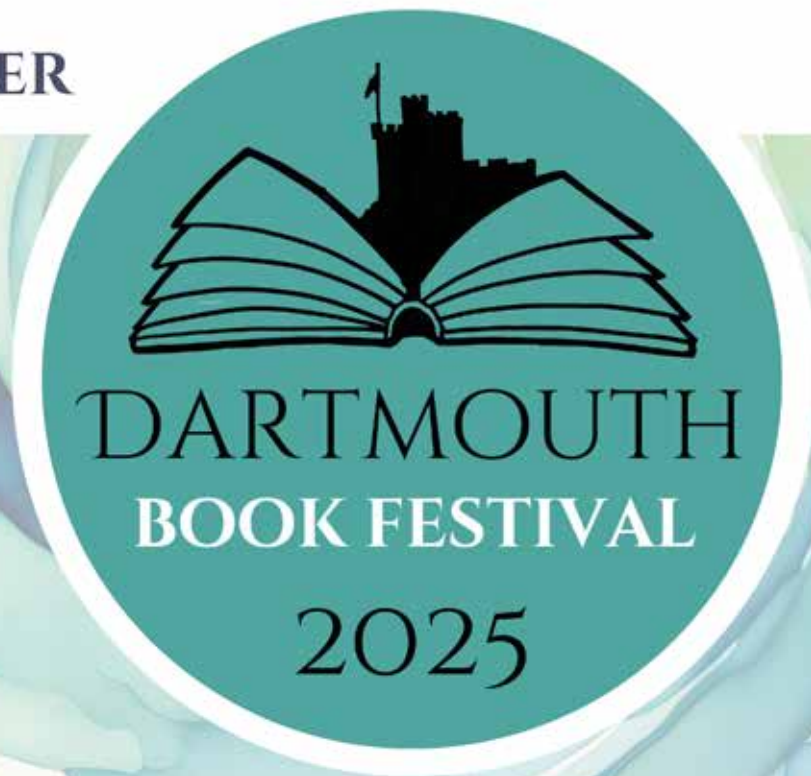


19 - 21 SEPTEMBER





EXTRAORDINARY *awaits*

Opening in Dartmouth Spring 2026

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A WORD FROM THE COMMITTEE

We are delighted to bring you Dartmouth Book Festival 2025!

This is our second year; the festival is going from strength to strength, building on the success of our first festival in 2024 and we have an exciting programme for you this year.

The Book Festival committee has been working hard to create a very varied and interesting programme for you to enjoy. Our dedicated committee is made up entirely of volunteers, who have given countless hours of their time to work on the programme, marketing and general organisation, and who have worked alongside the Flavel staff to present this festival. We are grateful to our partners: Browser Books, Dartmouth Community Bookshop, Dartmouth Library and the Oldie magazine for their input and support. It really is a wonderful joint effort!

We hope that you enjoy this year's line-up, and we hope to see you again next time.

Lindsay Ellwood
Chair, Dartmouth Book Festival



Lindsay Ellwood



Clare Calnan



Hilary Fyson



Anne Goody



Jane Mozumder

With grateful thanks to everyone on the festival committee, Browser Books, Dartmouth Community Bookshop, Dartmouth Library, Rhiannon James, Sheila Shribman, Gabrielle O'Connell, Alison Seldon, Michael Sells, Mick Jones, Janette Geddes, Karl and Deborah Stone, Jess Westerman and all the other wonderful volunteers who support this event in so many ways.

THE LAST WALTZ:

THE STRAUSS DYNASTY WITH JOHN SUCHET

Imagine a nineteenth century Viennese Concert Café with the aroma of coffee, delicious cakes and wonderful music. These were the popular venues where the Strauss family performed.

We aim to recreate that atmosphere in this session.

John is a well-known TV news reporter, newscaster and presenter of Classic FM. He has written several books and is an authority on Beethoven. John's latest book *The Last Waltz- The Strauss*

Dynasty and Vienna, portrays the gripping drama behind this talented and successful musical family, set against the turbulent backdrop of nineteenth century Austria.

John's talk will be enhanced by a performance of selected works composed by the Strauss family and performed by

the Lyric Chamber Ensemble
led by Patricia Calnan together with
George Robertson, Lucy Weissler,
Jeremy Capey
and Patrick Butterly.
Yvonne Patrick
is guest soprano.



**Includes Coffee &
Viennese Pastries**

19th September, 10.00
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £25

FRIDAY

MUSIC

BOOK SIGNING

ROBERT GODDARD

This is the Day They Dream Of

Since Robert published his first thriller *Past Caring* in 1986, he has gone on to write over 30 bestselling novels which have been translated into over 30 languages, winning awards and captivating readers worldwide with their edge of the seat pace and labyrinthine plotting.

