

Words by the Water

Festival of Words and Ideas

2 – 11 March 2012

Theatre by the Lake, Keswick



Welcome to Words by the Water

The Value of Words

We are often asked whether the economic situation has resulted in fewer people attending our festivals. So far we are glad to say it hasn't. Glad because obviously we want Words by the Water to continue to flourish and the festival relies on lots of people attending events. But also we are pleased to see that when people need to be more careful with money they prioritise learning, literature, books and people; Words by the Water is about all of these. Economists often say that we need to spend our way out of the recession so we encourage you to spend, spend, spend – but just spend on affairs of the mind.

We are looking forward to the challenges in these coming days that will send our thoughts swirling; there will be many transforming experiences. We look forward to seeing you here.

Welcome to Words by the Water.

Kay Dunbar & Stephen Bristow
Chloë and Videll Bar-Kar
Festival Directors

PS Don't miss the theme day, Money Matters, with many leading economists on Sunday 4 March, to learn more about our present economic situation.

Melvyn Bragg, Words by the Water's President

I am writing this in the middle of November 2011 in London on an exceptionally beautiful autumn day. I was up at 5am this morning and after doing a live radio programme I drifted through London – the Duck-heaven of St James Park, St Margarets Church, niece to the great Abbey of Westminster where one of my daughters was preaching, and on through the thronged streets of a congested West End and all seemed well with the world, except for the News. I am told that the Euro is melting, that the USA is in terminal decline, that the Middle East is apocalyptic and that one way or another planet earth was spinning to damnation and destruction.

But W.B.Yeats comes to the rescue 'words alone are certain good' and Words by the Water bears that out. And so we assemble, we literary congregation and lift up our eyes to the hills and welcome writers and readers alike once more to the holy lakeside of Derwentwater where on the island just offshore in the 7th Century lived St Eberbert whose prayer was to die on the same day as St Cuthbert. It was granted. Welcome.



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#wbtw2012



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Our Venue Host:



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Bookends



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to be supporting
'Words by the Water',
and look forward
to seeing you at
the Festival Bookshop at
Theatre by the Lake.*

We also welcome you to our shops
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for rare and secondhand books
and new classical CDs

Friday 2 March – Main House



Rory Stewart

12.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

ADDED EVENT **Rory Stewart** **The Mood of Britain**

Rory Stewart is the Conservative MP for Penrith and The Border. He is widely admired for his commitment to human rights and his work in Afghanistan and Iraq. His book, 'The Places In Between', won major awards. His next book, 'The Prince of the Marshes', led a reviewer in The New York Times to remark, "Stewart seems to be living one of the most remarkable lives on record". He will give his original and challenging views on how he perceives the mood of Britain today.

2pm
Main
House
£8.50

Tam Dalyell **His Autobiography: The** **Importance of Being Awkward**

When veteran Labour MP Tam Dalyell retired as Father of the House in 2005, the Commons lost one of its most colourful, outspoken and deeply principled politicians. His vehemently independent and



Tam Dalyell



Prue Leith

3.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Prue Leith **Relish – Her Life on a Plate**

Prue Leith describes herself as greedy in all senses of the word. Cook, caterer, restaurateur, food writer, journalist, businesswoman, teacher, television presenter, charity worker, novelist, lover, wife and mother, she has certainly been greedy for life. She speaks forthrightly about her love life; her mother's senility; her husband's smoking himself to death; the theft of her savings, and falling in love at sixty-six with a manic-depressive, but above all about her incredible

firmly-held views have ensured that his name has seldom been out of the headlines. An outspoken critic of both Margaret Thatcher and Tony Blair, he famously harried the former over the sinking of the Belgrano during the Falklands conflict, and argued fiercely against the invasion of Iraq in 2003. He offers a unique perspective on many of the key moments in Britain's political life over the last fifty years.

zest for life. Her down-to-earth attitude to triumph and disaster is an inspiration.

5pm
Main
House
£8.50

John Murray **A Tour of the Lakes**

In 1769 Thomas Gray (best known for his 'Elegy in a Country Churchyard') made a tour of the English Lakes, and recorded it in a journal - the first example of modern travel writing. A few years later the watercolourist Joseph Farington followed in Gray's footsteps and painted a series of key views along the way. John Murray, who was the seventh John Murray to run the family's innovative publishing company, brings them together for the first time.

6.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Christopher Holliday and Clive Bournell **Houses of the Lake District**

The distinctive houses of the Lake District are inextricably linked with their dramatic setting. Many are architecturally distinguished; even more have intriguing tales to tell. Christopher Holliday explores the history and architecture of sixteen of these houses and the personal stories of their owners through the centuries right up to the present day. Clive Bournell's stunning photographs capture the houses, inside and out, their gardens and their settings.



Lifeboat Station, Maryport – Percy Kelly

8pm
Main
House
£8.50

Chris Wadsworth **Percy Kelly: His Life and Work**

Chris Wadsworth, author of the biography of Percy Kelly, 'The Man Who Couldn't Stop Drawing', tells the story of the extraordinary life of Percy Kelly who discussed art with the Prime Minister Winston Churchill, shook hands with King George VI at the National Gallery and dined with members of the Royal family, but ended up alone in a cottage in Norfolk. Chris brought his life's work back to his native Cumberland, exhibited it in her stunning Castlegate House gallery and has been his champion ever since, building his reputation from nothing.

Main House Day Ticket - £30 for 5 events
(not including 8pm event)

Saturday 3 March – Main House – President’s Day

10am
Main
House
£8.50

Craig Brown chaired by Melvyn Bragg **Beyond Parody**

Craig Brown is the foremost British satirist of his generation. From the Archbishop of Canterbury to Victoria Beckham, no one is safe from the barbs of his comedy. His targets have included the Queen, Jackie Collins, Bill Clinton, Martin Amis, Harold Pinter (numerous times) and the publicist Max Clifford. He created the characters of Bel Littlejohn, an ultra-trendy New Labour type, in *The Guardian*, and Wallace Arnold, an extremely reactionary conservative, in *The Independent on Sunday*. He is probably best known for his *Diary* in the fortnightly satirical magazine *Private Eye*, in which he adopts the persona of a celebrity or other public figure.



Melvyn Bragg

11.30am
Main
House
£8.50

Martin Gayford **Conversations With** **David Hockney**

For more than a decade the art critic Martin Gayford has had many conversations with the remarkable painter David Hockney who, with passion and humour, reflects on the problems of representing a three-dimensional world on a flat surface. Martin Gayford will tell of his time spent talking to Hockney and hearing his shrewd insights on painting, California and Yorkshire.



Craig Brown

Bob Marshall-Andrews

1pm
Main
House
£8.50

Alistair Darling **One Thousand Days** **at Number Eleven**

Alistair Darling places the reader in the rooms where the destinies of millions weighed heavily on the shoulders of a few. In a gripping account of an unprecedented global financial catastrophe, his knowledge and understanding offer a unique perspective on the events that rocked global capitalism.

Main House Day Ticket - £36 for 6 events
(not including 8pm event)

**NB This event was originally
scheduled for Saturday 10 March**

2.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Melvyn Bragg

Book of Books

Melvyn Bragg, one of our finest authors and broadcasters, has written the definitive history of one of the most influential books in the English language. He tells the political, linguistic and literary stories behind The King James Bible.

