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THE SUNDAY TIMES

CHELTENHAM

Literature
Festival

8-17 October 2021
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#cheltlitfest



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THE  TIMES
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CHELTENHAM

Literature
Festival

The warmest of welcomes to The Times and The Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival 2021!

We are thrilled and delighted to be back in our vibrant tented Festival Village in the heart of this beautiful spa town. Back at full strength, our packed programme for all ages is a 10-day celebration of the written word in all its glorious variety – from the best new novels to incisive journalism, brilliant memoir, hilarious comedy, provocative spoken word and much more.

With our brand new venue Voicebox, the Wild Woods especially for families and the return of the brilliant and bonkers Lit Crawl, you will find hundreds of free events on Montpellier Gardens, and in popular venues in town.

Over the last 18 months things have been tough for everyone – which makes this Festival – our 72nd in Cheltenham, even more special and exciting.

2021 sees the launch of Read the World, a major new three-year theme for the Times and The Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival.

Selecting the books that help us explore and understand the world and bringing together a cohort of internationally renowned speakers and thinkers, the Festival is your passport to a world of ideas. Bringing together world-leading names and fresh new voices we will be exploring the key issues of the day from a range of different perspectives and understanding more about cultural norms from around the globe.

Nicola Tuxworth

Head of Programming

The Times and The Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival

This listings leaflet is correct at time of sending – find programme updates online at cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature from 12 August

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L001 POWER, STATUS AND HOW WE USE IT			L004 THE ELECTION GENERALS		L009 LIFE LESSONS			L018 SKIN: PUNK ICON		L025 BERNARDINE EVARISTO: MANIFESTO				
Town Hall, Pillar Room			L002 AROUND THE WORLD IN 196 BOOKS		L006 RUTH OZEKI			L012 FOREIGN BODIES: CRIME FICTION			L021 DEBUTS AND COCKTAILS			L027 BEANS ON TOAST: FOOLHARDY FOLKTALES		
The Garden Theatre				L005 THE INTERIOR SILENCE		L007 MURDER ISN'T EASY: THE FORENSICS OF AGATHA CHRISTIE		L013 TO SEE THE STARS AGAIN		L017 JEANETTE WINTERSON 12 BYTES		L023 BRITAIN & RUSSIA: 200 YEARS OF RIDDLE MYSTERY, AND ENIGMA				
The Forum					L005 GEORGE III: BRITAIN'S MISUNDERSTOOD MONARCH		L010 MONICA GALETTI: COOKING AT HOME			L019 SOPHIE ELLIS-BEXTOR		L026 MILES JUPP				
The Inkpot						L008 THE TIMES LIVE		L015 IN DEFENCE OF D.H. LAWRENCE		L020 THE TIMES AND THE SUNDAY TIMES TRAVEL TEAM		L024 UNLOST: THE HEALING POWER OF THE WILD OUTDOORS				
The Hive							L011 PHILOSOPHER QUEENS: WOMEN OF IDEAS			L016 THE GREAT DIVIDE: THE STORY OF PARTITION		L022 IMPROMPTU SHAKE-SPEARE				
Hotel Du Vin														FESTIVAL CLUB		
	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am

10.30–11.30am L001

Psychology

Power, Status And How We Use It

Town Hall, Main Hall

£9

At work and in our personal lives, hierarchy exists in almost every interaction we have, driven by an unconscious obsession that provokes the best and worst in us: status. How does this preoccupation with power shape how we behave in a group, and how does this impact our personal and professional relationships? By understanding the hidden forces at play, can we become better leaders, better listeners, better friends? Businessman and former US Ambassador **Matthew Barzun** (*The Power of Giving Away Power*) shares the lessons we can learn from some of the most innovative leaders in recent history, introducing the 'constellation mindset' as the future of leadership. Writer **Will Storr** (*The Status Game*) shares the psychology behind the forces at play when it comes to power and status that will change how you see others – and how you see yourself. Chaired by **Georgina Godwin**.

11am–12pm L002

Read the World

Around The World In 196 Books

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

Writer and avid reader **Ann Morgan** always considered herself well-read until a closer look at her bookshelves revealed a different story. Bar a handful of titles by Australian, Indian and South African authors, it was English and North American writers that dominated her shelves, and she read almost nothing in translation. What followed was an ambitious goal: to read one book from every country in the world over the course of 2012, an undertaking that would go on to inspire a book, a TED talk and her long-running blog, *A Year of Reading the World*. She reflects on how a one-year reading challenge grew into a lifelong literary exploration and considers how our relationship to world literature has shifted in the 10 years since her initial quest.



12–1pm L003

Faith and Philosophy

The Interior Silence: 10 Life Lessons From A Monastic Life

The Garden Theatre

£10

Suffering from information overload and unable to sleep, **Sarah Sands**, former editor of BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme, tried many different strategies to de-stress. In a quest for hidden knowledge, she undertook a pilgrimage to ten monasteries around the world. From a Coptic desert community in Egypt to a retreat in the Japanese mountains, Sarah absorbed the wisdoms to be learned from monastic life, discovering a clarity of mind and an unexpected capacity for solitude. She recalls her experiences in conversation with **Elizabeth Adekunle**, Archdeacon of Hackney, London.

1–2pm L004

Current Affairs

The Election Generals

Town Hall, Main Hall

£12

The election generals are back! In a return of a Festival favourite, the historian and constitutional expert **Peter Hennessy** and the former BBC Chief Political Correspondent **John Sergeant** draw on their decades of experience and their extraordinary knowledge of the modern political landscape to discuss the hot topics of the day with their customary wit and light touch. They are joined by their host **Paddy O'Connell**, presenter of BBC Radio 4's *Broadcasting House*. **Peter Hennessy** will be joining us digitally from his home in London.

1.15–2.15pm L005

History

George III: Britain's Misunderstood Monarch

The Forum

£10

George III, Britain's longest-reigning king, has gone down in history as a cruel tyrant, a disaster who frittered away the colonies and went mad in his old age, and the pompous monarch of the musical *Hamilton*. Acclaimed historian and biographer **Andrew Roberts** takes the opposite view, arguing that George was a wise, humane and even enlightened king, brave at moments of crisis and stoical in the face of his descent – five times during his life – into mental illness. Offering a convincing, modern diagnosis for George's condition, he paints a nuanced portrait of the much-maligned monarch.

1.30–2.30pm L006

Fiction

Ruth Ozeki

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

The Booker Prize-shortlisted author of *A Tale for the Time Being* returns. Centred on 13 year old Benny Oh after the death of his beloved father, *The Book of Form and Emptiness* is both a vivid portrait of a small family enduring unimaginable loss, and a powerful meditation on how books can provide meaning and order in a tumultuous world. With early admirers including Dave Eggers, Matt Haig and David Mitchell (the latter of whom said: 'if you've lost your way with fiction...let *The Book of Form and Emptiness* light your way home'), it is hotly tipped to be one of 2021's biggest books. Chaired by **Alex Clark**.



2–3pm L007

Classic Literature

Murder Isn't Easy: The Forensics Of Agatha Christie

The Garden Theatre

£10

While other children were devouring the works of Enid Blyton and Beatrix Potter, mortician **Carla Valentine** was fascinated by Agatha Christie novels. Through the medium of the 'whodunnit' – her stories littered with dead bodies – the novelist was a pioneer of forensic science. Now a pathology technician working in mortuaries, Carla reveals the depth of Christie's knowledge and delves into the gruesome forensic world of her infamous murders.

2.15–3.15pm L008

Current Affairs

The Times Live

The Inkpot

£12

The famous leader columns in *The Times* have reflected the views of The Editor and the paper's most senior journalists since the early 19th century. In this ever-popular event which has been part of the Festival programme for over a decade, we go behind the scenes to find out how the topics for the leader columns are chosen. Join **Danny Finkelstein** and senior writers from the editorial team as they discuss the biggest, the most controversial and the quirkiest stories in the news before they write the leaders for the following day's newspaper.

3.30–4.30pm L009

Lifestyle

Life Lessons From Annie Macmanus And Candice Brathwaite

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

Internationally renowned DJ and broadcaster **Annie Macmanus**' sparkling debut novel *Mother Mother* explored grief, addiction and what it means to be a mother. Bestselling author and founder of Make Motherhood More Diverse **Candice Brathwaite** returns with her much-anticipated second book, *Sista Sista*. They discuss love, loss, trauma and belonging. Reflecting on their own experiences of family and motherhood, they share the advice and wisdom they wish they had been given when they were young and in need of guidance.

3.30–4.30pm L010

Lifestyle

Monica Galetti: Cooking At Home

The Forum

£12

Monica Galetti's career has taken her from her homes in Samoa and New Zealand to the professional kitchens of London. Now one of the best-known and most highly regarded chefs in the UK, she talks to **Alex Clark** about her journey so far, the importance of home and heritage and the influence this has on her cooking, as seen in her new book, *At Home*.

3.30–4.30pm L011

Faith and Philosophy

Philosopher Queens: Women Of Ideas

The Hive

£9

Philosopher **Suki Finn** (*Women of Ideas*) sits down with three women challenging the status quo in the typically male-dominated world of philosophy: **Amia Srinivasan** (*The Right To Sex*), **Rebecca Buxton** (*Philosopher Queens*) and **Kate Kirkpatrick** (*Becoming Beauvoir*). With increased scrutiny of the female experience following the rise of the #MeToo movement, who should we be looking at to theorise feminism in today's climate? Which female philosophers from the past can we take inspiration from and are their theories still useful to us today?

4–5pm L012

Read the world

Foreign Bodies: Crime Fiction Around The World

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10

As well as being gripping page-turners, crime novels reveal so much about the country or culture in which they are set. From exposing corrupt political systems, delving into a place's dark underbelly or interrogating the psychology of different nations, it is a fascinating genre through which to explore the world. Join our panel of international crime experts including bestselling Icelandic crime writer and founder of Iceland Noir Festival **Ragnar Jónasson** and **Mark Sanderson**, crime critic for *The Times* in conversation with our Literary Explorer in Residence **Ann Morgan**, for rich insights into how the genre differs around the globe and to hear their reading recommendations.



4–5pm

L013

Art, Design & Architecture

To See The Stars Again: Dante And The Visual Imagination

The Garden Theatre

£10

From Michelangelo and the Pre-Raphaelites to contemporary artists working today, through his vivid depictions of heaven, purgatory and hell, Dante's writing has captured the artistic imagination for centuries. To mark the 700th anniversary of his death, art historian **Martin Kemp** (*Visions of Heaven*) and Dante scholar **David Bowe** (*Rachel Owen: Illustrations for Dante's Inferno*) join Dante specialist **Heather Webb** to celebrate the enduring power of Dante's words and to explore his profound impact on the artists who have inherited his vision.

4.15–5.15pm

L015

Classic Literature

In Defence Of D.H. Lawrence

The Inkpot

£10

Frequently skewered by critics for his submissive heroines and bullying heroes, D.H. Lawrence is no longer censored but he is still on trial – and the jury is still out. On the centenary of the publication of *Women in Love*, **Frances Wilson** (*Burning Man*) traces his mercurial early career, delving into the memoirs of those who both loved and hated him most. **Alison MacLeod**'s novel *Tenderness* tells the story of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and the society that put it on trial, reflecting on freedom, female desire and the transformative power of fiction. In conversation with **Clare Clark**, they explore Lawrence's reputation, untangling the truth about one of the most complex and divisive modernist writers.

5.45–6.45pm

L016

History

The Great Divide: The Story Of Partition

The Hive

£9

The division of British India in 1947 – creating the nation states of India and Pakistan – led to terrifying outbreaks of sectarian violence and caused the greatest mass movement of humanity in history, as millions of people found themselves on the 'wrong' side of the borders. Ahead of the 75th anniversary of India's independence, Indian politician and former international diplomat **Shashi Tharoor** (*The Struggle for India's Soul*) and barrister **Marina Wheeler** (*The Lost Homestead*) – whose family was forced to flee the Punjab in 1947 – join BBC presenter **Anita Rani** (*The Right Sort of Girl*), to consider the impact and legacy of Partition, and how modern India has forged its identity.

6–7pm

L018

Stage & Screen

Skin: Punk Icon

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

The iconic lead singer of rock band Skunk Anansie and champion of LGBTQ rights **Skin** talks to presenter and DJ **Sophie K** about how a gay, black, working-class girl overcame poverty and prejudice to forge a hugely successful career in rock music spanning over 25 years, including being the first black British artist to headline Glastonbury, as told in her book *It Takes Blood and Guts*.

6–7pm

L017

Fiction

Jeanette Winterson: 12 Bytes

The Garden Theatre

£10

The Sunday Times bestselling author of *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit* and *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* **Jeanette Winterson** presents *12 Bytes*: twelve eye-opening, mind-expanding, funny and provocative essays on the implications of artificial intelligence on our lives. Drawing on her years of thinking and reading about A.I., she looks to history, religion, myth, literature, the politics of race and gender, and computing science to help us understand the radical changes occurring in the way we live and love.

6.15–7.15pm

L019

Stage & Screen

Sophie Ellis-Bextor: Spinning Plates And Kitchen Discos

The Forum

£30 Ticket includes a signed copy of *Spinning Plates* RRP £16.99

Singer, writer and pioneer of the lockdown kitchen disco, **Sophie Ellis-Bextor** candidly reflects on her life, from music to men to motherhood. From a childhood flogging Blue Peter badges in the playground to joining the audience straight from school, to finding love after heartbreak and becoming mother to five boys, Sophie pulls no punches in her autobiography. Honest, heartfelt and highly entertaining, and in conversation with **Alex Clark**.

6.15–7.15pm

L020

Travel and Adventure

The Times And The Sunday Times Travel Team

The Inkpot

£10

Since the pandemic began, most of us have stayed on home turf – and we're desperate to get back out into the world again... but the prospect of international travel now seems fraught with complications. Green list, amber list or something in between? Quarantine or multiple, costly tests? Fear not, our panel of experts is here to help. **Duncan Craig**, Travel Editor of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* is joined by Hotels and Spa Editor **Susan d'Arcy**, Cruise Editor **Sue Bryant** and Assistant Travel Editor **Ben Clatworthy** to explain how the industry is adapting, and how to make your travel plans with confidence in these times of uncertainty.

6.30–7.30pm

L021

Fiction

Debuts And Cocktails

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£12 Ticket includes a cocktail/mocktail

A number of today's bestselling and major prize-winning writers appeared at Cheltenham with their first books. It's time to meet the next generation. The Festival's Programme and Commissions Manager **Lyndsey Fineran** talks to three hand-picked debut novelists we think are ones to watch: **Caleb Azumah Nelson** (*Open Water*) **Anna Bailey** (*Tall Bones*) and **Salena Godden** (*Mrs Death Misses Death*).

8–9pm

L023

History

Britain And Russia: 200 Years Of Riddle, Mystery, And Enigma

The Garden Theatre

£10

Joining his friend, Times columnist **Danny Finkelstein** (*Everything in Moderation*) on stage, the former foreign secretary **David Owen** discusses his fascinating and timely analysis of 200 years of Britain – Russia relations, and why they have seemingly reached a new low in recent years. From pragmatic alliances to open hostility, *Riddle, Mystery, Enigma* depicts a relationship as often governed by principle as by suspicion, expediency, or outright necessity. Both countries have responded to years of waning international influence and geopolitical decline and are now dwarfed by the superpowers of China and the United States. Drawing on both imperial and Soviet history, Owen explains the unique nature of Putin's autocracy and addresses Britain's return to 'blue water' diplomacy.

8–9pm

L022

Off the Page

Impromptu Shakespeare

The Hive

£12

Sad that Shakespeare hasn't written anything new for over 400 years? Well, hold onto your doublets, ruffs and trunk hose. The Bard is back! With story and verse improvised in the moment, enjoy a riotous new Shakespeare play every time – performed by Impromptu Shakespeare's whip-smart cast. Packed with priceless wit, lyrical smarts, romance, and a dash of double-crossing, this leading ensemble do the Bard proud with a brand new one-act hit every time, inspired by audience suggestions. Impromptu Shakespeare have been a hit at the Edinburgh Fringe, Bristol Shakespeare Festival, and appeared on BBC Shakespeare Live.

'Side-splittingly hilarious' ★★★★★ (*BroadwayBaby.com*)'Ingenious' (*Will Gompertz, BBC Arts Editor*)

8.15–9.15pm

L024

Travel and Adventure

Unlost: The Healing Power Of The Wild Outdoors

The Inkpot

£10

Gail Muller (*Unlost*) was told she'd be wheelchair bound by the age of 40. At 41 she embarked on one of the world's toughest treks – The Appalachian Trail. Her tale is an inspiring, uplifting and moving account of one woman's incredible journey into the unknown. A love letter to the healing power of the wild outdoors and an incredible testament to the strength of the human spirit, Gail's story is for anyone who has ever felt stuck in a rut, lost or scared. She speaks to **Giovanna Fletcher** about her inspirational journey and how she found grit, determination and hope in the darkest of times.

8.30–9.30pm

L025

Fiction

Bernardine Evaristo: Manifesto

Town Hall, Main Hall

£12

Bernardine Evaristo's 2019 Booker win for *Girl, Woman, Other* – the first by a Black woman – was a revolutionary moment both for British culture and for her. After three decades as a trailblazing teacher, activist for untold stories and writer of eight novels and numerous other works that span the genres of verse fiction, short fiction, poetry, essays, literary criticism, journalism, radio and theatre, she moved from the margins to centre stage, taking her place in the spotlight at last. In this wide-ranging conversation with **Sarah Ladipo Manyika** she charts her remarkable life and career of creative rebellion and presents her manifesto for staying true to yourself and never giving up.

FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER

8.30–9.30pm

L026

Fiction

Miles Jupp

The Forum

£14

Star of *The Durrells* and *Would I Lie To You?* comedian **Miles Jupp** talks to author and presenter **Richard Osman**, with humour and humanity in his debut novel *History*, which tells the story of a hapless teacher trying to turn his life around and remind himself of what life used to be like.

9.30–10.45pm

L027

Off the Page

Beans on Toast: Foolhardy Folktales

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10

He's a hippy, a punk, a poet, a drunk, a die-hard romantic, an eternal optimist and a folk festival circuit favourite, and this year **Beans on Toast** brings his unique blend of songs and stories to Cheltenham. His popular first book *Drunk Folk Stories* told tales of youth, adventure and debauchery. Now 40 and still living a life less ordinary, his follow-up *Foolhardy Folk Tales* combines life lessons from a misspent youth up to a misspent middle-age. Join him for a unique and unpredictable evening of wild songs and the even wilder stories behind them, told with humour, honesty, warmth and wit.

10pm–1am

Festival Club

Hotel du Vin

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L029 ELENA FERRANTE		L053 JOE BIDEN: A QUIET REVOLUTIONARY?		L059 TAKE TWO: STARTING AGAIN IN MIDLIFE		L044 ED MILIBAND: GO BIG		L050 JONATHAN FRANZEN						
Town Hall, Pillar Room		L032 BERNARDINE EVARISTO: BLACK BRITAIN, WRITING BACK		LF15 DEBUTS AND MOCKTAILS		L040 CRIME IN A COLD CLIMATE: RAGNAR JONASSON AND WILL DEAN		L045 THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT: LAUREN GROFF AND SARAH HALL		L055 TORREY PETERS AND ELIZABETH DAY						
The Garden Theatre		LF05 LIZ PICHON: TOM GATES		LF12 SUPERTATO AND FRIENDS		L057 ANITA RANI AND NIKESH SHUKLA		L041 PHOTOGRAPHY NOW		L048 GENERATION Z: A LOST GENERATION?		L056 I'VE NEVER READ...				
The Forum		LF01 JOE WICKS: THE BURPEE BEARS		L054 SEBASTIAN FAULKS		L058 THE TIMES DEBATE: MASTERS OF OUR DESTINY?		L045 DAWN FRENCH AND BERNARDINE EVARISTO		L049 HAYLEY MILLS: COMING OF AGE IN HOLLYWOOD		L057 PHIL WANG: SIDESPLITTER				
The Inkpot		LF06 ONCE THERE WAS A BEAR		LF13 BEN MILLER: HOW I BECAME A DOG CALLED MIDNIGHT		LF19 THE WEEK JUNIOR DEBATE: WHO'S THE VILLET VILLAIN?		L042 PASTURES NEW: THE FUTURE OF FARMING		L047 ACROSS OCEANS: BRITISH CARIBBEAN ART		L054 DAVID AARONOVITCH AND PETER BROOKES				
The Hive		LF02 NEVER SHOW A T-REX A BOOK!		LF08 ATLAS OF ADVENTURES		LF16 SCI-FI BOOK JAM		LF22 THE WALLOOS' BIG ADVENTURE		LF24 PAGES & CO.		L052 UN NUEVO SOL: BRITISH LATINX WRITERS				
Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre		L030 FAMILY STORIES: EXPLORING THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE		LF10 GROW: SECRETS OF OUR DNA		LF17 NADIA SHIREEN: GRIMWOOD		LF23 CLARE BALDING: FALL OFF, GET BACK ON, KEEP GOING		L046 RAYMOND ANTROBUS AND KAYO CHINGONYI						
The Daffodil		L031 THE QUEER BIBLE BRUNCH CLUB		L055 GILES COREN HAS NO IDEA								L051 DINNER AT SAMBOLSHIOK				
The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel		LF03 WORKSHOP: WRITING SCARY STORIES JENNIFER KILLICK		LF11 WORKSHOP: YOUNG JOURNALISTS WITH THE WEEK JUNIOR				LF20 WORKSHOP: YOUNG JOURNALISTS WITH THE WEEK JUNIOR								
The Victoria's						L036 ANTHONY ANAXAGOROU'S MASTERCLASS: HOW TO WRITE IT										

 Family Event

10–10.45am

LF01

Family

Joe Wicks: The Burpee Bears

The Forum

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 4+

Come and hear all about *The Burpee Bears*, the lovable new picture book characters created by the nation's favourite PE teacher and global fitness phenomenon **Joe Wicks**. Find out about the adventures Joe has in store for this modern-day bear family as they tackle the ups and downs of everyday family life and be ready to join in with their exercise routines. With lots of fun guaranteed, this lively event is a must for families that enjoyed PE with Joe during lockdown and perfect for energetic little bears everywhere!

10–10.45am

LF02

Family

Never Show A T-Rex A Book!

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 3+

What would happen if you showed a T-Rex a book? Or if a Stegosaurus knew how to do sums? Well, what would happen? Could they learn to code, to invent, to fly to the moon...? Author **Rashmi Sirdeshpande** celebrates the power of maths, reading, and the possibilities of the imagination in this high energy family event. Featuring readings of her madcap, super silly stories rooted in the transformative power of learning, as well as drawing activities, this event is sure to leave little ones inspired.

10–11am

L029

Fiction

The Sunday Times Award For Literary Excellence: Elena Ferrante

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10



With over 15 million copies of her Neapolitan Novels sold in 45 languages across more than 50 countries, adaptations of her work in high demand across TV, film and stage and named as one of *Time's* 100 Most Influential People, the Italian writer **Elena Ferrante** is a global literary sensation. We are thrilled that she will be the recipient of the **2021 The Sunday Times Award for Literary Excellence**, joining an elite list of winners that includes Ted Hughes, Seamus Heaney, Harold Pinter, Margaret Atwood, Anne Tyler, Ian McEwan, John Le Carre, Kazuo Ishiguro and Edna O'Brien. Famously anonymous, Ferrante is represented at the Festival by an actor (to be announced) who will deliver a specially commissioned lecture and her publisher **Eva Ferri** joins us to accept the award.

10–11am

L030

History

Family Stories: Exploring The Jewish Experience

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£9

In *House of Glass*, journalist **Hadley Freeman** tells the story of her grandmother, Sala Glass, and her three brothers as they each made extraordinary bids for survival during the Second World War; described as 'a near perfect study of Jewish identity in the 20th century... a masterpiece' (*Telegraph*). **Meriel Schindler's** acclaimed family memoir *The Lost Café Schindler* uncovers a devastating private history set against the wider story of the Jews of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. They talk about unpacking family histories, and the complexity of the Jewish narrative, with *Times* columnist **Danny Finkelstein**, whose grandfather Alfred Wiener (*The Fatherland and the Jews*) chronicled rising antisemitism in 1920s Germany, and later founded the Wiener Holocaust Library.

10–11am

LF03

Family

Workshop: Writing Scary Stories With Jennifer Killick

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 9+

Join **Jennifer Killick**, author of the comedy-horror novels *Crater Lake* and *Crater Lake: Evolution* to help you find ideas to write your own scary story. Jennifer finds inspiration all around her, every day, simply by changing the way she looks at the world. In this workshop she will help you use your 'suspicious eyes' to find weird, creepy, disgusting and interesting things right under your noses. You will develop your ideas into the start of a story that is full of imagination.

10–11.30am

L031

Lifestyle

The Queer Bible Brunch Club

The Daffodil

£22 Ticket includes brunch. Doors open 30 minutes before event

We stand on the shoulders of giants. It's time we learn their names. Award-winning translator **Frank Wynne** (*Queer*) and journalist **Jack Guinness** (*The Queer Bible*) share stories of queer icons and trailblazers throughout history, from ancient times to yesterday. They look back at tales from Catullus and Sappho through to modern day icons like Divine and RuPaul, and celebrate queer history and the people, the community and the allies that have inspired them.

10.15–11.15am LF05

Family

Liz Pichon: Tom Gates

The Garden Theatre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 8+

Come and join **Liz Pichon** to CELEBRATE 10 years of Tom Gates! There'll be plenty of fun, games, music, shoes with GADGETS, snacks and DOODLING – so bring a PEN and PAPER. This is your chance to ask Liz a question at the Q&A about any of the books, *Ten Tremendous Tales* or even the BRAND NEW BOOK – *Random Acts Of Fun*. See you there!

10.30–11.15am LF06

Family

Once There Was A Bear

The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 5+

We all have a place in our hearts for the adventures of Winnie-the-Pooh, as told by A.A. Milne in *Winnie-the-Pooh* and *The House at Pooh Corner*. To celebrate the 95th anniversary of this much-loved children's classic, we welcome author **Jane Riordan** with an enchanting new story collection *Winnie-the-Pooh: Once There Was a Bear*, the official anniversary prequel. Get to know more about Pooh, Piglet and Eeyore and find out how they came to Christopher Robin's playroom. Enjoy an adventure with them to London Zoo as part of an interactive storytelling experience and join in a draw-along inspired by the iconic illustrations of E.H. Shepard.

10.30–11.30am L032

Classic Literature

Bernardine Evaristo: Black Britain, Writing Back

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

Festival Guest Curator and 2019 Booker Prize winner **Bernardine Evaristo** in collaboration with Penguin has curated a landmark new series of lost or hard-to-find books, now rediscovered, by Black writers writing about Black Britain and the diaspora across the last century. From literary thrillers and historical novels to a dynamic range of non-fiction, join Bernardine as she offers a guide through the series and talks to three of the selected writers about their novels: **Judith Bryan's** family psychodrama *Bernard and the Cloth Monkey*, **Jacqueline Roy's** story of mental health *The Fat Lady Sings* and **Nicola Williams'** legal thriller, *Without Prejudice*.

11.30am–12.30pm LF08

Family

Atlas Of Adventures



The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 7+

Come on an awe-inspiring journey of discovery with **Lucy Letherland**, illustrator of the best-selling *Atlas of Adventures* series. Find out about some of the most iconic animals and impressive landscapes from each corner of the globe, all imbued with a gentle conservationist message. Watch Lucy give an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at how she created the books and help bring some of her favourite characters to life in a fun-filled drawing workshop: from Greenland's ginormous blue whale to the cheeky penguins of Antarctica. Plus, prizes to be won in a fact-finding Atlas quiz! Sure to inspire any adventurer to set off on their own voyage of discovery around the world.

12–1pm LF10

Family

Grow: Secrets Of Our DNA

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 5+

Join **Nicola Davies**, the award-winning author of *Tiny, Lots and A First Book of Nature* for an event full of fun facts about biology and DNA. All living things grow – every plant and every animal, including human beings. Some things grow fast and others grow slowly; some things grow by tiny degrees, while others grow to be enormous. Yet there's something about the way we grow that links us all together. Ever since you were the size of a dot, your body has been following a set of instructions: a code which connects you with every creature on the planet and we are more the same than we realise! The perfect event for curious children who love science, animals and nature.

12–1.30pm LF11

Family

Workshop: Young Journalists With The Week Junior

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 9+

Imagine being paid to interview inspiring authors, brilliant scientists, artists, film stars and adventurers. That's exactly what the journalists at *The Week Junior* and *The Week Junior Science+Nature* get to do – and in this exciting interactive workshop, they'll reveal how they work out what to ask and how they turn interviews into interesting articles. Features editors, **Ben Isaacs** and **Ciaran Sneddon** will share their five golden rules before inviting participants to interview two mystery guests and write up the results for a chance to see their work published in *The Week Junior*.

12.15–1.15pm

L033

Current Affairs

Joe Biden: A Quiet Revolutionary?

Town Hall, Main Hall

£12

After the tumultuous and violent end to the Trump presidency, what has changed in America? Joe Biden stepped into the White House declaring that "America is back". Facing a deeply divided nation and with an expansive agenda including taming coronavirus, reshaping the economic recovery, overhauling climate policy and re-thinking America's relationship with the rest of the world, the new president has a daunting task on his hands. Joining us on stage to reflect on the first months of the Biden-Harris era are **Leslie Vinjamuri**, Director of the US and the Americas Programme at Chatham House, Times columnist **Danny Finkelstein** (*Everything in Moderation*) and the former US ambassador **Matthew Barzun** (*The Power of Giving Away Power*).

12.15–1.15pm

L034

Fiction

Sebastian Faulks

The Forum

£12

The bestselling and award-winning author of 15 acclaimed books including *Birdsong*, *Charlotte Gray*, *Human Traces* and *Paris Echo* joins novelist **Clare Clark** to discuss *Snow Country*, a landmark novel of exquisite yearnings, dreams of youth and the sanctity of hope set in Europe as it recovers from one war and hides its face from the coming of another.