An avid storyteller and eager student of history, he has been described as one of the finest crime writers of any generation.

His most recent book, *This is the Day they Dream of* was published in June.

In this latest instalment he reopens old wounds from a 30-year-old political controversy during a TV interview and the pair must navigate the country's treacherous history to solve a long-buried mystery before they too become victims.



19th September, 14.00
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

FRIDAY

CRIME FICTION

BOOK SIGNING

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

*Creating Great Characters in Fiction with
Keith Rossiter and Jonathan Posner*

Jonathan Posner is a full-time author and publisher. He has written and published seven action adventure novels set in Tudor England and two anthologies of short stories and 'old bloke' rants. He gets a thrill from seeing his books in print and feedback from readers, which is why he is keen to share what he has learned about the craft of writing.

Keith Rossiter is a former Times journalist turned full time novelist. He has published a thriller set in Greece entitled *The Chaos Game*, *White Raven*, a novel for young adults and *Shadow Lands: the Poacher's Trap* for middle grade children under the pseudonym *Al Biscotti*. He is eager to share his steep learning curve with new and improving writers. He also writes and directs short films.



19th September, 14.00
The Flavel Studio
Ticket price £20

FRIDAY

WRITERS WORKSHOP

DARTMOUTH HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP

Come along to this session if you are interested in our fascinating local history. Members of the group will be available to talk about their work, and their locally published books will be available to buy. Their most recent publication is: *When War Came to the Dart*, by Gail Ham and Hilary Sunman, which combines the memories of local people with official records and other contemporary accounts to chart the impact as the communities of the Dart were immersed in war.

When War Came to the Dart, by Gail Ham and Hilary Sunman, which combines the memories of local people with official records and other contemporary accounts to chart the impact as the communities of the Dart were immersed in war.

Dartmouth History Research Group have published 40 books and booklets on the area's history. Books have been written on local figures including Thomas Newcomen, John Davis, John Flavel and William Veale; and on local places including Hawley's Fortalice, The Castle Hotel, Bayards Cove and Slapton Sands.



19th September, 14.00
The Flavel Church
Ticket price FREE

FRIDAY

LOCAL HISTORY

KATE ELLIS

Kate studied drama and tried many jobs before discovering her passion for writing and winning the North West Playwrights competition. She has a love of crime fiction, Devon, and in particular Dartmouth has been the inspiration and setting for her twenty-nine detective novels which blend history and mystery.

Since her first novel Merchant's House in 1998 Kate has received critical acclaim and was selected as one of the best ten summer reads by Woman's Weekly. Kate has been described as a 'beguiling author who interweaves past and present' and won the CWA Short Story Dagger in the Library, in 2019.

She has also written five books in the spooky Joe Plantagenet series set in North Yorkshire and a historical trilogy set post World War I as well as short stories for crime fiction anthologies and magazines. Her latest book published in August is Deadly Remains and is set on Dartmoor.



19th September, 16.00
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

FRIDAY

CRIME FICTION

BOOK SIGNING

Her Honour, Wendy Joseph KC

Wendy was called to the bar in 1975, became a QC in 1998 before sitting as a judge from 2007-2022. From 2012 she was the only female judge out of sixteen at the Old Bailey, trying serious criminal cases. She also sat as a Diversity and Community Relations Judge working to promote understanding between the judiciary and the community, particularly disadvantaged and minority groups.

She is the author of the bestseller Unlawful Killings, for which she won the CWA Gold Dagger award for non-fiction. In her latest offering Rough Justice published in April, she is lifting the lid on our legal system.

Wendy draws on her experience with humour and honesty to explain the inner workings of the criminal justice system and examines four trials that she presided over, comparing them to similar cases from history to ask whether our judicial process has improved.

In conversation
with Aroop Mozumder



19th September, 16.00
The Flavel Church
Ticket price £12

FRIDAY

CRIME & LAW

BOOK SIGNING

SOPHIE HANNAH

Sophie is an internationally bestselling crime fiction writer and a poet. Her novels have been translated into 34 languages and published in 51 countries. Her psychological thriller *The Carrier* won the Specsavers National Book Award for Crime Thriller of the Year in 2013. In 2014 and 2016, Sophie published bestselling *The Monogram Murders* and *Closed Casket*, the first new Hercule Poirot mysteries since Agatha Christie's death. Her novels *The Point of Rescue* and *The Other Half Lives* have been adapted for television as *Case Sensitive*.

Her poetry has been shortlisted for the TS Eliot Award and is studied as part of the GCSE and A Level curriculum.

Sophie's latest novel published in June is *No One Would Do What the Lamberts Have Done*. "A brain-melting thriller full of plot twists".

