# cambridge wordfest 2011 spring









15/16/17 April

A weekend of literary celebration

#### Venues:

The Cambridge Union Central Library ADC Theatre

Bookings: **01223 300085** 

Free online booking: www.adctheatre.com

www.cambridgewordfest.co.uk



#### Welcome

Wordfest is a place where minds meet, where enthusiasms are shared and opinions aired; it provides a forum for the debate of the issues of the day and a place, above all, for enjoyment.

This year we have more events than ever before and a range of strands which cover art, history, crime, memoir, education and global issues as well as first class inspirational fiction, poetry, workshops (pages 34-37) and events for children (pages 38-42).

Located this year in the splendid surroundings of the historic and impressive Cambridge Union, as well as in our traditional home at the ADC Theatre, it will be so much easier and guicker to move between events.

Each day provides a range of experiences to stimulate the mind, gladden the heart and stir the soul. Where else would you find journalists, artists, reporters, novelists, economists, historians, a barrister, a reformed criminal, poets, actors, a statesman, comedians, academics and teachers?

Join us, and them, for a weekend like no other.

Cathy Moore, Festival Director

#### The festival team

Festival Director Cathy Moore

Festival Manager Alison Thomson

Communications & Marketing

Tom McNeill Charlotte Sankey

Programming

Jo Browning Wroe

Rachel Calder
 Mary
 Nathan
 Helen Taylor

Anna Whitelock

#### **Patrons**

Dame Gillian Beer

Rowan Pelling Ali

Smith • Rebecca Stott

Brochure Design: randallgraphics@ btinternet.com

#### **Dates for your Diary:**

Cambridge Wordfest Winter 2011

26/27 November

Cambridge Wordfest Spring 2012 13/14/15 April

#### **Events at a glance**

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION PA	AGE
Friday 15 April			
★ Rhyme Time	10.00-10.30	Arbury Community	38
★ Calabash Children – Jan Blake	10.45-11.45	Arbury Community	38
<ul><li>Life-writing Workshop –</li></ul>			
Sally Cline & Carole Angier	10.00-12.00	Central Library	34
<ul> <li>Fiction Workshop – Jill Dawson</li> </ul>	10.30-15.30	Central Library	34
★ Nicola Killen	12.00-13.00	Arbury Community	38
★ Alex Scarrow	13.00-14.00	ADC Theatre	39
Historical Fiction Workshop – Sarah Dunant	14.00-16.30	Fitzwilliam Museum	35
Luke Gamble	14.30-15.30	ADC Theatre	39
★ Louise Rennison	16.00-17.00	ADC Theatre	39
<ul> <li>Poetry Workshop – Don Paterson</li> </ul>	16.00-18.30	Central Library	35
Will Hutton	17.30–18.30	ADC Theatre	6
Michael Frayn	19.30-20.30	ADC Theatre	7
Simon Armitage	21.00-22.00	ADC Theatre	7
Saturday 16 April			
★ Family Rhyme Time	09.45-10.15	Central Library	40
<ul> <li>Writing Screenplays w/shop – Judy Forshaw</li> </ul>	10.00-12.30	Central Library	36
Make a Publisher Say Yes! – Nicola Morgan	10.30-11.30	Union Dining Room	36
★ Peepo!	10.30-11.15	Union Blue Room	41
Don Paterson	10.30-11.30	Union Chamber	8
Mark Malloch Brown	10.30-11.30	ADC Theatre	9
★ Amy Husband	10.45-11.45	Central Library	40
Sarah Dunant	12.00-13.00	ADC Theatre	9
Andre Mangeot & Vanessa Gebbie	12.00-13.00	Union Dining Room	11
WikiLeaks -David Leigh & Luke Harding	12.00-13.00	Union Chamber	10
<ul> <li>Writing for Children w/shop – Julia Churchill</li> </ul>	12.00-15.00	Central Library	36
★ Moomins	12.00-12.45	Union Blue Room	41
• Travel Writing w/shop – James McConnachie	13.00-15.30	Central Library	37
Patrick Barkham	13.30–14.30	Union Dining Room	11
Stefan Collini	13.30-14.30	Union Chamber	12

#### **Events at a glance**

★ Children's events
Workshops</ti>

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION	PAGE
Robert Goddard	13.30-14.30	ADC Theatre	13
★ Chris Priestly	14.15–15.15	Central Library	40
★ Dragonology	15.00-16.00	ADC Theatre	41
Katharine Birbalsingh	15.00-16.00	ADC Theatre	13
Antonia Fraser	15.00-16.00	Union Chamber	14
<ul> <li>Isabelle Grey Crime Writing W/shop</li> </ul>	15.30-18.00	Central Library	37
★ Manga Workshop – Sonia Leong	16.00-17.30	Central Library	40
Dawn French	16.30-17.30	Union Chamber	15
Martin Davidson & Ben Macintyre	16.30-17.30	ADC Theatre	16
Tristram Riley-Smith	16.30-17.30	Union Dining Ro	om 16
Sam Harris & Ian McEwan	18.00-19.00	Union Chamber	17
Paul Trynka & John Harris	18.00-19.00	ADC Theatre	18
Hisham Matar	18.00-19.00	Union Dining Ro	om 18
Roger McGough	19.30-20.30	Union Chamber	19
Peter Taylor	19.30–20.30	ADC Theatre	19
Hail, Hail, Rock'n'Roll Quiz with John Harris	21.30–10.30	Union Bar	20

#### Sunday 17 April

★ Ian Whybrow	10.30-11.30	Union Chamber	42
Zarghuna Kargar	10.30-11.30	Union Dining Room	1 21
Publishing Industry Panel	10.30-11.30	Union Blue Room	22
Virginia Nicholson & Juliet Gardiner	10.30-11.30	ADC Theatre	21
★ Arlene Phillips	12.00-13.00	ADC Theatre	42
Debut Writers	12.00-13.00	Union Blue Room	23
Martin Gayford	12.00-13.00	Union Dining Room	1 23
PD James & Nicola Upson	12.00-13.00	Union Chamber	22
Sophie Hannah	13.30-14.30	Union Blue Room	24
Philip Hensher & Adam Mars Jones	13.30-14.30	ADC Theatre	24
Romantic Moderns - Alexandra Harris	13.30-14.30	Union Dining Room 25	
Maggi Hambling	15.00-16.00	Union Chamber	26
Noel 'Razor' Smith & Alex McBride	15.00-16.00	ADC Theatre	27
Robert McCrum & Henry Hitchings	15.00-16.00	Union Dining Room	25

