in Hall at Christ Church under the direction of head chef Chris Simms and hall manager Andrew Hedges.

Make your choice of roast beef or roast pork belly with all the trimmings from the carvery. This will be followed by a traditional British pudding, served to your table, with coffee to follow. Small portions of the same menu are available for children under 10 years of age.

The Hall reflects Christ Church's long association with children's literature. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* was inspired and written in this college by Lewis Carroll. His portrait and the Alice Window can both be seen here. More recently, the Hall was used as the model for the dining hall of Hogwarts in the Harry Potter films.

The carvery lunch will be served in two sittings. This is the first sitting at 12pm. Enjoy a leisurely lunch with family and friends. Each sitting is located in a separate section of the Great Hall – so there are no time pressures.

150 places



Alice Window,
Christ Church
Great Hall

Andrew Motion

922

Silver: A Sequel to Treasure Island**12 noon / Christ Church: Master's Garden
Marquee / £10**

Photo: Charlotte Kree

Former poet laureate Sir Andrew Motion discusses *Silver*, his eagerly awaited sequel to Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*. *Silver* is due to be published in April and picks up the story in 1802 at an inn run by Jim Hawkins and his son young Jim. Young Jim is visited by a mysterious girl called Natty who has a request from her father, Long John Silver. The pirate wants the pair to sail to Treasure Island in search of silver, and so the pair set off in the footsteps of their fathers to meet with some thrilling adventures.

Sir Andrew was poet laureate from 1999 until 2003. He is professor of creative writing at Royal Holloway, University of London, and was knighted for his services to literature in 2009. He has published many works of poetry, biography and fiction. His most recent works include *The Cinder Path*, a collection of poems; *Ways of Life: On Places, Painters and Poets*, a collection of essays; and *In the Blood: A Memoir of my Childhood*.

Sponsored by *The Oxford Times*.

The Oxford Times

Katherine Rundell

910

The Joy of Writing, Reading and Cartwheels**12 noon / Christ Church: Festival Room 2 / £5
Age 9+**

Katherine Rundell is the author of *The Girl Savage* and the youngest fellow at All Soul's College, Oxford. Come along and hear her talk about how books are made, from first sitting down with a head full of ideas to the fantastic fun of writing blurbs. She will discuss why poetry is better than coffee, where ideas might come from – her best ones happen when she is doing handstands against the wall – and why she begins each day with a cartwheel. Because, in fact, reading is almost exactly the same as cartwheeling: it turns the world upside down, and leaves you breathless.

Katherine Rundell



Sponsored by



Andrew Gibson

919

I've always meant to read . . . *Ulysses*

12 noon / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Have you ever put this epic book aside as a 'maybe later'? A conversation with Andrew Gibson will transform your understanding of the book by putting it into its historical context and explaining its purpose. Gibson is a former trustee of the International James Joyce Foundation, permanent advisory editor to the *James Joyce Quarterly*, and director for 26 years of the London University seminar for research into *Ulysses* and its author. His works include two Oxford University Press books, *Joyce's Revenge* and *The Strong Spirit*, which is published in 2012. This event is part of a series on 'books I've always meant to read'.

Andrew Gibson



Kristina Stephenson

916

Songs, Secrets and Stinky Socks: Sir Charlie Returns

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

Join bestselling author/illustrator and festival favourite Kristina Stephenson for a wonderful hour of interactive musical storytelling based on her latest book *Sir Charlie Stinky Socks and the Tale of the Terrible Secret*, complete with hilarious songs and silly sound effects.

Kristina Stephenson



Sponsored by



Anthony Sattin

923

Introduced by Jaromir Malek

Two Centuries of Travel in Egypt

12 noon / Christ Church: Cathedral School / £10

Journalist and acclaimed writer on history and travel Anthony Sattin returns to the festival to talk about two centuries of travel by westerners to Egypt.

In his work *A Winter on the Nile*, Sattin follows the 19th-century journeys in Egypt of Florence Nightingale and French novelist Gustave Flaubert. They both arrived in the country at the same time and before they shot to fame, one as a saviour of wounded soldiers and the other as the writer of *Madame Bovary*. *Lifting the Veil* tells the story of western travellers to Egypt from the explorer James Bruce in 1768 to the 1956 Suez Crisis.

Sattin is a journalist, broadcaster and writer whose main interest is the Middle East and Africa. He is a regular contributor to *The Sunday Times* travel and books pages. His TV appearances include the BBC series *The Tourist* and *The Thirties in Colour*. Sattin will be introduced by Dr Jaromir Malek, an Egyptologist and author who recently retired as keeper of the archives at the Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford.

Anthony Sattin



In association with The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies



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Adrian Levy and
Cathy Scott-Clark
Chaired by Patrick Jephson

242

The Meadow: Kidnapped in
Kashmir

12 noon / Corpus Christi College / £10

Journalists Adrian Levy and Cathy Scott-Clark tell the definitive story of the 1995 kidnapping in Kashmir of a group of backpackers and of how it changed the face of jihad and sowed the seeds for a war against the West. It is a story of a terrifying escape, secret letters and a horrific beheading.