In conversation
with Sophie Pierce



19th September, 18.00
The Flavel Church
Ticket price £12

FRIDAY

CRIME FICTION

BOOK SIGNING

Lieutenant Colonel Tim Spicer OBE

Tim has led a life filled with action and adventure. Over the course of his career, he has developed extensive knowledge of intelligence, counter- terrorism and protective security. He is the author of *An Unorthodox Soldier: Peace and War* and the *Sandline Affair*, an account of his military life and events in Papua New Guinea. Closer to home his book *A Dangerous Enterprise* charts the history of the little known yet remarkable 15th Gunboat Flotilla who ferried SIS and SOE agents from Dartmouth to the Brittany Coast.

Tim's most recent book is the bestselling biography of the greatest spy you may never have heard of. *A Suspicion of Spies* tells the story of an extraordinary man 'Biffy' Dunderdale- suave, sophisticated, genial and rich but also a ruthless and effective spymaster.

Biffy, a lifelong friend of Bond author Ian Fleming, had a career which spanned the Russian Revolution to the Cold War. The book is awash with tales of intrigue, bravery and glamour.

In conversation
with Dr Harry Bennett



19th September, 19.30
The Flavel Church
Ticket price £12

FRIDAY

SPY THRILLER

BOOK SIGNING

RACHEL JOYCE

Rachel Joyce is the award-winning author of novels including *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, *The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessey*, *Maureen Fry and the Angel of the North*, and *Miss Bensen's Beetle*, short story collection *The Snow Garden* as well as a number of plays for BBC Radio 4 and major adaptations of the Bronte novels. Her books have been translated into 37 languages and *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* was released as a critically acclaimed film in 2023 for which Rachel wrote the screenplay.

Rachel was awarded an honorary doctorate by Kingston University in 2024.

Her new book *The Homemade God* was published in April, is already rated as one of the best books of the year and is our **Big Book Club Read**.

Set largely in Italy, it examines 'fame, fragility and the enduring quality of art, sibling relationships and rivalry, how we learn to emerge from the history of our family to become who we are.'



In conversation with Sophie Pierce

19th September, 19.30
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

FRIDAY

BIG BOOK CLUB READ

BOOK SIGNING

CLOSED EVENTS FOR SCHOOLS

Erin Allgrove and Emily Langstaff-Ellis

The morning session is an interactive workshop for younger primary school pupils with author Erin Allgrove and illustrator Emily Langstaff based on their books *Bosun Bob the Salty Old Sea Dog*, and *Bosun Bob and the Cat with No Name*, both of which tell the adventures of a seafaring dog. The session will involve short readings from the books, and the children will be encouraged to discuss their pets and the sea and take part in drawing and illustration activities.



Alex Riley and Friends

The afternoon session is an interactive session for older primary school pupils with award-winning science writer Alex Riley who has teamed up with biologists from the University of Plymouth. They will introduce the wonderful world of minute organisms, especially 'water bears' using microscopes and hands on science experimentation.



FRIDAY

SCHOOLS EVENT

SECRETS OF THE SEA

*Anna Turns and Jo Loosemore
talk about their new BBC series*



Anna Turns: a journalist, author and senior environment editor at The Conversation. She specialises in features and radio documentaries about sustainability, from climate change and renewable energy to marine issues, food and farming. Her first book *Go Toxic Free: Easy and Sustainable Ways to Reduce Chemical Pollution* was published in 2022.

Jo Loosemore: a BBC producer and presenter. She has worked on *The Listening Project* for the British Library, BBC Radio 4 and BBC local radio and *World War I at Home* for BBC Radio 4, 5 Live and BBC local radio. She has published a number of articles on history and equality.

Their new BBC series, **Secrets of the Sea**, tells how experts across Devon and Cornwall are at the forefront of marine research into seaweeds, seagrass, seabed restoration and offshore shellfish farming.



20th September, 09.45
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

SATURDAY

ENVIRONMENT

ALEC SMITH

Book Collecting

Alec has a passion for books. He collects rare books, first editions, as well as letters and original documents. He has amassed an amazing collection of books over the years including some unique Tolkien and JK Rowling editions. His latest acquisition is a letter written by Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson a week before the Battle of Trafalgar eerily predicting his own death.

Alec discusses the fascinating and sometimes outrageous world of book collecting with newscaster, presenter and author John Suchet.

He will talk about what first inspired him, his successes and failures and provide advice on how to become a collector of rare books, with its joys and disappointments.



In conversation
with John Suchet

20th September, 10.00
The Flavel Church
FREE Event

SATURDAY

BOOK COLLECTING

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY

Bookish fun craft activities for children aged 3-10.

