



yeovil literary festival

17-27
October 2025



Yeovil Literary Festival: Where Words Come to Life

Welcome

Welcome to Yeovil Literary Festival! We're thrilled to be back for another year, bringing you a vibrant programme of events and an exciting line-up of guests. This year, we're starting early with two special pre-festival appearances: the internationally best-selling author Heather Morris and the acclaimed Sebastian Faulks.

Our festival celebrates variety — from acclaimed novelists and poets to historians, true-crime writers, comedians, and beloved celebrities sharing their real-life stories. Whether you're passionate about gripping fiction, fascinated by history, or inspired by new voices, you'll find something to spark your imagination.

Recognised as one of the leading literary festivals in the South West, Yeovil Literary Festival offers unique opportunities to connect with inspirational artists, celebrated authors, rising stars, and performers from across the literary and entertainment worlds.

As a Footlights member, you can enjoy discounted tickets for many festival events — plus extra savings on a wide range of performances throughout the year at Westlands. See the advert below for details on how to join and start enjoying the benefits.

Yeovil Literary Festival is a not-for-profit collaboration between Yeovil Town Council's Westlands Entertainment Venue and Octagon Theatre, Yeovil Library (Somerset Libraries), Waterstones Yeovil, and Yeovil Community Arts Association.

We can't wait to welcome you to this year's festival — and we'd like to thank our artists, volunteers, sponsors, and supporters for helping make Yeovil Literary Festival 2025 a success.



Festival Directors (Left to Right): Emma Mercer - Somerset Libraries, Liz Pike - Yeovil Community Arts Association, Marcus Bishop - Waterstones Yeovil and Adam Burgan - Director of Culture, Events and Promotions, The Octagon Theatre & Westlands Entertainment Venue (Yeovil Town Council)

Keep up to date with all the excitement of the festival:

f /YeovilLiteraryFestival @YeovilLitFest
X @YeovilLitFest #YeovilLitFest

Membership Westlands Entertainment Venue

Benefits include:

- Discounted tickets for most shows
- Priority notice (via email) of all new events
- Priority booking period
- Returns list exclusive to Footlight Members

For more information call **01935 422884** or visit: **octagon-theatre.co.uk** or **westlandseyovil.co.uk**

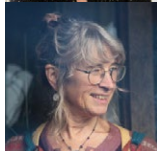




yeovil
literary
festival

Sponsors

We would like to thank our sponsors
for the **Yeovil Literary Festival 2025.**



Pre Festival Events



Heather Morris *The Wish*

Join us for this one-off special Pre-Festival event with the international no.1 bestselling author **Heather Morris**.

The Wish is her brand-new novel and is a fresh direction for Heather but speaks to all the themes that readers know and love her for: hope in the darkest of places, family, love and courage.

In 2003, while working in a large public hospital in Melbourne, Heather was introduced to an elderly gentleman who 'might just have a story worth telling'. The day she met Lale Sokolov changed both their lives. Lale's story formed the basis for *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* and the follow-up novel, *Cilka's Journey*.

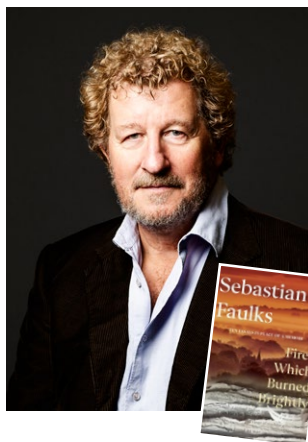
TICKETS: £12 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £22

FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES

(applies to ticket only option)

9.9.25 | **7pm**

St John's the Baptist Church



Sebastian Faulks *Fires Which Burned Brightly*

Sebastian Faulks has written nineteen books, of which *A Week in December* and *The Fatal Englishman* were number one in the Sunday Times bestseller lists. He is best known for *Birdsong*, part of his French trilogy, and *Human Traces*, the first in an ongoing Austrian trilogy.

In *Fires Which Burned Brightly*, Faulks, a reluctant memoirist, offers readers a series of detailed snapshots from a life in progress. They include a post-war rural childhood – 'cold mutton and wet washing on a rack over the range' – the booze-sodden heyday of Fleet Street and a career as one of the country's most acclaimed novelists.

TICKETS: £16 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £25

FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES

(applies to ticket only option)

22.10.25 | **7.30pm**

St John the Baptist Church

Library Events



Claire Douglas *The New Neighbours*

Claire Douglas worked as a journalist for fifteen years, but had dreamed of being a novelist since the age of seven. She finally got her wish after winning the Marie Claire Debut Novel Award with her first novel, *The Sisters*.

She is a Sunday Times bestseller and a frequent Richard & Judy Book Club pick. Her books have sold nearly two million copies in the UK alone. Claire will be talking about her latest thriller *The New Neighbours*. When the neighbours are overheard plotting a crime, Lena isn't sure what to do - could she prevent it and ease her conscience from her own dark past?



17.10.25 | 2pm
Yeovil Library

TICKETS: £6 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



Damien Boyd *Deceived by the Light*

Damien Boyd is a former solicitor turned crime fiction writer.

Drawing on extensive experience of criminal law as well as a spell in the Crown Prosecution Service, Damien writes fast paced crime thrillers featuring the popular Detective Inspector Nick Dixon, including the new novel, *Blue Blood*.

His new book, *Deceived by the Light*, introduces his new character, DCI Bob Willis, set in Ilminster and the surrounding area. Bob is convinced an innocent man has been framed, leaving a serial killer cruising the A303 with impunity, free to target lone women who have broken down by the roadside late at night.



17.10.25 | 2pm
Yeovil Library

TICKETS: £6 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

Library Events



17.10.25 | **4pm**
Yeovil Library

Emma Stonex *The Sunshine Man*

After working in publishing for several years, **Emma Stonex** quit to pursue her dream of writing fiction. *The Lamplighters* was an instant book lover's favourite and Sunday Times bestseller.

Emma's new novel, *The Sunshine Man* is the story of a terrible crime that shakes a community and a revenge plotted over decades. It is a tangled mystery about love, grief and how our childhood experiences play out in the rest of our lives.

TICKETS: £6 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



18.10.25 | **12pm**
Yeovil Library

Harriet Evans *The Treasures*

Harriet Evans is the author of thirteen bestselling novels, most recently *The Beloved Girls*, a Richard and Judy Book Club Selection and the Sunday Times Top Ten bestseller *The Garden of Lost and Found*, which won Good Housekeeping's Book of the Year.

The Treasures, is the beginning of a gorgeous new family trilogy, a story of their love, life and home, of their beginning and their ending, over fifty years and three generations.

