

Friday September 23rd



Alan Titchmarsh

Haunting history

£8

Henley Rugby Club 6.30pm

The green-fingered television presenter is a more than adept writer with seven novels not mention his memoirs as well as gardening books to his name. Now he takes us to the Hampshire countryside for a tale of love and betrayal, intrigue and murder centred on history teacher Harry Flint. How can the mysterious disappearance of Anne Flint in 1816 and the drowning of a young girl in the chalk stream when the Prince Regent occupied the throne possibly affect Harry Flint? One of the most popular faces on television talks about his life as a writer. *The Haunting* – Hodder & Stoughton

Tuesday September 27th

Raising a glass to the River Readings with Helen Lederer

£10 including a glass of fizz

Hibernia 11am and 1pm

Nothing sums up the ethos of the Festival more than our ever-popular River Readings. For an hour you drift down the Thames listening to prose and poetry read by a wonderful cast. This year we are starting the River Readings on Tuesday September 27th to launch the Festival. Comedienne Helen Lederer will lead the cast and to make it even more special we will be providing a glass of fizz on both the trips. The words were chosen by Nansi Diamond who – as usual – directs the Readings which are as popular with the performers as the audience. This year's theme is Laughterand a few tears in the luxury of Hobbs of Henley's Hibernia. Sponsored by [Hotel du Vin and Bistro – Henley-on-Thames](#)

People and Places at Bix Manor

Victoria Mather and Tim Lott

Meet the travel writers 10am
£8 including coffee, tea and cake

Few forms of words are more powerful in forming opinions than travel writing. Decisions on trips of a lifetime are formed on the prose of travel writers; the popularity of a destination can soar because of a single book. Hear from the people who are at the centre of travel writing. Learn the secrets of where and how to travel and get advice from the experts - **Victoria Mather** the doyenne of travel journalists who is Contributing Editor of Vanity Fair, the novelist **Tim Lott**, **Mark Palmer** travel editor of the Daily Mail and **Rosemary Behan** travel editor of The National in the United Arab Emirates.

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Colin Thubron

Mountain pilgrimage 11.30am
£8 including coffee, tea and cake

One of the greatest British travel writers takes a personal pilgrimage that has already been described as a masterpiece. He writes of his journey: "Mine, without my knowing, starts not long ago, in a hospital ward, as the last of my family dies... I need to leave a sign of their passage." The mountain in the title of the book is the solitary peak Kailas sacred to one-fifth of humankind. To both Buddhists and Hindus it is the mystic heart of the world and an ancient site of pilgrimage. This is a very personal story. *To a Mountain in Tibet* - Chatto and Windus.

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John Julius Norwich

Places in time 1pm £8

Since 1964 when he left the diplomatic service the 2nd Viscount Norwich - to give him his full title - has entertained and informed us through his books and broadcasting. Now the historian offers us a journey to the places in England that have played their part in the political, cultural, social, religious and economic story of England. And each of the places can still be visited from the Bridgewater Canal to Blackpool Pier and from Stonehenge to the Gherkin. A thought-provoking list that will doubtless prompt great debate.

A History of England in 100 Places from Stonehenge to the Gherkin - John Murray
Sponsored by
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Christopher Ondaatje

A full life 2.30pm £5

Curious Adventures and Stories from a Vanishing World is how this autobiography in essays by a true child of the British Empire is described. Indeed this older brother of the renowned novelist Michael has lived an extraordinary life. Soon after Ceylon independence in 1948, his family found themselves destitute and he made his way to Canada with just thirteen dollars in his pocket. There followed a hugely successful commercial career which he left to become an explorer and author and his encounters make up his unique collection. A great philanthropist, he was also an Olympian who represented Canada as a bobsledder and was knighted in 2003.

The Last Colonial - Thames and Hudson
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Festival lunch

The Bix pantry will be providing salad lunches from 12 to 2.30 with a selection of meats and fish for £9. Please book on our website or through the box office.

Rachel Johnson

Tea With The Lady 4pm £10 including tea and scones at 3.30pm

She's back. She's still the editor of The Lady and still causing feathers to fly as she takes that most English and traditional of magazines kicking and screaming (well, perhaps in a very refined gasp) into the 21st century. One of journalism's funniest and frankest women returns to Henley to regale us with more stories about the weird and wonderful world of The Lady and to bring us up to date with the very latest controversies and confrontations. If you thought Boris could tell it like it is just wait till you meet his sister. *A Diary of The Lady* - Penguin

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Bix Manor is a 17th century manor house and Great Tithe Barn set in a six-acre garden. It is a beautiful and relaxing space to spend time in and there will be coffees, home made cake and drinks available throughout the day. Lunch, at £9 a head, is also available and prior booking is advised. It is a 5 minute drive from Henley, please see map for directions on page 47.

Jean Marsh

A Rose revived

Kenton Theatre 6pm

£6

To enjoy a wonderful acting career, have co-created *Upstairs, Downstairs* (in which she famously played Rose) and *The House of Eliott* would satisfy many. But Jean Marsh also writes novels. Today she will talk about her stellar career and *Fiennders Abbey*, a gripping novel of emotional and social upheaval written, as one would expect, with considerable elegance, thought and wit. It is hard to believe that *Upstairs, Downstairs* was launched in 1975 and still continues. Her life is a fascinating story of a rise from humble beginnings to award-filled adulation.
Fiennders Abbey – Pan MacMillan

John O’Sullivan and Mark Tredinnick

Rhyming couple

Hot Gossip 7pm

£4

The world comes to Henley - quite literally. John O’Sullivan, an Irishman who has lived in Bali for many years comes together with Australian Mark Tredinnick to read their poetry and lyrical prose. John has appeared at Henley before, charming audiences with his words and humour. Mark is an award-winning poet, essayist, nature writer and writing teacher. Hot Gossip is the ultimate intimate cafe venue, join them for a very personal and personable evening.

Robin Hanbury-Tenison

Exploring greatness

Kenton Theatre 7.30pm

£8

There could be no more fitting editor to collate essays on forty of the great explorers. Among his many accomplishments Robin is an explorer, a writer, a film-maker and a conservationist. Our journey takes us from the great era of oceanic exploration five hundred years ago, when Columbus reached the New World to the exploits of Richard Burton who was lionized for his achievements; David Livingstone who covered immense distances in Africa to convert the natives and to stop the slave trade; Wally Herbert the great polar explorer; Gertrude Bell who singlehandedly brought about the modern state of Iraq; and Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space.
The Great Explorers – Thames and Hudson
Sponsored by **The Head Partnership**

Laughter and a Few Tears.

River Readings on the Hibernia. 11 am and 1 pm

£8

Drinks available to buy on board

See page 14 for full details of the River Readings.

Sponsored by **Hotel du Vin & Bistro Henley-on-Thames**

Cooking the books

Cookery demonstration with Signe Johansen, *Stirring Stuff*, 7pm

£7

See page 18 for full details

Crime and Wine

Sophie Hannah and Patrick Lennon

Le Parisien 6.30pm

£5 including a glass of wine

Blood-splattered floors, high tension and everything very much not right in the world. The very stuff of thrillers. Three writers talk about what makes their timebombs of novels tick. Sophie Hannah manages to be both a very successful psychological thriller writer and poet. Her poems are studied at GCSE A Level, her chilling novels have won her a cult following. Her latest is the sixth featuring DC Simon Waterhouse and DS Charlotte ‘Charlie’ Zailer and is set in Cambridge where Sophie. Patrick Lennon is a local author who has been a true friend of the festival. With yet another best-seller on his hands. TV producer Dan Simmons gets himself embedded with finds a regiment about to be deployed in Afghanistan on a tough anti-heroin operation. He shoots some film. Then he shoots himself. Ex-cop Tom Fletcher living a quiet family life in the remote Cambridgeshire countryside, has no idea why the TV man shot himself but some very dangerous people think otherwise.

