

# FESTIVAL GUIDE



**Bank Holiday Weekend**  
**Friday 29 April to**  
**Monday 2 May 2022**  
**Celebrating the opening**  
**of The Amelia Scott**

There's  
something for  
**everyone** at  
the Tunbridge Wells  
Literary Festival  
**Over 35**  
**events!**



## **Hello everyone, and welcome to the very first Tunbridge Wells Literary Festival.**

The last couple of years have presented us all with an unprecedented level of uncertainty and isolation, challenges that we will continue to contend with for the foreseeable future, and for the first time in a long time, in the midst of this peculiar stretch of our history, it has once more become apparent just how important reading, writing and storytelling are to the human experience.

For many, reading was a crucial escape from the relentless malaise of lockdown, while, for others writing offered opportunities for the cathartic release of swirling emotions, and a constructive way to channel build-ups of restlessness. In time, I have no doubt that the stories written over the course of the pandemic will be forever entwined with our understanding of this singular period, and our shared experience therein.

With all of this in mind, alongside the opening of the brand-new Amelia Scott providing access to two wonderful libraries, it feels only appropriate to look to the future with a celebration of all the joys of literature, hence the conception of this extraordinary event, which brings together many of the UK's finest authorial minds and offers up a truly exceptional catalogue of exciting new books. From stunningly illustrated picture books for the youngest readers to the most powerful dramatic fiction for grown-up bookworms, there truly is something for everyone here, no matter your age, interests or reading level.

I sincerely hope you'll join us for this phenomenal four-day extravaganza of reading and writing!

Nicky Carter



Head of HR, Customer Service and Culture,  
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council



**TICKETS: 01892 530613**  
**[theamelia.co.uk](http://theamelia.co.uk)**

You will be able to buy tickets on the day if there are spaces available, however it is advisable to book in advance online or by telephone to avoid disappointment.

**W**  
Waterstones



# LITERARY LUNCH

## HARRIET TYCE AND JAMES OSWALD

BOOKS: *IT ENDS AT MIDNIGHT*;  
*ALL THAT LIVES & NOWHERE TO RUN*

TUNBRIDGE WELLS HOTEL | FRI 29 APR – 12:30PM

Harriet Tyce is a Scottish author and former barrister. Her first novel, the critically acclaimed *Blood Orange*, was a Richard and Judy Choice, became a bestseller over the course of 2020 and was recently optioned by World Productions, producers of *Line of Duty* and *The Bodyguard*, for adaptation into a TV series.

James Oswald is a Scottish author and farmer. He is the author of the best-selling Inspector McLean series, as well as *The Ballad of Sir Benfro*, a five book fantasy series. Alongside his writing James runs a 350-acre livestock farm in North East Fife, where he raises pedigree Highland Cattle and New Zealand Romney Sheep.

### ABOUT THE BOOKS:

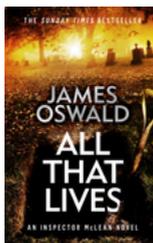
*'Another compelling read from the utterly brilliant Harriet Tyce.'* -Lisa Jewell

*It Ends at Midnight* initially paints an idyllic picture: It's New Year's Eve and the stage is set for a lavish party, a moment for old friends to set the past to rights - and move on. But, as midnight approaches and the countdown begins, it seems one of the guests doesn't want a resolution. They want revenge.

*'Oswald's writing is in a class above most.'*  
-Daily Express

Book #12 in the best-selling Inspector McLean series, *All That Lives* confronts McLean with two victims, connected by only one thing – someone buried them the exact same way, seven hundred years apart.

Fiction -  
Crime



### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Proceedings will start with a delicious lunch at the Tunbridge Wells Hotel. Then, in a rare glimpse behind the scenes of the writing process, Harriet and James will compare and contrast the machinations that inspire and drive the creation of their characters and stories, as well as discuss what it is that sets crime apart from any other literary genre, ending on a Q&A with the audience.

We are incredibly lucky to play host to two of Scotland's most celebrated crime writers who are at the top of the thriller game.

All Inclusive Ticket: £45

Lunch 12.30pm

Talk 2pm; Book signing 3pm

Pre-booking is essential.





## ED PATRICK

BOOK: *CATCH YOUR BREATH: THE SECRET LIFE OF A SLEEPLESS ANAESTHETIST*

TRINITY | FRI 29 APR 2PM

Dr Ed Patrick is an anaesthetist and a comedian. He has performed across the UK, including at Edinburgh Fringe, and hosts the “Comedians’ Surgery” podcast, where he speaks to comedians about their health experiences. He also created and presented “Infectious Personalities” for BBC Radio 2 and has written for The Guardian about the intersection between medicine and comedy.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*‘Funny, touching and gobsmacking in equal measure. At its heart is a breath-taking account of life on the COVID frontline.’ -Jay Rayner*

A memoir for anyone who believes laughter is the best medicine for life’s hardships, *Catch Your Breath* highlights the hectic highs, lamentable lows, and hilariously unexpected moments of life on the NHS frontline, all in Ed’s fantastically frank and funny style.



### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Ed will use his trademark humour and stand-up experience to talk candidly about his experiences within the framework of the NHS, paying special attention to the last two years, before opening up to questions from the audience.

Tickets: £15  
GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability  
Age recommendation: 16+  
Running time 1 hr plus Q&A plus book signing



## CHRISTINA PATTERSON INTERVIEWED BY DR SARAH WOODHOUSE

BOOK: *OUTSIDE, THE SKY IS BLUE*

TRINITY | FRI 29 APR 4PM

Christina Patterson is a writer and broadcaster. She writes for The Sunday Times, The Guardian, The Daily Telegraph and The Daily Mail, as well as magazines ranging from Harper’s Bazaar to Red. Her first book *The Art of Not Falling Apart* was published in 2018. She regularly appears on radio and TV news programmes and also hosts popular podcast The Art of Work.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*‘Heart-breaking and heart-warming... An immersive family memoir that is deeply personal and yet somehow universal!’ -Adam Hamdy*

When Christina Patterson’s brother Tom died very suddenly, she faced the harrowing task of sifting through box after box of letters, papers, photos and belongings, not just of Tom’s, but of their parents and their older sister, Caroline. Those boxes, albums and papers told the story of Christina’s family. The result of this devastating journey of discovery is *Outside, The Sky is Blue*, Christina’s achingly emotional new memoir.



### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Christina’s appearance will begin with a live recording of The Art of Work, before moving on to a discussion of, and Q&A session on, *Outside, the Sky is Blue*.

Christina will be interviewed by revered research psychologist and trauma expert Dr Sarah Woodhouse, author of fundamental recovery aid *You’re Not Broken*.