TICKETS: £6 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

Library Events



18.10.25 | 2pm
Yeovil Library

Sarah Easter Collins **Things Don't Break on Their Own**

Sarah Easter Collins will be chatting about her brilliantly received debut novel *Things Don't Break on Their Own*, with the bestselling author, Hazel Prior. Nobody ever found out what happened to Laika Martenwood, the girl who vanished without a trace on her way to school one morning. But for her sister Willa, life shattered into tiny pieces that day, and she has never been able to put them back together again. But when a dinner party conversation about childhood memories spirals out of control, a shattering revelation from one of the guests forces Willa to rethink everything she thought she knew about her past. And, out of the debris of that explosive evening, the truth of what really happened begins to emerge. Piece by piece.

TICKETS: £6 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



18.10.25 | 4pm
Yeovil Library

Sally Smith **A Case of Life and Limb**

Sally Smith spent all her working life as a barrister and later KC in the Inner Temple. After writing a biography of the Edwardian barrister Sir Edward Marshall Hall KC, she retired from the bar to write full time. *A Case of Mice and Murder*, her acclaimed first novel, was chosen as Waterstones Book of the Month.

It was inspired by the historic surroundings of the Inner Temple, where she still lives and works, as well as by the rich history contained in its archives.

TICKETS: £6 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

Thursday



23.10.25 | **10am**
Westlands Ballroom

Lyse Doucet

The Finest Hotel in Kabul

Lyse Doucet first arrived at the Kabul Inter-Continental Hotel on Christmas Day 1988, the day after her 30th birthday. A junior BBC reporter, she was there to cover the withdrawal of Soviet troops following their decade-long occupation of Afghanistan.

Today, Lyse is the BBC's Chief International Correspondent and has led BBC coverage of events ranging from the Arab Spring to the Sudanese Civil War. But she still visits the Inter-Continental Hotel whenever she is in Afghanistan. She counts many of its staff and fellow guests her close friends and here, for the first time, she tells their stories.

TICKETS: £16 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



23.10.25 | **12pm**
Westlands Ballroom

Kate Bryan

How to Art

Kate Bryan is a self-confessed art addict who has worked with art for over twenty years. But before she studied art history at university, she'd been into a gallery just twice in her life and had no idea she was entering an elitist world.

How to Art is a nifty way to take art on your own terms. From where it is to what it is, to tips on how to enjoy famous artworks like the Mona Lisa, to how to own art and make art at home, through to vital advice for making a career as an artist and even how to make your dog more cultural. *How to Art* gives art to everyone and makes it fun.

TICKETS: £16 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

Thursday



The Countess of Carnarvon A Year at Highclere

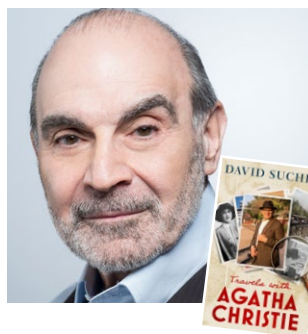
Join **Lady Carnarvon** as she reveals the daily rhythms, seasonal changes and timeless traditions of one of Britain's most iconic stately homes.

With the passing months and seasons, Lady Carnarvon reveals what it truly means to live and work in this extraordinary home. From gardening, entertaining, exploring the outdoors with their eight dogs and opening the gates to a film crew – hosting them for many weeks and seasons – and culminating in the latest Downton Abbey film.

Highclere is where history, royalty, nature, and community weave together in a tapestry as rich as the castle itself.

TICKETS: £16 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

23.10.25 | **2pm**
Westlands Ballroom



Sir David Suchet Travels with Agatha Christie

As the star of *Poirot* **Sir David Suchet** brought one of Agatha Christie's most iconic characters to life for a quarter of a century. Now he comes to Yeovil having retraced an international expedition the bestselling crime writer made in the 1920s.

Complete with his extraordinary photographs and accompanying a Channel 4 series of the same name, *Travels with Agatha Christie* sees the award-winning actor visit the stunning landscapes of Australia, Canada, Hawaii, New Zealand and South Africa. Get ready for stories of discovery, travel, and of course, mystery.

TICKET & BOOK: £30

23.10.25 | **4pm**
Westlands Ballroom

Sponsored by:

YEovil PRESS

Thursday & Friday



Sandi Toksvig Friends of Dorothy

Come and join the comedian, broadcaster, campaigner (and tiny Danish beacon of hope) for an evening celebrating her love and passion for writers and books. A sell-out in 2024, this show is packed with fascinating stories, a lively Q&A and the much-contested 'Cleverest Person in the Room' game.

Dive into Sandi's extraordinary collection as she explores outrageous and bizarre titles such as *'The Beginners Guide to Sex in the Afterlife'* and *'Cheese Problems Solved'*.

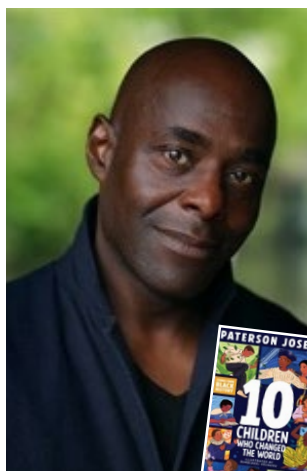
Age Guidance: 14+

TICKETS: £30 - £31.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES
This event is approximately 2 hours.

23.10.25 | **7.30pm**

Westlands Ballroom

Sponsored by:



Paterson Joseph Ten Children Who Changed the World

October is Black History Month, and we welcome actor and best-selling author, **Paterson Joseph**, to the festival to introduce us to ten inspiring children who grew up in a time when slavery was still legal in most of the world and people who looked like them weren't expected to become important. But they did!

The ten all went on to change the world through their acts of rebellion, bravery and adventure that helped secure their freedom and the freedom of so many.

Perfect for schools, children 9+ and anyone with an interest in British History.

TICKETS: £10 | **CHILDREN:** £7.50
FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | **12pm**

Westlands Ballroom

Friday



Andrew Ziminski Church Going

Andrew Ziminski is a Frome-based stonemason and church conservator who has spent decades acting as an informal guide to curious visitors to the many churches he's worked on. Join him on a journey through the medieval churches of the British Isles, where he will reveal fascinating histories, features and furnishings, from flying buttresses to rood screens, lichgates to chancels. Many of these are in Somerset, including our own St John's the Baptist and nearby St Mary's Limington and St Catherine's, Montacute.

This is a celebration of British architectural history.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | 12pm
Wheeldon Suite 1



Amanda Barrie I'm Still Here

Amanda Barrie's autobiography promises to reveal the full untold story of her incredible life. It features stories from her childhood during the war, her years playing Alma on *Coronation Street*, the making of her iconic *Carry On* films, behind-the-scenes moments from her time in the *Big Brother* house, her role in the hit TV series *Bad Girls*, and much more.

In her autobiography, Barrie will relive the extraordinary experiences, both personal and professional, which have led her to where she is today. Running away from home aged just 13 to become a Soho showgirl led to an extraordinary life and eventually led to true national treasure status. For the first time, she will tell the full story of how she met her wife – and ghost writer – novelist Hilary Bonner, and how they fell in love and built a new life together.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | 12pm
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Sponsored by:



Friday



Jung Chang

Fly, Wild Swans

Jung Chang's *Wild Swans* was a book that defined a generation, an epic personal history of Jung, her mother and grandmother - 'three daughters of China'. From her grandmother's birth in 1909 under the last emperor, through Mao Zedong's rule, the Cultural Revolution during which Jung's parents were subject to unbelievable suffering, it finishes as the end of the Mao era in 1978 with Jung's emigration to Britain. At the time she was one of the first Chinese to leave Communist China for the West.