#### **Events at a glance**

★ Children's events
Workshops

	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION P.	AGE
<b>•</b>	★ Philip Ardagh	15.00-16.00	Union Blue Room	42
	Vanessa & Virginia	15.00-16.30	Newnham College	27
	Fen Women – Mary Chamberlain	16.30-17.30	Union Dining Room	າ 28
	Colin Thubron	16.30-17.30	Union Chamber	28
	Amanda Foreman	16.30-17.30	ADC Theatre	29
	The Business of Poetry	16.30-17.30	Union Blue Room	30
	Being Human -Neil Astley & Imtiaz Darker	18.00-19.90	ADC Theatre	30
	King's Speech – Mark Logue & Peter Conradi	18.00-19.00	Union Chamber	31
	Beyond Bars - PEN Event	18.00-19.00	Union Dining Room	າ 32
	Whistle - Martin Figuera	19.30-20.30	ADC Theatre	32
	Celia Imrie	19.30-20.30	Union Chamber	33
	Vanessa & Virginia	19.30-21.00	Newnham College	27

### cambridge wordfest 2011 friends



There are lots of advantages to being a friend of Cambridge Wordfest to find out more email: admin@cambridgewordfest.co.uk with Friends in the subject line or download an application form at www.cambridgewordfest.co.uk or call 01223 515335

Single £20 Joint £30

Single Best Friend £40 Joint Best Friend £65

2.30pm – 3.30pm ADC Theatre, £6

#### **Luke Gamble**

#### Tales from a TV Vet

Come and meet TV vet Luke Gamble as he recounts the joys and the heartbreaks, the pains and the pleasures of a vet's life. Dr Dolittle with a dash of Indiana Jones, Luke will discuss his first book *The Vet: My Wild and Wonderful Friends* which documents his life and work with wit, humour and emotion.

An event for all the family.

Chaired by Sara Varey BBC Cambridgeshire





5.30pm - 6.30pm ADC Theatre, £10/£8

#### **Will Hutton**

Them & Us: Changing Britain – Why We Need a Fair Society



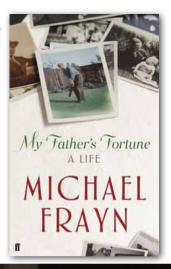
Will Hutton's latest book shows how our society has fragmented into inequality. He sets out a powerful and brilliantly argued call for a wealthier, more dynamic,

happier and fairer society. His heartfelt campaign is for a radical transformation of Britain from its political system, media and its over-reliance on big finance to the very values we live by. Hutton's intelligent and inspiring vision is sure to stir Wordfest passions.

Introduced by Philip Augar, author of Reckless, The Rise and Fall of the City

#### Michael Frayn

Wordfest welcomes one of Britain's most distinguished authors. Michael Frayn – journalist, playwright and novelist – will talk about his honest, enchanting memoir, *My Father's Fortune*. Above all, this is the story of his father: a quick-witted boy from a poor and struggling family, who overcame disadvantage to make a go of his life. Comic and painful, *My Father's Fortune* is a truly remarkable attempt at rediscovering the lost land of one's past before it slips away.

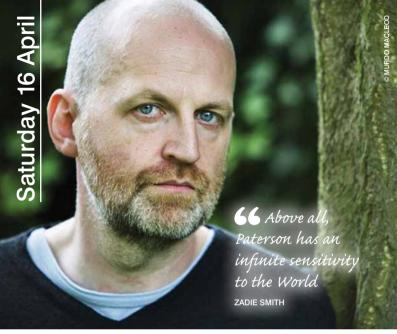




9.00pm - 10.00pm ADC Theatre, £12/£10

#### Simon Armitage

Award-winning poet Simon
Armitage will read from his stunning
new collection Seeing Stars and
from a selection of other work.
Peculiar yet always particular,
unexpected yet oddly recognisable,
Armitage's writing will hold you
spellbound for an enchanting hour
on this Friday night.



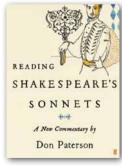
10.30am – 11.30am Union Chamber, £10/£8

#### **Don Paterson**

#### The Bard in Love

Don Paterson, multi-award winning poet, returns to Wordfest to talk about his illuminating and sometimes irreverent guide to Shakespeare's sonnets. *Reading Shakespeare's Sonnets* offers a fresh and direct approach to the collection of verse that has captured, like no other, the imagination of readers and lovers – verses as important and vital today as they were 400 years ago.

Introduced by Professor Dame Gillian Beer



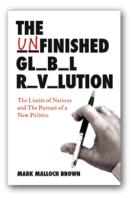
# The Unfinished Global Revolution

#### **Mark Malloch Brown**

As people's revolutions are erupting across the world, Mark Malloch Brown joins us to call for creative statesmanship to form a new approach to global politics. Named as one of *Time Magazine's* 100 Leaders and Revolutionaries, Mark Malloch Brown has held a unique set of international positions and is perfectly placed to comment. He has served as World Bank vice-president, the head of the United Nations Development Programme and Deputy Secretary-General to Secretary General Kofi Annan.

Sponsored by:





Chaired by Sian Kevill, former Director BBC World News and current Director of MAKE World Media

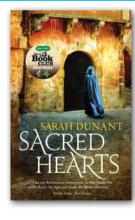
12.00pm – 1.00pm ADC Theatre,  $\mathfrak{L}8/\mathfrak{L}6$ 

#### **Sarah Dunant**

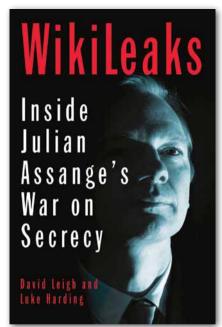
#### The Art of History

A stunning, illustrated talk that demonstrates, at first hand, how art can stimulate fiction. Best-selling novelist Sarah Dunant shows how her Renaissance trilogy (*The Birth of Venus, In the Company of the Courtesan, and Sacred Hearts*) was given life by the art of Italy. She will describe how her discoveries have enabled her to write a different kind of historical novel: one that mixes politics, religion and culture along with the senses, and the appetites of both body and soul. Not to be missed.

Introduced by Rebecca Stott, academic and author



Saturday 16 April



66 Assange unleashed a genie that can't be rebottled

12.00pm - 1.00pm Union Chamber, £8/£6

#### **WikiLeaks**

#### **David Leigh & Luke Harding**

The biggest leak in history infuriated the world's greatest superpower, embarrassed British royals and helped cause a revolution in Africa. Julian Assange is one of the strangest figures ever to become a worldwide celebrity. Internet messiah or a cyberterrorist? Information freedom fighter or sex criminal? Award-winning *Guardian* journalists David Leigh and Luke Harding were at the centre of this unprecedented drama, and they join us to reveal the startling inside story of the man and the infamous leak.