4pm
Main
House
£8.50

Chris Mullin

A Walk On Part

Chris Mullin, former Labour MP, a minister in three departments and chairman of the Home Affairs select committee, talks about the third and final volume of his diaries which covers the period from John Smith's death in 1994 to 1999.

He is also author of the novel, 'A Very British Coup'.

5.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Bob Marshall-Andrews and Chris Mullin

Whither Politics, Whither Britain?

The present is a time of change within the political make-up of this country. What has been the result of a coalition government? Have the Conservative and Labour parties lost their way? What is the mood of Britain at the moment?

Chris Mullin and Bob Marshall Andrews were until recently Labour MPs. All are authors and have original views and often dissident voices.

Chaired by **Michael Buerk**

8 - 9pm
Main
House
£10

Josie Long

The Future is Another Place (Stand-up Comedy)

Josie Long won the Perrier Newcomer Award in 2006 at the Edinburgh Fringe. In this, her fifth Fringe show, she reveals that not all is wonderful in the whimsical world. This show is about feeling tormented by the world around you, and about optimism and despair. But that all sounds more serious than the show is. It's a silly, manic round-up of all kinds of things and may have a play in it where she plays every one of the Brontë's.

"A rollicking, happy hour that flies by, offering plenty of food for thought and enough laughter to guarantee a tummy ache" The Scotsman

"Long strikes an adroit balance between fun, moral outrage and indignant mockery of our hideous powers-that-be"

The Guardian



Josie Long

Saturday 3 March – Studio – Money Matters

10.45am
Studio
£7.50

Stefan Collini
Are Universities About Money?

Stefan Collini challenges the common claim that universities need to show that they help to make money in order to justify getting more money. Instead, he argues that attempting to extend human understanding, which is at the heart of disciplined intellectual enquiry, can never be wholly harnessed to immediate social purposes. He discusses why universities matter to everyone.

12.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Martin Vander Weyer
Financial Intrigue

Martin Vander Weyer is a British financial journalist, business editor of The Spectator, and a leading figure within the British-American Project. His biography of Gerard Lee Bevan is a parable of the way in which the prospect of easy money draws risk-takers in every era into a spiral of greed and deceit. The story of Bevan has many lessons for the present.

2.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Philip Coggan
Drowning in Debt

To understand the false economies of capitalism in today's financial climate, we have to return to the first principles of money. It seems natural these days to be burdened by debt. In almost every aspect of our life we experience it: on our credit cards, mortgages, bank loans and student loans – even in our governance. But where has this debt

come from? How does it work? What is any money really worth? And what promises do we need to believe to keep the whole system afloat? Award-winning financial journalist Philip Coggan examines the flawed structure of the global finance systems as they exist today.

3.45pm
Studio
£7.50

Conor Woodman
Commerce with a Conscience

How is it that our favourite brands

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED
A new event has been scheduled for this time slot.

GERVASE WILLIAMS **SLOW FINANCE**

Gervais Williams offers up a thought-provoking analysis of attitudes towards investment. His book Slow Finance anticipates a profound change in public attitudes. It outlines how credit growth and globalisation have contributed to the dominance of the financial sector and argues that investors and policy-makers alike would be better off seeking a more sustainable approach to investment. Following the philosophy of the Slow Food movement, which said no to fast-food chains and advocated buying local, Gervais Williams suggests a similar approach to financial investment. Slow Finance explores how these trends can be reflected in the investment world. Challenging ideas for challenging times!

5.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Have Your Say on . . .
How worried should we be about the financial situation?
Discussion led by financial journalist **Philip Coggan**

This discussion may be worrying or it may be informative. Probably both. Come to ask questions and/or make comments.

Studio Day Ticket - £25 for 5 events

Sunday 4 March – Studio – Celebrating Dickens



10.45am
Studio
£7.50

Ruth Richardson **Dickens and the Poor**

Ruth Richardson shares the story of Charles Dickens' association with the Cleveland Street Workhouse and its neighbourhood. She paints a portrait of the social life of the area: the rich and the poor, the landlords and lodgers, the clerks, shopkeepers and outcasts, and traces Dickens' interests; his emerging career as a writer, and his preoccupation with the bleak workhouse.

12.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Jenny Hartley **Dickens the Letter Writer**

What was it like to be Charles Dickens? His letters are the nearest we can get to an autobiography: vivid close-up snapshots of a life lived at maximum intensity. Dickens was a man with ten times the energy of ordinary mortals and he threw himself into letter-writing as he did into everything else. He claimed to write 'at the least, a dozen a day'. They were an outlet for his high spirits and sparkling wit.

2.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Paul Schlicke **Dickens: His Life and Work**

Paul Schlicke, an internationally renowned Dickens scholar, celebrates 200 years since the birth of one of Britain's most popular authors. He draws together an unparalleled diversity of information on one of Britain's greatest writers, covering his life and work. He throws new and often unexpected light on the most familiar of Dickens' works, and explores the experiences, events, and literature which influenced him.

3.45pm
Studio
£7.50

Michael Slater **Dickens the Journalist**

Michael Slater is considered to be the authority on Dickens. His recently published, and massively acclaimed life has just been released in paperback. Today he focuses on Dickens' journalism.

5.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Dickens Study/Book Group **on Oliver Twist** **led by Ruth Richardson**

All people who book for this group will be sent a copy of Oliver Twist. It will be a help to have read the book in advance but do still attend even if you haven't had time to study the text.

Studio Day Ticket - £25 for 5 events

Sunday 4 March – Main House

11am
Main
House
£8.50

Bob Marshall-Andrews **Off Message**

When Bob Marshall-Andrews entered Parliament in 1997 he knew he'd never climb the greasy poll. With his sharp wit and profound distrust of authority he became New Labour's most prominent dissident member. Bob Marshall-Andrews casts a mordant eye on whips and rebels, women and hacks, wars and liberties, spin and patronage, and expenses and legacies.

12.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Marina Lewycka **Various Pets Alive and Dead**

Marcus and Doro spent many years in a commune. Their children have grown up rather different: primary schoolteacher Clara craves order and clean bathrooms, son Serge is working making loads of money in the City; while third child Oolie Anna, who has Downs Syndrome, is desperate to escape home and live on her own. Lentils, free love, spliffs, Left politics, cooking rotas, allotments: Marina Lewycka's latest novel is told with her brilliant combination of irony, farce and wit.



Marina Lewycka



Deborah Bull



Roger Bolton



Michael Buerk



Shane and Timothy Spall

Main House Day Ticket - £36 for 6 events

2pm
Main
House
£8.50

Deborah Bull **The Everyday Dancer**

Deborah Bull, Royal Ballet dancer, writer, broadcaster and Creative Director of the Royal Opera House, has written an honest account of the business of dancing. Structured around the daily schedule, 'The Everyday Dancer' goes behind the velvet curtain, the gilt and the glamour, to uncover the realities of a career in dance through the repetition of rehearsals, the excitement of creating new work, the tension of the half hour call, the pressures of performance and the anti-climax of curtain down.

