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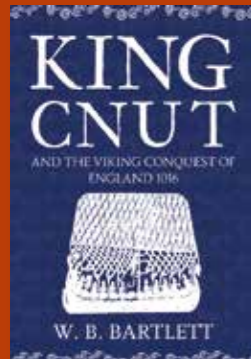
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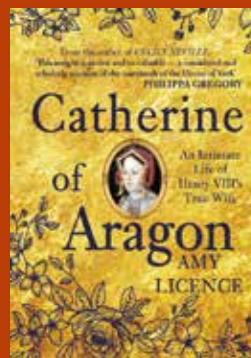
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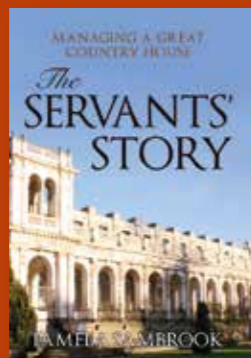
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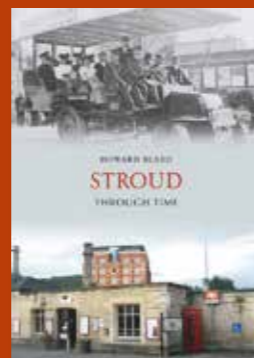
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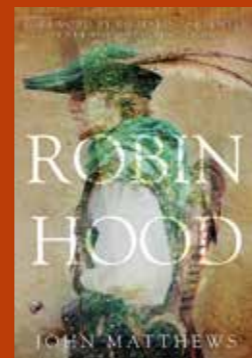
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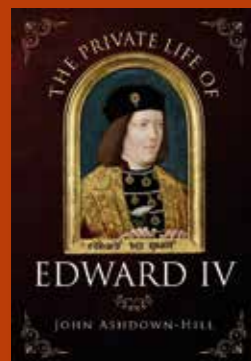
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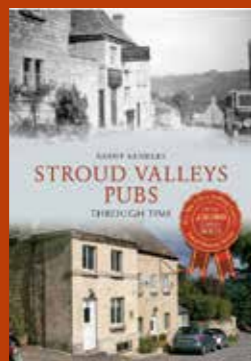
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EDITOR'S NOTE

WELCOME TO THE TWENTIETH ISSUE OF GOOD ON PAPER – YOUR FREE MONTHLY GUIDE TO MUSIC CONCERTS, ART EXHIBITIONS, THEATRE PRODUCTIONS, COMEDY SHOWS, FILM SCREENINGS AND LITERATURE EVENTS IN STROUD...

Owing to the vast amount of authors and poets that live in our little town a literature special has always been on the cards, and what better time than now with the imminent arrival of Stroud's first ever Book Festival...

Within these pages you will find interviews with celebrated authors, poets and book illustrators including Michael Horovitz, Jamila Gavin, Katie Fforde, Rachel Joyce and Hannah Shaw.

We also asked Adam Horovitz to write a new poem exclusively for Good On Paper – and he gave us a bonus poem to go with last year's exceptional and fondly received Little Metropolis project.

Elsewhere you will find a guide to Stroud's independent book shops and publishers and a guide to published (and self-published) authors and poets...There are a lot. And doubtless more!

Whilst on the subject of writers we'd like to thank our ever growing group of contributing wordsmiths, without them this magazine would not exist :)

For those about to write, we salute you

Alex and Adam

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STROUD BOOK FESTIVAL

TO STROUD, WITH COMPLETE AND UTTER, UNASHAMED LOVE.

BY SARAH PHAEDRE WATSON

I LOVE BOOKS, PAPERBACK, HARDBACK, DIGITAL, MY HOUSE (AND HARD-DRIVE) ARE FULL OF THEM, BUT I HAVE TO ADMIT WHEN I HEARD THAT STROUD WOULD BE ADDING ANOTHER FESTIVAL TO THE ALREADY PRETTY FULL CALENDAR OF FESTIVALS THAT WE ALREADY HAVE IN THIS CRAZY LITTLE TOWN, EVEN I WASN'T SO SURE. BUT WHEN I HEARD JAMILA GAVIN'S VISION FOR THIS FESTIVAL, WHICH IS BOTH CREATIVE AND AMBITIOUS (TWO OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS), ANY RESERVATIONS THAT I MIGHT HAVE HAD WERE IMMEDIATELY DISMISSED.

Jamila recognised that our creative five valleys are crammed full of some of this country's finest authors. Prize-winning authors from every genre, writers who command audiences of thousands at other literature festivals, right here, on our door-step - so why on earth wouldn't we want to celebrate that?

The programme that Jamila, along with Cindy Jefferies and Rick Vick with the support of the Stroud Festival committee, has meticulously put together is one which any large town or city would be proud of; heavy-weights such as Ian McEwan and Jilly Cooper headline the

festival! But it's the 40 or so other authors, writers, storytellers and illustrators who provide a staggering depth of experience, background, style and subject matter. Those are the participants which have really captured our imagination and have inspired people to bulk buy tickets at a quite astounding rate.

In a world of marketing bravado, one which I am of course right in the centre of blowing my hot air for all to hear, I relished uttering the following words: "People are buying tickets because they want to come, we don't need to push this, we just need to make sure that everyone enjoys the festival". Jamila et al have put me out of a job.

I'm so delighted to see the town so abuzz with excitement, every time I walk into a shop, cafe or yes, more usually a pub, there is one or more of the authors there (I swear they're multiplying), planning their talk, sharing exciting developments and spreading a deeply contagious love of literature.

I'm going to share some of those meetings and conversations with you because it will show just how extraordinary this festival is, but also because I'm remarkably indiscreet. Rumours that I may have excitedly encouraged people to rush onto Twitter and eavesdrop on a conversation that a few of our illustrious authors were having

about how excited they are to be performing at our book festival are entirely, ashamedly true.

Sitting and working through task lists (I do love a good task list) in one of the millions of cafes we have around town we are briefly joined by Dennis Gould. Dennis has been producing and distributing posters that he's set and printed for the festival and stops to discuss one of his appearances; his reading of Lawrence Ferlinghetti. For those of you who don't know Ferlinghetti ("cough" I might not have been too familiar myself prior to this if I'm honest) he is a poet, playwright, publisher, painter and activist - he helped to spark the San Francisco literary renaissance of the 1950s and the subsequent "Beat" movement. He "writes truly memorable poetry, poems that lodge themselves in the consciousness of the reader and generate awareness and change. And his writing sings, with the sad and comic music of the streets."

Ferlinghetti and Dennis have been friends, and have corresponded with one another for over 5 decades; every year on Ferlinghetti's birthday Dennis sets and prints one of his poems and sends it to him. The same man who is so passionately and vocally supporting our town, our festival, and printing our posters has this special relationship with one of the literary

world's most important characters. I felt a bit overwhelmed.

A couple of weeks ago you'll be shocked to hear that I was in one of Stroud's many pubs (so unlike me) when I bumped into Dave Ayre, he was carrying a stack of manuscripts and enthusiastically told me about the day he'd spent with Dennis Gould preparing for his other event "The Revolutionary Shelley". I knew Dave Ayre would be appearing with Dennis (as he will for his Ferlinghetti performance) but I had no idea he was composing an original piece to accompany Dennis on the evening. That's Dave Ayre, winner of the Colchester Institute String Prize, and the Royal College of Music Geoffrey Tankard Recital Prize. Dave Ayre who has been Principal in the Thames Chamber Orchestra and the Mid Wales Opera Company for many years and is Guest Principal for the London Festival Orchestra. Who works BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Welsh National Opera, the Hallé and Manchester Camerata. Who records for the film industry (he told me some of the films but by then I was a little tipsy so I can't remember any, sorry) and has worked with a number of well-known artists including Damon Albarn, Rufus Wainwright, Joni Mitchell, The Pet Shop Boys, Jarvis Cocker, Grace Jones, Robbie Williams, Sheena Easton, Lesley Garrett, Madonna, Diana

Ross, U2, Kathryn Jenkins, Sir John Dankworth and Sir Paul McCartney. He's composing something just for us.

Or what about when I walked into the George Room and met the illustrators who are showing their work at the exhibition that will be taking place in the Subscription Rooms for the duration of the book festival, to be told they are throwing the rule book away. They want to show the process that they go through, how they produce their work, what it entails, they want to share and inspire. If I hadn't been so impressed to be in a room with such extraordinary talent, who are revered as gods in our house, I might have been able to tell them how impressed I was, how excited I am about their show. I think I just about managed to nod and smile and not say anything too stupid.

Every single event has an equally engaging and fascinating story; from Hassan Akkad a Syrian refugee whose storytelling has highlighted the plight of so many and has been adopted as an honorary Stroudie, to Alice Jolly whose raw and honest memoir of still-births and miscarriages had me openly weeping on a recent flight.

Every single one has been perfectly curated and programmed; when asked recently what talks I recommended I honestly answered "every single one".

And standing back I see just how important this is; in an economic and political climate where public arts funding and education budgets are being slashed to non-existent levels we have a task as a community to keep arts alive, to ensure that our children have the well documented benefits of being surrounded by a thriving creative community. And Stroud has, yet again, succeeded in doing just that.

Thank you Jamila, Cindy and Rick, thank you to all of our authors and illustrators, and the community that is so wholeheartedly embracing and supporting this festival. I am so bloody Proud to be Stroud.

Events at the Stroud Book Festival takes place at the Subscription Rooms, the Museum in the Park and Stroud Library from Friday 11th to Sunday 17th November. Visit stroudartsfestival.org and pick up a free programme (available now!) for full line-up and ticket details.

No one knows what Sarah Phaedre Watson really does, she spends time gallivanting off to Africa to make films, writing for various publications, or passionately supporting community arts and events. She certainly gets about a bit



MICHAEL HOROVITZ

BY AMY FLEMING

NOT FAR FROM STROUD, A FEW MILES BEYOND SLAD, IS A RELATIVELY REMOTE NOOK, KNOWN AS THE SCRUBS. ONE GUY FAWKES' NIGHT IN THE LATE 1970S, THE GROUND THICK WITH SODDEN LEAVES, FIVE BARDS STOOD HERE IN THE DARK, HUDDLED AROUND THE BACK END OF THEIR HIRED VAN.

Tom Pickard, Allen Ginsberg and Peter Orlovsky were due at a poetry reading in town, but had got stuck in the steep valley where their hosts - fellow poets Frances and Michael Horovitz - lived. Orlovsky was Ginsberg's long-term partner, often referred to as "Ginsberg's wife, or husband," recalls Michael Horovitz. "A solid, heavyweight chap," he continues, "which came in handy when we had trouble getting the van to go up the hill again".

Horovitz had started publishing works by Beat poets, also including Jack Kerouac, William S. Burroughs and Lawrence Ferlinghetti, after launching the periodical *New Departures* in 1959 - his final year as a literature student at Oxford. During the 1970s, he toured the US often, where he and Ginsberg used to sing William Blake poems together. Horovitz has also been a driving force behind performance poetry for over 50 years, from his role in helping to gather an audience of 8000 to the Royal Albert Hall in 1965 (Ginsberg headlined), to over 35 years of Poetry Olympics events, up and down the country. Notable Olympians include John Hegley, John Cooper Clarke, Benjamin Zephaniah and Damon Albarn.

Musical collaborations have been many, including a recording in 2013 of his poem *Ballade of the Nocturnal Commune*, accompanied by Albarn, Graham Coxon and Paul Weller, which sold out on Record Store Day that year. The ballade was a rural rhapsody he had written many years before, at the family cottage in *The Scrubs*.

The Horovitzes moved to, what Michael describes as their "wild offshoot of the Slad valley," when their son Adam (who still lives and writes in Stroud, and whose exclusive new poem for *Good On Paper* appears on p13) was a baby. The cottage was an idyllic antidote to the congestion of London, with stunning views. "On a clear day," he says, "the postman used to say, 'I can see them having breakfast in Slad today'." The first decade of living there, he says, was "Frances' happiest, but more or less her last decade." When it came to poetry, he says Frances was "kind

of a purist," whereas he was "very much a jazz poet and performance poet. We were creative counterweights to each other." She died of cancer in 1983. "We had so much joy and then so much misery and despair, missing her," he says.

Phase two, in the cottage, saw Horovitz, "trying to be a good dad and make up for Fran's absence and get Adam through GCSEs and A levels." In spite of their loss, they managed to have quite a good time, he recalls, discussing books, going for walks and "playing hand tennis across the dry stone wall."

Horovitz lives in London, now, but he will return to perform in November at the Stroud Book Festival. "There were always a lot of artists and poets around Stroud, as there still are," he says. "We did a lot of gigs that drew big audiences around here, so I'm hoping this book festival will do the same." He and Frances, he says, "pioneered literary festivals and particularly sundry overlaps between different art media." However, he is distressed that most "so-called art and literature festivals" these days, seem mainly to be concerned with booking best-selling stars, and making money, rendering them "pretty predictable and often downright boring."

That's not to say that some of the stars aren't authentic, but the scene has become too commercial. "My whole stance on society and art is very much with William Blake," says Horovitz. "Ignore commerce and hype and corruption, and instead stick to what we know matters, which is doing the best work we can and moving society away from greed, bad behaviour, intolerance and violence. As Blake put it, 'where any view of money exists, art cannot be carried on.'"

2007 saw the publication of a 500-page book by Horovitz, called *A New Wasteland: Timeship Earth at Millenium* (the title, a reference to T S Eliot's *The Waste Land*), bemoaning, he says, "ruthless mega-marketing, the degradation of arms manufacture, trading and wielding

on the part of political bleeders such as Bush, Clinton, Blair, Putin and Trump, sucking up to corporations and plutocrats, and telling everyone they've got to compete like mad to get to the top of the pile - which ignores everybody except those at the top of the pyramid, which of course crushes the majority." A sad state of affairs, but on the other hand, he says, "it seems to me that Jeremy Corbyn, Diane Abbott and Caroline Lucas and other such idealists keep the faith, and many poets and artists worldwide are concerned with continuing the resistance movement against these monstrous extremes of homo sapiens."

At his upcoming Stroud performance, Horovitz will read from his 1986 poem, *Midsummer Morning Jog Log*. "It's ostensibly a memoir of jogging round the valley," he says. All 679 lines of it were published in a hand-printed booklet, with delicate nature drawings by Peter Blake and a posthumous dedication at the front to Frances.

Horovitz will perform, as he often does now, with his partner of the last four years, the singer-songwriter-guitarist Vanessa Vie. "She grew up in Northern Spain," he says, "but she's been in England the last 15 years. We are doing a lot together as a duo." A CD is in the works. "We'll be performing our settings of some Blake songs, including ones where we get audiences to join in. Blake's *Laughing Song*, for instance, which has refrains where everyone chants *Ha Ha Hee*, to lighten things up."