Tickets: £15; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability  
Age recommendation: 14+  
Running time 1 hour plus Q&A limited, plus book signing



## DAVID BADDIEL INTERVIEWED BY DAVID AARONOVITCH

BOOK: *JEWS DON'T COUNT*

ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE | FRIDAY 29 APR 8PM

David Baddiel is an award-winning author, comedian and screenwriter. He has written and performed in many highly successful tv shows. He also co-wrote and co-sung 'Three Lions', the only song in the history of British pop to go to number 1 on three separate occasions. His recent stand-up shows have been widely acclaimed, with *My Family: Not the Sitcom* nominated for an Olivier Award. He has written four novels for adults and his children's books have sold 1.5 million copies.

David Aaronovitch is a broadcaster, a narrowcaster and – like most people in Britain - a podcaster. He has worked in TV, radio and newspaper journalism since the Conservatives were pro-Europe. He currently writes columns, book reviews and features for The Times and every few weeks columns for the Jewish Chronicle. He presents Radio 4's The Briefing Room every Thursday and co-hosts the Stories of our Times podcast. He has written *Voodoo Histories*, a seminal work on the history of conspiracy theories and another – *Party Animals* - on his relationship with British communism.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*Jews Don't Count* is a book for people on the right side of history. People fighting the good fight against homophobia, disablism, transphobia and, particularly, racism. People, possibly, like you.

It is the comedian and writer David Baddiel's contention that one type of racism has been left out of this fight. In his unique combination of reasoning, polemic, personal experience and comedy, Baddiel follows the anti-Semitism he finds in his Twitter feed to the stage, through the media and into politics as he argues that those who think of themselves as on the right side of history have often ignored the history of anti-Semitism. He outlines why and how, in a time of intensely heightened awareness of minorities and the discriminations they face, Jews are continually denied this protection.

Non-Fiction -  
Social/  
Political:

TL5  
DAVID  
BADDIEL

JEWS  
DON'T  
COUNT

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

In an earnest, conversational format, including a Q&A session with the audience, David will aim to open your eyes to, and engage your sense of justice against, the insidious persistence of antisemitism in the current socio-political climate.

David will be joined by Orwell Prize winning journalist David Aaronovitch.

Full price tickets: £20; Under 25 Tickets £12.50; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 14+

Running time 1.30 mins with no interval Limited book signing subject to time availability.

## TUNBRIDGE WELLS PUPPETRY FESTIVAL

PERFORMANCE: STRANGEFACE THEATRE COMPANY  
SHOW: *BEACHED*

THE AMELIA SCOTT, GREEN ROOM | SAT 30 APR FROM 11AM

StrangeFace Theatre Company have toured extensively since 2001, delivering engaging performances that explore complex ideas to a wide selection of audiences. Artistic Director Russell Dean is one of the country's leading makers, providing

Award-winning StrangeFace Theatre Company is coming to the inaugural Tunbridge Wells Literary Festival, bringing their latest show *Beached*.

*Beached* tells the tale of Arnold whose walk quickly becomes an adventure... audience members listen on headphones as a magical work unfolds that will captivate people of all ages. Described by The Guardian's Lynne Gardener as 'spellbinding and magical.'

Sessions are available throughout the day between 11am and 4pm, no ticket required.

Age recommendation: suitable for all ages

Running time: Approximately 15 mins



### SIMON JAMES GREEN

BOOK: *SLEEP-OVER TAKE-OVER*

THE AMELIA SCOTT, LOWER ATRIUM  
SAT 30 APR 10.30 AM

Simon is an acclaimed author for children's books in the UK. He contributed

to the Proud book anthology, and his successful Noah books were optioned for TV. *Alex in Wonderland*, *Heartbreak Boys* and *You're the One that I Want* are his latest novels for teenagers. *Life of Riley: Beginner's Luck* was shortlisted for the Blue Peter Awards 2021.

#### ABOUT THE BOOK:

When dorky, unpopular 11-yr-old Otis wakes up in the morning at a sleepover birthday party, he's in for a shock. At the marquee where the sleepover took place, it's a scene of carnage and mayhem: there's a donkey drinking at the chocolate fountain, a huge inflatable helium sausage looms above, doves everywhere, one of the kids has a tattoo, and there's a suitcase of bratwurst on the floor! But what's weirdest of all, neither Otis nor the other kids can remember what happened! So while everyone else makes a befuddled exit, Otis and Rocco reluctantly team up to hide the evidence. They decide to retrace their steps in the hope of solving the mystery...



Middle Grade  
Readers -  
Fiction

#### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Simon James Green will be introducing his latest middle-grade book, the fantastically funny *Sleep-Over Take-Over*, a laugh-out-loud misadventure with friendship, kindness and inclusion at its heart.

Everyone is invited to turn up in their pyjamas for a fully immersive, daytime sleepover experience

BLS signed performance

Tickets £5 GO Card Tickets: FREE

Limited availability so book quickly to avoid disappointment

Age recommendation: 8 – 12

Running time approximately 1 hour plus book signing



## NICK DUERDEN INTERVIEWED BY MARK DAYD, FOUNDER OF MUSIC VENUE TRUST

BOOK: *EXIT STAGE LEFT: THE  
CURIOUS AFTERLIFE OF POP STARS*

FORUM | SAT 30 APR 12PM

Nick Duerden is a writer and journalist who has written extensively on the arts, health and family. He has authored several non-fiction books, including *The Smallest Things: On the Enduring Power of Family*, *Get Well Soon* and *A Life Less Lonely: What we can all do to lead more connected, kinder lives*.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Nick has spent many years interviewing the most famous musicians on the planet. Without exception, they are at their most interesting when they've peaked, and when they are on their way down. Featuring brand new interviews with the likes of Robbie Williams, Billy Bragg, Joan Armatrading, Leo Sayer, Lisa Maffia, David Gray and Justin Hawkins, *Exit Stage Left* is a fascinating, laugh-out-loud funny and often shocking look at what happens when the brightest of stars fall down to earth.



Non-Fiction -  
Biography

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Nick will divulge details from the most monumental interviews of his career, reflect on what exactly fame can do to a person, and discuss what it is that makes the rise and fall of these superstars so fascinating to us all, ultimately opening up to questions from the audience. He will be interviewed by Mark Davyd, founder and CEO of Music Venue Trust, the charity that represents over 270 small and medium-sized venues.

Tickets: £15; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 16+

Running time 1 hour plus Q&A



## LITERARY LUNCH JOHN WALSH

BOOK: *CIRCUS OF DREAMS:  
ADVENTURES IN THE 1980S LITERARY  
WORLD*

THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS HOTEL | SAT 30 APR 12.30PM

John Walsh is an acclaimed author, editor and journalist. He has been literary editor of three newspapers, contributed to scores of magazines, and spent 20 years writing for *The Independent*. He was also director of the Cheltenham Festival of Literature in the late 1990s, and for 17 years could be heard on the Radio 4 literary quiz show, *The Write Stuff*.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Something extraordinary happened to the UK literary scene in the 1980s. Through this exciting, hectic period, journalist and author John Walsh interviewed numerous literary stars, attended the best launch parties and digested all the gossip and scandal of the time. In *Circus of Dreams* he reports, with a keen eye, on what drove this glorious era. The result is an elegy for a little-known golden age of literature.