3.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Michael Buerk and Roger Bolton **Broadcasting for the Beeb**

Michael Buerk's and Roger Bolton's long broadcasting careers have involved both television and radio work – mainly for the BBC. From Panorama to BBC news, famines to the Irish troubles, Feedback to The Moral Maze, between them they have been central to our understanding of the world. Together they talk about their experiences.

5pm
Main
House
£8.50

Jonathan Steele **Ghosts of Afghanistan**

No war is ever won against the Afghans. The only option is to give up. As Steele makes plain almost all Afghans simply want foreigners off their soil, whether they be jihadist Arabs or ignorant Texans, and will fight until that happens. This is an unwinnable war for the Western allies. Jonathan Steele is a Guardian columnist, roving foreign correspondent and author. Since 9/11 he has reported from Afghanistan and Iraq as well as on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

6.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Shane Spall **The Spalls Sail Away**

When Timothy Spall was diagnosed with acute leukaemia and given only days to live he and his wife, Shane, decided that when, and if, Tim got better, they would buy a boat and set sail. Their travels were filmed for a BBC 4 series, 'Somewhere at Sea', and a book followed, charting a very personal and uplifting story of an everyday couple's adventure.



Monday 5 March – Main House

The Science of the Human Body

10.30am
Main
House
£8.50

Janet Radcliffe Richards The Ethics of Transplants

Few would doubt that organ transplantation is a magnificent medical advance yet for every recipient there must be a donor, and many of the moral problems particular to transplantation are concerned with the procurement of organs. Janet Radcliffe Richards, Professor of Practical Philosophy at Oxford University, dissects the arguments concerning organ procurement from the living and the dead.

12 noon
Main
House
£8.50

Robin Harvie Why We Run

Everyone can run and many do. But why do so many become obsessed with running? Robin Harvie examines his own internal landscape and suggests why people want to reach the outer limits of what they are capable.

2pm
Main
House
£8.50

Chris Cooper Drugs in Sport

Drugs in sport is sure to be big news at the London Olympics. What limits do biochemistry, physiology and anatomy set on the body? How do the drugs work? What is cheating? Professor Chris Cooper from the Centre for Sports and Exercise Science at the University of Essex discusses the science and the issues.

3.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Jenifer Glynn The Discovery of DNA and Rosalind Franklin

The story of Rosalind Franklin caught the public imagination: her key role in the discovery of DNA, her tragic early death. She is often seen as the iconic female scientist of the 20th century, a romantic figure, a feminist heroine. But who was she really? Her younger sister, writer and historian Jenifer Glynn, tells of a strong, bright, lively young woman who loved science and loved life.

5pm
Main
House
£8.50

Mark Hanson Fat, Fate, and Disease

We are experiencing an epidemic of obesity, heart disease, and diabetes. World expert Prof. Mark Hanson argues that the only public health strategy currently on offer – diet and exercise – has no chance of succeeding. He discusses why we are losing the battle against lifestyle diseases.

6.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Mark Rice-Oxley Depression and Recovery

Mark Rice-Oxley, a news editor at The Guardian, found his successful life collapsing at his 40th birthday party when he was overtaken by depression. He offers a dispassionate view of what was happening and an account that is brimful of experience and understanding – honest, touching and surprisingly optimistic.

Main House Day Ticket - £36 for 6 events
(not including the 8pm event)

Margaret Drabble



8pm
Main
House
£8.50

Margaret Drabble and Sarah Hall Turning to Short Stories

Two highly-acclaimed novelists have each published a volume of short stories. Troubled protagonists inhabit memorable settings in Dame Margaret Drabble's collection, 'A Day in the Life of a Smiling Woman', and also in Sarah Hall's, 'The Beautiful Indifference'. They discuss the demands of shorter fiction.

Sarah Hall



Bursaries to Words by the Water

If you are between the ages of 17 – 25 you may be eligible to attend events at this year's festival

free of charge

To find out more

Email admin@wayswithwords.co.uk



EXHIBITION

Fri 2 March – Sun 22 April
Friends & Circle Galleries

The Man Who Couldn't Stop Drawing: The Extraordinary Life of Percy Kelly

(Talk by his biographer Chris Wadsworth,
Friday 2 March, 8pm)



Monday 5 March – Studio – The Write Way

10.15am –
11.45am
Studio
£7.50

Adam Mars-Jones **On His Own Writing –** **And On Judging the Essay** **Competition On Creativity**

Adam Mars-Jones' latest book is an essay in narrative reconstruction based on Ozu's classic Japanese movie, 'Late Spring'. His long novel, 'Cedilla', has just been published also. "I have a bad relationship with writing," he says, "If something isn't working, I assume it's total incompetence." Do you?

Hear how Adam Mars-Jones, a film-critic, novelist, short story writer and essayist, tackles the uncertainty of writing.

He is also the judge of our essay writing competition, On Creativity, and will discuss the essay form and judging the competition.

12.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Catherine Hall **and Jo Baker** **People and Places**

In Catherine Hall's second novel, 'The Proof of Love', a sense of place is superbly rendered. We are aware of the towering Cumbrian hills, but Hall insists this is a working world rather than a sublime landscape.

On a writers' retreat on Malta a retired naval officer told Jo Baker that her great grandfather would have passed through that spot before heading to his death in the First World War. Fate, repetition and the possibility of breaking free became the founding ideas of her fourth novel, 'The Picture Book'.

2.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Annabel Pitcher **Facing Intense Emotions** **in Fiction**

Five years ago Jamie's sister, Rose, was blown up by a terrorist bomb. Jasmine, her twin, turns to piercing, pink hair and stops eating. The family falls apart. "It's a story about a boy coming to terms with grief," says Pitcher about her second novel.

Studio Day Ticket - £15 for 3 events

Notting Hill Editions / **Words by the Water** **Essay Writing Competition**

TOPIC : On Creativity
(to be interpreted freely)

JUDGE : Adam Mars-Jones
(Novelist, essayist, critic)

PRIZES :
1st - £100 Ways With Words tokens
+ a box set of Notting Hill Editions
2nd – a subscription to Slightly Foxed literary magazine + a box set of Notting Hill Editions
3rd – a box set of Notting Hill Editions

DATES :
Closing date for entries – *Friday 10 February 2012*
Winners will be informed by *Friday 24 February 2012*
Event at the Words by the Water Festival – *Mon. 5 March at 10.15am*

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY :

- Entries must be original works of no more than 1000 words.
- Entry fee is £4 per piece.
- Entrants may submit as many pieces as they wish.
- No entry should have been accepted for publication, read on the stage, radio or television, nor have received a prize in any other competition.

FORMAT FOR ENTRIES :

- Two copies of each entry must be sent.
- Entries should be typed using one side of the paper only.
- Names and addresses must be included on a separate sheet.
- Cheques payable to 'Words by the Water' and sent to:

Notting Hill Editions / Words by the Water Essay Competition
Droridge Farm, Dartington, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6JG
Entrants should enclose an s.a.e. for notification of results.
Entries cannot be returned.