Sophie Hannah - *Lasting Damage* – Hodder and Stoughton, Patrick Lennon -

Cut Out – Hodder and Stoughton.

Sponsored by **Towergate**

Felix Francis

Bred for success

Le Parisien 7.45pm

£5 including a glass of wine

The former champion jockey Dick Francis created a unique genre of crime novels centred on the world of racing and they sold by the million. Sadly he died last year at the age of 89 but his writing name lives on with no small credit due to his youngest son, Felix, who was his father’s manager and they co-wrote some of the later books. A chance to hear about a writing legend and get to know what makes the Francis style so strong and long-lasting.
Gamble - Michael Joseph

Sponsored by **Towergate**



People and Places at Bix Manor

Katherine Swift

A garden's year 10am £8
with coffee, tea and cake

The Morville Hours put Katherine in the front rank of gardening writers and now the critical acclaim continues with *The Morville Year* that charts the life of a full year in her garden at Dower House at Morville in Shropshire. From the new beginnings and green shoots of March through the intoxicating simple pleasures of the first smell of freshly-mown grass and May flower festivals, she describes with great elegance a journey that will appeal to gardeners and non-gardeners alike and perhaps inspire us to try and match Morville.

The Morville Year - Bloomsbury

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Jane Shilling

Older and wiser 11.30am £8
with coffee, tea and cake

'I looked in the mirror one morning, and saw the face of a stranger. Who was she, this haggard, bun-faced woman with the softening jaw line, the downturned mouth, the world-weary air of a woman who hasn't had what she wanted from life, and knows she isn't going to get it now?' Middle age took journalist Jane Shilling by surprise. She hadn't seen it coming, and she certainly wasn't ready for it. Her book is an attempt to understand what middle age is and what it means for her. It will make you laugh, it will make you think and it could just make you look in the mirror in a slightly different way...

The Woman in the Mirror - Chatto and Windus

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Fiona Neill, Elizabeth Noble, Nina Bell

Key moments 1pm £6

Three extremely popular writers come together to discuss the crucial points in women's lives that inspire their hugely successful novels - the key moments that affect nearly every woman in some way or another. **Fiona Neill** found fame through her column in *The Times* which was the basis of her first novel *The Secret Life of a Slummy Mummy*. New York based **Elizabeth Noble** is the author of the internationally bestselling novels *The Reading Group*, *The Friendship Test*, *Alphabet Weekends*, *Things I Want My Daughters to Know*, and *The Girl Next Door* and her latest *The Way We Were*. **Nina Bell's** latest book *the Empty Nesters* follows Clover Jones and Laura Dangerfield, friends since their children were born who now face life without them. Lives and marriages change forever, and the old rules on love and loyalty no longer apply. Without the children, can their marriages - and friendship - survive?

Elizabeth Noble *The Way We Were* - Penguin, Fiona Neill - *What the Nanny Saw* - Penguin, Nina Bell - *The Empty Nesters* - Sphere

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Julie Myerson

Dark mystery 3pm with coffee, tea and cake £8

As a writer of great talent she creates a dark and forbidding world in her latest novel which is set in a frozen wasted London. The word 'unsettling' constantly appears in the reviews of a writer who courted controversy with her book *The Lost Child* in 2009 about her problems in dealing with her teenage son who she and her husband banned from their home at the age of 17. Well-known from her journalistic work, her books cover a wide range as she constantly takes on challenges. A chance to hear one of our best contemporary authors.

Then - Jonathan Cape

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Festival lunch

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Kay Burley and Bella Pollen

My life in print 4.30pm with coffee, tea and cake £7

Where do you get your inspiration? Is a regular question at literary festivals and here two novelists explain how they turn personal experience into fiction. Kay Burley is the longest-serving female newsreader on British television and hosts a live daily Sky News show. She has covered some of the world's biggest news stories - her first novel is as dramatic and racy as any news story. The cracks are starting to show in the private life of suave Prime Minister Julian Jenson. At his side is his wife, Valerie. Trim, tall, well educated but deeply unhappy. Enter Sally Simpson, powerful editor of the bestselling magazine *Celeb* and sexy TV reporter Isla McGovern. When the three women meet, so begins a perfect storm. Bella Pollen's *Hunting Unicorns* was a past winner of Richard & Judy's Summer Reads... Part spy thriller, part ghost story, her latest novel is a poignant account of a woman struggling to come to terms with the death of her diplomat husband.

Kay Burley - *First Ladies* - Harper, Bella Pollen - *The Summer of the bear* - Macmillan.

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River Readings 2010. © Bella Bathurst

Laughter and a Few Tears

River Readings on the Hibernia. 11am and 1pm

£8

Drinks available to buy onboard

The ever popular River Readings are back. Drift along the river in the company of some excellent readers. The words are chosen by Nansi Diamond who directs the Readings. The cast of writers includes: Charles Dickens, Rudyard Kipling, Spike Milligan, Philip Larkin, Carol Ann Duffy, Seamus Heaney, Ogden Nash, e.e. cummings and John Betjeman. The boat leaves from Hobbs boatyard. Boarding starts from 10.30am and 12.30pm.

The readings are hosted by: Tues Sept 27 - Helen Lederer, Wed Sept 28 - Nigel Starmer Smith, Thursday Sept 29 - Jeremy Child, Friday Sep 30 - Donald Trelford, Sunday Oct 2 - Jeremy Child.

Amongst those reading are : Sally Nesbitt, Mike Hurst, Philippa Tozer, Jane Robins, Richard Howard, Clive Franks, Nicola Holllis and Lottie Ferguson

Sponsored by Hotel du Vin & Bistro Henley-on-Thames

Michael Smith

Inside story

Le Parisien 11am

£5

A former intelligence officer and award-winning journalist, as well as one of the world's leading experts on Britain's secret services, he has written an epic two part history of MI6. This first part begins with the creation of the Secret Service Bureau in 1909. The second part tells the story from the outbreak of World War Two to the present, showing the development of the agency into the model for the world's spies during the Cold War, and detailing the work of MI6 in Afghanistan and Iraq today.

MI6: The Real James Bonds 1919-1939 - Biteback

Vince Hill

A life in tune

Le Parisien 12.30pm

£6

The singer's easy-going charm and oh-so-relaxed stage presence have remained constant images over an extraordinary career of more than half a century. But Vince's life has not been without its struggles, not least his battles against leukaemia. Add to the mix tales of the Queen Mother, Margaret Thatcher and Princess Margaret and you have a remarkably frank, moving and humorous biography. The local legend has revealed all about his remarkable life to Mick Charles in a biography that will come to life as Vince talks.

Another Hill to Climb - Bank House Books

Poetry and Prosecco

£6 Including a glass of prosecco

Bix Manor

The Free Range Poets of the Barn Gallery 6.30pm

In keeping with the Festival's aim to encourage local writers The Free Range poets return to give readings of their own works led by Bridget Fraser, Director of ARTSPACE. They are a group who meet at the Barn Galleries at Aston to write, read their work and encourage each other. Who knows you may even be inspired to join them.



Two Rivers Poets 7.30pm

Poets published by the successful Reading publishers The Two Rivers Press return to the festival with new poems taken from their latest books. Their writers include a range of acclaimed prize-winners known for their thought-provoking work as they continue the town's rich poetic history that inspired their book Reading Poetry - an anthology. The readers will include some of their leading names.