Non-Fiction -  
Biography

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

In intimate, conversational form, John will pull back the curtain on the mysteries of the 80s literary revolution, offering up electrifying first-hand accounts of the excellence and excess of the era and ending on a Q&A with the audience.

All-inclusive ticket price: £45;  
Lunch 12.30pm; Talk 2pm;  
Book signing 3pm

Pre-booking is essential



## CATE DOUGLAS

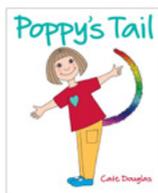
BOOK: *POPPY'S TAIL*

THE AMELIA SCOTT, LOWER ATRIUM  
SAT 30 APR 1.30 PM

Cate Douglas has a background in graphic design and copywriting and was a school governor at a London prep school for seven years. This is Cate's first book published and she spends much of her time visiting schools across the UK where her *Poppy's Tail* events are a huge hit.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Poppy dreams it would be fun to have a tail! But which kind will she choose? She tries out many different animal tails, then invents her own and finds lots of amusing and original ways to use it. With vibrant illustrations and light-hearted rhyme, *Poppy's Tail* is a playful and engaging picture book, designed to captivate and inspire a young child's imagination.



*"Your Poppy's Tail interactive session was hugely popular and the children loved donning a tail and becoming part of the story."* -Christopher McMinn, Headmaster, St Mark's Hall Nursery School, London

New  
Readers

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Cate will be reading from her book in the Lower Atrium of The Amelia Scott. Children will be able to wear a tail of their own to waggle, there will be free Poppy's Tail bookmarks, stickers and an activity sheet for all attendees.

All tickets FREE. Limited availability so book quickly to avoid disappointment

Age recommendation: 3 – 8.  
Children must be accompanied by a 16+ guardian

Running time approximately 30 mins plus book signing

A free buggy park is available



## DARREN SHAN

BOOKS: *REVERSE CAREER RETROSPECTIVE (ARCHIBALD LOX, RETROSPECTIVE ON THE DEMONATA, CIRQUE DU FREAK AND THE SAGA OF DARREN SHAN)*

TRINITY | SAT 30 APR 2PM

Darren Shan has made horror fans out of generations of children with his gloriously grisly tales:

His breakthrough series, *The Saga of Darren Shan*, created a brand-new vampire mythos and has been adapted into a successful manga series and a live-action feature film. His follow-up series, the gory and glorious *Demonata*, gave new life to werewolves and demons, achieving enormous critical and commercial success, while the *Zom-B Chronicles*, set in Ireland, used zombie horror as a vehicle for the condemnation of racism and abuse.

His most recent series, *Archibald Lox*, is a fascinating fantasy series about a young locksmith who, upon finding his way into the Merge, discovers a parallel universe filled with an infinite number of bizarre, remarkable worlds, and sets off on the adventure of a lifetime!

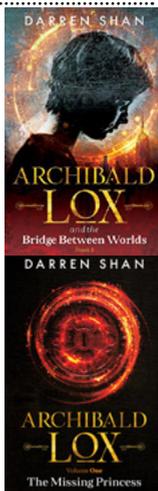
Young  
Adults

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Darren will be taking audience members on a thrilling journey back through his extraordinary literary catalogue. Expect short readings from all his major series, starting with his latest, *Archibald Lox*, and working back through *Zom-B Chronicles*, *The Demonata*, and the incomparable *Saga of Darren Shan*, with plenty of time for questions throughout.

Full price tickets are £12.50;  
Children's tickets £8. GO  
Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 14+  
Running time approximately 1 hour plus book signing





## KATE HUMBLE IN CONVERSATION WITH FELICITY CLOAKE

BOOK: HOME COOKED: RECIPES FROM THE FARM

ASSEMBLY HALL | SAT 30 APR 2.30PM

KATE HUMBLE is a writer, smallholder, campaigner and one of the UK's best-known TV presenters. She started her television career as a researcher, later presenting programmes such as 'Animal Park', 'Springwatch' and 'Autumnwatch', 'Lambing Live', 'Living with Nomads', 'Extreme Wives', 'Back to the Land', 'A Country Life for Half the Price' and 'Escape to the Farm'. Her other books include *Friend for Life*, *Humble by Nature*, *A Year of Living Simply* and *Thinking on My Feet*, which was shortlisted for both the Wainwright Prize and the Edward Stanford Travel Memoir of the Year.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

'Kate Humble dishes up home-cooked heaven.' -Daily Mail Weekend

*Home Cooked*, Kate's debut cookbook, is a celebration of simple, seasonal home cooking full of flavour, comfort and joy. With more than 100 recipes from Kate's kitchen table, this is food to share from breakfast time to the evening meal – for lazy days, busy weeknights or gatherings, and everything in between.

Inspired by Kate's rural life at home in Wales, and the popularity of Kate's cooking segments on her TV programmes, this deliciously appealing slice of country life contains seasonal recipes.

Felicity Cloake is the multi award- winning author of *One More Croissant for the Road* and has just published her hotly awaited book *Red Sauce, Brown Sauce*.



Non-Fiction  
– Health and  
Wellbeing



### ABOUT THE EVENT:

With her signature charm, Kate will dive into the inspirations and stories behind some of her personal favourite dishes from *Home Cooked*, offering plenty of excellent and accessible culinary advice.

Kate will be in conversation with Felicity Cloake, who will apply her trusted expertise to Kate's delicious recipes, while also offering up some culinary delights of her own.

BLS signed performance

Full price tickets: £20; Under 25 tickets £12.50; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Running time approximately 1 hour plus Q&A followed by a book signing





## SIMON JAMES GREEN

BOOK: *GAY CLUB!*

THE AMELIA SCOTT, THE WORKROOM  
SAT 30 APR 4PM

Simon is an award-winning author of LGBTQ+ YA books.

*'Simon's school visits are lively and hilarious, like his books, and left our students clamouring to read more of his work. He is an engaging speaker, but still keeps it very personable so students are encouraged to ask questions, get involved and come away with a real positivity, feeling seen and heard.'* -Sally Baker, Library Manager, Durrington High School

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*Gay Club!* charts the journey from small-town school LGBT society to national gay glory, with plenty of drama, bitching, backstabbing, and social media outrage along the way. Ultimately, this hilarious novel shows that when discrimination is rampant, we're all stronger together and united. Barney's a shoo-in for LGBTQ+ Society President at the school club's next election: he is passionate about making Greenacre Academy a more accepting place for him and his queer friends. But in amongst the drama of the election, a school-wide prank sends the LGBTQ+ Society into a tailspin, and Barney sets about trying to re-establish the club's credibility.