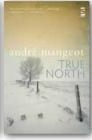
Chaired by John Naughton, Professor of the Public Understanding of Technology at the Open University, the Observer's Internet columnist and a Fellow of Wolfson College

#### **André Mangeot & Vanessa Gebbie**

#### **Transcending Borders – The Lure of the Short Story**

An exploration of the short story in its various guises: What is a story? When does a story become a poem or a novel? Are there really any boundaries when creating fiction, or are they invented by the market?





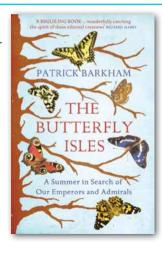
André Mangeot (*True North*) and Vanessa Gebbie (*Storm Warning*) are award-winning short-story writers, poets and novelists. They will read from their new collections and discuss the many borders that, as writer and reader, the short story enables us to cross.

Chaired by Tania Hershman, Orange-commended writer and founder/editor of The Short Review Supported by SALT publishing

1.30pm – 2.30pm Union Dining Room, £6

# The Butterfly Isles Patrick Barkham

A personal journey across Britain's countryside, the *Guardian* journalist sets out to see every one of Britain's 59 species of native butterfly in a single summer. Interwoven with childhood memories, humorous anecdotes and conversations along the way with family, friends and butterfly loving strangers, this is nature writing at its best. And there remains the delectable cliff hanger: did he achieve his goal?



aturday 16 April



1.30pm - 2.30pm Union Chamber, £8/£6

#### **The Future of Our Universities**

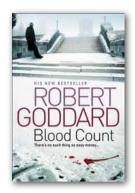
#### Stefan Collini

The greater part of public discourse about higher education at present reduces to the following dispiriting proposition: universities need to justify getting more money and the way to do this is by showing that they help to make more money. This presents itself as realism, but it sells the case short - in particular, the case for having an educated population rather than merely an employable workforce. In this special lecture for Wordfest, Stefan Collini examines the assumptions behind the recent radical changes to the funding of higher education in England and tries to identify some of the effects these measures are likely to have on universities themselves.



Stefan Collini is Professor of Intellectual History and English Literature at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of the British Academy. He is a frequent contributor to The Guardian, The London Review of Books and The Times Literary Supplement. His book, What Are Universities For?, will be published by Penguin later this year.

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UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



1.30pm - 2.30pm ADC Theatre, £8/£6

#### **Robert Goddard**

Robert Goddard has been described as a literary conjuror, a master of manipulation, and one of Britain's finest thriller writers. Each of his books is meticulously planned, with well-drawn characters and an evocative sense of place. So it is no surprise that every one has appeared on *The Sunday Times* bestseller list over the last decade. He makes his first appearance at Wordfest to talk about *Blood Count*, his latest masterpiece.

66 Mysterious, dramatic, intricate, fascinating and unputdownable...The crime writer's crime writer

THE DAILY MIRROR



3.00pm – 4.00pm Union Dining Room, £6

#### **Katharine Birbalsingh**

Katharine Birbalsingh took to the stage at last year's Conservative party conference, denouncing state education in full-throttled style, winning critics and plaudits in equal measure. Spanning a year of shocking truths and hard-won victories, of fights and phone-thefts, teenage pregnancies and the dreaded OFSTED report, To Miss With Love is the remarkable diary of an inner-city schoolteacher. Funny, surprising and sometimes heartbreaking, the book takes us on a journey from the frontlines of the classroom to the heart of modern Britain.

Chaired by Sarah LeFanu former Artistic Director of the Bath Literature Festival and is currently RLF Fellow at the University of Exeter



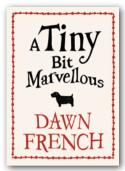
3.00pm – 4.00pm Union Chamber, £10/£8

#### Dame Antonia Fraser

One of our best-loved biographers turns the focus onto her own life with her moving memoir Must You Go? Based on the diaries she kept during her 33-year relationship with Harold Pinter, the result is a love story, an intimate portrait of a great writer, and an exercise in self-revelation. Come and hear Antonia's testimony to modern literature's most celebrated and enduring marriage.

Chaired by Ruth Scurr, historian and biographer (Fatal Purity: Robespierre and the French Revolution).





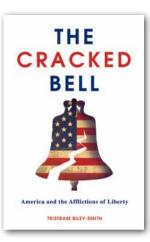
**4.30pm – 5.30pm Union Chamber,** £12/£10

#### **Dawn French**

#### **More than A Tiny Bit Marvellous**

Book now to hear national treasure Dawn French read from her debut novel *A Tiny Bit Marvellous*. With an unforgettable cast of characters, this story of a modern family lurching towards meltdown bristles with insights as to what constitutes modern family life. Recommended for anyone who has ever shared a home with that weird group of strangers we call relations.

Chaired by Joanna Bowen



4.30pm - 5.30pm Union Dining Room, £6

#### **Tristram Riley-Smith**

#### Is The American Dream Turning **Into A Nightmare?**

America's iconic Liberty Bell is cracked. For Tristram Rilev-Smith. this fracture embodies a startling insight. The ideal of freedom has become inflated, undermining the society it defines. The Cracked Bell is an eloquent and absorbing portrait of contemporary America, which Tristram will explore during this fascinating session.

Introduced by Joan Winterkorn

4.30pm - 5.30pm ADC Theatre, £8/£6

#### **Martin Davidson** & Ben Macintyre

#### The Perfect Nazi and the Perfect Spy

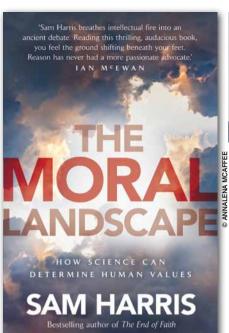
Compelling Second World War tales from the authors of The Perfect Spy and Operation Mincemeat. Davidson gives the utterly enthralling account of

what it is like to discover that your grandfather was a ruthless officer in Hitler's SS. Macintrye tells the story of Operation Mincemeat, the most successful wartime deception ever attempted.