We welcome Jung to the festival to talk about *Fly, Wild Swans* the sequel that brings the story of Jung's family - along with that of China - up to date.

24.10.25 | **2pm**
Westlands Ballroom

TICKETS: £16 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £27

FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES

(applies to ticket only option)



Felicity Cloake

Peach Street to Lobster Lane

Felicity Cloake is the multi award-winning author of the Guardian's long-running 'How to Make the Perfect' series, the New Statesman's food column and seven books, including *One More Croissant for the Road* and *Red Sauce Brown Sauce*, which won the Fortnum and Mason food book of the year award in 2023.

Felicity will be chatting about her new book *Peach Street to Lobster Lane: Coast to Coast* in search of real American cuisine, with fellow foodie and friend of the festival, Orlando Murrin, the Masterchef finalist and author of the chef Paul Delamare mysteries, *Knife Skills for Beginners* and *Murder Below Deck*.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | **2pm**
Wheeldon Suite 1

Friday



Pen Farthing Operation Ark

Operation Ark is a powerful true story arising from the controversial 2021 Afghanistan evacuation. There are two sides to every story - **Pen Farthing** was content rescuing the strays of Kabul, working alongside his charity staff of Afghan vets to support the local community – until the Afghanistan withdrawal, where the Taliban overran the country in a matter of weeks.

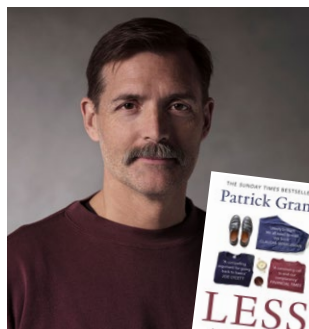
This book is his account of the chaotic 14 days of the evacuation and its aftermath: offering a unique, important insight into the failures of the government, and setting the record straight.

24.10.25 | **2pm**
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Sponsored by:



TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



Patrick Grant Less

With a career in fashion spanning nearly two decades, Patrick Grant has a lot to say about our clothing. He is a regular on television and radio as a commentator on the clothing and textile industries and is best known as a judge on the BBC's Great British Sewing Bee.

Weaving in his personal journey through fashion, clothing and the other everyday objects in his life this is a book that celebrates craftsmanship, making things with care, buying things with thought and valuing everything we own. It explains how rethinking our relationship with clothing could kick-start a thriving new local economy bringing prosperity and hope.

24.10.25 | **4pm**
Westlands Ballroom

Sponsored by:



TICKETS: £12 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £20

FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES
(applies to ticket only option)

Friday



Patrick Galbraith

Uncommon Grounds

Patrick Galbraith is a columnist for Country Life and The Critic. His non-fiction debut, *In Search of One Last Song*, was called the most important book on the countryside in years.

Britain is an island of countless green and pleasant spaces - but who actually gets to visit them, how many of them can we visit, and why does having access to them matter so much? In his new book *Uncommon Ground* columnist Patrick discusses these issues.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | 4pm
Wheeldon Suite 1



Dr Lucy Pollock

The Golden Rule

We are living longer lives and have choices now as never before about how we will age. But what will make us happy? What changes, made right now, will help us to flourish as we age?

Dr Lucy Pollock has learnt invaluable lessons from over thirty years of working with older people, from tales of loss to impossible families, and the importance of learning to live with uncertainty. Medical teams have not always heard the voices of older people or their loved ones. But if we are given power to influence the lives of our future selves, how best shall we use it?

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | 4pm
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Sponsored by:



Friday



Mariella Frostrup & Belles Berry *Menolicious*

Join broadcaster, journalist, and menopause-awareness activist **Mariella Frostrup**, and **Belles Berry**, chef, founder of The Great Taste Company and daughter of Dame Mary Berry, as they introduce their new book *Menolicious*, which dishes up over 100 quick, easy, and supremely delicious recipes to help ease key symptoms of the menopause.

Filled with accessible dishes designed to optimise your health at midlife, *Menolicious* is an essential new addition to your menopause survival toolkit.

TICKETS: £16 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | **6pm**
Westlands Ballroom

Sponsored by:



Gareth Russell *Queen James*

James Stuart, King of England, Scotland, and Ireland did not always love wisely, but he never failed to do so boldly. He fell in love three times – once with George Villiers, ‘the handsomest man in the whole world’ – and he was infatuated three more times – including with a Highland earl and an English spy.

Gareth Russell’s groundbreaking new book puts James – genius, liar, spendthrift, idealist, witch-hunter – and the men he loved at the centre of one of the most dramatic stories in British royal history. It is unquestionably one of the most gripping stories in British history, retold in Russell’s *Queen James* with scholarship, bio-graphical insight and wit.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | **6pm**
Wheeldon Suite 1

Friday



Gill Hornby

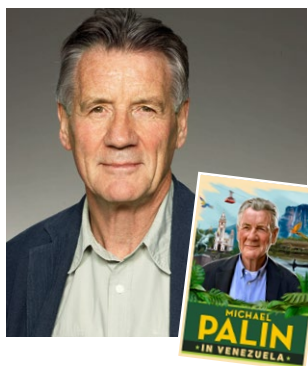
The Elopement

Gill Hornby is the author of the novels *The Hive* and *All Together Now*, as well as *The Story of Jane Austen*, a biography of Austen for young readers. Her subsequent novels, *Miss Austen* and *Godmersham Park*, were Sunday Times bestsellers, and *Miss Austen* is a four-part BBC adaptation starring Keeley Hawes as Cassandra Austen. *The Elopement* is published around the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth 1820.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | 6pm
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Sponsored by:



Michael Palin

In Venezuela

Michael Palin needs little introduction. From *Monty Python* and *Ripping Yarns* to *The Missionary* and *The Death of Stalin*, he has written and starred in numerous acclaimed TV shows and films. He's also known for his much-loved travel documentaries, which have taken him everywhere from the Poles and the Sahara to the Himalayas, Eastern Europe, and Brazil.

In February 2025, he travelled to Venezuela—one of South America's most culturally rich yet troubled nations. In the journal he kept during his trip he gives a vivid account of the towns and cities he visited, the landscapes he travelled through, and the people he met.