Victor Gregg and Rick Stroud

Front line

Le Parisien 3pm

£5

Like many of his generation Victor Gregg enlisted and fought through the Second World War. At 92 his recollections remain vivid and he talks in a clear moving way about his war. A working-class lad, he joined up at 19 and saw action in Palestine. Following service in the western desert and at the battle of Alamein, he joined the Parachute Regiment and in September 1944 found himself at the battle of Arnhem. Gregg was captured. He became a prisoner of war and was sentenced to death in Dresden for attempting to escape and burning down a factory. Only the allies' raid the night before his execution saved his life. His book is written with television producer and writer Rick Stroud.

Rifleman: A Front Line Life – Bloomsbury

Sheila Steafel

Stage reflections

Le Parisien 4.30pm

£6

No one could say that Sheila Steafel's life has been dull. Once she was known as the Queen of Comedy and was a constant favourite on our television screens with David Frost and Peter Cook and Dudley Moore through to *Holby City*. But her story is one of broken dreams and a career that never reached the sustained peaks it should have done. In a very honest book we learn about every aspect of her life including her marriage to Steptoe star Harry H Corbett that gives her autobiography its title. A chance to enjoy listening to a truly talented performer.

When Harry Met Sheila - Apex

Is the Coalition working?

Rob Wilson, Bill Cash and Peter Kellner

Kenton Theatre 4.30pm

£6

Since May 2010 we have been governed by coalition - and now a Brains Trust of MPs and political figures discuss how it is working. **Rob Wilson**, Conservative MP for Reading East, had unique access to participants in and around the drama for his praised book on the formation of the coalition. He is joined by fellow MP **Bill Cash** known for being very much his own man in the Commons and never frightened to take up an unpopular fight. With the MPs is distinguished commentator **Peter Kellner** of YouGov.

Rob Wilson - *5 Days to Power: The Journey to Coalition Britain* – Biteback,
Bill Cash - *John Bright: The Life of an Eminent Victorian* – I.B.Tauris

Sponsored by Coutts

The History Girls

Kate Williams, Alison Weir, Sarah Gristwood and Tracy Borman

Kenton Theatre 6pm

£8

The 'History Girls' - named both after the participants and their subjects - have been causing a stir with appearances across the country and we are delighted that they have chosen to come to Henley. Together they explore the various roles that women played at court. Some were outstandingly successful, some not, but all the women - whose lives span many centuries - were fascinating characters in their own right, and their stories illustrate the constraints and conventions that historically bound women in high places. **Tracy Borman** introduces us to Matilda of Flanders, Queen of William the Conqueror; **Alison Weir** tells us of Mary Boleyn, that "great and infamous whore" who was the mistress of Henry VIII; **Sarah Gristwood** reveals the life of Katherine Carey, Countess of Nottingham, Elizabeth I's lady-in-waiting, and a woman who is the focus of an intriguing legend while **Kate Williams** looks at Queen Victoria's early life as a Princess. Four very different writers of history on four very different women of history.

Tracy Borman - *Matilda, Queen of the Conqueror* – Jonathan Cape, Alison Weir - *Mary Boleyn: The Great and Infamous Whore* - Jonathan Cape, Sarah Gristwood - *Girl in the Mirror* – Harper Press, Kate Williams - *Becoming Queen* – Penguin

Sponsored by Coutts



Sarah Brown

Inside Number 10

Kenton Theatre 7.30pm

£9

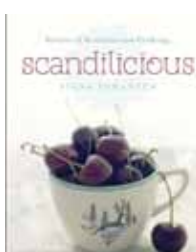
Living behind the most famous door in the country in Downing Street is no easy task and the wife of our former Prime Minister has put it down on paper as a riveting memoir. With her own successful career in business Sarah became a campaigner inside Number 10, championing countless charities. She recognised the power of Twitter to help her campaign on everything from repression in Burma to diversity in British fashion. A rare opportunity to hear what it feels like to support the man you love as he confronts global financial meltdown.

Behind the Black Door – Ebury Press

Sponsored by Coutts

Cooking the books

Stirring Stuff is a vibrant, eclectic cookery school based 1.5 miles outside Henley. The stylish kitchens where the events will be taking place are built in an attractive 17th century converted barn around which is planted a charming herb gardens. At Stirring Stuff we will have tastings, demos and tips from some of Britain's best cooks. Please see map on page 47 for directions.



Signe Johansen
Scandinavian Secrets £7
Wednesday 28th September 7pm

The world's best restaurant, Noma, is in Scandinavia and here's your chance to find out why. Signe is a London-based food anthropologist, writer and cook who grew up in Norway who wrote the successful Scandilicious blog that has now inspired a book. She has a wide range of gastronomic interests, not least how to bake the perfect chocolate chip cookie. And as for Scandinavian cooking Signe is keen to point out: 'It's not all herrings and meatballs, we love game, cheese and other dairy products and have a wonderful tradition of cake and bread baking.' *Secrets of Scandinavian Cooking...Scandilicious* - Hodder & Stoughton

Orlando Murrin
Gourmet b&b £7
Friday 30th September 10am

There is hardly an area of the food world that Orlando hasn't covered either as a journalist, cook or hotelier. He has written cookery books, edited the BBC's Good Food magazine, was a semi-finalist on Masterchef in 1992 and ran a gourmet B&B in South-West France which was the subject of his book *A Table in Tam*. He now runs the successful Langford Fivehead in the heart of the Somerset Levels.

Wine Tasting

Thursday Sept 29 7.30pm to 9 pm £7 (including all wine and canapes)

Laithwaites Wines will be hosting a relaxed and informal wine tasting and Stirring Stuff will be providing a selection of home-made nibbles for what will be an enjoyable and informative evening. You will be able to try a wide selection of wines from around the globe and no wine knowledge is needed! There will be a broad range to try, from everyday drinking through to classics, including old heroes and unusual styles that you might not have tried before - a real assortment from all corners of the wine world. Laithwaites expert staff will be there to serve you and answer any questions you may have for what will be a simple, fun and informal evening. The dress code is suitably relaxed and the event is only open to over 18's.

at Stirring Stuff



Aggie MacKenzie
A tidy cook book £7
Friday 30th September
12.30pm

No need to check on the cobwebs or that cupboard that never seems to get a look-in, this time Aggie is not coming because of *How Clean is Your House?* - the TV series that made her so big in the world of household tidiness - but to cook. She's just as gifted in the kitchen and has been working on a cookbook to add to her other array of talents. She writes a food column in Good Housekeeping so she knows her food. Clean, tidy and a good cook...a paragon around the house.

Moyra Fraser
Fruity food £7
Friday 30th September 4pm

The former cookery editor of Good Housekeeping has written dozens of books. Seen as an 'unsung Delia whose recipes always work'. Her latest are for the Bonne Maman recipe book: a collection of over 80 savoury and sweet recipes revealing the versatility of cooking with preserves or compotes. Today she plans to show you how to make some of the following: Cherry & Mulled Wine Sauce, Spice Apricot & Carrot Cake, Strawberry Ripple Ice Cream.