Just turn up any time during the morning, no pre-booking necessary, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Donation £1.50



20th September, 10.00-12.30

The Library

Just turn up

No need to book

Donation £1.50

SATURDAY

CHILDREN'S EVENT

PAUL LAMB

In his early twenties Paul began his journey when he took up an apprenticeship in woodsmanship in an isolated Dorest coppice. He has earned his living from the woodlands and hedgerows of the West Country ever since. He shares his passion for the countryside and rural craft on social media. Known as @westcountry_hedgelaye, he has amassed a huge following of people interested in his work.

His book *Of Thorns and Briar* is a feast of rural life in a wagon, nature at her simplest and a portrait of the seasons up close.

Paul describes the practical aspects of his craft as an essential part of preserving our heritage for future generations. He talks about the people he has met, country characters keen to impart their old knowledge and wisdom, and his desire to pass on his skills to young people through his conservation and craft courses.

In conversation
with Gabrielle O'Connell



20th September, 11.30

The Flavel Auditorium

Ticket price £12

SATURDAY

CONSERVATION/HERITAGE

BOOK SIGNING

WILLIAM SHAW

William was an award-winning music journalist for over 20 years and author of several non-fiction books including *Westsiders: Stories of the Boys in the Hood*, about a year spent with the young men of South Central LA, *Spying in Guru Land*, about time spent investigating religious cults and *A Superhero for Hire*, a compilation of columns written for *The Observer*.

He has since turned to crime and written the highly regarded DS Alex Cupidi series set in Dungeness, Kent and the Breen and Tozer series set in 60s London as well as the standalone bestseller *The Birdwatcher*.

He has had an acclaimed career in fiction and his latest book is *Red Shore*, which is the first in a new thriller series featuring the character DS Eden Driscoll published in July and set in Teignmouth, South Devon.



20th September, 12.30
The Flavel Church
Ticket price £12

SATURDAY

THRILLER

BOOK SIGNING

ALEX RILEY

Alex is an award-winning science writer. He received a Best Feature award at the 2019 Association of British Science Writers Awards for his reporting on *The Friendship Bench*, a project that began in Zimbabwe in 2006 and has since provided mental health assistance to thousands. Since leaving academia in 2015, he has written popular science articles for magazines.

Alex is the author of *A Cure for Darkness: The Story of Depression and How We Treat It*, which charts the developments in the science of mental health care over 2000 years.

His latest book **Super Natural: How Life Thrives in Impossible Places**, based on meticulous research, paints a fascinating portrait of life's resilience under the harshest circumstances. Alex reveals the stories of creatures exquisitely adapted to endure unimaginable hardships, ranging from animals that live without oxygen to plants that take root where no water falls.

In conversation
with Jo Loosemore



20th September, 13.15
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

SATURDAY

ENVIRONMENT

BOOK SIGNING

THOMAS R WEAVER

Thomas's debut novel, published in August is, in his words, a book 'about tomorrow to help make sense of today'. Having studied Computer Science, he spent years exploring how technology can transform experiences outside of the office and home. Thomas is still active in all things tech but now has the time and head space to write futuristic stories which are disturbingly plausible and highly entertaining.

In Artificial Wisdom the year is 2050 and climate change has rendered vast areas of the planet uninhabitable with the result that sovereign countries can no longer control their own future.

The book is full of intrigue, deceit and action exploring the advantages and dangers for humanity in a world transformed by both humans and AI.

In conversation with
Keith Rossiter



20th September, 14.30
The Flavel Church
Ticket price £12

SATURDAY

SCIENCE FICTION

BOOK SIGNING

ROBIN INCE

Robin is a comedian, actor and writer with an interest in science and the human mind but he is also many other things with the Guardian describing him as a 'beardigged polymath'. He is known for presenting popular BBC radio show The Infinite Monkey Cage with physicist Brian Cox, creating Nine Lessons and Carols for Godless People, co-creating The Cosmic Shambles Network, and for his stand-up comedy. He is recognised for his work I'm a Joke and So Are You: Reflections on Humour and Humanity, The Importance of Being Interested - Adventures in Scientific Curiosity, Bibliomaniac: An Obsessive's Tour of the Bookshops of Britain.

He also won Celebrity Mastermind but forgot that Calcium was the dominant element of chalk. He was diagnosed with ADHD at 52 and his latest book **Normally Weird and Weirdly Normal: My Adventures in Neurodiversity** is the story of how his discovery that he had ADHD was a stepping stone to better things.



20th September, 15.00
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £20

SATURDAY

BIOGRAPHY / HUMOUR

BOOK SIGNING

THE POETRY GROUP

In this session, members of Dartmouth Poetry Group invite you to share their love of poetry.