Michael will be appearing with Vanessa Vie at the Subscription Rooms on Saturday 19th Nov for an evening of music, songpoems and other wordsounds. Visit stroudartsfestival.org for tickets and further info.

Amy Fleming was a writer and editor at the Guardian for 12 years, and now writes from home in Stroud, also contributing to Intelligent Life, Vogue, the FT and the Telegraph

JAMILA GAVIN

BY ANNA BAILEY

I MISSED THE TURN OFF TO JAMILA GAVIN'S ROAD AND ENDED UP DRIVING ALL THE WAY INTO SLAD. I FEEL THAT IS WORTH MENTIONING, BECAUSE ON MY WAY TO SEE ONE BRILLIANT STROUD WRITER, I ENDED UP IN LAURIE LEE COUNTRY, AND WAS REMINDED JUST WHAT A RICH AND TALENT-FILLED PLACE THE STROUD VALLEYS ARE.



Sitting at last with Jamila in her cosy living room--an absolute book-lovers paradise, her bookshelves crowded with lovely leather-bound editions of fairy tales and childhood classics--I ask her what she thinks makes Stroud such a special place for writers: "I don't know without going to other areas and seeing if they have a similar build up. What I find is that people become very loyal to their areas. Of course, someone like Laurie Lee was probably the most influential voice that came out of the Stroud Valleys, but whether his presence here made other writers say 'Oh I'm going to come to Stroud as well' I kind of doubt it. I'm not sure I would go outside where I feel belong, just because Laurie Lee was there. I would go because that area spoke to me."

The area obviously speaks to a lot of people, which is, in part, what makes it possible to have a Stroud Book Festival this year. Jamila talks about how she wanted to approach the setting up of the festival with respect for the local writers. "Respect--and real pleasure to acknowledge them all," she says. "We wanted to keep the local voice. If we've got some international writers like Ian McEwan that's fine, but essentially we did want to celebrate that it was a Stroud area festival, and should there be further festivals in the future we still want to keep to that brief."

When talking about setting up the festival, though, she says she can't take all the credit for it. "I was asked to join the Stroud Festival committee, which I was really pleased to do. At my first meeting I learned that the Stroud Festival was about to celebrate its 70th year. So I did some homework and found out about this man, Netlam Bigg, and his wife Margaret. Not only were they devoted to their community--like he was behind the scouting movement, the hospital, things like that--they were both passionate lovers of the arts, and they set up this Netlam Bigg Trust."

"That reminds me," she says, "Ian McEwan's event is called 'The Bigg Read' in tribute to Netlam Bigg and his wife, the more astute of you may have spotted this already!" It's clear that the festival is a labour of love, and with all the local talent Stroud has to offer, I'm certain it will represent Netlam Bigg's vision for the community too.

But I'm not just here to talk about the festival. Jamila Gavin, perhaps most famous for her novel *Coram Boy*, which won the Whitbread Prize in 2000, is a prolific children's writer, and that love of story-telling always comes from somewhere exciting. As a child in India, her mother read her Charles Dickens and Victor Hugo, but her favourite books, and the books that she feels most influenced her, were the children's classics. "Treasure Island," she says. "I adored it, hugely influential. A Little Princess by Frances Hodgson Burnett, and The Secret Garden. I loved Heidi too, and What Heidi Did Next. Those were the books I read over and over again, and scribbled in. And lost! And tried to replace. But when I started writing in the late seventies I found myself part of a whole movement of people who had a real desire to make children's books relevant to children today. There was the feminist movement, there was the multicultural effect of migration into this country after the Commonwealth, and I'm very much a part of that generation of people coming and being part of the multicultural Britain that was growing up. So I was writing from my point of view, but actually lots of children's publishers were encouraging their writers to reflect multiculturalism and sexism. It was a really exciting movement that I found myself in, for the next 20 years really."

Now though, she says, the commercialisation of children's fiction is changing the landscape. "Whereas before the publishers wouldn't expect to publish more than a few thousand, now they're expected to publish millions. Therefore, they're more responsive to market forces, rather than the social forces saying we need more books about disability, colour or gender. Which

obviously aren't going to sell as widely, but they will be used to great effect within the classroom, or areas where they're really trying to make a difference."

And although her young life was largely dominated by a love of music, that passion for storytelling was present early on: "When I was in India, I must have been about 10, I wrote a play. I can't remember what it was called; I can only remember a line that was challenged by one of the children, because the wife says to the husband: 'And don't go losing your temper, otherwise we may not be able to find it!' And this child was completely perplexed. 'What do you mean by that?' 'Well you know, they've lost their temper, they've got to go look for it.' But they didn't understand. That's all I remember about that play!"

As well as being such a funny and inspiring woman, Jamila was also incredibly welcoming, talking to me like a fellow writer, and asking me as many questions about myself as I asked her. It's this support for writers, at whatever stage in their career that makes her such a brilliant choice to head up the Stroud Book Festival. "It's a big learning process. I won't call it a curve because for me it's very much a trajectory. But there's such friendliness and cooperation in Stroud, everyone's so willing to help." And perhaps that answers my original question--perhaps this sense of community, which so inspired Netlam Bigg, is what makes Stroud such an extraordinary place for writers.

Jamila is the director of this year's Stroud Book Festival and will also be appearing at the Subscription Rooms at 6pm on Saturday 12th and the Museum in the Park on Thursday 17th at 4pm.

Anna Bailey studied Creative Writing at Bath Spa University, and now works as a freelance journalist and illustrator. She lives in the Cotswolds with her husband and their ludicrously spoilt cat.



KATIE FFORDE

BY NIKKI OWEN

THERE AREN'T MANY TIMES IN LIFE WHEN YOU CAN SAY THAT YOU'VE MET SOMEONE TRULY LOVELY. STEP FORWARD AUTHOR KATIE FFORDE.

Fess up time: I know Katie. I am lucky, over the past year to have got to know this amazing romantic novelist who has continuously topped the Sunday Times Bestseller list (last year's novel, *A Vintage Wedding* – a novel with our The Prince Albert pub as inspiration – topped the bestsellers list instantly.)

So, any excuse for a natter, we meet one day in the Star Anise café for a spot of lunch and when we get talking, Katie says that her take on life is, "You get what you give." Now, some may regard Katie's success as pretty lucky. But is it luck? Or is it something more, something we have to, dare I say, work at? (answer: yes!) "I just think it's important to be friendly," Katie says to me as I start to quiz her about being a writer and the effort required. "You have to be nice to everyone on the way up, because you never really know when you'll find yourself on the way back down."

It's this inclusive attitude that sums up this remarkable lady – that the people you meet should be treated with respect. Publishing books now for some twenty years, Katie's first steps into the novelist world weren't quite so straight forward, despite a family writing pedigree that includes an author mother, sister and cousin to name a few. "Well, you see, I used to love Mills and Boon, was obsessed with them – it was a kind of antidote to stress," Katie confesses. "Then we moved to Wales and I found myself there with a very young baby. My husband was away and in the middle of the night, I woke to feed the baby and heard rushing water. I went down stairs and saw the kitchen was completely flooded. For some reason, I actually knew where the stop cock was, and so wellies on, I went outside, found it, sorted it – and then it started

to snow, and I remember thinking quite clearly that it was such a funny story to tell at a dinner party, but I didn't know anyone to tell. And it's that moment I sort of detached myself and thought, right there, how the whole scene would make a good story. And I think it's that very moment that was the start of me thinking I could actually be a writer."

“ I tried writing Mills and Boon stories, but it just wasn't working and it was when I got a rejection letter that I got my head down and got on with it even more.

Indeed, it's Katie's sharp ability to observe as well as participate in life events that not only generates endless ideas, but helps create memorable characters, too. But, bottom line, it's a mixture of talent with sheer hard work that makes success really happen. "I started writing and someone said to me if you keep writing for ten years you'll make it to getting published." And how long did Katie keep at it for before her books went to print? "Eight," she replies, a smile on her face, eyes sparkling, freckles sprinkled on her summer sun complexion. "I tried writing Mills and Boon stories, but it just wasn't working and it was when I got a rejection letter that I got my head down and got on with it even more." Some call it determination – Katie calls it pig headedness – but either way, what Katie shows is that if you have enough determination, you can make things happen.

It's a lesson for us all I think, Katie's wonderful take on life. As I sat and listened to her talk in her gentle yet engaging voice, I found myself imagining what the world would be like if we all were a little more like Katie, all a little more forgiving, more friendly, as well as more patient and just that wee bit more motivated and where we had each other's backs (Katie is a great supporter of fellow authors and founded the Katie Fford Bursary Award to help aspiring romantic novelists.)

We finish our lunch and spend a good ten minutes catching up on family news (I live near to Katie's daughter) and author updates (Katie's next book is out in February 2017, plus she's currently writing a novella set for Kindle this Christmas). And of course, chat finds its way to the Book Festival in Stroud this month, (Katie is headlining the 'Love In The Afternoon' session at the Subscription Rooms on Thursday 17th, 3-6pm.)

We say our goodbyes and I am left with the warm feeling that not only do I have a friend in Katie, but it reminds me too that being friendly is not just a nice thing to do – it's essential. Because, when the chips are down, it's not just novels that need good characters – we need them in real life, too.

Nikki Owen is an author and writer. Her second book in the Project Trilogy – the Killing Files (Harper Collins), is out now. Visit her blog nikkiowen.wordpress.com or website nikkiowenauthor.com. Catch her at the Stroud Book Festival on Monday 14th and Wednesday 16th



RACHEL JOYCE

BY LEAH GRANT

I WAS NERVOUS ABOUT INTERVIEWING RACHEL JOYCE, I WON'T LIE. THOUGH I JUMPED AT THE CHANCE INITIALLY (WHAT ASPIRING WRITER WOULDN'T?), WHEN I EVENTUALLY STARTED TO PLAN OUR INTERVIEW I FOUND MYSELF AGONISING OVER THE QUESTIONS I WOULD ASK, THE WAY I WOULD PRESENT MYSELF OVER THE PHONE. TO DISCUSS WRITING WITH A MAN BOOKER PRIZE NOMINEE, AN INTERNATIONALLY BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND AN AWARD-WINNING WRITER OF NUMEROUS RADIO PLAYS...IT ALL SUDDENLY SEEMED SO INTIMIDATING AND I COULDN'T HELP BUT FEEL HOPELESSLY ILL-EQUIPPED.

Luckily for me, Rachel is one of those people who chats to you as if you're an old friend and selflessly imparts her writerly knowledge as if somehow you're her professional equal. In fact, to hear Rachel share her writing advice, and to learn that even an award-winning author doesn't assume she's got the job nailed, is a completely humbling (and anxiety-easing) experience: "I still read a lot and jot down a sentence if I think I've never thought of that structure before, or a word. Never think that you know how to do it."

Having initially carved a career for herself as an actress, Rachel began writing plays for radio when she became pregnant with her first daughter ("I think what's great about having acted first is that you have a very strong sense of a kind of structure of storytelling...") and it was through her playwriting that Harold Fry, the eponymous protagonist of her debut novel, was born.

Originally broadcast on BBC Radio 4 as an afternoon play, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* was long-listed for the prestigious Man Booker Prize after it was first published as a novel back in 2012. The story, which follows the journey of a retired brewery worker as he travels, on foot, from his home in Devon to a hospice in Berwick-upon-Tweed, was one that was deeply personal to Rachel, not just because Harold's journey seemed to aptly mirror her own ("I was writing about a man making an unlikely journey and I was also writing a book which seemed quite an unlikely journey, so I really fed in all my emotions about writing into Harold's walk..."), but also because, in 2005, Rachel's father sadly passed away from cancer: "I think often you find yourself writing a story and it's fulfilling some little gap or need or whatever it is in yourself. I

wasn't really consciously writing it for my dad, but I look back and it seems very right that at a time when I was losing my dad I chose to write a story about a man trying to save someone..."

Two years after the publication of *Harold Fry*, Rachel decided to explore the story from a different angle, choosing instead to focus on the perspective of Queenie Hennessy – Harold's former colleague. For Rachel, it was important that this new book was not considered a sequel to Harold's story, but rather a standalone novel, one that could be read independently or at the same time as its counterpart: "For me, it would not be fair if you had to read both, but you could read one and then not read the other...or even read them at the same time..."

“ I don't just sit there and it all comes, I have to really work it out...there is a satisfaction for me in eventually carving something that you believe in, but for me it takes a very long time and a lot of mistakes...

Now, with three novels under her belt (*Perfect*, her second book, was published in 2013), and a fourth in the pipeline, Rachel has truly established herself as a serious novelist, one whose opinion on the subject deserves recognition and respect. For those of us luckily enough to live in and around Stroud, this year Rachel will join the magnificent array of writers and poets who will be participating in the town's first ever book festival giving attendees the opportunity to hear this bestselling novelist in discussion with Alice Jolly and Caroline Sanderson at their event on Friday 18th November: "It has such a creative energy,

Stroud, that it seems a very obvious place to have a festival."

Rachel is a modest writer, one who, despite her success, is more than happy to admit how difficult the task at hand can be ("I don't just sit there and it all comes, I have to really work it out...there is a satisfaction for me in eventually carving something that you believe in, but for me it takes a very long time and a lot of mistakes..."), and yet she is clearly passionate about writing and creativity not just as a career or a hobby, but as a personal (and perhaps even, societal) need, and it is this genuine concern and appreciation that is truly inspiring: "...one of the things that worries me is that we live in a society that seems not to value creativity as much as it was valued when I was at school and I fear that if we're not allowed to be creative then we're putting a cork in something that is quite dangerous whereas if you're allowed to express the darker things and the things that confuse you...that's all really, really positive and for the good."

Rachel will be appearing at the Stroud Book Festival with Alice Jolly and Caroline Sanderson on Friday 18th November at the Subscription Rooms, visit stroudfestival.org and subscriptionrooms.org.uk for further info. Her book of seven stories for Christmas, *A Snow Garden and Other Stories* will be out on November 3rd in paperback.

Leah Grant is a writer and photographer with a keen interest in art and literature. On her blog, Bellyful of Art, you can find reviews of exhibitions, installations, dance performances and literary events as well as her own lovingly created pieces of short fiction artbellyful.wordpress.com



HANNAH SHAW

IT'S A VERY BUSY TIME FOR STROUD, AND A WONDERFUL TIME TO BE A STROUD RESIDENT. THIS MONTH SEES THE LAUNCH OF STROUD BOOK FESTIVAL, A NEW VENTURE WHICH WILL SHOWCASE THE PLETHORA OF LITERARY TALENT THE TOWN HAS TO OFFER. ONE OF THOSE WHO WILL BE SHOWCASED IS LOCAL ILLUSTRATOR AND WRITER HANNAH SHAW.