Levy and Scott-Clark had access to diaries, letters, classified police reports and secret tape recordings of Indian government negotiations. They also spoke to some of the jihadis involved. Levy and Scott-Clark will discuss the story as well as wider questions about investigative journalism, its importance, whether it is a force for good and what drives people to take it up as a career.

The event is chaired by Patrick Jephson, an editor, broadcaster and *New York Times* bestselling author whose latest book, an introduction to Azerbaijan, is to be published later this year.

Supported by

Ian and Carol Sellars



Carvery Lunch

933

Family Carvery
Lunch in Hogwarts Hall

1pm / Christ Church: Hall / £27

£27 Two-course adults' menu

£18 Two-course children's menu
(suitable for age 10 and under)

Come and enjoy a traditional carvery Sunday lunch in Hall at Christ Church under the direction of head chef Chris Simms and hall manager, Andrew Hedges.

Make your choice of roast beef or roast pork belly with all the trimmings from the carvery. This will be followed by a traditional British pudding, served to your table, with coffee to follow. Small portions of the same menu are available for children under 10 years of age.

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The carvery lunch will be served in two sittings. This is the second sitting at 1pm. Enjoy a leisurely lunch with family and friends. Each sitting is located in a separate section of the Great Hall – so there are no time pressures.

150 places



Bill Manley

901

A Two-Hour Masterclass in Egyptian Hieroglyphs for Young or Old

2pm / Christ Church: Festival Room 1 / £15

An understanding of Egyptian hieroglyphs brings to life a world of fascinating monuments, kings and ancient society. In this two-hour masterclass aimed at anyone 12 or over, renowned Egyptologist Bill Manley takes a fresh and accessible approach to this ancient language, explaining the mysteries of hieroglyphs without jargon or technical terms. He assumes no knowledge of grammar or ancient languages and will guide you through inscriptions on a series of stelae, tombs and objects.

Manley has taught Egyptology and hieroglyphs for 20 years and is the author of several bestselling books on ancient Egypt.

Bill Manley



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Penelope Harper

904

Safari Stories: Storytelling and Craft with Lollipop and Grandpa

2pm / Christ Church: JCR / £5 **Ages 3-7**

Little Lollipop and her Grandpa are intrepid explorers, always on the lookout for the next adventure. On a safari round their back garden, they find all sorts of exciting things – there are Chimpan-trees, a Hippo-potta-compost, even a Croco-logus! Come and listen to author, broadcaster and storyteller Penelope Harper reading their stories, then help her make and decorate a giant garden for Lollipop and Grandpa.

Sponsored by



Alain de Botton

902

Religion for Atheists: A Non-Believers Guide to the Uses of Religion

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

Essayist Alain de Botton says the supernatural claims of religions are entirely false, but religions have much to teach the secular world. He steps into the sometimes acrimonious debate between atheists and believers and argues that atheists and agnostics should stop mocking religion. Instead, they should steal from religions the good ideas they have on how we should live and how we should run our communities. De Botton, whose works have been described as 'a philosophy of everyday life', says religion can help us to foster our relationships, to get more out of art, and to overcome feelings of envy and inadequacy.



Ali Bader, Inaam Kachachi and Samuel Shimon. 906

Chaired by Alastair Niven

Celebrating Iraqi Culture: A Nation Shaped by Conflict

2pm / Christ Church: Blue Boar / £10

Three leading Iraqi authors debate the impact of war on their country and its effect on the nation's cultural identity exactly nine years on from the allied invasion. Ali Bader, Inaam Kachachi and Samuel Shimon are all prestigious writers and have recently published novels that reflect on the state of the nation.

Bader, author of ten novels who has previously been longlisted for the Arab Booker, the International Prize for Arabic Fiction, recently published *The Tobacco Keeper*. In it, a journalist and former member of Saddam's army returns to Baghdad to try to uncover the circumstances surrounding the death of a celebrated violinist.

Kachachi's *The American Granddaughter* was shortlisted for the International Prize for Arabic Fiction in 2009. It features an Iraqi-American who returns to her homeland as an interpreter for US forces and finds herself torn between competing allegiances. Kachachi was born in Iraq but now lives in France. She writes for Arabic newspapers and has previously written three books.

In Shimon's *An Iraqi in Paris*, a young Iraqi writer sets out to become a Hollywood film maker but ends up as a refugee on the streets of Paris. Shimon is an Assyrian writer who was born in Iraq. He is assistant editor of *Banipal*, the leading magazine of Arabic literature in English.

The event is chaired by Dr Alastair Niven, principal of Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, and author of several books on post-colonial writing.



Samuel Shimon

Ali Bader

Supported by
Ian and Carol Sellars

Steve Bloom and Gill Lewis 909

Wildlife Tales: Sky Hawk and My Favourite Animals

2pm / Corpus Christi College / £5

Steve Bloom, distinguished wildlife photographer, and Gill Lewis, author of the acclaimed children's novel *Sky Hawk*, offer a spectacularly illustrated double presentation for lovers of animals and birds about the creatures that have inspired their work.

Bloom was born and raised in South Africa but now lives in the UK. He is the author of many photography books including *Living Africa* and *Spirit of the Wild*, and his latest children's books *My Favourite Animal Families* and *My Big Cats Journal*. *Sky Hawk*, which has been nominated for the 2012 Red House Book Awards, is Lewis's first novel. It is a wildlife adventure that tells of the battle to protect an osprey through the eyes of children.