Alice Oswald's book-length poem, *Dart*, tracks the life of our beautiful river from its source on Dartmoor to the sea at Dartmouth. A narrative poem, combining prose and poetry, it is told through the varied voices of those people who live and work on the river- poacher, ferryman, forester and swimmers as well as historical and mystical figures. It explores themes of nature, time, human interaction with nature and the interconnectedness of life along the river. The poem won the TS Eliot Prize in 2002. Members of the group will read extracts from the poem.

Dartmouth Poetry Group are poetry enthusiasts who meet monthly at The Flavel. New members are always welcome to come and share in their love of poetry.



20th September, 16.30
The Flavel Studio
FREE Event

SATURDAY

POETRY

STEPHANIE AUSTIN

Stephanie lives in Devon and is inspired by her environment. Her first crime novel was *Dead in Devon* published in 2019. Stephanie's meandering career path led to the creation of her heroine Juno Browne, a self-proclaimed domestic goddess and reluctant antique shop owner, whose adventures are set in Ashburton on the edge of Dartmoor. The Juno Browne series has won a place in the hearts of many lovers of crime fiction. There are now eight books in the series, with the most recent being *Death on Dartmoor Edge* published in 2024.

In the latest instalment Juno is feeling overwhelmed and underpaid but far worse one of her friends is being blackmailed and a friend's nephew is on the run from criminals in London. In a bid to help, she is drawn from an isolated manor house on Dartmoor to the shady theatrelands of London where she has to avoid any fatal entanglements.



20th September, 16.30
The Flavel Church
Ticket price £12

SATURDAY

CRIME FICTION

BOOK SIGNING

POPPY OKOTCHA

Poppy Okotcha is a trained horticulturist and regenerative grower, on a mission to inspire people to engage with and connect to the natural world. Poppy teaches people how to grow and forage their own food, whilst living and eating consciously - for personal, community and planetary health. As a young black woman, Poppy also advocates for those who are underrepresented and marginalised in the world of horticulture and environmentalism. In 2016, exhausted by modelling work and international travel, her focus turned to her garden - and to learning how to grow her own good quality, nutrient-dense, food.

In 2016 Poppy began her horticulture studies with the RHS, and spent time working with a number of community gardens in London. She now lives in Devon, where she has more growing space to work with, and more links to a landscape of established, sustainably run farms and community gardens.



In conversation with
Jo Loosemore

20th September, 16.30
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

SATURDAY

HORTICULTURE

BOOK SIGNING

ORLANDO MURRIN

Orlando was a semi-finalist on MasterChef, edited Woman and Home, BBC Good Food and founded Olive Magazine before becoming a chef-hotelier in France and Somerset. He has written cookbooks and received an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Guild of Food Writers as well as being a regular podcaster. As if that wasn't enough, he then turned his hand to crime writing and his first book Knife Skills for Beginners was shortlisted for the Val McDermid Debut award 2024 and the Crime Fiction Lover Best Crime Debut Award 2024. His new book Murder Below Deck was published in March.

Brilliant chef and LGBTQ+ protagonist Paul Delamere has accompanied an old friend on a superyacht cruise, which takes a mysterious turn when a priceless necklace is stolen, a body is found in curious circumstances, and the boat begins to drift off course. Guests and crew are harbouring secrets but which one of them will turn out to be deadly?



In conversation with Jo Loosemore

20th September, 18.45
The Flavel Church
Ticket price £12

SATURDAY

CRIME FICTION

BOOK SIGNING

AN WILSON

AN Wilson is a prolific writer and columnist- a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, the author of over 60 titles, a prize-winning biographer and he writes the Oldie Man of Letters column in the acclaimed The Oldie Magazine. Although he is well known as an author of non-fiction, he has written over 20 works of fiction for which he won the Somerset Maugham Prize and the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize. He is an occasional columnist for The Daily Mail and a former columnist of the Evening Standard as well as contributing to a number of other titles including The Times Literary Supplement, New Statesman, The Spectator and The Observer.

He will be in conversation with author and editor of The Oldie magazine, Harry Mount, about two of his most recent books: Goethe-His Faustian Life and Victoria- A Life.

In conversation with
Harry Mount.



20th September, 19.30
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £20

SATURDAY

HISTORY

BOOK SIGNING

ROSEMARY GRIGGS

Rosemary brings Devon's sixteenth century history to life with her unique blend of history, theatre and re-enactment. In 2024 alone she made sixty appearances in the west of the country. Through her extensive research she has discovered a cast of fascinating characters and families whose influence has stretched far beyond the West Country. She brings them to life as she tells the stories of those often forgotten in history, the women beyond the Royal court; wives, sisters, daughters and mothers who played their part during those tumultuous Tudor years and detailed in her bestselling series, **The Daughters of Devon**.

