



17-19
MAY
2024

burnhambookfest.co.uk

@BurnhamBookFest



THE PRINCESS
Theatre & Arts Centre



Burnham
Library

WELCOME!

Welcome to Burnham Book Festival 2024, we're back for our third year with a lineup of talks and workshops for readers and writers alike.

In this programme you'll find details of all our festival events, including workshops on poetry, horror and crime, and talks on birds, travel and history. Plus this year we have some great events for music lovers.

On Friday night, hear a talk about Adge Cutler, founder of The Wurzles, followed by a live performance by Scrumpy & Western stars, The Mangledwurzels. And on Saturday, the festival steps back in time to the sixties and the birth of The Beatles. Hear from Leslie Cavendish, hairdresser to the stars. Beatles biographer David Bedford talks about the Liverpool music scene that gave birth to international superstars. And in the evening, join The Quarrymen, John Lennon's original band who were playing with him when he met Paul McCartney.

Burnham Book Festival has over 30 events this year, featuring talks, workshops and performances on a wide range of genres and subjects. We've expanded our free events, including our fantastic sales hall on Saturday where you can meet local writers and discover your next great read!

So whether you're a reader, a writer, or just want to support local talent, we look forward to seeing you at Burnham Book Festival 2024!

Our Venues

Burnham Book Festival sessions take place at **The Princess Theatre** and **Burnham Library**. The venues are opposite each other, the location of each session is given later in this programme and on your ticket but, if you're not sure, ask a volunteer!

Tickets

All tickets are available from:

The Princess Theatre
www.theprincesstheatre.co.uk
01278 784464

Contact us

For full details of all our sessions, plus news and updates, visit our website:

burnhambookfest.co.uk

We'd love to hear from you. If you have any questions or want to give us feedback, email:

info@burnhambookfest.co.uk

or find us on social media at [@BurnhamBookFest](#)

FRIDAY 17 MAY

Schools Workshop - SOLD OUT

Children's author Alex Cotter talks about the ingredients for a good story. She helps children with some on-the-spot story making to unlock their imaginations.



Meet the Local Writers

12:00 Mendip Room

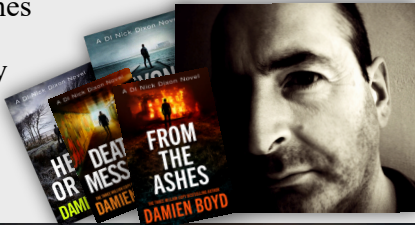
Local writers are a big part of Burnham Book Festival. Come and meet Pam Earnshaw, Fenja Hill, Sally Mills and Michael Turner. They'll be talking about their work, and what inspires them.

(1hr) Free

Lunch at the Zalshah with Nick Dixon

12:30 Zalshah Restaurant - SOLD OUT

If you've read any of Damien Boyd's Nick Dixon novels, you'll know that our local detective Nick is a big fan of the Zalshah in Burnham. Join Damien for lunch at the Zalshah, hear passages from his new book, *From the Ashes* (Nick Dixon 14) and enjoy some great food! (90 mins)



Our Favourite Poems

13:00 Library

In this workshop Jo Burridge helps us explore how the poems we learn as children become memories and fragments have the power to connect us to others.

(90 mins)
£2



Britain's Favourite Birds - 15:00 Pizey Room

Somerset author and naturalist Stephen Moss takes a closer look at Britain's Favourite Birds – and the subjects of his five bestselling 'bird biographies' – the Robin, Wren, Swallow, Swan and Owl.

(1hr) £8



Journaling Workshop - 15:00 Library

Writing down your thoughts, feelings, and experiences on a regular basis can help you to process your emotions, gain clarity, and express yourself. Learn more with Caroline Crossley of Somerset Libraries (1hr) Free



FRIDAY 17 MAY

The Rum Jungle & Other Travel Stories - 16:00 Mendip

Jonathan Evans takes us travelling, from the halcyon days of the hippy trail, right up to the present day.