Chaired by Michael Fishwick, Publishing Director, Bloomsbury











6.00pm – 7.00pm Union Chamber, £10/£8

#### Sam Harris & Ian McEwan

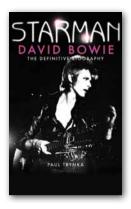
Can science have anything to say about moral issues, or is religion the best authority on meaning, value and a good life? Neuroscientist Sam Harris, author of *The Moral Landscape*, and novelist lan McEwan, author of *Solar*, will discuss whether there is such a thing as the science of morality and will call on the scientific community to join this debate for the sake of our collective future. Book early.

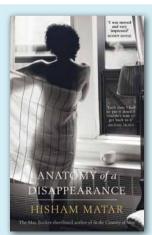
**6.00pm - 7.00pm ADC Theatre, £8/£6** 

#### **Rolling Back the Years**

Paul Trynka & John Harris

Join maestros Paul Trynka (former editor of Mojo, biographer of Iggy Pop) and journalist John Harris to talk music. Trynka introduces Starman, his definitive biography of David Bowie which draws on over 300 new interviews with everyone from classmates to managers to lovers. Harris's own irreverent and eclectic musical miscellany, Hail! Hail! Rock and Roll, has been described as 'everything you ever need to know about music ever.' Join them for what will undoubtedly be an entertaining and nostalgic hour.





6.00pm - 7.00pm Union Dining Room £6

# Hisham Matar Anatomy of a Disappearance



Master storyteller Hisham Matar joins us to discuss his new novel *Anatomy of a Disappearance*. Taking us to the territory of his Cairo homeland, he tells the story of a young

boy Nuri, and the disappearance is that of his mother who dies leaving him bereft.

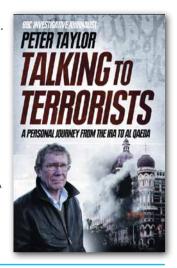
Hisham Matar is the son of a prominent Libyan dissident and author of the Booker shortlisted novel In the Country of Men

66 Matar writes beautifully

KAMILA SHAMSIE

What are terrorists really like? How do states counter them? Should governments talk to them? Drawing on more than 35 years of reporting terrorism, BBC reporter Peter Taylor tries to understand the motives of the men and women behind the world's most notorious terror attacks. In *Talking to Terrorists*, Taylor quotes his diary accounts of coming face-to-face with members of the IRA and Al Qaeda and their victims.

Chaired by James McConnachie, writer



7.30pm Union Company C

**7.30pm – 8.30pm Union Chamber,** £12/£10

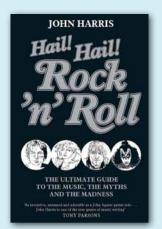
#### **Roger McGough**

Spend an evening in the company of one of our nation's best-loved and best-known poets. Roger

McGough CBE, will read from his new collection, *That Awkward Age.* It is vintage McGough: wrestling with mortality, shaking a fist at Alzheimer's and seeking love in the launderette. There's a poet in the house, see you there.

For adults and 14+

ROCER MCGOIICH



9.30pm - 10.30pm Union Bar, £8/£6

#### The Hail! Hail! Rock'n'Roll Quiz

#### John Harris

An eight-round interactive spectacular, based on the acclaimed book of the same name. With full audio and video support (and prizes, obviously), it offers an altogether more entertaining kind of quizology than the average Monday night down the pub – and a mixture of challenges for both rock'n'roll rookies and hard-bitten fans. Could you recognise the 18 year-old Paul Weller? Do you remember Dizzee Rascal's legendary clash with Jeremy Paxman? Would you know what Jimi Hendrix might do with a Dallas Arbiter Fuzz Face? You soon will. The Hail! Hail! Rock'n'roll quiz has already played to packed houses at the Hay Festival and the Big Chill. Poors open at 9pm. Come in teams of anything from two to six people.



John Harris is a columnist and writer for The Guardian, and the author of Britpop and The Last Party. He has been writing about music since 1989.

# Virginia Nicholson & Juliet Gardiner

Wordfest welcomes two brilliant historians who have described Britain in the thirties and forties to stunning effect. Virginia Nicholson introduces *Millions Like Us*, the untold story of the Second World

War as experienced by women in the Services and on the Home Front. Acclaimed author of the award-winning *Wartime* and most recently the best-selling *The Thirties: An Intimate History*, Juliet Gardiner will discuss with Nicholson the reality of life in the decades before and during the war.



Chaired by Anna Whitelock, academic and author

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10.30am - 11.30am Union Dining Room, £6

# Zarghuna Kargar

Hidden Stories from Women of Afghanistan

One of the first team members on the

groundbreaking Afghan Woman's Hour programme, Zarghuna Kargar's incredible story took her from war-torn Kabul to Pakistan, and, with her family, finally sought asylum in the UK. *Dear Zari* presents thirteen true stories from Afghan women depicting their struggles and hopes. Moving, enlightening and heart-breaking.

Chaired by Sian Kevill, former Director, BBC World News and current Director of MAKE World Media Sunday 17 April

10.30am - 11.30am Union Blue Room, £6

# Edge of the Abyss or a New Golden Age of Publishing?

Alex Bowler, Isobel Dixon & Ailah Ahmed

Will ebooks, Googlebooks and Amazon save or destroy literary publishing? How can writers find their

readers and how can publishers help them? Our panel of distinguished publishers and agents will help make sense of the emerging literary landscape: Alex Bowler is senior editor at Jonathan Cape, Isobel Dixon is a director of the Blake Friedmann Literary Agency and Ailah Ahmed is a senior editor at Canongate.

Chaired by Rachel Calder, Director, Sayle Literary Agency

**12.00pm – 1.00pm Union Chamber,** £10/£8

#### **PD James & Nicola Upson**

A perfect prelude to Sunday lunch: an hour with one of the most celebrated crime writers of our time, PD James, creator of the detective poet Adam



Dalgliesh, and Nicola Upson, acclaimed author of the detective series with Golden Age Crime writer Josephine Tey as its central character. Find out how real-life crimes have influenced the work of both these authors.

Chaired by Mandy Morton, BBC Cambridgeshire











12.00pm - 1.00pm Union Blue Room, £6

#### **Debut Writers**

#### **Kevin Barry, Mary Horlock & Luke Williams**

Our annual cherry-picking of the most exciting, new literary talent to arrive on the scene this year. Festival patron, Ali Smith, will be talking to Kevin Barry, City of Bohane, Mary Horlock, The Book of Lies and Luke Williams, The Echo Chamber. Chaired by Ali Smith, writer and reviewer



12.00pm – 1.00pm Union Dining Room, £6

# Martin Gayford Man with a Blue Scarf: On Sitting for a Portrait by Lucian Freud

Lucian Freud, perhaps the world's leading portrait painter, spent seven months painting a portrait of the art critic Martin Gayford. As Freud created a portrait of Gayford, so the art critic produced his own portrait of the notoriously private artist, recounting their wide-ranging conversations and giving a rare insight into Freud's working practice. Come and hear this unique account of time spent with a true genius.