BY KATE MONTGOMERY

I meet Hannah at her home near Stroud just a week after she and her family moved in. While she apologises profusely for the mess (of which there was none at all, not even a crumb of breakfast toast on the table), I look over the last five years or so of her work. And what a catalogue of work. Hannah has drawn for some of the best known (and best loved) children's writers of our time, from Dick King-Smith to the Children's Laureate (2011-2013) Julia Donaldson it seems that Hannah really is at the top of her game. A phrase she laughs at when I say it. "No, I don't think so, but I've been very lucky to have been asked to draw for some of my favourite writers." Not that Hannah is a one-trick pony by any means. Her written work includes some of the best loved literary characters around today. If you haven't caught up with Stan Stinky on his wondrous adventures, you really should.

The key to Hannah's work is fun. Simple exuberance with childhood delights. Who remembers mud-pies? Nose picking? Believing that you could magically communicate with your dog (or cat) if you shared enough food/saliva? (Or perhaps it was just me on that one). It's these deliciously gross childhood rites of passage that Hannah is best at depicting for children today. Delightful anthropomorphised characters which disgust and delight in equal measure. When Hannah shows me some of her graduate work from her degree portfolio it's clear to see she has always had a sense of playful horror. A piece which documents the humorous dismemberment of rival gangsters sticks in my mind as particularly gruesome and yet undeniably funny.

Hannah's style is inevitably influenced by some of her literary and illustrative heroes. The Oxford based artist Mini Grey and David Roberts who illustrated the fabulous 'Rosie Revere Engineer' top the list of artistic favourites that have inspired Hannah's quirky and rich style. "As a

child I would read anything illustrated by Quentin Blake", Hannah tells me, "so Roald Dahl was always a favourite of mine. But I loved anything featuring animals!" Drawing animals has long been a staple of Hannah's work. "I think I prefer drawing animals as it allows so much more freedom!" Hannah confides, "They can misbehave in ways small children can't. When I illustrated Dick King-Smith's collection about Sophie it was a little more of a challenge because Sophie ages from around 4 years old to around 9, so I had to ensure continuity as she aged through the series. You don't get that so much with the animals I create as they're largely age-less."

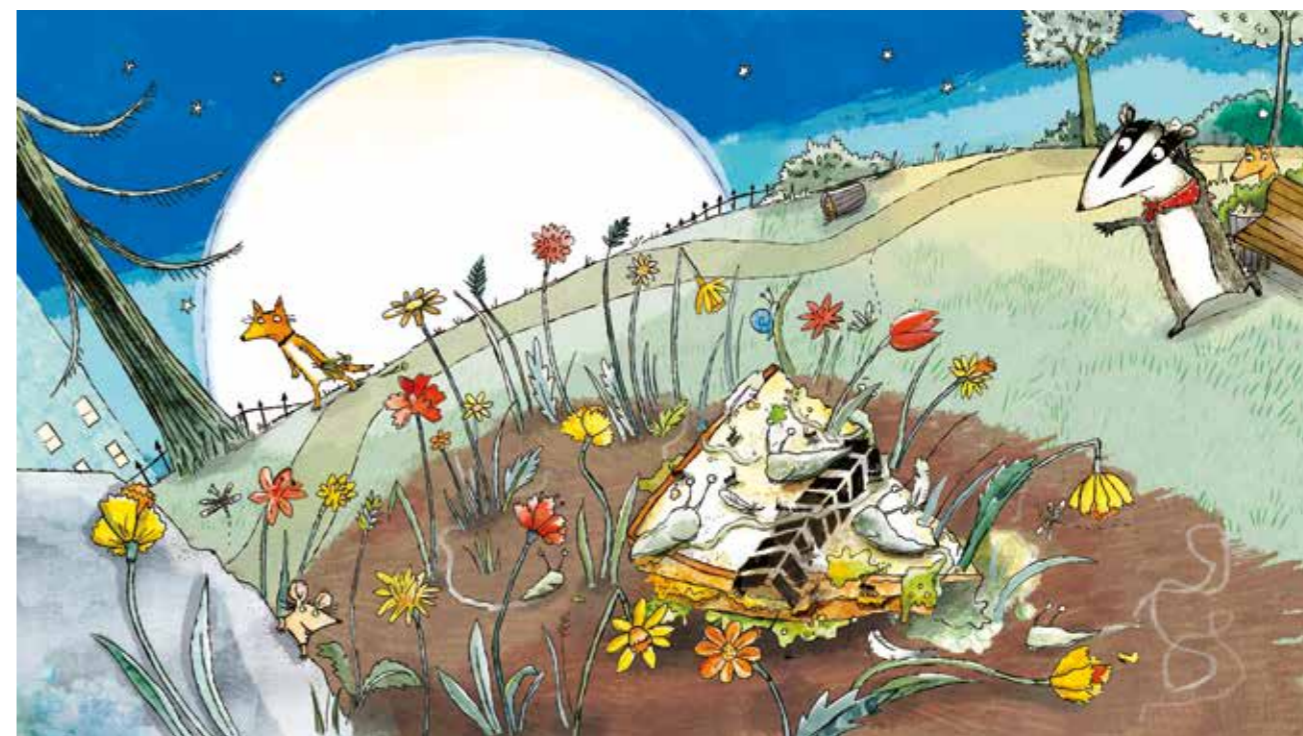
Her latest project involves a collection of lovable misfit animals aptly called 'The Scruffs', a project Hannah is really beginning to get her teeth in to when we meet. "Writing and illustrating can be a bit of a lonely process, I'm writing and illustrating by myself at the moment but I really enjoy all my collaborative projects. I try to balance everything with being a mum and doing lots of school visits." Hannah explains. "I really enjoy working in different mediums and it's always such a pleasure to work alongside children, be it my own or others. It's really inspiring. I get so many letters from children all over the world who love my books. It's really humbling and wonderful. I reply to all of them." Hannah's style, albeit distinctive, is a mix of pen and ink, watercolour, scribbles and doodles which are all over and under laid and finally digitised. "It's a rather long process," Hannah explains, "it takes around six months if I work on it solidly, longer if I have lots of projects. Picture books have changed a lot over the past few years, it's much more competitive now than ever before."

It's lovely to see Hannah's work as it's progressed over time, from the early years at Brighton University to the accomplished and award



Hannah's work will be exhibited from 11th November in the Subscription Rooms along with Martha Lightfoot, Tom Percival and Rebecca Ashdown. Hannah is also hosting two events at The Museum in the Park on 19th November and 20th November. See the Stroud Book Festival website for more information at stroudartsfestival.org

Kate Montgomery is a writer, artist and blogger. She lives in Stroud with her husband and two daughters. She hosts creative writing groups and wastes far too much time instagramming her food @clevermonty



A GUIDE TO STROUD'S INDEPENDENT PUBLISHERS AND BOOK SHOPS

BY HANNAH TURNER

WITH STROUD FRINGE AND THE STROUD THEATRE FESTIVAL STILL FRESH IN OUR MINDS, IT IS EASY TO REMEMBER THE MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL TALENT THIS LITTLE TOWN BOASTS. HOWEVER, SUCH APTITUDE IS NOT ONLY RESTRICTED TO THE PERFORMING ARTS, AS STROUD IS ALSO HOME TO A NUMBER OF SUCCESSFUL AND IMAGINATIVE PUBLISHING HOUSES. WITH LITERARY PREDECESSORS SUCH AS LAURIE LEE, THESE INDEPENDENT ESTABLISHMENTS CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE TOWN WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF INTERESTING POETRY AND PROSE.

Following in Lee's footsteps, **Yew Tree Press** (yewtreepress.co.uk) specialises in local poetry. Initially set up to publish his own work, Philip Rush now produces pamphlets and anthologies exhibiting home-grown poetical talent. Seeing his pamphlets sell best at readings, he also promotes evenings of poetry at the Star Anise Arts Café and the Museum in the Park. Similarly, **Little Island Press** (littleislandpress.co.uk) pride themselves on producing high-brow poetry and fiction by discovering new authors, as well as reviving the forgotten. Currently their best-selling collection is written by the fascinating William Plomer; poet, black rights activist and editor for many of the Bond novels. Although small, this establishment has already gained the respect of critics and authors alike, as Don DeLillo deemed their upcoming collection of fictions by Gordon Lish 'some of the most fascinating American fictions of the last ten years'. What's more, **Awen Publications** (awenpublications.co.uk) also strives to produce imaginative and boundary-pushing fictions, as even their namesake is the Welsh word for 'inspiration'. Injected with spiritual and ecological values, their fiction provides a platform for environmental change.

As well as fiction and poetry, Stroud is also home to a number of history publishers. Who knew that this little town actually contains the UK's largest dedicated history publisher? **The History Press** (thehistorypress.co.uk) has four main areas of interest; military, transport, local and general history, which range from the Tudors to the Cold War. In an attempt to abolish the stigma of history as just facts and time-lines, their books provide a fresh way of enjoying history. Excitingly, one of their historical novels, 'Victoria and Abdel', is even going to be made into a film starring Dame Judi Dench next year. **Amberley Publishing** (amberley-books.com) also aims to broaden the appeal of history and have an impressive catalogue of over 2,000 titles ranging from general history to niche specialist interests. They are home to the popular 'Through Time' series; a collection of books that each focus on the local history of individual towns and villages throughout the UK.

In addition to history, there are also a number of publishers that produce many different works of non-fiction. **Hawthorn Press** (hawthornpress.com) focus on holistic parenting, crafts, storytelling and early education, to name but a few. Both local and international authors work towards the company's ethos of using literature to support a creative and sustainable world. Excitingly, as part of Stroud Book Festival Jamila Gavin will be running Storytelling Schools for children to learn how to tell stories to help prove their memory, vocabulary and confidence. In the interest of staying local, **Darien-Jones Publishing** (darien-jones.co.uk) is a specialist publishing company that has produced a number of highly acclaimed illustrated books and maps. Their recent publication, 'The Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty', provides a unique insight to the Cotswolds through its captivating photography, writing and design. **Gallery Pangolin** (gallery-pangolin.com) also focus on enchanting visuals, as their publications show-case sculptors that have featured in their Chalford-based gallery. They have recently

been commissioned to accompany their George Fullard exhibition with a monograph on him, produced by acclaimed author and art historian Michael Bird.

And where would such publishing houses be without good bookshops to store their literature? Be it old or new, Stroud is not shy of providing a few of them too. Nothing quite beats the crispness of new pages, of which you can find plenty in **Stroud Bookshop** and the **Yellow-Lighted Bookshop** (yellow-lightedbookshop.co.uk) in Nailsworth. From the latest Man Booker nominees to colourful children's books, and enticing travel guides to mouth-watering cook books, these bookshop's neatly stacked shelves are packed with fresh pages aching to be turned. Often you can find in-store appearances from local authors signing their latest releases. Stroud also offers hundreds of well-thumbed titles in **R & R Books** (randrusedbooks.co.uk), who also have a regular stall at the Shambles Market, for those hunting for a bargain. Additionally, **Inprint's** (inprint.co.uk) stylish bookshop provides a mecca for out-of-print literature, specialising mainly in cinema. The shop's small interior is full to the brim of interesting out-of-print books and magazines, giving it its film-like atmosphere. After visiting one of these shops, the perfect place to start your new literary adventure is **Black Book Café** (blackbookcafe.com). Its smooth coffee, delicious bagels and book-lined walls provides an idyllic and peaceful reading spot. If you happen to find a book that you simply cannot put down, swap it for an old favourite and let the novel's journey continue...

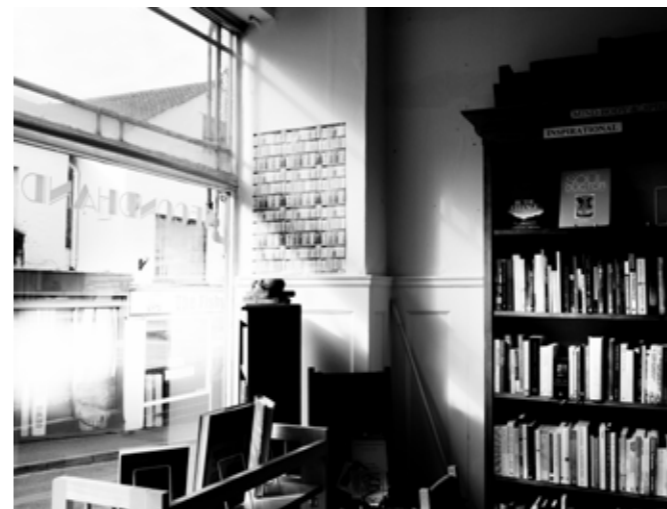
Hannah has recently graduated from Cardiff University studying English. Whilst hoping to pursue a career in publishing, she is involved in all aspects of literature and also works at the newly opened The Vault in Nailsworth.



Inprint



Black Book Café



R&R Books



Stroud Bookshop

Images by: James Krizzyk

Late September, Bisley Road

The sun's a midweek work-wound, hung on varicose networks of contrails and stiffened, bloody swabs of cloud.

Cars hiss out of town, lose late commuters in the green solitudes of common land.

A river wind scoops up remnants of the day, hustles eastward, a trace of rain marbled like seeds on its tidal tongue.

The street's brick face is briefly iridescent, curved like the shell of a basking dragonfly.

All's still for a moment. Doors, stuttered shut, lose their numbering to the scissor-cut tarmac-swallowed shadows of trees.

Below the road, a woman sings in her garden, picks pears for the freezer.

Further away, a window slips open, spits out wasp-stung hip hop, its precision lost to the valley's echo chamber.

The town trades ambers with a Rothko painting, slips into attentive hunger as the pub

calls at every third door like a friendly beggar, its laughter brisk as the rattle of change in work-stained trouser pockets.

Where are you headed? someone calls. Into the small mouth of the town, erratic

through the cooling lanes, to the places where women gather, where it is easier to believe in the warm contingencies of spring.

Adam Horovitz

facebook.com/littlemetropolisalbum
@LittleMetro



WRITE ON...

A GUIDE TO PUBLISHED (AND SELF-PUBLISHED) AUTHORS, POETS, SHORT STORY WRITERS AND BOOK ILLUSTRATORS BASED IN THE FIVE VALLEYS...