With crocodiles and con men, cyclones and shoot-outs; drug runners, and the mad strangler of Maungaturoto. (1hr) £4



Cecil Sharp: The Quest for Folk & Dance - 16:30 Pizey

Join author David Sutcliffe for a fascinating talk on renowned collector of folk songs and dance,



Cecil Sharp. June marks the centenary of Sharp's death. Celebrate his life and meet the author of his biography. (1hr) £5

Adge Cutler: The Bard of Somerset - 18:00 Pizey

Publisher Richard Jones pays tribute to the life and musical journey of Adge Cutler, founder of The Wurzles who died 50 years ago. (1hr) £6



Book both for £15!

The Mangledwurzels - 19:30 Main Hall

A three-piece Scrumpy & Western band celebrating the works of the Adge Cutler, and The Wurzels.

More than just a Wurzels tribute band

The Mangledwurzels play Wurzels songs old and new, blended with self-penned titles and pop standards 'Mangled' in true Wurzels tradition! £13



SATURDAY 18 MAY

Horror Writing Workshop - 10:00 Pizey

Award-winning author Polly Hall invites you to exorcise your inner demons via pen & paper in this fun horror writing workshop. Create monstrous characters, conjure spooky settings, evoke atmosphere through descriptive writing, visit horror tropes such as the haunted house and the isolated moorland. No previous experience required. (3.5hrs) £12



Sales Hall - 10:00 - 17:00

In the main hall of the Princess you can meet local authors and chat about their work, plus find your next read from Brendon Books of Taunton!



SATURDAY 18 MAY

Hockney: A Graphic Life - 10:30 Library

Follow the journey of David Hockney's exceptional life, from his childhood in Bradford and early years making it as an artist, to his sun-drenched Los Angeles period and his triumphal return to the UK. Simon Elliott takes us through Hockney's life via his own graphic biography of the artist.

(1hr) £5



In Drake's Wake - 10:30 Mendip

Join local writer Michael Turner for a voyage across the world, following in the footsteps of Sir Francis Drake.

(1hr) £4 includes £2 off book



Becoming Liz Taylor - 12:00 Library

Elizabeth Delo in conversation about her novel about love, loss and memory, set in Weston-super-Mare in the 60s, 70s and into the present day.

(1hr) £4



Meet the Local Writers - 12:00 Mendip

Somerset is packed with talented writers! James Marshall, BJ Mears and Paula Wilkes talk about what they're working on and how they got into writing.

(1hr) Free

Writing Nature - 14:00 Pizey

14:00 Pizey

The natural world can inspire our epic scenes and challenge our characters. In this workshop Elizabeth Delo explores our relationship with the natural world, looking at how nature writing can create atmosphere and mood.

(1hr) £9



Pirates & Privateers - 13:30 Mendip

Mark Steeds gives us an insight into the lives and times of the Buccaneers once based in Bristol during the 17th & 18th centuries, and their adventures in seafaring and piracy. (1hr) £4



History Repeats Itself - 15:00 Mendip

15:00 Mendip

Justin Newland explores the recurrence and repetition of history. What does this mean for our lives? (1hr) £6



Roman Holiday & The Shakespeare Thief - 15:30 Pizey

15:30 Pizey

Lionel Ward talks about his Elliot Todd mystery series, and how his experience as a bookshop owner influences his work.

(1hr) Free



SATURDAY 18 MAY

Meet the Local Writers - 16:30 Mendip

Support your local authors! Come and hear Larry Bennett, Chris Crockford, Lois Elsdon and Ronnie Godliman share thoughts about their work and what inspires them.

(1hr) Free

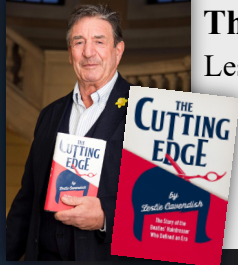
The Black Path - 17:00 Pizey

Writer Antony Curtis has lived an eventful life, including time as a Royal Marine. His debut thriller, *The Black Path*, is set in Bristol, and asks how the choices we make as children can impact our later life. (1hr) £3



The Beatles Hairdresser - 14:00 Library

Leslie Cavendish left school without artistic qualifications to become a hairdresser. His clients included Keith Moon, The Bee Gees, The Dave Clark Five, James Hunt, Tony Curtis, Terence Stamp, James Taylor and many more. But the jewel in his career's crown was styling perhaps the four most famous heads of hair in history: The Beatles. (1hr) £10



The Birth of The Beatles: Skiffle & Beyond - 16:00 Library

Everybody knows the songs of The Beatles but where did the influences come from? With Beatles author David Bedford (1hr) £6



Save
when you
book
these
events
together!