12.15–1.15pm

LF12

Family

Supertato And Friends

The Garden Theatre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 4+

A laugh-out-loud, sing-along event from the creators of the bestselling Supertato series **Sue Hendra** and **Paul Linnet**. Join Sue and Paul to play games, have a giggle and sing the Supertato song! Expect spooky noises, naughtiness from the Evil Pea and a mystery that Supertato and the veggies will solve together as they read from their brand-new book *Supertato: Night Of The Living Veg*.

12.30–1.30pm

LF13

Family

Ben Miller: How I Became A Dog Called Midnight

The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 7+

Enter a world of wonder with actor, director, comedian and children's author **Ben Miller** (*The Day I Fell Into a Fairytale*, *The Night I Met Father Christmas*). Find out what it's like to become a dog as Ben talks with **Julia Wheeler** about his new magical-mishap adventure book *How I Became a Dog Called Midnight* and why he likes to share heart-warming stories that children, their families and carers will love reading together.

12.45–1.45pm

LF15

Young Adult

Debuts And Mocktails

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10 Ticket includes a mocktail on arrival. Recommended for 13+ and young adults

Online creator at *Booksandquills* and Young Adult Book Prize judge **Sanne Vliegthart** (*Book Club Journal*) presents three top 2021 YA debut novelists: **Natasha Bowen** author of *Skin of the Sea*, an epic love story infused with West African mythology; Harry Potter illustrator **Jason Cockcroft** and his illustrated, tense, atmospheric tale *We Were Wolves*; **Caroline O'Donoghue** with her dark, supernatural story *All Our Hidden Gifts*. Join the book chat with this talented trio and find out what appeals to them about writing YA, their different creative processes, and their paths to being published. Pose your own questions to our panel too.

1–3pm

L035

Lifestyle

Giles Coren Has No Idea

The Daffodil

£35 Ticket includes a two-course lunch and glass of wine. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Each week **Giles Coren** finds himself with no idea what to write about in his weekly column. Having read all the papers and found nothing of interest whatsoever, he takes a break and does the school run. That's where his wife and fellow journalist **Esther Walker** comes in. Upon his return, Esther has half a dozen ideas and is ready to knock them around with him over the kitchen table and a much-needed pot of coffee. Join Esther and Giles for a delicious lunch as they speak about their witty, charming and chart-topping podcast.

1.30–2.30pm

LF16

Family

Sci-Fi Book Jam

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 9+

Guaranteed to give you goosebumps, **Jennifer Killick's** *Crater Lake* books and **Dan Smith's** *Crooked Oak Mysteries* are fast-paced, sinister, compelling science fiction adventures that will have readers on the edge of their seats. Talking with author **Anna James** (*Pages & Co.*) our two sci-fi authors discuss suspense, scares, twists and turns. The, join in the book jam with our authors to create a strange, eerie story together.

2–3pm

LF17

Family

Nadia Shireen: Grimwood

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 7+

Enter the riotously funny forest of Grimwood, where fox cub siblings Ted and Nancy are on the run from Princess Buttons, the scariest street cat in the Big City! Shortlisted for the Roald Dahl Funny Prize, author and illustrator superstar **Nadia Shireen** brings her wildly funny Grimwood characters to life in this interactive family event as Nadia shows you how she draws Grimwood's quirky inhabitants and reads from her new laugh-your-head-off, fully-illustrated new series.

2–3.30pm

L036

Creative Writing Workshop

Anthony Anaxagorou's Masterclass: How To Write It

The Victoria's

£16 Ticket includes tea and coffee

Join us for a masterclass in the craft of writing and poetry from one of Britain's most celebrated poets and educators. The T.S. Eliot Prize nominee **Anthony Anaxagorou** (*How To Write It*) reflects on his journey so far and the evolving and often daunting publishing scene. In this interactive event, he shares tips, anecdotes and publishing advice for anyone interested in getting their work – be it a poem, short story or novel – out into the world.

2.15–3.15pm

L037

Memoir

Anita Rani And Nikesh Shukla

The Garden Theatre

£10

Broadcaster **Anita Rani's** memoir *The Right Sort of Girl* recalls growing up in 1980s Yorkshire with her Punjabi family, trying to navigate her Indian world at home and the British world outside her front door, and feeling that she didn't fit in anywhere. **Nikesh Shukla** (*Brown Baby*) considers – sometimes with humour, sometimes with rage – the world his young daughters are growing up in, and how to raise them with joy and optimism. They talk to Bradford Literature Festival Director **Syima Aslam** about bridging two cultures; about race, feminism and how to empower the next generation of young girls.

2.30–3.30pm

L039

Lifestyle

Take Two: Starting Again In Midlife

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

If the question is "Why start again in middle age?", then the answer is a resounding "Why not?" Whether it's a slow realisation that the life you've built no longer fits, or a dramatic upheaval that leaves you with little choice, starting afresh can be extremely daunting. For **Lucy Kellaway** (*Re-Educated*) and **Laura Friedman-Williams** (*Available*) it was the best thing that could have happened to them. Speaking with **Sam Baker**, author of *The Shift*, they share their witty and moving stories of career changes, new relationships and the joy and pain of starting again.

2.30–3.30pm

L038

Current Affairs

The Times Debate: Masters Of Our Destiny? Global Britain Post Brexit

The Forum

£14

Free from the obligations of EU membership, Britain has an opportunity to aspire to a new global role. But how should Britain define itself on the world stage? With our world-leading intelligence agencies, and both hard and soft power at our disposal, there are certainly choices to be made. In March 2021 Boris Johnson stated that Britain should become "a problem-solving and burden-sharing nation with a global perspective" but what does this mean and how might it be done? This year, our chair for The Times Debate is *Times* Radio's Drive host and former BBC Deputy Political Editor **John Pinearr**. He joins the broadcaster, Economist editor and former foreign correspondent **Anne McElvoy**, the former Conservative Party Leader and Foreign Secretary **William Hague** and the former soldier, MP and chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee **Tom Tugendhat** for this unmissable discussion.

2.30–3.30pm

LF19

Family

The Week Junior Debate: Who's The Vilest Villain?

The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 9+

Children's books are awash with vile villains and cruel characters. From puppy-stealing Cruella de Vil to greedy Count Olaf and the terrifying Grand High Witch, readers love to hate foul fictional figures. Join authors **Maz Evans** (*Vi Spy*) and **M G Leonard** (*Adventures on Trains*) with host author and book reviewer for *The Week Junior* **Katherine Woodfine** (*Taylor & Rose*) and special guests to decide who should be crowned the wickedest of them all.

Curated with The Week Junior.

3–4pm

L040

Fiction

Crime In A Cold Climate: Ragnar Jónasson And Will Dean

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10



We are delighted to bring together two of the hottest names from the world of cold crime. Icelandic writer **Ragnar Jónasson** is the award-winning author of the internationally bestselling *Dark Iceland* series and the *Hulda* Trilogy. *The Times* selected *The Darkness* as one of their '100 Best Crime Novels and Thrillers since 1945'. **Will Dean** lives in the heart of a Swedish forest where he writes his acclaimed *Tuva Moodyson* series, the latest of which, *Bad Apples*, is tipped to be his most terrifying yet. Together with **Julia Wheeler** they discuss their chilling works and unique writing lives.

3–4.30pm

LF20

Family

Workshop: Young Journalists With The Week Junior

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 9+

Imagine being paid to interview inspiring authors, brilliant scientists, artists, film stars and adventurers. That's exactly what the journalists at *The Week Junior* and *The Week Junior Science+Nature* get to do – and in this exciting interactive workshop, they'll reveal how they work out what to ask and how they turn interviews into interesting articles. Features editors, **Ben Isaacs** and **Ciaran Sneddon** will share their five golden rules before inviting participants to interview two mystery guests and write up the results for a chance to see their work published in *The Week Junior*.

3.30–4.15pm

LF22

The Walloos' Big Adventure

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 2+

Join the brilliant **Anuska Allepuz**, author-illustrator of *That Fruit is Mine!* and *Little Green Donkey* for a brand-new adventure with the Walloos! Join the Walloo family as they travel to a mysterious tropical island. The air is fresh, the plants so tall and green but when the gang begin picking the island's plants Little Walloo gets a funny feeling...What is that sound? And is the island...moving?! Little ones will love this heart-warming storytelling and drawing session with Anuska and the Walloos!

4–5pm

LF23

Family

Clare Balding: Fall Off, Get Back On, Keep Going

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£15; £5 child

All children must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Adult ticket £15. Recommended for ages 9+

Adult ticket includes a signed copy of *Fall Off, Get Back On, Keep Going* RRP £9.99.

Clare Balding is a TV presenter, sportswoman, bestselling author and all-round national treasure. Her new book for children *Fall Off, Get Back On, Keep Going* is a handbook about resilience, where Clare shares her warm, funny and reassuring personal insights into what it means to make mistakes and be unafraid of failure. In this event, Clare will talk about themes from the book, including personal anecdotes about how falling off and failure have not only been helpful, but vital to her success. She'll also chat about tips and tools she's learned from high profile people at the pinnacle of their profession and include a lot of practical ideas to boost confidence.

4.15–5.15pm

L041

Art, Design & Architecture

Photography Now: Through The Contemporary Lens

The Garden Theatre
£10



In the last century, photography was always novel. Now, it feels like our world is over-saturated with images. In the 21st century, what can photography do that is new? Sharing striking imagery from some of the world's most exciting photographers working today, *Elephant* Editor and journalist **Charlotte Jansen** (*Photography Now*) and writer and photographer **Caleb Azumah Nelson** (*Open Water*) explore how these artists are finding new ways to tell stories – and new stories to tell – through their pioneering style, and with it redefining photography for the modern age.

4.30–5.30pm

L042

Nature

Pastures New: The Future Of Farming

The Inkpot
£10

The pandemic has shown that we need to think carefully about how we feed the nation – and thrown light on how much we ask of the countryside. Our landscapes are caught between a rustic ideal and industrial reality, between what we say we want and what we will actually pay for. Nature is at breaking point, and so is our farming industry. Writer and photojournalist **Bella Bathurst** (*Field Work*) and fell farmer and author of *The Shepherd's Life* **James Rebanks** (*English Pastoral*) explore how we got into this mess, and what we need to do about it. Chaired by **John Tucker** of The Woodland Trust.

4.45–5.45pm

L043

Fiction

Dawn French And Bernardine Evaristo

The Forum
£14

Two award-winning authors, the comedian and actress **Dawn French** and 2019 Booker Prize winner and Professor of Creative Writing at Brunel University **Bernardine Evaristo** talk about their bestselling novels which narrate tales of women's experiences. Dawn's latest novel *Because of You* is a wise and heart-breaking story about mothers and daughters, while Bernardine's *Girl, Woman, Other* is a multi-generational novel about black British womanhood. This will be a unique opportunity to hear two of the nation's favourites in a wide ranging and thought-provoking conversation.

5–6pm

L044

Current Affairs

Ed Miliband: Go Big

Town Hall, Main Hall
£12

Good news: the solutions to our problems already exist. Great news: a once-in-a-generation appetite for change means that we can make them happen. From affordable housing to tackling the climate crisis, for the past four years **Ed Miliband** has been discovering and interviewing brilliant people all around the world who are tackling problems, transforming communities and pioneering global movements. At this rare moment in history when people everywhere see the need for big change, through *Go Big* he shows that although the challenges we face are daunting, the scale of what is possible is far greater. Chaired by **Hannah MacInnes**.

5.15–6.15pm

LF24

Family

Pages & Co.

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 8+

Go bookwandering with author **Anna James** as she talks about her love of books, building new worlds and meeting characters from her favourite stories in a Pages & Co event all about inspiration and ideas. Find out about the latest Pages & Co adventure *The Book Smugglers* and hear about the places that have inspired Anna as she shares photos, ideas and tips to help young writers and readers find inspiration in their own lives. With plenty of questions and interactivity, this event is suitable for readers who are already Pages & Co fans, or who are new to the series.

5.30–6.30pm

L045

Historical Fiction

The Long And Short Of It: Lauren Groff And Sarah Hall

Town Hall, Pillar Room
£10



Ask a keen reader on either side of the pond for their favourite short story writers and **Sarah Hall** or **Lauren Groff** are bound to be named. Both acclaimed writers of the short story form and also lauded for their novels including Groff's New York Times bestseller *Fates and Furies* and *Halls'* Booker shortlisted *The Electric Michelangelo*, we are thrilled to bring them together in conversation for the very first time. Together with **Alex Clark** they introduce their anticipated new novels *Matrix* and *Burntcoat* and share insights into their craft across short and longer forms.

6–7pm

L046

Off the Page

Raymond Antrobus And Kayo Chingonyi

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£9

Don't miss your chance to hear from two of the poetry world's brightest stars. **Raymond Antrobus'** astonishing debut collection *The Perseverance* won both The Rathbones Folio Prize and The Ted Hughes Award and saw him named as The Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year 2019. His new collection *All the Names Given* is an essential investigation into language, miscommunication, place and memory. **Kayo Chingonyi** has had a similarly lauded start, winning the prestigious Dylan Thomas Prize and a Somerset Maugham Award, and was shortlisted for the Costa Poetry Prize for his first full-length collection, *Kumukanda*. He returns with *A Blood Condition*, a dazzling and expansive collection exploring family, identity and his Zambian heritage, hailed as 'a thing of beauty' by *The Guardian*.

6.30–7.30pm

L048

Current Affairs

Generation Z: A Lost Generation?

The Garden Theatre

£10

Generation Z, specifically those between the ages of 18 and 23, will arguably feel the shockwaves of the global pandemic most acutely in the coming years. Whether it's ambitions for a dream job being derailed or missing out on social milestones that many will have previously taken for granted, the young have had to put their lives on hold. What is the economic, social and health-related fallout that we should be preparing for, and how do we meet the priorities of young people to ensure that they thrive in the face of apparent adversity? Writer and economist **Grace Blakeley** (*The Corona Crash*), policy expert and generations researcher **Bobby Duffy** (*Generations*) and psychologist **Bruce Hood** join **Julia Wheeler** to explore how a generation of young people have been transformed by their experiences of Covid-19 and what we can do to define the world beyond it.

6.30–7.30pm

L047

Art, Design & Architecture

Across Oceans: British Caribbean Art

The Inkpot

£10



From the vivid and energetic canvases of Grenada-born artist Denzil Forrester to the colourful, revolutionary portraits of Sonia Boyce, we celebrate the compelling work of artists from the Caribbean who made their home in Britain, and of those whose art addresses Caribbean themes and heritage. Beginning with Britain's Caribbean Artists Movement, which started in a small London flat in 1966, through to contemporary artists working today, in an event that spans a whole ocean and half a century, artist **Richard Mark Rawlins** and art historian and curator **Aindrea Emelife** trace how these artists have transformed British culture and society through their expression of the Caribbean experience in all its complexity. Chaired by **Brenda Emmanuel**.

7–8pm

L049

Memoir

Hayley Mills: Coming Of Age In Hollywood

The Forum

£12

Teenage idol and star of family movies *Pollyanna*, *The Parent Trap* and *In Search of the Castaways*, **Hayley Mills** lived her teen years in Hollywood not being allowed to grow up. Here she talks to film critic **Jason Solomons** about the pressures on her life until she was 21 and her thoughts about that time as remembered in her warm memoir *Forever Young*.

7.15–8.15pm

L050

Fiction

Jonathan Franzen

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10



Internationally bestselling and hailed by *The Guardian* as 'a literary genius for our time', **Jonathan Franzen's** novels are widely celebrated for their unforgettably vivid characters and their keen-eyed take on the complexities of contemporary America. He returns with *Crossroads*, the story of a Midwestern family navigating the political and social crosscurrents of the last 50 years, told with his characteristic humour, perception and warmth. Novelist **Clare Clark** talks to the author live from his home in the US about his highly anticipated new novel and his wider writing life.

7.30–10pm

L051

Lifestyle

Dinner At Sambol Shiok

The Daffodil

£55 Ticket includes a three-course dinner and glass of wine. Bar open until late. Doors open 30 minutes before event.



Inspired by recipes handed down from her mother and memories of boisterous, hot hawker centres in Kuala Lumpur, **Mandy Yin's** love of Malaysian cuisine has taken her from home cook to owner of a critically acclaimed, award-winning London restaurant Sambol Shiok, where a table is the hottest ticket in town. She speaks about the richness of Malaysian culture and cuisine, and the journey of her restaurant's rise to the top. Catch her while you can!

7.45–8.45pm

L052

Poetry

Un Nuevo Sol: British LatinX Writers



The Hive

£9

Festival Guest Curator **Bernardine Evaristo** in collaboration with **Nathalie Teitler** presents a selection of the writers showcased in *Un Nuevo Sol*: the first major anthology of UK-based writers of Latin American heritage, and a vibrant new vanguard in British literature. Joining them are 2019 Keats-Shelley Prize winner and author of *Ballad of a Happy Immigrant*, the Argentinian-British poet **Leo Boix**, Mexican-born, Scotland-based poet and performer **Juana Adcock** and Brazilian-Italian-British poet **Patrizia Longhitano**. They perform their work which channels and celebrates the rich mythology and scope of Latin American literature, but carries a uniquely British gene.

8.30–9.30pm

L055

Fiction

Retransition, Divorce And Starting Anew: Torrey Peters And Elizabeth Day



Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10

When American author **Torrey Peters** published her groundbreaking novel *Detransition, Baby* – a modern comedy of errors centred on a triad of trans and cis women considering co-parenting a child – she dedicated it to divorced cis women, suggesting that the experiences of divorce and transitioning gender are closer than people might think: each involves a radical process of starting over again in adulthood, a severing with a past version of yourself, and the courage to forge a future with a new name, identity and outlook. Talking via live link from the US to **Elizabeth Day**, they discuss divorce, de-transition and the pains and pleasures of reinventing yourself.

8.30–9.30pm

L056

Classic Literature

I've Never Read...

The Garden Theatre

£12

How does it feel to take a leap into the literary unknown? Or to tackle a classic work you have always vaguely intended to read but somehow never got round to? We all have preferences as to what we read, and we tend to stay in our bookish comfort zones. In this annual event, now a Festival favourite, our host **Marcus Brigstocke** takes three Festival authors out of their reading safe spaces as they discuss their own reading preferences and the book they have never read... until now.

Line-up to be announced.

8.30–9.30pm

L054

Current Affairs

David Aaronovitch And Peter Brookes

The Inkpot

£12

The Times master of satire and multi award-winning cartoonist **Peter Brookes** presents *Desperate Times*, his catalogue of one of the most eventful years on record. From Trump to Biden and from COVID-19 to Brexit, these beautiful and hilarious cartoons give an unsparing critique of our political leaders both at home and abroad. Joined on stage by **David Aaronovitch**, his friend and colleague from *The Times*, Peter will reflect on the art and craft of satire, its continuing relevance in difficult times, and will draw live for the audience.

9–10pm

L057

Comedy

Phil Wang: Sidesplitter

The Forum

£12

Comedian **Phil Wang** was born in the UK to an English mother and Chinese-Malaysian father. He addresses the issue of embracing two different cultures at once with *Times* journalist **Hugo Rifkind**, reflecting on his experience of race and belonging as told in his book *Sidesplitter: How To Be From Two Worlds At Once*.

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L062 THE SUNDAY PAPERS WITH MARCUS BRIGSTOCKE		L066 FRANCE AND GERMANY: THE OTHER SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP?			L069 LITERATURE'S GREATEST BORES		L074 FIGHTING TALK: LESSONS IN WOMEN'S STRENGTH		L080 ELIZABETH DAY AND CAROLINE O'DONOGHUE		L089 STREET ART BOY: KEITH HARING AND THE NEW YORK SCENE			
Town Hall, Pillar Room		L064 A CELEBRATION OF QUEER WRITING		LF37 MALORIE BLACKMAN AND FEMI FADUGBA: ALTERNATE REALITIES			L071 SURVIVING AND THRIVING AS A YOUNG WRITER		L076 THE SUNDAY TIMES MUST READS: KATHERINE HEINY			L085 MEET THE INTERNATIONAL LITERARY EDITORS				
The Garden Theatre		L065 HOW TO READ A LATIN POEM		LF34 CRESSIDA COWELL: READING IS MAGIC		L068 THE TIMES LIVE		L072 A POET FOR EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR		L078 THE VAN GOGH SISTERS		L086 LOCKDOWN LAUGHS				
The Forum		L061 PETER SCHMEICHEL		L065 DR ALEX GEORGE: A TOOLKIT FOR WELLBEING			L070 MARY BEARD: IMAGES OF POWER		L075 THE SUNDAY TIMES DEBATE		L081 JOSH WIDDICOMBE		L088 RICHARD OSMAN			
The Inkpot		LF28 ROB BIDDULPH: PEANUT JONES AND THE ILLUSTRATED CITY		LF35 LUNA LOVES DANCE			LF41 HOW TO BE HAPPY		L073 RE-MAPPING TRAVEL WRITING		L079 AFRICAN FEMINISM: VOICES OF RESISTANCE		L087 IN BLACK AND WHITE: A YOUNG BARRISTER'S STORY			
The Hive		LF25 CARYL HART: MEET THE OCEANS		LF31 ALEX MILWAY: BIG SKY MOUNTAIN		LF38 CARYL HART: MEET THE OCEANS		LF42 DAPO ADEOLA		LF45 EMPATHYLAB BOOK JAM		L082 JACKIE MORRIS: ART, DREAMS AND FAIRYTALES				
Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre		LF29 EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT DINOSAURS IS WRONG				LF39 THE END OF THE PIER SHOW		LF44 JOSHUA SEIGAL: YAPPING AWAY!		L077 MARK BILLINGHAM		L084 HOLLIE MCNISH: SLUG				
The Daffodil		L060 THE BEAUTY DIRECTOR'S BRUNCH			L067 SUNDAY LUNCH WITH AINSLEY HARRIOT							L083 SEA AND SHORE: DINNER AND STORIES FROM A CORNISH KITCHEN				
The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel		LF26 WORK-SHOP: NATURE JOURNALING		LF33 WORK-SHOP: HOW TO MAKE AWESOME COMICS WITH NEILL CAMERON		LF40 WORK-SHOP: HOW TO MAKE AWESOME COMICS WITH NEILL CAMERON										
The Strand Restaurant					L300 PAN'S LABRYRINTH			L301 THE UMBRELLAS OF CHERBOURG		L302 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS						

 Family Event

10–10.45am

LF25

Family

Caryl Hart: Meet The Oceans



The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 4+

Come on an exciting underwater adventure to meet all the beautiful oceans and seas of our world with picture book author, **Caryl Hart**. *Meet the Oceans* is a gentle introduction to protecting our oceans from plastics and pollution. From the Atlantic and deep Pacific to the sparkling Mediterranean – little ones will have a whale of a time listening to the story and hearing all about the animals and fish that inhabit our oceans! You'll even get to make your own sea creatures in a wonderful craft activity. Perfect for all little deep-sea explorers.

10–11am

L062

Current Affairs

The Sunday Papers With Marcus Brigstocke

Town Hall, Main Hall

£12

Join your host **Marcus Brigstocke** as he tears through the tabloids and bashes through the broadsheets with a panel of Festival authors. Up before dawn, they have been wading through the Sundays so you don't have to... picking out the important stuff, the funny stuff and the you-couldn't-make-it-up stuff. Expect insightful chat, witty banter and some strong opinions from the stage in this favourite Festival highlight.

Line up to be announced – watch this space!

10–11am

L061

Sport

Peter Schmeichel

The Forum

£12

A serial winner and larger-than-life character, **Peter Schmeichel** rivalled Gordon Banks and Lev Yashin as the world's greatest goalkeeper. In *One: My Autobiography* this giant of the game looks back on a life in football, sharing highlights from his decade playing for Manchester United and representing the Danish national team, delving into the lesser-known details of his life and celebrating the success of his son Kasper in continuing his legacy.

10–11am

LF26

Family

Workshop: Nature Journaling

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 6+

Children will be going outdoors so please ensure they are dressed appropriately.

Inspire and encourage children to get outside and explore the natural world around them with author and illustrator **Mary Richards** in this interactive nature- journaling workshop. Based on Mary's illustrated guided journal, *Take Me Outdoors*, children will complete lists, draw pictures and invent stories, thinking carefully about the environment and nature as they experience it – what they can see, hear and feel, and how they can look after it. A must for children curious about the incredible world they live in.

10–11.30am

L060

Lifestyle

The Beauty Director's Brunch

The Daffodil

£25 Ticket includes brunch. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Over the last year, as the world shut down, our beauty regimes changed – we dyed our own hair, gave ourselves manicures and experimented with new products. But with an abundance of lotions, potions and treatments to choose from, it's hard to know what works. *The Sunday Times* Style's Beauty Director **Sarah Jossel** will be joined by two of the country's leading beauty experts, founder of Skin Nerd **Jennifer Rock** and skincare specialist and aesthetics doctor **Dr Ifeoma Ejikeme** to share their not-to-be-missed tips, trends and beauty hacks. The trio will be on hand to answer your questions on how to perfect your skincare regime and look your best.

10.15–11.15am

L063

Ancient World

How To Read A Latin Poem

The Garden Theatre

£10

Back by popular demand, the Classics dons **Mary Beard**, **Llewelyn Morgan** and **Peter Stothard** come together to introduce you to ancient poetry written in its original Latin. Join in as they guide you through the language, explain the context and reveal hidden meanings. Translations are provided and only minimal knowledge of Latin required.

10.30–11.30am L064

Fiction

A Celebration Of Queer Writing

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

Festival Guest Curator and 2019 Booker Prize winner **Bernardine Evaristo** presents four stellar writers from the Queer community. **Andrew McMillan's** debut *physical* was the first poetry collection to win The Guardian's First Book Award and his second, *playtime*, won the 2019 Polari Prize. He returns with *pandemonium*. **Mary Jean Chan's** debut *Flèche* won the 2019 Costa Book Award's Poetry category and saw her receive an Eric Gregory Award. **Paul Mendez'** intersectional coming of age novel *Rainbow Milk* drew widespread attention from the literary world – with The Sunday Times hailing him as 'a unique new voice in the British novel' – and was shortlisted for the Jhalak Prize. An acclaimed poet in his own right, with his collection *Soho T.S. Eliot Prize*, Costa Book Award and Forward Poetry Prize shortlisted, **Richard Scott** guides the discussion.

10.30–11.30am LF28

Family

Rob Biddulph: Peanut Jones And The Illustrated City

The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 9+

Join Guinness World Record-breaking, award-winning and bestselling author/illustrator **Rob Biddulph** to celebrate the launch of *Peanut Jones and the Illustrated City*, the first book in his brand-new middle-grade series for boys and girls. Fizzing with magic, danger, friendship and art, this exciting and funny adventure is just what you would expect from the creative genius behind #DrawWithRob. Find out more about the book, learn about Rob's artistic journey and take part in an exclusive live Peanut Jones-themed episode of Draw With Rob.

10.30–11.30am LF29

Family

Everything You Know About Dinosaurs Is Wrong

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 7+

Don't miss the perfect event for young dino lovers. Do you really know all there is to know about dinosaurs? They're mean, green and not very smart, right? Well, this event is here to show you that maybe *Everything You Know About Dinosaurs is Wrong!* Join **Dr Nick Cumpton** for a fabulously fossilised event to uncover the truth and become a paleontology pro in no time. Uncover jaw-dropping research to debunk many myths about all kinds of prehistoric creatures – you'll never look at a pigeon the same way again!

11.30am–12.30pm LF31

Family

Alex Milway: Big Sky Mountain

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 5+

Inspired by Alex's own childhood with his grandma in the Malvern Hills, young readers who like animals and dream of exciting outdoor adventures with just a touch of magic, will love **Alex Milway's** (*Hotel Flamingo*) new adventure series *Big Sky Mountain*. Discover some of his brilliant new characters, including a talking moose called Albert and watch as he brings them to life with live singing, drawing and dancing.

12–1pm LF33

Family

Workshop: How to Make Awesome Comics With Neill Cameron

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 8+

Neill Cameron's comic books (*Freddy VS School*, *Freddy and the New Kid*, *Mega Robo Bros*) mix regular school and family life with AWESOME ROBOTIC SUPERHERO ACTION! In this workshop, Neill shows participants how to draw robot schoolboy Freddy, and then works with them to create and develop their own (awesome) ideas for comics, based on their own lives and experiences at school – but with added dinosaurs, alien vampires and explosions!

12.15–1.15pm L066

France And Germany: The Other Special Relationship?

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10



France and Germany, often acting together, have guided the European Union for over six decades, providing backbone and stability. In recent years, Emmanuel Macron and Angela Merkel have struggled to see eye to eye, yet Franco-German cooperation is fundamental to the EU's success; one German diplomat compared it to "two sides of an accordion... Each side knows they are joined to the other. And they know they can only produce a nice sound together." In the wake of the German election, author and broadcaster **John Kampfner** (*Why The Germans Do It Better*) and Paris bureau chief for *The Economist* **Sophie Pedder** (*Revolution Française*) join *The Times* Diplomatic Editor **Roger Boyes** to assess the current political landscape, the strategic priorities for France and Germany, and their key cultural differences. How will the UK's relationship with both countries change post-Brexit?

12.15–1.15pm L065

Psychology

Dr Alex George: A Toolkit For Wellbeing

The Forum

£12

Catapulted to fame on Love Island in 2018, **Alex George** has spent the last year on the frontline of the pandemic in his job as an A&E doctor, lifting the spirits of the nation with his optimistic social media posts. A tireless campaigner for the wellbeing of young people, in February he was appointed the UK's Youth Mental Health Ambassador. Now on a mission to empower us all to take positive control of our health, he shares *Live Well Every Day*, a toolkit for all aspects of wellbeing, from the healthy habits that will boost your immune system, to managing the social pressures of our busy lives and the importance of taking care of our minds.

18–30 and want to share thoughts and ideas on how to shape the future of mental health support for young people? Chat to Alex and get your voice heard in our free Young Minds Matter event in VoiceBox.