Steve Bloom



Gill Lewis



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Creative Writing at Aberystwyth University

In recent years, Aberystwyth University has established itself as one of the leaders in the expanding field of Creative Writing Studies. In addition to an undergraduate degree in English and Creative Writing, the University offers two postgraduate degrees in the subject: the one-year MA in Creative Writing and the three-year PhD in Creative Writing.

Both are available in either full- or part-time mode. If you already have a first degree (in any subject) and are interested in exploring your potential as a writer within a firmly structured and imaginatively sustaining academic framework, please contact us at the address below for further information.

Facing the sea and surrounded to landward by rolling green hills in one of Britain's most notably unspoiled areas, Aberystwyth provides an inspiring environment for writers. With a 130-year history of academic excellence to its credit, the University blends traditional values with a thoughtfully progressive outlook. The Department of English was rated 'excellent' in the most recent teaching assessment exercise.

Further advantages of enrolling at Aberystwyth include access to the National Library of Wales (five minutes' walk from the English Department) and a thriving university-based Arts Centre.

For information on the MA and PhD programmes, please contact:

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Tel. (01970) 621946 (International: +44 1970 621946)

For information on the undergraduate degree, please contact:

Mrs June Baxter email: mjb@aber.ac.uk
Tel. (01970) 622534 (International: +44 1970 622534)

Pictures: Stephen Gill



JAMIE OLIVER'S FABULOUS FEASTS



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EVENT CATERING JUST GOT STONKINGLY* GOOD

A HOME IS BETTER THAN A HOUSE, A FRIEND IS BETTER
THAN A STRANGER... A FEAST IS BETTER THAN A MEAL!

* STONKINGLY (stɒŋk)

- *vb* 1. to up the ante, challenge the mundane and engage customers with a truly unique offering.

- *n* 2. a concentrated bombardment of all things tasting beautiful.

... ~ Taken from the complete and unabridged 1st edition of Catering Blurbionary ~

The team at Jamie Oliver's Fabulous Feasts are excited to be supporting The Oxford Literary Festival 2012 - close to the home of our head kitchen - with the catering for this year's event and do hope you enjoy getting stuck in!

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Simon and Alex Scarrow 912

The Scarrow Brothers' Great Big Roman Quiz

2pm / Christ Church Cathedral School / £5

Age: 10+

Simon Scarrow has written many novels for adults set in Roman times. The second book in his new young adult series, *Gladiator: Streetfighter*, is now out, just as his brother Alex's young-adult science-fiction series *Time Riders* has a new volume also venturing into ancient history, *Gates of Rome*. Come along to an exciting event where both the Scarrows talk about the latest books in their adventure series. Get the low-down on the brothers and their books as they take it in turns to grill each other, followed by a high-octane, dynamic Great Big Roman Quiz.

Alex Scarrow



Sponsored by



Alastair Lack 929

Literary Oxford with Alastair Lack

2pm-4pm / Meet outside St. John's College, St Giles / £25

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

Rachel Hore and D J Taylor. 920
Chaired by Katy Guest.

Can a book change your life?

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

'A book that will change your life'. Words that often appear on book covers today. But is it really possible for any book to have a life-changing effect on its reader? *Independent on Sunday* literary editor Katy Guest poses this question to novelist, biographer, reviewer and critic D J Taylor, and to novelist Rachel Hore, who teaches publishing at the University of East Anglia. Then it will be over to you the audience to share your experiences of books that affected your life – and also of those that did not live up to the promise on the cover.

Rachel Hore



Christopher Lloyd 926

What on Earth Evolved?

3.10 / 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



Gaby Hinsliff, Martin Moore, 930
Lance Price and David Smith.
Chaired by Jean Seaton
Politics and the Press

4pm / Christ Church Cathedral School / £10

The courtroom drama of the Leveson Inquiry into press ethics has featured journalists, editors and victims of press intrusion in the lead roles – but the relationship between politicians and the press is also at the centre of events. A former national political editor, a campaigner for the public inquiry and historian of spin, a former spin doctor and journalist, and a Sunday Times journalist consider what the next act might be for politics and the press.

Gaby Hinsliff is the former political editor of *The Observer*. She is the author of *Half A Wife: The Working Family's Guide to Getting a Life Back*. Martin Moore is director of the Media Standards Trust and one of the founders of the Hacked Off campaign. He is also the author of *The Origins of Modern Spin*. Lance Price is a former journalist and former director of communications for the Labour Party. He is now a writer and broadcaster, and author of *The Spin Doctor's Diary* and *Where Power Lies: Prime Ministers v the Media*. David Smith is economics editor of *The Sunday Times* and regularly appears as a commentator on radio and television. Discussions will be chaired by Jean Seaton, director of the Orwell Prize.

