

In Stoke By Nayland



Arts and Literary Festival

Live Literature, Walks, Talks and Exhibitions

Saturday 10th June-Sunday 11th June 2017



Speakers

Leo Aylen, Hugh Belsey, Ella Berthoud, Terence Blacker, Ronald Blythe, Richard Boden, Liz Calder, Rachel Calder, James Canton, Jill Dawson, Richard Mabey, Mark Mason, Adrian May, Deborah Moggach, Jules Pretty, Batool Showghi, Will Stone, Emma Claire Sweeney, Sarah Symmons, Stephen Varcoe, Kit Wright.

New Voices

Young writers supported by The Prince's Trust and
Creative Writing students from the University of Essex
Children's Poetry Prize winner

Exhibitions

Photographs: Gill Oliver and Jude Pym
Sculpture: Judith Barford
Mixed Media: Batool Showghi
Prints and Etchings: James Dodds and Jessica Charleston

Bird Walk

Ed Hutchings

ISBN:2017

**Events will take place in the Village Hall (80 places),
The Open Road Bookshop (20 places),
The Church and The Temple, Stoke by Nayland.**

Ticket sales: Mercury Theatre 01206 573948

www.mercurytheatre.co.uk OR tickets@mercurytheatre.co.uk

Tickets: under 18s - £5 for all events. Other prices as shown.

Website: www.isbnartsfestival.com

Email: isbnartsfestival@gmail.com

We are very grateful to our

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With many thanks also to all our volunteers and contributors
(All additional sponsors will be acknowledged at the festival)

FESTIVAL PARKING

Parking is available in the village at the top of School Street, opposite the school where there is space for a substantial number of cars

ISBN Trustees: Stevie Bezencenet, Nicki Bray, Mandy Charleston, Graham Wilson
ISBN Committe Members: Dave Charleston, Gill Oliver, Jane Wilson
Treasurer: Beth Baker

Saturday 10th June

10am The Village Hall: Launch and Children's Poetry Prize winner

Tickets: No charge, but tickets required

Pupils from Stoke by Nayland Primary school were invited to write poems about The Incredible in Front of My Eyes or The Fabulous Far Away. It is hoped that as well as receiving their prizes some of the winners will read their poems.

Angela Colclough will read from 'The Angry Bee and the Bear' by Helen Karki Chettri.

11am The Open Road Bookshop: Will Stone

Tickets: £5

The Sleepwalkers

Will Stone poet and translator of Stefan Zweig and winner of the International Glen Dimplex Award for Poetry reading from and signing his latest collection 'The Sleepwalkers'.

Like its predecessors 'Glaciation' and 'Drawing in Ash', 'The Sleepwalkers' contains poems which conjure haunting visions of beauty and despair, joy and horror, revelation and nostalgia. From delicate insight to apocalyptic rage, the glory and savagery of human achievement and destruction is set against the majestic power and fragility of nature.

'Will Stone is the sharp eyed beachcomber on the shore of our self destruction, read him before the tide comes in...'. Hugo Williams

'Stone has a definite flair for the striking image... his jarring images of a profligate society trapped in a fatally debased environment are rawly compelling.'

Sarah Crown The Guardian

'Like Baudelaire, Will Stone finds beauty in decay. His landscapes hum with mesmerising motionless interiority, his language hints at the consolation of pattern and though the mood of these poems is dark there are, as in that fir forest, shafts of light.'

Kate Bingham Poetry Review

Saturday 10th June

12.00 The Village Hall: Ella Berthoud

Tickets: £10

The Novel Cure

Ella Berthoud's 'The Novel Cure' is a medical handbook with a difference. Whether you have stubbed your toe or have a severe case of the blues, within its pages you'll find a cure in the form of a novel to ease your pain. You'll also find advice on how to tackle common reading ailments - such as what to do when you feel overwhelmed by the number of books in the world, or you have a tendency to give up half way through. When read at the right moment in your life, a novel can - quite literally - change it. This is also a fresh approach to finding new books to read, and an enchanting way to revisit the books on your shelves.