12.15–1.15pm LF34

Family

Cressida Cowell: Reading Is Magic

The Garden Theatre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 9+

Magic yourselves along to meet Blue Peter Book Award winning author and Waterstones Children's Laureate, **Cressida Cowell**, creator of the *How to Train Your Dragon* books and *The Wizards of Once* series. In this highly energetic event, find out what inspires Cressida to write stories, how she learnt to draw and what it's like to have your books made into films. Sharing her top tips on writing and passion for reading, this is an unmissable event for young dragons, wizards, readers and writers!

12.30–1.30pm LF35

Family

Luna Loves Dance

The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 3+

When Luna dances, she feels like the world's volume turns up, like all colours brighten, like sunlight sparkles behind every cloud. Join performance poet and author **Joseph Coelho** and illustrator **Fiona Lumbers** as they share their latest Luna Loves adventure, *Luna Loves Dance*. With live drawing and magical, interactive readings of *Luna Loves Dance* and *Luna Loves Art*, discover the joy of dancing, art and the importance of family, whatever your culture, ability or style!

12.45–1.45pm

Young Adult

LF37

Malorie Blackman And Femi Fadugba: Alternate Realities

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£6 Recommended for ages 12+ and young adults.

Two epic thriller writers join forces to reveal the inspiration and imagination behind crafting their books in alternate realities. It's 20 years since the ground-breaking publication of **Malorie Blackman's** science fiction series *Noughts & Crosses*. This hugely popular series has been adapted for both stage and screen and finally we have the much-anticipated conclusion – *Endgame*. Based on the theory of relativity and the science of time travel, debut novelist **Femi Fadugba's** *The Upper World* is soon to be a major Netflix movie starring Oscar winner Daniel Kaluuya (*Get Out*, *Black Panther*, *Judas and the Black Messiah*). How did they do it? What was it like to have their works adapted for stage and screen? Join these two remarkable writers in conversation with journalist **Sarah Shaffi**.

Malorie Blackman is joining the event digitally.

1–3pm

Lifestyle

L067

Sunday Lunch With Ainsley Harriot

The Daffodil

£35 Ticket includes two-course lunch and a glass of wine. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Warm your cockles and raise your spirits with some delicious, hearty grub! Share a joyful Sunday lunch with one of the nation's all-time favourite chefs, the cookery legend that is **Ainsley Harriott**. Celebrating the release of his latest book *Good Mood Food*, he speaks about his love of food and his incredible career.

1–3.30pm

Film

L300

Pan's Labryinth

The Strand Restaurant

£8



In the Falangist Spain of 1944, Ofelia, the bookish young stepdaughter of a sadistic army officer escapes into an eerie but captivating fantasy world. Guillermo Del Toro's bewitchingly bonkers coming-of-age story explores themes of love through family and femininity with his usual technical flare and distinct dreamlike style. The intriguing dichotomy between the reality of war and the fantasy of the Labyrinth can tell us a lot about Francoist Spain in unexpected ways and the film is often hailed as the best fantasy of all time.

1.15–2pm

LF38

Family

Caryl Hart: Meet The Oceans



The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 4+

Come on an exciting underwater adventure to meet all the beautiful oceans and seas of our world with picture book author, **Caryl Hart**. *Meet the Oceans* is a gentle introduction to protecting our oceans plastics and pollution. From the Atlantic and deep Pacific to the sparkling Mediterranean – little ones will have a whale of a time listening to the story and hearing all about the animals and fish that inhabit our oceans! You'll even get to make your own sea creatures in a wonderful craft activity. It's perfect for all little deep-sea explorers.

1.30–2.30pm

LF39

Family

The End Of The Pier Show

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 7+

At the end of a soon-to-be-closed-down pier in a forgotten seaside town, Pierre the pier handyman spends the last weeks as he always does: catching fish for his old bedridden mother and making strange and wonderful things from the rubbish he finds on the beach. Then who should wash into his life but a homeless mermaid with a spiky attitude and a story to tell! Renowned stand-up poet **Jonny Fluffypunk** presents his new show with poetry, puppetry, story, songs and a healthy dose of ramshackle anarchy.

2–3pm

LF40

Family

Workshop: How to Make Awesome Comics With Neill Cameron

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 8+

Neill Cameron's comic books (*Freddy VS School*, *Freddy and the New Kid*, *Mega Robo Bros*) mix regular school and family life with AWESOME ROBOTIC SUPERHERO ACTION! In this workshop, Neill shows participants how to draw robot schoolboy Freddy, and then works with them to create and develop their own (awesome) ideas for comics, based on their own lives and experiences at school – but with added dinosaurs, alien vampires and explosions!

2.15–3.15pm

L068

Current Affairs

The Times Live

The Garden Theatre

£12

The famous daily leader columns in *The Times* have reflected the views of The Editor and the paper's most senior journalists since the early 19th century. In this ever-popular event, which has been part of the Festival programme for over a decade, we go behind the scenes to find out how the topics for the leader columns are chosen. Join **Danny Finkelstein**, **David Aaronovitch** and senior members of the editorial team as they discuss the biggest, the most controversial and the quirkiest stories in the news before they write the leaders for the following day's newspaper.

2.30–3.30pm

L069

Literature's Greatest Bores

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

After the storming success of 'Heathcliff vs Darcy: Who's the Bigger Sh*t?' followed by 'They F*ck You Up Your Mum and Dad: Literature's Worst Parents' and most recently, 'Literary Top Trumps: Which Fictional Character Could Do a Better Job in The White House?', **Sebastian Faulks** returns with another stellar panel ready to do bookish battle. 2020 reigning champ **Caroline O'Donoghue**, award-winning author, journalist and podcaster **Elizabeth Day** and critic and novelist **Anthony Quinn** will use their wit and wiles to try to expose some of literature's most esteemed characters (Jay Gatsby? Holden Caulfield? Linda Radlett?) for the dullards they truly are.

2.30–3.30pm

L070

Ancient World

Mary Beard: Images Of Power

The Forum

£14

In light of the ongoing debate about public statues of controversial figures, the question of which individuals we commemorate is more important than ever. Classicist **Mary Beard** (*Twelve Caesars*) tells the story of how, for more than two millennia, portraits of the rich, powerful, and famous in the Western world have been shaped by images of Roman emperors, especially the "twelve Caesars," from the ruthless Julius Caesar to the fly-torturing Domitian. In conversation with **Llewelyn Morgan**, she explores why these murderous autocrats have loomed so large in art from antiquity and the Renaissance to today.

2.30–3.30pm

LF41

Family

How To Be Happy

The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 9+

What makes you smile? How can you feel happier? And why does making someone else happy increase your own happiness? In this wellbeing-boosting event, *The Week Junior's* editorial director **Anna Bassi** is joined by authors **Cath Howe** (*How to Be Me*), **Anna McNuff** (*100 Adventures to Have Before You Grow Up*) and **Matthew Syed** (*You Are Awesome and Dare To Be You*) to explore why feeling good is good for you. They'll share tips and tricks for dealing with difficulties, explain how to practice being positive, and help you help yourself be happier.

Curated with *The Week Junior*.

2.45–3.30pm

LF42

Family

Dapo Adeola: We're Going To Find The Monster!

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 4+

Set off on a rip-roaring adventure with Waterstones Children's Book Prize winning illustrator **Dapo Adeola**. Let's go over the shimmering ocean, up the huge, high mountain, through the deep, dark forest to find a MONSTER in his brand-new picture book, written by **Malorie Blackman**. *We're Going to Find the Monster!* Making a virtual appearance, Malorie will tell this hilarious story. Then get creative with Dapo in a draw-along inspired by the book with lots of opportunity to ask Dapo your questions and show him your drawings.

3–4pm

L071

Poetry

Surviving And Thriving As A Young Writer

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

The literary world is not an easy one to break into but fear not: our expert panel of successful young writers are on hand to share their respective paths into the industry and offer their tips, tricks and advice to the next generation of budding authors. Poet and *Sunday Times* Young Writer of the Year 2019 **Raymond Antrobus** (*The Perseverance*), Booker longlisted novelist **Gabriel Krauze** (*Who They Was*) and **Eliza Clark**, author of Blackwell's 2020 Fiction Book of the Year, *Boy Parts* join *Sunday Times* Literary Editor **Andrew Holgate** to discuss how to survive and thrive as a young writer today.

4–5pm

LF44

Family

Joshua Seigal: Yapping Away!

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 5+

Fill your world with laughter with poet and performer **Joshua Seigal** as he presents his brand-new poetry collection *Yapping Away*. Winner of The Laugh Out Loud Book Awards 2020, Joshua's events are filled with raucous humour, creativity and wit. Don't miss your chance to discover the eight steps for having a successful tantrum, and why you should NEVER attend a Teddy Bear's Picnic (you have been warned). Join in as words are brought to life!

4–4.45pm

L301

Film

The Umbrellas Of Cherbourg

The Strand Restaurant

£8

This ravishing French New Wave musical follows Madeleine's heartbreak as she is separated from her lover Guy when he is drafted to join the Algerian War. Damien Chazelle's *La La Land* was famously inspired by this film and the influence of its director Jaques Demy is unquestionable. From the bold use of a primary colour palette, swelling emotional score and the harsh taste of the reality of love, this unconventional and stylized musical transports you to 1950s France.



4.15–5.15pm

L072

Off the Page

A Poet For Every Day Of The Year



The Garden Theatre
£10

From classic poets to living luminaries, **Allie Esiri**'s newest poetry anthology *A Poet for Every Day of the Year* is the perfect introduction to 365 of the world's greatest verse writers. Spanning 3000 years and featuring the poetry of Homer and Shakespeare through to Leonard Cohen and Ocean Vuong, join Allie for a lively and engaging tour through the lives of our greatest global poets, their words brought to life by actors (line-up to be announced).

4.30–5.30pm

LF45

Family

EmpathyLab Book Jam



The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 9+

Imagine having the power to step into someone else's shoes and see the world from their point of view. As part of our Read the World theme we celebrate the power of reading to build real-life empathy skills, enabling readers to understand how other people think and feel. Author **A. M. Dassu** (*Boy, Everywhere*), author and performance poet **Joseph Coelho** (*Luna Loves* series and *The Girl Who Became a Tree*) and **EmpathyLab** founder **Miranda McKearney** talk about the transformative power of books and invite you to join in with some brilliant empathy-boosting activities.

4.30–5.30pm

L073

Travel

Re-Mapping Travel Writing

The Inkpot
£10

What is the point of travel writing in a world already widely mapped and documented, and who are the modern-day writers and explorers shaping the way that we experience and interpret the world? In *The Travel Writing Tribe*, lifelong travel writing aficionado **Tim Hannigan** speaks with many legendary practitioners – from Dervla Murphy to William Dalrymple – to trace the history of the genre and explore some of its controversies. **Georgina Lawton**'s *Black Girls Take World*, a travel bible for young women of colour, introduces a new generation of storytellers and change-makers determined to rewrite their own travel narratives. They talk to **Jenny Coad**, Deputy Travel Editor at *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, about where travel writing can go in the 21st century.

4.45–5.45pm

L074

Sport

Fighting Talk: Lessons in Women's Strength

Town Hall, Main Hall
£10

Undefeated professional and Olympic boxer **Ramla Ali** (*Not Without a Fight*) fought every step of the way to become a champion against all the odds. A former war refugee named as one of *Vogue* magazine's 'forces for change' in 2019 in recognition of her humanitarian work, her life inside and outside the ring represents her ruthless refusal to quit and a passion to fight for what she believes in. For writer **Poorna Bell** (*Stronger*), taking up weightlifting after the death of her husband allowed her to tap into her inner strength – both physical and mental – when she needed it most. They share their empowering personal stories of resilience and determination, inviting us to challenge everything we thought we knew about women's strength. Chaired by **Sam Baker**.

4.45–5.45pm

L075

Current Affairs

The Sunday Times Debate: China, The Challenge To The West

The Forum
£14

How should western powers respond to the growing threat from China? Nimble, ambitious, strategically aggressive, and backed by huge wealth, technological ability and firepower, modern China is very different from the lumbering and sclerotic autocracies of the 20th Century. The economic growth of China and the increasing prosperity of her citizens has not resulted in the liberalisation of the Communist regime – as the continued repression of the Uyghur minority and tensions over Hong Kong and Taiwan indicate. The past decade has, if anything, strengthened Chinese leaders' view that economic reform is possible without liberalizing politics. Can China be persuaded to re-engage with a rules-based world order, a stated ambition of the Biden administration? How might this be done – and what levers of international co-operation could be brought into play? *The Sunday Times* Editor **Emma Tucker** joins the Shadow Foreign Secretary **Lisa Nandy** MP, **Leslie Vinjamuri**, Director of the US and the Americas programme at Chatham House, and the author and *Times* columnist **Edward Lucas**, to discuss the options for the West.

5.15–6.15pm

L076

Fiction

The Sunday Times Must Reads: Katherine Heiny



Town Hall, Pillar Room
£10

Described by *Sunday Times* reviewer India Knight as ‘funny’, ‘wonderfully profound’ and a book which ‘makes you glad to be alive’, *Early Morning Riser* is the acclaimed new novel from the author of *Standard Deviation* and *Single, Carefree, Mellow*, **Katherine Heiny**. Exploring the deep pleasures and frequent exasperations of small-town life, the joy and frustrations of domesticity and about what, in the end, constitutes happiness, it has earned comparisons with the work of Anne Tyler, Nora Ephron and Curtis Sittenfeld – and deserves a spot on your autumn reading pile. She talks to **Helen Davies** of *The Sunday Times* via live link from her home in Maryland.

6–7pm

L077

Fiction

Mark Billingham

Cheltenham Ladies’ College, Parabola Arts Centre
£10

Mark Billingham is one of the UK’s bestselling crime novelists. His new book *Rabbit Hole* takes us through the dark and tormented world of Alice, who is investigating a murder in a psychiatric unit. The problem is, Alice is also a patient. Mark talks to **Julia Wheeler** about the book, his heroine, and this claustrophobic, gripping read.

6.30–7.30pm

L078

Art, Design & Architecture

The Van Gogh Sisters



The Garden Theatre
£9

The lively and revealing correspondence that Vincent van Gogh maintained with his art-dealer brother Theo is famous as a source of insight into the life and mind of one of the most celebrated artists of all time. But what of Anna, Lies and Willemien van Gogh, with whom Vincent had intimate and sometimes turbulent relationships? Delving into previously unpublished personal correspondence, **Willem-Jan Verlinden** brings Vincent’s three sisters out from their brothers’ shadow in this beautifully illustrated event. In a story that takes us from the Netherlands’ idyllic countryside to London, Paris, Brussels and beyond, he shares a spellbinding family history that is as vibrant as van Gogh’s paintings.

6.30–7.30pm

L079

Read the World

African Feminism: Voices Of Resistance



The Inkpot
£9

In a conversation programmed by Festival Guest Curator **Bernardine Evaristo**, we bring together **Emma Dabiri** (*What White People Can Do Next*) and **Minni Salami** (*Sensuous Knowledge: A Black Feminist Approach for Everyone*) to discuss the rich and diverse field of African feminism. Prying apart the Western-focused systems of power and privilege that have dominated ways of thinking for centuries, together they discuss a more globally-minded approach that offers fresh insights into the key cultural issues that affect women’s lives today. Chaired by **Sarah Ladipo Manyika**.

6.30–8.45pm

L302

Film

House Of Flying Daggers



The Strand Restaurant
£8

Yi-Mou Zhang’s *House Of Flying Daggers* is a Chinese martial arts spectacle set at the end of the Tang Dynasty. The drama and romance of Lin and Mei’s whirlwind love story is twisted with suspicion, betrayal and passion. As a police Captain he uses her to guide him to the leader of her rebel organisation and a thrilling adventure ensues. With the success of Ang Lee’s *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* in 2000 the popularity of these action-packed extravaganzas soared as they re-told stories of ancient China. There is simply no other cinema like it and its influence has been seen around the world.

6.45–7.45pm

L080

Elizabeth Day And Caroline O’Donoghue

Town Hall, Main Hall
£12

The much-loved author and host of the chart-topping podcast *How To Fail* joins **Caroline O’Donoghue** to discuss *Magpie*: her tense and twisting new thriller about mothers and children, envy and possession, and the dangers of getting everything you’ve ever dreamed of.

7–8pm

L081

Comedy

Josh Widdicombe

The Forum
£14

Comedian **Josh Widdicombe** reminisces fondly with **Matthew Stadlen** about the TV shows that entertained him and united his friends when he was a teenager in the 90s. Talking about his book *Watching Neighbours Twice A Day: How 90s TV (Almost) Prepared Me For Life*, he looks back on his rural childhood with a commentary on the TV programmes such as *Neighbours* and *Gladiators* which influenced and coloured his formative years.

7.15–8.15pm

L082

Off the Page

Jackie Morris: Art, Dreams And Fairytales

The Hive

£9

Jackie Morris is a prize-winning, internationally bestselling illustrator and author with many long-term creative collaborations including Ted Hughes, Robin Hobb and most recently Robert Macfarlane, on the phenomenally successful *The Lost Words* and *The Lost Spells*. As publishers Unbound prepare to reissue special editions of Jackie's fairytales *East of the Sun, West of the Moon* and *The Wild Swans* she joins her friend and publisher **John Mitchinson** for a special evening of live drawing and conversation about a remarkable creative life.

7.30–10pm

L083

Lifestyle

Sea And Shore: Dinner and Stories From a Cornish Kitchen

The Daffodil

£55 Ticket includes a three-course dinner and glass of wine. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Close your eyes and think of a place where the sky meets the sea; where the weather changes from moment to moment; where the coastline is beautifully rugged and where surf breaks on endless sandy shores. Join us for an evening of food, music and storytelling that celebrates the rugged and beautiful isles of Cornwall. Renowned chef **Emily Scott** (*Sea and Shore*) and sea shanty enthusiast **Gerry Smyth** (*Sailor Song*) speak with **Tim Hubbard** as you feast on Cornish recipes that capture the soul and essence of the coast.

8–9pm

L084

Off the Page

Hollie McNish: Slug

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£10

With Benjamin Zephaniah stating 'I can't take my ears off her', Kae Tempest describing her poetry as 'welcoming, galvanising and beautiful' and fans ranging from Robin Ince, Pink, Tim Minchin and Marian Keyes to most of the UK's midwives, **Hollie McNish** is a poet whose readings are not to be missed. She returns by very popular demand to perform work from her new *Sunday Times* bestselling book, *Slug*, an honest, funny and refreshing look at modern life described as 'a taboo-busting delight' by The Scotsman. With support from former UK Poetry Slam champion **Deanna Rodger**.

8.15–9.15pm

L085

Fiction

Meet The International Literary Editors

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10

We love getting a glimpse behind the Books pages of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* in our popular 'Meet the Literary Editors' session. In a special companion event as part of our new 'Read the World' theme, we are delighted to bring together three major figures from some of the world's leading Books pages. Joining **Clare Clark** in conversation are **Pamela Paul** of *The New York Times*, **Ijoma Mangold** of Germany's *Die Zeit* and **Martin Doyle** of *The Irish Times*. Together they offer insights into their respective literary cultures and what the role of a Literary Editor looks like across the globe.



8.30–9.30pm

L086

Comedy

Lockdown Laughs

The Garden Theatre

£12

Having kept us entertained through lockdown with his television series about two actors on Zoom – *Staged* with Michael Sheen and David Tennant – **Simon Evans** has now brought out a book of the show's complete illustrated scripts, *Completely Staged*. Here he teams up with comedian **Will Hislop**, whose lockdown online videos such as 'Your Aunt at the NHS clap' and 'Feminist F***boy on a Date' had the nation in stitches. The duo take a light-hearted look at how comedy kept us all sane during the pandemic with **Hannah McInnes**.

8.30–9.30pm

L087

Current Affairs

In Black And White: A Young Barrister's Story

The Inkpot

£9

It is a profession steeped in tradition but how do we move towards a justice system that work for everyone, no matter their background or experience? As a junior criminal and family law barrister, **Alexandra Wilson** finds herself navigating a world and a set of rules designed by a privileged few. In 2020 she unwillingly made the headlines after highlighting prejudice against her, when she was mistaken for a defendant three times in one day due to the colour of her skin. Recreating the tense courtroom scenes, the heart-breaking meetings with teenage clients, and the moments of frustration and triumph that make up a young barrister's life, she shares her powerful account of life on the front line of justice.

9–10pm

L088

Fiction

Richard Osman

The Forum

£16

The popular *Pointless* host burst on to the book scene last autumn with *The Thursday Murder Club*, a warm and witty novel of septuagenarian friends solving crimes from their nursing home. It became the fastest selling adult crime debut since records began, beating Barack Obama, David Walliams and JK Rowling to reach Christmas No.1, and has sold well over one million copies. 12 months on – and with Steven Spielberg now holding the film rights – Richard returns to Cheltenham to reflect on the book's remarkable success and introduce the next instalment, *The Man Who Died Twice*, in conversation with **Alex Clark**.

9.15–10.15pm

L089

Art, Design & Architecture

Street Art Boy: Keith Haring And The New York Scene

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10



A part of the legendary New York art scene that erupted in the 1980s, Keith Haring was inspired by graffiti, pop art and underground club culture. A collaborator of artists including Andy Warhol and Jean-Michel Basquiat as well as cultural icons David Bowie, Grace Jones and Vivienne Westwood, Haring's colourful and iconic motifs revolutionised the worlds of pop culture and fine art. As much an activist as an artist, Haring's work responded to urgent issues including racism, homophobia and the environment. Curator and street art expert **Rafael Schacter**, art historian and queer art specialist **Fiona Anderson** and others explore the wild, creative energy behind what has become some of the most recognisable art of the past 30 years and celebrate the enduring legacy of Keith Haring's short and vibrant life.

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L092 UNDERSTANDING RUSSIA			L094 THE EU: A FAILED STATE?			L100 JONATHAN DIMBLEBY: HOW HITLER LOST THE WAR			L110 GLOBAL FEMINISM: CONVERSATIONS WITHOUT BORDERS					
Town Hall, Pillar Room			L093 SHAKE-SPEARE AND COMPANY, PARIS			L095 WRITERS IN PARIS		L104 THE WIND-SWEPT ISLES: TALES FROM THE FAROES			L111 GIRLHOOD, INTERRUPTED: LIZE SPIT AND NANCY TUCKER		L118 A CELEBRATION OF SCOTTISH WRITING			
The Garden Theatre		L091 COVID BY NUMBERS				L099 VAXXERS: THE RACE AGAINST THE VIRUS		L106 BARONESS HALE: SPIDER WOMAN			L112 HOW TO ACHIEVE THE IMPOSSIBLE					
The Forum					L096 STRICTLY SHIRLEY BALLAS			L108 HOW TO AVOID ANOTHER PANDEMIC			L113 JOHN BARNES					
The Inkpot						L097 PAGE TURNING THRILLERS: LISA JEWELL AND KIA ABDULLAH		L103 FEARING THE FUTURE: IS TECHNOLOGY A THREAT?					L117 LEONARD COHEN: THE MYSTICAL ROOTS OF GENIUS			
The Hive							L101 IDENTITY CRISIS? THE MIXED-RACE EXPERIENCE			L109 DOSTOEVSKY IN HIS OWN WORDS			L115 JED MERCURIO AND PRASANNA PUJAWANARAJAH: SLEEPER			
The Daffodil	L090 BREAKFAST WITH THE TIMES: THE EU POST BREXIT							L102 AFTERNOON TEA AT JANE'S PATISSERIE								
The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel						L098 ULTIMATE AUTUMN STYLE WITH ANNA MURPHY		L105 DRESS TO BE SEEN WITH ANNA MURPHY								
	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am

8.30–10am

L090

Current Affairs

Breakfast With The Times: The EU Post Brexit

The Daffodil

£22 Ticket includes a continental breakfast. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

When Britain left the EU, the bloc lost one of its most influential and prosperous members. What does the future hold for this vast and powerful group of nations? As Germany sees the end of the Merkel era, and the French elect a new President in 2022, our panel of experts assesses the way forward. Are we witnessing the gradual decline of the bloc, with increasing disillusionment among member states, or is the EU revitalised and more stable without the troublesome Brits? Join *Sunday Times* Editor **Emma Tucker**, *Times* Diplomatic Correspondent **Catherine Philp** and **Anand Menon**, Director of UK in a Changing Europe, for this insightful discussion.

10–11am

L091

Science

Covid By Numbers

The Garden Theatre

£10

Which countries have been hit hardest by the virus? How have the lockdown measures affected the economy, mental health and crime? This year we have been bombarded by statistics – seven day rolling averages, rates of infection and excess deaths. Never have numbers been more central to our national conversation, and never has it been more important that we think about them clearly. In *Covid By Numbers* the epidemiologist **David Spiegelhalter** and the statistician **Anthony Masters** crunch the data on a year like no other, exposing the leading misconceptions about the virus and the vaccine, and answering our essential questions, in conversation with *The Times* Science Editor **Tom Whipple**.

10.30–11.30am

L092

History

Understanding Russia

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10



Can anyone truly understand Russia? At the crossroads of Europe and Asia – a country with no natural borders, no single ethnos, no true central identity – it is everyone's 'other'. And yet it is one of the most powerful nations on earth, a master game-player on the global stage. **Mark Galeotti** (*A Short History of Russia*) and Carnegie Moscow Center Director **Dmitri Trenin** (*Russia*), who joins us via live link from Moscow, take us back to the heart of the Russian story: from the formation of a nation to revolution, the collapse of the Soviet Union, and Putin's post-Communist era. In conversation with **Judith Pallot**, professor of the human geography of Russia at the University of Oxford, they journey deep into the Russian psyche and explore the country's ambition today, using the fascinating history of a nation to illuminate its future.

11am–12pm

L093

Classic Literature

Shakespeare and Company, Paris: The Rag And Bone Shop Of The Heart

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10



'I created this bookstore like a man would write a novel, building each room like a chapter, and I like people to open the door the way they open a book, a book that leads into a magic world in their imaginations'
— George Whitman

Opened in 1951 by George Whitman, Shakespeare and Company has been a meeting place for writers and readers in the heart of Paris for over 70 years. Its name was bestowed by Sylvia Beach who saw it as a spiritual successor to her own bookshop which had been a meeting place for the great expat writers of the era: Hemingway, Eliot, Fitzgerald, Stein and Pound. From the day it opened its doors, Whitman's bookshop showed a similar magic with James Baldwin, Anais Nin and Allen Ginsberg among its early visitors and thousands more writers, artists and intellectuals making use of the shop's infamous 'tumbleweed' policy: sleeping for free in the stacks in exchange for helping in the shop. **Georgina Godwin** talks to its current owner and George's daughter **Sylvia Whitman** on live link from the bookshop about life at the helm of one of Paris' most treasured literary institutions.

1–2pm L094

Current Affairs

The EU: A Failed State?

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

Has the EU project failed? The last decade has seen the Union beset by crisis: the eurozone storm, the refugee tragedy and the Brexit debacle. The pandemic presented yet another threat to its existence, exposing afresh questions about the EU's internal structure, its politics and its global influence. Director of UK in a Changing Europe **Anand Menon** is joined on stage by European security specialist and NATO Young Leader **Alice Billon-Galland**, Director of the European Council on Foreign Relations **Mark Leonard**, and via live link from the Netherlands, historian **Luuk van Middelaar** to discuss the monumental challenges posed to Europe – and the world – in coming years. Can the EU get back on track, or has Covid-19 created rifts between member states that are too deep to heal?

1.30–2.30pm L095

Read the World

Writers In Paris

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10



From the 'Lost Generation' of Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Stein and Eliot in the 1920s and 1930s through to the modern day, the streets, bistros and bohemian bookshops of Paris have provided shelter, inspiration and entertainment for generations of expatriate writers. **Octavia Bright** talks to three contemporary writers whose literary lives are closely entwined with *The City of Light*: bestselling and award-winning novelist of The French Trilogy: *The Girl at the Lion d'Or*, *Birdsong* and *Charlotte Gray* **Sebastian Faulks**, author of *Flâneuse*, *No. 91/92* and translator of Simone de Beauvoir's lost novel *The Inseparables* **Lauren Elkin** and author of *Let us be True* and former Shakespeare and Company 'Tumbleweed' **Alex Christofi**.

1.30–2.30pm L096

Memoir/Biography

Strictly Shirley Ballas

The Forum

£14

Queen of Latin Ballroom and head judge on *Strictly Come Dancing* **Shirley Ballas** reveals to **Tim Hubbard** how she danced her way from a rough estate on the Wirral to the glamorous world of ballroom, as told in her memoir *Behind the Sequins: My Life*. Speaking frankly, she describes her broken marriages, personal tragedies, and award-winning dance moves.

2–3pm L097

Fiction

Page-Turning Thrillers: Lisa Jewell And Kia Abdullah

The Inkpot

£10

Lisa Jewell is fast becoming one of the UK's most popular crime writers. She was the biggest selling paperback crime novelist of 2020 with *The Family Upstairs* and she returns with *The Night She Disappeared*, a twisting page-turner about a missing teenage mum and a family hiding a terrible secret. **Kia Abdullah** has been lauded for her razor-sharp legal thrillers including *Take It Back*, which was listed on numerous 'best thrillers of the year' lists. Her new novel, *Next of Kin* centres on an ordinary day that becomes a nightmare when an aunt realises she has left her young nephew in a car, and the explosive trial that follows. **Sam Baker** talks to them about their gripping novels.

2–3pm L098

Lifestyle

Ultimate Autumn Style with Anna Murphy

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£30 Ticket includes a glass of fizz.

Do you want to liven up your wardrobe but need some inspiration? Join **Anna Murphy**, Fashion Director at *The Times* and **Prue White**, Style Director at *The Times Magazine*, as they pick out their favourite trends for the season and show you how to make them work in the real world. Sharing their styling tips, discover easy ways to add a splash of brilliance to your autumn look.