A talented seamstress, Rosemary recreates and wears sixteenth century costume, a passion that complements her love of bringing the past to life and helps her connect with the women she writes about. She will draw on this and her research to paint a compelling picture of life in Tudor Devon. She also leads heritage tours at Dartington Hall.



21st September, 10.00
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

SUNDAY

HISTORY

BOOK SIGNING

SIR PAUL COLERIDGE

Sir Paul wrote the foreword to **Tom Hughes'** book *A Shattered Idol* detailing the scandal that shocked Victorian society. It is the story of Lord Chief Justice Coleridge and his troublesome women: his daughter Mildred who he tyrannised, and a young divorcee with whom he had an affair, the disclosure of which brought humiliation to the country's second most senior judge. Mildred's lover manages to bring her father to court, and the account of the legal hearing and behaviour of Coleridge is gripping as he is put on trial in his own courtroom.

Based on Coleridge's personal papers, the book is a compelling story of social attitudes and behaviour in a different era, providing extraordinary insights into a 'family which has gone to ruin itself'.

Sir Paul is a descendant of the infamous LCJ and the poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Paul will discuss his fascinating family and the scandal that enthralled a nation.



21st September, 12.00
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

SUNDAY

HISTORY / BIOGRAPHY

BOOK SIGNING

CB EVERETT

The Other People

CB Everett is the pen name for author Martyn Waltes. His novels include the critically acclaimed *Joe Donovan* series, *The Old Religion*, and *The White Room*. In 2013 he was chosen to write *Angel of Death*, the official sequel to Susan Hill's *The Woman in Black*, and in 2014 won the Grand Prix du Roman Etranger for *Born Under Punches*.

He has been nominated for every major British and French crime fiction award and has also enjoyed international commercial success with eight novels written under the name Tania Carver.

The Other People is CB Everett's first outing and is a twist on a Country house mystery. Ten strangers wake up in a house and have no idea how they got there. A killer is picking them off one by one and to escape with their lives they must solve the mystery of a missing woman.



21st September, 13.30
The Flavel Church
Ticket price £12

SUNDAY

CRIME FICTION

BOOK SIGNING

DR MARK ALDRIDGE

Mark is an Associate Professor of Screen Histories at Solent University, Southampton. His previous publications include the definitive book about 90 years of film and TV adaptations of Agatha Christie's work, *Agatha Christie on Screen* was published in 2016. His more recent works are *Agatha Christie's Poirot: The Greatest Detective in the World* and *Agatha Christie's Marple: Expert on Wickedness*. The books draw on Mark's original research, review excerpts and original Christie correspondence resulting in lively histories of the well-known and much-loved fictional characters.

Mark is a regular speaker at Agatha Christie events including the International Agatha Christie Festival in Torquay. Mark also produces and hosts a podcast *The Swinging Christies* with Gray Robert Brown and has contributed to the TV series *Travels with Agatha Christie* and *Sir David Suchet*.

In conversation with
Marcus Field



21st September, 14.00
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

SUNDAY

AGATHA CHRISTIE

BOOK SIGNING

EMILY HAUSER

Emily is a scholar of Classics and she lectures at the University of Exeter. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D at Yale University.

Her research focuses on women in antiquity, archaic Greek poetry, and the theory and practice of classical reception, particularly in contemporary fiction. Emily is an award-winning writer of both fiction and non-fiction. She has published three novels in her Golden Apple trilogy: *For the Most Beautiful*, *For the Winner*, and *For the Immortal*.

Her most recent book is **Mythica: A New History of Homer's World, Through the Women Written Out of It**. In it she uncovers the true stories of the women - queens, mothers, warriors and slaves - behind the Greek legends in Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey* by piecing together evidence from the original texts, recent archaeological finds and DNA studies.



21st September, 15.15
The Flavel Church
Ticket price £12

SUNDAY

CLASSICS

BOOK SIGNING

ANDREW WILSON

Andrew is an award-winning author, biographer and journalist. His first book *Beautiful Shadow: A Life of Patricia Highsmith* was shortlisted for the Whitbread Biography Prize 2003 and won an Edgar Allan Poe award for biography in 2004 and a LAMBDA Literary award in 2003. He has written for a wide range of newspapers and magazines including *The Sunday Times*, *The Observer*, *The Daily Mail*, *The Evening Standard*, *The Independent*, *Tatler*, *The Smithsonian* and *The Washington Post*. He has written biographies of Sylvia Plath, Alexander McQueen and Harold Robbins. Under the name EV Adamson he has written two contemporary psychological thrillers *Five Strangers* and *Murder Grove* inspired by living in an eco-village in Spain.

Andrew is the new tutor on Faber Academy's online crime writing course and a member of the Gold Dust creative writing scheme. He is also the author of four novels in the Agatha Christie crime series where he imagines Christie herself investigating a series of mysteries based on real life events.