REBECCA ASHDOWN

The Whopper, How The Library (Not The Prince) Saved Rapunzel (illustrations), Bob And Flo (series), Odd Socks (illustrations), The Glump And The Peeble (illustrations), Zoo Boy (illustrations)

rebeccaashdown.me

JANE BAILEY

Eats Cheats And Leaves, Tommy Glover's Sketch Of Heaven, Mad Joy, An Angel In Waiting, Promising

jane-bailey.co.uk

JOHN BASSETT

Spring, Summer And Autumn

spanielworks.co.uk

JO BOUSFIELD

Ten Sonnets, Ten Sonnets For Children, Ask Me, 20 Poems For 2010, Luminous Tales, Glove

jobousfield.co.uk

NIMUE BROWN

When A Pagan Prays, Spirituality Without Structure, Intelligent Designing, Hunt The Egret, Beyond The Map, Druidry And Meditation, Lost Bards And Dreamers, Hopeless Maine (series), Druidry And The Ancestors, Pagan Dreaming, Letters Between Gentlemen

druidlife.wordpress.com

TOM BROWN

Hopeless Maine (series/illustrations), The Raven's Child (illustrations)

hopelessmaine.com

JOANNA CAMPBELL

Tying Down The Lion, When Planets Slip Their Tracks

joanna-campbell.com

FRED CHANCE

A Moment On The Road, Circus, Foundry, Tell Em I'm Gone, Picture This, This Picture, Landmarks, Water Marks, Sightseeing In Texas, Seeing Blues Speaking Jazz

fredchance.co.uk

JEFF CLOVES

The Official Conker Book, This Picture, Seeing Blues Speaking Jazz, Line And Length, Visions Of Poesy, Poets Riff: 30 Years 30 Poems, RiffRaffRocks, The Lotus Eaters and The Brixham Beats, Popular Poetry

JILLY COOPER

Animals In War, How To Survive Christmas, The Common Years, Class, Bella, Emily, Harriet, Imogen, Lisa And Co, Octavia, Prudence, Rivals, Polo, The Man Who Made Husbands Jealous, Appassionata, Score!, Pandora, Wicked!, Jump!, Riders, Mount!

jillycooper.co.uk

JOHN DICKINSON

Muddle And Win, The Lightstep, WE, The Cup Of The World (trilogy)

john-dickinson.net

JOHN DOUGHERTY

Stinkbomb and Ketchup Face (series), Zeus (series), Jack Slater (series), Banshi O'Hara (series), Niteracy Hour, Finn MacCool and the Giant's Causeway, Twice Upon A Time, The Story Of Sir Dave, Astron

visitingauthor.com

KAREN EBERHARDT-SHELTON

A Women's Guide To Saving The World, A Hornet's Nest Of Bees

FELICITY EVERETT

The Story Of Us

penguin.co.uk/authors/felicity-everett

ROSHI FERNANDO

Homesick

bloomsbury.com/author/roshi-fernando

KATIE FFORDE

Living Dangerously, the Rose Revived, Wild Designs, Stately Pursuits, Life Skills, Thyme Out, Artistic Licence, Highland Fling, Paradise Fields, Restoring Grace, Flora's Lot, Practically Perfect, Going Dutch, Wedding Season, Love Letters, A Perfect Proposal, the Undercover Cook, Summer of Love, Recipe For Love, Staying Away At Christmas, From Scotland

With Love, A French Affair, A Christmas Feast and Other Stories, The Perfect Match, A Vintage Wedding, A Secret Garden /A Summer At Sea

katiefforde.com

JONNY FLUFFYPUNK

Poundland Rimbaud, The Sustainable Nihilist's Handbook

jonnyfluffypunk.co.uk

JAMILA GAVIN

Coram Boy, The Surya Trilogy, Grandpa Chatterji (series), Out of India, The Blood Stone, Kamla and Kate (series), Fine Feathered Friend, Someone's Watching Someone's Waiting, The Magci Orange Tree, Monkey In The Stars, I Want To Be An Angel, Three Indian Princesses, Three Indian Goddesses, School For Princes, The Robber Baron's Daughter, From Out Of The Shadows, The Whistling Monster, Danger By Moonlight, Blackberry Blue And Other Fairy Tales, Deadly Friend, Forbidden Memories, The Wormholers, The Hideaway, Double Dare, The Girl Who Rode A Lion, The Lake Of Stars, The Singing Bowls, Alexander The Great, Tales From India

jamilagavin.co.uk

JANE GORDON-CUMMING

The Haunted Bridge, A Proper Family Christmas

janegordoncumming.wordpress.com

DENNIS GOULD

Visions Of Poesy, The Book Of Books, You Are The Poet, Poets Riff: 30 Years 30 Poems, RiffRaffRocks, Stroud Blues

JUDITH GUNN

Gold, Studying Tsotsi, Studying The Usual Suspects, The Angelmaker, Dostoyevsky: A Life Of Contradiction, A Pocketful Of Dynamite

judithgunn.com

KIRSTY HARTSIOTIS

Gloucestershire Ghost Tales, Suffolk Folk Tales, Wiltshire Folk Tales

kirstyhartsiotis.co.uk

PIP HEYWOOD

The Eye Of The Hare, Spring Head

pipheywood.com

POLLY HIGGINS

I Dare You To Be Great, Eradicating Ecocide, Earth Is Our Business

pollyhiggins.com

CHRIS HILL

The Pick-Up Artist, Song Of The Sea God

chrishillauthor.co.uk

ADAM HOROVITZ

The Great Unlearning, Next Year In Jerusalem, Turning, A Thousand Laurie Lees, Waiting For The Flame, Only The Flame Remains, Little Metropolis

adamhorovitz.co.uk

MICHAEL HOROVITZ

Midsummer Morning Jog Log, Wordsounds and Sightlines: New and Selected Poems, A New Waste Land: Timeship Earth At Millennium, The Wolverhampton Wanderer, Love Poems: Nineteen Poems of Love, Lust and Spirit, Bank Holiday: A New Testament For The Love Generation, Poetry For the People, High Notes, Nude Lines For Larking In Present Night Soho

PATRICK HOWELL

Consistently Brilliant On A Breezy Hilltop: A History Of The Cotswold Players The First 100 Years

cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk

JOHN INGLEDEW

How To Have Creative Ideas: A Guide To Creative Thinking, The A-Z Of Visual Ideas - How To Solve Any Brief, And Now You Are Going

To Believe Us: Twenty-five Years Behind The Scenes At Chelsea FC

CAROLINE JAINE

A Better Basra

askancepublishing.wordpress.com

CINDY JEFFERIES

Heart Magazine (series), Fame School (Series), Stadium School (series), Dark Water, Sebastian's Quest

cindyjefferies.co.uk

BILL JONES

The Hall Of Misery, Growing Victorians In Your Garden

hawkerspot.com

ALICE JOLLY

If Only You Knew, What The Eye Doesn't See, Dead Babies And Seaside Towns

alicejolly.com

JENNY JOSEPH

Unlooked-for Season, Rose in the Afternoon, The Thinking Heart, Beyond Descartes, Persephone, Beached Boats, The Inland Sea, Selected Poems, Ghosts and Other Company, Extended Similes, Led by the Nose, Extreme of Things, Nothing Like Love

RACHEL JOYCE

The Unlikely Pilgrimage Of Harold Fry, A Faraway Smell Of Lemon, A Snow Garden And Other Stories, The Music Shop, Perfect, The Love Song Of Miss Queenie Hennessy

rachel-joyce.co.uk

CLAIRE KING

Everything Love Is, The Night Rainbow

claire-king.com

EUGENE LAMBERT

The Sign Of One

eugenelambert.com

MARTHA LIGHTFOOT

Illustrations: Tractor Saves The Day, Fire Engine Is Flashing, Monster Truck Mountain Rescue, Ambulance In Action, Dumper Truck Dash!, Digger To The Rescue, Racing Car Is Roaring, Police Car On Patrol, The Lion's Share, Quiet As A Mouse, Aesop's Fables, The Box, One Lucky Duck

marthalighfoot.com

SUE LIMB

Jess Jordan (series), Ruby Rogers (series), Up The Garden Path, Love Forty, The Wordsmiths at Gorsemere, Chicken Mission, Tree Trouble, Love's Labours, Me Jane, Big Trouble, Sheep's Eyes And Hogwash, Big And Little, You At The Back Stop Laughing, Passion Fruit, Enlightenment, China Lee

suelimb.com

ELIZABETH LINDSAY

Silverlake Fairy School (series), Magic Pony (series), Socks

elizabethlindsay.co.uk

KEVAN MANWARING

The Bardic Handbook, The Way Of Awen, The Book Of The Bardic Chair, Spring Fall, Oxfordshire Folk Tales, Desiring Dragons, Northamptonshire Folk Tales, Lost Islands, The Windsmith Elegy (series), The Immanent Moment, Turning The Wheel

kevanmanwaring.co.uk

IAN MCEWAN

Nutshell, The Children Act, Sweet Tooth, Solar, For You Libretto, On Chesil Beach, Saturday, Atonement, Amsterdam, Enduring Love, The Daydreamer, Black Dogs, The Innocent, Soursweet, The Child In Time, Or Shall We Die?, The Imitation Game, The Comfort Of Strangers, The Cement Garden, In Between The Sheets, First Love Last Rites

ianmcewan.com

ELVIS MCGONAGALL

Mostly Dreich

elvismcgonagall.co.uk

WENDY MEDDOUR

How The Library (Not The Prince) Saved Rapunzel, Wendy Quill (series), The Secret Railway And The Crystal Caves, The Glump And The Peeble, Cinnamon Grove (series), Brave Little Beasts, A Hen In The Wardrobe, Dottie Blanket And The Hilltop

wendymeddour.wordpress.com

TONY MEEUWISSEN

Remarkable Animals

JEHANNE MEHTA

Heart Of Yew, Walking Two Ways, The Difficult Gate, A Way To Meet, The Burning Word

jehannehta.com

TERESA MOOREY

The Fairy Bible, The Numerology Bible, Working With Hypnotherapy, Working With Spirit Guides, Working With Psychic Protection

teresamoorey.com

ANTHONY NANSON

Gloucestershire Folk Tales, Deep Time, Exotic Excursions, Words Of Re-Enchantment, Storytelling And Ecology

anthonymanson.co.uk

NIKKI OWEN

Subject 375, The Killing Files

nikkiowenauthor.com

TOM PERCIVAL

Imaginary Zoo, Jack's Amazing Shadow, By The Light Of The Moon, Bubble Trouble, Herman's Holiday, Little Legends (series), Tobias And The Super Spooky Ghost Book, A Home For Mr Tipps, Herman's Letter

tom-percival.com

JAY RAMSAY

Monuments, The Kuan Yin Chronicles, Kingdom Of The Edge, Local Universe, Alchemy, The Heart's Ragged Evangelist, Transmissions, Improvisations, Places Of Truth, The Poet In You, Out Of Time, Tao Te Ching, Crucible Of Love, I Ching, Psychic Poetry, Raw Spiritual, After Rumi, Anamnesis, Strange Days, The Opening, Knife In The Light, The Hole, In The Valley Of Shadows, Divinations, Into The Further Reaches, Angels Of Fire, Transformation, Earth Ascending, The White Poem

jayramsay.co.uk

KATE RIORDAN

The Girl In The Photograph, Birdcage Walk, The Red Letter, The Shadow Hour

kateriordan.com

JANE RYAN

Missing Dad Wanted

jrryanauthor.co.uk

PHILIP RUSH

Fetching Rugs For Claude Debussy, Watermarks, Punk, Big Purple Garden Poems, How To Listen To Classical Music, I-Spy Stroud

yewtreepress.co.uk

CAROLINE SANDERSON

Someone Like Adele, Kiss Chase And Conkers, A Rambling Fancy: In The Footsteps Of Jane Austen

twitter.com/carosanderson

HANNAH SHAW

Bear On A Bike, Evil Weasel, Erroll, Crocodiles Are the Best Animals of All! (illustrations), The Sleep Sheep (illustrations), The Grizzly Bear With The Frizzy Hair, School for Bandits, Who Ate Auntie Iris? (illustrations), The Disgusting Sandwich (illustrations), We Have Lift Off! (illustrations), Stan Stinky (series), The Fabulous Phartlehorn Affair (illustrations), The Spoon of Doom (illustrations), Wizard Dogs (illustrations), Max and Molly's Guide To Trouble (series/illustrations), Mr Birdsnest and the House Next Door (illustrations), The Snake Who Came To Stay (illustrations)

hannahshawillustrator.co.uk

TRACY SPIERS

My Twin Sisters Spag and Bol

tracyspiers.com

CRISPIN THOMAS

Inner Goal: The Poetry Of Football

footballpoets.org

JOANNA TROLLOPE

The Book Boy, Britannia's Daughters, The Country Habit, Eliza Stanhope, Sense and Sensibility/ The Choir, A Village Affair, A Passionate Man, The Rector's Wife, The Men And The Girls, A Spanish Lover, The Best Of Friends, Next Of Kin, Other People's Children, Marrying The Mistress, Girl From The South, Brother And Sister, Second Honeymoon, Friday Nights, The Other Family/ Daughters-In-Law, The Soldiers Wife, Balancing Act

joannatrollope.com

RICK VICK

A Coat Of No Particular Colour, Ask The Ferryman, He Passes All The Time, Indian Eye

ANDREW WARD

The Birth Father's Tale, Football's Strangest Matches, Golf's Strangest Rounds, Horse Racing's Strangest Races, Cricket's Strangest Matches, Bridge's Strangest Games

HELEN WARD

The Moonrat and the White Turtle, The Tin Forest, Just So Stories (illustrations), The Wind In The Willows (illustrations), White Fang (illustrations)

helenward-illustrator.co.uk

SUZANNE WATTS

Hilda Must Be Dancing (illustrations), Boswell the Kitchen Cat (illustrations), Bear Hugs: Romantically Ridiculously Animal

Rhymes (illustrations), Ten Naughty Little Monkeys (illustrations)

suzannewattsart.tumblr.com

FURTHER READING:

POETS: Richard Austin, Uta Baldauf (utasart.tumblr.com), Gabriel Bradford Millar, Stuart Butler (radicalstroud.blogspot.co.uk), Maria Butunoi, Polly Howell, Steve Morris, Helena Petre

SHORT STORY WRITERS:

Philip Douch (philipdouch.org.uk), Mel Golding, Leah Grant (artbellyful.wordpress.com), Anthony Hentschel, Rachael Hill (breathingforwords.co.uk), Sarah Hitchcock, John Holland (johnhollandwrites.com), Clare Hudman, Romy Collingwood, Katherine Hunter, Hannah Persaud (hannahpersaud.com), Jan Petrey, Simon Piney, Ken Popple, Andrew Stevenson, Chloe Turner (turnerpen2paper.com)