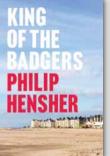
SOPHIE

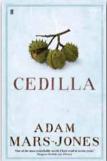
HANNAH

LASTING DAMAGE

#### Come and join literary heavyweights Adam Mars- Jones and Phillip

Come and join literary heavyweights Adam Mars- Jones and Phillip Hensher in a discussion of their latest books. Philip Hensher's *King of the Badgers* depicts the peaceful civility and spiralling paranoia





of a small English town when an eight-year-old girl vanishes. *Cedilla*, by Adam Mars-Jones, continues the story of John Cromer from *Pilcrow*, which *The Times* described as 'peculiar, original, utterly idiosyncratic'.

1.30pm - 2.30pm Union Blue Room, £6

#### **Sophie Hannah**

In conversation with Rebecca Stott

Join queen of the psychological thriller, Sophie Hannah, and house buying will never be the same again. In her latest novel, *Lasting Damage*, Connie Bowskill takes a virtual tour

of a house for sale in Cambridge and sees a woman lying face down in a pool of blood. When her husband sits at the computer to look, he sees no dead body, just a pristine beige carpet. Not for the faint hearted.

Rebecca Stott is Professor of Creative Writing at UEA and author of Darwin's Barnacle, Ghostwalk and The Coral Thief.

#### **Alexandra Harris**

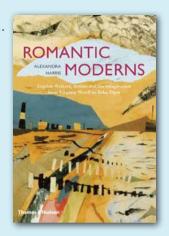
#### **Romantic Moderns**



Winner of *The Guardian* First Book Award 2010, *Romantic Moderns* explores one of the richest periods of the arts in England. Harris assembles a compelling company of painters, poets, gardeners,

architects, composers and writers including Virginia Woolf, Vaughan Williams, John Piper, Bill Brandt, Stanley Spencer, and Daphne du Maurier. Their rich legacy is with us today. A delightful way to spend Sunday lunchtime.

Introduced by Frances Spalding, art historian, critic and biographer

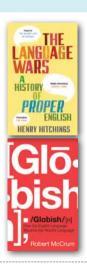


3.00pm - 4.00pm Union Dining Room, £6

# Robert McCrum & Henry Hitchings

Robert McCrum and Henry Hitchings discuss the battlefield that is the English Language. Hitchings' The Language Wars considers 'What is correctness?' and why do people care so much about it? McCrum's Globish shows how English has developed and become the world's language. 'To be born an English speaker is to win one of the top prizes in life's lottery.' McCrum and Hitchings discuss.

Chaired by Dr. Máire Ni Mhaonaigh, University Reader in Celtic, Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic; and Fellow of St John's College



Sunday 17 April



**3.00pm – 4.00pm Union Chamber,** £10/£8

#### **Maggi Hambling**

Since its unveiling in 2003, Maggi Hambling's iconic Scallop sculpture on Aldeburgh beach has never been far from controversy. The striking tribute to Benjamin Britten, drawing thousands of visitors each year, continues to polarise opinion. The fascinating story of its conception, construction and the unholy row that erupted on its unveiling, is now told in Hambling's words: robust, funny and moving.

Chaired by David Scrase: Assistant Director, Collections, The Fitzwilliam Museum



# unday 17 April

#### **Noel 'Razor' Smith & Alex McBride**

#### **The Criminal Justice System**

Two memoirs take us behind the scenes of the criminal justice system. A Rusty Gun by Noel 'Razor' Smith, a man with 58 criminal convictions and who has spent most of his adult life in prison, describes his arduous five-year journey to re-enter society as a law-abiding citizen. Defending the Guilty by Alex McBride, a criminal barrister, teems with hapless crooks, sadistic judges and excruciating courtroom gaffes.

In conversation with Michelle Spring, crime writer









VANESSA

VIRGINIA

Two performances: 3pm & 7.30pm, Old Labs, Newnham College, £10

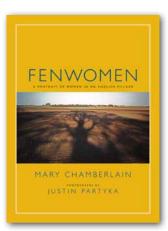
#### Vanessa & Virginia

Making its Cambridge premier at Wordfest, *Vanessa* & *Virginia*, Elizabeth's Wright's powerful new play is a moving, poetic and memorable story about two remarkable sisters – novelist Virginia Woolf and

artist Vanessa Bell. Based on the acclaimed novel by Susan Sellers this production promises to be all the more atmospheric for being performed in Newnham College.

Running time 90 minutes. Produced by Moving Stories, Directed by Emma Gersch www.movingstories.org.uk



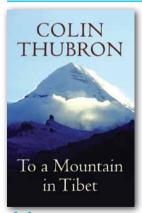


**4.30pm – 5.30pm Union Dining Room,** £6

## Fenwomen Mary Chamberlain

In 1975, Virago published its first non-fiction title. Described as a feminist Akenfield, Fenwomen is a unique documentary of women's lives in a Cambridgeshire Fen village. This beautiful new edition includes an account of Mary Chamberlain's return to the village 35 years later to meet these women once more.

In conversation with Liz Calder, co-founder of Bloomsbury and Full Circle Editions



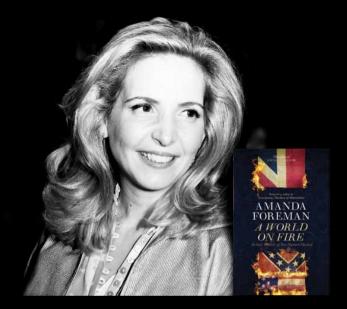
4.30pm - 5.30pm Union Chamber, £10/£8

#### **Colin Thubron**

To a Mountain in Tibet is perhaps the most personal and poetic work to date by Colin Thubron, one of our greatest travel writers. Rarely visited by Westerners, Mount Kailas is sacred to one-fifth of the earth's people. Through remote hills, passes and snowfields, Thubron makes his ascent, as the presences of his dead mother and sister travel with him, turning this into a profoundly personal account.