During this event Ella can provide personalised book recommendations should you be willing to discuss your own ailments with her. She will also talk about her new book 'The Story Cure', which looks at children's books in a similar way. Find all your medical and literary needs here!

1pm The Open Road Bookshop: Mark Mason

Tickets: £5

Mail Obsession

Each of the United Kingdom's 124 postcode areas has a story to tell, an unexpected nugget to dust off and treasure.

Mark Mason has embarked on a tour of the country, immersing himself in Britain's history on a roundabout journey from AB to ZE. On the lookout for interesting place names and unusual monuments, along the way he discovers what the Queen keeps in her handbag, why the Jack Russell has a white coat and how Jimi Hendrix got confused by the M1.

At the same time Mason paints an affectionate portrait of Britain in the 21st century, from aggressive seagulls in Blackpool to 'seasoned' drinkers in Surrey. His travels offer the perfect opportunity to delve into the history of the Royal Mail, complete with pillar boxes, posties and Penny Reds - plus Oscar Wilde's unconventional method of posting a letter.

A playful mix of fact, anecdote and overheard conversation, MAIL OBSESSION pays homage to Britain's wonderful past and its curious present.

Saturday 10th June

2pm The Village Hall: Deborah Moggach

Tickets: £10

Adventures in the Screen Trade

Deborah Moggach will talk about adapting her books into films, tell stories about actors, Hollywood and a remote hotel in India.

Deborah has written 19 novels, several of which have appeared as TV dramas. Her novel 'The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel' was made into the hit movie, and 'Tulip Fever' is due to be released in 2017, starring Judi Dench and Alicia Vikander.

3pm The Open Road Bookshop: James Canton

Tickets: £5

Musings and readings from Ancient Wonderings

Journeys into Pre-historic Britain is due to be published by HarperCollins in June 2017. James Canton teaches the MA in Wild Writing at The University of Essex and appeared at The Open Road Bookshop in 2013 to talk about his book 'Out of Essex.'

4pm The Village Hall: Kit Wright

Tickets: £10

Kit Wright reads his poems: funny, sad, serious, quirky, quickened with quips and quotable quiddities. He has written a number of poetry collections for both adults and children. He is a Fellow Commoner in the Creative Arts at Trinity College, Cambridge and Resident Poet for 'The Oldie'.

Saturday 10th June

5pm The Village Hall: Terence Blacker

Tickets: £10

Author's Notes

Singer-songwriter and author, Terence Blacker, has performed his quirky, witty songs of modern life at venues and festivals across the country. His one-man show of songs and stories 'My Village and Other Aliens' was part of the 2013 Edinburgh Fringe, and he has released two CDs: *Lovely Little Games* [2012] & *Sometimes Your Face Don't Fit* [2016].

Terence wrote and presented *Taboo-Be-Doo!*, a two-part BBC Radio Four documentary on politically incorrect music down the years.

As an author he has written five acclaimed novels and many award-winning children's books, and has also been a newspaper columnist and broadcaster. 'Very funny and makes you want to catch the guy live.' *Acoustic Magazine*. 'Blacker's songs confirm him as a man for tricky rhymes and a pleasingly middle-aged scepticism,' *The Times*. 'Funny, pertinent and tuneful,' *The Oldie*.

5pm The Church: Batool Showghi - Artist's talk

Tickets: No charge, but tickets required

25 places

The Disintegration of the Family

This is a multi-dimensional piece dedicated to Batool's father who was a Sufi. The 'disintegration' took place during the Iran and Iraq war.

The work is in the form of a hexagon shaped shrine carved with her father's handwriting taken from a letter. There is light and music, which embrace the photographs of the family hanging inside and which can be seen through the carvings. Each image was stitched and inserted into a little parcel. Each parcel looked like a prayer. The photos are brought together to create a fiction and the light, which is shed outwards through the carved letters, dances around the space resembling a Sufi's ritual dance.

Other works

As a multi-disciplinary artist Showghi has a passion for making artists' books and family albums and several of these works are also exhibited. Her work moves between photography, illustrations, painting and textiles, evolving from single images to books, images in boxes or larger mixed media pieces and these have been widely exhibited.