In Conversation with The Quarrymen - 18:30 Main Hall

Hear Rod Davies and Colin Hanton of The Quarrymen recount memories from an important time in UK musical history. (1hr) £10



The Quarrymen - 20:00 Main Hall

Rod Davies and Colin Hanton, original members of John Lennon's first band, will play alongside Henry Duff Lowe (son of their old pianist, John Duff Lowe) and prolific Beatles author David Bedford in this must-see event for all Beatles fans and music lovers. Performing music that inspired and influenced the world's most famous group, come and enjoy a night of entertainment and nostalgia, with skiffle and early rock n' roll from: The Quarrymen. £20



SUNDAY 19 MAY

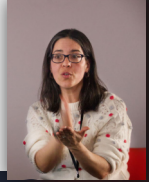
The Mysteries of Crime Writing - 10:00 Pizey

Whether you're an avid reader of mysteries or simply intrigued by the art of storytelling, this workshop is perfect for anyone looking to write in the thrilling genre of crime fiction. Led by Jeff Dowson, this workshop covers the essentials of crafting compelling crime stories. (2hr) £10



Self Publishing on Amazon- 10:00 Mendip

Want to see your writing in print but can't find a publisher that suits your work? Rebecca Strickland takes you through the basics of Amazon's Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) platform which can help you publish your book. Including setting up an account, formatting & covers. (90mins) £6



Voices of Highbridge & Burnham - 10:30 to 13:00 Main Hall.

What does Burnham mean to you? Do you have stories to share of Highbridge? What's your earliest memory here? What are your favourite parts of town? Share your experience in this open drop-in session for all ages. Free drop in, no need to book.

So You Wanna Be A Poet - 12:00 Mendip

Join professional poet to arkle in this informal workshop. Bring along your ideas, bring poems if you have them, and discuss what it means to be a Poet. There's no rules, poetry can be what you want it to be. (90 mins) £10



How to Promote Your Book - 12:30 Pizey

Every author wants to sell their books but in a packed market, how do you succeed? Justin Newland gives practical tips for getting your books into bookshops, and other ways of promoting your writing. (1hr) £6



Awards Ceremony - 14:00 Main Hall

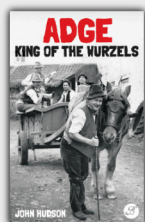
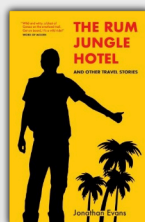
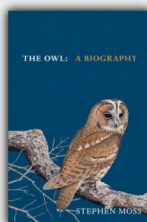
It's time to celebrate our amazing shortlisted writers and poets! Poet and festival judge to arkle announces the winner of each category of the 2024 writing competition, sponsored by Damien Boyd. Free



FRIDAY

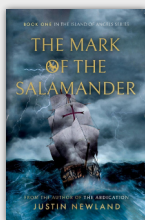
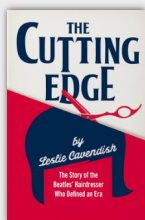
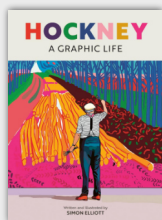
Schools workshops on creating stories with Alex Cotter.
SOLD OUT

- 12:00: Meet the Locals Writers. Panel with Pam Earnshaw, Fenja Hill, Sally Mills & Michael Turner. Free. Princess - Mendip
- 12:30: Lunch at the Zalshah with Nick Dixon. Enjoy a meal with Damien Boyd. SOLD OUT. Zalshah Restaurant.
- 13:00: Our Favourite Poems. Workshop about the poems we learn and share throughout our lives. £2. Library
- 15:00: Britain's Favourite Birds, talk with TV ornithologist Stephen Moss. £8. Princess - Pizey
- 15:00: Journaling Workshop with Caroline Crossley of Somerset Libraries. Free. Library
- 16:00: The Rum Jungle Hotel & Other Stories, travel stories with Jonathan Evans. £4. Princess - Mendip
- 16:30: Cecil Sharp. David Sutcliffe on the life of the renowned collector of folk song & dance. £5. Princess - Pizey
- 18:00: Adge Cutler: King of the Wurzles with publisher Richard Jones. £6. Princess - Pizey
- 19:30: The Mangledwurzels. Live scrumpy & western band. £13. Princess - Main Hall