LITERATURE LISTINGS

ALE HOUSE**WEDS 2ND/9TH/16TH/23RD/30TH****Rick Vick: Writing Group**

A weekly writing group run by Stroud Festival's Rick Vick. Discover your hidden voice, all welcome! 7-9pm £5 for further information contact Rick on 07973 225 694

ATELIER**TUES 22ND****Radio Cinema**

Glen Gould - talking about playing... hosted by Sean Roe. Discover the amazing world of 'spoken word radio' (podcast etc) at the monthly Radio Cinema - Listen together - start a discussion and/or continue listening back home...Listening can be done while stitching, knitting, making notes or ironing...7pm £3

atelierstroud.co.uk

GLOUCESTERSHIRE**PRINTMAKING COOPERATIVE****SAT 29TH - SUN 20TH NOV****Stroud Celebrates Letterpress**

An exhibition to coincide with the Stroud Book Festival and also to start Dennis Gould's 25 years of letterpress printing jubilee celebrations. Letterpress work from Stroud area and further afield. Mon, Tues and Thurs 9:30am-12:30pm/Sat 10am-4pm

gpchq.co.uk

THE LITTLE VIC**SUN 27TH****Stroud Out Loud!**

Come and join in at the lovely new venue for Stroud's monthly spoken word showcase. Celebrate creative free speech with this entertaining bardic circle for all. Whatever your party piece - a new poem, comedy routine, folk tale, song, dramatic monologue, interpretative dance ... come and share it! Arrive early for a slot (10 mins or less). Celebrate the art of memory and learn your piece by heart. 7pm Free

STROUD BOOK FESTIVAL**FRI 11TH-SUN 20TH**

See p4-5! Stroud Festival presents the first Stroud Book Festival featuring Ian McEwan, Katie Fforde, Nikki Owen, Hannah Shaw, Michael Horovitz, Dennis Gould, Rachel Joyce, Sue Limb,

Murray Lachlan Young, Jilly Cooper, Tom Percival, Adam Horovitz and many many more!! Far too much to squeeze onto this page...Events take place at the Subscription Rooms, the Museum in the Park and Stroud Library. Visit stroudartsfestival.org and pick up the free programme (available everywhere round Stroud) for full details...

stroudartsfestival.org

SVA**SUN 20TH****Stroud Short Stories**

Ten of Gloucestershire's finest authors read their specially selected stories at what the Cheltenham Literature Festival called "possibly the best short story event in the South West". It's the 13th short story evening - back home at the SVA after their birthday celebration at the Cheltenham Literature Festival. As ever, please book early as they always sell out. Expect the beautiful, the funky, the funny and, of course, the unexpected! 7:30pm £7adv from sva.org.uk (John Street)

FRI 25TH**Jonny Fluffypunk hosts John Street Social**

The (late; he's been too busy) 'official' launch of Jonny Fluffypunk's new(ish) book, Poundland Rimbaud, in time for the Christmas rush! Jonny's much-awaited 'difficult second volume': poetry, flash fiction and threadbare philosophy fused together into something that is part memoir, part suburban escapism and part lavishly-illustrated cry for help. Includes the transcript of the author's acclaimed solo show Man Up, Jonny Fluffypunk, fully annotated to enable the reader to recreate the experience in the comfort of their own home.' 7-11pm £1 membership otd (John Street)

sva.org.uk

NEW BREWERY ARTS CENTRE CIRENCESTER**SAT 5TH****Creative Writing: Science Fiction with Eugene Lambert**

In this workshop on science fiction, participants will explore the particular challenges in writing for the genre (such as building, populating and dramatizing a credible, inviting world) through examples, discussion, writing exercises and review. 10am-4pm £75

SAT 12TH**Leather Journals and Sketchbooks with Emily Northern**

In this workshop, we will be making two books, a leather bound sketchbook, and a soft cover notebook. In the morning we will focus on some basic bookbinding techniques and create our notebook using Japanese Stab Binding. In the afternoon we will make our leather bound sketchbooks using a Longstitch binding method. 10am-4pm £75

SAT 19TH - SUN 20TH**Writing the Novel with Rona Laycock**

Two days exploring character, plots, structure and style all with the aim of tackling the craft of novel writing. Sat 10am-4pm/Sun 10:30am-3:30pm £150

TUES 29TH**Writers in the Brewery: A Celebration of Writing**

Writers in the Brewery is a 'pop-in' social session for everyone who is interested in writing. Poets, fiction writers, biographers and non-fiction writers - all are welcome. Guest speaker/performer each month: an author, publisher, poet, journalist, musician or groups, who share their work and entertain you! It is an opportunity to meet like-minded people, learn about groups, competitions, classes and workshops and a chance to showcase your own work if you want to. So come along to share your work or just sit back, sip your drink and listen to others. 7-9pm £4

newbreweryarts.org.uk

ANTHOLOGIES, COLLECTIVES, GROUPS, ORGANISATIONS AND REGULAR EVENTS:

FIRE SPRINGS

A company of six performance storytellers and musicians who have worked together since 2000 featuring Kevan Manwaring, Anthony Nanson and Kirsty Hartsiotis. The collective have staged ecobardic storytelling epics and pioneering compilations of history, myth and intercultural encounter. They also run workshops in storytelling and creative writing for individuals and groups.

firesprings.org.uk

POETRY ARCHIVE

A not-for-profit organisation founded by poet laureate Andrew Motion and recording producer Richard Carrington that makes and acquires recordings of poets from around the English-speaking world and makes substantial excerpts from them freely available online.

poetryarchive.org

READATHON

Nailsworth based charity inspiring children to read for fun through their sponsored read in schools. The money raised provides children's hospitals with regular storyteller visits, plus a mobile bookcase jam-packed full of brand-new books, which are replenished every six weeks.

readathon.org

RIFFRAFF POETS

Legendary anarcho-pacifist poetry troupe featuring Dennis Gould, Jeff Cloves and the late PVT West. The Riff Raff Poets first performed together in St Ives in 1970 and for the next 37 years read their poetry at marches, demos, nuclear weapons factories, peace camps and festivals. Gould and Cloves still produce numerous poetry pamphlets and regularly perform together in Stroud. We highly recommend visiting Dennis Gould's stall at the Shambles on the weekend and if you are lucky he might still have a few copies left of Poets Riff: 30 Years 30 Poems and RiffRaffRocks lying around somewhere...

SHORT STORIES FOR GROWN UPS

A semi-regular short stories event held at No 23 Bar and Bistro on Nelson Street hosted and introduced by local writer-performer and winner of the 2015 Gloucestershire Writers Network short story competition Philip Douch.

philipdouch.org.uk

STROUD ARTISTS BOOKS

A group of practising artists and other creative individuals with an interest in Artist Books involved in Open Studio Events, Artist Book Fairs and Workshops. An inclusive group, one which embraces all abilities and interests!

facebook.com/groups/stroudartistsbooks

STROUD FOOTBALL POETS

Formed in a local pub by Dennis Gould and Stuart Butler the Football Poets have cut a formidable presence here in Stroud. From poetry performances at major festivals to stunning plays including No Pasaran, & WH Davies and the hosting of its acclaimed football poetry website. The site is the largest of its kind with 16,500 poems contributed to date and archived by the British Library, it's been run from 2000 to this day by local poet Crispin Thomas

footballpoets.org

STROUD OUT LOUD

A monthly spoken word open-mic showcase featuring poetry, storytelling and monologues. Whatever your party piece - a new poem, a comedy routine, a folk tale, a song, a dramatic monologue, your latest artwork - come and share it at their new venue the Little Vic

STROUD RADICAL READING GROUP

Meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at the Golden Fleece, the group aims to read a variety of articles and books on radical issues, feminism, environmentalism, trade unionism, politics, and current affairs.

STROUD SHORT STORIES

A night of short stories promoting local authors and their work organised by author John Holland. The Anthology is available now and includes eighty stories by fifty seven authors - nearly every story read at the nine Stroud Short Stories events from the first in June 2011 to April 2015...

stroudshortstories.blogspot.co.uk

MUSIC LISTINGS

ALE HOUSE

THURS 3RD

Bob Bowles

Superb and versatile blues guitarist. 8:30pm Free

FRI 4TH

The Charlton Blues kings

Six piece blues band from Gloucestershire with a reputation for fun, energetic performances of authentic Chicago, West Coast and Jump Blues. 8:30pm Free

THURS 10TH/24TH

The Human Jukebox

Eclectic covers from guitarists Aron Attwood and the Velvet Duke - at your request! 8:30pm Free

SAT 12TH

Dustmines

Live and loud - discerning, alternative rock covers from Stroud four-piece. 8:30pm Free

THURS 17TH

Dave Ayre Jazz Trio

Ever popular world class jazz session. 8:30pm Free

FRI 18TH

Southside

Country, Americana and southern rock. 8:30pm Free

FRI 25TH

Memphis

Blues, country & Americana. 8:30pm Free

BLACK BOOK CAFÉ

SAT 26TH

Open Mic Night

Black Book's popular open mic night! You know the drill...7:30pm Free and you can bring your own booze! (small corkage fee applies)

blackbookcafe.com

BAR GREYHOUND

SAT 5TH

Notorious

Expect to hear hip hop & rnb from the 90's and all the way up to the latest releases at this hugely popular monthly night by DJ's Dubbu and Will Mendoza! 8pm Free

facebook.com/BarGreyhound

THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE

THURS 3RD

Wildwood Jack

Melodic songs blend the acoustic guitar and ukulele with outstanding fingerstyle playing drawing influences from folk, country and world music. 8:30pm Free

FRI 4TH

Aranka's Cackle

The Cackle do not care for formalities and their only intention is to make you dance and feel irie. Up beat reggae, toasting & ska. 8:30pm Free

FRI 11TH

The Narco Lounge Combo

Bristol's most handsome band, constructing a Lynchian sound scape of noirish jazz, uneasy listening and space-age exotica. Brushed drums, tremolo guitars and voodoo marimbas create spiked cocktails in a nightclub where it is forever after hours.8:30pm Free

SAT 12TH

Crooked Stylus at the Hat & Stick

Grooves of many flavours: punk-dub, deviant disco, psyche-funk, deep shed and joyful noise! All curated and carefully selected by resident stylus-placer, Darius Akashic. 8pm Free (space is limited so get there early if you can!)

THURS 17TH

Open-mic Night with The Reverend Stretch

Let your talent do the talking. Don't leave it in the bedroom. Beginners welcome! 7:30pm Free

FRI 18TH

Big Joe Bone

A mix of delta blues, bluegrass, old-time, gospel and hillbilly music utilizing his raspy vocals, hard driving harmonica rhythms, sublime bottleneck slide guitar playing (on steel bodied resonator guitars) and lightning finger-picking skills on 5 string banjos...all held together by a very heavy stomping boot! 8:30pm Free

SAT 19TH

The Forgetting Curve + Shoun Shoun

The Forgetting Curve: surf/stoner/post-rock power trio! Think Shellac playing the Shadows with a dose of Kyuss for good measure! Angriely Angular tunes with surreal lyrics intertwined with quirkily timed instrumentals. Shoun Shoun: Channelling the spirit of Marlene Dietrich and Siouxsie Sioux, Shoun Shoun brings her quirky dissonance and drones mixed with interchanging sweet and strong, in-your-face vocals to Stroud. A truly unique one woman band. 8:30pm Free

THURS 24TH

Rodda's Hairy Craic

Irish acoustic session with Tim Potts. 8:30pm Free

FRI 25TH

Will Killeen

Highly acclaimed Irish acoustic blues guitarist, singer and songwriter. He has a totally unique style; celtic roots mixed with American blues. You can expect songs from early blues standards through to Dylan classics delivered with inimitable percussive guitar and whirling vocals.8:30pm free

crownandsceptrestroud.com

THE GOLDEN FLEECE

SAT 5TH

Swing from Paris

Bringing the sounds of a chic Parisian café and the French jazz of Django

Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli. Expect music by Edith Piaf, Charlie Parker, Duke Ellington and more - stylish gypsy jazz and vintage swing, with violin, guitars and double bass. 8:30pm Free

SAT 12TH

Jai W Jones & the Golden Fleece House Band

Jazz drummer and band leader brings an eclectic blend of jazz, blues and soul with an ever changing line-up of some of the South West finest professional players. 8:30pm Free

SAT 19TH

Lewis Clark Duo

Combining diverse and shared interests in blues, folk and soul to create a dynamic and distinctive live sound. Their musical style draws on their love of rhythm and blues and explores an eclectic range of influences including traditional British folk, American roots music and wider European traditions. 8:30pm Free

SAT 26TH

Zero Day Jazz Trio

Prominent jazz violinist Alex Taylor, double bassist Ron Phelan and pianist Jim Blomfield perform a swinging and upbeat mix of jazz tunes. 8:30pm Free

facebook.com/goldenfleecebar

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

SAT 26TH

Stroud Symphony Orchestra

Heart of the Five Valleys composed by Jonathan Trim (conductor of the Stroud Symphony Orchestra). This symphonic poem for orchestra was commissioned by Stroud Town Council for the Stroud 700 celebrations in 2004. The programme also includes Brahms Piano Concerto no 2 featuring soloist Poom Prommachart (currently artist in residence of Concorso Kulturmanagement in Berlin) and Tchaikovsky's Symphony no 4. 7:30pm £12/£10concs/under 14's free available from Subscription Rooms

stroudsymphony.org.uk

LANSDOWN HALL

SAT 19TH

All You Need Is The Beatles: Revolver 50th Anniversary Show

Acclaimed tribute band All You Need Is The Beatles celebrate fifty years of The Beatles' ground-breaking album, 'Revolver', with a special celebration concert at Lansdown Hall. 7:30pm £12.50/£10concs available from Trading Post

lansdownhall.org

THE MALTHOUSE

FRI 4TH

Watson & Broomers

Playing at the Malthouse on the first Friday of every month, these two brilliant musicians play an eclectic mix of jazz standards with a modern twist. With elements of gospel and funk thrown into the mix, they're not a duo to be missed. They like to play well into the evening and set the perfect atmosphere for a relaxed Friday night dinner. 7pm Free

SAT 5TH

Lewis Clark

Lewis Clark and double bassist Max Mees will be playing music based on a shared love of rhythm and blues, influenced by British folk and American roots music. They have a dynamic and distinctive sound that make for a fantastic Saturday evening. 7:30pm Free

FRI 11TH

Steve Ferbrache

Well known to Stroud, this is Steve's debut at the Malthouse. An accomplished and established singer and guitarist, Steve will be playing a vast variety of music from blues to country, to folk and rock covers. A lovely chap and a brilliant performer. 7pm Free

SAT 19TH

Whiteshillbillies Blue Grass

Something a bit different this evening! This folky roots band do things with a country twist and will be bringing their usual Western charm to the Malthouse for their second performance bringing a wide range of instruments including a banjo, double bass and mandolin. 7:30pm Free

FRI 25TH

Appleby Kinsey

The jazz quartet return bringing timeless jazz standards mixed with their own original songs. They're a winning combination of voices, guitar, flute and saxophone - listen out for some modern pop and Latin-flavoured tunes in their set list as well! 7:30pm Free

stroudmalthouse.com

NO 23

SAT 5TH - SUN 6TH

No 23 hosts Tubby Toms for Guy Forks with Stroud Calling.