2.15–3.15pm L099

Science

Vaxxers: The Race Against The Virus

The Garden Theatre

£10

On 1 January 2020, **Sarah Gilbert**, Professor of Vaccinology at Oxford University, read an article about four people in China with a strange pneumonia. Within two weeks, she and her team had designed a vaccine against a pathogen that no one had ever seen. 12 months later, the vaccination was rolled out across the world to save millions of lives from Covid-19. *The Times* Science Editor **Tom Whipple** talks to Sarah and her colleague **Catherine Green** (Associate Professor at the Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics and Head of Oxford University's Clinical BioManufacturing Facility) as they reveal the inside story of making the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine and the cutting-edge science and sheer hard work behind it. This is their story of fighting a pandemic as ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances.

3.30–4.30pm

L100

History

Jonathan Dimbleby: How Hitler Lost The War

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

Operation Barbarossa, Hitler's invasion of Russia in June 1941, aimed at nothing less than a war of extermination to annihilate Soviet communism, liquidate the Jews and create new territory for the German master race. Instead it proved to be a deadly turning point in WWII and led to the destruction of the Third Reich. Marking the 80th anniversary of the largest military operation in history, historian and broadcaster **Jonathan Dimbleby** (*Barbarossa*) paints a full and vivid picture of Hitler's fatal gamble, one that would kill tens of millions of people and change the course of history. Chaired by **Allan Mallinson** (*The Shape of Battle*).

3.30–4.30pm

L101

Memoir/Biography

Identity Crisis? The Mixed-Race Experience

The Hive

£9

Mixed-race is the fastest-growing minority group in Britain, yet race continues to be discussed in a binary fashion: black or white. So where does a mixed-race person fit? In *Biracial Britain* **Remi Adekoya** speaks to mixed-race Britons of all ages and racial profiles to understand how identities are felt. **Georgina Lawton** grew up in a family who never acknowledged her Blackness, the obvious fact of her brown skin ignored by her white parents; in *Raceless* she explores the psychological dislocation caused by the erasure of her racial identity. **Ijoma Mangold** recalls his youth in 1970s Germany in *The German Crocodile* and considers the balancing act of living between two cultures. In conversation with **Rosie Goldsmith** they look to a new understanding of mixed-race identity better suited to our century.

3.30–5pm

L102

Lifestyle

Afternoon Tea At Jane's Patisserie

The Daffodil

£22 Ticket includes afternoon tea with a selection of finger sandwiches and cakes. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Join baking sensation **Jane Dunn**, the chef behind the UK's top food blog *Jane's Patisserie*, for a delicious afternoon tea. Tuck into delectable treats from the book as she shares the secrets to baking success and speaks with chef **Juliet Sear** about her incredible journey from home baker to bestselling author, blogger and social media sensation.

4–5pm

L104

Travel and Adventure

The Windswept Isles: Tales From The Faroes



Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

Marooned in the North Atlantic, halfway between Scotland and Iceland, the stormy Faroe Islands are home to a close-knit society with shared Viking roots. Author and journalist **Tim Ecott's** *The Land of Maybe* captures a slow-paced way of life with a deep connection to the past, and evokes the islands' unfamiliar beauty of edge-of-the-world vistas where the power of nature dominates. In her acclaimed debut novel *Island*, Faroese-Danish author and critic **Siri Ranva Hjelm Jacobsen** – who joins us via live link from Copenhagen – explores her ancestry across three generations as her protagonist returns home to connect with the culture and her kin. In this beautifully illustrated event they talk to **Julia Wheeler** about a world removed from the freneticism of modern life, against a backdrop of wild landscapes.

4–5pm

L103

Science

Fearing The Future: Is Technology A Threat?

The Inkpot

£9

Technological change is accelerating like never before. Is it taking over? Are we being left behind? With fear around big tech, social media and AI only growing, how do we harness and use technology to our advantage once again? Creator of Exponential View, Britain's leading platform for in-depth tech analysis **Azeem Azhar** (*Exponential*) and the BBC's technology correspondent **Rory Cellan-Jones** (*Always On*) chat about the exponential gap between technology and human evolution and reflect on the milestones in technological advancements in the smartphone era.

4–5pm

L105

Lifestyle

Dress To Be Seen With Anna Murphy

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£30 Ticket includes a glass of fizz.

Clothes are more than just functional, they tell a story about who we are and how we want to be seen. Fashion Director at *The Times* **Anna Murphy** (*How Not to Wear Black*) and personal stylist and body shape guru **Anna Berkley** are advocates of dressing in a way that makes you look good and feel great. In this interactive event, they explain how you can curate a wardrobe that expresses your inner style.

4.15–5.15pm

L106

Current Affairs

Baroness Hale: Spider Woman

The Garden Theatre
£12

How does a self-professed 'girly swot' get ahead in a profession dominated by men? As 'a little girl from a little school in a little village in North Yorkshire' **Brenda Hale** went into the law because her headteacher told her she wasn't clever enough to study history. She went on to become most senior judge in the country. A lifelong smasher of glass-ceilings, who took as her motto 'women are equal to everything', her landmark rulings in areas including domestic violence, divorce, mental health and equality have made a lasting impact. The dramatic moment when she found the 2019 prorogation of Parliament to be unlawful won global attention and shook the government to its core. She joins us in conversation with **Georgina Godwin** to celebrate the publication of her wise, warm and endearing memoir *Spider Woman*, showing that anyone from similar beginnings can overcome the odds too.

4.45–5.45pm

L108

Current Affairs

How To Avoid Another Pandemic

The Forum
£10

As we slowly emerge from a pandemic that has irrevocably changed lives around the world, our international community is facing a watershed moment. Can we put measures in place that will ensure future generations never experience the same disruption, or does our modern lifestyle dictate that it's not a case of 'if' but 'when' another pandemic might occur? Economist and broadcaster **Dharshini David** is joined by co-developer of the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine **Sarah Gilbert** (*Vaxxers*), Oxford Professor of Globalisation and Development **Ian Goldin** (*Rescue*), and behavioural psychologist and SAGE and Independent SAGE member **Susan Michie** to explore the challenges and opportunities posed as we emerge from the current crisis, the crucial lessons we must learn as a global community, and to discuss the necessary steps we must take to reduce the risk of a similar event happening in future.

5.45–6.45pm

L109

Classic Literature

Dostoevsky In His Own Words

The Hive
£9

Fyodor Dostoevsky's life was marked by brilliance and brutality. Sentenced to death as a young revolutionary, he survived mock execution and Siberian exile to live through a time of seismic change in Russia. He had three great love affairs, each overshadowed by debilitating epilepsy and addiction to gambling. Among his works are masterpieces of western literature, including *Crime and Punishment* and *The Brothers Karamazov*. Reading between the lines of his fiction, biographer **Alex Christofi** (*Dostoevsky in Love*) talks to author and comedian **Viv Groskop** (*The Anna Karenina Fix*) about the memoir Dostoevsky might have written had life – and literary stardom – not intervened.

6–7pm

L110

Current Affairs

Global Feminism: Conversations Without Borders

Town Hall, Main Hall
£10

In the first of our Conversations Without Borders events that will bring international perspectives to key topics, we consider feminism through a global lens. Despite great leaps forward in recent years, since its very beginning, mainstream feminism has catered to a particular group of women. What are the social and cultural factors that we must consider if we are to confront gender inequality head-on? How can we ensure the challenges and experiences of all women are acknowledged in the future of this global movement? **Sam Baker** is joined on stage by writer and founder of the *Everyday Sexism Project* **Laura Bates** and author **Sara Collins** (*This Is How We Come Back Stronger*), and via live link from Montreal, Egyptian-American journalist and founder of the FEMINIST GIANT newsletter **Mona Eltahawy** (*The Seven Necessary Sins for Women and Girls*), together with other international contributors, as they share their perspectives on how we move towards an inclusive feminism that empowers us all.

6.30–7.30pm

L111

Fiction

Girlhood, Interrupted: Lize Spit And Nancy Tucker



Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

In **Lize Spit's** *The Melting*, twenty-something Eva sets off on a final road trip. She's returning to the hometown in which she suffered abuse as an adolescent and for sinister reasons that will become clear, all that she carries in her boot is an enormous block of ice. In **Nancy Tucker's** *The First Day of Spring*, neglected eight-year-old Chrissie commits an act that to many is unforgivable and we revisit her in adulthood dealing with its consequences. Together with **Octavia Bright** they discuss their powerful portrayals of early trauma and the very different ways it can shape an adult life.

6.30–7.30pm

L112

Travel and Adventure

How To Achieve The Impossible

The Garden Theatre

£12

Nepalese mountaineer and former elite soldier **Nimsdai Purja** (*Beyond Possible*) conquered the world's 14 highest peaks in the space of just six months and recently led the first-ever successful winter ascent of Pakistan's K2. Royal Marines Sniper, world record-breaker and extreme TV adventurer **Aldo Kane** (*Lessons From The Edge*) is known for his ability to navigate and lead through challenging and pressured environments, whether it be abseiling into an erupting volcano in the Democratic Republic of Congo or rowing the Atlantic. They share their stories of making the impossible possible with adventurer and conservationist **Bex Band** (*Three Stripes South*).

7–8pm

L113

Sport

John Barnes

The Forum

£12

Liverpool and England football legend **John Barnes** spent the first 12 years of his life in Jamaica before moving to the UK with his family in 1975. Six years later he was a hugely successful professional footballer and in the process of becoming the country's most prominent black player. He reflects on his career and the personal experiences that have shaped *The Uncomfortable Truth About Racism*, a powerful and moving testimony that tackles head-on issues surrounding society's ongoing battle with prejudice.

8–9pm

L115

Fiction

Jed Mercurio And Prasanna Puwanarajah: Sleeper

The Hive

£9

For many, **Jed Mercurio's** name will be most familiar from the credits of hit television shows *Line of Duty*, *Bodies* and *The Bodyguard*. Now, he has joined forces with actor, writer and director **Prasanna Puwanarajah** and illustrator Coke Navarro to produce *Sleeper*, the first in a hotly-anticipated graphic novel series that blends elements of Westerns and conspiracy thrillers. **Rosie Goldsmith** talks to Jed and Prasanna about their creative partnership and the exciting first instalment of the series.

8.30–9.30pm

L118

Fiction

A Celebration Of Scottish Writing

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9



From Robert Burns to Walter Scott, Robert Louis Stevenson to Arthur Conan Doyle, Muriel Spark and Iain Banks through to contemporary bestselling writers Ian Rankin, Irvine Welsh, Ali Smith and 2021 Booker Prize winner Douglas Stuart, Scotland's rich literary reputation and heritage is indisputable. Curated in collaboration with creator and host of BBC Scotland's *The Big Scottish Book Club* **Damian Barr** and hosted by **Sam Baker**, we present some of Scotland's most exciting writers at work today.

8.30–9.30pm

L117

Off the Page

Leonard Cohen: The Mystical Roots Of Genius

The Inkpot

£10

From his 1967 classic "Suzanne", through masterpieces like "Hallelujah" and "Who by Fire", to the titular song of his final album, "You Want It Darker" Leonard Cohen drew heavily on mystical and spiritual sources for his lyrics and storytelling. Leading author of cultural and religious history **Harry Freedman** explores song by song the context and stories behind the myths, prayers, legends and allegories employed by Cohen and in doing so, offers new insights into the workings of one of our greatest creative minds. Chaired by **Norman Lebrecht**.

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L120 THE KING'S PAINTER: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF HANS HOLBEIN			L127 SUSIE DENT: WORD PERFECT			L132 POLITICAL DIARIES: LIFTING THE LID ON THE ESTABLISHMENT			L143 RICHARD COLES: THE MADNESS OF GRIEF					
Town Hall, Pillar Room			L122 WHAT DO WE MEAN WHEN WE 'READ THE WORLD'?			L128 IRISH POETRY: THE NEW GENERATION		L133 HOW BOOKS TRAVEL			L145 CLAIRE FULLER AND RONAN HESSION					
The Garden Theatre				L125 THE CLIMATE CRISIS: IS IT NOW OR NEVER FOR OUR PLANET?		L129 VOGUE: THE UNTOLD HISTORY		L134 THE STORY OF CHINA		L141 MARTIN PARR: FROM THE POPE TO A FLAT WHITE: IRELAND 1979 - 2019		L147 SONG OF THE NIGHTINGALE				
The Forum			L123 HUGO VICKERS ON CECIL BEATON					L136 RAMBLES WITH ADAM BUXTON		L142 BOB MORTIMER		L148 JACK DEE				
The Inkpot							L130 A JOURNEY TO OLYMPIA: THE LEGACY OF ANCIENT GREECE		L139 KING CHARLES III: A MODERN MONARCH?		L144 STARTING OVER: FROM TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH					
The Hive							L131 BRITAIN'S HIDDEN HERITAGE			L140 LILY COLE: WHO CARES WINS		L146 THE ALTERNATIVE BOOK CLUB				
The Daffodil	L119 THE HUMAN FACTOR: PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS			L124 LUNCH WITH ANNA JONES				L135 THE EDIBLE GARDEN								
The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel								L137 THE HUTCHINSON HEINEMANN PROOF PARTY								
Hotel Du Vin								L138 THE CHURCHILL GIRLS								
	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am

8.30–10am

L119

Psychology

The Human Factor: People And Organisations

The Daffodil

£22 Ticket includes continental breakfast. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

How well do we understand the importance of human behaviour in determining whether organisations thrive or falter? The author and *Financial Times* journalist **Gillian Tett** (*Anthro-Vision*) explains how anthropologists are illuminating the behaviour of businesses and consumers around the globe, shedding light on the hidden tribes in the office, and the rituals that bind together a team. The business psychologist **Clive Lewis** (*Toxic*) has decades of experience in unravelling the problems that entrenched cultures cause at work and shares his clear-eyed and practical approach to ensuring a happy and productive workplace. They join us in conversation for a thought-provoking and inspirational discussion about human nature at work.

10.30–11.30am

L120

Art, Design and Architecture

The King's Painter: The Life And Times Of Hans Holbein

Town Hall, Main Hall

£9

One of the most accomplished painters of the 16th century, Hans Holbein the Younger spent two periods of his life in England portraying the nobility of the Tudor court. Chiefly celebrated for his beautiful and precisely realised portraiture, including his most famous painting of King Henry VIII, Holbein's work has defined our perception of the ruling dynasty of this period. Yet beyond these familiar images, Holbein was a talented satirist, political propagandist, a contributor to the history of book design as well as a religious artist and court painter. In this beautifully illustrated talk, **Franny Moyle** traces the life and work of an extraordinary artist against the backdrop of an era of political turbulence and cultural transformation, to which his art offers a subtle and endlessly refracting mirror.

11am–12pm

L122

Read the World

What Do We Mean When We 'Read The World'?

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9



Our new 'Read the World' Festival theme is all about expanding your reading habits and celebrating writing and stories from across the globe. A simple mission but one that comes with important considerations: how do you find books that are truly representative of a culture or literary tradition, and not tokenistic or reductive? How do you select works that genuinely expand your understanding of world cultures, and don't at best, affirm what you already know or at worst, reinforce harmful or inaccurate stereotypes? Here to offer an expert and supportive guide through these considerations are our Literary Explorer in Residence **Ann Morgan**, translator and social researcher **Gitanjali Patel** and **Helen Vassallo**, academic and founder of the popular Translating Women project. Chaired by **Clare Clark**.

11.45am–12.45pm

L123

Stage and Screen

Hugo Vickers On Cecil Beaton

The Forum

£10

Hugo Vickers shares some hair-raising excerpts from his personal diaries kept during the years he spent researching the legendary Cecil Beaton. Discussing the biography, Cecil Beaton and Hugo's diaries, *Malice in Wonderland*, he recalls some of the fascinating characters he met, including royalty, film stars, writers and photographers, evoking the social manners and ambience of a forgotten time.

12–1pm

L125

Current Affairs

The Climate Crisis: Is It Now Or Never For Our Planet?

The Garden Theatre

£9

There is no doubt that climate change is the defining issue of our time, but is 2021 a watershed moment in the race to mitigate the crisis? In the month before COP26, the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, *The Times* Science Editor **Tom Whipple** is joined by an expert panel to discuss how we might effectively safeguard our planet's future. International climate policy specialist **Rebecca Peters**, environment and sustainability strategist **Ben Tuxworth** and others examine key international priorities, explore how we plan for and implement long-term, meaningful change, and consider how politicians and policymakers might effectively strike the balance between a global, coordinated approach to climate action whilst also meeting national objectives on home soil.

12–2pm

L124

Lifestyle

Lunch With Anna Jones

The Daffodil

£32 Ticket includes a two-course lunch and a glass of wine. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Award-winning chef **Anna Jones** (*One: Pot, Pan, Planet*) blazes the trail for how we all want to cook now: quick, sustainably and stylishly. She speaks with **Tim Hubbard** about finding a way of eating that celebrates your food, puts vegetables at the centre of the table and is mindful of the planet. She gives practical advice and shares her top tips for the small changes that make a big difference.

1–2pm

L127

Classic Literature

Susie Dent: Word Perfect

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

Join longtime queen of *Countdown's* Dictionary Corner for a year of wonderful words and the stories behind them. From the real Jack the Lad to the literal story behind stealing someone's thunder, from tartle (forgetting someone's name at the very moment you need it) to snaccident (the unintentional eating of an entire packet of biscuits) in conversation with **Alex Clark**, Susie will guide you through her brilliant linguistic almanac full of unforgettable stories, fascinating facts, and surprising etymologies tied to every day of the year. You'll never be lost for words again.

1.30–2.30pm

L128

Off the Page

Irish Poetry: The New Generation

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

Cheltenham has a long history of showcasing Ireland's poetry greats including Seamus Heaney, Paul Muldoon, PJ Kavanagh, Edna O'Brien, Michael Longley and Sinéad Morrissey. It's time to introduce the next generation. We invite some of the brightest new voices in contemporary Irish poetry **Seán Hewitt** (*Tongues of Fire*), **Aoife Lyall** (*Mother, Nature*) and **Nidhi Zak** (*Auguries of a Minor God*) to read from their acclaimed collections.



2–3pm

L129

Lifestyle

Vogue: The Untold History

The Garden Theatre

£10

Vogue magazine started, like so many great things do, in the spare room of someone's house. 128 years later, it has a monthly readership of 67 million. More than just a magazine, it is an establishment that has shaped the fashion industry as we know it. Author **Nina-Sophie Miralles** (*Glossy*) and former editor **Alexandra Shulman** (*Clothes... And Other Things That Matter*) join Fashion Director at The Times **Anna Murphy** to discuss the previously untold history of the magazine, one of passion and power, dizzying fortune and out-of-this-world fashion and ask what, and more importantly who, made *Vogue* such an enduring success?

3–4pm

L130

Ancient World

A Journey To Olympia: The Legacy Of Ancient Greece

The Inkpot

£9

In this Olympic year we look to the place where this tradition of sporting excellence began – Olympia and Ancient Greece. A place full of wonder, magic and myths, what is the real history behind the ancient site and what do its ruins tell us about life in the Roman World? In her book *Olympia* classical archaeologist **Judith Barringer** gives us an up-close look at the religious and political history of the site and delves into its archaeological record. In *A Thing of Beauty* **Peter Fiennes** travels to the Olympia and the sites of some of the most famous Greek myths on the trail of hope, beauty and a new way of seeing what we have done to our world. They join **Julia Wheeler** to chat about the legacy of these sites and why the stories surrounding them still have such an impact today. What's to be seen at the places where heroes fought and gods once quarreled?

3.30–4.30pm

L132

Current Affairs

Political Diaries: Lifting The Lid On The Establishment

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

The explosive diary, once a staple of British political life, has become a rarity. **Simon Heffer** recently edited the unredacted diaries of Conservative politician Sir Henry 'Chips' Channon, a gossipy account of British high society that caused a sensation when published in 1967 ('vile & spiteful & silly' announced Nancy Mitford). **Sasha Swire's** mischievously indiscreet account of the Cameron and May years (*Diary of an MP's Wife*) caused mayhem on publication ('social Hiroshima' commented one reviewer). They talk to the cabinet minister and former *Times* journalist **Michael Gove** about what motivates the political diarist and what it takes for a diary to achieve immortality.

3.30–4.30pm

L131

History

Britain's Hidden Heritage



The Hive
£9

Why was there a Turkish mosque adorning Kew Gardens in the 18th century? How did one of the great symbols of an Indian king's power, a pair of Persian-inscribed cannon, end up in rural Wales? Join broadcaster **Fatima Manji** (*Hidden Heritage*) and **Christo Kefalas**, World Cultures Curator for the National Trust, on a journey through Britain's heritage sites as they reveal the objects and artworks that point to Britain's longstanding interest in – and appreciation of – unfamiliar cultures. Telling the stories of treasures that have been lost, concealed or simply overlooked, they expose the perhaps surprising diversity of pre-twentieth-century Britain.

4–5pm

L133

Read the World

How Books Travel



Town Hall, Pillar Room
£9

There's lots within our new 'Read the World' Festival theme around 'why' we should be reading beyond our borders and 'what' we might read, this panel asks 'how'. How do books move between cultures and languages? How do decisions get made about what gets acquired, translated and made available for sale in your local bookshop? How do the myriad elements of the process – including rights, translation, editorial, sales and marketing – all fit together? And finally how could this all be made better and fairer to ensure a wider range of books reach a wider range of readers? Literary Friction host **Octavia Bright** chairs an expert panel featuring Publishing Director at Weidenfeld and Nicolson Federico Andornino, translator and agent at Rogers Coleridge and White **Laurence Laluyaux** and Associate Publisher at Tilted Axis Press **Saba Ahmed** for a behind-the-scenes look at the workings of the international literature world.

4–5pm

L136

Memoir

Rambles With Adam Buxton

The Forum
£12

Comedian **Adam Buxton** makes his Cheltenham debut. Extolling the joys of letting your mind wander as revealed in his gentle memoir *Ramble Book: Musings on Childhood, Friendship and 80s Pop Culture*, he reminisces about varied subjects and experiences including parenthood, boarding school, music and friendship. Expect an event that definitely goes off topic, and wanders in the most delightful way.

4–5pm

L134

History

The Story Of China



The Garden Theatre
£9

China is now a giant on the world stage, the country we all want to know more about. Following his highly praised BBC series, **Michael Wood** explores China's rich history and draws on astounding new discoveries – correspondence from the Qin and Han dynasties; letters from soldiers in the real-life Terracotta Army; stories from Silk Road merchants; and diaries of emperors, poets and peasants – to illuminate the narrative of a 4000-year-old civilisation and the forces that have kept China together for so long. Taking in the great turning points in China's modern history, Michael talks to **Peter Frankopan** about the events that lie behind its extraordinary rise today.

4–5pm

L137

Fiction

The Hutchinson Heinemann Proof Party

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£16 *Ticket includes refreshments and a goody bag of limited edition proofs.*

Cornerstone recently merged imprints Hutchinson and William Heinemann to form a major new literary imprint: Hutchinson Heinemann. Launching this autumn with titles by major writers featured at Cheltenham including Sebastian Faulks, Lauren Groff and Amor Towles, this is your chance to hear from its next generation of writing stars. Publishing Director **Ailah Ahmed** introduces three writers publishing in spring 2022: **Jessamine Chan**, author of the chilling dystopian motherhood novel *The School for Good Mothers*; **LM Dillsworth**, author of the enthralling historical novel set in Victorian London, *Theatre of Marvels* and **Jo Harkin** whose *Tell me an Ending* imagines a tech company that deletes unwanted memories, described as Never Let Me Go meets Black Mirror.

4–5.30pm

L135

Lifestyle

The Edible Garden

The Daffodil

£22 *Ticket includes afternoon tea with a selection of finger sandwiches and cakes. Doors open 30 minutes before event.*

Whether you've spent lockdown tending to tomatoes and caring for carrots or you're a grow-your-own novice keen to start reaping your harvest, twitter sensation and gardening grandad **Gerald Stratford** (*Big Veg*) and edible gardening expert **Alys Fowler** (*Eat What You Grow*) are here to help, sharing their wisdom and answering your questions. They share hints and tips on how to create a rich, biodiverse garden that not only feeds you, but supports the wildlife in your garden and looks beautiful too.

4.30–5.30pm

L138

History

The Churchill Girls

Hotel du Vin

£20 Ticket includes fizz and nibbles.

With a revered Prime Minister for a father and the eccentric and exciting Mitford Girls for their cousins, the Churchill sisters were surrounded by a clan of larger-than-life characters which often saw them overlooked. Marigold died young but her three sisters lived lives full of passion, drama and tragedy. Diana, intense and diffident; Sarah, glamorous and stubborn; Mary, dependable yet determined – these women were eyewitnesses to some of the most important events in world history. Drawing on unpublished material from the Churchill archives, biographer **Rachel Trethewey** and Churchill's granddaughter **Emma Soames** – who introduces her mother's wartime diaries, *Mary Churchill's War* – bring Winston and Clementine's daughters out of the shadows.

5–6pm

L139

Current Affairs

King Charles III: A Modern Monarch?

The Inkpot

£9

As the Elizabethan era draws to a close, and The Prince of Wales takes on more of his mother's duties, what will the reign of King Charles III be like? With much talk of a slimmed down monarchy, will this would-be reformer bring about serious change in "The Firm" and if so, what will these changes be? Will he be able to heal the increasingly rancorous rift between his two sons and, as a man of many strong opinions on issues that affect us all, will King Charles be able to bring his mother's famous levels of discretion to the role? We join the royal correspondents **Roya Nikkhah** of *The Sunday Times*, and **Valentine Low** of *The Times* for this insightful discussion about a new royal age.

5.45–6.45pm

L140

Current Affairs

Lily Cole: Who Cares Wins

The Hive

£10

We have reached a moment of reckoning. Global warming is causing a planetary emergency; human expansion is driving species to extinction and our societies are increasingly divided both economically and politically. Ours is a generation that will either be celebrated for its activism or blamed for its apathy. Environmental activist, model, actress and filmmaker **Lily Cole** (*Who Cares Wins*) has met some of those who are committed to creating a more sustainable and peaceful future for humanity. Lily shows us why there are plenty of reasons for optimism, and how we can make changes to create the future we want.

6–7pm

L141

Art, Design and Architecture

Martin Parr: From The Pope To A Flat White: Ireland 1979 – 2019

The Garden Theatre

£10

Martin Parr's unmistakable eye for the quirks of ordinary life has made him an icon of pop culture and a distinctive voice in photography for decades. In his latest collection he turns his camera's gaze on Ireland, documenting many of the most significant moments in the country's recent history. From the traditional aspects of rural life to The Troubles, the Good Friday Agreement and images of a thriving contemporary Dublin, the much-loved photographer shares his portrait of a country that has changed dramatically over the course of 40 years.

6.15–7.15pm

L142

Memoir

Bob Mortimer

The Forum

£16

Comedian **Bob Mortimer**, who now stars in BBC's *Gone Fishing* with his friend Paul Whitehouse, talks to another great pal, **Charlie Higson**. His memoir, *And Away!* details a childhood in Middlesbrough which was tinged by sadness following the loss of his dad, and his various misadventures as a solicitor, before a chance encounter with Vic Reeves led to a career in comedy. Six years on from the diagnosis of a heart condition, Bob reflects on a life lived, and what is yet to come.

6.30–7.30pm

L143

Memoir/Biography

Richard Coles: The Madness Of Grief

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

In 2019 **Richard Coles**, vicar and co-presenter of BBC Radio 4's Saturday Live, lost his husband and partner of 12 years, following a long battle with alcohol addiction. For three months after David's death, Richard did nothing except 'let grief happen'. Much about grief surprised him: things like the volume of 'sadmin' you have to do when someone dies. With wit and honesty, Richard explores the tragedy – and unexpected comedy – of bereavement. He talks to comedian and podcaster **Adam Buxton** about the complexity of living with loss and how to contemplate a new future.

7–8pm

L145

Fiction

Mid-Life; New Beginnings: Claire Fuller And Ronan Hession

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

How do you cope when you discover in your 50s that the truths you've held for a lifetime are not what they seemed? Such is the situation facing adult twins Jeanie and Julius after the sudden death of their mother in **Claire Fuller's** Women's Prize shortlisted *Unsettled Ground*. The protagonist of **Ronan Hession's** *Panenka* faces a similarly stark challenge after living in exile for 25 years following an incident in his youth. Together the authors – both acclaimed for their sensitive portrayals of characters of quiet intensity and depth – discuss their shared themes of rebuilding a life in middle age and finding connection after a life of isolation with **Alex Clark**.

7–8pm

L144

Sport

Starting Over: From Tragedy To Triumph One Step At A Time

The Inkpot

£10

What is it like to have your life changed dramatically in a single moment? For former professional rugby player **Ed Jackson** (*Lucky*), a freak accident that led to him being paralysed from the neck down meant everything he knew as an athlete was called into question. Yet incredibly, four years on from the accident Ed has defied all medical expectations: not just learning to walk again, but summiting Mount Snowden just 12 months after his accident and more recently climbing Mera Peak, one of the tallest mountains in Nepal, to raise funds for a spinal unit in Kathmandu. He joins presenter and disability rights advocate **Sophie Morgan** to reflect on his inspiring story of starting over, resilience and determination against all the odds.

8–9.15pm

L147

Nature

Song Of The Nightingale

The Garden Theatre

£10

From Persian poetry to John Keats and "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square", the nightingale has long been celebrated through traditions, folklore, music and literature. Each spring, Mercury Prize nominated folk singer **Sam Lee** (*The Nightingale*) invites guests to the woodlands of southern England for rare songs and folklore by the fireside, before journeying into the woods to hear musicians duetting with nightingales. Poet Laureate **Simon Armitage** reinvents a jewel of Middle English verse with his translation of *The Owl and the Nightingale*. Together they explore the place of this treasured songbird in our cultural heritage. Chaired by environmental activist, model and filmmaker **Lily Cole** (*Who Cares Wins*).