Young  
Adults

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Simon will bring his trademark blend of humour and self-exploration to this life affirming event for young adults trying to make sense of the world of adolescence.

The session will contain comedy anecdotes, LGBT history, the importance of positive representation and why words matter. He will read from his book and there will be a Q&A session.

All tickets are FREE. Limited availability so book quickly to avoid disappointment.

Age recommendation: Young Adults 14+

Running time approximately 1 hour plus Q&A and book signing



## POLLY TOYNBEE AND DAVID WALKER

BOOK: *THE LOST DECADE: 2010-2020 AND WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR BRITAIN*

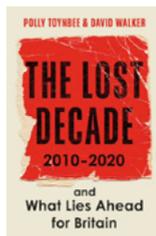
TRINITY | SAT 30 APR 7.30PM

Polly Toynbee is a journalist, author and broadcaster. She is a columnist for The Guardian, and has written for The Observer, The Independent and Radio Times. She has won numerous awards and has been 'What the Papers Say' Columnist of the Year.

David Walker is contributing editor to the Public Leaders Network and has more than 30 years' experience in news journalism. He ardently supports public service broadcasting and believes in delivering well-written content across a broad range of platforms.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

The ten years from 2010 have been devastating, characterised by national tragedies from Grenfell to Windrush. Still, there have been Bright spots, including the rise of renewable energy, lower crime rates and legalisation of same-sex marriage. *The Lost Decade* offers the definitive survey of this tumultuous period in British history and looks to what lies ahead. This is the anatomy of a dark decade, bringing hope for better to come.



Non-  
Fiction  
- Social/  
Political:

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Putting their enviable journalistic experience to use, Polly and David will dissect the data present in *The Lost Decade*, sharing affirming anecdotes from this barely gone era and ending on a Q&A session with the audience.

Tickets: £15 GO Card tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 14+

Running time approximately 1 hour plus Q&A followed by a book signing.



## JO BRAND

BOOK: *BORN LIPPY: HOW TO DO FEMALE*

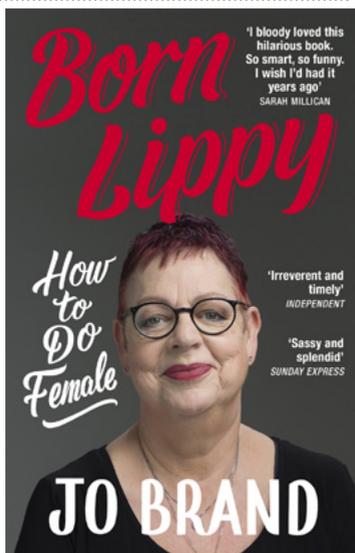
ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE | SAT 30 APR 8PM

Jo Brand is an author, celebrated comedian and, in her own words, a 'reformed 'man hater' turned national disgrace'. The host of several TV shows including the award-winning Channel 4 show, *Through the Cakehole*, Jo has made legendary appearances on many others, from *Have I Got News for You* to *Would I Lie to You* to *QI*. She is married, has two daughters and lives in London.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

'If you want really useful advice about life's problems, go to someone who has messed things up, admitted it, then got back on track. Jo Brand is such a person.' -The Daily Mail Weekend

Jo has screwed up enough times to feel confident she has no wisdom to offer anyone. But who cares? She's going to do it anyway! *Born Lippy* is a frank, unflinching and outrageously entertaining collection of life lessons and knowledge from the first lady of alternative comedy.



Non-Fiction –  
Autobiography/  
Memoir

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

With her signature sardonic wit, Jo will divulge the details of the trials and experiences chronicled in *Born Lippy*, sharing the things that have stuck with her most over the course of her career, before ultimately opening up to the audience for questions.

Tickets: £20 Under 25 Tickets  
£12.50; GO Card Tickets:  
FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 14+

Running time approximately 1  
hour 30 mins including a Q&A.  
Limited book signing subject to  
time availability.





## MELISSA FU

BOOK: *PEACH BLOSSOM SPRING*  
THE AMELIA SCOTT, UPPER ATRIUM  
SUN 1 MAY 10.30AM

Melissa Fu is a writer with an accomplished background in academia and education, within which she has

worked as a teacher, curriculum developer and consultant. In 2016, Melissa won the regional Words and Women Prose Competition, and has since had her work published in multiple showcases. *Peach Blossom Spring* is her first Novel.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*'Expansive, atmospheric and affecting. Peach Blossom Spring shows just how much the human heart can hold, and it left me breathless.'*

-Susie Yang

Spanning continents and three generations, *Peach Blossom Spring* is a bold and moving look at the history of modern China, told through the story of one family uprooted by war. An epic, powerful and intensely personal debut, it's a novel about the power of our past, the hope for a better future, and the search for a place to belong.



Fiction –  
Drama

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

In fascinating detail, Melissa will shed light on the personal experiences that shaped the writing of *Peach Blossom Spring*, discussing the significance of storytelling as a tool for preservation and the impact of being isolated from one's heritage, finishing on a Q&A with the audience.

Tickets: £15 GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 14+

Running time 1 hr with Q&A plus book signing



## MANJEET MANN WITH ILLUSTRATOR AMANDA QUARTEY

BOOK: *SMALL'S BIG DREAM*  
TRINITY | SUN 1 MAY 10.30AM

Manjeet Mann is an actor, activist,

playwright, screenwriter and author. She is the founder of Run the World, an organisation that works with women and girls from marginalised backgrounds and helps to empower them through sport and storytelling. Her two YA novels, *Run, Rebel* and *The Crossing*, have won numerous awards, with both also being nominated for the Carnegie Medal.

Amanda Quarthey was born in London. At the age of 14 she moved to Ghana and studied art at school before returning to the UK to study Graphic Design. Amanda studies Classics at university and worked in finance before returning to her artistic roots.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

In *Small's* world, everything is small. Everything except her dreams. *Small* has BIG dreams, and when you dream big, anything, and everything, can happen. Lyrically written and sublimely illustrated, *Small's Big Dream* is a stunning ode to aspiration that encourages children to always dream big, no matter how small their world may seem!



New  
Readers

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Manjeet will discuss the experiences that inspired *Small's Big Dream*, and explain why it's always important to dream big. Be prepared to share your hopes and dreams with everyone, just like *Small*! Manjeet will be joined by *Small's Big Dream's* illustrator Amanda Quarthey, who will share her experience of working on the book, and the methods she used to bring *Small's* world to life so beautifully.