This Bonfire Day and Night No 23 is very lucky to be teaming up with the brilliant Tubby Tom's - a local independent saucier now booming, increasingly stocked by a variety of specialist outlets from Made in Stroud to Harvey Nichols. A hot & sparkly feast with music provided by popular vinyl DJ duo Stroud Calling. Sat 11am-1pm/Sun 11am-11pm Free

OXJAM

FRI 11TH - SAT 12TH

A two night event in aid of Oxfam for a night of cocktails, live soul, funk and disco at Socialight on the Friday and over to the Star Anise on Saturday for reggae, dub and jungle. Fri 7pm-12am/ Sat 8pm-2am £5 a night/£8 for both available at Trading Post, Star Anise and Socialight

oxfam.org.uk/oxjam

THE PRINCE ALBERT

WEDS 2ND

Adam Beattie and the Consultants

Adam Beattie plays with his fine band of musicians on their 'Road not Taken' tour, with support tonight from Dominic Hooper who often performs with Brooke Sharkey. Blues and folk vibes! 8:30pm Free

THURS 3RD/10TH/24TH

Open Mic

The Albert's regular open mic night - all welcome and help is at hand if it's your first performance! Come and give it a go...8:30pm Free

FRI 4TH

Buffo's Wake

Brighton based (although a couple of Stroudies) gypsy punk band with a taste for the macabre and theatrical. Armed with accordions, violins and a bucket of gusto they will have you all dancing into the night and all the way home...8:30pm Free

SUN 6TH

Ma Polaines Great Decline

"Like a young Billie Holiday gate crashing Tom Waits Swordfishtrambones recording session..."Blues and roots duo Ma Polaines continue to build a massive reputation as an intriguing and hard to pigeon-hole act. 8:30pm Free

TUES 8TH

The Magic Lantern and Alabaster De Plume

Stretching the word folk around a moving, living spirit, this concert is here to smash illusions and cradle creativity around a bold and dancing flame. Jamie Doe is The Magic Lantern - an artist dedicated to remedying the anxiety and fear present in everyone. Gus Fairbairn performs tonight as Alabaster De Plume - a performer, writer, musician...Bizarrely and beautifully in limbo somewhere between Ethiopia and Ivor Cutler. With his saxophone. 8:30pm £8

FRI 11TH

Mr Tea and the Minions

Bringing the festival vibe inside with a cheeky mix of Balkan party music and gypsy flava ska, when you see their name you know you are going to have a GREAT time. A highlight of so many peoples summer. 8:30pm Free

SUN 13TH

Heg and the Wolf Chorus

Heg & the Wolf Chorus are an exciting blend of folk and dramatic pop, using violin and ghostly drums all overlaid with Heg's flamboyant piano and a rich wash of vocal harmonies to tell their dark stories. 8:30pm Free

WEDS 16TH

Andy White

Andy returns for a free entry gig (!!!) to promote his ten CD boxset which is being released next year. Now living in Australia Andy will be playing with his son Sebastian on drums and fantastic bass player Kat Ades. His shows are always a stand out night with his extensive repertoire incorporating startling love observation to downright rage. Rave on! 8:30pm Free

THURS 17TH

The Langan Band

Exciting three piece outfit offering a unique sound emerging from Celtic, Eastern European and progressive music. They present an extravagant, electric package that although contemporary has a traditional, acoustic aesthetic and a remarkably BIG sound. 8:30pm Free

FRI 18TH

Professor No Hair and the Wiglifters

Simon Palmer and Andre are the solid core of this outrageous jazz and boogie woogie trio. All the favourites played raucously on piano, double bass and that drum kit while reading the bible from the University of Soul. 8:30pm Free

SAT 19TH

William the Conqueror

Three passionate musicians (Ruarri Joseph, Harry Harding and Naomi Holmes) all hellbent on staying in love with what they love doing. "Stomping county rock almost verging into a stoner grunge reminiscent of Built to Spill." Americana Music Association UK. 8:30pm Free

SUN 20TH

MARINE

Ruby, Cara, Kaja and Beth are back. Riding high on a well-deserved wave this fantastic foursome have released a video to 'Rapunzel' check it out on Youtube then get a taste of their Fable Electric genre. 'The seven roots of all stories, fables, graphic novels, dance illustration, Alexander Calder and the sea'. TREMENDOUS. 8:30pm Free

WEDS 23RD

Jeze Hellard and Scott Cook

Jeze sings potent songs and is a fine guitarist and a pretty shit hot harmonica player too. Normally found touring with the Djukella Orchestra. Tonight we enjoy him solo but with a friend he meet while touring in Taiwan, the award winning Canadian Prairie Balladeer Scott who has spent many moons travelling and touring to gain a reputation as a most inspiring and imaginative story teller. Prepare to quiver at his deep caramel voice and laconic wit. 8:30pm Free

FRI 25TH

The Feelgood Experiment

One of Bristol's most exciting new musical exports the six piece soul-hop collective create innovative sounds inspired by the sounds of Fela Kuti, John Coltrane, Hiatus Kaiyote, D'Angelo, Miles Davis and Takuya Kuroda. Fronted by vocalist Holly Wellington and trumpeter Alfie Grieve and featuring the best of the young music scene they concoct bewitching tunes with complex rhythmic interplay and irresistibly groovy harmonic lines. 8:30pm Free

SUN 27TH

Mik Artistik's Ego Trip

Stars of Glastonbury, surprise guests at Stroud Fringe, heroes of Port Eliot and adored by loveys, families and Leeds. Three men, all very different individuals; Mik: artist, poet, comedian and musician. Jonny Flockton: the sonic dabbler, looks like Brian Cox (allegedly) and plays guitar like a wet dream. A man of haircuts and Bluegrass. And then there is Mr Benson Walker, the beaming giant. Plays bass with one sticky middle finger and sings loud. 8:30pm £10adv

TUES 29TH

Jaz Delorean and Tim Fulker

Escaping from the confides of Tankus the Henge singer and frontman Jaz marries up with the beautiful guitar playing that lead guitarist Tim doesn't often show when playing in the big band. With influences of the travelling

life and Bert Jansch an evening entertainment of stories, songs and mischief awaits.8:30pm free

WEDS 30TH

Yama Warashi

Japanese dream freak-out tribe. Yama Warashi is the solo project of Bristol musician Yoshino Shighihari who has previously played at the Albert with Rozi Plain and solo. Her music has a dreamy evocative sound with a shadow of a moon cake and inspired by Japanese dance music, free jazz and African music with a slice of electric psychedelia. 8:30pm free

theprincealbertstroud.co.uk

ST LAURENCE CHURCH

SUN 20TH

Applewood Road

Applewood Road is Emily Barker, Amber Rubarth and Amy Speace. The trio met in 2014 in a café in East Nashville and by the next morning they had written 'Applewood Road'. Six months later was the next time these ladies met and they wrote recorded and produced the rest of the album singing around a single microphone and their guitars, with just Telisha Williams joining them on double bass as accompaniment. The result was spectacular. Tonight they perform in perfect harmony in the beautiful surroundings of St.Laurence Church. 8pm £15adv from seetickets.com

applewoodroadmusic.com

STROUD BREWERY

SAT 5TH

Bob Porter Project

An Americana guitar band from Stroud. Alt country & roots rock (originals & covers) from Bob Porter and the fabulous Pete Griffin on lead guitar. Bassist Steve Cooper underpins this classy trio of 'growl and twang'! 8pm Free

SAT 12TH

Whiteshillbillies

A folky, roots band with a soft spot for pop classics ranging from Johnny Cash, The Kinks, The Cure and even Disney. Expect some blue grass tunes through Rockabilly and sing along modern music. 8pm Free

SAT 19TH

Ghost Trail

An acoustic duo from Bristol made up of vocalist Nicola Jayne and Ed, an accomplished guitar player. Playing a range of covers from the 1930's to the present day, as well as some original material. 8pm Free

SAT 26TH

Madi Stimpson Trio

A mix of gypsy, jazz, bluegrass and folk roots, but with a definite emphasis on the manouche sound pioneered and made famous by the great Django Reinhardt. 8pm Free

stroudbrewery.co.uk

SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

SAT 5TH

Stroud Ceilidh: 3 Sticks

Fantastic musicians who have played with the likes of Robert Plant, Geno

Washington and Jethro Tull. They are also part of the progressive rock band Solstice. 8pm £11adv/£10concs/£12otd /£11concsotd/£5children

WEDS 9TH

Becky Dellow & Jeff Gillett

Local duo featuring Becky Dellow on fiddle and Jeff Gillett on guitar, mandola, mandolin and English concertina. 7.30pm Free

THURS 24TH

Andy Nowak Trio

The combination of truly original compositions and striking reworkings of well-known material is fast becoming a hallmark of this highly empathic and musically adventurous trio. 8pm £10/£8concs

FRI 25TH

Jive Dance

A great atmosphere and great dance floor. Dance the night away to top swing and jive music. 8pm £8

SAT 26TH

Flamenco with Adrian Brenes

Enjoy an evening of passion and charisma with one of flamenco's rising stars and some of the best young talent from Cadiz. 8pm £15 (show & flamenco workshop £22)

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

SVAs

WEDS 2ND/9TH/16TH/23RD/30TH

F

THURS 17TH

Situations Sessions

Live funk slamming session from Situation Sounds live band. 8pm Free (John Street)

FRI 18TH

Martha Tilston

With a voice like spider-webbed hollows and lyrics that inspire and captivate former Stroud resident Martha Tilston has developed a successful musical career with a large and loyal worldwide following. Her new tour, with her long time collaborators and musicians Matt Tweed and Matt Kelly, among others they entwine raw vocals, sparkling melodies and thought-provoking lyrics with filmic movements and earthy basslines. 8pm £10adv from SVA/£12otd (Goods Shed)

SAT 26TH

Leonie Evans

Whimsical vocals, ethereal folk soloist. This year sees the release of 'Collaborations Volume 1' via Smugglers Records where she recorded with 9 bands from around the country. She's been involved with collectives such as Dawn Chorus Recording Company, Nest Collective, Jamboree Collective, Smugglers Records, Opus Acoustics, Debt Records, Beatabet, Live & Unamplified and many others in the past few years. 8pm £7adv/£8otd (John Street)

sva.org.uk

TWISTED FIX

FRI 4TH/11TH/18TH/25TH

Twisted Fridays

D&B, rnb, house, reggae, dub, jungle hip-hop and hard dance with Twisted residents DJ Dopamine and DJ Dayoo. Free before 23:30pm/£5 after 18+

SAT 5TH

Twisted Frequency Launch Event

Twisted Fix will be showcasing some of the scene's biggest players, alongside some of the most avin' it up n coming DJs & producers, this is set to be one hell of a show! Jungletek, raggatek, clowncore, breakcore, drum and bass ft Ed Cox (Life4Land), Mandixtrous (Amen4Tekno) + guests. 10pm-4am £6early bid/£8standard tickets/£10otd

SAT 26TH

The ASBO Disco 10th Anniversary Tour

This special 10th Anniversary event for Stroud features a bespoke line-up which is heavy on the Jungle! Ft Aries (Born On Road), Gardna (Live PA) + guests. 10pm-4am £4super early bird/£6 early bird/£8 standard tickets/£10otd

UNIT 2

SAT 12TH

Stroud Calling

Fresh of the back of Stroud Block Party's success DJ's Will Mendoza and Tom Monobrow return to their 'Stroud Calling' guise with an autumnal party at Unit 2. Throwing down a vinyl selection of funk, soul, disco, hip-hop, reggae, breaks and beats with special guest DJ Nige Deane (Disco Sucks). All powered by the almighty Black Box Soundsystem. 11pm-3am £5 ltd early bird from Trading Post/£7 after!

unit2studio.com

CHRIST CHURCH NAILSWORTH

SUN 13TH

The Bristol Ensemble

Bristol Ensemble's popular series of tea-time concerts at Christ Church continues with a programme featuring treasures of the Baroque period in some virtuosic concertos as well as Telemann's descriptive suite portraying Don Quixote's various adventures... 3pm £10otd

bristolensemble.com

THE CONVENT

WEDS 2ND

Basco

Basco's material is nearly all original, stealing shamelessly and frivolously from Scandinavian, English, Celtic and American idioms to create a kind of organic, soupy stew - full of vitamins and anti-oxidants. 8pm £15

THURS 3RD

The Nordic Fiddlers Bloc

The 'Nordic Fiddlers Bloc' comprise Olav Luksengård Mjelva (Norway), Anders Hall (Sweden) and Kevin Henderson (Shetland). Individually they are regarded as three of the finest young fiddle players currently working in the international folk music scene, while collectively they are now finding themselves increasingly in demand across the world due to this unique collaboration. 8pm £15

FRI 4TH

Blue Rose Code

'Imagine John Martyn meeting a young Van Morrison and being shipwrecked with a crate of Chet Baker records.' Time Out London 9pm £20

SAT 5TH

Erin Rae and the Meanwhiles

Walks the line between old-school folk and modern Americana, creating a sound that nods to her influences while pushing ahead toward something new. 8pm £10

SUN 6TH

Luke Jackson Trio

Young Roots Singer/Songwriter from Canterbury, Kent, who in 2013 was nominated in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards for both the Horizon Award for Best Emerging Talent and the Young Folk Category. With a bold, distinctive voice and a sweet, percussive guitar style 8pm £10

THURS 10TH

Chris Wood

An uncompromising writer whose music reveals his love for the unofficial history of the English speaking people. With gentle intelligence he weaves the tradition with his own contemporary parables. 8pm £15

FRI 11TH

Ian Siegal Band

The most successful and awarded contemporary blues artiste to come out of Britain since the icons of the sixties, Ian Siegal celebrates 25 years of touring! 8pm £25