Nick Coffey
Father and son £7
Friday 30th September 2pm

For Nick Coffey the one advantage of his business struggling was that he decided he would stay at home to look after his growing toddler, Archie. They even started a video blog about their home cooking (www.mydaddycooks.com) as what began as a bit of fun attracted a worldwide following. Archie became the star of the show, taking the role of sous-chef. Life-long foodie Nick then began to create his own recipes on a modest budget and has put 100 together in a book. *My Daddy Cooks* - Hodder and Stoughton

The power of words

Alistair Horne

A Memoir

10am

£6

Given the extraordinary life led by the author it is no surprise that the title of his book *But What do you Actually do?* is frequently posed to him. In this wonderfully entertaining journey we are taken from his childhood as a wartime evacuee in America to his career as a highly successful historian and biographer, via a stint as a foreign correspondent for The Daily Telegraph. We travel with him from Germany to America, from Canada to France, from Latin America to the Middle East. A consummate biographer, the pages of Alistair's 'Literary Vagabondage' abound with vivid character sketches of the friends and foes that have shaped his life. A sparkling memoir by one of our greatest historians.

But What Do You Actually Do? - Orion

Selina Hastings

Lives of others

1pm

£6

To write biographies of great writers is a task fraught with danger but Selina Hastings has become highly respected through her books on Nancy Mitford, Evelyn Waugh, Rosamond Lehmann and Somerset Maugham. Now she provides a fascinating insight into the world of Mitford and Waugh, who were not only brilliantly witty writers but also friends whose many letters are filled with malicious jokes and gossip. The Oxford-educated writer worked for 14 years on the The Daily Telegraph and for eight years was literary editor of Harper's & Queen - a fascinating grounding for the world in which she made her name.

Nancy Mitford - Vintage,

Evelyn Waugh - Vintage

Sponsored by HW Fisher



Esther Freud

Acting up

11.30am

£7

Is there an area of life where the name Freud isn't synonymous with talent and flair? In her latest novel *Esther* - daughter of artist Lucian and great-granddaughter of Sigmund - turns to the world of acting for inspiration. As a teenager she trained as an actress before becoming an acclaimed author. *Lucky Break* follows the lives of a group of very different young actors- Nell, Charlie, Dan and Jemma - over a decade as they pursue their ambitions in their careers and in life. A wonderful look into a fascinating world by an exciting novelist.

Lucky Break - Bloomsbury

Sponsored by HW Fisher

at Phyllis Court

A N Wilson

Divine inspiration

2.30pm

£6

For over 500 years Dante's *The Divine Comedy* has inspired writers from Shakespeare to Beckett; and continues to dazzle readers today. But how much do we know of the world in which he lived and what inspired him? The prolific and award-winning biographer and celebrated novelist A N Wilson presents a glittering study of an artist and his world, arguing that without an understanding of medieval Florence, it is impossible to comprehend the meaning of Dante's great poem. It also lays bare the enigma of the man who never wrote about the mother of his children, yet immortalized the mysterious Beatrice, whom he barely knew.

Dante in Love - Atlantic Books

Sponsored by HW Fisher

Justin Cartwright

Financial farce

4pm

£6

Can the financial meltdown be humorous? Indeed it can in this account of London's upper-crust, family-owned bank of Tubal & Co. It is in trouble. Masterminded by the bank's chariman, Julian Trevelyan-Tubal, hundreds of millions of pounds are being diverted - temporarily - to shore the bank up until it can be sold while his ageing father, Sir Harry, lies incapacitated by a stroke at the family villa in Antibes. A critically acclaimed satire on the financial crisis that affected us all by an award-winning South Africa-born author.

Other People's Money - Bloomsbury

Sponsored by HW Fisher

Laughter and a Few Tears

River Readings on the Hibernia. 11am and 1pm

£8

Drinks available to buy on board

See page 14 for full details of the River Readings.

Sponsored by Hotel du Vin & Bistro Henley-on-Thames

Cooking the books

Cookery demonstrations and tips from top cooks at Stirring Stuff, 10am, 12 noon, 2pm and 4pm.

£7

See page 18 for full details

Poetry at Hot Gossip

7pm

£4

This pretty cafe on Friday Street provides the perfect intimate venue for poetry readings. Ask the box office for more details.

Wine and supper available.

Salley Vickers

Love all

Le Parisien 10am £5

Love in its many forms is the theme of a collection of 17 stories from a highly acclaimed writer whose background includes working as a cleaner, a dancer, an artist's model, a teacher of children with special needs, a university teacher of literature and a psychoanalyst. Sometimes joyous and humorous, sometimes melancholy and poignant, these stories, set in Venice, Greece and Rome as well as London and the English countryside, take us into the complex geography of the human heart.

Aphrodite's Hat - Fourth Estate

Sponsored by HW Fisher

Frances Wilson

Titanic trauma

Le Parisien 11.30am £6

The centenary of the sinking of the Titanic arrives next April and one of the most intriguing stories from the maritime disaster involves J. Bruce Ismay, the ship's owner and inheritor of the White Star fortune. When the ship hit the iceberg he jumped into a lifeboat with the women and children and rowed away to safety. This act made him the first victim of a press hate campaign, and his reputation never recovered. The consummate biographer explores Ismay's desperate need to make sense of the horror of it all and to find a way of living with lost honour.

How to Survive The Titanic - Bloomsbury**Lucinda Lambton**

Creature comforts

Kenton Theatre 12noon £5

Lucinda enjoyed huge success with her history of the lavatory *Temples of Convenience* and then followed praise for *The Queen's Dolls' House* about the Royal miniature at Windsor Castle. Now as the title suggests she turns her attention to 'animal architecture and other beastly buildings'. This chronicles buildings and monuments for everything from goats and guinea pigs to deer and dogs, cows and bees, pigs and horses and even bears and salmon. Wonderfully told with splendid gusto in the great British tradition.

Palaces for Pigs - English heritage

Sponsored by Simmons & Sons

Lesley Garner

How to change your life

Le Parisien 1pm £5

As a highly praised advice columnist and hugely experienced journalist she has collected a vast array of notes, essays and recollections that could indeed change your life. The author of four books is as natural in expressing herself in front of an audience as she is in her written words. She bases her view on four beliefs elegantly distilled thus: "We cannot change others, only ourselves. We know more than we think we do. We find the answers in stillness. And, the fourth truth, which I have learned from thousands of people: we are not alone."

Life Lessons - Hay House**Peter Sissons**

Television tales

Kenton Theatre 1.30pm £7

One of the most familiar faces from our television screens comes to the festival. Having started as a reporter with ITN - during which time he was badly wounded by gunfire in the Biafran War - Peter became the first anchor for Channel Four News and was then poached by the BBC to front the main news and follow Robin Day to chair Question Time. In a book that pulls no punches he takes us through his successful and dramatic career at the top and gives his uncompromising views on the current state of television news.

When One Door Closes -

Biteback

Sponsored by HW Fisher

Mark Billingham and**David Morrissey**

Writer and hero

Kenton Theatre 3pm £7

A fictional character, Tom Thorne, brought Mark and David together. Stand-up comedian, actor and thriller writer Mark created detective Thorne who has now been at the centre of mayhem in eight very successful novels. David Morrissey is a highly praised actor with a string of well-reviewed roles on the stage, in film and television. After reading Mark's *Lifeless* and while filming in New Zealand, Morrissey found an interview in which Mark said he would like Morrissey to play Thorne should a screen adaptation ever be made. When he returned to England, Morrissey arranged a meeting and the two began developing the TV production - a six-part television series for Sky that was adapted from the novels *Sleepyhead* and *Scaredy Cat*.

Good as Dead - Little, Brown

David Morrissey's appearance is subject to acting engagements. In his absence, Simon Kernick will appear.