Tickets: £12.50 Children's tickets: £5; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 3+

Running time approximately 1 hr plus book signing



## Literary Lunch

**LLOYD LEWELLYN-JONES**

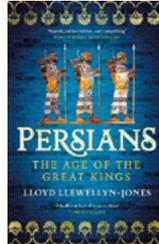
BOOK: *PERSIANS: THE AGE OF GREAT KINGS*

THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS HOTEL  
SUN 1 MAY 10.30AM

Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones is Professor of Ancient History at Cardiff University. He specializes in Achaemenid Persia and in Greek socio-cultural history, and in the reception of antiquity in popular culture. Lloyd travels extensively throughout the Middle East, especially Iran, often leading cultural tours, and has acted as historical consultant for major Hollywood movies and for television documentaries. He loves theatre and opera.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Exploring a thoroughly consequential period of human history, our understanding of which has so often been muddled by bias and a lack of context, *Persians: The Age of Great Kings* is a stunningly comprehensive and, in Lloyd's words, authentically 'Persian version' of the history of the world's first imperial superpower, told for the first time through original, legitimate Achaemenid sources.



Non-Fiction  
- Social/  
Political

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

By means of a relaxed, yet thoroughly informative conversational arrangement, Lloyd will unpack his fascination with Persian history, weaving in anecdotes from his travels and emphasising the importance of context to our understanding of, and appreciation for, the more sociopolitically complex stages of human history.

Tickets (inclusive of lunch, talk and book signing): £45; Talk 10.30 pm; Book signing 11.30 pm; Lunch 12 pm



## PATRICK JONES

BOOK: *FUSE / FRACTURE (POEMS 2001 – 2021)*

FORUM | SUN 1 MAY 11.30AM

Patrick Jones is a Welsh poet, playwright, screenwriter and occasional lyricist. His poetry and books began being published

in 1995, while his theatrical and filmic work began in 1999. He is currently Writer in Residence with The Royal College of Psychiatrists in Wales.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*'Thoughtful, provocative and challenging, these poems engage and enrage.'*  
-Peter Tatchell

Fiercely honest, compassionate, unconventional, political and personal, *Fuse / Fracture* is a 20th anniversary selection of some of Patrick's finest, most fundamentally urgent poems, reflecting a unique blend of bitterness and tenderness through the use of blunt and powerful language. These are hymns and elegies; protest songs and battle cries as Jones speaks to, and for, the disaffected.



Poetry/  
Spoken  
Word

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Patrick will take to the stage to perform a number of personal favourites from his stunning, storied poetic repertoire, bringing them to life with all the fire, fury and heart it took to write them. In addition, Patrick will take time to discuss his fascinating career as a working writer, offering up his wisdom and taking questions from the audience.

Tickets: £15 GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability  
Age recommendation: 14+  
Running time 1 hr with Q&A plus Book Signing.



## MANJEET MANN

BOOK: *THE CROSSING*

TRINITY | SUN 1 MAY 2PM

Manjeet Mann is a multi-award-winning children's author, actor, activist, playwright and screenwriter. She is the founder of Run the World, an organisation that works with women and girls from marginalised backgrounds and helps to empower them through sport and storytelling. Manjeet's first YA novel, *Run, Rebel*, was shortlist for the Carnegie Medal 2021 and won the CILIP Carnegie Shadows Choice Award. The UKLA Award, Diverse Book Award and Sheffield Children's Book Award.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Natalie has lost her mum and her brother marches the streets of Dover, full of hate and anger. Swimming is her only refuge. Sammy fled his home in Eritrea for a chance at a new life in Europe, but his path leads into an unknown and unwelcoming future. A twist of fate brings them together and gives them both hope, but is hope enough to mend a broken world? Winner of the Costa Children's Book award 2021, *The Crossing* is a profound story of hope, grief and the very real tragedies of the refugee crisis.



Young Adults

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

In a frank and fascinating conversational format, Manjeet will shed further light on the themes present in *The Crossing*, discussing her local experience with the impacts of the refugee crisis, the strength of storytelling as a tool for debate and the fundamental need for hope and togetherness, ending on a Q&A with the audience.

Full price tickets are £12.50; Children's tickets £5. GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: Young Adults 14+

Running time approximately 1 hour plus book signing



## Literary Lunch

### ALEX VON TUNZELMANN

FALLEN IDOLS: 12 STATUES THAT MADE HISTORY

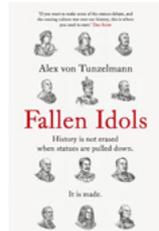
THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS HOTEL  
SUN 1 MAY 2PM

Alex von Tunzelmann is an author, screenwriter and historian. She read Modern History at University College, Oxford, and now lives in London. She is the author of five books and writes drama for film and television. She writes the occasional column Reel History at The Guardian.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*'If you want to make sense of the statue debate, and the coming culture war over our history, this is where you need to start.'* -Dan Snow

A carefully researched and charmingly witty deconstruction of the debate around the toppling of monuments dedicated to slave traders and colonialists that sprung up in the wake of the Black Lives Matter Movement, *Fallen Idols* puts forth a compelling case to say that history is made, not erased, when such controversial constructs are torn down.



Non-Fiction - History

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Following a first-rate lunch service from the good folk at The Tunbridge Wells Hotel, Alex will dive deep into the historical context of the landmark events discussed in *Fallen Idols* and highlighting their parallels to the similar situations seen in recent years, all conducted in an engaging, accessible and conversational format that incorporates burning questions from the audience.

Tickets (inclusive of lunch): £45; Lunch 2pm; Talk 3.30pm; Book signing 4.30pm



## SKYE MCKENNA

BOOK: HEDGEWITCH

THE AMELIA SCOTT, UPPER ATRIUM |  
SUN 1 MAY 2.30PM

Skye McKenna grew up in a mining town in the Australian outback, where she developed a healthy respect for wild

things and wild places at a young age. Seeking adventures of her own, she travelled to the UK, fell in love with the British countryside, and now lives in Scotland. When she's not reading and writing, Skye works for a heritage charity, with whom she recently curated an exhibition on medieval magic.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*'So full of magic and adventure – I wish I'd written it myself!'* -Linda Chapman

Set in the hidden village of Hedgely, *Hedgewitch* is the story of Cassie Morgan, whose search for her missing mother brings her face to face with a flying broom, a talking cat and the titular Hedgewitch, a magical guardian of the border between England and the malignant, magical world of Faerie.



**Middle Grade  
Readers**

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Skye will introduce you to the wonderful world of *Hedgewitch*, her incredible authorial debut and the first of a five-book fantasy series. Meet the incredible inhabitants of Hedgely who protect England from menacing magical threats, as well as the fearsome faerie folk trying desperately to break through their defences.

Full price tickets are £8;  
Children's tickets £5. GO  
Card Tickets: FREE – limited  
availability

Age recommendation: 8+.