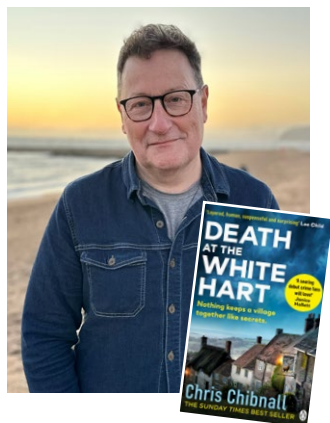
TICKETS: £25 (Includes copy of the book)

24.10.25 | 8pm
Westlands Ballroom

Sponsored by:



Friday



Chris Chibnall Death at the White Hart

Chris Chibnall is a BAFTA, Royal Television Society, Broadcasting Press Guild and Peabody award-winning screenwriter, executive producer, and playwright whose work has been seen, translated and remade all around the world.

His television work includes *Broadchurch* – remade as *Gracepoint* in the US and *Malattera* in France – *The Great Train Robbery*, *Doctor Who*, *Torchwood* and *Life on Mars*.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | 8pm
Wheeldon Suite 1



Holly Stars Murder in the Dressing Room

Drag queens aren't just dramatic. They're deadly... Meet Misty Divine, drag queen turned amateur sleuth in a stand-out new murder mystery.

Holly Stars is a drag stand-up comedian and writer. She is the writer of the smash-hit drag murder mystery, *Death Drop*, a play that has had three runs on the West End and a UK and Ireland tour. Holly has two seasons of her own television series, *Holly Stars: Inspirational*, on Froot TV and OutTV, and regularly performs in London and around the UK. Her solo shows include *Justice For Holly*, *Nightmare Neighbour* and *Birthday*.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

24.10.25 | 8pm
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Saturday



Petroc Trelawny

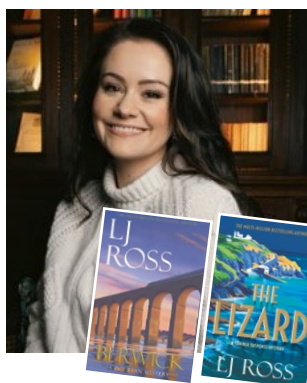
Trelawny's Cornwall

Petroc Trelawny grew up on the Lizard Peninsula in the far south of Cornwall. He was part of the commentary team for BBC Television's coverage of the Coronation of King Charles III and the funeral of Her Majesty The Queen and has presented BBC Proms on radio and television for more than two decades.

Part history, part memoir, this is a deeply felt exploration of Cornwall - past, present and future. Petroc embarks on a slow journey that sees him visit old mine workings, ancient churches, sites where new technology was forged, and places where poets, musicians, architects and film makers have worked to shape Cornwall's cultural identity.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

25.10.25 | **12pm**
Westlands Ballroom



LJ Ross

The Lizard & Berwick

We're so excited to welcome the International, multi-million copy selling, crime author **LJ Ross** to the festival.

Louise's debut, *Holy Island*, introducing DCI Ryan, was released in 2015 and became an instant, international bestseller. Since then, more than thirty of her novels have gone on to take the coveted No.1 spot, some even before general release and whilst only available to 'pre-order'. The Bookseller magazine has reported on Louise having topped the 'Most Read' and 'Most Sold' fiction charts, and she has garnered an army of loyal fans who love her atmospheric and addictive storytelling.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

25.10.25 | **12pm**
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Sponsored by:



Saturday



Joanna Page **Lush!**

From a small village on the outskirts of Swansea to the sets of some of the all-time greatest movies and TV shows – like Love Actually and Gavin & Stacey, **Joanna Page's** journey to stardom has been extraordinary.

In this funny, candid and endlessly surprising memoir, Joanna shares her story in full for the first time. *Lush!* is a celebration of finding your voice, holding your ground and learning to laugh at the messiest, most beautiful moments life has to offer.

TICKETS: £16 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £25

FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES
(applies to ticket only option)

25.10.25 | **2pm**
Westlands Ballroom

Sponsored by:



Lalage Snow **My Family and Other Seedlings**

A few years ago, **Lally Snow** moved to a Dorset village with her husband and three small children, having spent over a decade as a war photographer, foreign correspondent and film maker living in Kabul. She covered the conflict there as well as other wars from Gaza to Eastern Ukraine, and Iraq, a story told in her acclaimed book *War Gardens*.

This is a heart-warming, wry and at times tearful account of Lally's travails as a mother and novice allotment holder, counterpointing horticultural progress with the perils of parenting. Along the way she reflects on the drudgery of English rural domesticity after a professional life chasing war and adventure, the history of the allotment since Saxon times, and the wonderful moment when gardening becomes fun rather than just feeding a family.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

25.10.25 | **2pm**
Wheeldon Suite 1

Sponsored by:



Saturday



Michelle Paver

Rainforest

A terrifying supernatural tale from Sunday Times bestseller **Michelle Paver**, author of *Wakenhyrst*. The virgin rainforest seems a paradise to Englishman Simon Corbett. A last chance to salvage his career. A final refuge from a terrible secret. But the jungle is no Eden. It hides secrets of its own. It does not forgive.

As Simon is drawn deeper into its haunted shadows, he learns to his horror that the past will not stay buried. For there are places in the forest where the line between the living and the dead is thinner than the skin of water.

25.10.25 | **2pm**
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



Paula Byrne & Rachel Parris: Our lives with Jane Austen

2025 marks the anniversary of Jane Austen's birth, in this very special event we're bringing together two brilliant authors who live, love and breathe Jane Austen.

Paula Byrne, acclaimed biographer of *The World of Jane Austen* and Hardy's *Women*, introduces her new novel *Six Weeks by the Sea*—a rich, historical love story set in 1801 Sidmouth, weaving together Austen's family life, early romance, and the turbulent backdrop of war and empire.

Rachel Parris—comedian, musician, star of *Austen-tatious*, and presenter of *Austen-tibly Feminist*—brings her deep Austen knowledge to fiction with *Introducing Mrs Collins*. This witty, heartfelt novel revisits *Pride and Prejudice*'s Charlotte Lucas, imagining her journey through love, loss, and second chances.

25.10.25 | **4pm**
Westlands Ballroom

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

Saturday



Advolly Richmond *A Short History of Flowers*

Have you ever wondered about the stories behind your favourite garden flowers? Each flower has a story, and in this lecture **Advolly Richmond** takes you on a global tour of some intriguing, surprising and enriching tales and scenarios.

Advolly's book *A Short History of Flowers: The stories that make our gardens*, was published in 2024. She presents garden history features on BBC's *Gardener's World*, produces *The Garden History Podcast* and is a *Scribeshound Gardening* columnist.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

25.10.25 | 4pm
Wheeldon Suite 1

Sponsored by:



Vaseem Khan *Quantum of Menace*

Vaseem Khan is the author of two award-winning crime series set in India, the Baby Ganesh Agency series set in modern Mumbai, and the Malabar House historical crime novels set in 1950s Bombay. He is a firm favourite with the Yeovil Literary Festival fans and this year he's got something very different to talk about...