Mark Tully

India's future

Kenton Theatre 4.30pm £6

No journalist knows more about India than Mark Tully. He has witnessed its development into a country now viewed as potentially one of the major world economies of the 21st century. But have the changes had any impact on the poor and marginalised? Can India's democracy contain the mounting resentment of those left out of the new economic order? Can a high growth rate be sustained with India's notoriously corrupt and inefficient governance? How is India going to feed itself unless agriculture is reformed? This book sets out to answer these questions through interviews with industrialists and cricketers, plutocrats and former untouchables.

India: The Road Ahead - Rider and Co

Sponsored by Baillie Gifford

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Ben Fogle

Boy's own story

The Gallery, River and Rowing Museum 6pm **£8**

No one would dare call Ben Fogle's life ordinary - the word extraordinary is barely adequate. He has rowed across the Atlantic in 49 days, crossed Antarctica in a foot race to the South Pole, run 160 miles across the Sahara Desert in the notorious Marathon des Sables and skated across Sweden. He has encountered WWII plane wrecks in deepest darkest Papua New Guinea, flesh-eating diseases in Peru and snakes in Venezuela. He is a charming and a natural presenter so sit back for a riveting evening as he talks about the book that tells his story.

The Accidental Adventurer - Transworld
Sponsored by Baillie Gifford

Bill Turnbull

Bee Bee See

Kenton Theatre 6pm **£6**

'Hello. My name is Bill and I'm a bad beekeeper. A really bad beekeeper,' so writes the man we see each morning on the sofa presenting BBC Breakfast. This is the private world of affable Bill as he recounts in a very charming and amusing tale of his life as a beekeeper. Despite many setbacks - including being stung in the head (twice) on his first day of training - he is a veteran with the Zen-like acceptance of a man who knows his enthusiasm will always outweigh his abilities. At the same time his stories highlight the very real threats to our bee population, and what we can do to create a better environment for them.

The Bad Beekeeper's Club - Little, Brown
Sponsored by Baillie Gifford



Alistair Darling

The crash

Kenton Theatre 7.30pm **£9**

No one was closer to the financial meltdown that swept across the world than Chancellor of the Exchequer Alistair Darling. His book captures all the important events during his three-year tenure as chancellor in Gordon Brown's cabinet, especially his experience at the heart of the global banking crisis. He also details the pivotal role he played with the former prime minister in putting together an international rescue package. An exciting opportunity to hear from the man at the very centre of finance and politics in the period that shook the world.

Back From the Brink - Atlantic

Sponsored by Baillie Gifford

Friday 30th September

Box Office 0118 9724700



Arlene Phillips

Let's dance

£6

Kenton Theatre 10am

A Festival event with a difference in the company of one of the best known names in dance. Not only will Arlene read from one of her books aimed at encouraging children to dance but she will introduce groups of young dancers and give constructive comments on their performance which can range from samba to musical theatre to street dance to tango, Bollywood or modern ballroom. Dancing has been at the centre of her life from her days as director and choreographer of *Hot Gossip* in the 1970s through to six years as a judge on BBC1's *Strictly Come Dancing*. With a worldwide reputation she has collaborated on music videos with Aretha Franklin, Robbie Williams, Elton John and Diana Ross and worked on international stage shows such as *Saturday Night Fever*, *Starlight Express*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Grease*, and *The Wizard of Oz*.

Alana Dancing Star: Twilight Tango – Faber Kids.

This is a children's and families event. For full details on where to get more information about the children's programme please see page 41

Linda Grant

Swinging Sixties

£6

Town Hall 10.30am

A clutch of literary prizes and nominations mark out the career of an author born in Liverpool, part-educated in Canada and now living in London. In her latest novel the 60s generation comes under scrutiny through the life of Stephen Newman and his fortunate friends. Grant charts their unrelenting success until the arrival of the new century make them realise that while they were part of a golden generation, they had been living in a fool's paradise. A tremendously amusing take on a world all too familiar to many of us.

We Had It So Good - Virago

Sponsored by HW Fisher



Pam Ayres

Poetry please

Kenton Theatre

12 noon £8

Living proof that there is life after television talent shows, Pam can trace

her steps to stardom to *Opportunity Knocks* in 1975 which launched her unique and unstoppable career through poems, books, records, quiz shows, royal performances and now an autobiography. To work seamlessly from *Just a Minute* to *QI* shows her unflinching appeal. Her very distinct voice and take on life mean she is as popular now as ever. Her riveting autobiography tells how a girl from the Women's Royal Air Force became a national treasure, selling three million books along the way.

The Necessary Aptitude - Ebury

Sponsored by Simmons & Sons

Lucy Cavendish and

Miranda Glover

Page turning

Le Parisien 12 noon £5

Two of Henley's favourite wordsmiths invite you to join them in a quest to find out where literary ideas come from, how they take shape and how they are put on the page. Lucy is a columnist with *The Sunday Telegraph* and wrote the *Samantha Smythe* series of novels. Miranda is a novelist who teaches and mentors emerging female writers. Two authors share their knowledge about writing in an event that certainly won't be dull and could very well be an education.

Sponsored by HW Fisher

National Academy of Writing

First page

Town hall chamber

10am - 5pm

FREE

Have you written that first page of your book? The journey of a story starts with a single page so bring it along. Writer Richard Beard, director of the NAW, will give a 15-minute masterclass on the first pages (fiction or non-fiction) chosen at random once every hour. These are a public editorial close-reading, as instructive to onlookers as to the author of the page itself. Richard is the author of four critically acclaimed novels and one work of non-fiction, *Muddied Oafs*.

Henry Hitchens

Watch your language

Le Parisien 10am

£5

Nothing will cause a more impassioned argument than the English language and its use or misuse. We all have a bugbear over certain words, phrases or grammar...or even punctuation. The arrival of text messaging with its own very particular form of English has ensured the debate will go on...and on. Listen to a man who has studied the whole complex world of words and who is prepared for an enthusiastic and committed series of questions from the floor concerning just what we think is right and proper.

The Language Wars – John Murray

Patrick Bishop, Jill McGivering and Peter Taylor

Coming to terms with terror

Town Hall 12noon

£6

Terrorism has tragically become part of our lives and three leading journalists discuss what it is like to meet terrorists, what motivates them and the threat they pose to our society. In his distinguished career BBC reporter and documentary maker **Peter Taylor** has become an expert on the subject firstly on the streets of Northern Ireland reporting on 'Bloody Sunday'. He spent the next 30 years investigating the Troubles but after 9/11 switched his focus to the far more deadly threat posed by Al Qaeda. He appears with two journalists who have written novels about Afghanistan and Pakistan. Former Daily Telegraph foreign editor **Patrick Bishop** was in the Falklands and since then has reported on almost every major war of the era. His novel is a dramatic story about two young soldiers whose special duties team must ambush and capture a notorious Taliban leader. The meticulously planned operation goes wrong and the hunters are now the hunted. **Jill McGivering**, senior foreign news correspondent with the BBC has worked in journalism for 25 years and travels extensively including assignments to Afghanistan and China. The heroine of her novel is teenager Layla who is forced to flee the Swat valley region of Pakistan when her father's school is burned down and ends up in the squalor of a camp for refugees from the Taliban near Peshawar, forced to choose between the old fashioned way of life with her family - or a dangerous journey into independence.

Peter Taylor *Talking to Terrorists* - Harper Collins, Patrick Bishop - *Follow Me Home* - Hodder, Jill McGivering - *Far From My Father's House* - Harper Collins

Sponsored by HW Fisher



Ulrika Jonsson

A novel approach

Kenton Theatre 1.30pm

£7

For more than 20 years Ulrika has adorned our television screens from the weather to comedy shows, quiz programmes and personal interviews. Now she talks about writing her first novel which looks at the consequences for Myrtle when her husband of over 40 years collapses and dies on a bus in the arms of Gianni, a gardener who decides to find the dead man's family. What follows becomes a voyage of discovery as Gianni and Myrtle's neighbour Dorothy take the fragile and unhappy widow into their vivid warm world.