Running time approximately 1  
hour plus book signing



## BOBBY GILLESPIE

BOOK: TENEMENT KID

FORUM | SUN 1 MAY 2.30PM

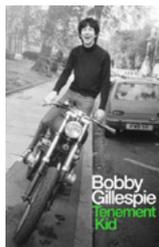
Bobby Gillespie is an icon of British music, best known as the frontman of pioneering psych rock veterans Primal Scream. Primal Scream's third album,

1991's *Screamadelica*, won the inaugural Mercury music prize in 1992 and has sold over three million copies worldwide.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*'If they encapsulated the spirit of rock and roll in one person it would be Bobby Gillespie. The book is affirmative not just of a rockin' life but the beautiful working-class culture that made it. I felt like shedding tears of joy reading it.'* -Irvine Welsh

*Tenement Kid* is Bobby Gillespie's story, from his childhood in Springburn, Glasgow to Edward Heath's brutal slum clearances, up to the recording and release of the album that has been credited with 'starting the 90's', *Screamadelica*. Published thirty years after the release of their masterpiece and filled with the joy and wonder of a rock n roll apostle who would radically reshape the future sounds of British pop, Bobby's memoir cuts a righteous path through a decade lost to Thatcherism and saved by acid house.



**Non-Fiction –  
Autobiography/  
Memoir**

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Without sacrificing an ounce of the candour and charisma that made him a star, Bobby will be stripping back the rockstar persona to talk openly about the man beneath it all, who started, just like anyone else, with little more than dreams and passion, and who grew to become one of psychedelia's most legendary figureheads.

Tickets: £15; GO Card Tickets:  
FREE – limited availability

Running time 1 hr and Q&A  
plus book signing



## GRAEME THOMSON IN CONVERSATION WITH BOBBY GILLESPIE

BOOK: *THEMES FOR GREAT CITIES: A NEW HISTORY OF SIMPLE MINDS*

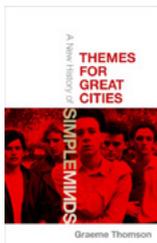
FORUM | SUN 1 MAY 5PM

Graeme Thomson is an acclaimed biographer and music writer. He has authored several books on music and its stars, and his interviews and reviews have appeared in the likes of *The Guardian*, *GQ*, *MOJO*, *Esquire* and *Rolling Stone* across the last twenty years.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*'Thomson's exquisitely written account reaches poetic levels... An eye-opening work throughout, Themes for Great Cities may be the final word on Kerr and Co's legacy.'* -Classic Pop

A vehement singing of deeply deserved praises, *Themes for Great Cities* comprehensively charts the entirety of Simple Minds' six-decade career, citing interviews with the band both new and old, as well as first-hand accounts of fandom from the band's many musical peers, in order to deliver a mightily enlightening, thoroughly engaging and frankly necessary ode to one of Scotland's greatest and most influential musical exports.



Non-Fiction – Biography

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Graeme will break down the story of Simple Minds' success, highlighting the singularities that led to their triumphs, the obstacles that stood in their way, and the brilliance that cements their legacy.

Accompanying Graeme will be psych rock icon Bobby Gillespie, frontman of psychedelia pioneers Primal Scream, who will provide an artist's perspective on the moments and events that Graeme has chronicled.

Tickets: £20; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Running time 1 hr plus Q&A plus book signing



## ROBERT DAWS

BOOK: *SULLIVAN AND BRODERICK SERIES (THE ROCK, POISONED ROCK, KILLING ROCK)*

TRINITY | SUN 1 MAY 5PM

ROBERT DAWS is a British stage and screen actor, best known for his roles in

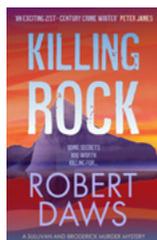
long running tv series such as the award-winning *Outside Edge*, *Jeeves and Wooster*, *Roger, Roger*, *The Royal*, *Casualty*, *Midsomer Murders* and most recently, as Dr Thomas Choake in *Poldark*. Alongside his performative success, Robert is a best-selling author of crime fiction, best known for his Sullivan and Broderick crime Series.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*'Elegant storytelling and a fine sense of place. Robert Daws is an exciting addition to the canon of 21st Century crime writers.'* -Peter James

Robert's most recent novel, *Killing Rock*, is the third instalment in his critically acclaimed Sullivan and Broderick crime series:

A wealthy household massacred in Spain. Unidentified mummified remains found at the foot of The Rock. A US Congressman's run for President hangs on events in Gibraltar. What's the connection? As killers stalk the narrow streets of Gibraltar, will Sullivan and Broderick's partnership survive this latest case?



Performance and Crime Fiction

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Robert Daws will deliver a specially curated version of his one-man show, *Breaking Legs*, which offers a glimpse into his creative processes as both an actor and author.

Encompassing all of his creative passions and pursuits, Robert's performance will cover anecdotes from his storied stage, television and radio career, and every zany detail in between!

Tickets: £12.50; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 14+

Running time 1 hour with Q&A plus book signing



## JJ BOLA INTERVIEWED BY BEN AKERS

BOOK: *THE SELFLESS ACT OF BREATHING*

TRINITY THEATRE | SUN 1 MAY 8PM

JJ Bola is an author, poet, Mental Health Social Worker and is a UNHCR Ambassador. His debut novel, *No Place to Call Home*, was published in 2017, and his 2019 non-fiction book, *Mask Off: Masculinity Redefined*, was translated into five languages.

Ben Akers began his career as a copywriter in 1998. In 2014 his life was turned upside down with the suicide of his childhood best friend Steve Yates. After years of trying to come to terms with this tragedy he decided to use his powers for good and try to stop the next Steve. He created the multi award winning chengementary "Steve" that takes a enlightening look at male mental health.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Michael has a plan: follow his dreams until the money in his bank account runs out, and then he will decide if his life is truly worth living... With breath-taking, gut-punching sincerity, *The Selfless Act of Breathing* shines a light on the weight of the human experience. Expertly examining the cross-sections of race, masculinity and mental health.



**Fiction –  
Drama / mental  
health and  
wellbeing**

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

In a relaxed and welcoming conversational format led by Ben, JJ will discuss the personal experiences and societal occurrences that inspired him to write *The Selfless Act of Breathing*, ending on a Q&A with the audience that he hopes might help anyone who resonates with the story he is telling feel less alone, and more comfortable with the idea of opening up and sharing.

Tickets: £12.50; GO Card  
Tickets: FREE – limited  
availability

Age recommendation: 14+  
Running time 1 hr with Q&A  
plus book Fiction – Drama



Thanks to Waterstones,  
Tunbridge Wells for supplying  
sales and book signings.