Gaby Hinsliff



Sponsored by



Peter Carey talks to Peter Kemp 905

The 2012 Bodley Lecture:
The Chemistry of Tears

Followed by Award of the
Bodley Medal to Peter Carey

4pm / Sheldonian Theatre / £15-50

One of the greatest living authors Peter Carey talks to *The Sunday Times* chief fiction reviewer Peter Kemp on the eve of publication of his new novel, *The Chemistry of Tears*. This is a rare opportunity to hear the twice-Booker-winning author – and one not to be missed by festival-goers. Publication of Carey's new novel is a landmark literary event and follows the huge success of his last novel, *Parrot and Olivier in America*. *The Chemistry of Tears* is a rich tale with historical themes. Based in present-day London and 19th-century Germany, it follows museum conservator Catherine Gehrig as she mourns the loss of her lover of 13 years. Tasked with bringing a 19th-century mechanical creature back to life, she discovers the notebooks of the man who originally commissioned it. The stories are interwoven and together explore the mysteries of human invention, love, feeling, life and death.

At the end of this event, Carey will be presented with the Bodley Medal by Bodley's Librarian, Dr Sarah Thomas. The medal is awarded by the Bodleian Libraries of the University of Oxford to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the worlds of culture, science, and communication. Past winners include writer and actor Alan Bennett, film director Lord Richard Attenborough and inventor of the world wide web Sir Tim Berners-Lee.



Photo: Ashley Gilbertson

Presented by the Bodleian Library



Jon McGregor

908

This Isn't the Sort of Thing That Happens to Someone Like You

4pm / Corpus Christi College / £10

Acclaimed author and travelling salesman Jon McGregor will use photos, videos, maps and a suitcase full of props to perform and tell a selection of stories from his new book *This Isn't The Sort Of Thing That Happens To Someone Like You*. Short stories in the collection centre on events that you may not imagine happening to you, but sometimes do. A woman is almost killed when a sugar-beet crashes through her windscreen; a boy sets fire to a barn; a father is arrested when he tries to watch his daughter's nativity play; and a pair of labourers sit by a lake, talking of shovels and sex, while fighter planes fly overhead in preparation for war. The stories are delicate, dangerous and sometimes deeply funny. McGregor, winner of the Betty Trask Prize and Somerset Maugham Award, is author of three novels, *If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things*, *So Many Ways to Begin* and *Even the Dogs*.

Jon McGregor



Photo: Dan Sinclair

Corpus Christi
College Oxford

Declan Kiberd

915

Chaired by Eóin Flannery

Culture and the Irish Future

4pm / Christ Church: Blur Boar / £10

Declan Kiberd is the Donald and Marilyn Keough Professor of Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, USA, where he teaches in the English department and Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies. He is one of the leading international authorities on the literature of Ireland, both in the English and the Irish languages, and has authored numerous influential articles and books, including: *Synge and the Irish Language*, *Men and Feminism in Irish Literature*, *Inventing Ireland*, *Irish Classics*, *The Irish Writer and the World*, and, most recently, *Ulysses and Us: The Art of Everyday Living* on Joyce's masterpiece.

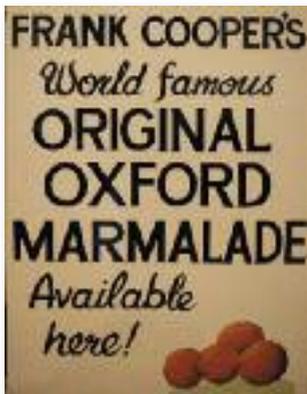
The event is presented by Oxford Brookes University and chaired by Dr Eóin Flannery, of the university's Department of English and Modern Languages.

Eóin Flannery



Presented by Oxford Brookes University

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY



Liz Kessler, Gareth P Jones,
Simon Hart and Amanda Askew
Chaired by a Mystery Celebrity

914

Blue Peter Book Award

4.30pm / Christ Church: Hall / £6

Age 7+



Liz Kessler



Gareth P Jones



Simon Hart



Amanda Askew

The children's events at the Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival reach their grand finale in the hall that was the model for Hogwarts Hall in the Harry Potter films. The four shortlisted authors in the Blue Peter Book of the Year Award will tell you about their outstanding books – Liz Kessler's time-travel story *A Year Without Autumn*; Gareth P Jones's hilarious tale of a teenage werewolf, *The Considine Curse*; Simon Hart's timely and fascinating *Countdown to the London 2012 Olympic Games*; and the eyebrow-raising *Discover the Extreme Planet*, presented by its editor Amanda Askew. Entry is free to the first 50 Blue Peter badge holders accompanied by a paying adult. Booking is by phone only and you must show your badge on the door.



Lady Almina and the Real
Downton Abbey

109

12 noon / Corpus Christi College / £10

Millions of people tuned in to the first two series of *Downton Abbey* on ITV. One of the stars of the programme is Highclere Castle, a Victorian castle near Newbury, where the series was filmed. Highclere Castle is home to the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon.

Lady Fiona Carnarvon, the eighth countess, uncovers the story behind the real Downton Abbey – and it proves to be even more remarkable than fiction. The book covers the same period as the first two series of Downton Abbey. It begins in 1894 with the marriage of 19-year-old Lady Almina into the Carnarvon family and covers the period of the Great War.

Lady Carnarvon provides a fascinating insight into what life was really like upstairs and downstairs at Highclere.