Chaired by Robert Macfarane, Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge and author of Mountains of the Mind and The Wild Places

66 I would rather read Colin Thubron than any other travel writer alive JOHN SIMPSON



4.30pm - 5.30pm ADC Theatre, £8/£6

#### **Amanda Foreman**

#### In conversation with Anna Whitelock

In her first book since the No1 bestseller *Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire*, Amanda Foreman introduces her epic biography *A World on Fire*, a panoramic history that tells the riveting tale of British involvement in the American civil war. In this titanic struggle between North and South, both sides demanded Britain's support: British volunteers fought on both sides and British guns and bullets littered the battlefields. Foreman uses her gifts as both biographer and historian to stunning effect. She is joined by fellow historian and biographer Anna Whitelock (award-winning biography *Mary Tudor: England's First Queen*) to discuss *A World on Fire*, her writing life, and her status as one of the original poster girls for, as David Starkey has described it, the 'feminisation of history'.

4.30pm - 5.30pm Union Blue Room, £6

#### **The Business of Poetry**

#### **Neil Astley & Chris Hamilton-Emery**

Join industry professionals Neil Astley (Bloodaxe Books) and Chris Hamilton-Emery (SALT Publishing) for a first-hand account of the state of poetry publishing in the UK today.

Chaired by Isobel Dixon, published poet and director of the Blake Friedmann Literary Agency



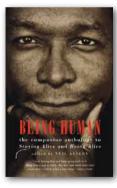
BLOODAXE BOOKS SALE

**6.00pm - 7.00pm ADC Theatre, £8/£6** 

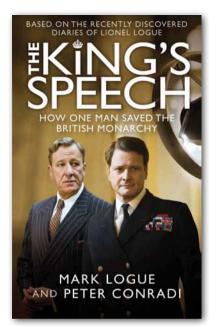
#### **Being Human**

#### **Neil Astley & Imtiaz Dharker**

Bloodaxe editor Neil Astley presents *Being Human*, the companion anthology to *Staying Alive* and *Being Alive*. *Being Human* is a world poetry anthology offering hundreds of thoughtful and passionate poems about living in the modern world; poems that touch the heart, stir the mind and fire the spirit. Featured poet Imtiaz Dharker will read and treat us to some of her own poems.



66 I love Staying Alive and keep going back to it. Being Alive is just as vivid... But this new book feels even more alive – I think it has a heartbeat MERYL STREEP



6.00pm – 7.00pm Union Chamber, £8/£6

#### The King's Speech

#### Mark Logue & Peter Conradi

Nominated for 12 Oscars and 14 Bafta awards, *The King's Speech* is one of the year's most talked-about films. Come and hear more about the extraordinary relationship between King George VI and his speech therapist Lionel, as told in the words of Logue's grandson.

Lionel Logue was the unknown, unqualified speech therapist who turned the nervous, tongue-tied Duke of York into the man capable of becoming King. Mark Logue, his grandson, and Peter Conradi have drawn from Logue's unpublished personal diaries to make an intimate portrait of the British monarchy at a time of its greatest crisis, seen through the eyes of an Australian commoner, proud to serve, and save, his King.

**6.00pm – 7.00pm Union Dining Room,** £6

#### **Beyond Bars**

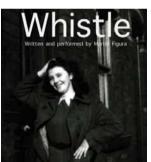
#### 50 Years of Writers in Prison Committee

Salil Tripathi, Chair of English PEN's Writers in Prison Committee, and Natasha Schmidt, Editor of Beyond Bars: 50 Years of the PEN Writers in Prison Committee will consider the unique role writers have played and continue to play in supporting colleagues around the world, the impact of imprisonment on writing, and the challenges writers continue to face today.

English PEN is a registered charity working to promote literature and human rights.



Supported by Index on Censorship – the only magazine devoted to protecting and promoting free expression.



7.30pm – 8.30pm ADC Theatre, £8/£6

# Whistle Martin Figura

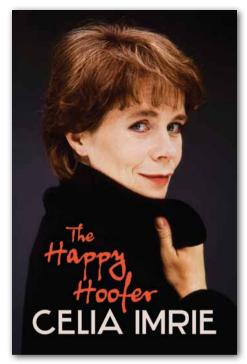
Martin Figura's Whistle is the deeply personal story of his mother's death at the hands of his father when he was nine years old. This show presents his story with a mixture of poetry and story telling alongside the skilful use of family photographs. Driven by Figura's warm stage presence and gentle humour, Whistle is a profound and uplifting experience.

66 sometimes lyrical, rarely angry, often tender

JACKIE KAY







**7.30pm – 8.30pm Union Chamber,** £10/£8

#### **Celia Imrie**

One of our finest and funniest performers, Celia Imrie, adored for her characters in *Acorn Antiques, Dinnerladies, Calendar Girls and Nanny McPhee* now tells her extraordinary and highly entertaining life story, *The Happy Hoofer.* From finding herself with half the scenery stuck to her cardigan, or being kidnapped on the way to location, she somehow emerges from the chaos unscathed with a sense of mischief, fun and unruffled determination.

Chaired by Fidelis Morgan, actress and author

#### Friday 15 April

10.00am - 12.00pm Central Library, £27/£22

#### Life-Writing

#### Sally Cline & Carole Angier

Everyone has a story to tell and the authors of the Arvon Book of Life Writing: Writing Biography. Autobiography & Memoir offer a workshop on writing life stories. Sally Cline, biographer of Radclyffe Hall. Zelda Fitzgerald. Lillian Hellman & Dashiell Hammett, Fellow of Royal Society of Arts. Royal Literary Fund Advisory Fellow and is Writer in Residence at ARU Cambridge. Carole Angier biographer of Jean Rhys & Primo Levi. Fellow of Royal Society Literature, is lecturer in Life-Writing at Birkbeck College.

#### Friday 15 April

10.30am - 3.30pm Central Library, £45/£30

#### **Writing Fiction**

#### Jill Dawson

Pep up vour tired prose and liven up vour characters: a workshop for new or experienced writers who want to write a novel Work hard and play in a workshop led by novelist Jill Dawson, author of The Great Lover and founder of Gold Dust mentoring for writers www.gold-dust.org.uk.