Thanks to Royal Tunbridge  
Wells Together for their  
sponsorship of the event

## FESTIVAL VENUES:



Trinity



FORUM



The Amelia



Assembly Hall  
Theatre



The Tunbridge Wells Hotel



## KIRAN MILLWOOD HARGRAVE AND ILLUSTRATOR TOM DE FRESTON

BOOK: *JULIA AND THE SHARK*

THE AMELIA SCOTT  
MON 2 MAY 10.30AM

Kiran Millwood Hargrave is an award-winning, best-selling author and poet based in Oxford. Her debut children's novel, *The Girl of Ink and Stars*, won the 2017 Waterstones Book Prize, and was the high street giant's 'Book of the Month' for April of the same year.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

*'A truly beautiful book, with text and illustrations in perfect harmony. A book to treasure!'* -Jacqueline Wilson

Julia's mother is on a determined mission to find the elusive Greenland shark. But when her mother's obsession threatens to submerge them all, Julia finds herself on an adventure with dark depths and a lighthouse full of hope. A captivating tale, *Julia and the Shark* uses staggering lyrical prose and heartbreakingly beautiful illustrations to explore complex emotional experiences in a uniquely engaging middle-grade story.



Middle Grade Readers

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Kiran will shed light on the inspiration behind Julia and the Shark's story and themes, discussing her writing processes, and the relationship between words and images in literature. Kiran will be accompanied by her husband Tom De Freston, the man responsible for Julia and the Shark's incredible illustrations.

Full price tickets - £10;  
Children's tickets £5. GO  
Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 9+.

Running time approximately 1 hour plus book signing



## PATRICK GALE IN CONVERSATION WITH LOUISE JAMESON

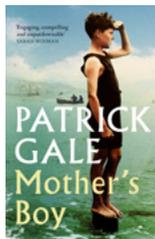
BOOK: *MOTHER'S BOY*

TRINITY | MON 2 MAY 10.30AM

Patrick Gale is one of the UK's best loved novelists whose work often deftly explores the challenges of class, sexuality and isolation. Patrick's career began with 1985's *The Aerodynamics of Pork* and has since spanned seventeen acclaimed novels, along with multiple short story collections. In 2017 Patrick made his screenwriting debut with *Man in an Orange Shirt*, which won the 2018 International Emmy for best Miniseries

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Tenderly fantasised and heart-flutteringly relatable, *Mother's Boy* is a fictionalised, yet thoroughly intimate account of the formative years of Navy coder-turned-teacher and poet Charles Causley, for whose work Patrick has a great affinity, and with whose life he shares a sublime, intergenerational understanding, despite the carefully guarded nature of its real-world details.



Fiction – Drama

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Patrick will elaborate on his fascination with Causley's work, exploring the parallels he has become aware of between his own life and what we know of the life of the famously private poet. Interviewing will be Louise Jameson, whose signature strength, elegance and charm has delighted TV audiences for decades and is sure to imbue this intimate discussion with additional empathy.

TICKETS: £15; GO Card  
Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: 14+

Running time 1 hr with Q&A plus book signing



## ADAM SHAW IN CONVERSATION WITH MARK WOODS

BOOK: *HOW TO GROW YOUR FAMILY: FROM PREGNANCY TO NEW PARENTS – ONE MEAL AT A TIME;*

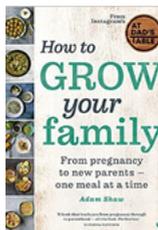
TRINITY | MON 2 MAY 1PM

Adam Shaw, Social Media's favourite foodie father, is a Tunbridge Wells based Leith's trained chef, father of two and founder of At Dad's Table, where he shares positive, fun and feel-good recipes online to his almost 50,000 Instagram followers.

Mark Woods' three children have inspired him to write the international best seller *Pregnancy for Men, Babies and Toddlers*, and *Planet Parent*.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

For Adam, a healthy, happy family is grown around the kitchen table. Whether you're newly expecting or already have a growing clan, *How to Grow your Family* will help you ditch old-fashioned nutrition attitudes that focus on what you can't eat, and instead teach you how to enjoy what you can eat, with over 110 yummy, global and nutrient-rich dishes designed to nurture and bring joy from the first trimester right through to toddlerhood. Mark mixes his research with his many mistakes to help the modern-day Dad make the best fist of the most important and enjoyable job he will ever have.



Non-Fiction  
– Health and Wellbeing:

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

For all expectant and new fathers, this is the session for you. Adam and Mark will talk about how food can be a source of pleasure, rather than stress, in the exciting, yet exhausting early years of parenthood. Adam will also discuss how to build food confidence in young children and make mealtimes fun and positive, ending on a Q&A with the audience.

Tickets: £12.50; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Running time 1 hour with Q&A plus book signing



## OLIVIA POULET AND LAURENCE DOBIEZ

BOOK: *12 HOURS TO SAY I LOVE YOU*

THE AMELIA SCOTT, UPPER ATRIUM | MON 2 MAY 2.30PM

Olivia Poulet and Laurence Dobiesz are writers and actors based in London, who have been married for six years. Their comedy drama love story, #blessed, was 'Pick of the Week' for BBC Radio 4, and their short film, *Deliver Me*, won the Special Jury Award at the 2020 London City Film Awards. As actors, Olivia is known for *The Thick of It*, *Doc Martin*, and *Holby City*, while Laurence is best known for his role as Alexander Randall in *Outlander*.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

A wonderful reminder that love can conquer even the most punishing of circumstances, *12 Hours to Say I Love You* tells the story of Pippa Gallagher, who is rushed into hospital following a traffic accident. As Pippa lies unconscious, memories of the man she loves fill her head. Meanwhile Steve Gallagher sits at her bedside, his eyes fixed on his wife's pale, still face. She is his world, and he wasn't there when she needed him most.



Fiction – Romance

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Showcasing their powerful chemistry, Olivia and Laurence will discuss the intersections between creative and romantic partnership, the complementary differences between their artistic processes ('it was hell') and the enduring legacy of love as a literary inspiration. A lively, humorous and thoroughly enjoyable talk that will include a Q&A'

Tickets: £15; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Running time 1 hr with Q&A plus book signing



## SITA BRAHMACHARI AND NATALIE SIRETT

BOOK: *WHEN SHADOWS FALL*  
ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE  
MON 2 MAY 2.30PM

Sita Brahmachari is one of the most important voices in children's literature today. She won the Waterstones Children's Book Prize with her debut novel *Artichoke Hearts*, and has been shortlisted for the UKLA Book Award, nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal, and had her books translated into many languages across the world. She is the current Writer in Residence at Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants.

Natalie is an internationally exhibited multimedia artist, interested in us, our icons, our stories. Her work has often explored body image culture and the growing pains of adolescence. *When Shadows Fall* is a project shared with Sita over many years.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Kai, Orla and Zak have big plans for their future, until Kai's family suffers a huge loss. Trying to cope with his grief, Kai is drawn into a new and more dangerous crowd, his dreams for the future a distant memory. Unflinching and raw, *When Shadows Fall* sheds light on the perpetually human struggles surrounding loss, grief, and self-destructive behaviour.



