

GUILDFORD BOOK FESTIVAL IS SET TO SERVE UP A LITERARY FEAST

Thursday 14th to Saturday 23rd October 2010

The annual **Guildford Book Festival** promises yet another exciting and varied programme of events featuring many of **Britain's finest writers and personalities**.

This year's line-up includes designer and broadcaster **Kevin McCloud**, BBC broadcaster **Bill Turnbull**, writer and comedian **Arthur Smith**, journalist and author **Rachel Johnson**, leading historians **Dan Cruickshank** and **Michael Wood**, actor **Ron Moody**, and actor, writer and director **Steven Berkoff**.



Other Festival highlights include the ever popular **Girls' Night** hosted by **Jane Wenham-Jones** on **Wednesday 20th October**. Part 1 is on an agony aunt theme and features columnists **Helen Lederer**, **Lucy Mangan** and **Irma Kurtz**. Much loved British writer and comedian **Jenny Éclair** appears in Part 2.



The hugely popular authors **Katie Fforde** and **Adele Parks** will be taking part in Festival's **Literary Lunch** on **Thursday 21st October**. This is a unique opportunity to enjoy the company of two of UK's bestselling female authors, to find out what inspires them.



The ever popular **Readers' Day** which celebrates fiction and is a great chance to meet an eclectic mix of authors, held on **Saturday 16th October** and features **Barbara Nadel**, **Michelle Paver**, **Barbara Erskine**, **John Harding**, **Dorothy Koomson**, **Clare Morrall**, **Chris Fowler**, **Andrew Taylor** and **JoJo Moyes**.

The **Guildford Book Festival** embraces a whole host of other subjects including **crime**, **history** and **biography**. There will also be a **Festival Quiz** and, for the first time ever, a **Book Swap**. As in previous years, **workshops** on a range of topics will feature in the programme including ones on writers' block and crime writing.



Other authors appearing at this year's **Guildford Book Festival** include bestselling novelists **Lesley Pearce**, **Jonathan Coe**, **David Nobbs** and **Elizabeth Buchan** and bestselling crime writer **Peter James**.

Festival Box Offices will be open from early September. **Box Office** numbers are **01483 444789** or **01483 444334**. Online booking will also be available through the Festival website - www.guildfordbookfestival.co.uk.

For more information or if you would like to arrange an author interview, please contact Claire Richman at Midas Public Relations on 020 7361 7862 or claire.richman@midaspr.co.uk.

Notes to Editors:

Please visit www.guildfordbookfestival.co.uk for more information on the latest events and how to join the mailing list.

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Festival brochures will be available to view online from early September, as well to pick up from The Electric Theatre, Guildford Tourist Information Centre, libraries and many other places.

Established in 1989, the **Guildford Book Festival** is staged annually across venues within the town over 10 days. It receives core funding from Guildford Borough Council and the University of Surrey, as well as support from a number of key local businesses.

The festival boasts the following Patrons: **Elizabeth Buchan, Michael Buerk, Michael Rosen, Sandi Toksvig, Fay Weldon, Timothy West** and **Jacqueline Wilson**.

Guildford Book Festival became a registered charity in 2009 (Charity Number 1131040).

Listings Information for some of the events at the Guildford Book Festival 2010:

Michael Wood - The Story of England
University of Surrey on Thursday 14th October

The leading historian offers a fascinating insight into the story of England, and the English. Told through the history of one village (Kibworth) and its people, over the whole of English history, this account is a 'Who Do You Think You Are' of the entire nation.

Ron Moody - A Still Untitled, (Not Quite) Autobiography
The Electric Theatre on Thursday 14th October

The award-winning actor who has enthralled generations with his masterly performance as Fagin in *Oliver* reveals the twists and turns of his career, and the people he has met and worked with along the way.

Steven Berkoff - Diary of a Juvenile Delinquent
The Electric Theatre on Thursday 14th October

The acclaimed actor, writer and director paints a startling portrait of his early life and the beginning of his theatrical career.

Bill Turnbull - The Bad Beekeepers Club
The Electric Theatre on Friday 15th October

The much loved BBC broadcaster and leading ambassador of beekeeping shares his beekeeping mishaps - and brief moments of beekeeping triumphs. His stories highlight the very real threat to Britain's bee population, and show what bees do for us - and what we should do for them.

Arthur Smith - An Evening with Daphne Fairfax
The Electric Theatre on Saturday 16th October

Bask in an evening of laughter and off the wall humour with comedian, writer, broadcaster and all-round British institution as he presents his new show based on his acclaimed memoir.

David Nobbs & Jonathan Coe
The Electric Theatre on Monday 18th October

David Nobbs, one of our greatest comedic writers and creator of Reginald Perrin, joins forces with Jonathan Coe one of Britain's best contemporary novelists to talk about comedy and fiction.

Rachel Johnson - A Diary of *The Lady*
The Electric Theatre on Tuesday 19th October

When Rachel Johnson was appointed as editor of *The Lady*, the oldest women's weekly magazine in the world, she faced the biggest challenge of her career. She gives a frank and hilarious account of her experiences of turning around this venerable magazine.

Dan Cruickshank - The Secret History of Georgian London - How the Wages of Sin Shaped the Capital
The Electric Theatre on Tuesday 19th October

The leading historian describes how almost every aspect of life and culture in Georgian London was shaped by the sex industry. Focusing on the women involved in the trade, he offers tantalising insights into the impact of prostitution and how it determined the city's future development.

Peter James - Dead Like You

The Electric Theatre on Tuesday 19th October

The bestselling crime and thriller novelist introduces his new book *Dead Like You*, which has gone straight to No.1 in the Sunday Times Bestseller List. Set in Brighton, it's the sixth in the *Roy Grace* series which follows the investigations of Detective Superintendent Grace.

Lesley Pearce - Stolen

The Electric Theatre on Wednesday 20th October

Author of seventeen bestsellers including *Gypsy*, *Faith and Hope*, Lesley introduces her 18th - *Stolen*, a powerful, gritty novel that is guaranteed to enthrall.

Girls Night chaired by Jane Wenham Jones

Part 1: Featuring Helen Lederer, Irma Kurtz & Lucy Mangan

Part 2: Featuring Jenny Éclair

The Electric Theatre on Wednesday 20th October

A riotous evening in the company of some of Britain's best loved columnists and agony aunts. Men also welcome!

Literary Lunch with Adele Parks and Katie Fforde

The Mandolay Hotel on Thursday 21st October

A leisurely lunch in the company of two of Britain's bestselling female authors.

Kevin McCloud - The 43 Principles of Home

The Electric Theatre on Thursday 21st October

The designer presents a witty and wide-ranging commentary on the way we live now, exploring all areas of domestic living, from materialism to sustainability and craftsmanship to comfort. He offers up his 43 principles of home life - each one addressing very real and solvable domestic issues. What is the perfect kitchen layout? How to create a feeling of space in traditionally sized rooms? How to create an extension that works? And how best to manage home waste and recycling?

Michael & Rebecca Frayn

The Electric Theatre on Friday 22nd October

Playwright and novelist Michael Frayn and his daughter Rebecca Frayn (film maker, screenwriter and novelist) make a rare appearance together at the Festival. Michael will be talking about his recently published memoir 'My Father's Fortune', while Rebecca introduces her latest novel 'Deceptions'.

For more information or if you would like to arrange an author interview, please contact Claire Richman at Midas Public Relations on 020 7361 7862 or claire.richman@midaspr.co.uk.