Vaseem will be launching the first book in his new James Bond spin-off mystery series led by the Head of Q Branch himself, Major Boothroyd. *Quantum of Menace* centres on an older version of the beloved character Q from the original Ian Fleming series, most recently brought to life on screen by Ben Whishaw.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

25.10.25 | 4pm
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Saturday



Alison Steadman

Out of Character

Beverly in *Abigail's Party*. Mrs Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*. Betty in *Fat Friends*. Sue in *Here We Go* and Pamela in *Gavin & Stacey*. Just a few of the beloved, iconic characters brought to life by the magnificent **Alison Steadman**.

Growing up in post-war, working-class Liverpool, the young Alison – ever the entertainer – would address the world from the stage of her bedroom window, until she got a taste for performing in front of an actual audience at her progressive 1960s drama school. By the time she left, her mind was made up: she was going to be an actress! If only she could conquer the onstage giggling... Here, with her distinctive warmth and humour, she vividly recalls all the must-read moments of a life spent in and out of character.

25.10.25 | 6pm
Westlands Ballroom

TICKETS: £20 (Includes a paperback copy of the book)



The Rainbow Fish

Speak Easy!

Returning for one special night, Yeovil's long running and extraordinarily lovely spoken word, open mic, cabaret night - *The Rainbow Fish Speak Easy!* Hosted by Liv Torc and featuring a stunning opening performance by the current Word/Play group from Ark at Egwood.

With open mic spots available for local and travelling poets. Experienced and first-time readers are welcome. Please email livtorc@yahoo.com to request a slot.

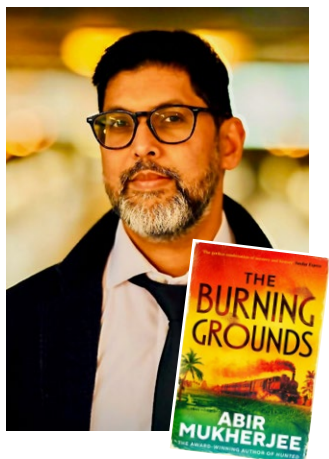
TICKETS: £8 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

25.10.25 | 6pm
Wheeldon Suite 1

Sponsored by:



Saturday



25.10.25 | 6pm
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Abir Mukherjee

The Burning Grounds

Abir Mukherjee is the bestselling author of the award-winning *Wyndham & Banerjee* crime series, set in 1920s India, as well as *Hunted*, which won the 2025 British Book Awards Crime Thriller of the Year. His books have been translated into sixteen languages and won various awards including the CWA Dagger for best Historical Novel, the Prix du Polar Européen, and the Wilbur Smith Award for Adventure Writing.

In the Burning Ghats of Calcutta where the dead are laid to rest, a man is found murdered, his throat cut from ear to ear. The body is that of a popular patron of the arts, a man who was, by all accounts, beloved by all: so what was the motive for his murder? Despite being out of favour with the Imperial Police Force, Detective Sam Wyndham is assigned to the case and finds himself thrust into the glamorous world of Indian cinema.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



25.10.25 | 8pm
Westlands Ballroom

Dr Richard Shepherd

Time of Death

Join **Dr. Richard Shepherd**, the UK's leading forensic pathologist, as he returns to the stage with his captivating new tour, *Unnatural Causes – Time of Death*. Dr. Shepherd invites audiences into the world of forensic investigation, where time is crucial in uncovering the truth behind accidents, murders, and unexplained deaths. Don't miss this unforgettable, deeply moving experience.

Age Guidance: 14+

TICKETS: £29.50

FOOTLIGHTS/GROUPS 10: DISCOUNT APPLIES

This event is approximately 2 hours.

Saturday



25.10.25 | 8pm
Wheeldon Suite 1

Hot Poets

Join **Chris Redmond** and **Liv Torc**, as they share, in words, poetry and film, the phenomenal story of *Hot Poets*. A climate science and poetry project that in just four years, has travelled from a muddy field in Glastonbury to a partnership with the UN Climate Convention. Now an award-winning CIC, *Hot Poets* has engaged artists, audiences and change makers in five continents - all with the aim of bringing to life the climate solutions, technology and ideas that could save our planet. The event will feature live performances from Liv and Chris and short films by other extraordinary artists from the UK and internationally.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



25.10.25 | 8pm
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

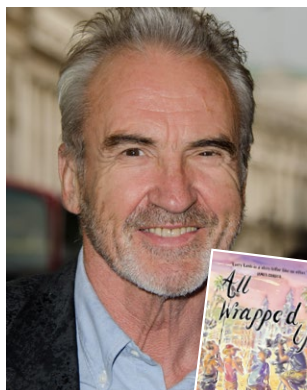
Dr Janina Ramirez
Legenda

In *Legenda*, broadcaster and bestselling historian Professor **Janina Ramirez** peels back the layers of time to reveal how the identities of women have been co-opted by those intent on crafting national identities. Their names are well-known, and summaries of their achievements have been recited in classrooms for decades, but medieval women like Joan of Arc, Lady Godiva and Isabella of Castile have been misrepresented, their stories twisted and weaponised.

Questioning established narratives and searching for the real women behind the legends, Ramirez interrogates what defines a nation and who gets to build it, shining a light on how history is so often hijacked to serve the ideological and political interests of the present.

TICKETS: £15 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £25
FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES
(applies to ticket only option)

Sunday



Larry Lamb All Wrapped Up

Larry Lamb needs little introduction, a well-known actor and presenter with a career spanning several decades. Larry is best known for his roles in the BBC soap opera *EastEnders* and, to most of us, will always be 'Mick' from the sitcom *Gavin & Stacey*.

Larry will be chatting about his life, career and his debut novel, *All Wrapped Up*. Amidst political turmoil on a Caribbean island, the first assistant director is determined to see his film through - if the chaos doesn't consume them first. Between managing an impossible lead actor, navigating power struggles on and off set, and a crew member vanishing under mysterious circumstances, the production is at risk of falling apart.

TICKETS: £16 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

26.10.25 | 12pm
Westlands Ballroom

Sponsored by:



The Yeovil Literary Prize

26.10.25 | 12pm
Wheeldon Suite 1

Sponsored by:



YCAA The Yeovil Literary Prize Winners

The Yeovil Literary Prize is a competition held annually by Yeovil Community Arts Association and has seen writers from across the world enter the 22nd competition. Meet and listen to exciting recent winners of the Yeovil Literary Prize, with many past winners now having had books published.

Yeovil Community Arts Association also encourages emerging literary talent and awards grants to young art and literature students. This year, they have worked with the Octagon Theatre Arts Engagement & Outreach team to hold an acrostic poem competition.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

Sunday



Tanya Landman

Having Fun

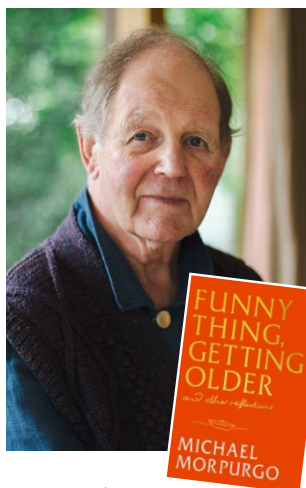
Tanya Landman, Carnegie Medal-winning author of *Buffalo Soldier*, is renowned for her powerful, prizewinning novels. She describes writing as the perfect excuse to daydream—something she was often told off for at school!