8–9.30pm

L146

Off the Page

The Alternative Book Club

The Hive

£10

Alt Book Club presents an unconventional comedy night about books where there is absolutely NO required reading. Prepare to be entertained – and informed – by a phenomenal line up of award-winning comics and brilliant friends who will be dissecting anything Lit: from John Milton's *Paradise Lost* to Kim Kardashian's *Selfie*, and everything in between. Guest performers include **Laura Lexx**, as seen on *Live at the Apollo* and *Mock the Week*; *Britain's Got Talent* semi-finalist **Nick Page**; *The Times* Deputy Books Editor **James Marriott** and *So You Think You're Funny* finalist **Chelsea Birkby**. Hosted by ABC creator, **Shirley Halse**.

8.30–9.30pm

L148

Comedy

Jack Dee

The Forum

£34 Ticket includes a signed copy of *What is Your Problem?* RRP £20.

Known for his dour humour, straight-faced comedian **Jack Dee** talks through with **Hannah McInnes** how he addresses life's issues in his book *What is Your Problem? Comedy's Little Ray of Sleet Grapples with Life's Major Dilemmas*. Jack has compiled a selection of varied problems, from relationships to finances, cross-dressing, nosy neighbours, coping with Christmas and teenagers, and gives his unique tongue-in-cheek advice for each.

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L149 WILLIAM MORRIS: ARTIST, CRAFTSMAN, PIONEER			L154 TIM MARSHALL: THE POWER OF GEOGRAPHY			L160 MAX HASTINGS			L168 GYLES BRANDRETH					
Town Hall, Pillar Room			L150 MAGIC REALISM: LATIN AMERICAN ROOTS: GLOBAL INFLUENCE			L155 GRANTA'S BEST OF YOUNG SPANISH -LANGUAGE NOVELISTS		L161 BERLIN NIGHTS: CHRIS POWER AND CALLA HENKEL			L299 LOST...AND FOUND IN TRANSLATION		L169 CARIBBEAN TALES: LEONE ROSS AND MONIQUE ROFFEY			
The Garden Theatre				L152 THE BEGINNINGS OF ENGLAND		L156 SPIRIT OF PLACE: ART AND THE BRITISH LANDSCAPE		L162 PERSONALITY POLITICS			L305 ANN CLEEVES		L171 PAULA HAWKINS			
The Forum				L151 MATT CHORLEY LIVE: PMQS UNPACKED						L173 JIMMY PAGE						
The Inkpot							L158 COLIN THUBRON: A LIFE IN TRAVEL		L165 WILLIAM GOLDING: BEYOND LORD OF THE FLIES		L170 THINKING ON YOUR FEET: A HISTORY OF WALKING WRITERS					
The Hive										L166 STORYLAND: A NEW MYTHOLOGY OF BRITAIN			L172 THE PENGUIN BOOK QUIZ: FROM THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR TO ULYSSES			
The Daffodil				L153 STORIES FROM THE KITCHEN CABINET												
The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel								L163 THE PENGUIN MICHAEL JOSEPH PROOF PARTY								
Hotel Du Vin								L164 CELEBRATE WITH... PAULA HAWKINS								
	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am

10–11am

L149

Art, Design & Architecture

William Morris: Artist, Craftsman, Pioneer

Town Hall, Main Hall

£9

Artist, poet, conservationist and socialist, William Morris was the most innovative designer of his day. A pioneer of the Arts and Crafts movement, Morris was a revolutionary force in Victorian Britain, dramatically changing the fashions and ideologies of the era. Accompanied by stunning imagery spanning painting, stained glass, wallpaper and textiles, curator **Anna Mason** (*William Morris*) explores Morris's ongoing and far-reaching legacy and the enduring popularity of his timeless designs.

11am–12pm

L150

Fiction

Magic Realism: Latin American Roots; Global Influence

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

Magic realism – a genre in which the line between realistic fiction and fantasy is blurred – became a worldwide phenomenon thanks to major Latin American writers such as Jorge Luis Borges, Gabriel García Márquez, and Isabelle Allende and its influence can be seen in landmark contemporary novels including Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*, Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Yann Martel's *Life of Pi*. Joining writer and Literary Friction host **Octavia Bright** to shed light on this fascinating genre and trace its influence through numerous literary traditions and cultures are acclaimed Mexican writer and grandson of Márquez, **Mateo García Elizondo**, author of the rich Caribbean magic realist novel *One Sky Day* **Leone Ross** and Peruvian-British author of *The Dust Never Settles*, **Karina Lickorish Quinn**.



11.45am–1pm

L151

Matt Chorley Live: PMQs Unpacked

The Forum

£12

Join *Times* Radio presenter and columnist **Matt Chorley** as he broadcasts his astute, funny and fascinating politics show live from our Forum stage. As it's Wednesday, he is joined by *The Times* Red Box Editor **Patrick Maguire** to give their unique take on PMQs (Prime Minister's Questions) live from Westminster, pausing the action to analyse Boris Johnson and Keir Starmer's comments and explain what is going on.

12–1pm

L152

History

The Beginnings Of England

The Garden Theatre

£9

When archaeologists exploring burial mounds at Sutton Hoo in Suffolk discovered a spectacular ship burial packed with treasures, it upended what historians thought they knew about the Dark Ages. Anglo-Saxon England was revealed to be a place of exquisite craftsmanship, with extensive international connections. **Marc Morris** (*The Anglo-Saxons*) and **John Preston** (*The Dig*), whose aunt unearthed the first piece of gold at Sutton Hoo, trace how foreign invaders abandoned their old gods for Christianity, created dazzling works of art and established a new society, a new culture and a single unified nation. Art historian and printmaker **Amy Jeffs** (*Storyland*) shares retellings of medieval tales, alongside her expressive linocuts that so beautifully represent a new mythology of Britain. Chaired by **Allan Mallinson**.

12–2pm

L153

Lifestyle

Stories From The Kitchen Cabinet

The Daffodil

£32 Ticket includes a two-course lunch and a glass of wine. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Over a delicious lunch, award-winning food critic **Jay Rayner** and Britain's leading food historian **Annie Gray** take us on a lively tour of the British year in food. With trademark titbits of history, science and often rather lively debate, *The Kitchen Cabinet* hosts celebrate the regional recipes, places, festivals and ingredients that fill the culinary year with flavour.

1.15–2.15pm

L154

Current Affairs

Tim Marshall: The Power Of Geography

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

In this much-anticipated sequel to international bestseller *Prisoners of Geography*, **Tim Marshall** explores ten regions that are set to shape global politics in a new age of great-power rivalry. He talks to **Julia Wheeler** about why Europe's next refugee crisis is closer than we think; why the Middle East must look beyond oil and sand to secure its future; why the Mediterranean is one of the most volatile flashpoints of the 21st century; and why the Earth's atmosphere is set to become the world's next battleground. With his trademark wit and insight, Tim shares a gripping exploration of the power of geography to shape humanity's past, present and future.

1.30–2.30pm

L155

Read the World

Granta's Best Of Young Spanish-Language Novelists

Town Hall, Pillar Room
£9



From Borges to Bolaño, the Spanish language has given us some of the most beloved writers of the 20th and 21st centuries. Now, *Granta* and *Granta en español* have gathered 25 of the brightest Spanish language writing stars of the future from across Spain, Latin America and beyond. Join editor and *Granta en español* founder **Valerie Miles** as she guides you through this next generation of Spanish language literary talent and introduces **Cristina Morales** and **Mateo Garcia Elizondo** to Cheltenham audiences. Chaired by **Daniel Hahn**.

2–3pm

L156

Art, Design & Architecture

Spirit Of Place: Art And The British Landscape

The Garden Theatre
£9

When we look for the landscape in British art and literature, we find a story that begins with Old English poetry and treads a winding path up to the present day. Guided by dazzling imagery, **Susan Owens** looks at the countryside through the eyes of writers and artists from Bede and the Gawain poet to Gainsborough, Austen, Turner and Constable; from Paul Nash and Barbara Hepworth to Ted Hughes and Robert Macfarlane. She explores how the British landscape has been framed and reimagined by successive generations, with each account holding up a mirror to its maker and their world.

3–4pm

L158

Travel and Adventure

Colin Thubron: A Life In Travel

The Inkpot
£9



In his 80th year **Colin Thubron** made an extraordinary journey along the Amur River, which rises in the Mongolian mountains and flows through Siberia to the Pacific. For 1,100 miles it forms the tense border between Russia and China, the most densely fortified frontier on earth. In *The Amur River* he describes his journey of almost 3,000 miles from its secret source to its desolate end. It is the culmination of an astonishing career; named by *The Times* as one of the 50 greatest post-war writers, Colin reflects on more than five decades of writing about other cultures, in conversation with BBC broadcaster and journalist **Rajan Datar**.

3.45–4.45pm

L160

History

Max Hastings

Town Hall, Main Hall
£10

In 1942 beleaguered Malta was within weeks of surrender to the Germans, its people close to starvation in the face of relentless bombardment. Churchill decided that the 'island fortress' must be saved. Operation Pedestal, one of the Royal Navy's most audacious missions, saw an armada of 50 British ships carrying vital supplies attempt to fight its way in convoy to the island. What followed was a brutal battle of attrition that ultimately secured Malta's future, though at terrible cost. Bestselling historian **Max Hastings** (*Operation Pedestal*) presents an epic tale of wartime suspense, courage & loss.

4–5pm

L161

Fiction

Berlin Nights: Chris Power And Calla Henkel

Town Hall, Pillar Room
£9



In **Chris Power's** *A Lonely Man*, Robert is a struggling writer living a quiet family life in Berlin until a chance meeting with an enigmatic stranger sets in motion a chain of events that will threaten everything he holds dear. The young American art students of **Calla Henkel's** *Other People's Clothes* think they're living the bohemian Berlin dream when a famous crime writer offers them her apartment for rent. But as details of their lives start to blur with plot points, the reality of their situation becomes darker than any work of fiction. With **Alex Clark**, Chris and Calla discuss their intoxicating literary thrillers set in Berlin's underbelly.

4–5pm

L162

Current Affairs

Personality Politics

The Garden Theatre
£9

Why is it that in the eyes of the public some politicians can do no wrong, but others are scrutinised at every step? From Boris Johnson's approval ratings soaring in the face of accusations of Tory sleaze, to murmurings that Keir Starmer's lack of charisma led to heavy Labour losses in this year's elections, at the end of a year where individual politicians have been put under the microscope like never before we explore personality's place at the heart of government. **Matt Chorley** is joined by journalist and ex-special adviser to two former Prime Ministers **Peter Cardwell** (*The Secret Life of Special Advisers*), as they ask: when it comes to striking the balance between public support and effective policymaking, how much does personality matter in politics?

4–5pm L163

Fiction

The Penguin Michael Joseph Proof Party

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£16 Ticket includes refreshments and a goody bag of limited edition proofs.

Penguin Michael Joseph publishes some of the world's most popular authors; it's time to meet their next generation of writers. **Sam Baker** introduces three authors publishing in spring 2022 and provides Cheltenham audiences with an exclusive first look at their books: **Charmaine Wilkerson's** *Black Cake*, a powerful story of love and loss spanning sixty years in the life of one family; **Julie Owen Moylan's** page-turning debut, *Green Eyed Girl*, a dual-timeline story set in 1955 and 1975 in France and New York and **Amy McCulloch's** crime thriller *Breathless*, inspired by her experience as a climber.

16:00-17:15 L164

Fiction

Celebrate with... Paula Hawkins

Hotel du Vin

£30 Ticket includes fizz and nibbles.

When **Paula Hawkins** released her debut novel *The Girl on the Train* in 2015, she could never have predicted the journey that would follow. It went on to be one of the top five best-selling hardback novels since records began, was turned into a major film starring Emily Blunt and has to date sold over 23 million copies in 40 languages across 50 countries. Don't miss this rare chance to be in an intimate, book club setting with the author of one of our generation's most popular books as she revisits the novel with **Julia Wheeler**.

5–6pm L165

Classic Literature

William Golding: Beyond Lord Of The Flies

The Inkpot

£9

An innovator, a visionary, a radical, William Golding wrote 12 novels covering a vast range of subjects (in addition to many plays, essays, short stories and poems), was awarded The Nobel Prize for Literature, The Booker Prize and ranked third by *The Times* on their list of 'The 50 greatest British writers since 1945'. However, it may still be *Lord of the Flies* that most readers know him for. As Faber prepare to reissue his entire oeuvre with new introductions by some of our leading writers, we bring together his daughter **Judy Golding** (*The Children of Lovers: A Memoir of William Golding*), novelist **Kate Mosse** (author of the new introduction to Golding's *Fire Down Below* publishing in 2022) and academic and editor of Golding's letters **Tim Kendall** to discuss a remarkable body of work. Chaired by **Daniel Hahn**.

5.45–6.45pm L166

Off the Page

Storyland: A New Mythology Of Britain

The Hive

£10

Soaked in mist and old magic, *Storyland* is a new illustrated mythology of Britain, set in its wildest landscapes. Filled with places we know today and characters half-remembered – Lear in Leicester, Merlin in Stonehenge, Grim in Grimsby, St Columba on the River Ness – and spanning the length of Britain from the Orkneys to Cornwall, it is a vivid and beautiful portrait of our land steeped in myth. Join author and linocut artist **Amy Jeffs** and musicians for a rich hour of music, storytelling and art inspired by Britain's oldest stories.

5.45–6.45pm L173

Stage & Screen

Jimmy Page

The Forum

£14

From his early days as a session musician, through his years on the world stage with Led Zeppelin, to his solo work and collaborations, **Jimmy Page** has lived a spectacular life in music. Throughout it all, he has amassed an archive of guitars, costumes and memorabilia now being published in *Jimmy Page: The Anthology*. Join Jimmy in a rare interview as he opens his archives, telling the inside story of his phenomenal career.

6–7pm L303

Fiction

Ann Cleeves

The Garden Theatre

£9

The author of over 30 bestselling books and creator of the popular detectives Vera Stanhope and Jimmy Perez adapted for ITV's *Vera* and BBC One's *Shetland* makes her Cheltenham return. Her latest *Two Rivers* series, set in North Devon where the rivers Taw and Torridge meet and featuring detective Matthew Venn has already become a number one *Sunday Times* bestseller and been commissioned by ITV. She joins **Alison Graham** in conversation on the upcoming adaptation, her latest instalment in the series, *The Heron's Cry* and her wider writing life.

6.15–7.15pm L168

Memoir

Gyles Brandreth

Town Hall, Main Hall

£14

TV and radio personality **Gyles Brandreth** delves back into his childhood memories as he shares moments from his autobiography *Odd Boy Out*. There will be laughs galore as he tells stories, from growing up in post-war Britain to a glamorous career which has included everything from meeting princes and presidents to wearing colourful jumpers on *Good Morning Britain*.

6.30–7.30pm

L299

Fiction

Lost...And Found In Translation

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9



Learning a new language inevitably broadens your horizons but what if it changes your life path entirely? In her memoir *Fifty Sounds* **Polly Barton** details how a spur-of-the-moment (and supposedly short-term) move to Japan at 21 set her on a course to become an esteemed literary translator working with some of Japan's greatest contemporary writers. **Antonia Lloyd-Jones** is regarded as one of the leading literary translators from Polish but ask how she came upon the profession and she will admit it was a complete accident. Author **Jeremy Tiang** (appearing digitally) is one of Singapore's most prolific Chinese to- English literary translators despite growing up in an English-speaking household and having no formal training. Together with **Rosie Goldsmith** they discuss the pleasures, pains and unexpected personal metamorphoses that came hand in hand with their learning of a language.

7–8pm

L170

Travel and Adventure

Thinking On Your Feet: A History Of Walking Writers

The Inkpot

£10



Many of us find solace in walking; taking to the pavement or exploring nature gives us time to think and makes space to think freely and creatively. **Matthew Beaumont** (*The Walker*) and **Annabel Abbs** (*Windswept*) look back at the writers and ramblers who have found solace in adventure. Offering a beguiling history of walking, they trace the footsteps of walking writers from Charles Dickens and Virginia Woolf to Nan Shepherd and Cheryl Strayed.

8–9pm

L171

Fiction

Paula Hawkins

The Garden Theatre

£10

Paula Hawkins became known around the globe with her smash hit debut novel *The Girl on the Train*, followed by her multi-million copy selling second novel *Into the Water*. We are delighted to welcome her back to Cheltenham to celebrate the publication of *A Slow Fire Burning*, a propulsive, twisting thriller that explores the insidious nature of past trauma and examines how trusting the wrong person at the wrong time can derail a life entirely. She talks to **Sam Baker**.

8.30–9.30pm

L169

Fiction

Caribbean Tales: Leone Ross And Monique Roffey

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9



When **Monique Roffey** was awarded the Costa Book Award for *The Mermaid of Black Conch*, a dark love story between a fisherman and a woman cursed to live as a mermaid in the Caribbean waters for centuries, the judges described the novel as 'a classic in the making' from a writer 'at the height of her powers'. Fifteen years in the making, **Leone Ross'** *This One Sky Day* has been similarly lauded. Tracking star-crossed lovers on a magical Caribbean Island over the course of one day, it was described by *The Guardian* as 'a glorious shout of a novel, a sensual, saturated blend of romance, magical realism and erotic comedy'. They talk to **Sara Collins** about their extraordinary novels.

8.30–10pm

L172

Off the Page

The Penguin Book Quiz: From The Very Hungry Caterpillar To Ulysses

The Hive

£30 1 ticket per table of up to 4 quizzers

Which Haruki Murakami novel shares its title with a Beatles song? In Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, what is Charlie's surname? What is heavy-drinking Rachel Watson known as in the title of a 21st-century bestseller? And what do you get if you add the number of Austen's Bennet sisters to the number of Dostoevsky's Karamazov brothers? From questions on literary classics to modern bestsellers, iconic children's stories to books you've only pretended to have read, join literary quiz maestro **James Walton** for an entertaining quiz night suitable for light and heavy readers alike.

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L174 MICHAEL ROSEN AND KATE MOSSE		L179 LABOUR: A LOST CAUSE?			L185 LIONEL SHRIVER: SHOULD WE STAY OR SHOULD WE GO			L195 QUEER FRONTIERS: CONVERSATIONS WITHOUT BORDERS		L205 TIME AND HOW TO USE IT				
Town Hall, Pillar Room		L175 INTERIOR LIVES: DANIELA KRIEN AND CLAIRE THOMAS			L180 BROTHERLY BONDS: JAAP ROBBERN AND JODIE CHAPMAN		L187 THE POWER OF QUIET			L197 THE T.S. ELIOT PRIZE		L205 THE DISCONNECT: IDENTITY IN THE INTERNET AGE				
The Garden Theatre				L177 ALAN TURING'S PATTERNS IN NATURE		L182 NORTHERN IRELAND: A CENTURY OF DIVISION		L190 ALAN JOHNSON		L196 CHARLOTTE HIGGINS' GREEK MYTHS		L201 THE SUNDAY TIMES MUST READS: CRAIG BROWN ON THE BEATLES				
The Forum					L181 MEL GIEDROYC AND MARIAN KEYES		L186 RAYMOND BLANC			L198 ED BALLS: MEMORIES OF FAMILY AND FOOD		L206 WILL YOUNG: TO BE A GAY MAN				
The Inkpot						L184 GREEK MYTHS REVISITED		L195 THE KING AND THE STATESMAN		L199 DAVID HAREWOOD: MAYBE I DON'T BELONG HERE		L204 PARENTHOOD: THE LONG WAY ROUND				
The Hive							L188 SLAVERY: RECKONING WITH THE LEGACY L188			L194 HERBERT PONTING: SCOTT'S ANTARCTIC THROUGH A LENS		L202 A NIGHT OF GOTHIC TALES				
The Daffodil				L178 THE ARCHERS: A CELEBRATION LUNCH				L189 SCOFF: A HISTORY OF FOOD AND CLASS				L200 A MEDITERRANEAN DINNER WITH CLAUDIA RODEN				
The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel								L191 THE PICADOR PROOF PARTY								
Hotel Du Vin						L183 THE JOYFUL HOME: WHY INTERIOR DESIGN MATTERS		L192 CELEBRATE WITH... MARIAN KEYES								
	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am

10–11am

L174

Lifestyle

Michael Rosen And Kate Mosse

Town Hall, Main Hall

£9

When loved ones become ill and need to be cared for, navigating this relationship can be tricky. It can be equally as difficult to find yourself vulnerable and in need of an extra pair of hands. Our relationships are never static and whilst we can expect them to evolve over time, navigating these changing dynamics can be difficult. Sharing their touching, personal stories of caring and being cared for, bestselling author **Kate Mosse** (*An Extra Pair of Hands*) and national treasure **Michael Rosen** (*Many Different Kinds of Love*) who details his recent battle with Covid, join **Cathy Rentzenbrink** to discuss finding joy in the complexity of caring.

10.30–11.30am

L175

Fiction

Interior Lives: Daniela Krien And Claire Thomas

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

German author **Daniela Krien**'s acclaimed *Love in Five Acts* explores what is left to five women when they have fulfilled their roles as wives, mothers, friends, lovers and daughters. Australian writer **Claire Thomas**' *The Performance* imagines the inner thoughts of three women at very different life stages as they sit in the quiet of a theatre. As the performance unfolds, so does each woman's story and by the time the curtain falls, they will all emerge with a new understanding of their lives outside. **Rosie Goldsmith** talks to the authors – with Claire appearing via live link from Melbourne – about their perceptive and richly imagined portrayals of women's interior lives.



12–1pm

L177

Science

Alan Turing's Patterns In Nature

The Garden Theatre

£9

On June 23 2021 the Alan Turing £50 note entered circulation on what would have been the world-renowned codebreaker's 109th birthday. Join Turing's nephew and acclaimed author **Dermot During** (*X,Y,Z and The Story of Computing*) to celebrate his work. Dermot is joined by mathematic biologist **Natasha Ellisson** to reveal some of his lesser known but equally fascinating equations. Learn how we continue to use Turing's work to explain the world around us, how it has been important in explaining how cancerous lumps are formed, how fingers grow and even how epidemics spread. Turing's legacy continues to grow beyond Enigma.

12–2pm

L178

Lifestyle

The Archers: A Celebration Lunch

The Daffodil

£32 Ticket includes two course lunch and a glass of wine. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Wander the lanes of Ambridge in this lunchtime celebration of the nation's best-loved village and legendary drama, *The Archers*. With cast members from ten to one hundred and one years old and story lines that are trojan horses, guiding listeners through the relevant issues of the day, the drama has been a familiar sound on our radios since 1951 and is still as relevant as it always has been. **Julia Wheeler** is joined by writer **Catherine Miller** (*Ambridge at War*) and members of the cast and crew as they recount the highs, lows, triumphant and turbulent times of the longest running radio drama in the world.

12.30–1.30pm

L179

Current Affairs

Labour: A Lost Cause?

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

Can Labour win again? And what would it take to turn the party's fortunes around? After the catastrophic Corbyn defeat of 2019, polling of the public has consistently put the Conservative government significantly ahead of Keir Starmer's Labour opposition. It's tough opposing a government battling a pandemic but are the problems Labour face much more deep-seated than that? We join **Sebastian Payne**, Whitehall Editor for the FT (*Broken Heartlands*) the Professor of Politics at Queen Mary University of London **Tim Bale** (*The British General Election of 2019*) to debate the route back to power.



1–2pm L180

Fiction

Brotherly Bonds: Jaap Robben And Jodie Chapman



Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

Dutch author **Jaap Robben's** portrayal of a 13-year-old left to care for his severely disabled brother in *Summer Brother* has earned the praise of Hilary Mantel, Elizabeth Strout and The New York Times and seen him longlisted for the 2021 International Booker Prize 2021. **Jodie Chapman's** *Another Life*, selected for BBC Two's Between the Covers Book Club might have a love story at its heart, but it is the tragic, tender relationship between protagonist Nick and his younger brother Sal that many readers have connected with. They talk to **Cathy Rentzenbrink** about the powerful brotherly bonds at the heart of their books.

1.15–2.15pm L181

Fiction

Mel Giedroyc And Marian Keyes

The Forum

£12

Best known as half of comedy double act Mel and Sue, **Mel Giedroyc** is a comedian, actor and entertainer who has appeared on *The Great British Bake Off* and *Light Lunch* and has written her debut novel *The Best Things*, a big-hearted story about a family on the brink. She is joined by bestselling novelist **Marian Keyes**, whose paperback of *Grown Ups* was published earlier this year – a beautifully woven tale of three brothers, their partners and the secrets they all keep. They talk about their books with **Sam Baker**.

2–3pm L182

Current Affairs

Northern Ireland: A Century Of Division

The Garden Theatre

£10

2–3pm L183

Lifestyle

The Joyful Home: Why Interior Design Matters

Hotel du Vin

£20 *Ticket includes fizz and nibbles*

Living in a beautiful home that you're proud of is something we all strive for and finding joy in where we live has a huge impact on our wellbeing. Does your heart sing when you open your front door? Speaking with **Becky Sunshine**, award-winning journalist and one-women powerhouse behind the UK's top interiors website, **Kate Watson-Smyth** (*Mad About The House*) and **Paula Sutton** (*Hill House Vintage*), known to most as design guru @hillhousevintage, share their wealth of experience plus hints and tips on how to harness interior design to create a stylish and joyful home.

2.30–3.30pm L184

Fiction

Greek Myths Revisited



The Inkpot

£9

They are some of our oldest stories, but Greek myths are proving rich inspiration for a new generation of novelists. **Jennifer Saint's** *Ariadne* reimagines the classic tale of Theseus and the Minotaur, exploring what happened to Ariadne after she helps Theseus defeat the beast; an act which involved betraying her father and in turn being betrayed herself. **Sarvat Hasin's** *The Giant Dark* is a loose retelling of Orpheus and Eurydice, exploring the consuming and devastating effects of using a lover as a muse. They talk to **Daniel Hahn** about their fresh takes on ancient tales.

3–4pm L185

Fiction

Lionel Shriver: Should We Stay Or Should We Go



Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

Never one to shy away from tough topics, the bestselling author of *We Need to Talk About Kevin's* new novel asks: what if we could choose when to die? After watching their ageing parents' slow decline and determined to avoid a similar ending, fifty-somethings Kay and Cyril make a pact: once they both turn 80 they will commit suicide together. Fast forward three decades and the appointed day arrives: will they stay or will they go? **Rosie Goldsmith** talks to **Lionel** about a novel which asks bold questions about ageing, free will and what makes a good life, and a good death.

3.30–4.30pm

L186

Lifestyle

Raymond Blanc

The Forum
£12

Join the much-loved and highly-regarded chef **Raymond Blanc** for an irresistible journey through his memories of a life spent in the kitchen. Speaking with **Lisa Markwell** he reflects on the inspirations for his most recent collection of recipes *Simply Raymond*, a book written at a turbulent time that serves as a testament to cooking from the heart and the great pleasure derived from stepping into a kitchen, simply to cook for others.

3.30–4.30pm

L187

Psychology

The Power Of Quiet

Town Hall, Pillar Room
£9

In a world that won't stop talking, introversion and shyness are largely viewed as character flaws. As children, we are encouraged to step into the spotlight. As adults, those who are confident and self-assured are often viewed as most capable. From being a good listener, a considerate speaker and a thoughtful observer, why do we still overlook the benefits of being quiet? Do different cultural attitudes around the world shape preconceptions about personality types, and can we challenge the extrovert ideal to ensure that quieter skills are nurtured?

Julia Wheeler is joined on stage by journalist and author **Annie Ridout** (*Shy*) and digitally from the US, psychologist **Laurie Helgoe** (*Introvert Power*), for a transatlantic exploration of quietness. Whether you see these qualities in yourself or want to help someone else flourish, they embrace shyness and introversion in all forms, showing how these characteristics should be seen as a pathway, rather than a barrier, to success.

3.30–4.30pm

L188

History

Slavery: Reckoning With The Legacy

The Hive
£9

In 2007 actor **David Harewood** (*Maybe I Don't Belong Here*) visited Harewood House in Leeds, built in the 18th century by the Lascelles family; his ancestors were enslaved on the family's Caribbean sugar plantations and were re-surnamed Harewood after the project their work financed. In *Blood Legacy* **Alex Renton** delves into his family's history as slave and plantation owners and explores the inheritance – political, economic, moral and spiritual – that has been passed to the descendants of both the slave owners and the enslaved. In conversation with **Richard Atkinson**, who traces his own family's morally tangled inheritance in *Mr Atkinson's Rum Contract*, they consider how we might navigate this complicated legacy going forward.

4–5pm

L190

Fiction

Alan Johnson

The Garden Theatre
£12

The popular former Labour MP won a multitude of awards for his trilogy of memoirs: *This Boy*, *Please Mr Postman* and *The Long and Winding Road*. Now, for the first time, he is turning his pen to fiction and joins us to discuss his first crime thriller, *The Late Train to Gypsy Hill* – a fast-paced tale in which a chance meeting during a mundane city commute sets in motion a dramatic chain of events. Chaired by **Becky Milligan**.

4–5pm

L191

Fiction

The Picador Proof Party

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£16 Ticket includes refreshments and a goody bag of limited edition proofs.

Picador is one of publishing's most esteemed imprints and will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2022. Commissioning Editor **Ansa Khan Khattak** presents three of their future stars and gives Cheltenham audiences an exclusive first look at their 2022 books. They are: **Maddie Mortimer**, a ground-breaking talent whose hotly tipped fiction debut *Maps of Our Spectacular Bodies* deals with a family coming to terms with the death of a mother; **Julia Armfield**, the author of the acclaimed short story collection *salt slow*, whose forthcoming debut novel *Our Wives Under The Sea* is a powerful story of love, loss and what life might lurk in the deep ocean and **Andy West** whose hotly anticipated non-fiction title *The Life Inside* blends memoir, storytelling and his experiences of teaching philosophy in prisons to offer new insights into life inside jail and the life inside all of us.

4–5.15pm

L192

Fiction

Celebrate With... Marian Keyes

Hotel du Vin

£30 Ticket includes fizz and nibbles

A rare chance to be part of an intimate audience with a major writer as they revisit a career-defining book. **Marian Keyes** revisits *Rachel's Holiday*, her deliciously dark and fantastically funny No. 1 bestseller about a woman living life rather too well and being whisked away from it all... She talks to **Alex Clark** and answers your questions.