Lady Fiona Carnarvon



HSBC 
Premier

Corpus Christi
College Oxford 

42 St Giles' Dentists

C.S.Lewis

was married at 42 St Giles' in 1956

Alastair and Wendy Nash

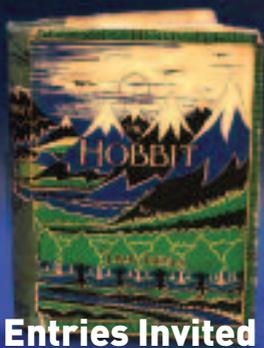
opened their dental practice in 2011



Visit the rooms
where Lewis and
Joy Davidman
were married

Open house
during the Oxford
Literary Festival

42stgiles.com



Entries Invited



Mallams

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Thursday 21st June 2012

Closing date for entries:
6th June 2012

Including: Selected Books &
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& Wine

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for further information
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Oxford, OX1 2EB



STAYING AT CHRIST CHURCH

Those staying at Christ Church

May enter via Tom Tower at all times.

Stay at Christ Church

The Festival has arranged for visitors to stay at Christ Church, one of Oxford's largest colleges, in the heart of the historic city, and where most of the festival events are taking place.

To book accommodation at Christ Church at special festival rates, please go to:

www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org

All bookings should be made on-line. If you are experiencing technical difficulties please follow the *Any Questions* link on the website. If you need to enquire about your booking please follow the instructions on your confirmation email. For any other enquiries please call our helpline number – 01865 286848 – which is available on weekdays between 9am and 1pm and 2pm and 5pm.

If Christ Church is full, accommodation can be booked at nearby historic colleges.

Access for the disabled at Christ Church

Please see Accessibility and Safety on pages 218-219 for full information. There is a map on page 223 showing the disabled access points.

 The North Wall
Arts Centre

THEATRE



26 May, 2pm & 7pm

The Girl with the Iron Claws

by The Wrong Crowd

A captivating, dark fairy-tale for young and old.
Tickets £10 and £7

31 May, 1 & 2 June, 8pm

Minsk

by Belarus Free Theatre in association with Fuel

A provocative and heartbreaking show from a revolutionary company. Tickets £15 and £11

Box Office: 01865 319450
www.thenorthwall.com



Photo: KT Bruce



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ARRIVAL, ACCESSIBILITY AND SAFETY

The festival mainly takes place in Christ Church, with other venues at Corpus Christi, Merton College, the Sheldonian Theatre, the Bodleian Library, and Queen's College. The festival's address is Christ Church, St Aldate's, Oxford OX1 1DP. The main festival marquee is just south of Christ Church in the Meadows, off St Aldate's. We recommend visitors going to Corpus Christi events to enter via the festival marquee.

Arriving

By train

Oxford is well served from all areas of the country, and the station is a 20-minute walk or five-minute taxi-drive from the festival.

By coach

The coach station at Gloucester Green is a 15-minute walk from the festival. The London buses stop either outside Christ Church, in St Aldate's, or in High Street, depending on the provider.

By car

Street parking is extremely limited. The closest public car park is the Westgate Car Park, which is a five-minute walk from the festival. Park and ride is very efficient, and the buses from the Redbridge park and ride stop outside the festival.

Disabled badge holder designated parking is available in Oriol Square (adjacent to Canterbury Gate) and in St Aldate's (immediately to the south of Tom Gate).

Festival-goers with limited ambulant ability may be dropped off and picked up from the entrance to the marquee, accessed via the cobbled road, 75 yards to the south of Tom Gate, or at Tom Gate itself for events taking place in the Junior Common Room, Music Room, Festival Rooms 1 & 2, the McKenna Room, Hall, the Cathedral and Blue Boar Lecture Theatre.

These are strictly drop-off/pick-up points only: car parking is not available on the festival site at Christ Church.

Accessibility and safety

Christ Church has introduced a number of measures to support visitors with disabilities and further improvements are being actively planned and programmed. If you require further detailed information, please consult the Christ Church website www.chch.ox.ac where an Access to Christ Church leaflet is available and may be downloaded. You are also welcome to contact the Christ Church Porters' Lodge (01865 276150 and 01865 276151).

Entrances, Quads and Gardens

The main access to the festival is via the War Memorial Garden on St Aldate's. There is ramped access within the War Memorial Garden, leading to the level area of the Broad Walk and the entrance to the festival marquee. Please take care when crossing the vehicular route that traverses this entrance.

There is ramped access to Tom Quad from St Aldate's via Tom Gate. Visitors attending events in the Music Room and Junior Common Room are welcome to enter via Tom Gate.

Accessible Toilets

Wheelchair user unisex accessible toilets are provided adjacent to the Festival Marquee, at Blue Boar Lecture Theatre and in Tom Quad (beneath the Hall). Please ask a festival volunteer or college custodian for directions.

Induction Loops for the Hard of Hearing

Induction loops for hearing aid users are provided in sections of the Master's Garden Marquee, in Blue Boar Lecture Theatre, the Cathedral, Festival Room 2, Corpus Christi College's MBI Al Jaber Building, Merton College's TS Eliot Theatre, Queen's College The Shulman Auditorium, the Divinity School, Convocation House and the main auditorium of the Sheldonian Theatre.

Assistance Dogs

Assistance dogs are welcome. Other dogs are not permitted.