Saturday 10th June

6pm The Village Hall: Leo Ayles

Tickets: £10

Dancing the Impossible or Why I'm Not A Policeman

A world-wide, time-travelling, trip, of poems, stories, and jokes, in 'the animated company of Leo's vivacious characters.'

New York to Thailand, Canada to Zululand, from outer space to ancient Greeks, totem poles to motorways entangling themselves; from lark-song peace, to Neanderthals stealing fire, to tongue-twisting farce. Leo has performed in the Albert Hall, St Paul's Cathedral, New York night-clubs, prisons, to 4000 Zulus on a hillside, as well as in theatres on three continents, with three solo shows on American commercial television.

'A triumph' Melvyn Bragg. 'Stupendous' Simon Callow. Other reviews: — 'Zorba-like vitality' 'a mixture of Hilaire Belloc, Ogden Nash, Euripides, and David Attenborough, his poetry crackled and sparkled; he keeps the wonder of the natural world alive'. 'Vibrant stage personality, which immediately wins his audience', 'Considerable talents as a mimic', 'A singeing energy.' 'A mini drama festival in itself' 'A tour de force.

6.30 The Temple, Stoke by Nayland

Tickets: £20

15 places

Gainsborough's Portrait of the Honourable Mary Graham

A short discussion of the portrait by two outstanding art historians, Hugh Belsey and Sarah Symmons, followed by a short story about the portrait read by the renowned baritone Stephen Varcoe.

This event will be preceded by drinks outside The Temple, by the lake. The event will take place in the drawing room, which is broadly contemporary with the portrait and which must rank among the country's finest rooms.

Sunday 11th June

10am The Village Green: Bird Walk with Ed Hutchings

Tickets: £5

20 places

A gentle stroll around Stoke by Nayland stopping to enjoy the birds and birdsong. Ed leads birdwatching tours and regularly contributes articles to national papers and magazines.

11am The Village Hall: New Voices

Tickets: £5

Young People from The Prince's Trust and the University of Essex reading their stories and poems

An exciting opportunity to see and hear some new young writers. Short stories and poems read by young people supported by The Prince's Trust and third year undergraduates studying Creative Writing at The University of Essex.

12.00 The Village Hall: Liz Calder and Rachel Calder

Tickets: £10

Getting Published: the view from the desk of an editor and a literary agent

Literary legend Liz Calder worked as an Editorial Director at Victor Gollancz and Jonathan Cape, and was a founder director of Bloomsbury Publishing. She published some of the great writers of our time, from Margaret Atwood, Anita Brookner and Isabelle Allende, to John Irving and Scott Turow, to Salman Rushdie and Julian Barnes. She will tell stories about those writers and give some insights about how the publishing process works.

Literary agent Rachel Calder will talk about what literary agents do and what they are looking for in a manuscript. She will offer advice about how to prepare your manuscript for submission to an agent.

Sunday 11th June

1pm The Open Road Bookshop: Richard Boden

Tickets: £5

The English Disease

Poems about fathers, children and the Garden of Eden. Richard Boden teaches English at the Colchester Sixth Form College, and has written and published poems for a number of years. The 'English Disease' is his first collection.

2pm The Village Hall:

Jill Dawson and debut writer Emma Claire Sweeney

Tickets: £10

How to be Published

Two novelists - one a debut author, one the author of nine novels - discuss the perils and pleasures of publication. Jill Dawson (author of nine novels, including *The Crime Writer*) runs Gold Dust, a mentoring scheme which pairs established authors with new and emerging writers. One such success story - a writer Jill also taught on the MA in writing at UEA, Emma Claire Sweeney, author of *Owl Song at Dawn* - will discuss with Jill the experience of being mentored, surviving as a writer, and publishing her first novel, as well as offering tips for any new writers hoping to do the same.