Tanya will be introducing her new book *Meg and Merlin Having Fun*, published by Barrington Stoke, specialists in super-readable, dyslexia-friendly fiction. Their award-winning books offer quick, satisfying reads for confident and struggling readers alike, with consistent praise from parents, teachers, and librarians.

Suitable for ages 7+

TICKETS: £7.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

26.10.25 | **12pm**
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3



Michael Morpurgo

Funny Thing, Getting Older

In this very special event **Michael Morpurgo**, one of our most beloved novelists, best known for his books for children of all ages including *War Horse*, *Private Peaceful* and *Kensuke's Kingdom*, will be talking about his new book, *Funny Thing, Getting Older* for adult readers.

He shares his reflections from a lifetime of writing stories about the world. Here, collected for the first time are his thoughts on nature, childhood, writing, peace and war, and getting older. Some are deeply personal, some political, others in between.

Full of wonder, gentle humour and sharp observation, *Funny Thing, Getting Older* is a book to treasure and we know that this will also be an event to treasure.

TICKETS: £25 (includes a signed copy of the book)

26.10.25 | **2pm**
Westlands Ballroom

Sunday



Nicholas Jubber **Monsterland**

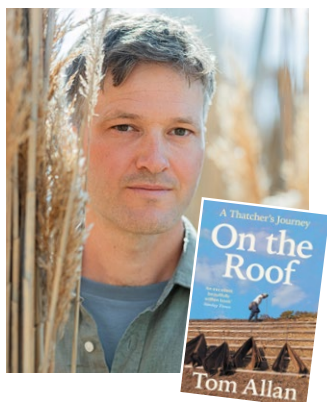
Monsters, in all their terrifying glory, have preoccupied humans since we began telling stories. But where did these stories come from?

In *Monsterland*, award-winning author **Nicholas Jubber** goes on a journey to discover more about the monsters we've invented, lurking in the dark and the wild places of the earth - giants, dragons, ogres, zombies, ghosts, demons - all with one thing in common: their ability to terrify.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

26.10.25 | **2pm**
Wheeldon Suite 1

Sponsored by:



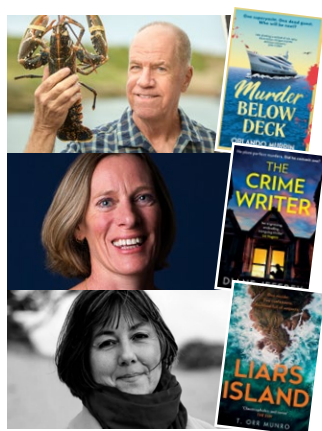
Tom Allan **On the Roof**

On the Roof is a thatcher's tale - a journey of discovery, and a reflection on what it means for a person or a building to belong in a place. It tells **Tom Allan's** story, leaving an office job in the city to find fulfilment among the Devon roofs, as well as the stories of six other people who share his trade.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

26.10.25 | **2pm**
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Sunday



Orlando Murrin, Dianne Jeffrey & T Orr Munro

Three Faces of Crime

Join three best-selling authors, **Orlando Murrin**, **Diane Jeffrey** and **T Orr Munro**, who will be talking about the art of crime writing.

Whether it's cozy crime, police procedural or psychological thriller, they've got you covered!

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

26.10.25 | **4pm**
Wheeldon Suite 1



Dr Joseph Jebelli

The Brain at Rest

We are constantly told to make the most of our time: to stop procrastinating, to optimize and be efficient with every precious hour. But when we let our brains rest, and our minds wander, something magical happens: the brain's 'default network' switches on, and we are able to think in completely new ways.

Blending science and personal stories with practical tips, **Dr Joseph Jebelli** reveals how neuroscience is solving the mystery of the brain at rest, with profound implications for intelligence, creativity and even life expectancy.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

26.10.25 | **4pm**
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Sunday



Rose Ayling - Ellis Marvellous Messages

Join the Bafta-winning actor **Rose Ayling-Ellis** to hear all about her first book for young readers: *Marvellous Messages!*

Rose will share her inspirational heroes of the past and present and share about her career - from her early love of acting, to being the first Deaf presenter of the Paralympics. There will be the chance for the audience to learn some BSL and even a very special quiz! Travel through time to find the fascinating story of communication with Rose Ayling-Ellis.

Suitable for ages 7+

TICKETS: £16 | **CHILDREN:** £12

FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES

26.10.25 | 6pm
Westlands Ballroom

Sponsored by:



Dr Benji Waterhouse You Don't Have to Be Mad to Work Here

A woman with bipolar flies from America in a wedding dress to marry Harry Styles. A lorry driver with schizophrenia believes he's got a cure for coronavirus. A depressed psychiatrist hides his profession from his GP due to stigma. Most of the characters in this book are his patients. Some of them are his family. One of them is him.

Unlocking the doors to the psych ward, NHS psychiatrist and award-winning stand-up **Dr Benji Waterhouse** provides a fly-on-the-padded-wall account of medicine's most mysterious and controversial speciality. Humane, hilarious and heart-breaking, *You Don't Have to Be Mad to Work Here* is an enlightening and darkly comic medical memoir - from both sides of the doctor's desk.

TICKETS: £10 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

26.10.25 | 6pm
Wheeldon Suite 1

Sunday



26.10.25 | **6pm**
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Steven Moore

The Stuff of History

Steven Moore is a uniquely qualified individual having worked as an antiques dealer, auctioneer and museum curator. He is a published author, journalist, and also a highly experienced TV presenter best known for his appearances on the BBC, particularly BBC One's top-rated factual *Antiques Roadshow*, where he has been a regular expert since 2003. More recently he has joined BBC One's *Antiques Roadtrip*. *The Stuff of History* presents a thoughtful and often funny, curated selection of fascinating forgotten histories that give insight into some of the Western world's most important cultural moments. Told from the perspective of the overlooked, the book will present the curious and adventurous reader with the stories behind icons that surround us and inform our everyday lives, be they people or objects.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



26.10.25 | **8pm**
Westlands Ballroom

Huey Morgan

Fun Lovin' Criminals

Huey Morgan - musician, DJ, producer, award-winning BBC broadcaster, and *Fun Lovin' Criminals* frontman - shares stories from his candid and entertaining autobiography, with songs performed on guitar

His is a story that begins in the early 1990s in New York, as a marine freshly returned from combat and struggling to return to regular life. As Huey tries to kickstart his musical career, he finds himself falling into the criminal underworld to get by. But as his band begins - against all the odds - to take off, can he extricate himself before his shot at stardom goes begging?