Tuesday 6 March – Studio – Time Present & Time Past

10.45am
Studio
£7.50

Faramerz Dabhoiwala **A History of the Sexual Revolution**

Nowadays we publicise and celebrate sex; we discuss it endlessly; we are obsessed with the sex lives of celebrities. We think it wrong that in other cultures people suffer for their sexual orientation, that women are treated as second-class citizens, or that adulterers are put to death. Yet until quite recently our own society was like this too. Faramerz Dabhoiwala, a Senior Fellow in Modern History at the University of Oxford, gives the history of our changing attitudes.

12.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Mark Pagel **Conforming to Culture**

At the University of Reading, Mark Pagel heads the Evolution Laboratory in the biology department, where his work raises questions about the philosophy of biology, mind and language. He shares an intriguing theory about why humans evolved their complex system of language. He suggests that language is a piece of “social technology” that allowed early human tribes to access a powerful new tool: cooperation.

2.15pm
Studio
£7.50

David Bainbridge **Middle Age**

As well as the usual concerns about greying hair, failing eyesight and goldfish levels of forgetfulness, David Bainbridge finds himself pondering some bigger questions: have I, at 40, come to the end of my productive life? What am I now for? He explains the science behind the physical, mental and emotional changes men and women experience between the ages of 40 and 60, and reveals the evolutionary – and personal – benefits of middle age, which are unique to human beings. He will change the way you think about mid-life, and help turn the ‘crisis’ into a cause for celebration.

3.45pm
Studio
£7.50

Melanie Challenger **Nature and Extinction**

The destruction of nature as a consequence of modern human lifestyles, industries and agriculture is leading to the Earth’s sixth great extinction of species. At the same time, human societies themselves are in a cultural extinction crisis, with experts anticipating that of the world’s nearly seven thousand languages only ten percent may survive into the next century. Melanie Challenger explores how we might live to resist these extinctions and why such disappearances must be of concern.

Studio Day Ticket - £20 for 4 events

Tuesday 6 March – Main House



Julia Boyd

10.30am
Main
House
£8.50

Helen Rappaport **Victoria and Albert – Love, Marriage and Bereavement**

When Prince Albert died at the age of 42 the nation and Queen Victoria were paralysed with grief. For the 150th anniversary of Albert's death, Helen Rappaport examines the circumstances leading up to it and offers new theories on what killed him. With details gleaned from letters and diaries, she breathes fresh life into English history's most famous widowhood.

12 noon
Main
House
£8.50

Julia Boyd **The Vanished World of Peking**

With its fossil hunters and philosophers, diplomats, dropouts, writers and explorers, missionaries and refugees, Peking's foreign community in the early 20th century was as exotic as the city itself. The last great capital to remain untouched by the modern world, Peking both entranced and horrified its foreign residents - the majority of



Stephen Moss



Mihir Bose

2pm
Main
House
£8.50

Stephen Moss **The Natural History of an English Village**

Stephen Moss, the natural historian, birder, author and television producer of wildlife programmes, notably of the award-winning *Springwatch*, *Autumnwatch*, *Snow Watch* and *Birds Britannia*, offers an intimate account of the natural history of his parish. He describes the landscape as it passes from deep snow to spring blossom, from the first hazel catkins to the swallows returning from Africa; the sounds of the dawn chorus to the nocturnal mysteries of moths. In this very personal celebration he explains why the natural world matters to all of us, wherever we live.

whom were oblivious to the great political events that were to shape modern China.

Julia Boyd gives a dazzling portrait of an eclectic foreign community and of China itself.

3.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Mihir Bose **How Sport Has Changed the Modern World**

Mihir Bose, British Indian sports writer, once sports editor of the BBC, tells the story of how the spirit of sport was nurtured on the playing fields of the English public school and this Corinthian spirit was then exported around the world. Today sport is dominated by corruption, money and celebrity. We still believe and talk about sport as if it had a higher moral purpose although it has lost its original spirit and is now the most powerful, political tool in the world.

5pm
Main
House
£8.50

Hunter Davies **Sellafield Stories**

Hunter Davies agreed to edit a book featuring the memories of current and ex-nuclear workers as part of a large scale oral history project. First set up in the aftermath of World War II to develop Britain's nuclear weapons, it was not until 1957 that Sellafield was given over to nuclear power. Since then it has been the site of protests, controversy and debate. He retells the stories he heard.

8pm
Main
House
£8.50

Roger Bolton, Hunter Davies and Eric Robson **Old Boys**

After the Second World War Carlisle Boys' Grammar School produced an unusual number of students who became outstanding writers, journalists and broadcasters, including Hunter Davies, Roger Bolton and Eric Robson. In fact Cumbria has continued to inspire literary stars. Roger Bolton wonders why this is and asks whether there is, "something in the water"

Hunter Davies



Main House Day Ticket - £30 for 5 events
(not including 8pm event)

Wednesday 7 March – Main House

10.30am

Main

House

£8.50

Hunter Davies

The Wainwright Letters

Alfred Wainwright, the legendary fell walker and author of the incomparable and unique 'Pictorial Guides to the Lakeland Fells', was also an eloquent and diligent correspondent. His letters display a much warmer, more sensitive and emotional character than his gruff popular image would suggest. Hunter Davies, Wainwright's biographer, introduces them today.

12 noon

Main

House

£8.50

Tim Jeal

Explorers of the Nile

Tim Jeal describes the driven and complex characters at the heart of the Nile quest, with their troubled relationships, their varied motivations and ideas about Africa, and their encounters with so many physically and psychologically scarring experiences as they battled the jungle terrain. Tim Jeal has written biographies of Livingstone and Baden-Powell and a memoir, 'Swimming with My Father'. His most recent book, a biography of Henry Morton Stanley, was named Sunday Times Biography of the Year.



Matthew Sturgis

2pm

Main

House

£8.50

Matthew Sturgis

When in Rome

There is no place like Rome. Throughout its long history the city has always been a major tourist centre. In this it is unique. For over two thousand years people have been excited by what they encountered, but the actual things that have excited them – the specific buildings, artworks, sights – have changed with each successive age. Matthew Sturgis charts this remarkable story.

3.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Fiona MacCarthy **Edward Burne-Jones** **and the Pre-Raphaelites**

Edward Burne-Jones was the most admired British artist of his generation. His work is all around us: the angels on our Christmas cards, the stained glass in our churches, the great paintings in our galleries. Fiona MacCarthy explores and re-evaluates his art and life; his battle against vicious public hostility; the romantic susceptibility to female beauty that would inspire his art and ruin his marriage; his ill health and depressive sensibility, and the devastating rift with his great friend and collaborator William Morris as their views on art and politics diverged.

5pm
Main
House
£8.50

Stanley Wells **Shakespeare, Sex and Love**

What were the sexual conventions of Shakespeare's times? How does Shakespeare's portrayal of relationships, sex and love compare with these? Stanley Wells, Chairman of The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, explores the bawdy word-play, violent jealousy, tender affection, same-sex relations, and the extremities of human behaviour in Shakespeare's plays.

6.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Martin Rowson **News, Views and Cartoons**

Whether his startling and eye-catching cartoons focus on the Coalition, the protestors at St. Paul's Cathedral, Greece, Jimmy Savile or Ed Milliband, Martin Rowson always has a thoughtful, provocative and funny approach to current issues. He talks about how his medium can make challenging and satirical comments on life. His latest book is a new take on Gulliver's Travels.