Paths and Lighting

Christ Church is a historic building that has grown over several centuries. It was not built in line with contemporary building norms. Buildings and external areas are maintained to a good standard, but please note that level walking surfaces may not be encountered everywhere. The college maintains levels of lighting appropriate to the environment. Festival-goers are asked to take special care at all times.

Comments and Suggestions and the Disability Equality Scheme

In accordance with good practice, Christ Church operates a Disability Equality Scheme. This is kept under active review, taking into account the views of visitors and others. Comments and suggestions are welcomed at any time, and may be directed to the Steward of Christ Church by letter, telephone (01865 286580) or e-mail (steward@chch.ox.ac.uk).

Fire Safety Evacuation

To ensure safe evacuation of wheelchair users in case of emergency, it may occasionally be necessary to place a limit on the number of wheelchair users at a given event. Evac-chairs are provided and duty volunteers trained to assist. A safety briefing for all festival-goers is provided at the start of each event.

Venue Accessibility

- **Cathedral:** there is ramped access to and level going throughout the Cathedral. An induction loop is provided for hearing aid users.
- **The Hall and the McKenna Room:** these areas are accessed via a flight of 25 stone steps with a stone balustrade to each side and a large landing. From the top of the steps, there is a further step into the McKenna Room and a further two steps into the Ante Hall, from which point level going access to the Hall is available. A wheelchair user platform lift has been introduced: this is located beneath the Hall stairs and is reached from the level-going upper level of Tom Quad. This lift accommodates one wheelchair user and a carer or companion. Detailed operating instructions are provided and the duty custodian will be glad to provide assistance. (A local portable ramp provides wheelchair user access from the Ante Hall to the McKenna Room).
- **Festival Room 1:** this is on the first floor and not wheelchair user accessible. It is reached up a flight of 28 steps, with handrail to one side and a half landing.
- **Festival Room 2:** this is on the ground floor and ramped and stepped access are provided.
- **Master's Garden Marquee:** there is level-going access from the Broad Walk.
- **Music Room and Junior Common Room:** although located at ground floor level, there is stepped access to these rooms. Wheelchair users booking events are asked to provide advance notification so that a temporary ramp may be provided.
- **The Lee Building including the Freind Room:** this is approached across a cobbled quadrangle and accessed up a flight of 10 steps. Rooms at upper levels within the Lee Building are not accessible to wheelchair users; stairclimber access to the Freind Room will gladly be provided: advance notice is requested so that suitable arrangements can be made.
- **The Kitchen:** this is wheelchair user accessible from the kitchen yard, access to which will gladly be provided, subject to advance notice.
- **Christ Church Library:** Events held in the Upper Library are not accessible to wheelchair users. There are three steps up from the exterior level going to the ground floor lobby which is reached through a very heavy inward opening timber door. Ascent to the Upper Library is by a flight of 40 (21 then 19) smooth stone steps without nosings and with a single handrail. These steps can be slippery and care should be taken. An induction loop for hearing aid users is available.



Oxford Access Audits Ltd

A specialist consultancy helping businesses, organisations and institutions to meet their obligations to people with disabilities.

Accredited with the National Register of Access Consultants (NRAC) and pleased to support the Oxford Literary Festival.

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www.accessibilityoxford.co.uk

ARRIVAL, ACCESSIBILITY AND SAFETY

- **The MBI Al Jaber Building in Corpus Christi College:** there is level-going access for wheelchair users via the college's principal entrance in Merton Street. Directional signage is provided within the Corpus Christi College precincts. It will be noted that, within Christ Church, stepped and ramped access from the upper level walkway in Tom Quad into the Cathedral Garden is provided: part of this route is, however, not suitable for wheelchair users and the directions given above are recommended. An induction loop for hearing aid users is available.
- **Christ Church Cathedral School (William Walton Hall):** this is on the west side of St Aldate's, opposite the festival's main entrance. Level-going access to the William Walton Hall is provided via Brewer Street and the school's playground.
- **The Sheldonian Theatre:** this is fully accessible to wheelchair users from Broad Street and then through door E to the main hall. Wheelchair users are normally offered places within the central 'D' at ground level. A wheelchair user accessible toilet is provided at ground level close to the entrance. An induction loop system is provided in the main auditorium for hearing aid users.
- **The Bodleian Library (Divinity Schools and Convocation House):** badge holder designated parking is provided in Broad Street. Works are currently in hand to improve accessibility. For further information please contact the disability librarian, Teresa Pedroso on 01865 283861. An induction loop for hearing aid users is available.
- **Merton College and the TS Eliot Theatre:** level-going wheelchair user access is provided from Rose Lane. There are designated wheelchair user spaces within the theatre and the accessible lift is provided to the upper level. A wheelchair user accessible toilet is provided. An induction loop system is provided for hearing aid users.
- **Oriel College (Senior Library):** there are 40 steps to the Senior Library with no lift or stairclimber. Visitors with limited ambulant ability are advised to call ahead to secure a parking space directly outside the college in Oriel Square where there are five spaces. Telephone: 01865 276555.
- **The Queen's College (The Shulman Auditorium):** situated on the main college site and has level access. The auditorium has accessible toilet facilities and wheelchair space at the front of the tiered seating. The auditorium is fitted with an induction loop. Wheelchair access is via the Library Gate in Queen's Lane. Please contact the lodge in advance on (01865) 279120 to gain access via Library Gate.