In conversation with Marcus Field

21st September, 15.45
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

SUNDAY

CRIME FICTION

BOOK SIGNING

RACHEL TRETHEWEY

Rachel began her career as a journalist. She was a feature writer for the *Daily Mail* and *Daily Express*, and subsequently reviewed history books for *The Independent*. She has also written for many women's magazines. She completed an MA in Victorian Studies and a Ph.D on the progressive ideas of Anna Laetitia Barbauld at Exeter University. She is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and has written a number of books including *The Churchill Girls* about Winston's daughters in 2021.

Her latest book **'Muv: The Story of the Mitford Girls Mother'** tells the story of the remarkable matriarch of the infamous family. Sidney Redesdale was a divisive character among her own daughters and subsequent biographers. Until their deaths the sisters were still squabbling over what she was really like and the differing opinions lasted longer than their political divides. What was the reality?



In conversation with Marcus Field

21st September, 17.15
The Flavel Auditorium
Ticket price £12

SUNDAY

WOMEN IN HISTORY

BOOK SIGNING

JO LOOSEMORE

Interviewer

Jo is a broadcaster, curator and actor. She has created radio dramas documentaries and live programmes for the BBC and curated Mayflower 400: Legend and Legacy for the Box, Plymouth.

She is a visiting fellow at the University of Plymouth.



DR HARRY BENNETT

Interviewer

Harry is an Honorary Associate Professor and has taught history at the University of Plymouth since 1992. A trustee of the museums and collections at Britannia Royal Naval College, he is currently working with the College and the University of Plymouth Press on a series of books about the Naval History of World War Two.



AROOP MOZUMDER

Interviewer

Dr Aroop Mozumder was a Medical Officer in the RAF for 28 years and is also a University lecturer in the Humanitarian and Ethical response to conflict and natural disasters.

He is a Dartmouth resident and currently the Medical Director of the RNLI.



HARRY MOUNT

Interviewer

Harry Mount, the Oldie editor, has recently written **Summer Madness: How Brexit Split the Tories, Destroyed Labour and Divided the Country** (Biteback). Other books include *Odyssey - Ancient Greece in the Footsteps of Odysseus* and *Amo, Amas, Amat and All That*. He writes for the Daily Mail, the Telegraph, the Spectator and many other newspapers and magazines. He was a leader writer and New York correspondent at the Telegraph.



OUR INTERVIEWERS

OUR INTERVIEWERS

JOHN SUCHET

Interviewer

John is a well-known TV news reporter, newscaster and regular presenter of Classic FM. He is also the Patron of The Flavel Arts Centre.

He has written a number of books including several on Ludwig van Beethoven and will be discussing his latest work Strauss: The Last Waltz during the Festival.



GABRIELLE O'CONNELL

Interviewer



Gabrielle is a writer, photographer and workshop facilitator living on the edge of Dartmoor. Her work centres around cyclical living, caring for the environment and finding wellbeing through nature connection.

She is a director of Devon community interest company committed to democratising land access, educating about sustainable food growing, biodiversity and nature-recovery while creating opportunities for traditional skill-sharing of heritage crafts.

MARCUS FIELD

Interviewer

Marcus trained as an art historian before becoming a respected architectural journalist. He has worked as an Editor at Architects Journal and Blueprint and served as the Arts Editor for The Independent on Sunday. His work appears in Encyclopaedia Britannica.



SOPHIE PIERCE

Interviewer



Sophie was a reporter for BBC South West and is now a full-time writer. She has published a moving memoir following the unexpected death of her son Felix in 2017. She is also the author of five wild swimming guides with her friend Matt Newbury and her latest book Rock Idols explores the charisma of Dartmoor.

OUR INTERVIEWERS

OUR INTERVIEWERS



The FLAVEL CAFE

Coffee, cakes, light lunches, paninis, soup, scones and more.

BOOK FESTIVAL OPENING HOURS

Fri 19 Sep	10 am to 4pm
Sat 20 Sep	9 am to 3pm
Sun 21 Sep	Cafe Closed <i>but coffee, tea & cake will be on sale upstairs in bar area from 9.30am</i>



The FLAVEL BAR

Fully licensed bar, selling wine, spirits, beer, cider, soft drinks, crisps, sweets & popcorn.

BOOK FESTIVAL OPENING HOURS

Fri 19 Sep	3pm to 8pm
Sat 20 Sep	2pm to 8pm
Sun 21 Sep	12 noon to 5pm

THE VENUE

The 2025 Dartmouth Book Festival is based in The Flavel Arts Centre - spanning 3 floors in our modern, bright building. This year our events are happening across 4 different locations, they are all very close to each other but please check before each event that you are arriving at the right location.