TICKETS: £16 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £25
FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES
(applies to ticket only option)

Sunday & Monday



26.10.25 | 8pm
Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3

Amy Jeffs, Gwen Burns & Natalie Brice *Old Songs*

Best-selling historian and author **Amy Jeffs**, musician **Natalie Brice** and illustrator **Gwen Burns** have created *Old Songs*, a reimagining of ten traditional British ballads. Each artist applied her primary trade: word, music and image respectively, but each also influenced the others' work.

In this live performance, Amy will offer historical insights and readings from the stories, while Gwen will showcase animations created from the illustrations and Natalie will lead them both in mesmerising sung renditions of the earliest known melodies of the ballads themselves. Bringing these ballads to life, Amy and Natalie will perform a select few for the crowd - so this isn't an evening to miss!

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



27.10.25 | 12pm
Westlands Ballroom

TJ Klune *Somewhere Beyond the Sea*

A magical house. A secret past. A summons that could change The American fantasy. Icon **TJ Klune** is the No.1 *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *In The Lives of Puppets*, and the New York Times and USA Today bestselling, Lambda Literary Award-winning author of *The House in the Cerulean Sea*. He'll be discussing it's sequel, *Somewhere Beyond the Sea*.

Somewhere Beyond the Sea is a story of resistance, lovingly told, about the daunting experience of fighting for the life you want to live and doing the work to keep it.

TICKETS: £12 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £20
FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES
(applies to ticket only option)

Monday



Jackie Morris & Tamsin Abbott

Wild Folk

Wild Folk comprises seven richly illustrated fables of transformation and power, summoned from the ancient stones beneath our feet and transformed by word and image into portals between past and future.

The book brings together Jackie's words and Tamsin's images, but the stories come from both. It is a true collaboration born out of friendship and hope. These are tales to make you see, listen and most of all feel the wild magic that links stone, tree, fox and star.

TICKETS: £16 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £30

FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES
(applies to ticket only option)

27.10.25 | **2pm**
Westlands Ballroom



Frances Tophill

Wildflower Year

Frances Tophill is a Horticulturalist and Botanist who trained at The Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. Since 2012 she has been a presenter on ITV's Love Your Garden, with Alan Titchmarsh. She also presents regularly on BBC Gardener's World.

Throughout the year, Frances has collected and documented 60 beautiful wildflowers. For each species, she eloquently describes its importance and unique features, as well as their habitat, when they can be found, and what other species you might expect to find nearby.

TICKETS: £12.50 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES

27.10.25 | **4pm**
Westlands Ballroom

Sponsored by:



Monday



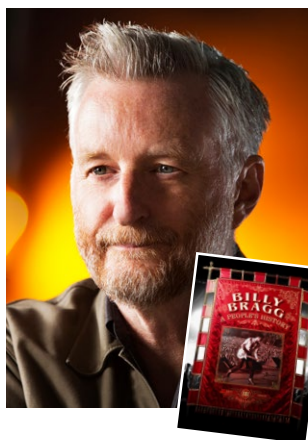
Horror Panel with Keith Rosson & Ronnie Turner 'In conversation' with Martyn Waites

All the way from Portland Oregon, horror writer, **Keith Rosson**, will be talking about his new novel *Coffin Road*. Keith is the author of the critically acclaimed *Fever House* duology, and novels *Smoke City*, *Road Seven*, and *The Mercy of the Tide*, as well as the Shirley Jackson Award-winning story collection *Folk Songs for Trauma Surgeons*. *Fever House* is currently in development for television.

Ronnie Turner is the author of the critically acclaimed *So Pretty* and her new book, *Small Fires* - described as *Midsommar* meets *The Wicker Man* meets *Midnight Mass*, recalling Angela Carter's *The Bloody Chamber* - visceral, luminous, unique and seductive...

27.10.25 | 6pm
Waterstones, Yeovil

TICKETS: £6 | **FOOTLIGHTS:** DISCOUNT APPLIES



Billy Bragg *A People's History*

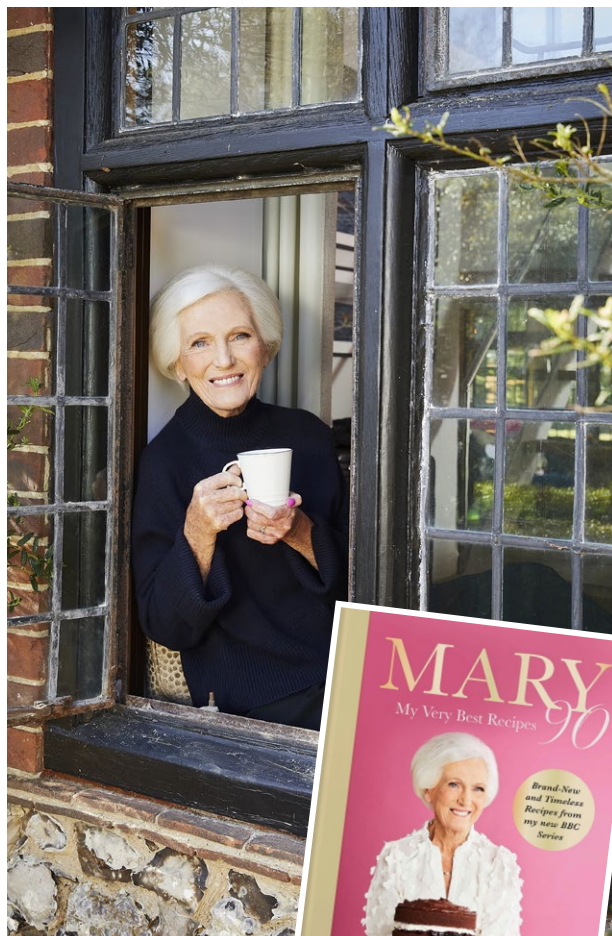
Billy will be joining us to reflect on his long career to mark the publication *Billy Bragg - A People's History*, an authorised oral history of the British singer-songwriter and political activist in the words of people who have been moved by his music.

With memorabilia from Billy's personal archive and contributions from the man himself, **Billy Bragg - A People's History** will span Billy's career in music, from his days with the punk-inspired Riff Raff through to the present day.

TICKETS: £16 | **TICKET & BOOK:** £40
FOOTLIGHTS: DISCOUNT APPLIES
(applies to ticket only option)

27.10.25 | 8pm
Westlands Ballroom

Post Festival Event



Dame Mary Berry Mary 90

We are so excited to welcome **Dame Mary Berry** to the festival for this very special celebration of Mary's 90th birthday. Mary remains the nation's favourite cook and has sold over 5 million books in her remarkable career.

In her beautifully illustrated new book *Mary 90*, Mary shares ninety of her very best recipes, each one perfected over a lifetime of cooking. From sumptuous starters to irresistible desserts and classic bakes, these are the recipes Mary has returned to again and again over the years – always crowd pleasers, always fuss-free, and all with wonderful stories behind them.

TICKETS: £20
FOOTLIGHTS:
DISCOUNT APPLIES

Sponsored by:



26.11.25 | 7.30pm
Westlands Ballroom

Booking & Information

Festival Box Office Opening Hours

(Festival Dates Only)

The Box Office will open daily at 10am and will close 15 minutes after the start of the last event.