4–5.30pm

L189

Lifestyle

Scoff: A History Of Food And Class

The Daffodil

£22 Ticket includes afternoon tea with a selection of finger sandwiches and cakes. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Avocado or beans on toast? Nut roast or game pie? And do you have tea, dinner or supper in the evening? As a nation, we have become experts at using eating habits to make judgements about a person's social background. Food historian **Pen Vogler** (*Scoff: A History of Food and Class in Britain*) joins **Julia Leonard** to discuss the fascinating history of British eating habits, and the people, traditions and prejudices that have shaped them.

4.30–5.30pm

L193

History

The King And The Statesman

The Inkpot

£9

'The lamps are going out all over Europe. We shall not see them lit again in our lifetime.'

Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey spoke his famous words in August 1914 as Britain entered into war with Germany – a war that unravelled a life's work of peacekeeping in Europe. In 2014 Sir Edward's great-great-nephew unearthed a private record of King George V urging war upon Grey, deeming it 'absolutely essential' in order to prevent Germany from realising its ambitions. **Thomas Otte** (*Statesman of Europe*) and **Heather Jones** (*For King and Country*) join **Allan Mallinson** (*1914: Fight the Good Fight*) to present a fresh understanding of the descent into war, and to explore how the characters and interests of these two key players influenced their decisions and actions both before and during the conflict.

5.45–6.45pm

L194

Locally Sourced

Herbert Ponting: Scott's Antarctic Through A Lens

The Hive

£9

When Captain Robert Scott asked the now-famous photographer Herbert Ponting to join his second Antarctic expedition, Ponting seized what appeared to be the opportunity of a lifetime. The self-trained photographer had never taken on a project in such harsh conditions and yet he returned from the expedition with stunning photographs and film and committed the rest of life to telling Scott's story. Drawing on previously unpublished correspondence and photographs, author **Anne Strathie** chats to adventurer **Phoebe Smith** to give new insights into the making of the man Captain Scott trusted to record Antarctica.

6–7pm

L195

Current Affairs

Queer Frontiers: Conversations Without Borders

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

In the second of our Conversations Without Borders events, we bring together global perspectives on the LGBTQ+ experience. While same-sex marriage is celebrated and gender transition accepted in some parts of the world, people are still suffering shocking discrimination and extreme violence in others. How has it come to pass that this new 'pink line' has been drawn, and how do we address it, enabling queer people everywhere the opportunity to thrive?

We are joined on stage in Cheltenham by South African journalist and author **Mark Gevisser** (*The Pink Line*), London-based writer **Amelia Abraham** (*We Can Do Better Than This*) and performance artist and writer **Travis Alabanza**, and via live link from Uganda, Founder and Director of Queer Youth Uganda, **Leticia Opio**. They consider how issues of sexuality and gender identity divide and unite the world today, and share their perspectives on how our global community can start to create a better future.

6–7pm

L196

Ancient World

Charlotte Higgins' Greek Myths

The Garden Theatre

£10

In this spellbinding new collection, **Charlotte Higgins** reinterprets some of the most enduring stories of all time. Female characters take centre stage – Athena, Helen, Circe, Penelope and others weave into elaborate imagined tapestries of storytelling. Charlotte joins classicist and comedian **Natalie Haynes** to talk about revisiting ancient myths and reads captivating extracts with exclusive looks at the original accompanying drawings by Turner Prize winner Chris Ofili.

6.15–7.15pm

L197

Off the Page

The T.S. Eliot Prize

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10

The T.S. Eliot Prize, described by Andrew Motion as 'the Prize most poets want to win', is one of the world's most prestigious poetry awards. Awarded annually for the best new collection of poetry published in the UK and Ireland, its esteemed alumni includes Ted Hughes, Seamus Heaney, Carol Ann Duffy, Sharon Olds, Alice Oswald and Ocean Vuong.

In an exciting new collaboration between Cheltenham and the T.S. Eliot Prize, we welcome the 2021 winning poet **Bhanu Kapil** to read from her lauded collection *How to Wash a Heart* and are joined by poet and current Chair of Judges **Glyn Maxwell** to exclusively reveal the shortlisted poets for the 2022 Prize.

6.15–7.15pm

L198

Memoir

Ed Balls: Memories Of Family And Food

The Forum

£14

Ed Balls, former Shadow Chancellor and winner of Best Celebrity Home Cook (remember the pirate ship birthday cake?) shares his love of home cooking with **Julia Llewellyn Smith**, taking a nostalgic look at fondly remembered family meals and favourite foods as laid out in his part-autobiography, part-cookbook *Appetite: A Memoir in Recipes and Family and Food*, a celebration of comfort food enjoyed since childhood with recipes that each tell a story.

6.30–7.30pm

L199

Psychology

David Harewood: Maybe I Don't Belong Here

The Inkpot

£9

When critically-acclaimed actor **David Harewood** was 23 and his career just beginning to take flight, he had what he now understands to be a psychotic breakdown and was sectioned under the Mental Health Act. Only now, 30 years later, has he been able to process what he went through. In a powerful and provocative account of a life lived after psychosis, he talks to **Musa Okwonga** (*One of Them*) about the very real impact of racism on Black mental health, and the duality of growing up both Black and British that contributed to a rupture in his sense of his place in the world.

7.30–10pm

L200

Lifestyle

A Mediterranean Dinner With Claudia Roden

The Daffodil

£55 Ticket includes a three-course dinner and a drink on arrival. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

From Provence to Petra, Madrid to Morocco, travel the Mediterranean with **Claudia Roden** in this celebration of its sun-soaked cuisine. The renowned cookbook writer is credited with revolutionising Western attitudes to Middle Eastern and Mediterranean food and has been a major influence for many of today's top chefs. Now, 35 years on from her first Mediterranean cookbook and 53 since her first book was published, she joins **Lisa Markwell** to share stories of her travels in the region and her love of its people, food and culture.

8–9pm

L201

Stage and Screen

The Sunday Times Must Reads: Craig Brown On The Beatles

The Garden Theatre

£12

When Private Eye journalist and author of 18 books **Craig Brown** won the Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction for his biography of The Beatles, *One Two Three Four*, the judges praised it as 'joyous' and having 'reinvented the art of biography'. Capturing the circumstances that brought the band together and catapulted them to world fame alongside the stories of those who came into their orbit, it offers a kaleidoscopic portrait of the band's world, and the fun and excitement of the era from which they emerged. He joins The Sunday Times Literary Editor **Andrew Holgate** in conversation about his acclaimed book.

8–9pm

L202

Fiction

A Night Of Gothic Tales

The Hive

£9

With Halloween just around the corner and the nights drawing in, **Daniel Hahn** talks to two writers of spine-tingling gothic works. An ordinary house on an ordinary street is the site of unimaginable darkness in **Catriona Ward's** *The Last House on Needless Street*. Selected for BBC Two's Between the Covers Book Club and attracting the praise of Stephen King who said 'the buzz is real... I haven't read anything this exciting since *Gone Girl*', it has been one of the most acclaimed dark reads of the year. Sunday Times bestselling author of *The Mermaid and Mrs Hancock* **Imogen Hermes Gowar** returns to Cheltenham to discuss her contribution to *Haunting Season: Ghostly Tales for Long Winter Nights*, which also includes chilling tales from leading writers including Andrew Michael Hurley, Kiran Millwood Hargrave and Elizabeth MacNeal. Together they share excerpts from their haunting works and discuss the enduring allure of the gothic genre.

8.15–9.15pm

L203

Lifestyle

Time And How To Use It

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

The average human lifespan is absurdly, outrageously, insultingly brief: if you live to 80, you have about 4,000 weeks on earth. How should we use them best? Of course, nobody needs telling that there isn't enough time. We're obsessed with our lengthening to-do lists, our overfilled inboxes, the struggle against distraction and the sense that our attention spans are shrivelling. Drawing on the insights of ancient philosophers, Benedictine monks, artists and authors, Scandinavian social reformers, renegade Buddhist technologists and many others, **Oliver Burkeman** (*Four Thousand Weeks*) sets out to realign our relationship with time – and in doing so, to liberate us from its grasp. Chaired by **Julia Wheeler**.

8.30–9.30pm

L205

Current Affairs

The Disconnect: Identity In The Internet Age

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

We all live online now: the line between the internet and real life has become blurred, and the way that we construct our sense of self has reconfigured our relationships and behaviour. In *The Disconnect*, from dating apps to social media, **Roisin Kiberd** weaves her personal experience working in tech with a curious and considered guide through the algorithm-driven world of our digital existence. **Lauren Oyler's** novel *Fake Accounts* examines the ambiguities of identity and authenticity, beginning when a young woman discovers her boyfriend has a secret life as an online conspiracy theorist. They join **Sam Baker** to consider identity in the age of the internet, and to explore what we have gained, what we have lost, and what we have given away willingly in exchange for this connected life.

8.30–9.30pm

L206

Memoir

Will Young: To Be A Gay Man

The Forum

£12

Musician, actor, author and first winner of the *Idol* franchise **Will Young** is in conversation with journalist, activist and author **Owen Jones**. Will shares experiences as told in his book *To Be a Gay Man*, revisiting his dark moments and regrets, talking to Owen about gay shame, and showing the way forward for others who may have struggled with their own journey.

8.30–9.30pm

L204

Lifestyle

Parenthood: The Long Way Round

The Inkpot

£9

Becoming a parent isn't always simple and families don't always have 2.4 children. In a world where we have more choices than ever, society continues to exert the stigma and pressures of less enlightened times when it comes to having children. **Margaret Reynolds** (*The Wild Track*), **Sophie Beresiner** (*The Mother Project*) and **Pragya Agarwal** (*(M) Otherhood*) join chair **Cathy Rentzenbrink** to re-evaluate the traditional notion of what it means to be a family, reflect on their own paths to parenthood and explore the complexities, expectations and unexpected joys of building a family in a non-traditional way.

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L208 ARMY GIRLS: THE WOMEN WHO SERVED IN WWII			L211 GOYA: A PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST			L217 A YEAR WITH MATT BAKER		L226 COLM TOIBIN			L254 DESERT ISLAND BOOKS: MAGGIE O'FARRELL			
Town Hall, Pillar Room			L209 LITERARY LIVES RETOLD			L212 THE SUNDAY TIMES MUST READS: LOUISE KENNEDY			L220 NEW BLOOD: CRIME AND THRILLER WRITERS TO WATCH		L228 WHEN HAVING IT ALL MEANS DOING IT ALL			L237 CELEBRATING JAMES BALDWIN		
The Garden Theatre						L214 ANTONIA FRASER		L222 THE IMPOSSIBLE OFFICE: BRITAIN'S PRIME MINISTERS		L227 IRVING FINKEL: STORIES OF THE FIRST GHOSTS		L232 RETHINKING EDUCATION				
The Forum			L210 HOW TO THINK LIKE A SPY			L213 JOHN LE CARRE: LAST WORDS		L223 JESS PHILLIPS: MY LIFE AS AN MP			L229 ROBERT PESTON: THE WHISTLE-BLOWER			L236 ROB BECKETT: CLASSY TALK		
The Inkpot						L215 EMPIRE-LAND		L224 MENDING THE MIND			L230 FINDING A WAY FORWARD IN A WORLD THAT'S HOLDING YOU BACK			L235 MAKING A PSYCHO-PATH		
The Hive							L218 HASSAN AKKAD AND ELIF SHAFAK: HOPE NOT FEAR			L225 ALLYSHIP: RACIAL INJUSTICE AND WHAT COMES NEXT			L233 THE BOOK OF SEA SHANTIES			
The Daffodil	L207 BREAKFAST WITH THE TIMES: COVID AND THE CITY						L219 AFTERNOON TEA WITH GRACE DENT AND KATY WIX						L231 KNACKERED MUM'S NIGHT OUT			
The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel								L221 THE BEAUTIFUL AND DAMNED LIVES OF KEATS AND E. SCOTT FITZGERALD								
Hotel Du Vin							L216 CELEBRATE WITH... COLM TOIBIN									
	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am

8.30–10am L207

Current Affairs

Breakfast With The Times: Covid And The City

The Daffodil

£22 Ticket includes a continental breakfast. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Have our consumer habits changed forever? Will Zoom replace business travel? Will we ever go back to the office full-time? Has home delivery finished off the High Street? As COVID-19 sends shockwaves through the economy we look at the biggest winners and losers in the business world and our expert team predict the next big trends in consumer spending and the start-ups to watch out for. Join The Times Deputy Property Editor **Carol Lewis** and Business columnist **Sathnam Sanghera** (*Empireland*) and The Times and Sunday Times Money Editor, **James Coney** for an expert insight into the future of business.

10.30–11.30am L208

History

Army Girls: The Women Who Served In WWII

Town Hall, Main Hall

£9

In 1941 a generation of girls came of age in khaki, serving king and country. Commemorating the 80th anniversary of conscription for women, historian and presenter **Tessa Dunlop** is joined by two surviving veterans. **Betty Webb** worked as an intelligence clerk and paraphraser at Bletchley Park and later Staff Sergeant at the Pentagon in Washington. **Jean Argles** served in the FANY as a code and cipher officer in London before postings in Cairo, Egypt and Italy. Join them for a rare opportunity to hear first-hand what it was like to be young, female and at war in the 1940s.

11am–12pm L209

Fiction

Literary Lives Retold: Connie Palmen And Nuala O'Connor

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

Juggling artistic egos, fiery creative temperaments, the financial insecurity of the writing life and a range of personal demons, the private lives of some of our most famous literary couples can be as fascinating as their public works. **Clare Clark** talks to Dutch writer **Connie Palmen** whose *Your Story, My Story* portrays Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes' tempestuous relationship from Hughes' perspective, and Irish writer **Nuala O'Connor** whose Nora creates a rich portrait of Nora Barnacle, the wife of James Joyce and Irish Literature's greatest muse. Together they discuss their experiences of writing bio-fiction and dealing with the intimate details of some of literature's most iconic lives.



11.30am–12.30pm L210

Psychology

How To Think Like A Spy

The Forum

£10

Britain's spooks are world-renowned. Yet it's not the secret agents of popular imagination who keep us ahead of the game; it's the intelligence analysts – normal people working in scruffy offices – who piece together the information and act on it. What does it take to think clearly in the face of disinformation, and sort fact from fiction? Using revealing examples from a fascinating career, **David Omand** – formerly director of GCHQ, Permanent Secretary of the Home Office and member of the Joint Intelligence Committee – talks to renowned writer of spy fiction **Charles Cumming** (*Judas 62*) about how to think analytically and survive the perils of our digital age.

1–2pm L211

Art, Design & Architecture

Goya: A Portrait Of The Artist

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

Heir to Velázquez, hero to Picasso, the last of the Old Masters and the first pioneer of modern art, Francisco Goya is regarded as one of the most remarkable artists of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. A tireless observer of humanity, Goya's life coincided with an age of upheaval in Spanish politics and society.

Through letters, court papers, sketches and paintings, renowned expert **Janis Tomlinson** explores the full breadth of Goya's life and imagery, from scenes of the everyday in Madrid to worlds of witches and demons, from royal portraits to the atrocities of war, creating a nuanced picture of a painter and printmaker whose work continues to captivate, challenge and surprise us to this day.



1.30–2.30pm L212

Fiction

The Sunday Times Must Reads: Louise Kennedy

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

Sligo-based author **Louise Kennedy** spent the first 30 years of her working life as a chef and hadn't put pen to paper until she accompanied a friend to a writing group at the age of 47. Within a year, one of her stories had been shortlisted for The Sunday Times Audible Short Story Award and a nine-publisher bidding war for her first story collection, *The End of the World is a Cul de Sac* began. She talks to Sunday Times Literary Editor **Andrew Holgate** about the gritty, bitter and hard-won stories that make up this remarkable collection and reflects on her newly found writing life.



2–3pm L213

Fiction

John Le Carre: Last Words

The Forum
£10

The book world was abuzz when it was announced that master spy writer John le Carré had left a last unpublished complete novel, *Silverview*, to be released after his death.

In an exclusive Festival event in what would have been le Carré's 90th birthday week, we bring together his long-time literary agent and friend **Jonny Geller**, leading spy writer (and often referred to as the heir of le Carré) **Mick Herron** and next generation spy writer **Charlotte Philby** to celebrate *Silverview*'s publication and reflect on a remarkable life in letters. Chaired by **Clare Clark**.

2.15–3.15pm L214

History

Antonia Fraser

The Garden Theatre
£10

Caroline Norton dazzled 19th century society with her vivacity and intelligence. Following a dramatic accusation of adultery, she was found innocent but was legally denied access to her three young children by her husband, who also claimed her income as an author for himself. Caroline channelled her energies into reform and became a pioneering activist, tirelessly campaigning for the rights of married women and specifically mothers.

Antonia Fraser (*The Case of the Married Woman*) talks to **Allan Mallinson** about an extraordinary woman, at once courageous and compassionate, who refused to be curbed by the personal and political constraints of her time.

2.30–3.30pm L215

History

Empireland

The Inkpot
£9

The British Empire lies at the heart of the British psyche. Our imperial history has shaped the way we live and think: from the foundation of the NHS to the nature of our racism, and the sense of exceptionalism that could be seen in the Brexit campaign – and in the government's early response to the Covid crisis. Yet empire is strangely hidden from view, cordoned off in the curriculum rather than integrated into how we learn our language, appreciate our monuments or read our great books. Journalist **Sathnam Sanghera** talks to former culture minister **Ed Vaizey** about why we must embrace this history to understand what unites us.

3–4.15pm L216

Fiction

Celebrate With... Colm Toibin

Hotel du Vin
£30 *Ticket includes fizz and nibbles*

A rare chance to be part of an intimate audience with a major writer as they revisit a career-defining book. **Colm Tóibín** discusses *Brooklyn*, a devastating story of love, loss and one woman's terrible choice between duty and personal freedom that was hailed as a 'masterwork' by The Sunday Times. He talks to **Rosie Goldsmith** and answers your questions.

3.30–4.30pm L217

Nature

A Year With Matt Baker

Town Hall, Main Hall
£12

Away from the bright lights of hosting well-loved TV programmes *Countryfile*, *The One Show*, *Blue Peter* and more, **Matt Baker** (*A Year On Our Farm*) is happiest at home. He talks to **Tim Hubbard** about the seasonal cycle of life on his country farm and offers a glimpse into family life, as well as sharing behind-the-scenes anecdotes from his TV career. Following the huge success of his More4 series *Our Farm in the Dales*, which saw him move the family to his childhood farm in the Durham hills to help support his parents, Matt reveals how the countryside has made him who he is.

3.30–4.30pm L218

Current Affairs

Hassan Akkad And Elif Shafak: Hope Not Fear

The Hive
£9

From the jasmine-scented streets of Damascus to uprisings, protest, torture and being forced to flee his home, photographer, filmmaker and activist **Hassan Akkad** has experienced the unimaginable. Following a perilous 87-day journey across Europe to seek refuge in Britain – as captured in his BAFTA award-winning film *Exodus* – Hassan was thrust further into the spotlight when an impassioned social media post documenting the role of NHS cleaners and porters prompted a government U-turn on excluding these workers from its bereavement compensation scheme. Offering a unique perspective as a refugee working in a London hospital on the frontline of the pandemic, he shares his brave and inspiring story of hope, connection and choosing to see the kindness in humanity against the odds with novelist **Elif Shafak** (*The Island of Missing Trees*).

3.30–5pm

L219

Lifestyle

Afternoon Tea With Grace Dent And Katy Wix

The Daffodil

£22 Ticket includes afternoon tea with a selection of finger sandwiches and cakes. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

From cheese and pineapple hedgehogs and treats with your nan, to the exquisite joy of a chip butty covered in vinegar and too much salt in the school canteen on a grey day, our food memories can take us vividly back in time in an instant. Intertwined with trauma, grief, love and hope, it's often a familiar smell or taste that take us back to those life-defining moments. Sharing their own heartfelt and deliciously funny tales of food, friends and family, much-loved food critic and bestselling author **Grace Dent** (*Hungry*) and award-winning comedian **Katy Wix** (*Delicacy*) lift the lid on the central role that food can play in bringing us together or driving us apart.

4–5pm

L220

Fiction

New Blood: Crime And Thriller Writers To Watch

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10

The crime and thriller genres continue to thrive and we've hand-picked three writers we think are ones to watch. **Janice Hallett's** cosy crime whodunnit *The Appeal* has been hailed as both 'dazzlingly clever' and 'a modern Agatha Christie' by The Sunday Times and selected as their crime book of the month. **Saima Mir's** *The Khan* fuses crime, justice and family to explosive effect with comparisons to The Godfather and has been lauded as 'bold, addictive and brilliant' by Stylist. **Zakiya Dalila Harris' The Other Black Girl**, billed as 'Get Out meets The Devil Wears Prada' blends satire and thrilling twists to dissect the darker side of the publishing world. **Sam Baker** talks to this new generation of writers.

4–5.30pm

L221

Classic Literature

The Beautiful And Damned Lives Of Keats And F. Scott Fitzgerald

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£16 Ticket includes a glass of fizz.

'For awhile after you quit Keats, all other poetry seems to be only whistling or humming.' F. Scott Fitzgerald



Join us for an afternoon of poetry and jazz as we mark the bicentenary of the death of John Keats. In *Keats: A Brief Life in Nine Poems and One Epitaph*, **Lucasta Miller** resurrects the real Keats: an outsider whose extraordinary energy and love of language allowed him to take his place at the heart of English literature. **Jonathan Bate's** luminous, compelling biography *Bright Star, Green Light* recreates the short, dazzling lives of Keats and F. Scott Fitzgerald in parallel and traces the profound influence of the Romantic poet on the American novelist. Drawing a thread between their two ages – with poetry readings set against a soundtrack from the Jazz Age – they talk to **Sarah Churchwell** about the stunning originality of Keats' poetry, and why it continues to speak to us down the generations.

4.15–5.15pm

L222

History

The Impossible Office: Britain's Prime Ministers

The Garden Theatre

£10

What does it take to be a successful prime minister and why have so few been up to the job? They come to office with big dreams but end up crushed by the pressures of the position. "I don't know why anyone would want the job," the Queen apparently remarked to Boris Johnson. Contemporary historian **Anthony Seldon** (*The Impossible Office?*) and political journalist **Steve Richards** (*The Prime Ministers We Never Had*) talk to BBC reporter **Becky Milligan** about the demands of the role, what we look for in our leaders – indeed, why some prominent figures never make it to the top – and what has driven and defined success and failure for our prime ministers throughout history.

4.30–5.30pm L223

Current Affairs

Jess Phillips: My Life As An MP

The Forum
£14

From agonising decisions on foreign air strikes to making headlines about orgasms, from sitting in on history-making moments at the UN to eating potato smiles at a black-tie banquet in China, the life of a politician is never dull. With her trademark humour and honesty, the much-loved Labour MP **Jess Phillips** shares the inside story about what actually goes on within the walls of Westminster. Lifting the lid on what a career in politics is really like, she argues that it is more important than ever for us all to be a part of it.

4.30–5.30pm L224

Psychology

Mending The Mind: Journeys Through Madness And Healing

The Inkpot
£9

What happens when your mind unravels? In *Heavy Light*, through a narrative full of beauty and power, **Horatio Clare** charts his experience of psychosis and treatment, from hypomania in the Alps to a complete breakdown locked in a psychiatric hospital. In *Mending the Mind*, drawing upon everything from cutting-edge medical research to insights that have been shared by artists and writers through the ages, **Oliver Kamm** explores clinical depression through the lens of his own experience of mental ill health. They share their profoundly moving stories of breakdown and the path back towards healing, weaving personal accounts with an examination of the many factors that shape how we perceive, understand and ultimately treat mental illness. Chaired by **Julia Wheeler**.

5.45–6.45pm L225

Current Affairs

Allyship: Racial Injustice And What Comes Next

The Hive
£9

George Floyd's murder at the hands of a white police officer prompted outrage the world over, bringing the Black Lives Matter movement to the forefront of our global consciousness. Despite this, solidarity can feel insufficient, even performative, and little progress has been made to address society's prejudices; highlighted anew by the storm of online abuse that Black British footballers faced after their defeat in the Euros this summer. Amidst a growing demand for long-term change, how do we become better allies in the fight against racial injustice? Whether you're using your voice for the first time or are looking for ways to keep up the momentum, **Sophie Williams** (*Anti Racist Ally; Millennial Black*) and **Nova Reid** (*The Good Ally*) join **Abigail Bergstrom** to consider what we must do next.

6–7pm L226

Fiction

Colm Toibin

Town Hall, Main Hall
£10



Among our most acclaimed contemporary writers, **Colm Tóibín**'s career spans ten novels including *Brooklyn*, *The Testament of Mary*, *Nora Webster* and *House of Names*, two story collections and numerous works of non-fiction. He has been Booker shortlisted three times, awarded the Costa Novel Award, the Impac Award and The Sunday Times Award for Literary Excellence, given at Cheltenham in 2019. Having brilliantly reconstructed Henry James' final years in *The Master*, in his new novel *The Magician* he turns his attention to Thomas Mann in a tale of unrequited love and exile set against the turbulence of 20th century Europe. Chaired by **Daniel Hahn**.

6.15–7.15pm L227

Ancient World

Irving Finkel: Stories Of The First Ghosts

The Garden Theatre
£10

Ghosts – the spirits of the dead – have walked by our side since time immemorial and evidence of our ongoing fascination with them is clear in our books, television and film to this day. Join us as author **Irving Finkel** (*The First Ghosts*) explores ghosts from a standpoint quite different to that of most spectral literature. Drawing on evidence from the earliest pre-human archaeology and the earliest writing and literature, Finkel suggests that belief in and experience of ghosts has been a central component of humanity since its inception.

6.30–7.30pm L228

Fiction

When 'Having It All' Means Doing It All

Town Hall, Pillar Room
£10



Work hard, but don't stay in the office too late. Be present with your children, but don't smother. Keep your household running like clockwork, but don't slip into outdated gender roles or be a nag. And don't forget to take some time for yourself! **Cathy Rentzenbrink** talks to the writers of two novels that tackle the contradictions of contemporary motherhood with scalpel-sharp precision and dark humour. **Chandler Baker**'s *The Husbands* envisions a gender-swapped Stepford Wives style community; **Emily Itami**'s Tokyo-set *Fault Lines* follows a protagonist taking 'one last scream' before settling into her domestic life.

6.45–7.45pm

L229

Fiction

Robert Peston: The Whistleblower

The Forum
£14

With decades at the forefront of UK political reporting, **Robert Peston** has had unprecedented insights into the inner workings of politics, business and power – experience he has drawn upon to write his first thriller, *The Whistleblower*. Described as Robert Harris' *The Ghost* meets *House of Cards*, he joins **Georgina Godwin** to discuss the book and reflect on a career spent in the vicinity of the country's most powerful players.

7–8pm

L230

Current Affairs

Finding A Way Forward In A World That's Holding You Back

The Inkpot
£9

How does it feel to inhabit two different worlds? As a child, author, podcaster and musician **Musa Okwonga** (*One of Them*) set his heart on going to Eton – and won a scholarship. He thrived there but began to question the pressing social and political issues perpetuated by one of Britain's most prestigious institutions. For **Jeremiah Emmanuel** (*Dreaming in a Nightmare*) society's expectations of young black men contrasted with his personal ambition and the success he has experienced in his work as an activist, deputy young mayor of Lambeth and member of the UK Youth Parliament. In a fascinating examination of race and class in modern Britain, they share their powerful stories and consider how we might address the inequality found in the systems that we live by. Chaired by **Leah Davis**.

8–9pm

L233

Off the Page

The Book Of Sea Shanties

The Hive
£12

When 26-year-old Glaswegian postman **Nathan Evans** started sharing videos of himself singing sea shanties online, he could never have predicted that he would spark a worldwide trend for the genre and within a year have a number one album, over 17 million views on TikTok and 1.5 million global record sales. He joins **Alex Clark** to perform some of his favourite shanties and discuss the rich stories behind the ancient songs.

8–9.30pm

L231

Lifestyle

Knackered Mum's Night Out

The Daffodil

£20 Ticket includes a glass of wine and nibbles. Bar open until late. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Book the babysitter and join us to unwind with a glass of wine in the company of our funny, feisty panel, as they chart the ups and downs of life with tiny humans. **Lucy Mangan** (*Are We Having Fun Yet?*), **Clover Stroud** (*My Wild and Sleepless Nights*) and Black Mums Upfront podcast host **Endy McKay** speak about how to maintain your identity and define your own imperfect (but perfectly fine) path through parenthood.

8.15–9.15pm

L232

Current Affairs

Rethinking Education

The Garden Theatre
£10

8.30–9.30pm

L234

Fiction

Desert Island Books: Maggie O'Farrell

Town Hall, Main Hall
£12



A rare chance to hear about the personal reading habits of our most treasured contemporary writers, as they share which six titles (and one music track) they would take with them to a desert island. This year's castaway is the bestselling and award-winning author **Maggie O'Farrell**. In a lauded career that spans eight novels, a children's book and a Sunday Times bestselling memoir, she has been awarded the Betty Trask Award, Costa Novel Award, Women's Prize, Waterstones Book of the Year and the National Book Critics Circle Award. She joins **Marie Moser**, owner of her local bookshop, The Edinburgh Bookshop, to reflect on the books that shaped a remarkable literary life.

9–10pm

L236

Memoir

Rob Beckett: Classy Talk

The Forum
£14

Comedian **Rob Beckett** talks about his new book *A Class Act* to writer and presenter **Emily Dean**, exploring the conflict between his working-class roots in South London and the middle-class theatrical world of television and entertainment. Will he always be that fat kid who was told he'd never be a high-flyer? Why does he feel ashamed of doing anything vaguely middle class? Will he ever favour craft beer over lager? And is it ever acceptable to eat pie mash from a wooden board?