SATURDAY

- 10:00: Horror Writing workshop with Polly Hall. £12. Princess - Pizey
- 10:30: Hockney: A Graphic Life with Simon Elliott. £5. Princess - Library.
- 10:30: In Drake's Wake talk on Sir Francis Drake with Michael Turner. £4 (inc £2 off book). Princess - Mendip.
- 12:00: Becoming Liz Taylor author Elizabeth Delo in conversation. £4. Library.
- 12:00: Meet the Local Writers with James Marshall, BJ Mears & Paula Wilkes. Free. Princess - Mendip.
- 13:30: Pirates and Privateers talk with Mark Steeds. £4. Princess - Mendip.
- 14:00: Writing Nature workshop with Elizabeth Delo. £9. Princess - Pizey.
- 14:00: The Beatles Hairdresser, Leslie Cavendish in conversation about his book, Cutting Edge. £10. Library.
- 15:00: History Repeats Itself talk with Justin Newland. £6. Princess - Mendip.
- 15:30: Roman Holiday & The Shakespeare Thief with Lionel Ward. Free. Princess - Pizey.

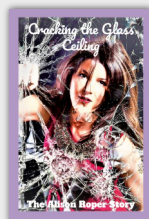
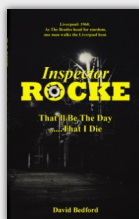
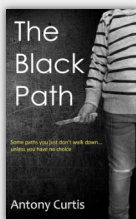
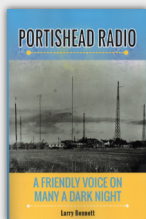


SATURDAY

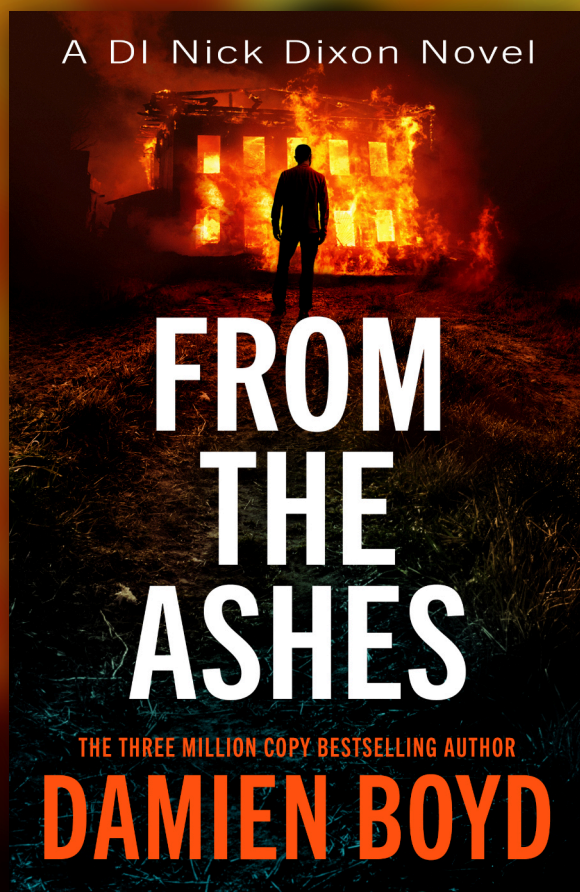
- 16:00: The Birth of The Beatles: Skiffle & Beyond with David Bedford. £6. Library.
- 16:30: Meet the Local Writers with Larry Bennett, Chris Crockford, Lois Elsdon & Ronnie Godliman. Free Princess - Mendip.
- 17:00: The Black Path: Writing the Darker Parts of Life with Antony Curtis. £3. Princess - Pizey.
- 18:30: In Conversation with the Quarrymen. £10. Princess - Hall.
- 20:00: The Quarrymen live performance. £20. Princess - Hall.
Or save when you buy Beatles events together