8pm
Main
House
£8.50

Simon Watt **Inside Nature's Giants**

Simon Watt, the evolutionary biologist, has appeared in all Channel 4's programmes, 'Inside Nature's Giants', often being the human guinea pig who has demonstrated the extreme physiological challenges animals face. Why doesn't a giraffe keel over and faint when its head is so far above its heart? Why are crocodiles hopeless at chewing when they have the strongest bite of all animals, and why does a giant squid have three hearts and pass food through its brain? Natural history as you've never seen it before.

Simon Watt



Main House Day Ticket - £36 for 6 events
(not including 8pm event)

Wednesday 7 March – Studio – To See the World ...

11.45 am
Studio
£7.50

Jan Zalasiewicz **Earth's Story in a Single Pebble**

Jan Zalasiewicz looks at a normal pebble, such as you might pick up on holiday, but its history carries us into the vast abyss of time, revealing the earth's extraordinary story.

2.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Jan Zalasiewicz **and Mark Williams** **The History of the** **Earth's Climate**

Earth is a 'Goldilocks planet'. Just as Goldilocks' bowl of porridge was 'not too hot, not too cold' for her, so our planet is 'just right' to support life. Zalasiewicz and Williams track the climate from the birth of the planet and show the very recent dramatic influence of human activity. As we seek to protect the planet's delicate Goldilocks balance, this deep-history view is invaluable.

3.45pm
Studio
£7.50

Bill McGuire **Changing Climate**

We are familiar with many probable effects of climate change: impact on crops and wildlife; melting ice caps and sea level rise; the disappearance of low-lying islands and coastlines. Bill McGuire argues that climbing global temperatures are causing the Earth to toss and turn, just as it did in the post-glacial world when seas grew rapidly with the melting ice, and continents experienced sudden lifting of the weight of ice sheets. The result then was earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis; the same may be true again. Indeed, the Earth is awakening like a giant stirring from a long sleep.

5.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Gavin Pretor-Pinney **Looking at Clouds**

Gavin Pretor-Pinney is the founder of The Cloud Appreciation Society. His Cloudspotter's Guide has been called 'the most entertaining textbook ever written'. Now he encourages us to spend more time looking skywards to discover the beauty and fascination of clouds. A feast for all cloud lovers with a sense of humour.



Gavin Pretor-Pinney

Studio Day Ticket - £20 for 4 events

Thursday 8 March – Studio – Bookcase Day

Bookcase is a vast secondhand and antiquarian bookshop in Carlisle that has been publishing books of local interest for twenty years with some seventy or so books in the current catalogue. Today features some of the latest publications.

10.15am
Studio
£7.50

Edna Croft **Maryport**

“I really loved this book. We see rebellious mothers who were once ambitious and able, tied to domestic duties due to poor education, social conventions and the lack of available contraception. They drive their unwilling daughters to make better lives for themselves as the fifties and sixties open up new opportunities.”
Kathleen Jones

11.45am
Studio
£7.50

Margaret E. Shepherd **Across the Oceans: Emigration from Cumberland and Westmorland by 1914**

For centuries Cumbrian migrants left all that they knew and travelled to a new life in North America, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Dr Shepherd's study of four thousand individual migrants is an important contribution to Cumbrian and family history.

1.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Robert Drake **The Becks and Gills of the Northern Fells**

Many people climb the summits of the fells. Robert Drake, poet and dry-stone-waller, prefers to linger along the becks and gills. He knows the hidden waterfalls and the quiet valleys. This beautiful, observant book takes us to the secret heart of the Northern Fells.

2.45pm
Studio
£7.50

Stephen Matthews **The Spectral Army of Souther Fell**

The Spectral Army of Souther Fell is one of the best authenticated of all ghost stories. Wordsworth, Coleridge, Scott, James Hogg and many others wrote about the story. The Spectral Army is a fascinating and forgotten part of Lakeland history.

4.15pm
Studio
£7.50

The Lake Poems of John Wilson **Edited and Introduced by Penny Bradshaw**

John Wilson (1785-1854) was a friend of Wordsworth, de Quincey and Coleridge. During the years spent at his estate near the shores of Windermere, Wilson cultivated an identity for himself as a Lake poet. This, the first edition of Wilson's Lake poems to be published for over a century, makes this body of work available to a new generation.

5.45pm
Studio
£7.50

William Waters **Angels and Icons: The Stained Glass of J.R.Clayton**

J.R.Clayton was on intimate terms with the Pre-Raphaelite painters. He revolutionised mid-Victorian stained glass. William Waters, an expert on Burne-Jones, has written this pioneering study of a craft that became a serious art form.

Studio Day Ticket - £30 for 6 events

Thursday 8 March – Main House

10.15 -
11.30am
Circle
Gallery
£6

Poetry Breakfast Coffee, Croissants And Poetry



Bring a poem to read, one of your own or one you admire.
(Advance booking essential)



Claire Tomalin



Robert Rowland Smith



10.30am
Main
House
£8.50

Claire Tomalin Charles Dickens: His Torments and Triumphs

Flawless in its historical detail, and acute on the novels, Claire Tomalin's superb Dickens biography is most valuable in the sense it gives us of the man himself. He was vivacious and charming, charismatic and altruistic and possessed of superabundant energy, but she reveals the tragedy and trauma in his life also. Today Claire Tomalin paints a portrait of a complex and exacting man.

12 noon
Main
House
£8.50

Robert Rowland Smith Great Minds and Life's Ups and Downs

Everything you'll need to know about history's greatest thinkers and on life's big moments. If life is meaningless as Sartre suggests, what is the point of being born? What does Freud have to say about losing one's virginity or Nietzsche about having a mid-life crisis? From birth to death the best brains in history have thought about the meaning behind the landmarks that shape our lives. Now philosopher Robert Rowland Smith brings their genius together.



Nigel Warburton

2pm
Main
House
£8.50

Nigel Warburton **A Little History of Philosophy**

Philosophy begins with questions about the nature of reality and how we should live. Nigel Warburton, senior lecturer in philosophy at the Open University, takes the reader chronologically through some key moments in Western philosophy's history, from the execution of Socrates to the present day animal rights movement. He explores compelling ideas and encourages readers to think for themselves.

3.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

John Gittings **The Glorious Art of Peace**

Many views of world history are dominated by tales of conflict. Former Guardian East Asia editor, John Gittings, offers an alternative. Human progress and prosperity depend on a peaceful environment, he argues, and from ancient times, peace has been high on the agenda of human thought. He traces the growth of the international peace movements and he exposes the way that in the 21st century we are missing the opportunity to put peace ahead of war.

5pm
Main
House
£8.50

Tali Sharot **The Optimism Bias**

Optimism may be crucial to our existence. Tali Sharot looks at why the brain generates hope; how the brains of optimists and pessimists differ; why we are terrible at predicting what will make us happy, and how our optimistic illusions affect our financial, professional, and emotional decisions.

6.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Raymond Tallis **Being Human**

Professor Raymond Tallis is a philosopher, poet, novelist and cultural critic and until recently a physician and clinical scientist. In the Economist's 'Intelligent Life' Magazine he was listed as one of the top living polymaths in the world. Today he explores human uniqueness. We are, he shows, infinitely more interesting and complex than we appear in the mirror of biologism.