9–10pm

L235

Science

Making A Psychopath

The Inkpot

£9

Delving into the dark and dangerous world of psychopaths we explore how some of the most terrifying villains in fiction have psychopathic tendencies. From page to screen, writing the perfect psychopath takes research and close consultation with psychiatric experts. Creating Killing Eve's infamous Villanelle, writers worked with psychiatrist **Mark Freestone** (*Making a Psychopath*) to bring her to life. Author **Bella Mackie's** (*How To Kill Your Family*) bitter and beguiling anti-hero Grace Bernard certainly exhibits psychopathic traits but somehow, just like Villanelle, we still root for her. They join forensic psychiatrist **Gwen Adshead** (*The Devil You Know*) to discuss what makes psychopaths tick and how close to reality those in fiction really are. Chaired by **Georgina Godwin**.

9.30–11pm

L237

Classic Literature

Celebrating James Baldwin

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£12

A voice of the American civil rights movement; a central figure in Black gay literary history; a self-confessed maverick – James Baldwin was one of the towering figures of 20th century American literature. In a night of live jazz and conversation, our expert panel transport you to Baldwin's America to explore his extraordinary legacy and influence on a generation of young creatives, and his deep connections to Black music. We are joined by acclaimed author and longtime Baldwin admirer **Colm Tóibín**, critic **James Campbell**, whose friendship with Baldwin is detailed in his biography *Talking at the Gates* and author of the blistering debut novel *The Prophets* **Robert Jones Jr.** – who cites Baldwin as his spiritual Godfather – on live link from New York.

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L241 ELIF SHAFK		L245 JAMES HASKELL		L248 THE MOTHER AND DAUGHTER MINEFIELD			L255 KEEP THE RECEIPTS: THREE WOMEN, REAL TALK, NO FILTER		L262 EILEEN ATKINS: ACT ONE OF A LIFE ON STAGE		L268 BIMINI BON BOULASH: LIFE LESSONS FROM A DRAG QUEEN			
Town Hall, Pillar Room		L242 MEG MASON: SORROW AND BLISS		LF59 HOLLY JACKSON AND SUE WALLMAN: KILLER PLOTS			L250 CLIFF: STORIES TO SAVE THE WORLD		L256 MEET THE LITERARY EDITORS			L264 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WRITING TODAY				
The Garden Theatre		LF50 JACQUELINE WILSON		LF56 DAVID BADDIEL		L247 CELEBRATING THE SEASONS WITH THE YORKSHIRE SHEPHERDESSES		L252 THE MIRROR AND THE PALETTE		L257 JOAN BAKEWELL: THE TICK OF TWO CLOCKS		L265 KEEP THE RECEIPTS: DARE TO BE LOUD				
The Forum		L240 RICHARD DAWKINS		L244 COVID 19: THE END OF GLOBALISATION?		L249 JOAN COLLINS		L254 TOM DALEY		L259 AFRICA'S NEXT DECADE		L267 THE WHITEHALLS HOW TO SURVIVE FAMILY HOLIDAYS				
The Inkpot		LF51 POEMS & PEDALS: I LOVE MY BIKE WITH SIMON MOLE		LF57 LUKE GAMBLE: THE SECRET ANIMAL SOCIETY		LF64 THE WEEK JUNIOR LIVE		L253 UNCONVENTIONAL UPRISING: STORIES FROM WILD CHILDHOODS		L258 MAKE IT HAPPEN: GETTING YOUR VOICE HEARD		L266 MATT CHORLEY: WHO IS IN CHARGE HERE?				
The Hive		LF47 THE QUEEN ON OUR CORNER		LF55 STEVEN LENTON: GENIE AND TEENY MAKE A WISH		LF60 MOLLY OLD-FIELD		LF65 FACT TO FICTION BOOK JAM		LF69 A HISTORY OF THE WORLD IN 25 CITIES		L261 SARAH MOSS: THE FELL				
Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre		LF46 HELEN STEPHENS: SAVING MR HOOT		L243 STEVEN ISSERLIS: BACH AND ME		LF61 GARETH P. JONES: SOLVE YOUR OWN MYSTERY		LF68 TONGUE FU FOR KIDS		L260 TONGUE FU						
The Daffodil	L239 BREAKFAST WITH THE TIMES: RISHI SUNAK. THE MAN BEHIND THE BRAND			L246 LUNCH AT DISHOOM								L263 GIFFORDS: FOOD, STORIES AND PERFORMANCE FROM A MAGICAL CIRCUS RESTAURANT				
The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel		LF49 WORK-SHOP: STORY HUNTING WITH EMMA CARROLL		LF55 WORK-SHOP: UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVE MONSTER		LF62 WORK-SHOP: ART CLUB WITH HELEN STEPHENS		LF67 WORK-SHOP: UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVE MONSTER								
	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am

 Family Event

9–10.30am

L239

Current Affairs

Breakfast With The Times: Rishi Sunak: The Man Behind The Brand

The Daffodil

£22 Ticket includes continental breakfast. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Propelled into high office by the sudden resignation of Sajid Javid, is Rishi Sunak now a PM in waiting? As Chancellor of the Exchequer during the pandemic he has been responsible for unprecedented spending of huge amounts of government money to protect livelihoods, and for eye-catching initiatives such as last summer's Eat Out to Help Out. With his slick media profile and his generally sure-footed approach to managing the economy, he is one of the most popular and best-known politicians in Britain.

We take a closer look at Rishi Sunak – his politics, his personality, the shrewd tactician behind the suave exterior, and discuss his next move with Times columnist **Rachel Sylvester**, the journalist and interviewer **Charlotte Edwardes** and **Henry Zeffman**, The Times Chief Political Correspondent.

10–10.45am

LF47

Family

The Queen On Our Corner

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 4+



Nobody notices the homeless woman on the corner. Nobody...except one young girl. Through her eyes, the woman who dwells in the abandoned plot is a warrior queen.

Author **Lucy Christopher** tells the tale of *The Queen on Our Corner*, a heartwarming story of homelessness, kindness and community. Using your imagination and helpful creative writing prompts, create a brand-new adventure for the Queen – with dragons and treasure aplenty, then illustrate your scene with a step-by-step draw along guide. A perfect event for young storytellers with a boundless imagination!

10–11am

LF46

Family

Helen Stephens: Saving Mr Hoot

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 3+

Mr Hoot is an owl who lives in the tree outside Ben's house – when grown-ups want to chop down Mr Hoot's tree, Ben must act fast to save him. Join **Helen Stephens**, bestselling creator of *How to Hide a Lion*, to explore the world of her new book *Saving Mr Hoot*. Find out how Helen's own love of owls inspired the story which celebrates the wonderful wildlife around us and shows that even the smallest person can help to protect it.

10–11am

LF49

Family

Workshop: Story Hunting With Emma Carroll

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 9+

Go hunting with author **Emma Carroll** (*The Week at World's End*) in this fun-packed writing workshop, where you'll be tracking down what makes a great story.

Emma will be sharing some of her tips for generating ideas and asking what your character wants, what they'll do to get it, and who or what is trying to stop them. Expect to be inspired by strange old objects, dogs in top hats, maps and monsters, as well as thinking about what makes YOU tick as a writer.

10–11am

L241

Fiction

Elif Shafak

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

Hailed as 'one of the best writers in the world today' (Hanif Kureishi), **Elif Shafak**'s work has been translated into 54 languages, nominated for prizes as diverse as the Booker, RSL Ondaatje, the Dublin Literary Award and the Orange Prize and selected for the BBC's 100 Novels That Shaped Our World. She makes her much-anticipated return with *The Island of Missing Trees*, a rich, magical novel of belonging and identity, love and trauma, memory and amnesia, destruction and renewal set between Cyprus and London. She talks to **Georgina Godwin**.

10–11am

L240

Science

Richard Dawkins

The Forum

£12

One of our most brilliant science communicators – the evolutionary biologist **Richard Dawkins** has written introductions, forewords and reviews of the work of some of the leading thinkers of our age including Carl Sagan, Lawrence Krauss, Jacob Bronowski and Lewis Wolpert. *Books Do Furnish a Life* is his electrifying celebration of science writing, both fiction and non-fiction. He joins broadcaster **Matthew Stadlen** to discuss the legacy of the most notable science writers and, of course, his own remarkable canon of work.

10.15–11.15am LF50

Family

Jacqueline Wilson: The Primrose Railway Children

The Garden Theatre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 8+

Jacqueline Wilson is one of Britain's best-selling children's authors and a former Children's Laureate. Famous for writing characters like Tracy Beaker and Hetty Feather, she has legions of loyal fans both in the UK and throughout the world. Come along to hear Jacqueline talking with fellow author **Phil Earle** (*When The Sky Falls*) about why she started her writing career, how she created some of her much-loved characters and about her brand-new book, *The Primrose Railway Children* – a re-imagining of E Nesbit's classic (*The Railway Children*) set in the present day.

There will be no book signing after this event but bookplates with Jacqueline's signature printed on them will be available from the bookshop.

10.30–11.30am L242

Fiction

Meg Mason: Sorrow And Bliss

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10



Published to a chorus of acclaim, *Sorrow and Bliss* is a brilliant, brittle and extremely funny novel about sisterhood, mental illness and what might be salvaged in a life full of promise going wildly astray. Bristling with the same tragicomic energy of *Fleabag* it has already won over legions of readers.

Clare Clark talks to the author via live link from her home in Sydney.

10.30–11.30am LF51

Family

Poems & Pedals: I Love My Bike with Simon Mole

The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 5+

Nobody forgets the thrill of riding a bike for the first time, even if it can feel like an uphill battle to begin with. Join acclaimed children's poet and author **Simon Mole** to celebrate that excitement or start the quest towards it.

Enjoy a performance of Simon's brand-new picture book *I Love My Bike*, play some fun (and quite silly) games like Spin the Word-Wheel and take part in the Pedal Power challenge to unlock your creative powers!

11.30am–12.30pm LF53

Family

Steven Lenton: Genie And Teeny Make A Wish

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 5+

Award-winning author and illustrator **Steven Lenton** takes you on a magical adventure with his brand-new characters Genie and Teeny. Meet Grant the Genie and his best friend, the puppy Teeny. Find out about their magical world and join in with Steven as he brings them to life on paper with live drawing. Packed to the brim with humorous life lessons and lots of adventure, this is one not to be missed.

12–1pm L243

Stage and screen

Steven Isserlis: Bach And Me

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£10

Bach's 6 Suites for solo cello are among the most cherished of all the works in the classical music literature. Shrouded in mystery, they have acquired a magical aura which continues to attract and fascinate audiences the world over. Award-winning international cellist **Steven Isserlis**, whose recording of the Suites met with the highest critical acclaim, offers to **Aled Jones** his personal observations of the music, taking us further into the world of the Suites and uncovering their religious and emotional background, in order to enhance the experience of hearing some of the greatest works ever composed.

12–1pm LF55

Family

Workshop: Unleash Your Creative Monster

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 9+

Everyone has a Creative Monster inside them. Join **Andy Jones**, author of *Unleash Your Creative Monster: A Children's Guide to Writing*, in a workshop that will entertain, inform and inspire young writers. Andy will present tips, ideas and exercises to feed those monsters and make them roar. Unleash your creativity and learn to write stories with a serious bite!

12.15–1.15pm L245

Sport

James Haskell

Town Hall, Main Hall
£12

It's 2021 and **James Haskell** is at a crossroads. His glittering international rugby career that took him from England to New Zealand and France – including 77 caps for England – is over. What will he do now? What is his purpose in life? In *Ruck Me*, James sets out on a voyage of self-discovery, reflecting on his career and diving into some of his most memorable anecdotes to date. The rugby icon joins sports broadcaster **Max Whittle** for an outrageously funny look back and to share his lessons on how (not) to retire gracefully and move forward.

12.15–1.15pm L244

Current Affairs

Covid 19: The End Of Globalisation?

The Forum
£12

Our expert panel, hosted by Chatham House Director **Robin Niblett**, discusses the long-term implications of the pandemic on the patterns of economic globalization that had been established over the past two decades. It is already clear that the pandemic will have a lasting effect on the world economy, with the long supply chains on which global trade has relied for so long being challenged, and individual states intervening more frequently to control foreign investment and close their borders to migration and travel. Will nation states turn further inwards, with vaccine nationalism and trade protectionism on the rise? Will the escalating rivalry between the US and China threaten global growth? And were the sceptics right about the unsustainable social and environmental downsides of globalisation? Line-up to be announced.

12.15–1.15pm LF56

Family

David Baddiel: (The Boy Who Got) Accidentally Famous

The Garden Theatre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 8+

Comedian and author **David Baddiel**'s wildly entertaining adventure stories for young readers have sold millions of copies across the globe. Come along for an exclusive preview of his brand-new blockbuster (*The Boy Who Got) Accidentally Famous*. Filled with laugh-out-loud humour and out-of-this-world action, his latest epic tale is set back at Bracket Wood school where the unexceptional Billy Smith is about to have his life turned upside down.

Talking with **Julia Wheeler**, David reveals the inspiration behind his books and why he loves writing for children. There will be a chance to ask questions and David will have some questions for you too in this lively, fun-filled session!

12.30–1.30pm

Family

Luke Gamble: The Secret Animal Society

The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 8+



Meet author, adventurer and TV vet **Luke Gamble** (Sky One's Vet Adventure/Animal Planet) who has worked for the protection of animals worldwide. Inspired by his many animal encounters, his latest book (*The Secret Animal Society*) stars Edie whose eccentric uncle doesn't just treat normal pets, but magical ones – and Edie can TALK to them all! Get ready to join The Secret Animal Society yourself and find out about Luke's animal antics from around the world.

12.45–1.45pm

Young Adult

Holly Jackson And Sue Wallman: Killer Plots

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£6 Recommended for ages 14+ and young adults.

Holly Jackson is the author of *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*, the #1 New York Times bestselling Young Adult crime thriller. **Sue Wallman**'s debut, *Lying About Last Summer*, was a phenomenon upon its release and was selected for the Zoella Book Club.

Join this deadly duo as they talk with Book Vlogger of the Year **Leena Norms** about the world of YA thriller mysteries, killer plots, slippery characters and their latest novels, *As Good As Dead* and *I Know You Did It*. How do they keep their readers guessing right to the very end? What's it like working with an editor, and what inspires their writing?

1–3pm

Lifestyle

Lunch At Dishoom

The Daffodil

£35 Ticket includes a two-course lunch and glass of wine. Doors open 30 minutes before event.



Be transported to the Irani cafes of Bombay as Chef **Naved Nasir** and co-founder of Dishoom **Shamil Thakrar** cook up a delicious lunch of Indian delights, based on recipes from their eponymous, hugely successful cookbook. Mixing bold and delicious flavours, colourful stories of the city's vibrant jazz scene and iconic art deco influences, join us for a celebration of the food, history and culture of Bombay.

1.15–2pm

LF60

Family

Molly Oldfield: Everything Under The Sun



The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 4+

Molly Oldfield, the Original QI Elf, brings her award-winning podcast and book of the same name *Everything Under the Sun*, to life by answering big questions such as: Can blue whales talk to killer whales? Why do we dream? Who invented music? Why is cricket called cricket? and Why do monkeys throw poo? Expect fascinating facts, lots of laughter and more answers to questions you've always wanted to know. There's even the chance for one child to record their own burning question for an upcoming episode of Molly's podcast.

2–3pm

LF61

Family

Gareth P. Jones: Solve Your Own Mystery

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 7+

Blue Peter Award winning children's author and performer **Gareth P Jones** presents a show where the audience is invited to create a mystery. Inspired by the first in Gareth's brand-new series, *Solve Your Own Mystery: The Monster Maker*, this is a show unlike any other. Expect live music, a yeti detective, fast-rapping, interactive story-telling, anarchic humour, unexpected plot twists and the odd zombie or two.

2–3pm

LF62

Family

Workshop: Art Club With Helen Stephens

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 4+

Join **Helen Stephens**, bestselling creator of *How to Hide a Lion*, for a drawing workshop based on her latest book *Saving Mr Hoot*, a heart-warming picture book about a boy determined to protect the owl living in the tree outside his house. In this unique activity inspired by nature, Helen will show you how to draw not with pens, but with sticks! Get ready to get stuck into this fun, environment-themed draw-along and learn how Helen used twigs to help her create the exquisite illustrations of *Saving Mr Hoot*.

2.15–3.15pm

L247

Nature

Celebrating The Seasons With The Yorkshire Shepherdess

The Garden Theatre

£10

Throughout this pandemic we have all craved some form of escapism. So it is no surprise that – during the long days of lockdown – viewers flocked to watch Yorkshire's favourite farming family on C5's *Our Yorkshire Farm*, delighting in their free-range existence and the wild beauty of their remote home. Shepherdess, wife, mother of nine children and bestselling author **Amanda Owen** takes us behind the scenes at Ravenseat Farm, describing the seasonal rhythm of their life and sharing gorgeous photographs that showcase the rugged Swaledale landscape she writes about. Chaired by author and broadcaster **Horatio Clare** (*Heavy Light*).

2.30–3.30pm

L248

Psychology

The Mother And Daughter Minefield

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

For many women, our relationship with our mothers is formative, yet the bond is often fraught. **Gwendoline Riley's** novel *My Phantoms* is a nuanced portrait of a mother-daughter relationship gone awry. **Susie Boyt**, daughter of painter Lucian Freud and Suzie Boyt, was brought up by her mother; she examines the limits, disappointments and excesses of love in her new novel *Loved and Missed*. Parenting columnist and mum of four **Lorraine Candy** (*Mum, What's Wrong With You?*) has interviewed neuroscientists, family therapists and parenting gurus in her quest for a more harmonious relationship with her daughters. They explore this challenging emotional terrain with Festival Guest Curator **Joan Bakewell** (*The Tick of Two Clocks*).

2.30–3.30pm

L249

Stage and Screen

Joan Collins

The Forum

£32 Ticket includes a copy of *My Unapologetic Diaries* RRP £20.

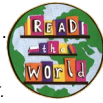
Legendary star of both television and the silver screen, actress **Joan Collins** talks frankly to journalist and broadcaster **Andrew Pierce** about her funny, enthralling and uncensored diary entries revealed in her book *My Unapologetic Diaries*. Pulling no punches with her often hilarious and unexpected observations, she describes encounters with members of the Royal Family, her thoughts on Donald Trump and gives a fascinating glimpse into the world of celebrity.

2.30–3.30pm

LF64

Family

The Week Junior LIVE



The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 9+

Get behind the scenes of our Guest Curator **The Week Junior** and discover how the team decides what to put in every issue, how the pages are put together, who creates the front cover and why every word and picture matters. Join editor **Felicity Capon**, managing editor **Vanessa Harriss** and deputy editor **Rahul Verma** to hear what it takes to produce an award-winning weekly current affairs magazine for children, and learn some of their top journalism tips.

3–4pm

LF65

Family

Fact To Fiction Book Jam



The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 11+

Inspired by true stories, authors **Phil Earle** and **Alex Wheatle** talk with author **Emma Carroll** (*The Week at World's End*) about their powerful historical novels. *When the Sky Falls* follows the story of Joseph, charged with protecting Adonis the gorilla in Manchester Zoo during the First World War, *Cane Warriors* tells of Tacky's War through a 14-year-old plantation slave in Jamaica who becomes a freedom fighter. Find out why Phil and Alex chose to write these important and gripping stories and join in the book jam with our authors to turn a piece of fact into fiction.

3.15–4.15pm

L250

Fiction

Cli Fi: Stories To Save The World



Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

A new generation of novelists are using their voices to address the biggest crisis of our time: the climate emergency. **Jessie Greengrass'** *The High House* begins in a world on the edge of environmental catastrophe and follows a cast of characters who must shelter together as the waters around them rise. **Oana Aristide's** *Under the Blue* is an apocalyptic road trip into our near future featuring a reclusive artist forced to abandon his home and follow two young sisters across a post-pandemic Europe in search of a safe place. They talk to **Georgina Godwin** about their urgent and prescient works.

4–5pm

LF67

Family

Workshop: Unleash Your Creative Monster

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 9+

Everyone has a Creative Monster inside them. Join **Andy Jones**, author of *Unleash Your Creative Monster: A Children's Guide to Writing*, in a workshop that will entertain, inform and inspire young writers. Andy will present tips, ideas and exercises to feed those monsters and make them roar. Unleash your creativity and learn to write stories with a serious bite!

4.15–5.15pm

L252

Art, Design & Architecture

The Mirror And The Palette: 500 Years Of Women's Self-Portraits

The Garden Theatre

£9

Her story weaves in and out of time and place. She's Frida Kahlo en route to Mexico; she's Gwen John craving city lights, the sea and solitude; she's Artemisia Gentileschi striding through the streets of Naples. In a world where – until the 20th century – art history was dominated by men, women's self-portraiture has been an act of rebellion as well as artistic expression. Through *The Mirror and the Palette*, **Jennifer Higgie** introduces us to an array of women artists who turned their back on convention and lived lives of great creativity and bravery. In conversation with art historian and broadcaster **Katy Hessel**, she explores 500 years of women's self-portraits, from the 16th century to the selfie.

4.30–5.30pm

L253

Memoir/Biography

Unconventional Upbringings: Stories From Wild Childhoods

The Inkpot

£9

Gavandra Hodge (*The Consequences of Love*) grew up in the dazzling days and dark nights of her parents' social lives, her father a celebrity hairdresser and philandering junkie, her mother an alcoholic fashion model. When her beloved sister died aged nine, Gavandra was left alone with her grief. **Sarah Aspinall** (*Diamonds at the Lost and Found*) spent an itinerant childhood travelling the world with her mother Audrey, an elegant chancer who suffered from perpetual wanderlust – scraping together an education for herself from books found in hotels and living on Audrey's charm as they veered from luxury to poverty. They tell **Cathy Rentzenbrink** about navigating the instability of their early lives and their complex feelings towards their parents.

4.30–5.30pm

LF68

Family

Tongue Fu For Kids

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 7+

The hit spoken word and music show, *Tongue Fu for Kids* has blazed a trail at the Royal Albert Hall, Roundhouse, and Camp Bestival, delighting family audiences with their stories of skateboarding mermaids, battle rapping parrots and WooHoo Island with its sands of crushed diamonds.

This special Hot Poets show invites you to imagine a world where we've stopped climate change, saved all the animals and lifted everyone out of poverty. It's a story that needs to be written, and fast! Can you help?

Chris Redmond and the lightning-fast **Tongue Fu band** combine the wonky, weird and wonderful in a unique fusion of poetry, storytelling, music and improvisation.

4.45–5.45pm

L254

Sport

Tom Daley

The Forum

£12

With his unforgettable medal-winning performance in the 2012 London Olympics and gold medal winning performance at Tokyo 2021, **Tom Daley** captured the heart of the nation. The celebrated diver introduces his deeply personal memoir *Coming Up for Air*, sharing an inspiring insight into the moments and experiences that have shaped him, from the resilience he developed competing at world-class level, to the courage he discovered while reclaiming the narrative around his sexuality and the perspective that family life has brought him.

5–6pm

L255

Lifestyle

Keep The Receipts: Three Women, Real Talk, No Filter

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

Join Festival Guest Curators and hosts of chart-topping podcast *Keep The Receipts* live in conversation as they get super honest about their life experiences and lessons. Tolly, Audrey and Milena share their different approaches to love and relationships with their wise advice on building strong friendships; from those conversations about sex we never have, to how to enjoy life as a Black woman or a woman of colour, the Receipts girls always keep it real, authentic and fiercely funny.

5–6pm

LF69

Family

A History Of The World In 25 Cities

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult.
Recommended for ages 8+



Take an incredible journey with authors **Tracey Turner** and **Andrew Donkin** (*British Museum: A History of the World in 25 Cities*) from Athens in ancient Greece during the birth of democracy, to the streets of medieval Benin deep in the West African rainforest, to the modern-day metropolis of Tokyo.

Tracy and Andrew will tell the story of human civilisation throughout history in this fascinating event through a series of stunningly illustrated city maps. You will even discover China's long-lost capital city of Xianyang – a city for which no original map exists... This is not an event to be missed!

5.30–6.30pm

L256

Fiction

Meet The Literary Editors

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10

What does the average day of a literary editor hold? Join **Robbie Millen** and **Andrew Holgate** (Literary Editors of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* respectively) as they provide behind the scenes insights into life on the books pages and give their tips about what to read this autumn. Chaired by **Rosie Goldsmith**.

6.15–7.15pm

L257

Memoir/Biography

Joan Bakewell: The Tick Of Two Clocks

The Garden Theatre

£12

When broadcaster and Festival Guest Curator **Joan Bakewell** (*The Tick of Two Clocks*) decided that she could no longer remain in her old home, she had to confront what she calls 'the next segment of life.' Saying goodbye to her home and the memories of more than 50 years and thinking about downsizing suddenly became urgent and emotional tasks. Some projects such as planning the colours and layout of a new, smaller flat, were exciting and some – the ridding herself of books, paintings, memento – took courage. She talks to novelist **Linda Grant** about moving on and looking ahead.

6.30–7.30pm

L258

Current Affairs

Make It Happen: Getting Your Voice Heard

The Inkpot

£9

We all have the power to make history. Launching the campaign from her bedroom, award-winning activist **Amika George** (*Make It Happen*) succeeded in getting the government to fund free period products in every school across England. Former deputy young mayor of Lambeth and member of the UK Youth Parliament **Jeremiah Emmanuel** (*Dreaming in a Nightmare*) has made it his mission to empower young people, equipping them with the tools they need to fight inequality and succeed in achieving their dreams. Whether you're already campaigning for a cause you care about, or want to better understand how to make a real and lasting difference in the world, they share their tips and advice for the activist in you.

7–8pm

L259

Current Affairs

Africa's Next Decade

The Forum

£12

With 54 sovereign countries and a population set to double in 30 years from 1.3 billion today to over 2.5 billion by 2050, Africa is little understood by the rest of the world. Persistent images of war and extreme poverty, stories of corruption and environmental degradation, and the well-intentioned campaigns of charities dominate most people's perceptions of this hugely diverse continent. Chatham House Director **Robin Niblett** leads this wide-ranging discussion examining the key challenges and opportunities facing Africa in this critical next decade: from the impacts of climate change and rapid urbanisation to the revolution in tech and entrepreneurship that is driving positive change across many African countries. He is joined by **Julia Gallagher**, Professor in African Politics at SOAS, Associate Professor of African Politics and political sociologist **Simukai Chigudu** and the author and senior lecturer in Gender and International Politics **Peace Medie** (*His Only Wife*).

7–8pm

L261

Fiction

Sarah Moss: The Fell

The Hive

£10

Festival favourite and former Guest Curator **Sarah Moss** makes her Cheltenham return – and audiences will be getting an exclusive first look at her highly anticipated new novel, *The Fell*. The author of eight acclaimed novels including the Sunday Times bestseller *Summerwater* and The Women's Prize longlisted *Ghost Wall*, her new novel is a suspenseful, sharply observed and darkly funny page-turner inspired by the confinement of lockdown that asks probing questions about what the world has become since March 2020, and the place it was before. Chaired by **Alex Clark**.

7–9pm

L260

Off the Page

Tongue Fu

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£12

They've rocked Glastonbury and The Roundhouse and after three sell-out performances at Cheltenham, **Tongue Fu** are back by very popular demand. Bringing together the sharpest poets, storytellers and rappers to perform with improvised soundtracks from the genre-hopping Tongue Fu Band, this is a riotous experiment in live literature, music and improvisation that's sure to shake up your Saturday night.

Guest performers to be announced.

'Poetry, but not as you know it...amazing' *The Guardian*'Impossible not to get caught up in the magic...the most remarkable spoken word event going' - *Informed Edinburgh*.

7.30–8.30pm

L262

Memoir

Eileen Atkins: Act One Of A Life On Stage

Town Hall, Main Hall

£12

Award-winning actress **Eileen Atkins** talks about her career on the American and British stage and screen since 1957. Made a Dame in 1991, she has an Emmy and a BAFTA to her name, and is a three-time Olivier Award winner. As if that wasn't enough, she co-created *Upstairs, Downstairs* and wrote the screenplay for *Mrs Dalloway* (for which she won an Evening Standard Award). Eileen draws on anecdotes from her first autobiographical work *Will She Do?* which charts her life from humble beginnings to Broadway fame.

7.30–10pm

L263

Lifestyle

Giffords: Food, Stories And Performance From A Magical Circus Restaurant

The Daffodil

£60 Ticket includes a three-course dinner and a drink on arrival. Live music, bar open until late. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Roll up, roll up, the circus is in town! Get lost in the magic of circus with an extraordinary evening of food, stories and performance from the show-stopping **Giffords Circus**. With sketches from Tweedy the Clown, Nancy Trotter and a live band to entertain, Head Chef Ols Halas recreates a night at the Circus Sauce restaurant, famous for its seasonal and local produce that reflects the circus' slow journey through the English summer countryside. Tweedy, Nancy and Ols share stories from the circus' magnificent history and story so far with chair **Julia Leonard**.

8.15–9.15pm

L264

Fiction

Australian Women's Writing Today



Town Hall, Pillar Room
£9

Evie Wyld won the 2021 Stella prize – Australia's leading literary award dedicated to women's voices – with her novel *The Bass Rock*, which the judges described as a 'true work of art'. With **Tam Zimet**, formerly of Sydney Writers' Festival and one of the 2021 Stella Prize judges, together they discuss Evie's acclaimed novel, reveal what it says about contemporary Australian women's writing and offer their reading recommendations of other Australian women writers to seek out.

8.15–9.15pm

L265

Lifestyle

Keep The Receipts: Dare To Be Loud

The Garden Theatre
£10

The label 'loud' is not traditionally a compliment; it's a phrase that comes with connotations of being outspoken, self-important and overbearing. But being bold, speaking up for what you believe in and not hiding your true self is something that we shouldn't shy away from. We are all unique and, whether introvert or extrovert, have voices that deserve to be heard.

Speaking with *Keep The Receipts* host **Tolani Shoneye**, author **Chelsea Kwakya** (*Taking Up Space*) and psychotherapist **Anna Mathur** (*Know Your Worth*) share their advice on how to feel empowered, comforted and validated in every emotion you experience, decision you make and opinion you share.