SUNDAY

- 10:00: The Mysteries of Crime Writing workshop with Jeff Dowson. £10. Princess - Pizey.
- 10:00: Self Publishing on Amazon workshop with Rebecca Strickland. £6. Princess - Mendip.
- 10:30: Voices of Highbridge & Burnham. Free drop-in session until 13:00. Princess - Hall.
- 12:00: So You Wanna Be A Poet workshop with tc arkle. £10. Princess - Mendip.
- 12:30: How to Promote Your Book with Justin Newland. £6. Princess - Pizey.
- 14:00: Award ceremony. Poet tc arkle announces the winners of the 2024 writing contest, sponsored by Damien Boyd.



Long lives are being cut short in this thriller from the bestselling DI Nick Dixon crime series



A DI Nick Dixon Novel

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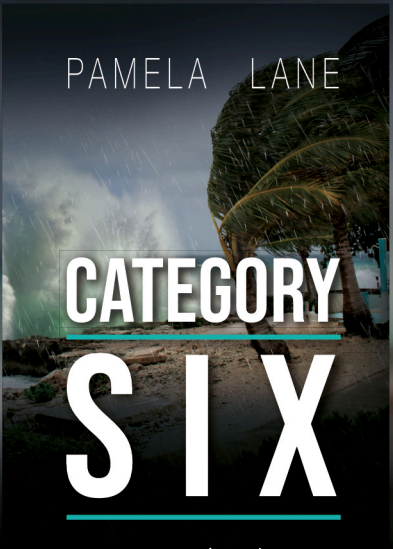
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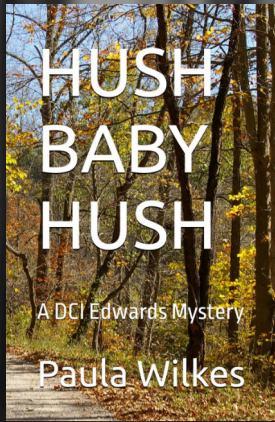


PAMELA LANE

**CATEGORY
SIX**

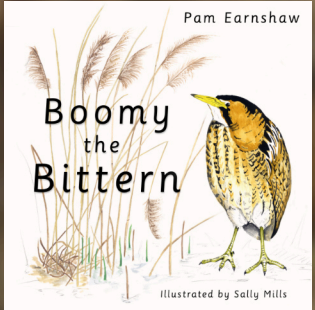
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OPENINGTIMES

Monday - Thursday: 12.00 to 14.30 & 16.30 to 20.00

Friday - Saturday: 12.00 to 21.00 / Sunday: 12.00 to 18.00

School Holidays: 12.00 to 21.00

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THANK YOU!

Burnham Book Festival wouldn't be possible without a huge amount of support from the local community. We're particularly grateful to Julie, Fay and all the team at The Princess, plus the amazing volunteers. To Nathan and Caroline from Somerset Libraries.

Huge thanks to Damien Boyd for sponsoring the writing competition and being open to our left-field event ideas even when he's so busy. And a big thanks to all the businesses and organisations who sponsored the programme.

Thank you to all the writers and artists who entered our competitions this year, we are constantly amazed by the creativity in Somerset and beyond. And thank you to our many contributors, speakers and workshops leaders for bringing their talent to Burnham-on-Sea.

But most of all, thanks to all of you who have attended and taken part!

If you'd like to share your thoughts about the festival, you can give us feedback at:

bit.ly/bbf2024feedback

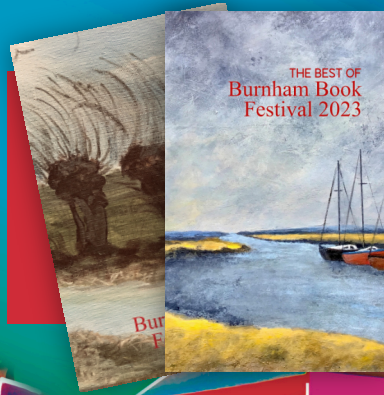


THE PRINCESS
Theatre & Arts Centre



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2022 & 2023
anthologies also
available!



Featuring stories and poems from entrants to the festival writing competition, get your copy of **The Best of Burnham Book Festival 2024** from the festival table in the main hall