Festival tickets can only be purchased:

Online: www.yeovilliteraryfestival.co.uk

By Phone: 01935 422884

(open during Box Office hours)

In Person: Westlands Entertainment
Venue Box Office

Monday - Saturday, 10am until 5pm.

On evenings when there is a performance the Box Office will close 15 minutes after the start time.

Data Protection Policy

The Yeovil Literary Festival adheres to GDPR legislation. When processing your booking, the Box Office will ask for your name, address and telephone number. This is essential for all non-cash bookings. If you choose to join our mailing list, we will keep you informed of forthcoming shows, attractions and news from The Octagon Theatre & Westlands Entertainment Venue. However, your information will not be passed on to any other party, and we will ensure that all mailings are relevant to your interests. You are able to leave our mailing list and unsubscribe from emails at any time. Our Privacy Policy is also available online.

Getting to the festival

Westlands Entertainment Venue,

Westbourne Close: BA20 2DD

Yeovil Library, King George Street: BA20 1PY

Waterstones Yeovil, Middle Street: BA20 1LG

St John the Baptist Church: : BA20 1HE

Westlands Entertainment Venue has free on site parking. Yeovil Library and Waterstones - the nearest car park is Petters Way. Car parking charges apply.

Access for all

Everyone is welcome at the festival and we will do whatever we can to ensure you have an enjoyable visit. Staff are available to help, so please ask us if you need any assistance. To ensure any special requirements you have are met, we ask that all patrons who use a wheelchair or have specific seating or access requests contact the Box Office direct. For this reason wheelchair spaces and disabled concessions are not available through online booking.

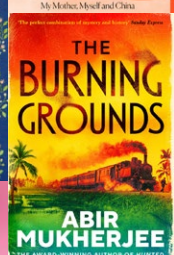
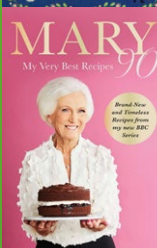
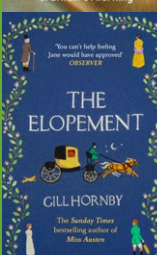
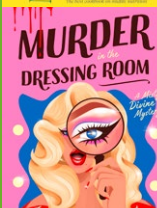
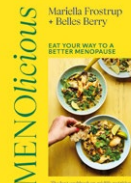
We also have our Octagon Buddies scheme that is open to anyone that is looking for a companion or buddy to attend shows and events with. It can be particularly useful for individuals who experience anxiety about attending the theatre alone, older people, socially isolated patrons and those who may not have previously had the opportunity to attend a theatre performance. Please visit our website or call the Box Office for further information.

Conditions of purchase

- Tickets cannot be cancelled and are non-refundable except in the case of a cancelled event.
- Use of photographic or recording devices is forbidden. For the comfort of all our guests please ensure that any mobile phones are switched off.
- The Management reserves the right to make alterations to the advertised artist and programme without prior notice.
- The Management reserves the right to refuse admission.
- The Management reserves the right to provide alternative seats to those purchased.
- Events at The Yeovil Literary Festival last approximately 45 - 60 minutes unless otherwise stated.
- All transactions through the Box Office of value are subject to a £2.00 transaction fee.
- The advertised ticket price is inclusive of a £1.50 ticket levy to secure the future of arts and entertainment provision in Yeovil.

Yeovil Literary Festival Schedule

	TIME	VENUE
TUESDAY 9 SEP		
Heather Morris	7pm	St John's the Baptist Church
FRIDAY 17 OCT		
Claire Douglas	12pm	Yeovil Library
Damien Boyd	2pm	Yeovil Library
Emma Stonex	4pm	Yeovil Library
SATURDAY 18 OCT		
Harriet Evans	12pm	Yeovil Library
Sarah Easter Collins	2pm	Yeovil Library
Sally Smith	4pm	Yeovil Library
WEDNESDAY 22 OCT		
Sebastian Faulks	7.30pm	St John's the Baptist Church
THURSDAY 23 OCT		
Lyse Doucet	10am	Westlands Ballroom
Kate Bryan	12pm	Westlands Ballroom
The Countess of Carnarvon	2pm	Westlands Ballroom
Sir David Suchet	4pm	Westlands Ballroom
Sandi Toksvig	7.30pm	Westlands Ballroom
FRIDAY 24 OCT		
Paterson Joseph	12pm	Westlands Ballroom
Andrew Ziminski	12pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Amanda Barrie	12pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Jung Chang	2pm	Westlands Ballroom
Felicity Cloake	2pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Pen Farthing	2pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Patrick Grant	4pm	Westlands Ballroom
Patrick Galbraith	4pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Dr Lucy Pollock	4pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Mariella Frostrup & Belles Berry	6pm	Westlands Ballroom
Gareth Russell	6pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Gill Hornby	6pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Michael Palin	8pm	Westlands Ballroom
Chris Chibnall	8pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Holly Stars	8pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
SATURDAY 25 OCT		
Petroc Trelawny	12pm	Westlands Ballroom
LJ Ross	12pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Joanna Page	2pm	Westlands Ballroom
Lalage Snow	2pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Michelle Paver	2pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Paula Byrne & Rachel Parris:		
Our lives with Jane Austen	4pm	Westlands Ballroom
Advolly Richmond	4pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Vaseem Khan	4pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Alison Steadman	6pm	Westlands Ballroom
The Rainbow Fish Speak Easy!	6pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Abir Mukherjee	6pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Dr Richard Shepherd	8pm	Westlands Ballroom
Hot Poets	8pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Dr Janina Ramirez	8pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
SUNDAY 26 OCT		
Larry Lamb	12pm	Westlands Ballroom
YCAA: The Yeovil Literary Prize Winners	12pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Tanya Landman	12pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Michael Mørpurgo	2pm	Westlands Ballroom
Nicholas Jubber	2pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Tom Allan	2pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Orlando Murrin, Dianne Jeffrey & T Orr Munro	4pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Dr Joseph Jebelli	4pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Rose Ayling-Ellis	6pm	Westlands Ballroom
Dr Benji Waterhouse	6pm	Wheeldon Suite 1
Steven Moore	6pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
Huey Morgan	8pm	Westlands Ballroom
Amy Jeffs, Gwen Burns & Natalie Brice	8pm	Wheeldon Suites 2 & 3
MONDAY 27 OCT		
TJ Klune	12pm	Westlands Ballroom
Jackie Morris & Tamsin Abbott	2pm	Westlands Ballroom
Frances Tophill	4pm	Westlands Ballroom
Horror Panel with Keith Rosson & Ronnie Turner	6pm	Waterstones, Yeovil
Billy Bragg	8pm	Westlands Ballroom
WEDNESDAY 26 NOV		
Dame Mary Berry	7.30pm	Westlands Ballroom



Save the Date: **YLF 2026**
THU 22 - MON 26