8.30–9.30pm

L266

Current Affairs

Matt Chorley: Who Is In Charge Here?

The Inkpot
£12

After the sell-out success of his first tour *This. Is. Not. Normal.*, Times columnist and Times Radio presenter **Matt Chorley** is back with an hilarious new show exploring who really calls the shots in Westminster. Is the Prime Minister actually in charge, or at the mercy of the opposition, backbenchers, lobbyists, the media, spin doctors, his wife, or the Queen?

'Great British stand up is alive and well... Matt Chorley with acid wit and music hall timing' Andrew Marr

'Engaging, funny, entertaining' Rory Bremner

9–10pm

L267

Stage and Screen

The Whitehalls: How To Survive Family Holidays

The Forum
£14

The parents of actor **Jack Whitehall**, **Michael** and **Hilary Whitehall**, discuss with **Nick Hewer** how they have pooled their advice on family holidays in Jack's new book, *How To Survive Family Holidays*. They lay out the pitfalls of family holidays and some of their best and funniest anecdotes from their wide experience of travelling together as a family for the past five years as shown in the hit Netflix show *Travels With My Father*. With a special contribution from Jack himself.

9.30–10.30pm

L268

Memoir

Bimini Bon Boulash: Life Lessons From A Drag Queen

Town Hall, Main Hall
£14

Drag queen and break-out star of *RuPaul's Drag Race UK* Season 2, **Bimini Bon Boulash** reveals the story of how drag took her from a low ebb to the glamorous mainstage. In *Release The Beast*, Bimini shares ten life lessons she has learned from drag. With all her wit, charm and kindness, she explores what her life in drag has taught her about identity, politics, history, health and fashion, and shares not only her own inspiring story but the stories of the non-conformists – fellow queens, musicians, fashion designers and more – who have inspired her.

DAY PLANNER

	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am
Town Hall, Main Hall		L270 GILES TERERA: FROM SHAKE-SPEARE TO HAMILTON		L275 FI GLOVER AND JANE GLOVER: MIDLIFE MEANDERINGS			L280 THE FUTURE OF WAR			L286 JULIAN CLARY: A LIFE WITH DOGS		L296 AMOR TOWLES: A GENTLEMAN IN MOSCOW TO THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY				
Town Hall, Pillar Room		L272 A COUNTRY-SIDE FOR ALL			LF92 MAGICAL BOOK JAM			L281 LEILA SLIMANI		L290 REBECCA SOLNIT AND DEBORAH LEVY		L298 MILLENNIAL LIVES AND LOVES: MEGAN NOLAN & RAVEN LEILANI				
The Garden Theatre		LF71 LENNY HENRY: THE BOY WITH WINGS		L274 A WOMAN'S PLACE: DEBORAH LEVY TALKS TO JOAN BAKEWELL		L278 KATHARINE PARR: A HEROINE FOR OUR TIMES		L282 WHY HAVE THERE BEEN NO GREAT WOMEN ARTISTS?		L288 EVANNA LYNCH		L297 HIGH RISK: LIFE AT THE EXTREMES				
The Forum		L273 RUBY WAX: AND NOW FOR THE GOOD NEWS			L276 SANJEEV BHASKAR		L279 ROBERT WEBB			L287 THE AUDACITY OF KATHERINE RYAN		L295 IAN HISLOP: 60 YEARS OF PRIVATE EYE				
The Inkpot		LF75 MICHAEL MORPURGO WITH GEORGE BUTLER		LF81 MADDIE MOATE: STUFF		LF88 CHANGE YOUR WORLD		L284 A NEW ERA: THE DAY THE SIXTIES BEGAN		L291 WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT MONEY						
The Hive		LF70 TOM PERCIVAL: BIG BRIGHT FEELINGS		LF77 CHRIS HAUGHTON: MAYBE		LF84 A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CAVEMAN, A QUEEN, AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN		LF90 IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE WOODS TODAY				L294 CHELTENHAM TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB				
Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre		LF72 GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS 2022		LF79 THE MAGICAL WORLD OF HARRY POTTER		LF85 JAMES MAYHEW: ONCE UPON A TUNE		L283 KEEP THE RECEIPTS: HOW TO CREATE A GREAT PODCAST		L289 BRIGHT STARS: GREAT ARTISTS WHO DIED TOO YOUNG						
The Daffodil		L271 IS THIS WORKING?			L277 SUNDAY LUNCH WITH RAY MEARS					L285 RAVINDER BHOGAL: FOOD WITHOUT BORDERS						
The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel		LF73 WORK-SHOP: ART CLUB WITH FREYA HARTAS		LF80 WORK-SHOP: POETRY CLUB WITH RACHEL PIERCEY				LF91 WORK-SHOP: WORLD BUILDING WITH AMY WILSON			L292 GLOUCESTER-SHIRE WRITERS' NETWORK					
	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am

 Family Event

10–11am L270

Stage and Screen

Giles Terera: From Shakespeare To Hamilton



Town Hall, Main Hall
£10

When **Giles Terera** (*Hamilton and Me: An Actor's Journal*) was auditioning for the role of Aaron Burr in the smash-hit musical *Hamilton*, a very different 'Aaron' was also on the table: that of Aaron the Moor in The Royal Shakespeare Company's *Titus Andronicus*. The decision towards *Hamilton* was made and the rest is history – but throughout his time in the show, Giles' thoughts kept returning to Shakespeare, and how the Bard and Lin-Manuel Miranda's rap musical aren't as different as one might think. In a twist on our long-running annual Shakespeare Lecture, join the Olivier award-winning actor for fascinating insights into the surprising and enlightening parallels he discovered between the two worlds.

10–11am LF71

Family

Lenny Henry: The Boy With Wings

The Garden Theatre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 9+

Join actor, comedian and author **Lenny Henry** as he chats to host, author and illustrator **Nadia Shireen** about his first brilliantly funny, action-packed middle grade adventure story *The Boy With Wings*. Twelve-year-old Tunde is an average kid with average friends whose life is turned upside down when in the middle of a football match he leaps for the ball and stays in the air – on an enormous pair of wings. He discovers new found powers and a secret past and finds out how just how an average kid can become an extraordinary hero. With readings from Lenny and your turn to ask questions too.

10–11am LF70

Family

Tom Percival: Big Bright Feelings

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 4+

Be open, be honest, be you! **Tom Percival's** Big Bright Feelings series (*Perfectly Norman*, *Ravi's Roar*, *Ruby's Worry*, *Meesha Makes Friends*, *Tilda Tries Again*) is the perfect springboard for conversations about empathy, positive self-image and building self-confidence. With live drawing, props and live music, author and illustrator Tom Percival shares the craft of creating picture books and shows us that even little people can have big feelings.

10–11am LF75

Family

Michael Morpurgo With George Butler



The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 9+

Festival favourite and master storyteller, **Michael Morpurgo** introduces his new novel *When Fishes Flew*, *The Story of Elena's War*, a sweeping tale of love and rescue set in Ithica, Greece. Always an inspiring speaker, don't miss Michael talking about his new characters and the background to a story that features magic, myth, mystery and some of the unsung, everyday heroes of World War Two. Hosted by **Alex O'Connell** (*The Times*) Michael is joined by illustrator **George Butler** to talk about his travels and illustrations for Michael's latest book and his own book, *Drawn Across Borders*.

10–11am LF72

Family

Guinness World Records 2022

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 8+



Editor in Chief, **Craig Glenday**, brings the Guinness World Records 2022 edition to life- providing a fascinating snapshot of the world today through the lens of record breaking. Expect a fun packed and interactive hour featuring brand-new record-breaking content - including remarkable humans and talented pets, to incredible vehicles and a look at how record breaking can be a force for change.

10–11am LF73

Family

Workshop: Art Club With Freya Hartas

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 4+

Find out why **Freya Hartas** loves illustrating and learn how she created the scenes in her new book *If You Go Down to the Woods Today*. Then, help Freya create a giant woodland scene and spot all the different animals as they go about their busy day.

10–11.30am

L271

Lifestyle

Is This Working?

The Daffodil

£22 Ticket includes brunch. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

We all know the pressure of feeling like we should be at the grindstone 24/7 while simultaneously being told to make time for ourselves, like we somehow have to decide between success and sanity. But in today's complex working world, where every hobby can be a hustle and our desks are in our bedrooms, finding both balance and success can seem impossible. Chair **Sarah Raphael** is joined by **Elizabeth Uviebinene** (*The Reset*), **Grace Beverly** (*Working Hard, Hardly Working*) and **Selina Barker** (*Burn Out*) to discuss the paradox of the modern working world. They share their expert advice on how to achieve more, stress less and feel fulfilled in our careers.

10.30–11.30am

L272

Nature

A Countryside For All

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£9

After she became the victim of a race hate crime, journalist **Anita Sethi** (*I Belong Here*) set out to walk The Pennines, to further explore the area she regards as home and reinforce her sense of belonging in the landscape. British Bangladeshi birder and activist **Mya-Rose Craig**, also known as 'Birdgirl' (*We Have a Dream*) runs nature camps for inner-city Visible Minority Ethnic children through her organisation Black2Nature. They join **Lucy McRobert** to explore why rural Britain remains predominantly a White landscape, the ways in which we all connect with nature, and what we can do to create a truly inclusive countryside.

10.30–11.30am

L273

Stage and Screen

Ruby Wax: And Now For The Good News

The Forum

£12

When was the last time that reading the news made you feel good? In the current climate you would be forgiven for thinking it's an impossibility, but **Ruby Wax** is here to reassure us that all is not lost. Having spent the last three years speaking to the inspiring people who are spearheading the latest innovations and influencing a brighter future for humanity, she shares the green shoots of hope peeping through the soil of civilisation and provides a blueprint for how the world can shift for the better.

11.45am–12.30pm

LF77

Family

Chris Haughton: Maybe

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 3+

When big monkey trusts three little monkeys to stay safely up in the trees away from the tigers on the forest floor, the temptation of juicy mangos is too good to resist. Maybe, just maybe, one little trip can't hurt? Join **Chris Haughton**, the acclaimed picture book creator of titles including *Oh No George!* and *Shh! We Have a Plan* for an action-packed interactive family event celebrating his newest story, *Maybe...* Families and their cheeky little monkeys will delight in meeting a cast of quirky characters in this entertaining event full of their favourite stories and fun draw-alongs.

12–1pm

L274

Memoir/Biography

A Woman's Place: Deborah Levy Talks To Joan Bakewell

The Garden Theatre

£10

Deborah Levy's celebrated trilogy of memoirs considers what it costs a woman to live with meaning and pleasure in a patriarchal world. The final volume, *Real Estate*, makes the existential case for a female character who takes ownership of the deeds of her own life. And it accounts for the enduring relationships – with friends, lovers, family and literary forebears – that travel with us wherever we live, as well as those we must outgrow and leave behind. Deborah joins Festival Guest Curator **Joan Bakewell** (*The Tick of Two Clocks*) for a wide-ranging conversation about her 'living autobiography' – written "in the storm of life".

'Wise, subtle and ironic, Levy's every sentence is masterpiece of clarity and poise... A brilliant writer' Daily Telegraph

12–1pm

LF79

Family

The Magical World Of Harry Potter

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 8+
Harry Potter dress up optional.

Are you a fan of the Harry Potter books? Still waiting for your letter from Hogwarts? Join **Fleurble Laffalot** for a family friendly journey through J.K. Rowling's much-loved books. Discover fun facts and take part in some of the key elements of life at Hogwarts. From the sorting ceremony to Quidditch, moving portraits, potions and beyond, this is a funny, silly event for anyone who has ever wanted to explore the magical world of Harry Potter books!

12–1pm LF80

Family

Workshop: Poetry Club With Rachel Piercey

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 4+

Get creative with author and poet **Rachel Piercey** to celebrate all the fun and exciting things that happen in a woodland year. An interactive event packed full of nature-inspired activities featuring Bear and all his friends from Rachel's new book *If You Go Down to the Woods Today*.

12.15–1.15pm LF81

Family

Maddie Moate: Stuff



The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 7+

Do you ever wonder where your stuff comes from, and what happens to it when you're finished with it? Did you know that you can make paper out of elephant poo? And plastic packaging out of seaweed? And did you know that if you throw away an old T-shirt, it can take 200 years to break down? Join family favourite YouTuber and BAFTA nominated CBeebies presenter **Maddie Moate** (*Stuff: From Magic Ink to Meatless Burgers: Eco-Stories of Everyday Stuff*) for a fun-filled event full of mind-bursting facts, and extraordinary stories of the ingenious ways people around the world, and across history, have made, used and re-used the stuff around them. Full of incredible 'did you know?' facts and stories that span history and geography, as well as lively experiments and demonstrations, this event will leave adults and children alike thinking about many everyday objects around them.

12.30–1.30pm L275

Stage and Screen

Fi Glover And Jane Garvey: Midlife Meanderings

Town Hall, Main Hall

£12

Award-winning broadcasters **Fi Glover** and **Jane Garvey** talk to **Alex Clark** about their latest book *Did I Say That Out Loud: Notes on the Chuff of Life*. Taking a fresh and frank look at midlife, they cover a range of topics from pet deaths to broadcasting hierarchies, and the perplexing overconfidence of chino-wearing middle-aged white men named Roger, with honesty and humour.

1–2pm LF92

Family

Magical Book Jam

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 9+

Brimming with imagination, **Ross Montgomery's** *The Midnight Guardians* and **Amy Wilson's** *Lightning Falls* are magical adventures featuring a cast of other-worldly friends and foes. This is fantastical fiction that will have readers staying up late with a torch under the duvet. Chaired by author **Lucy Strange** (*The Ghost of Gosswater*) our three authors discuss ghosts, imaginary friends and faeries and reveal how they create their strange and wonderful stories. You can join in the book jam with our authors to create a magical story together too.

1–2pm L276

Stage and Screen

Sanjeev Bhaskar

The Forum

£12

The actor, writer and television presenter **Sanjeev Bhaskar** reflects on a life both on screen and behind the camera, writing and directing, in conversation with journalist **Jonathan Dean**. Best known for co-creating the BBC Two comedy *Goodness Gracious Me* and creating the sitcom-talkshow *The Kumars at No.42*, he also presented the documentary series *India with Sanjeev Bhaskar* where he travelled to India and visited his ancestral home in today's Pakistan. His most recent work is the acclaimed drama series *Unforgotten*.

1–3pm L277

Travel and Adventure

Sunday Lunch With Ray Mears

The Daffodil

£35 Ticket includes a two-course lunch and a glass of wine. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Ray Mears has spent his life travelling the world, living with and learning from trackers, adventurers and indigenous peoples in the desert, the rainforest and the Arctic north. Join the outdoors legend for Sunday lunch, as he shares his favourite tales of adventure and survival.

1.15–2.15pm

LF84

Family

A Day In The Life Of A Caveman, A Queen And Everything In Between

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 8+

Ever wondered what a day in the life of a dung beetle looks like? How about a stomach? Or an Aztec skull? Author **Mike Barfield** brings his anarchic and quirky humour to a family quiz based on his Blue Peter Award winning book *A Day in the Life of a Poo, a Gnu and You* and his new title *A Day in the Life of a Caveman, a Queen and Everything In Between*. Be prepared for a fun event covering a wide range of topics from science and animals to Neolithic times and the dawn of the internet.

2–3pm

L278

History

Katharine Parr: A Heroine For Our Times

The Garden Theatre

£10

Katharine Parr was so much more than the wife who ‘survived’. She was an ambitious and highly intelligent woman – a feminist before her time, an active patron of the arts, a champion of reform and Henry VIII’s great passion. Often marginalised in the story of Henry’s wives, she was in fact hugely influential and a committed player of power politics. Historians **Alison Weir** (*Six Tudor Queens: Katharine Parr*) and **Sarah Gristwood** (*The Tudors in Love*) explore how Katharine has been portrayed through the ages and set her in her proper place in history. She lived and died locally; her remains lie entombed in the church at Sudeley Castle.

2–3pm

LF85

Family

James Mayhew: Once Upon A Tune

Cheltenham Ladies’ College, Parabola Arts Centre

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 5+

Once Upon a Tune brings you six wonderful stories from many lands – all of which inspired great music. You can battle trolls with Peer Gynt in The Hall of the Mountain King; grapple with a magic broom in The Sorcerer’s Apprentice; meet the evil Witch of the North in The Swan of Tuonela; sail the seven seas with Sinbad the Sailor in Scheherazade; be a prince disguised as a bee in The Flight of the Bumblebee and become a fearless hero in William Tell. Accompanied by a band of live musicians, author and illustrator **James Mayhew** brings classical music to life in this unique event with storytelling and live illustration.



2.15–3.15pm

LF88

Family

Change Your World

The Inkpot

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 9+



From protecting the planet and standing up against racism, to fundraising for causes you care about, you’re never too young to help make the world a better place. Join **Dan Green**, editor of *The Week Junior Science+Nature*, and authors **Ben Davis** (*The Soup Movement*), **Stuart Lawrence** (*Silence is Not An Option*) and **Isabel Thomas** (*One Million Insects*), to discover how to stand up and speak out for what you believe in, why kindness is a force for good and how small actions can change the world.

Curated with The Week Junior.

3.15–4.15pm

L280

History

The Future Of War

Town Hall, Main Hall

£10

When Boris Johnson commissioned his landmark security and foreign policy review, set to define the UK’s role in the world, the man he put in charge was not a career civil servant or diplomat. Instead, he brought in an historian; a biographer of British statesmen and expert in realpolitik, picked for his ability to see the bigger picture. Our panel of defence and security experts consider how an understanding of history can help shape contemporary statecraft: Chief of the Defence Staff General **Sir Nick Carter**; defence analyst and former special adviser to the Joint Committee on National Security Strategy **Michael Clarke** (*Britain’s Persuaders*); and historian **Margaret Macmillan** (*War: How Conflict Shaped Us*). Chaired by **Allan Mallinson** (*The Shape of Battle*).

3.15–4.15pm

L279

Fiction

Robert Webb

The Forum

£12

What if you had the chance to do it all again? Such is the premise of award-winning actor and comedian **Robert Webb**’s first novel, *Come Again*. Kate is at her lowest: her beloved husband Luke has died suddenly, she’s lost her job and pushed her dearest friends away. Until one morning she wakes up in a different body – and a different time: she’s 18 again and today’s the day she will meet her future husband for the first time. Can she save him the second time around? Robert joins **Julia Wheeler** to discuss his acclaimed career and his new venture into fiction.

3.15–4.15pm

LF90

Family

If You Go Down To The Woods Today

The Hive

£6 All children under 12 must be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Recommended for ages 4+

A fun-filled event with author and poet **Rachel Piercey** and illustrator **Freya Hartas**, the team behind *If You Go Down to the Woods Today*. Meet the animals who live in the woods as you explore a magical woodland year with live readings and illustration.

3.30–4.30pm

L281

Fiction

Leila Slimani

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10



The bestselling author of *Lullaby* and 'one of literary France's brightest stars' (*The Times*) makes her Cheltenham debut to discuss her new novel, *The Country of Others*, already a bestseller in France. Inspired by Leila's family history and set between the final years of WWII and 1956 when Morocco gained independence from France, it explores colonialism and the ways in which women find themselves othered, politically, culturally and historically. She talks to **Sam Baker** about the novel and her acclaimed wider writing career.

4–5pm

L282

Art, Design & Architecture

Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?

The Garden Theatre

£9

It is rare that a moment in art history can be said to have changed the world, but that is exactly what happened when, 50 years ago, Linda Nochlin published *Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?* Nochlin created a feminist history of art that transformed culture, doing for art what Virginia Woolf did for literature with *A Room of One's Own*. How far have we come since its publication, and who are the women artists that should be commanding our attention? Curator and broadcaster **Kate Bryan** is joined by art historian and writer **Ferren Gipson** (*The Ultimate Art Museum*), curator and founder of The Great Women Artists **Katy Hessel**, and art critic **Jennifer Higgie** (*The Mirror and the Palette*), to explore how Nochlin kickstarted a revolution and to celebrate the women whose work has shaped the course of history.

4–5pm

L283

Lifestyle

Keep The Receipts: How To Create A Great Podcast

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£10

Join **Tolly**, **Audrey** and **Milena** for a lesson in creating a chart-topping podcast. From developing an initial idea right through to production and getting your work noticed, they speak with **Abigail Bergstrom** about their personal experience; their must do's, definitely don'ts, and their hints and tips on how to find your voice, create a narrative style and find and keep a dedicated listenership. Whether a podcast is still a glimmer in your eye or you're already several episodes in, this masterclass is not to be missed.

4–5pm

LF91

Family

Workshop: World Building With Amy Wilson

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel

£10 All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket. Recommended for ages 9+

Join the queen of magical fiction **Amy Wilson** for a writing workshop. If you could cross a bridge to a magical world – as Valerie does in *Lightning Falls* – what would you find there? How would it look? What would the people be like? Would there be magical creatures? Would the bridge itself be dangerous, or guarded? Bring your imagination and we'll discover just what sort of world you'd end up in – remember, YOU get to make up the rules, and anything goes!

4.15–5.15pm

L284

History

A New Era: The Day The Sixties Began

The Inkpot

£10

The 'real' Sixties began on 5 October 1962. On that remarkable Friday, The Beatles launched their first single, 'Love Me Do', and the first James Bond film, *Dr No*, had its world premiere in London: two landmark moments that heralded a new era of social and cultural revolution. Marking the mid-point in his groundbreaking history of modern Britain, **David Kynaston** (*On the Cusp*) charts the charged months leading up to this moment, as Britain stood on the edge of fundamental change. In conversation with Festival Guest Curator **Joan Bakewell** (*The Tick of Two Clocks*) they recall what it was like to live through one of the most fascinating periods of transition in our country's history.

5–6.30pm

L285

Lifestyle

Ravinder Bhogal: Food Without Borders



The Daffodil

£25 Ticket includes small plates and a glass of wine. Doors open 30 minutes before event.

Ravinder Bhogal (*Jikoni*) was born in Kenya to Indian parents; when she moved to London as a child, the cuisine of her new home collided with a heritage that crossed continents. She takes a playful approach to the world's larder, creating lawless concoctions that draw their influences from multiple traditions and result in colourful, creative explosions of flavour. Now top-chef and owner of a highly acclaimed restaurant, Ravinder shares evocative stories from her past with **Julia Leonard**, illustrating the powerful relationship between food, place and identity.

5.30–6.30pm

L286

Stage and Screen

Julian Clary: A Life With Dogs

Town Hall, Main Hall

£14

Throughout his colourful life, comedian **Julian Clary** has always had a dog by his side. He talks to **Julia Wheeler** about *The Lick of Love: How Dogs Changed My Life*, an ode to the unbreakable bond between a man and his dog. From Fanny the Wonder Dog who helped him rise up the ranks of the alternative comedy circuit and on to television, he reveals how a cast of canine characters has played a constant part in his career.

5.30–6.30pm

L287

Stage and Screen

The Audacity Of Katherine Ryan

The Forum

£14

Katherine Ryan's journey has taken her from being a naïve ex-Hooters waitress fresh off the boat from Canada to comedy megastar. She talks to **Alex Clark** about her new book, *The Audacity*, which features advice and observations including how to co-parent as a single mum, how to cut off your racist aunties, and how to potty train a baby at 10 months.

6–7pm

L290

Classic Literature

Rebecca Solnit And Deborah Levy

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10

In a Cheltenham exclusive, we are thrilled to bring together two of our greatest contemporary thinkers to discuss their esteemed writing careers and their shared special interest: George Orwell. The author of over 20 lauded books, including *Men Explain Things to Me* and *A Field Guide to Getting Lost*, **Rebecca Solnit**'s latest work *Orwell's Roses* delves into the life of the towering 20th century figure and explores how his passion for gardening helps to illuminate his literary and political standpoints. Novelist, short story writer and playwright **Deborah Levy**'s acclaimed 'Living Autobiography' trilogy of memoirs similarly stretches across the decades to engage with Orwell, taking the headings from his 1946 essay "Why I Write" as starting points for essays reworked from a female writer's point of view. With Rebecca speaking on live link from her home in San Francisco and Deborah with us on stage in Cheltenham, don't miss this special, transatlantic meeting of two of our brightest minds.

6–7pm

L288

Stage and Screen

Evanna Lynch

The Garden Theatre

£10

Actor and activist **Evanna Lynch** (*The Opposite of Butterfly Hunting*) burst onto our screens as the ethereal Luna Lovegood in the Harry Potter films. Long viewed as a role model for those recovering from eating disorders, Evanna has been open and honest about her struggles with her pursuit of perfectionism. She shares her deeply personal story with body image researcher and co-host of *The Body Protest* podcast **Nadia Craddock**, reflecting on the pressures of coming of age in the spotlight, the tumultuous journey into womanhood, and the power of creativity to help us navigate the path between our fears and our dreams.

6–7pm

L289

Art, Design & Architecture

Bright Stars: Great Artists Who Died Too Young

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Parabola Arts Centre

£10

Some of the world's greatest and most-loved artists died under the age of 40. Heavyweights Vincent van Gogh and Jean-Michel Basquiat have been mythologised by their early deaths. For others like Pauline Boty and Charlotte Salomon, a premature demise has meant being left out of the history books altogether, and as Caravaggio and Vermeer's stories show us, it can take centuries for forgotten artists to be given the recognition they truly deserve. In a celebration of some of the best and brightest talent who died too young, art historian, curator and broadcaster **Kate Bryan** takes us on a dazzling tour of the lives and legacies of great artists who still influence and inspire us today.

6.15–7.15pm L291

Lifestyle

We Need to Talk About Money

The Inkpot
£9

There are few topics as fraught and complex as money. We're embarrassed about having too much, having too little and everything in between. But money does not only exist in our wallets and bank accounts; it's woven into every fibre of our lives, dictating everything from where we live to how well we sleep at night. **Otegha Uwagba** (*We Need to Talk About Money*), **Bola Sol** (*How To Save It*) and **Clare Seal** (*Real Life Money*) unpick the shroud of secrecy surrounding our finances, the social conventions, issues of class, privilege, shame and pride and how we can have a healthier relationship with our own bank balance.

6.30–7.45pm L292

Locally Sourced

Gloucestershire Writers' Network

The Regency Suite, Queen's Hotel
£9

Gloucestershire Writers' Network competition winners present their work on the theme of 'Signposts' as a way of exploring the Festival theme of 'Read the World'. The competition judges, poet **Carrie Etter** and novelist **Debbie Young**, will read a selection of their work.

7.45–8.45pm L293

Stage and Screen

Ian Hislop: 60 Years Of Private Eye

The Forum
£16

Britain's most successful (and indeed only) fortnightly satirical magazine is 60 this year. The legendary spoofs from Dear Bill to Dave Spart, the brilliant cartoons and the daring covers are only a part of the story of the magazine's enduring success (and record circulation figures). A commitment to brave and rigorous investigative journalism is also at the heart of *Private Eye*'s mission and has led to the exposure of major miscarriages of justice like the Stephen Lawrence case, the Lockerbie cover-up and national scandals that have cost the country billions in dodgy PFI contracts, government cock-ups and secret sweetheart tax deals. The Editor of *Private Eye* for 32 years, the broadcaster, writer and documentary maker **Ian Hislop** joins us in conversation with **Georgina Godwin** to reflect on the ups and downs of life at the helm of one of our treasured institutions. After the event, Ian will be signing copies of *Private Eye: The 60 Yearbook*.

7.45–8.45pm L294

Locally Sourced

Cheltenham Town Football Club: Celebrating An Historic Campaign

The Hive
£9

Earlier this year, not only did Cheltenham Town narrowly miss out on a win against Manchester City, they were crowned League Two champions for the first time in the club's 134-year history. Going from strength to strength, this has been a momentous year for the club, but a bittersweet success for fans who cheered on from home in these strange times. Reflecting on the past 12 months, the club has joined forces with journalist Jon Palmer to create a commemorative book for fans, *All Your Dreams Are Made*. Join Associate Director **Murry Toms** as he chats to Manager **Michael Duff** and Captain **Ben Tozer** to celebrate the club's incredible achievements.

8–9pm L296

Fiction

Amor Towles: A Gentleman In Moscow To The Lincoln Highway

Town Hall, Main Hall
£10



Amor Towles' *A Gentleman in Moscow* spent a remarkable 104 weeks on the New York Times bestseller list and has sold over 2.4 million copies to date. His debut, *Rules of Civility* was also a bestseller, and together the books have been translated into more than 30 languages. In the first UK event for his new novel, he joins **Georgina Godwin** via live link from his home in New York to discuss his writing career and introduce *The Lincoln Highway*: an absorbing and expansive coming of age road trip novel set in 1950s America.

8–9pm

L297

Psychology

High Risk: Life At The Extremes

The Garden Theatre

£12

How does it feel when your mind and body is pushed to the limit? In *High Risk*, former Special Forces soldier **Ben Timberlake** charts his extraordinary life: pursuing the rush, he takes us from combat in Iraq to encounters with a 9/11 hijacker, to battling a heroin habit on a remote island. Former infantry officer and *Times* correspondent **Antony Loyd** fled depression and drug addiction at home to the front lines of Bosnia, witnessing barbaric chaos in what was Europe's bloodiest conflict since the Second World War. Together, they share their uncompromising personal accounts of embracing fear and choosing to live life at the very extreme, revealing what happens when you're taken over the edge.

8.30–9.30pm

L298

Fiction

Millennial Lives And Loves: Megan Nolan And Raven Leilani

Town Hall, Pillar Room

£10



Abigail Bergstrom talks to two young novelists highly acclaimed for their sharp and audacious portrayals of the lives and loves of millennial women. Described as 'a seriously exciting writer' by *The Sunday Times*, **Megan Nolan's** *Acts of Desperation* is a blackly funny account of an obsessive relationship that captures its dizzying intoxication and the darker flipside of female desire. **Raven Leilani** tackles race, financial precarity and sexual politics with aplomb in her debut *Luster*, hailed as 'brutal and brilliant' by Zadie Smith and selected as one of Barack Obama's Favourite Books of 2020.

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