The Flavel **Auditorium** (upstairs on 1st floor)

The Flavel **Studio** (upstairs on 2nd floor)

The **Library** (on the ground floor)

& The **Flavel Church** - just opposite the Flavel Arts Centre

ACCESSIBILITY

There is a lift to all floors in The Flavel Arts Centre and disabled access at the rear of the Church. There are accessible and inclusive toilets on the first floor of The Flavel Arts Centre - through the double doors on the right at the end of the bar area.

If you think you will need any special assistance or additional space please call the Box Office in advance and let us know on 01803 839530

REFRESHMENTS

Our on-site cafe and bar will be open during the Festival - please check opening times on the previous page. The cafe serves delicious coffee and cake, plus light lunches.

For evening meals there are a host of wonderful restaurants in Dartmouth Town - so take your pick.

BOOK SIGNINGS

Where indicated authors will be signing books after their event for a period of approximately 30 minutes - thanks to our Bookshop Partners for managing and supporting this huge task.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

The Flavel Arts Centre has a small team of paid staff, but in addition a lot of the people you meet during The Book Festival will be our amazing team of Volunteers. They will be stewarding the events and will be on hand all the time to help you navigate the Book Festival, they will also be working behind the bar and at the cafe. We would like to thank our staff and volunteers for making this event possible.

BOOKING

Please book your tickets in advance if you can. This helps us so much with planning and managing each event.

Book on our website: www.theflavel.org.uk or call the Box Office 01803 839530

Please follow us on **Facebook and Instagram** to make sure you get all the latest news and updates leading up to the Festival.

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/TheFlavel

www.facebook.com/DartmouthBookFestival

Instagram

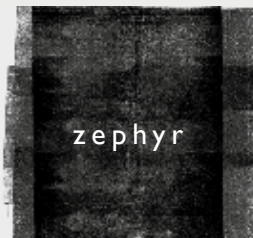
www.instagram.com/flavelartscentre

STOP PRESS:

A late addition to the programme - A Walking Literary Tour of Dartmouth, hosted by Jonathan Turner. Friday 19th and Saturday 20th September. Starting from outside the Flavel at 13.30. This is a FREE event but spaces are strictly limited to 15 per tour, so please book in advance on the website to guarantee your space.



Come for cocktails or
dinner, everybody's
welcome.



at Dart Marina

Book your table www.zephyr-dartmarina.com
Sandquay Rd, Dartmouth TQ6 9PH

Fri 19 Sep

10.00	THE LAST WALTZ: THE STRAUSS DYNASTY with JOHN SUCHET	Auditorium
13.30	WALKING LITERARY TOUR	Start outside Flavel
14.00	ROBERT GODDARD	Auditorium
14.00	CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP	Studio
14.00	DARTMOUTH HISTORY GROUP	Flavel Church
16.00	KATE ELLIS	Auditorium
16.00	HER HONOUR, WENDY JOSEPH KC	Flavel Church
18.00	SOPHIE HANNAH	Flavel Church
19.30	Lt Col TIM SPICER OBE	Flavel Church
19.30	RACHEL JOYCE (BIG BOOK CLUB READ)	Auditorium

Sat 20 Sep

09.45	SECRETS OF THE SEA	Auditorium
10.00	ALEC SMITH: BOOK COLLECTING	Flavel Church
10.00	CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY	Library
11.30	PAUL LAMB	Auditorium
12.30	WILIAM SHAW	Flavel Church
13.15	ALEX RILEY	Auditorium
13.30	WALKING LITERARY TOUR	Start outside Flavel
14.30	THOMAS R WEAVER	Flavel Church
15.00	ROBIN INCE	Auditorium
16.30	DARTMOUTH POETRY GROUP	Studio

Sat 20 Sep (continued)

16.30	STEPHANIE AUSTIN	Flavel Church
16.30	POPPY OKOTCHA	Auditorium
18.45	ORLANDO MURRIN	Flavel Church
19.30	A.N. WILSON	Auditorium

Sun 21 Sep

10.00	ROSEMARY GRIGGS	Auditorium
12.00	SIR PAUL COLERIDGE KC	Auditorium
13.30	C.B EVERETT	Flavel Church
14.00	MARK ALDRIDGE	Auditorium
15.15	EMILY HAUSER	Flavel Church
15.45	ANDREW WILSON	Auditorium
17.15	RACHEL TRETHEWEY	Auditorium

WITH GRATEFUL THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Dart Marina Hotel	Jock and Diana Douglas
Vivant-Care	Mike and Deb Penn
St. Austell Brewery	Anonymous support from a Dartmouth resident
Peter and Camilla Beloe	