The Importance of Being Myrtle - Penguin

Sponsored by notonthehighstreet.com

John Rendall

Pride of a lion

Town Hall 3pm

£6

It was the sixties so no one thought it odd that two young Australians John Rendall and Anthony Bourke bought a lion from Harrods and kept him in their furniture shop in trendy Chelsea. He was called Christian but as he grew it was clear that keeping him in London was not on. He was given to George Adamson of Born Free fame who released the lion back into the wild in 1971. What made the story so remarkable was the reunion between the two Australians and Christian who by now had his own pride. Footage of it became a massive YouTube hit. Their remarkable story has spawned several books. John Rendall will be talking to Charles Mayhew, of Tusk Trust about their passion for wildlife conservation.

Sponsored by SJD Events

Ian Leslie

Madness and deceit

Le Parisien 4.30pm

£6

Our attitudes to lying are confused and contradictory. On the one hand we hate lies, and liars. On the other, we all indulge in fibs, tall tales and fantasies. In *Born Liars*, Ian Leslie argues that, far from being a bug in the human software, lying is central to who we are; that we cannot understand ourselves without first understanding the dynamics of deceit. He explores the role of deception and self-deception in our childhoods, our careers, and our health, as well as the part played by lies in art, advertising, sport, politics and war. *Born Liars* is crammed with colourful stories and we'll peer inside the minds of Bill Clinton and Saddam Hussein.

Born Liars - Why We Can't Live Without Deceit - Quercus



Melvyn Bragg

The power and the glory

Kenton Theatre 3pm

£7

Created in 1611, the King James Bible has had such an impact through the four centuries that have followed that it is often called The Book of Books. In an enthralling look at the book that spread the protestant faith, one of our finest authors looks at the history of the bible and the impact that it has had. He argues that the book "is one of the fundamental makers of the modern world" and was a force for democracy. Bragg's skill as a communicator - whether as broadcaster or writer - promises a formidable event.

The Book of Books - Hodder and Stoughton

Sponsored by Baillie Gifford

Penny Vincenzi

Tale of turmoil

Kenton Theatre 4.30pm £6

In the 22 years since she wrote her first novel Penny Vincenzi's books have sold over four million copies. Not bad for someone whose first job was working in Harrods Library at the age of 16. Via secretarial college she became a journalist working on The Times, the Daily Mail and Cosmopolitan before turning to fiction. Her latest book is set in the vibrant sixties, the story of two bright young things: Eliza, an ex-deb working in the world of fashion, and Matt, a working-class boy carving out a serious name for himself in property. They marry; have a baby but soon what started out with such promise descends into a harrowing divorce case and an epic custody battle.

The Decision - Headline

Sponsored by HW Fisher

Gervase Phinn

Dale tale

Town Hall 5.30pm £7

One of the HLF's favourite authors returns by popular demand for the third year in a row, with his first novel for adults. Anyone who has yet to hear Gervase's rich Yorkshire tones and appreciate his wonderful observations and humour should take this opportunity. His book tells the story of the head of a big inner-city school moving to a primary in sleepy little Barton-in-the-Dale, 'with more problems than school dinners'. And that's not even counting a bitter former head teacher, a grumpy caretaker and a duplicitous chair of governors - and then there's the gossip.

The Little Village School - Hodder and Stoughton

Sponsored by HW Fisher

John Harris

The ultimate rock quiz

Venue and time TBC £5

One of the hits of HLF 2010 returns as John Harris hosts his top-of-the-range Rock Quiz. Get your teams ready for a splendid hour or so of brainteasing, knockabout testing your knowledge of the world of rock n roll. One of our best writers on music, he turns his encyclopaedic, and invariably eccentric, storehouse of facts into a test that will make Monday night quizzes in your local pub seem tame and dull. Prepare yourself to be grilled on rock 'n' roll's feuding brothers, the set list for Live Aid, what sort of guitar Eric Clapton played in the Sixties and much, much more....

Hail! Hail! Rock'n'Roll: The Ultimate Guide to the Music, the Myths and the Madness - Sphere

Poetry at Hot Gossip

7pm £4

This pretty cafe on Friday Street provides the perfect intimate venue for poetry readings. Ask the box office for more details. Wine and supper available.



Craig Brown, Simon Russell Beale and Eleanor Bron

Chance encounters

Kenton Theatre 6pm £15

One of our foremost columnists brings to the stage an adaption of his latest book in the company of two wonderful actors - the evergreen **Eleanor Bron** and **Simon Russell Beale**. Eleanor is remembered as a star with the Beatles in Help! and appearing with Michael Caine in Alfie as well as a raft of the best of British television shows while Simon has been called the 'greatest actor of his generation'. The book relates 101 chance meetings, juxtaposing the famous and the infamous, the artistic and the philistine, the pompous and the comical, the snobbish and the vulgar, each 1,001 words long, and with a time span stretching from the 19th century to the 21st. Often it is the most fleeting of meetings that, in the fullness of time, turn out to be the most noteworthy. The book examines the curious nature of different types of meeting, from the oddity of encounters with the Royal Family (who start giggling during a recital by TS Eliot) to those often perilous meetings between old and young (Mark Twain terrifying Rudyard Kipling or Sickert closing the curtains on the carolsinging Edward Heath) and between young and old (the 23-year-old Sarah Miles having her leg squeezed by the nonagenarian Bertrand Russell), to contemporary random encounters (George Galloway meeting Michael Barrymore on Celebrity Big Brother). Ingenious in its construction, witty in its narration, panoramic in its breadth, it is a wholly original book.

One on One - Fourth Estate

Sponsored by SJD Events

Timothy Ackroyd

My life on stage

7.30pm Le Parisien £6

Well-known for his one-man show A Step Out of Time Timothy Ackroyd also gives readings of Saki, Dickens and M.R.James. In his latest venture he returned to the stage in a play written by himself and the late Dame Beryl Bainbridge. He has also written a book of poetry and established the African Wildlife charity Tusk Trust. A true entertainer with a wonderful collection of West End roles to his name and stories to tell.

The History Stage

Suzanne Fagence Cooper

Love triangle

Phyllis Court 10am

£6

Meet Effie Gray, the woman at the centre of Victorian England's most scandalous love triangle. In 1854, refusing to tolerate her abusive first marriage to art critic John Ruskin, she requested an annulment and later found happiness with the painter John Everett Millais. Through exclusive access to previously unseen letters and diaries the reality behind this great Victorian love story is revealed.

The Model Wife – Effie, Ruskin and Millais - Duckworth

Sponsored by
BBC History Magazine

Lucy Worsley

Upstairs, Downstairs

Phyllis Court 11.30am

£6

Based on her successful television series, the chief curator of charity Historic Royal Palaces historian Lucy Worsley is our guide on a journey through British domestic life from the Middle Ages to the present day. In this captivating account, she examines ever-shifting attitudes to privacy, class, cleanliness and technology. *If Walls Could Talk: an intimate history of the home* – Faber

Sponsored by
BBC History Magazine

Dave Musgrove

History in the making

Phyllis Court 1.30pm

£5

BBC History Magazine editor Dave Musgrove takes us on an historical tour through British history, from the Roman invasion to 1960s Liverpool. He asked foremost British historians to nominate sites they believe to be most important and travelled to each, from the Tower of London and Runnymede, to Jarrow, home of The Venerable Bede. Each essay adds another layer to our understanding of Britain's story, whether in politics, religion, law or culture.