SAT 12TH

Sheelanagig

They have become something of a West Country institution for the past

decade. A quintet with a well-stocked armoury of stringed instruments - banjo, fiddle, double bass etc - and a bagful of joint-jumping tunes, these boys sure know how to get a party started. 8pm £15

SUN 13TH

Brooke Sharkey

An introspective sound adorned with emotional vocals and sliding string sections that create a tense air of melancholy that few others can master so simply and so elegantly. Brooke Sharkey oozes a creativity that radiates emotion. She is a woman who bleeds artistry... 8pm £10

WEDS 16TH

Lady Maisery

Skilful explorers of the power, beauty and vitality of folk song. 8pm

THURS 17TH

Martyn Joseph

With a career spanning 30 years, 32 albums, over a half a million record sales and thousands of live performances, the versatility of his music touches genres of folk, rock, soul, folk funk and Americana, yet somehow all these labels cannot define the spirit of his music. 8pm £20

FRI 18TH

Fotheringay

Their musical achievements and professional experiences of the band combined is too long to list and spans 40+ years, you couldn't find folk who know more about folk! 8pm £25

SAT 19TH

Cam Penner and John Wood

Penner has that rare quality - a well-grounded human spirit. In another life he might have been a Shaman. With constant playing companion Jon Wood (a highly respected producer in Canada) by his side, percussive elements and layered guitar techniques have added rich texture. 8pm £10

SUN 20TH

Dave Pegg and Anthony John Clarke

Dave Pegg (Fairport Convention, Jethro Tull, Dylan Project) and Anthony John Clarke (Irish songwriter/stand-up supremo) join forces and clink glasses yet again to celebrate and display their unique and vibrant mix of rapid-fire wit and musical virtuosity. 8pm £15

FRI 25TH

Red Dirt Skiners

The first band in history to succeed at both the British Blues Awards and the British Country Music Awards. Drawing on influences as diverse as Acker Bilk and ACDC, this unique duo are breaking all the rules and creating a whole new sound. 8pm £10

SAT 26TH

Martin Harley

Supremely talented acoustic roots and blues guitarist, singer and songwriter with a burgeoning global reputation. 8pm £15

SUN 27TH

Merry Hell

A joyous folk-rock explosion of melody, commitment, energy and above all, songs that will stay with you long after listening. 8pm £10

WEDS 30TH

Kasim Sulton

A regular in Todd Rundgren's touring band Sulton has also performed with Joan Jett, Hall and Oates, Cheap Trick, Richie Sambora, Mick Jagger, Celine Dion, Bon Jovi, Patti Smith, Blue Oyster Cult, and Meat Loaf over his nearly 40-year career. 9pm £10

theconvent.net

PREMA ARTS CENTRE

FR 11TH

Tankus the Henge

A powerhouse of a band; drawing visual and musical influences from old time fairgrounds to modern day circus; The Beatles to Tom Waits and Gogol Bordello to Radiohead - they embody a look and sound that lies somewhere between their South East London home and the carnival town of New Orleans. 8pm £12/£9concs/Friends £10/£8concs/£15otd

prema.org.uk

RUSKIN MILL

SAT 15TH

The Rheingans Sisters

The sisters partnership - bold, original and bright - has resulted in truly innovative music, which pulls influences from both northern and southern European fiddle traditions into their own compositions and arrangements.. 8pm £8/£6 (under 25's)

rmt.org

THE VAULT

SUN 6TH

Jai W Jones Jazz & Blues

Jazz drummer and band leader brings an eclectic blend of jazz, blues and soul with an ever changing line-up of some of the South West finest professional players. 1:30pm Free

SUN 13TH

The Achievers (Acoustic)

Stripped back Blues and Gospel from two of Stroud's Achievers. Steve Ferbrache (guitar & vocals) and Rufus Fry (harmonica) re-work swinging blues, and American spiritual songs. 1:30pm Free

SUN 20TH

Weston & Dellow

Stroud's finest finger-style guitarist Matthias Weston and virtuoso violinist Becky Dellow combine to perform a set of equally rousing and relaxing traditional British music. 1:30pm Free

SUN 27TH

Tristan Watson Jazz duo

Afternoon jazz session - swinging be pop and standards, expertly led by guitarist Watson. Accompanied by the ever-ready Broomers on Piano. 1:30pm Free

thevaultnailsworth.co.uk

EVENTS IN 01453 762588
NOVEMBER
AT THE CROWN & SCEPTREWEDNESDAY 2NDTHURSDAY 3RDFRIDAY 4THSATURDAY 5THTHURSDAY 10THFRIDAY 11THSATURDAY 12THSUNDAY 13THTHURSDAY 17THFRIDAY 18THSATURDAY 19THTHURSDAY 24THFRIDAY 25THMONDAY 28THWEDNESDAY 30TH

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Wildwood Jack LIVE

Acoustic, Melodic Guitar and Ukulele

Aranka's Cackle LIVE

Upbeat Reggae, Toasting and Ska

Guy Fawkes Night!

Fireworks, Sparklers and Hot Dogs

Fondue Night with Jules

Booking Essential

The Narco Lounge Combo LIVE

Bristol's Most Handsome Jazz Band

The Crooked Stylus 8pm-midnight

Grooves of many flavours With Danus Akashic

The Grand Autumn Pickle-Off

Pickle Jam and Chutney Competition - 3pm

Open mic night

With the Reverend Stretch

Big Joe Bone LIVE

Blues grass and Delta, Old-timey and Hillbilly

The Forgetting Curve + Shoun Shoun

Surf Stoner Post-Rock Power Trio

Rodda's Hairy Craic

Irish Acoustic Session with Tim Potts

Will Killeen LIVE

Irish-Acoustic-Blues Guitar

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SUN 27TH NOV IN ADVANCE

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ART LISTINGS

ART OF CLAY

TUES 1ST – WEDS 30TH

Clay Sinclair

Provocative post-pop paintings on Perspex by local/international artist Clay Sinclair situated at 48 High Street. Plus prints for those on a budget and People's Republic of Stroud tat for those joining the revolution. Open Mon – Sat

claysinclair.com

THE BLUE ROOMS GALLERY

SAT 5TH/12TH/19TH/26TH

Oliver Vivian

Oliver continues his exploration of composition and process, in a new exhibition of works using his unique palette of fresh colours. 10am – 3pm or by appointment 07532071457

facebook.com/The-Blue-Rooms-Gallery-Stroud

GALLERY PANGOLIN

MON 7TH NOV – FRI 16TH DEC

George Fullard:
Sculpture and Survival

Following his early death in 1974, George Fullard's work slipped into relative obscurity but the recent surge of interest in Post-War British sculpture has seen a growing regard for his work. Bringing together bronzes, assemblages and drawings, the exhibition is a timely opportunity to re-assess this intriguing and underrated artist and is accompanied by a fully-illustrated catalogue as well as the launch of a specially-commissioned monograph on Fullard by author and art historian Michael Bird. Mon-Fri 10am – 6pm/Sat 10am – 1pm

gallery-pangolin.com

KENDRICK STREET GALLERY

SAT 12TH – SAT 26TH

Sharon White:
Exhibition of Recent Paintings

As a self-taught artist, she began her career by combining pet portraiture with motherhood, opting to use pastels to eliminate the worry of wet paint and small children! Since then her style has developed, through playful experimentation, in both medium and colour.

Today she is most renowned for her quirky cows, which can be found in a variety of galleries and homes across the region. The beauty of Sharon's style is that she never lets it stagnate; constantly pushing her own boundaries of technique and colour, her beautiful flower paintings, though

primarily acrylic on canvas, are a testament to her experimentation with mixed media, technique and colour. Mon-Sat 9:30am-5:30pm/Meet the artist Sat 12th 10am-12pm

kendrickstgalleries.co.uk

LANSDOWN GALLERY

MON 31ST OCT – SUN 6TH NOV

Nemophilist – Memories
of Emerald Hollow

An art exhibition by Karen Green, featuring sculptures by Denius Parson. 'Nemophilist – one who loves the woods. A collection of oil and watercolour paintings by Karen Green, alongside sculptures by Denius Parson inspired by their life when they were living in a cabin in the woods. A nostalgic feeling of past times and a connection to nature. 11am-5pm/Preview Mon 31st 7-9pm

TUES 8TH – SUN 13TH

Jackie Storey:
Pinhole Photography

An exhibition of pinhole photography by local photographer Jackie Storey. Uncanny views of Stroud, including Nailsworth, Woodchester, Wotton-under-Edge, Dursley, Purton, Avebury and Cape Cornwall. Tues-Sat 10am-4:30pm/Sun 11am-4pm/Preview Mon 7th 6-8 pm

MON 28TH NOV – SUN 4TH DEC

Angie Spencer: Passacaglia

An exhibition of oil paintings by Angie Spencer including her recent responses to Schubert's 'Death and the Maiden' quartet to Shostakovich's 11th string quartet as well as work from her recent residency in Scarborough, North Yorkshire. 10am-4:30pm/Preview Monday 28th 7 – 9pm

lansdownhall.org

THE LINE GALLERY

THURS 27TH OCT – TUES 1ST NOV

Gemma Waggett

A navy surprise! 11am-4pm Private View Friday 28th 6-9pm

THURS 3RD – TUES 8TH

Water and Wood

SVA textile designers Liz Lippiatt, Kathryn Clarke and Sarah Jenner are exhibiting a collection of collaborative work that combines their individual skills – screen printed fabrics, garment making, and bound resist cloth. 11am-4pm/Private view Fri 4th 6-9pm

THURS 10TH – TUES 15TH

Holly English

Social reflection, mixed media. 11am-4pm/Private view Fri 11th 6-9pm

THURS 18TH – TUES 22ND

Emily Joy: Absurd Labour

A three day piece, Absurd Labour presents the making, exhibiting and dissolution of a body of work.

Participatory pieces connected to ideas of excess and lack will be made in the gallery with public assistance and will be viewed in static form for

one day after which it will be dissolved in a closing performance piece during which members of the public will be given an element from the exhibition. 11am-4pm/Private view Fri 18th 6-9pm

WEDS 23RD – TUES 29TH

Sean Heather

Seans practice aims to question the norms, conventions, values and morals of life in the world we live in. He generates work that mirrors behaviors seen in popular culture and comments on the stripped away reality of our lives. Seans art process uses mixed media collage, installation, constructed paintings and sculpture. He juxtaposes familiar found objects and materials together together with human forms, to comment on identity, subcultures, gender roles and sexuality through humour. He is influenced by reality TV shows, erotic magazines and the instant culture we live in. 11am-4pm/Private view Fri 25th 6-9pm

linegallery.co.uk

THE MALHOUSE BAR AND KITCHEN

MON 10TH OCT – MON 28TH NOV

SIT select Presents: Botanicals

Three talented textile graduates from Bath Spa University Textile Design will exhibit hand painted and printed cloth and wallpapers. All three have set up their own interior businesses after leaving University and SIT select celebrates their talent and innovation. Exhibiting are Rhian Beynon, Chloe Gregory and Annie James exhibiting hand painted and printed cloth and wallpapers. Presented by SIT select (visit sitselect.org and sitblog.co.uk)

stroudmalthouse.com

MUSEUM IN THE PARK

SAT 5TH NOV – SUN 4TH DEC

Andy Lovell: Shifting Shapes

Andy Lovell was born in Dagenham, East London in 1964, and moved to the Stroud area with his young family in 2007. He has enjoyed a diverse career as Artist and Illustrator, but his chief love remains printmaking, in particular the immediacy of the screenprint and monotype processes. This exhibition centres on his silkscreen prints and monotypes and showcases new work covering landscape, cityscape, circus and abstraction.

SAT 5TH – SUN 6TH

Longfield's Big Heart Secret Art Exhibition

The Big Heart secret art auction aims to raise vital funds to support Longfield's art for health community programme. Last year more than 100 specially-commissioned pictures were sent to Longfield and sold on eBay in a secret auction. This year even more artists and celebrities are taking part! This is your chance to see the artworks in Stroud before the online auction opens on the 22nd Nov. 11am-4pm

museuminthepark.org.uk

THE OLD TOWN HALL

FRI 11TH – SUN 13TH

Stroud Book Festival: Echo
Chamber - Voices of Conscience

A sound and photography exhibition marking 100 years of conscientious objection. Quakers have a long history of opposing war and when conscription was introduced in Britain during World War I many chose to conscientiously object to joining the armed forces. For some this meant rejecting any form of participation and they were imprisoned and sentenced to death for their refusal (later commuted). Others took up alternative forms of service, providing relief from suffering at the front. There were over 16,000 registered conscientious objectors (COs) during World War I. People objected on different grounds. This exhibition is inspired by their stories. Fri 2-7:30pm/Sat 10am-6pm/Sun 10am-5pm £1 (all profits to Stroud Refugee Aid)

stroudfestival.org

SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

FRI 11TH – SUN 20TH

Stroud Book Festival:
Illustration Exhibition

An exhibition of work by children's book illustrators as part of the Stroud Book Festival, running as a backdrop to the talks and events in the George Room. Illustrators: Martha Lightfoot, Rebecca Ashdown, Hannah Shaw, Tom Percival and Wendy Meddour. Open event Fri 11th 6pm

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

SVA

TUES 1ST – WEDS 30TH

Sally Hampson: The Weaving Shed

Sally Hampson, an artist and weaver, is back in SVA'S project space at 29 High Street bringing weaving workshops and events. Also features guest weaver Tim Parry Williams. Email to SVA: office@sva.org.uk drop in or by appointment

SAT 5TH/12TH/19TH/26TH

Fungusloci

Artist and permaculture practitioner Dominic Thomas has designed and built a sustainable urban micro-farm in which oyster mushrooms are cultivated on spent coffee grounds from local cafes. Fungusloci is a project of Sustainable Creativity CIC with the help of Stroud District Food Grants taking place at Unit 23, Merrywalks. Open for sales Saturdays 10:30am-1:30pm or by appointment fungi@cscic.org

FRI 5TH – SAT 26TH

UP This Way

UP This Way is an outlet within the Merrywalks highlighting the work of furniture and accessory makers within the broader Stroud area. Open Fri-Sat 9am-6pm or by appointment 01453 297260

sva.org.uk

Christmas Print Shop

Line.

Opens on Goodwill
Closes Christmas Eve

10am – 6pm Daily

Line Gallery, 4 John Street, Stroud

Stained Glass Weekend

Fri 2nd Dec 7-9pm
Sat 3rd Dec 10am-6pm
Sun 4th Dec 10am-4pm

£180

With tea breaks and half hour lunch
(bring your own sandwiches!)