YOUNG ADULTS

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Sita will debut her *Raven Treasure Box* experience, an interactive and haptic event based around the plot of the *When Shadows Fall*. Sita will guide attendees through a session of object-based storytelling that is sure to leave a lasting impression. Accompanying Sita will be acclaimed artist Natalie Sirett, the illustrator of *When Shadows Fall* and co-creator of the *Raven Treasure Box Experience*.

Tickets £10. GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Age recommendation: Young Adults 14+.

Running time approximately 1 hour plus book signing



## TOM DE FRESTON AND KIRAN MILLWOOD HARGRAVE

BOOKS: *WRECK*; *GERICAULT'S RAFT AND THE ART OF BEING LOST AT SEA*; *THE DANCE TREE*

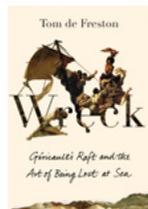
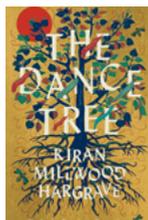
THE AMELIA SCOTT, UPPER ATRIUM | MONDAY, 2ND MAY 5PM

Tom De Freston is a visual artist based in Oxford. His work is regularly exhibited and is represented in public and private collections.

Kiran Millwood Hargrave is a multi award-winning poet, playwright and novelist with a string of accolades to her name. *The Mercies* was her first novel for adults and became an instant Sunday Times best-seller.

### ABOUT THE BOOKS:

Set against the backdrop of the European dancing plague of 1518, *The Dance Tree* is a fierce and thrilling feminist narrative steeped in forbidden love and family secrets, while *Wreck* is a devastating account of Tom's obsession with Géricault's *The Raft of the Medusa*, the tragedy it depicts, and the resonant connection he feels between the horrors suspended within its frame, and the traumas of not just the world at large, but also those buried deep within his own family history.



Non-Fiction – Autobiography / Memoir & Fiction

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

This is a unique opportunity to spend time with two of the most creative minds in contemporary literature and illustration. Tom will lift the lid on his fixation with Géricault's work, the need for catharsis and the enduring ties between art and suffering.

Kiran Millwood Hargrave will weave her own creative experiences into the discussion of art as a channel for pain, as well as discussing her fearless and incendiary new feminist novel, *The Dance Tree*.

Tickets: £15; GO Card Tickets: FREE – limited availability

Running time



## SARFRAZ MANZOOR IN CONVERSATION WITH TRINITY DIRECTOR SEAN TURNER

BOOK: *BLINDED BY THE LIGHT*  
(SCREENING) *THEY: WHAT MUSLIMS AND NON-MUSLIMS GET WRONG*

ABOUT EACH OTHER (Q&A)

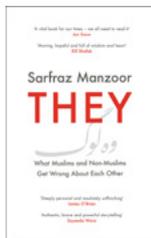
TRINITY THEATRE | MON 2 MAY 5.30PM (SCREENING) 7.45PM

Sarfraz Manzoor is a writer, journalist, broadcaster and screenwriter. His journalism has been published in, amongst others The Guardian, The Times and Sunday Times, The New York Times and Esquire magazine. He is a regular columnist for the London Evening Standard and has written and presented numerous documentaries on BBC Radio 4.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Released in 2019 to critical acclaim, *Blinded by the Light* is adapted from Sarfraz's debut memoir, *Greetings from Bury Park*, in which he described his teenage years and how the music of Bruce Springsteen changed his life.

Expanding upon the themes present in Sarfraz's memoir, *They* shines a crucial light on the social divides between British Muslims and their fellow countrymen, examining the roots of these rifts in the search for a more positive, united future.



Non-Fiction  
- Social/  
Political

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Beginning with a special screening of *Blinded by the Light*, Sarfraz will take the stage for a Q&A session with the audience, highlighting the necessary messages at the heart of his work and helping to sow the seeds of conversation and acceptance.

Combined full price ticket: £15;  
Under 25 Tickets £10; GO  
Card Tickets: FREE – limited  
availability

Age recommendation: 11+

Film running time: 1hr 54 mins  
Book talk: 1 hour plus book  
signing



## PAT NEVIN IN CONVERSATION WITH ANDY HAMILTON

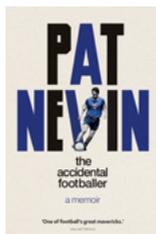
BOOK: *THE ACCIDENTAL FOOTBALLER*

ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE  
MON 2 MAY 7.30PM

'One of football's greatest mavericks' and Sunday Times best-seller, Pat Nevin is a former footballer who has played for Clyde, Chelsea, Everton, Tranmere Rovers, Kilmarnock and Motherwell. He has won 28 caps for Scotland across a ten-year international career. He is now a football writer and radio broadcaster. A voracious vinyl collector, he still loves indie-music and the arts, and can often be caught DJ'ing at clubs or Festivals around the UK.

### ABOUT THE BOOK:

Pat Nevin never wanted to be a professional footballer, but there was only one problem – he was far too good to avoid attention. *The Accidental Footballer* is a different kind of football memoir. Capturing all the joys of professional football as well as its contradictions and conflicts, it's about being defined by your actions, not your job, and is the perfect reminder of how life can throw you the most extraordinary surprises.



Non-Fiction –  
Autobiography/  
Memoir

### ABOUT THE EVENT:

Pat will highlight the intersection between his work, passions, and politics as the landscape around him has changed, ending on a Q&A with the audience.

Pat will be joined by the comedian, actor and director Andy Hamilton. Andy got his start at Edinburgh Fringe, and has become a fixture of British TV, as well as one of the key voices of BBC Radio 4.

Full price tickets: £20; Under  
25 Tickets £12.50; GO  
Card Tickets: FREE – limited  
availability

Age recommendation: 11+

Running time 1 hr plus Q&A  
plus book signing



A21 & M25

Victoria Rd  
P  
Victoria Place Car Park

Waterstones

(40 spaces) P

Trinity Theatre

The Amelia Scott

P  
Crescent Road Car Park

A264

Church Road

Crescent Road

Assembly Hall Theatre

Lower Common

Mount Pleasant Road

Tunbridge Wells Train Station

Calverly Grounds

P  
Torrington Car Park

London Road

Vale Ave

Grove Hill Road

A21 & M25

Castle Road (parking spaces)

The Forum

The Grove

Major York's Rd  
P

P  
The Pantiles Car Park

The Tunbridge Wells Hotel (The Pantiles)

P  
Linden Park Road Car Park

Brighton



TUNBRIDGE WELLS  
*Literary Festival*