100 Places that Made Britain – BBC Books

Sponsored by
BBC History Magazine

Mary S Lovell

Winston's family

Phyllis Court 3pm

£6

'There never was a Churchill from John of Marlborough down who had either morals or principles,' said Gladstone. Their history is indeed colourful, from the First Duke of Marlborough - soldier of genius and cuckold of Charles II - onwards, they have been politicians, gamblers, heroes and womanisers. But this is also a family that produced the towering figure of Winston, seen by many as the greatest Briton.

The Churchills: A family at the Heart of History – Little, Brown

Sponsored by BBC History Magazine

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Bella Bathurst

Pedal power

Le Parisien 11am £5

Two wheels. A frame. Two pedals. What could be simpler than a bicycle? Thousands now cycle to work, and more take it up every day. In trial after trial, it is the bike which reaches its urban destination faster than the car, the bus, the underground or the pedestrian. But what is it about the bicycle that so enchants us? And why do its devotees become so obsessed with it? Acclaimed and prize-winning author and cyclist Bella Bathurst takes us on a journey through cycling's best stories and strangest incarnations, from the bicycle as weapon of twentieth-century warfare to the secret life of couriers and the alchemy of framebuilding. The result is a story of passion and obsession, of exultation, endeavour, and risk.
The Bicycle Book - HarperPress

Max Hastings

Cry havoc

Town Hall 11am £7

An ever-popular Festival speaker, the former editor of the Daily Telegraph talks about his latest book on the Second World War. As a highly respected historian his view of this horrifying conflict in which 27,000 people died every day from 1939 to 1945 is both important and moving. He brings together many different human stories, and touches on almost every country in the world. While it is impossible to compare the suffering of people during WWII, there were some aspects of wartime experience that were universal: fear and grief; the conscription of young men and women wrenched from their homes, genocide and mass migration.
All Hell Let Loose - Harper Collins
Sponsored by Baillie Gifford

Daisy Waugh and Anne Sebba

True romance

Kenton Theatre 11.30 am £6

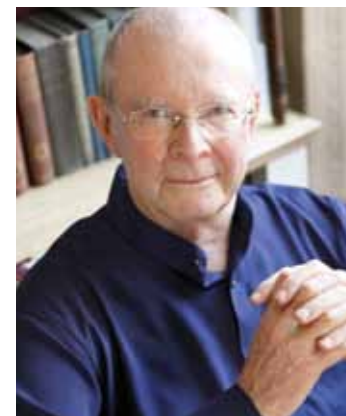
In a wonderful mix of fact and fiction Daisy proves that the Waugh writing tradition is alive and well. The daughter of Auberon and granddaughter of Evelyn, her latest book charts an unusual romance between Londoner Jenny Doyle and the greatest movie star of the day Rudolph Valentino. Superbly researched it evokes the spirit of the 20s' and the aura of an iconic film actor. It also proves the all-round talents of the author who is a regular TV and radio presenter and travel writer as well as having been an agony aunt for The Independent. Anne Sebba's new book is a biography of Wallis Simpson and is a fascinating look at the life of a woman who became a byword for style and whose love for the prince who would be King changed the history of the British monarchy.
Daisy Waugh - *Last Dance with Valentino* - Harper Collins, Anne Sebba - *That Woman a biography of Wallis Simpson* - Weidenfeld and Nicolson.
Sponsored by HW Fisher



Laughter and a Few Tears

River Readings on the Hibernia. 11am and 1pm £8

Drinks available to buy on board
See page 14 for full details of the River Readings.
Sponsored by Hotel du Vin & Bistro Henley-on-Thames

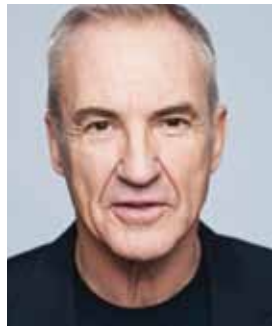


Wilbur Smith

Adventures in print

Town Hall 12.30pm £6

One of the world's best-selling authors comes to Henley giving a rare opportunity for his enthusiastic readers to meet the man himself. His unrelenting run of worldwide best-sellers - 32 at the last count - makes him one of the world's most prolific and skilled storytellers. Probably best-known for his African and Egyptian series of books, his latest novel is set in the Indian Ocean where a group of pirates kidnap the 19 year-old daughter of a multi-millionaire oil mogul. A chance to meet a great storyteller who once said: "Until it is written a book is merely smoke on the wind. It can be blown away by a careless word." He should know....
Those in Peril - Macmillan



Larry Lamb
 Eastender's story
 Kenton Theatre 1pm

£7

One of the most familiar faces on television from his work on Eastenders and in Gavin and Stacey admits that acting wasn't a long-held childhood dream. Instead his childhood memories are filled with recollections of his parents continuously fighting. His mother moved out with his young sister and he was brought up by the father who tormented him. From this fraught background to his starring roles makes a tale that is heartrending, very honest and hugely entertaining. It goes from Essex to Broadway, Hollywood and the West End and could almost make for a play in itself.

Mummy's Boy – My Autobiography – Coronet
 Sponsored by The Lamb

Writer's workshop at Bix

John Murray Workshop

Bix Manor 2.30pm - 4.30pm

£9

John Murray have brought three of the leading writers together with Fiction Publisher Kate Parkin for a very special workshop. Under the title "Writing the Past: Fact and Fiction in historical novels" it is a unique opportunity to learn many of the secrets and skills of writing from those who really know.

Rory Clements is the author of three bestselling crime novels series set in the Elizabethan era featuring intelligencer John Shakespeare, brother of the more famous Will. He won the 2010 Ellis Peters prize for his second novel Revenger. His third novel, Prince, was published in April to great critical acclaim. After a career in national newspapers he lives in a 17th century Norfolk farmhouse and writes full time. When not immersing himself in the Elizabethan world, he enjoys village life and a game of tennis with friends. www.roryclements.com.

TV presenter and producer Sanjida O'Connell is the author of four acclaimed novels. Her latest, Sugar Island, is based on a true story and tells of a young English actress who marries a Southern slave-owner just before the outbreak of the American Civil War. Evocative and shocking in equal measure, The Times called it 'gripping, entertaining and entirely on the side of the angels'. Dr O'Connell who has also written three works of non-fiction, lives in Bristol with her husband and young daughter. www.sanjida.co.uk.

Author of four historical novels, including the bestselling The Glassblower of Murano, Marina Fiorato's latest, Daughter of Siena, was published in September. Set in 18th century Italy and based around Siena's celebrated horse race, the Palio, it is a compelling read, steeped in the culture and traditions of the time. Born in Manchester and raised in the Yorkshire Dales, Marina is half-Venetian and was married on the Grand Canal. She lives in North London with her husband, son and daughter. www.marinafiorato.com

Fiction Publisher Kate Parkin joined John Murray in 2006 after a career including eleven years at Random House. She is particularly interested in literary thrillers, crime novels and historical fiction and most enjoys helping new writers tell their stories.

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Box Office 0118 9724700

Liz Jones with Lucy Cavendish

Talking columns

Kenton Theatre 2.30pm

£6

Through her columns in the Daily Mail and Mail on Sunday Liz has become one of the country's best-known journalists. Never short of an opinion or a cutting comment, she details her innermost thoughts and has even shared her diary of a face-lift. Fearless and frank she follows in the great tradition of female Fleet Street columnists telling it just like it is, not least in her books *Liz Jones's Diary: How One Single Girl Got Married* and *The Exmoor Files: How I Lost A Husband And Found Rural Bliss*. Together with fellow columnist Lucy Cavendish, she reveals how they go about their work and whether they ever regret anything they have written.