TIMOTHY ALLEN

#### Friday 15 April

2.00 – 4.30pm Fitzwilliam Museum, £27/£22

#### Writing Historical Fiction

#### **Sarah Dunant**

Historical fiction is enjoying a tremendous renaissance, both in terms of literary and commercial novels. Never has there been a more exciting time for research, with historians uncovering compelling 'new' or 'hidden' history. So what is the secret of a great historical novel? How much research does it take? When should you stop reading and start writing? What are the pleasures and pitfalls of putting real people into fiction? How does one create fictional characters with integrity to bring alive a particular era? So many questions! Explore some answers in a workshop with best-selling renaissance novelist Sarah Dunant



#### Friday 15 April

**4.00pm – 6.30pm Central Library**, £27/£22

#### **Writing Poetry**

#### **Don Paterson**

Don Paterson will conduct a lively seminar-style workshop in the form of a question-and-answer session, so come armed with a pen, paper and two or three good questions. He'll explore any aspect of the poetic art that you would like to discuss – whether it's the business of inspiration, composition, technique or publication.



Workshor

#### Saturday 16 April

**10.00am – 12.30pm Central Library,** £27/£22

# An Introduction to Screenwriting

Judy Forshaw & Rick Harvey
Designed to help budding
screenwriters explore storytelling
instincts and the craft of
screenwriting. Rick Harvey is
working with EON Productions.
He has also storylined and written
for TV. Judy Forshaw writes for TV.
She taught screenwriting at The
London Film School and currently

#### Saturday 16 April

**10.30am – 11.30am Union Dining Room,** £10/£8

teaches at ARU Cambridge.

# Make a Publisher Say Yes!

#### Nicola Morgan

Nicola Morgan of the hugely successful blog, Help! I Need a Publisher!, explains the art of publisher-whispering: why do they say no, and how can you make your book shine above the slush pile? Nicola is an award-winning author with around 90 books to her name, including the Carnegie-nominated Wasted and the forthcoming Write to be Published. Her talks are practical and inspiring. Not to be missed.

#### Saturday 16 April

**12.00pm – 3.00pm Central Library,** £30/£25

# From Pitch to Publication with your Children's Book

#### **Leah Thaxton & Julia Churchill**

A three hour master-class on how to get ahead in the children's book business, presented by Egmont senior publisher, Leah Thaxton, and Greenhouse literary agent, Julia Churchill.

This event regularly sells out at other festivals so please book early.



#### Saturday 16 April

**1.00pm – 3.30pm Central Library,** £27/22

### **Travel Writing**

own travels.

#### **James McConnachie**

Writer and Rough Guides author James McConnachie offers a practical, hands-on approach to the nuts and bolts of travel writing. You'll play a guidebookwriting game, read and discuss samples from some of the best recent travel writing, and pull apart your own writing before helping one another to put it back together again.

Please bring along a short account (200 words max) of any telling incident from your

#### Saturday 16 April

**3.30pm – 6.00pm Central Library,** £27/£22

## Writing Crime Fiction Isabelle Grev

Crime fiction is an international genre which addresses both huge social themes and individual secrets. This workshop will explore mythic detectives, forensic psychology and how to create pace, tension and suspense. Isabelle Grey is a novelist who also writes primetime television drama. Her latest novel *Out of Sight* will be published by Quercus in July.





Workshops

# all join in!

A morning of **FREE** family fun at Arbury Community Centre

10.00am - 10.30am

## Rhymetime for babies & toddlers

Come to Rhymetime and sing some songs and shake some bells and let's get Wordfest off to a noisy start.

Ages 0-5

12.00pm - 1.00pm

### Nicola Killen

Author and illustrator Nicola Killen Not Me! talks about developing characters and stories for picture books and where her ideas come from. There will be a chance to design your own character and think about what their story might be. Ages 6-9

10.45am - 11.45am

## The Calabash Children

#### Jan Blake

Join internationally acclaimed storyteller, Jan Blake, as she tells stories of stubborn sisters, ungrateful mothers, and magical children. Jan Blake has been telling stories for twenty-five years. She specialises in tales from Africa, Arabia, and the Caribbean, and particularly enjoys telling stories, about powerful women, tricksters, and shape-shifters.

Ages 7-11

All Join in Events are free. Tickets must be obtained from the ADC Theatre Box Office. Children must be accompanied at all times.

cambridge wordfest for children supported by:









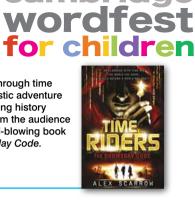
**1.00pm – 2.00pm ADC Theatre,** £6

## Recruiting all TimeRiders!

#### **Alex Scarrow**

Ever wondered what would happen if time travel existed? Travel through time with Alex Scarrow, author of the fantastic adventure series *TimeRiders*, as he hosts a thrilling history game show, taking team members from the audience and giving an insight to the third mind-blowing book in the series *TimeRiders: The Doomsday Code*. Ages 9+

Supported by Puffin Books



cambridge



2.30pm - 3.30pm ADC Theatre, £6

### Luke Gamble

Come and meet TV vet Luke Gamble as he recounts the joys and the heartbreaks, the pains and the pleasures of a vet's life. Dr Dolittle with a dash of Indiana Jones, Luke will discuss his first book *The Vet: My Wild and Wonderful Friends* which documents his life and work with wit, humour and emotion. An event for all the family.

**4.00pm - 5.00pm ADC Theatre, £6** 

## Louise Rennison

Louise Rennison has captivated teens across the globe with her *Confessions of Georgia Nicolson*. Well, if you're missing Georgia, meet Tallulah. Dother Hall Performing Arts College is the setting for Rennison's hilarious new novel, *Withering Tights*. Her heroine, Tallulah Casey, is set to storm the stage in a 6-week, parent-free, mixed (and that means boys!) summer school. Let the fun begin!



## all join in!

A day of **FREE** family fun at the Central Library

9.45am - 10.15am

## Rhymetime for babies & toddlers

Come to rhyme time and sing some songs and shake some bells and let's get All Join In. off to a noisy start. Ages 0 - 5

10.45 - 11.45am

## Amy Husband

Amy will be reading from her book 'Dear Miss'. Come along and hear all about Michael and Bruno's exciting adventures as they do all they can to avoid going back to school. There will also be the chance to write and illustrate your own letters. Ages 6-8

2.15pm - 3.15pm

## Tales of Terror

**Chris Priestley** 



Dare to be scared, Come and meet Chris Priestlev. author of the Tales of Terror series, as he talks about writing scary fiction, what inspires him

to create his short stories and why things that go bump in the night are some of his favourite things.

Ages 11+

4.00pm - 5.30pm Central Library, £12

## Manga Workshop\*

with Sonia Leong

Get to grips with these dynamic comics from Japan. Create the distinctive character artwork and practise the skills required to get those stories out of your head and onto the paper in comic form. Learn the tricks of the trade from a professional! Ages 12+

Sonia Leong is an award-winning Manga artist known for Manga Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet.

wordfest supported by:



All Join in Events are free except\* Tickets must be obtained from the ADC Theatre Box Office, Children must be accompanied at all times.