Main House Day Ticket - £36 for 6 events



Tali Sharot



Raymond Tallis

Friday 9 March – Main House

Hugo Vickers



10.30am
Main
House
£8.50

Hugo Vickers The Tragic, Untold Story of the Duchess of Windsor

The story of the Abdication, the Windsors' life in exile and the feud between them and the British Royal Family is a tragic saga that Hugo Vickers has followed for many years. He is an acknowledged expert on the Royal Family, has written many biographies, appears regularly on television, and has lectured all over the world.

Penelope Lively



12 noon
Main
House
£8.50

Hazel Wood and Gail Pirakis talk to Penelope Lively

Slightly Foxed – A Lively, Literary Journal

Slightly Foxed is described as 'The Real Reader's Quaterly'. Friendly and unstuffy, it offers 96 pages of personal recommendations for books of lasting interest – books that have stood the test of time and have left their mark on the people who write about them. It's an eclectic mix, covering all the main categories of fiction and non-fiction. Many of the contributors are well-known writers – including Penelope Lively.

Matthew Hollis



Jill Dawson



Main House Day Ticket - £30 for 5 events
(not including 8pm event)

2pm
Main
House
£8.50

Penelope Lively **Reading Addiction**

Reading Addiction affects many of us, especially those who come to literary festivals. The Booker Prize winning author Penelope Lively, whose latest novel is 'How it All Began', talks about her own book-infested life, about the directions her reading has taken, and the way in which her writing has been shaped by what she has read.

3.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Matthew Hollis **Edward Thomas –** **His Final Five Years**

Matthew Hollis focuses on two poet friends – Edward Thomas and Robert Frost – who produced some of the most remarkable verse of the twentieth century. But World War I put an ocean between them; Frost returned to the safety of New England while Thomas stayed to fight for the Old. Matthew Hollis ponders over these roads taken – and those not taken.

in association with The Wordsworth Trust

5pm
Main
House
£8.50

Jill Dawson and **Christopher Burns** **Fiction – The Process**

Jill Dawson's latest novel, 'Lucky Bunny', is moving, witty and intelligent. She writes about a criminal family from the East End of London while Christopher Burns' sixth novel, 'A Division of the Light', begins with the robbery of a young woman, a crime witnessed by a man

with a camera. Intense, obsessional relationships follow. How does each novelist alight on a plot? What is the process of moving from an initial idea to a published novel?

8pm
Main
House
£14

An Evening With . . . **Shappi Khorsandi** **(Stand-up Comedy)**

(2hrs
including
interval)

Star of 'Live At The Apollo', 'Have I Got News for You' and Radio 4's 'Shappi Talk', Shappi Khorsandi is feisty, flirty and effortlessly funny. She handles every subject with a razor sharp wit, softened only by her deliciously dizzy delivery and endless charm.

"Currently the country's most successful female stand-up comedian."

Time Out



Shappi Khorsandi

Friday 9 March – Studio – History

10am
Studio
£7.50

Virginia Nicholson **War and Peace, 1939-49**

Virginia Nicholson tracks the experiences of the six million women whose energies helped to win the war. She tells how they loved, suffered, laughed, grieved and dared, and how they re-made their world in peacetime, knowing they would never be the same again.

11.30am
Studio
£7.50

John Welshman **The Titanic: Her Sailing and Sinking**

A hundred years after her sinking, John Welshman reconstructs the individual histories of twelve of the inhabitants of this tragically short-lived floating community. What events led each of them to be on the ship's maiden voyage? Who survived, and why, and who perished? What happened to the survivors in the years after 1912, and how did their stories shape the myths that grew up around the sinking?

1pm
Studio
£7.50

Thomas Penn **The Dawn of Tudor England**

Thomas Penn recreates an England which is both familiar and very strange – a country that seems medieval yet modern, in which honour and chivalry mingle with espionage, high finance and corruption. It is the story of the transformation of a young, vulnerable boy, Prince Henry,

2.30pm
Studio
£7.50

Adam Sisman **Hugh Trevor-Roper: A Brilliant Historian**

Clever, witty and sophisticated, Trevor-Roper was the most brilliant historian of his generation. He seemed to have everything: wealth and connections, a chair at Oxford, a beautiful country house, an aristocratic wife and, eventually, a title of his own. He moved easily between Oxford and London, between the dreaming spires of scholarship and the jostling corridors of power. He was notorious for his acerbic attacks on other historians, but ultimately tainted his own reputation when he authenticated the forged 'Hitler Diaries'. Adam Sisman offers the revealing story of his life.

4pm
Studio
£7.50

Anne Stott **Wilberforce: His Family and Friends**

Much is known about William Wilberforce's role in the abolition of the slave trade, but far less is known of his private life. Anne Stott offers a new side to his life. She tells the story of the Clapham sect to which Wilberforce belonged.

Its members occupied important public roles while also being deeply committed to the ideal of domesticity. Wilberforce's humanity shines through in the story of the sect and its members.

5.30pm
Studio
£7.50

Sarah Whittingham **Fern Fever and the Victorians**

Between 1837 and 1914 Pteridomania, or fern madness, swept through Britain. It was so popular that from the 1850s ferns also appeared on buildings and everyday objects from carpets to greetings cards. The Lake District was a hot spot of Pteridomania, starting very early on with the Wordsworths, who were among the first to collect ferns, through W.J.Linton of Brantwood. Sarah Whittingham traces the story of the fern craze.

7pm
Studio
£7.50

Elliot Perlman **History and Fiction**

Australia's outstanding novelist, Elliot Perlman, has crossed the world to talk at Words by the Water about his remarkable new novel, 'The Street Sweeper', which links characters involved in the liberation of Dachau with the American Civil Rights movement; fiction based on fact: real characters and real stories.

Studio Day Ticket - £35 for 7 events

COLERIDGE AT GRETA HALL

Keswick, Friday 9 March, 10.30am – 1pm

Greta Hall was built around 1800 and was the former home of the Lake poets, Coleridge and Southey. Southey was poet laureate from 1813 – 1843 and lived there for 40 years. Many literary personalities visited: the Wordsworths, Lamb, Hazlitt, Shelley, Ruskin and Scott.

This fine Georgian house, situated just 5 minutes walk from Keswick town centre, will be the venue for interesting literary activities. Most will take place in front of the fire in Southey's study.

10.30am – **Adam Sisman**, author of 'The Friendship: Wordsworth and Coleridge' will talk on how Coleridge came to live at Greta Hall and about his time there.

11.30am – Coffee and homemade cakes and biscuits.

12pm – **Penelope Bradshaw**, (University of Cumbria) will run a seminar on poetry by Coleridge and Southey. (The poems will be provided.)

COST: £20



Greta Hall, Keswick

Saturday 10 March – Main House



Helen Dunmore

10am
Main
House
£8.50

Helen Dunmore New Departures

The Orange Prize winner, Helen Dunmore, is one of the finest and most respected of contemporary writers. Whether writing poetry, children's books, short stories or novels she attracts wide acclaim and many prizes. Now she has moved into new territory with her latest work, a ghost story, 'The Greatcoat', set during and after the Second World War. She tells of how she leaps across genres.