The Radcliffe Camera – Bodleian Library

Prior to the Festival (up to 2pm on Friday 23rd March)

Tickets can be bought as follows:

- **In person:** Tickets can be booked at the box office at Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford OX1 2LW. The box office opening hours are Monday to Saturday, 10am to 6pm
- **By telephone:** Please call: 0870 343 1001. The box office opening hours are Monday to Saturday, 10am to 6pm
- **Online:** Please visit www.oxfordliteraryfestival.org
- **NB:** No fax bookings can be accepted

All tickets booked **prior to Thursday 8 March**, either by telephone or online, will be mailed on Thursday 8 March. Tickets will not be posted outside the UK.

Tickets booked **between Thursday 8 March and Monday 19 March** will be posted immediately, unless requested for collection at the festival box office at Christ Church.

Tickets booked after **Monday 19 March** can only be collected from the festival box office at Christ Church.

A £1.50 handling charge is added to the total cost for all credit/debit card bookings, plus 60p postage charge if applicable. The online booking fee is 20p per ticket plus 60p postage charge.

Children's Events

- Ticket prices shown are for children and adults. There are no concessions. Children under two are admitted free.
- Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult (aged 18 or over); the festival cannot accept responsibility for the safety of unaccompanied children. The accompanying adult must have a valid ticket.
- Children over 13 cannot be responsible for younger children, although they may attend events alone as long as they are taken to and collected from the specific event venue.

Please note

Disabled access: please check with the box office for each event. Unless otherwise stated, events and panel discussions last one hour.

The Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival reserves the right to alter the programme or substitute writers if circumstances dictate. Tickets are not refundable and cannot be exchanged.

During the Festival

Tickets can be bought as follows:

- **In person:** At the festival box office in the Meadows Marquee, Christ Church.
- **By telephone:** Please call: 0870 343 1001.
- **Online:** Tickets are available to book online until 4pm the day before each event.

All tickets booked by telephone during the festival will be available for collection at the festival box office.

A handling charge of £1.50 is added to the total cost for all credit/debit card bookings.

Festival box office opening hours are:

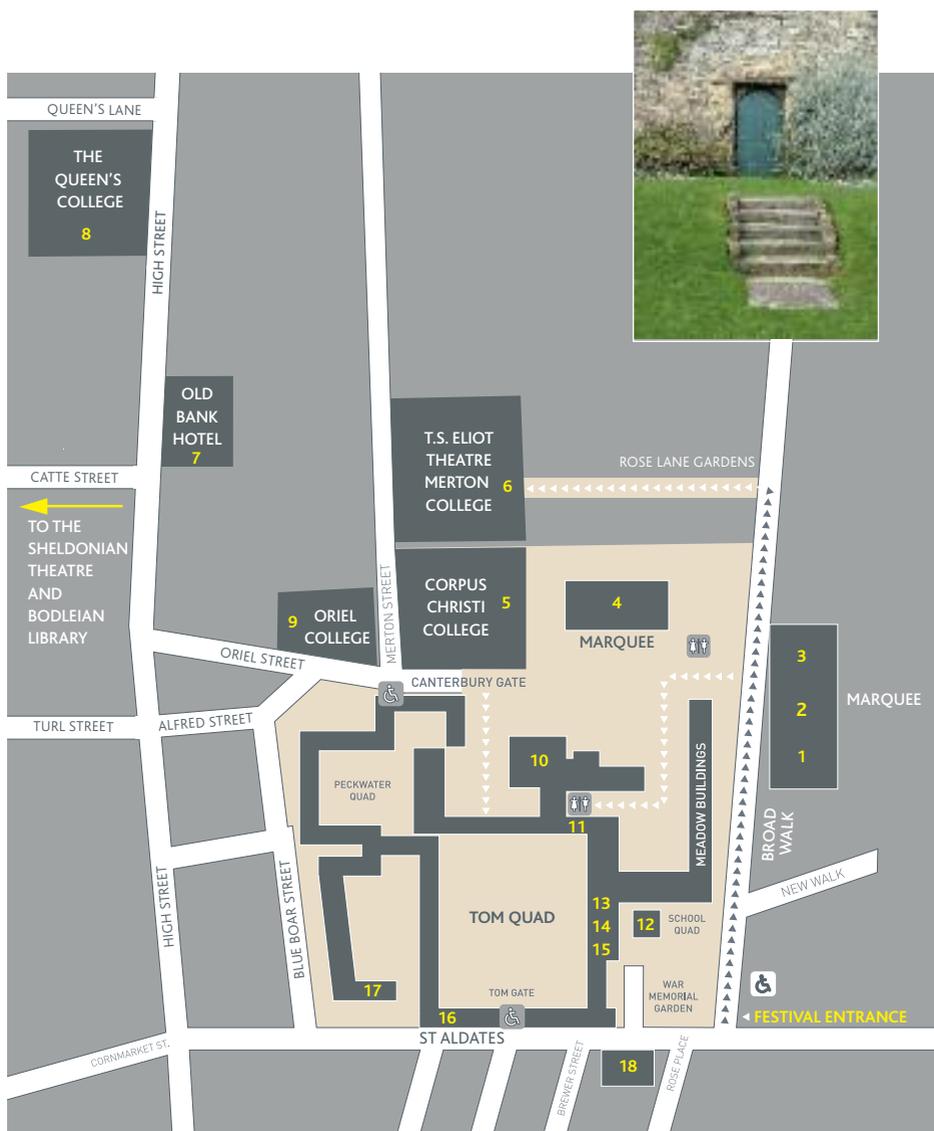
- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| • Saturday 24 March | 9am to 6.30pm |
| • Sunday 25 March | 9am to 4.30pm |
| • Monday 26 March | 11am to 6.30pm |
| • Tuesday 27 March | 9am to 8.00pm |
| • Wednesday 28 March | 9am to 8.00pm |
| • Thursday 29 March | 9am to 8.00pm |
| • Friday 30 March | 9am to 6.30pm |
| • Saturday 31 March | 9am to 6.30pm |
| • Sunday 1 April | 9am to 4pm |