Sponsored by [The Really Good Deal Fashion Shows](#)

Gavin Esler

Leader's tales

Town Hall 2.30pm

£7

Laid low by illness last year the talented broadcaster and writer keeps his promise to return to Henley. Whether on Newsnight or BBC News 24 he is one of the most familiar faces on the BBC. Glasgow-born, he began his career as a newspaper journalist before going into broadcasting, and today he talks about his work in progress, a new non-fiction book *The Power of Stories* about what leaders tell us and why we believe them. He will also discuss his successful novel, *Power Play* set at the end of the Obama administration, which describes the impact on the US-British special relationship of the disappearance of the Vice President on a visit to Scotland. A thriller with a twist.

Power Play - Harper Collins

Sponsored by [HW Fisher](#)

William Cash and Lara Feigel

A tribute to Graham Greene

Le Parisien 3pm

£5

The End of the Affair was one of Graham Greene's greatest novels and was published 60 years ago. Its personal content has made it a novel of endless speculation by both writers and academics. William Cash wrote 'The Third Woman', an account of Greene's relationship with Catherine Watson. Today he discusses with academic Dr Lara Feigel the effect his relationship had on the novel and Greene's lasting influence in English literature.

Sponsored by [Spears Magazine](#)

Johnny Ball

It all adds up

Town Hall 4pm

£5

One of television's great personalities Johnny became a favourite through a succession of innovative and extremely popular programmes like Think of a Number. His professional success may have begun as a comedian in the sixties but his great achievement was blowing away the myths that maths and science were 'difficult' subjects. He now contributes to his daughter Zoe's BBC Radio 2 programme and the puzzles he has set form his fascinating new book. A master communicator who will delight with his humour and test your mind with his numeracy skills.

Ball of Confusion - Icon Books

Robert Hardman

Long to reign over us

Kenton Theatre 4pm

£6

The Queen celebrates her diamond jubilee next year - a time to reflect on her extraordinary reign and her place amongst the great monarchs. The Daily Mail journalist who has closely followed the Royal family explores the secrets of the Queen's success to produce a fascinating new portrait of a sovereign who has witnessed more change than any since the creation of Great Britain. She is the oldest sovereign this country has ever known but she has travelled further than all her predecessors put together. Having inherited a quasi-Edwardian institution nearly sixty years ago, the Queen presides over a monarchy which has managed to remain, simultaneously, popular, regal, inclusive and relevant in a twenty-first-century world.

Our Queen - Hutchinson

Richard Fortey

Since time began

Kenton Theatre 5.30pm

£6

Listen to an author who makes the past come alive as he takes us on a journey around the globe to find strange and marvellous plants and animals that have survived virtually unchanged since life first began. With the inimitable style that has made him so popular in word and on television Richard takes us to a moonlit beach in Delaware where the horseshoe crab shuffles its way through a violent romance, and we catch a glimpse of life 450 million years ago. On a stretch of Australian coastline, we bear witness to the sights and sounds that would have greeted a Precambrian dawn. A special chance to hear an awe-inspiring man.

Survivors: the animals and plants that time has left behind - Harper Collins

Bix Manor**Wednesday 28th September**

10.00 Mark Palmer, Rosemary Behan,
Tim Lott, Victoria Mather,
11.30 Colin Thubron
1.00 John Julius Norwich
2.30 Sir Christopher Ondaatje
4.00 Rachel Johnson

Thursday 29th September

10.00 Katherine Swift
11.30 Jane Shilling
1.00 Fiona Neill, Elizabeth Noble,
Nina Bell
3.00 Julie Myerson
4.30 Kay Burley & Bella Pollen
6.30 "Poetry and Prosecco"

Sunday 2nd October

2.30 John Murray Writers' Workshop

The Hibernia – Poetry Boat**Wednesday 28th September**

11 & 1 Laughter and Tears

Thursday 29th September

11 & 1 Laughter and Tears

Friday 30th September

11 & 1 Laughter and Tears

Sunday 2nd October

11 & 1 Laughter and Tears

Hot Gossip**Wednesday 28th September**

7.00 Poetry with John O'Sullivan &
Mark Tredinnick

Friday 30th September and**Saturday 1st October**

6.30 Poetry

Kenton Theatre**Wednesday 28th September**

6.00 Jean Marsh
7.30 Robin Hanbury-Tenison

Thursday 29th September

4.30 Rob Wilson, Peter Kellner,
Bill Cash
6.00 Tracy Borman, Sarah Gristwood,
Alison Weir, Kate Williams
7.30 Sarah Brown

Friday 30th September

12.00 Lucinda Lambton
1.30 Peter Sissons
3.00 Mark Billingham with
David Morrissey
4.30 Mark Tully
6.00 Bill Turnbull
7.30 Alistair Darling

Saturday 1st October

10.00 Arlene Phillips
12.00 Pam Ayres
1.30 Ulrika Jonsson
3.00 Melvyn Bragg
4.30 Penny Vincenzi
6.00 Craig Brown, Eleanor Bron &
Simon Russell Beale

Sunday 2nd October

10.00 Cressida Cowell
11.30 Daisy Waugh, Anne Sebba
and Justine Picardie
1.00 Larry Lamb
2.30 Lucy Cavendish & Liz Jones
4.00 Robert Hardman
5.30 Richard Fortey

Phyllis Court**Friday 30th September**

10.00 Alistair Horne
11.30 Esther Freud
1.00 Selina Hastings
2.30 A N Wilson
4.00 Justin Cartwright

Sunday 2nd October

10.00 Suzanne Fagence-Cooper
11.30 Lucy Worsley
1.30 Dave Musgrove
3.00 Mary S Lovell

Le Parisien**Wednesday 28th September**

6.30 "Crime n' Wine" - Sophie
Hannah, Patrick Lennon,
Deborah Crombie
7.30 "Crime n' Wine" – Felix Francis

Thursday 29th September

11.00 Michael Smith
12.30 Vince Hill
3.00 Victor Gregg and Rick Stroud
4.30 Sheila Steafel

Friday 30th September

10.00 Salley Vickers
11.30 Frances Wilson

Saturday 1st October

10.00 Henry Hitchings
12.00 Lucy Cavendish &
Miranda Glover
4.30 Ian Leslie
7.30 Tim Ackroyd

Sunday 2nd October

11.00 Bella Bathurst

Town Hall**Saturday 1st October**

10.00 National Academy of
Writing (Chamber)
10.30 Linda Grant
12.00 Patrick Bishop,
Jill McGivering, Peter Taylor
3.00 John Rendall
5.30 Gervase Phinn

Sunday 2nd October

11.00 Max Hastings
12.30 Wilbur Smith
2.30 Gavin Esler
4.00 Johnny Ball

Stirring Stuff**Wednesday 28th September**

7.00 Signe Johansen

Friday 30th September

10.00 Orlando Murrin
12.30 Aggie Mackenzie
2.00 Nick Coffer
4.00 Moyra Fraser

River & Rowing Museum**Friday 30th September**

6.00 Ben Fogle (Gallery)

Children's Festival:**September 30 to Oct 2**

This year we have a separate programme to celebrate the launch of our Children's Book Festival. With around 20 events we have a line up of star names for every age from 2 to 14. Programmes can be collected from Bell Bookshop from August.