11.30am
Main
House
£8.50

Jessica Fellowes The World of Downton Abbey

Jessica Fellowes is a screenwriter, once Deputy Editor of Country Life, and the creator of 'Downton Abbey', the acclaimed drama which had 12 million viewers at its peak. Now go through the doors; find out more about Edwardian life and the background to the main characters; discover the history, romance and drama of the series.



Alistair Darling

1pm
Main
House
£8.50

Alistair Darling One Thousand Days at Number Eleven

Alistair Darling places the reader

NOTE : THE DATE AND TIME OF THIS EVENT HAVE CHANGED. ALISTAIR DARLING WILL NOW SPEAK ON SATURDAY 3 MARCH AT 1PM

A new event "The Man Who Broke Into Auschwitz" with DENIS AVEY and JAMES LONG, will take place today at 1pm. For more details go to www.wayswithwords.co.uk/news

2.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Clarissa Dickson Wright A History of British Food

Clarissa Dickson Wright found fame alongside Jennifer Paterson as one

NOTE : SADLY WE HAVE HAD TO CANCEL THIS EVENT BEFORE THE BOX OFFICE OPENED.

A new event has not been scheduled.

For more details go to www.wayswithwords.co.uk/news

to chefs, cookery book writers, gourmets and gluttons.



Words by the Water / Mirehouse Poetry Competition Event

1.30pm Mirehouse Free (but ticketed)

Helen Dunmore, judge of this year's poetry competition, will talk about the process of judging and will introduce the winning poems, some of which will be read at this event.



4pm
Main
House
£8.50

Joan Bakewell She's Leaving Home

The thoughtful and much-respected broadcaster, Baroness Bakewell, has turned to fiction to reflect on recent history, the late 1950s. It is a time of many escapes: Nureyev defects in London; Gagarin leaves the Earth's atmosphere to be the first man in space; the Beatles escape the dreariness of Liverpool to seek their fortune in Hamburg. In Britain the drab 50s are giving way to the lively 60s and the young sense it. She addresses the intensity and passion that made the sixties an iconic decade.

5.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Mark Logue and Peter Conradi The King's Speech

Journalist Peter Conradi and Mark Logue, grandson of the now famous speech therapist, unearthed diaries and letters to reveal the truth behind the Oscar-winning film. Find out more about George VI and Lionel Logue and how faithfully the film tells their story.

8pm
Main
House
£10

What's He Angry About? The Life and Times of John Osborne

The world première of a one-man play starring **Peter Egan** and written and directed by **Tony Palmer**.
(2 hrs including interval)

Main House Day Ticket - £36 for 6 events
(not including 8pm event)

Saturday 10 March – Studio – Exploration

11.45am
Studio
£7.50

Gabrielle Walker **A History of Antarctica**

Gabrielle Walker, author, consultant to New Scientist and regular broadcaster with the BBC, explains what it feels like to be on the continent of Antarctica and why it draws so many people back again and again. It is the most alien place on Earth, the only part of our planet where humans could never survive unaided. And yet, in its agelessness and its mysteries lie the secrets of our past, and of our future.

Gabrielle Walker



2.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Taylor Downing **Spies in the Sky**

Find out about the little known partner organisation to the famous code-breaking centre at Bletchley Park: the story of the daring reconnaissance pilots who took aerial photographs over Occupied Europe during the most dangerous days of the Second World War, and of the photo interpreters who invented a completely new science to analyse those pictures.

3.45pm
Studio
£7.50

Stephen Haddelsey **Shackleton's Dream**

In 1914 Ernest Shackleton embarked on the crossing of Antarctica, an expedition which ended in disaster with the Endurance crushed and frozen corpses on the Antarctic plateau. Forty years later Vivian Fuchs and Edmund Hillary tried again. They encountered similar problems to Shackleton but also a severe clash of personalities. Stephen Haddelsey tells the dramatic story.

5.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Noo Saro-Wiwa **Looking For Transwonderland**

Noo Saro-Wiwa is the daughter of famous murdered Nigerian activist Ken Saro-Wiwa. She tells about his life, revisits her home and tries to understand her heritage and home country through the eyes of an outsider. Despite the tragic issues she manages to include much wit and humour in her insightful story.

4pm Circle Gallery £7.50

Pen Vogler

Tea, Cakes and History

Penguin's 'Great Food' series brings together the sharpest, funniest, most delicious food writing from the past four hundred years. Join Pen Vogler, the series editor, to discuss food in history and the challenges of cooking from old recipes. Sample cake and biscuits from cookery books of 1615, 1747, 1845 and 1922. And have fun guessing the ingredients.



Studio Day Ticket - £20 for 4 events

Sunday 11 March – Studio – Women’s Lives, Then & Now

10.15am
Studio
£7.50

Louise Foxcroft **Calories and Corsets: A History of Dieting**

The media’s obsession with size and slimming is perceived as a 20th century phenomenon, but as historian Louise Foxcroft shows, we have been struggling with what, when and how much to eat ever since the Greeks and the Romans first pinched an inch. Surprising and often shocking, she tells the story of our complicated relationship with food. She exposes the anxieties that drive today’s multi-billion pound dieting industry and offers a welcome perspective on how we can be healthy and happy in our bodies.

2.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Joanna Hodgkin **The Story of a Bohemian Marriage: Nancy and Lawrence Durrell**

Nancy Durrell has always been an enigma. She introduced her husband Lawrence, future author of the Alexandria Quartet, to Bohemian London and was the inspiration for some of his finest poetry. Joanna Hodgkin, her daughter, shines new light on an extraordinary group of people; a remarkable woman and the marriage that launched a literary star.

3.45pm
Studio
£7.50

Gerard Baker **Mrs Beeton and the Modern Kitchen**

Mrs Beeton was the UK’s first celebrity chef and she continues to surprise us today with her knowledge and flair. Now Gerard Baker, the well-known TV food historian, chef and broadcaster has tried, tested and rewritten her recipes for the modern kitchen. Her household economy and seasonality are just as relevant and appealing now as they were 150 years ago.

5.15pm
Studio
£7.50

Michele Hanson **Growing Up in 1950s Suburbia**

Michele Hanson is one of the UK’s wittiest and most popular columnists. Her weekly columns for the Guardian have been serialised for radio, made into a BBC cartoon series and collected in book form. Her recent evocative memoir charts her coming of age in a Britain that was emerging from post-war austerity into the days of ‘you’ve never had it so good’. It is a humorous and affectionate look at a vanished way of British life.



Michele Hanson

Studio Day Ticket - £20 for 4 events

Sunday 11 March – Main House



Kathy Lette



Martin Bell

11am
Main
House
£8.50

Tracey Lawson Longevity and Life in an Italian Village

What causes the extraordinary long lives of the villagers of Campodimele? Do they avoid major diseases because of their diet? Tracey Lawson, food editor and news journalist, spent a year there to investigate. She tells of the lifestyle, cooking and eating habits of this astonishingly healthy community.