3pm The Village Hall : Jules Pretty

Tickets: £10

The East Country: Almanac Tales of Valley and Shore

An illustrated talk from a new book by Jules Pretty (to be published by Cornell University Press, 2017)

The East Country is almanac tales in wild valley and along salty shore, about change and attachment, rhythms within and across years; it is like no other place, yet it is every other place. Long ago, Aldo Leopold wanted a new ethic to think of the economy as the environment. Some could live without nature; he believed most should not. This illustrated lecture describes change and attachment, rhythms within and across years. Things are far from safe, yet the land can bring permanence.

Sunday 11th June

4pm The Village Hall: Ronald Blythe

Tickets: £10

Ronald Blythe, now in his tenth decade, is the author of more than twenty books. Most famous for 'Akenfield', his wonderful survey of a Suffolk village, he has continued to chronicle country life in his Wormingford series. He has introduced readers to John Clare, William Hazlitt and George Herbert, as well as presenting his own reflections on nature, philosophy and religion. In 'The Time by the Sea' he vividly captured his early years at Aldeburgh with the likes of Benjamin Britten and E.M. Forster. He has also written short stories and novels and most recently published 'Decadal', a collection of his characteristically striking poems.

His 'Recreations' in 'Who's Who' are listed as 'Walking, looking, listening'. No-one has looked and listened harder than Ronald Blythe and we are honoured to have him at our festival. The author will be in conversation with James Canton. There will be readings by Jane Wilson and Stevie Bezencenet.

5pm The Open Road Bookshop: Adrian May

Tickets: £5

Adrian May's Discovering England

A wry look at England and Englishness from a creative, left-wing viewpoint. In the songs and poems of a new book and CD album, Adrian May takes a wry, left-wing look at the vexed question of English identity, ranging from the comic to the poignant, where 'Nobody hates the English as much as they do themselves.'

Adrian presents songs from 'Discovering England' with the duo Face Furniture, featuring double bassist Murray Griffin.

6pm The Village Hall: Richard Mabey

Tickets: £10

The Plant and the Word

Richard Mabey reminisces on a lifetime's writing about plants, from the mud-scrabbling days of Food for Free, though the ground-breaking research for Flora Britannica to the revelations of The Cabaret of Plants, and reflects on the challenges of creating imaginative prose about seemingly non-sentient beings.

Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th June

The Church: Exhibitions

Sat: 10am - 5pm

Sun: 10am-3pm

No tickets required

Photographs

Gill Oliver

Else/where

'Else/where' is concerned with memory, and more particularly, its absence. For Gill, memories are not linear, they unfold and are the foundations upon which we build our identity and shape our future. In these images she has recorded scenarios based around a series of imaginary childhood activities.

Taking the Long View

In contrast to the pluralistic nature of the series 'Else/where' these rural and urban landscapes represent an attention to detail that is final and set. These are places that are 'found' and complete, satisfying the desire for both picturesque and personal unity.

Jude Pym

Jude Pym is a local photographer who studied photography at Trent Poly, Nottingham. She has lived in Suffolk for the past 28 years, and has been recording life in and around Polstead. Her black and white images demonstrate a sensitive approach to documentary and offer quiet revelations of local life and landscapes.

Mixed Media

Batool Showghi

The Disintegration of the Family

The three dimensional and mixed media works that Batool will discuss in her Artist's Talk on Saturday will remain on display in the church throughout the festival.

Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th June

The Church: Exhibitions

Sat: 10am - 5pm

Sun:10am-3pm

No tickets required

Sculpture

Judith Barford

Towards Hope

Down the ages many have travelled away from conflict or lack of opportunity towards the hope of survival and a new life. This work is a homage to the resilience, courage and fortitude of the travellers and a reminder to us of the importance of kindness to strangers.

The Open Road Bookshop

10am - 5pm

Prints and Etchings

James Dodds and Jessica Charleston

James Dodds started Jardine Press when living in Stoke By Nayland in 1984. The name comes from an 1890's platen press that was made by Jardine of Nottingham, so some of his first books were literally printed on the Jardine Press. James is perhaps better known for his linocuts and paintings which are seen and collected all over the world

Jess Charleston has recently collaborated with James hand setting and printing the 'Green Children' a retelling of a twelfth century story by Martin Newell. This was printed on another 1890's machine made by Wharfedale.

In Stoke By Nayland