10.30am - 11.15am Union Blue Room, £5

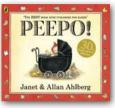
## Peepo! Storyplaytime

#### Happy Birthday Peepo!

A fun, lively and interactive event to celebrate the 30th anniversary

of this delightful picture book by Janet and Allan Ahlberg. The wonderful descriptive and rhythmic language of Peepo! is brought to life in this fabulous event through songs, games and storytelling, with professional storyteller Justine de Mierre, www.storyplaytime.co.uk. Ages 2+ Maximum of 2 children per adult

cambridge wordfest for children





12.00pm - 12.45pm Union Blue Room, £5

## Moomins Storyplaytime

Join in this celebration of Tove Jansson's ever popular Moomins books. This event will include games, songs and activities, all themed around Moomin and the Birthday Button, and end with an

interactive telling of the story. Devised and presented by professional storyteller Justine de Mierre. www.storyplaytime.co.uk.

Ages 2+ Maximum of 2 children per adult

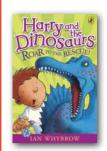
3.00pm - 4.00pm ADC Theatre, £6

## Dragonology

Come and meet Arthur Flyte - assistant to Dr Ernest Drake, whose Dragonology has delighted people of all ages - as he flies in on his tame green European dragon. Find out about dragons, with readings from the latest book in the Dragonology Chronicles: The Dragon's Apprentice and the original Dragonology. Discover the sounds and telltale signs of dragons

from around the world in this truly interactive show. Ages 5-11





**10.30am – 11.30am Union Chamber,** £6

## lan Whybrow

Meet lan Whybrow, the world-famous creator of the fabulous *Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs* books that inspired the popular TV series. Join in the fun at this highly entertaining and interactive event, as lan reveals some secrets about old favourite stories and tells you all about his long-awaited and thrilling new young fiction series, starting with *Harry and the Dinosaurs: Roar to the Rescue!* Ages 5–8

12.00pm - 1.00pm ADC Theatre, £6

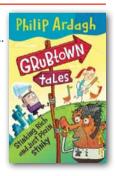
## Arlene Phillips

World-famous chore grapher and star judge of BBC's So You Think you Can Dance? Arlene Phillips brings us Alana Dancing Star – the hottest new series in girls' fiction. Full of magic, glamour, glitter and loveable characters, every book is a different dance spectacular! Come and meet Arlene in person and find out if you've got what it takes to take the stage by storm! Ages 7+

3.00pm - 4.00pm Union Blue Room, £5

## Philip Ardagh

With seven *Grubtown Tales* under his belt, and a whole host of other books – both fiction and non-fiction – hidden about his person, no wonder Roald Dahl Funny Prize-winning author Philip Ardagh needs such a big, bushy beard to hide them all. In this action-packed event, with audience participation and all-round silliness, the two-metre-high author talks about everything from why he writes and how he writes, to where he gets his ideas from and why he loves ducks. Ages 7+





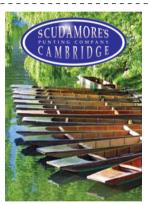
## "Employment in the [Creative Industries] Sector has grown at double the rate of the economy as a whole." Department for Culture, Media & Sport 2011



So whether you want to earn more or simply learn more why not consider one of our creative undergraduate or postgraduate degrees?

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For a full list of courses and more information: www.anglia.ac.uk/wordfest, email:sarah.jones@anglia.ac.uk



Scudamore's are pleased to offer festival-goers 50% OFF our standard College Backs & Grantchester self-hire rates. Offer applies to hourly, all day & overnight craft hired on station, but not to advance purchases or bookings or season tickets. Please bring this advert with you to claim the discount.

Ad must be presented before hire; discounts cannot be given retrospectively. Offer cannot be taken together with another offer or discount. Offer ends on Sunday 18 June 2011.

Further information on hire & rates at www.punting.co.uk



## Proud Supporter of Cambridge Wordfest

www.stmaryscambridge.co.uk

Opening Hours for phone and

counter sales:

Tue/Fri/Sat: **12.30–7.00pm** Wed/Thu: **3.00–7.00pm** 

All tickets are non-refundable and non-exchangeable. Full terms and conditions are available on request.

Where two ticket prices are marked, the lower is a concessionary rate for under 16s and students.

Seating for events at the ADC Theatre will be sold from a reserved seating plan. Seating for all other events is unreserved.

## cambridge wordfest 2011 spring

Valid ID must always be shown when buying concessionary tickets.

On the festival weekend any remaining tickets will be sold at the door for each event.

All venues are fully accessible by wheelchair users.

All tickets can be purchased online, by phone or in person at the ADC Theatre Box Office.

Free online booking: www.adctheatre.com Telephone: 01223 300085



## THE VARSITY

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Cambridge Hotel du Vin boasts 41 exquisite bedrooms and boutique suites, some with private terraces, along with our trademark monsoon showers and luxurious Egyptian Linen. The French style Bistro serves a sumptuous menu of European cuisine with a modern edge.



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The Regent Hotel is a privately owned hotel, situated in the centre of Cambridge and backing on to the famous Parker's Piece, where Hobbs once played cricket. The Regent Hotel is a Georgian listed building and the original site of Newnham college. You will find us conveniently placed for shopping, sight-seeing and evening entertainment and we pride ourselves on offering a personal, efficient and competitive service at all times. We hope to welcome you soon.



#### **ADC Theatre**

Park Street Cambridge CB5 8AS Tel: 01223 359547 www.adctheatre.com

#### **Arbury Community Centre**

The Centre Campkin Road Cambridge CB4 2LD

#### **Cambridge Central Library**

7 Lion Yard Cambridge CB2 3QD www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/ libraries

#### The Cambridge Union

9a Bridge Street Cambridge CB2 1UB www.cus.org

#### The Fitzwilliam Museum

Trumpington Street Cambridge CB2 1RB www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/

#### **Newnham College**

Sidgwick Avenue Cambridge CB3 9DF www.newn.cam.ac.uk

### Festival bookseller and proud supporters of Cambridge Wordfest

There will be books for sale at each event where you can purchase copies of books by festival authors. Why not take time to pop along to our superb shop on Trinity Street (opp. Trinity College) to browse through our huge range of titles from Amis to Zola.

Special Offer! 10% discount to Friends of Cambridge Wordfest over the festival weekend

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