Contact: Johannes Steuck
01453 756858 or 07806482626

Email: Jsjohannesart4@gmail.com

Location:
Nailsworth Community Workshop
Nailsworth Subscription Rooms
Bath Road
Nailsworth
GL6 0HH

johannesart.co.uk
practicalintelligence.org.uk



George Fullard Sculpture & Survival

7th November - 16th December

Near and Far



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www.sitselect.org

UPPER LOCK CAFÉ

TUES 1ST – WEDS 30TH

Gill Cathles

Gill's drawings are mainly of trees and unoccupied buildings and mostly those in the wider places and in the north, including Shetland and the Welsh uplands. They increasingly reflect her sense of loss, disturbance and disconnection in the political chaos and threat of destruction from climate change. The trees have survived in harsh conditions and against numerous threats. The buildings represent loss and change and the ability of things to leave often surprisingly substantial traces long after they are gone. Gill likes the feeling of some things just standing in the landscape, appearing to be simply watching and waiting for it all to pass... Mon-Sat 9am-4pm/Sun 10am-3pm

upperlockcafe.co.uk

WETPAINT GALLERY

THURS 3RD – SAT 26TH

John Piper

Famous for his romantic landscapes, views of ruined churches, stately homes and castles, John Piper (1903 – 1992) is considered to be one of the most significant British artists of the 20th Century. English painter, printmaker, draughtsman, designer, and writer. By the mid-1930s he was

one of the leading British abstract artists, but by the end of the decade he had become disillusioned with non-representational art and reverted to naturalism. He concentrated on landscape and architectural views in an emotionally charged style that continued the English Romantic tradition. Some of his finest works were done as an Official War Artist when he made pictures of bomb-damaged buildings.

THURS 3RD – SAT 26TH

SIT select Presents: Anna S King

Anna S King makes exquisite objects. She has become best known for intimate objects, her woven containers sometimes like baskets, sometimes like nests, sometimes like both. There is a close connection to the natural world and an unerring eye for colour and design. Anna will be showing with works by John Piper

wetpaintgalleryonline.com

NEW BREWERY ARTS CENTRE

MON 31ST OCT – MON 14TH NOV

Pop-Up Gallery: The Curiosity Emporium

An exhibition of automata, embellished paintings, embroideries, printed textiles, jewellery and other curiosities by Erica Daniel-Lowe and Caroline McCarty, both Gloucestershire based artists.

SAT 5TH NOV – SAT 24TH DEC

Crafted For Christmas

Christmas takes over the New Brewery Arts Centre galleries and shop with work for sale by over 200 makers from throughout the UK.

MON 14TH – SUN 27TH

Pop-Up Gallery: Little Shop Of Wonders

Four Gloucestershire artists (Tara Davidson, Kerry Jane, Yvette Green and Jane Vernon) come together to bring you a magical mix of textiles, paintings, mosaics, ceramics, prints, jewellery and more.

newbreweryarts.org.uk

PREMA ARTS CENTRE

MON 31ST OCT – SUN 11TH DEC

Flora Jamieson

Flora Jamieson has been designing and making stained glass for nearly twenty years. She works from a studio at her home in Bridport, Dorset where she creates contemporary decorative stained glass objects and panels in vivid colours with an illustrative style. Her designs are characterized by their lead lines, which are purposeful and meticulous. Her colour palette is bold yet simple and the hand-painted, repetitive patterns are formed from geometric or cursive shapes which are given life by the fluidity and texture of the brush stroke.

MON 31ST OCT – SUN 11TH DEC

Simon Tozer

Simon's creative life is divided between making prints from a shared studio near Bristol harbour, teaching, and illustration work. Screen print is essentially a stencil process - producing thin layers of translucent colour. Simon's prints are made using a mixture of traditional and digital mark making processes, to create the separate colour layers that are overlaid in the finished print. The layers are transferred to a screen using a chemical process and printed by hand, using a squeegee to push ink through the screen mesh onto paper.

MON 31ST OCT – SUN 11TH DEC

Max Naylor

Max Naylor's recent works warp the conventions of landscape painting, at times playing within the confines of perspective and scale and at others rejecting these notions completely. Somewhere between drawing and painting, his distinctive mark making approach combines the figurative with the abstract evoking a sense of mystery.

prema.org.uk

THEATRE & DANCE LISTINGS

COTSWOLD PLAYHOUSE

TUES 22ND – SAT 26TH

The Cotswold Players: The Birthday Party

Stanley Webber, an out-of-work concert pianist, is the sole lodger in a shabby, seaside guest house. He is 'mothered' by Meg, his landlady, whose husband Petey works as a deckchair attendant. Stanley is lazy, lacking in direction and personal hygiene, and cruel to simple-minded Meg. His security is shattered when two men Goldberg and McCann arrive and book in as lodgers. Who are they, why are they here and what do they want? Pinter keeps us guessing throughout; identities are indeterminate and changeable. The air of menace for which the writer is so well known is palpable from the start. 7:30pm £12

cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk

FRANCE LYNCH CHURCH ROOMS

SAT 19TH

Jenny Wren Productions: Remember, Remember

We all remember Guy Fawkes, the man with the big hat, dodgy moustache and explosive personality. But is he really the one whose effigy should be burnt every November 5th? Caught in the act, was he the real revolutionary, or the ringleader's puppet? Fast forward 400 years and Jenny Wren Productions investigate what it means to be the 'Guy' everyone remember, remembers. 7pm £10adults/£8children

jennywrenproductions.co.uk

LANSDOWN HALL

SAT 12TH

Long Form Improvisation Workshop with Rebecca MacMillan

During the workshop you will be introduced to the basic techniques of long form improvisation. It will be a playful and enjoyable day where theatre is created with no script and where anything can happen.

This workshop is suitable for performers, comics and actors, both amateur and professional, or anyone

looking to overcome creative blocks or develop confidence with public speaking. 11am – 5pm £30

To book call: 07811 427462 or email: info@helen-wood.co.uk

lansdownhall.org

SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

SAT 26TH

Flamenco With Adrian Brenes

Enjoy an evening of passion and charisma with one of flamenco's rising stars and some of the best young talent from Cadiz. Adrian Brenes and company sizzle with Andalusian audacity in this joyful explosion of wild souls, guaranteeing some 'alegría' in your heart and a spring in your step! Tapas served throughout the evening in the cafe. 8pm £15 (flamenco workshop 4 -5.30pm) Special offer: buy tickets to the show and workshop for only £22

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

PAINSWICK CENTRE

FRI 18TH

Spaniel In The Works Theatre Company: Grim Tales Of The Brothers Grimm

Forget about happy endings as Spaniel in the Works tell the original stories collected by the Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm, using rhyme, puppets, music and dance! Hear the horrible happenings of Hansel and Gretel, discover the sinister side of Cinderella and the terrible tales of Tom Thumb in this lively funny family show. 7:30pm £10/£7concs

painswickcentre.com

PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

SAT 19TH

Flabbergast Theatre: Astonishing Freakatorium

Hold on to your hats as Boris & Sergej take you on a titillating journey into the world of the macabre. Watch them recreate traditional scenes of geeking, reach feats of incredible fortitude and endeavour in acts of unimaginable physical endurance and formidable artistry, whilst beguiling you with their roguish wit and erudite jocularly. 8pm

£10adv/£7concs/friends £8/£6concs/family£25/otd£15

prema.org.uk

SHEEPSCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

THURS 10TH

Tutti Frutti and York Theatre Royal: Underneath A Magical Moon

Through her open window Wendy Darling gazes out at the night sky dreaming of blue lagoons, magical moons and the stories that she can tell. But tonight, like no other, has magic in the air...

Wendy Darling is the owner of stories, mother to the lost boys, a believer in fairies, and a young girl with her

feet firmly on the ground. The highly respected children's theatre company Tutti Frutti and York Theatre Royal team up with leading playwright Mike Kenny to re-imagine the enchanting story of Peter Pan as told by Wendy. 4pm £6

sheepscombe.org/village-hall

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ATELIERSTROUD.CO.UK

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THE
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Living Spit Presents:

A Christmas Carol

£14.00 (£12.00 concs)

Sun 11th Dec 7:30pm

Silly songs, pitiful puppetry and more Dickensian daftness than you can shake a selection box at - a feast of festive foolery!

"The whole performance is hilarious. It's proper fun for all the family, which is exactly what you want at Christmas." Bristol 247

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COMEDY

BY CHRIS HEAD

THE MIGRATING* CRAZY BIRD COMEDY CLUB THIS MONTH ALIGHTS AT NAILSWORTH FOLLOWING SHOWS AT STROUD BREWERY AND LANSDOWN HALL. AND WHAT A SHOW NICK BIRD HAS ASSEMBLED FOR HIS DEBUT NAILSWORTH NIGHT. NICK SAYS, "WE HAVE NONE OTHER THAN EX NEVER MIND THE BUZZCOCK CAPTAIN SEAN HUGHES DOING AN EXTENDED HEADLINE SET. YES, SEAN HUGHES IS COMING TO NAILSWORTH FOLKS!"

More recently known on TV for Buzzcocks, I first came across Irishman Sean Hughes in the rather wonderful Sean's Show in the early nineties. (It can be streamed on Channel 4 on demand if you want to check it out.) In the show Sean was aware he was living in a sitcom; a meta comedy conceit doubtless inspired by the ground-breaking It's Gary Shandling's Show.

As a stand-up Sean was the youngest ever winner of the then Perrier Award (now Edinburgh Comedy Award) but more recently had a lengthy break from stand-up, returning to the stage aged 50. His material now reflects his age and he is comfortable with the more mature demographic his shows attract but still has the comedy chops** to get the whole room laughing from young to old.

As usual the Crazy Bird night is compered by the superb Geoff Whiting. Regular readers of this column (if such people exist) will have read me bigging up Geoff's compering skills so I won't repeat myself. And if you're a regular punter at Crazy Bird nights (and I'm sure those people exist) you may have seen Faye Treacy a few months ago at the Stroud Brewery. Well worth a repeat viewing, this Musical Comedy Awards Best Newcomer*** has an extraordinary double act with a trombone. Somewhat reminiscent, as it happens, of Sean Hughes contemporary Jim Tavare with his double bass.

Nick Bird also offers an open-spot (an unpaid 10 mins) to a local act at all his nights. This is how they all start including Sean Hughes. If you want to prepare yourself for a future gig with the Crazy Bird club, other local and national and comedy nights or indeed just have fun and improve your speaking, then you'd be a fool to miss my one-day introductory session in stand-up at Hawkwood College.****

I traipse across the fields from Bisley Road carrying a microphone, mic stand and speaker ***** ready to go at the ungodly hour of 9.30am on the Sunday morning. Come to think of it, you may find it a struggle getting up if you went to the Sean Hughes gig the night before. A strange time to be doing stand-up too, so I take the group gently into the process with simple games and exercises to get everyone on the

mic exploring delivery, timing and rhythm. From there we build to telling stories, finding jokes and dealing with the crowd.

By the end of the day you will feel much more able to take on stand-up and it will also equip you with loads of transferable skills for speaking with improved delivery, better timing and more confidence in any context. And there is a delicious lunch included in the price. I can't emphasise that last point enough. The lunch is fantastic.

* Avian wordplay

** I kept reading James Kettle in the Guardian Guide writing about 'comedy chops'. I swore I'd never use the phrase but here we are.

*** She also went to the Brit School of Performing Arts with Adele and Jessie J who I feel both took the wrong career path in eschewing the comedy trombone route.

**** Smooth link.

***** I'll probably be angling for a lift back.

Chris Head has established himself as one of the UK's leading comedy coaches and has nearly twenty years' experience as a director of live comedy. Visit chrishead.com for further info

W here potential is realised



COMEDY LISTINGS

HAWKWOOD COLLEGE

SUN 20TH

Stand-up Comedy Workshop With Chris Head

9:30am - 5pm £70 including lunch, any queries contact chris@chrishead.com

hawkwoodcollege.co.uk

NAILSWORTH SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

SAT 19TH

Crazy Bird Comedy Club presents Sean Hughes & Guests

Doors and bar open at 7pm show starts at 8pm. £15adv from Trading Post and Nailsworth Community Workshop/£16.50otd

nailsworthsubrooms.org.uk

SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

SAT 5TH

Slapstick Comedy Workshop With Cheryl Parmenter

Discover the tricks and techniques of the comic greats and learn how you too can clown like The Marx Brothers or Mr. Bean. This high energy one day workshop will teach you how to create comic characters (with and without masks) and perform a range of comic devices like the double take, the comic stop and spoof violence! You'll develop an understanding of stage craft and explore solo work, comic sequences and scenes. Whether you're a complete novice or a seasoned pro this is a chance to throw aside your inhibitions, brush up your skills and enjoy playing the fool. Led by comedy teacher and director Cheryl Parmenter. 10am-4pm £35

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

SVA

FRI 18TH

Elvis presents: John Street Social

Live from the SVA Theatre in Stroud it's the chatshow hosted by Elvis with fantastic guests and live music. On Tonight with Elvis this Friday, we welcome the unhappiest man in Stroud, Miserable Malcolm, legendary quiz host Johnny Quiz, and the calming, wonderful sound of songstress Celidh Jo. Plus The Doc, and of course your star spangled host Elvis. Come along and join in the shenanigans and mayhem LIVE only on Tonight with Elvis. 7 - 11pm £1 membership otd (John Street)

SAT 12TH

Jonny Quiz

Straddling the pub quiz format, Johnny hitches his skirts and rummages for the truths of his questions that are on the tips of your tongues. 7:30pm £5otd

sva.org.uk



Wycliffe

is a way of life

Our community truly values the individual characteristics and qualities of each boy or girl. Every child's potential is nurtured and developed. Our academic value-added scores consistently see us placed in the top 20% of all UK schools.

Wycliffe Nursery, Preparatory, Senior School & Sixth Form Co-educational day and boarding school for 2-18

Please contact: Charlotte Phillips (Senior) on **01453 820412** or Wendy Robertson (Preparatory) on **01453 820471**.

Stonehouse, Gloucestershire GL10 2JQ | Twitter @WycliffeCollege

FILM LISTINGS



VISIT GOODONPAPER.INFO/ FILM FOR MONTHLY FILM LISTINGS

wycliffe.co.uk



Founded 1882



SGS COLLEGE OPEN TO ALL!



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Saturday 5 November 10am - 2pm

Join us for our Open Events at **SGS Stroud and SGS Berkeley Green** and find out about our wide range of apprenticeships, full and part-time study programmes and University Level courses including:

- Access to University
- Apprenticeships
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- Speak with course specialists
- Meet with current learners studying at SGS College
- Try out activities relating to your subject of interest

For further details visit www.sgscol.ac.uk
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