Immediately prior to events

Any remaining tickets will be on sale at the festival box office in the Meadows Marquee immediately prior to events, and at the door for events at The Sheldonian, Bodleian, Oriel, Queen's and Merton Colleges.

Concessions and Discounts

- Friends of the Festival receive a £1.00 concession on tickets to adult events and walks, up to a maximum of five tickets
- Book tickets for five or more events in the same transaction and get a 15% discount (not applicable on dinners)
- Schools and youth groups get a concessionary rate of £1 off, plus one in every 15 tickets free
- Only one reduction applies per ticket
- No reductions apply to children's events



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- 2 Blackwell Festival Bookshop
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CHRIST CHURCH FESTIVAL MEADOWS MARQUEE

Free public entry every day

Entrance

Entrance by the Meadows Gate in St Aldates.

Festival Box Office

Ticket office and information desk.

The place to go for information on events, where to find venues, and everything to make your visit to the festival as easy and enjoyable as possible.

Plus you can find out how to become a Friend of the Festival.

HSBC Premier stand

Blackwell's Festival Bookshop

The extensive festival bookshop stocks a full range of festival authors' books, including signed copies from events you may have missed.

Book signings are in the bookshop after talks and events in the Master's Garden Marquee.

VSI

Very short, but perfectly formed 'soap box' lectures in the Blackwell Festival Bookshop every day.

OUP Children's Writers and Illustrators

Jamie's Fabulous Feasts

Located beyond the festival bookshop – the café and restaurant will be serving delicious food and meals throughout the day. See opposite page for details.

Hendricks Gin Tasting

Library Bar

Presentation of Hendrick's Gin with complimentary samples.

Cava and Wine Bar

Castillo Perelada pay bar – fine cavas and wines from Catalunya – presented by The Feathers Hotel, Woodstock.

The East India Company Fine Foods Stand

A selection of their outstanding teas, coffees, chocolates and speciality products on sale throughout the festival.

Kindle stall

An opportunity to view and buy the all-new Kindle – the world's best-selling e-reader.

Blackwell's Festival Bookshop



JAMIE OLIVER'S FABULOUS FEASTS

JAMIE OLIVER'S FABULOUS FEASTS FOR THE 2012 OXFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL

Jamie's road food love, *Fabulous Feasts*, are thrilled to be putting their stamp on this year's Oxford Literary Festival and we would love for you to join us. Jamie is a firm believer that - like all good books - food should be both expensive and something that can be enjoyed by everyone.

The menu devised for this year's event brings about Jamie's passion for top quality, honest ingredients, sourced locally wherever possible, and his exceptionally high culinary standards. *Fabulous Feasts* place a real emphasis

promoting products that support British or smaller producers, as well as dishes that focus on seasonal foods and lower kitchen costs of food.

A thoughtfully prepared and presented two course menu, including a glass of wine, is £25 per person. To book your lunch, please call our (friendly!) booking line on 02869 723100 or email the team: marketing@jamieoliver.co.uk

After all, it's love is better than a knife, a friend is better than a stranger and a feast is better than a meal!



Photography: © Jamie Oliver / Jamie Oliver Food Events



“When I was earning my pocket money as a kid at my Dad's pub, I always loved working on special events and this is really what inspired Jamie Oliver's *Fabulous Feasts*. It's an opportunity for me to be involved in the art of catering I'm passionate about - bringing people together and making an occasion truly memorable.”

Jamie





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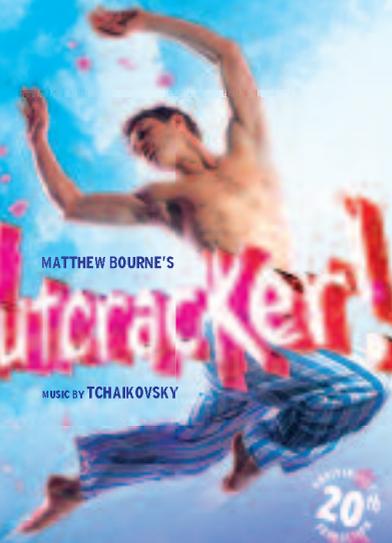


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