12.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

Kathy Lette Coping with Asperger's Syndrome

Not many people are aware that Kathy Lette, novelist, television sitcom writer, resident writer at the Savoy, and very funny and entertaining speaker, has a 20 year old son who has Asperger's Syndrome. Her new novel, 'The Boy Who Fell to Earth', is based on her own experiences and coincides with her son's 21st birthday. (It is published with his full permission.) She discusses the issues that arise when dealing with Asperger's Syndrome.

2pm
Main
House
£8.50

Martin Bell From Television to Politics to Poetry

In original verse Martin Bell offers a personal response to his life. He chronicles his time as a war reporter, as an independent MP and as a UNICEF ambassador. It is a witty, honest and moving account of his experiences and shows that he can add 'poet' to his many accomplishments.

Main House Day Ticket - £30 for 5 events

3.30pm
Main
House
£8.50

William Feaver talks to Jon Blair The Pitmen Painters

The noted art critic, William Feaver, author of the book on which Lee Hall based his play, 'The Pitmen Painters', tells their story to Oscar-winning director Jon Blair. Jon's documentary, 'Robson Green and the Pitmen Painters', was broadcast on ITV earlier this year. What can we learn from these working class men in North East England who joined an art class in 1934?

5.15pm
Main
House
£8.50

Frances Spalding Prunella Clough and Her Position in the English Art Scene

Prunella Clough (1919-1999) was one of the best and most original artists to emerge in the second half of the twentieth century. This event celebrates her outstanding contribution to British art. Frances Spalding, art historian and eminent biographer of Myfanwy and John Piper, Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant, Whistler, explores the key themes and inspirations that informed Clough's work.



Frances Spalding

Words by the Water / Mirehouse Poetry Competition

COMPETITION THEME:

"There is no joy but calm" (Tennyson)

To be interpreted freely.

JUDGE: **Helen Dunmore**

Poet and fiction writer

PRIZES:

1st Prize £350

In addition, the prize-winning poem and eight highly commended poems will be displayed on the Mirehouse Poetry Walk and appear on the Mirehouse website.

The eight highly commended poets will each receive a box of new books (value £100).

There will be a reading of some of the winning poems at an event with Helen Dunmore at Mirehouse on Saturday 10 March at 1.30pm.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY :

- Entries are invited for original poems of no more than 40 lines.
- Entry fee £4 per poem.
- Entrants may submit as many poems as they wish.
- No entry should have been accepted for publication, read on radio/television or stage or have been awarded a prize in any other competition.

FORMAT FOR ENTRIES :

- Two copies of each poem must be submitted.
- Entries should be typed on one side of paper.
- Entrants must not put names or addresses on the work but must put name, address and titles of poems on a separate sheet.
- Cheques payable to 'Words by the Water' and sent with entries to:

Mirehouse Poetry Competition, Droridge Farm,
Dartington, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6JG

Closing Date - Friday 10 February 2012

Winners notified by Friday 24 February 2011

Entrants should enclose an s.a.e. for notification of results.
Entries cannot be returned.

The Mirehouse Poetry Prize has been given to celebrate Mirehouse's longstanding literary connections with writers including Wordsworth, Southey, Tennyson, Fitzgerald, Carlyle and Thackeray.

Booking and Other Information

In Person

Visit the box office at Theatre by the Lake
open 9.30am – 8.00pm daily.

Online

Book online at www.theatrebythelake.com
(N.B. Festival Passes are not available on-line.)

By Phone Call 017687 74411

Payment Methods

Cash, credit or debit cards (Mastercard/Visa/Switch/Delta/Electron/Maestro) are accepted or cheques made payable to Theatre by the Lake.

Transaction Fee

A transaction fee of £1 applies to credit and debit card payments.

Ticket Delivery

Tickets booked up to seven days in advance will be posted out for a charge of 70p.
Tickets booked within seven days of the performance date will be held for collection from the box office.

Reservations

Reserved tickets which have not been paid for within five days or one hour before the performance begins (whichever is the shorter time) will be offered for sale again.

Refund and Exchange Policy

If you cannot attend a WBTW event we will offer to exchange your ticket for another WBTW 2012 event (subject to availability).
There is a £1 fee per ticket for this service.

If you cannot attend a WBTW event and you are unable to attend an alternative WBTW 2012 event, Theatre by the Lake can hold a credit for you against a future booking for any performance at the theatre. There is a £1 fee per ticket for this service (with a maximum charge of £10 per transaction).

If we have to cancel an event you can exchange your ticket to the cancelled event for another event at the festival - subject to availability - or for a voucher which you can use at any Ways With Words event in the future. There will be no charge for this.
If you don't wish to exchange you are entitled to a refund of the ticket's value. (NB this will be a proportion of the value if you bought a day ticket. We do not refund people who hold either of the Festival Passes.)

NB. TICKETS ARE NOT FOR SALE FROM WAYS WITH WORDS.

Priority Booking

**Friends of Ways With Words and Theatre by the Lake can book tickets from Wednesday 14 December.
General booking starts on Tuesday 3 January.**

Festival Passes

- Festival Pass 'A' at £145 gives entry to all Main House events on Fri 2 - Tues 6 March inc.
- Festival Pass 'B' at £145 gives entry to all Main House events on Wed 7 - Sun 11 March inc.

Passes can be collected from Theatre by the Lake at the start of the festival.

Group Bookings

For organisations / groups wishing to bring a group of 10 or more people a reduction of £1 per ticket is available. Please contact the box office by phone for details and reservations.

Young Person Standby Tickets

People aged 24 and under can buy tickets normally priced at £8.50 or £7.50 for just £4 if purchased 24 hours or less before the event's start time. Proof of age will be required when you collect your tickets.

Getting There

Theatre by the Lake is a 5-minute walk from the centre of Keswick - follow the yellow AA signs for the festival. There is a pay and display car park adjacent to the theatre.

Keswick has bus links with Ambleside to the south, Carlisle to the north, Penrith to the east (to mainline trains) and Cockermouth and Workington to the west.

And Another Thing . . .

As well as the Words by the Water festival, **Ways With Words** organises other festivals in the UK (Dartington, Devon; Southwold, Suffolk, Holland Park, London) and also holiday courses.

For full details of all of these go to wayswithwords.co.uk

or phone 01803 867373 to join our free mailing list.



**Fingals Hotel, Dittisham, Devon
Writing and Photography Course
29 April – 4 May 2012**



**Umbria, Italy
Writing and Painting Course
22 – 29 September 2012
29 September - 6 October 2012**

**. . . And back in Keswick for
Words by the Water 2013, 1 – 10 March**

Bob Marshall-Andrews
Joan Bakewell
Martin Bell
Roger Bolton
Mihir Bose
Melvyn Bragg
Craig Brown
Michael Buerk
Deborah Bull
Tam Dalyell
Alistair Darling
Hunter Davies
Margaret Drabble
Helen Dunmore
Sarah Hall
Michele Hanson
Matthew Hollis
Shappi Khorsandi
Prue Leith
Kathy Lette
Marina Lewycka
Penelope Lively
Josie Long
Fiona MacCarthy
Adam Mars-Jones
Chris Mullin
Virginia Nicholson
Martin Rowson
Rory Stewart
Hugo Vickers
Simon Watt
Stanley Wells
Clarissa Dickson Wright
– and more

