

Freedom Centre / Arts Centre / Jersey Library

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



Michael Morpurgo • Simon Armitage
Sheila Hancock • Dr Matt Pope • Peter James
Paul Burston • Sophie Pavelle • Katie Carr • Iszi Lawrence
Shaun Deeney • Amara Sage + many more

September 15-24

www.jerseyfestivalofwords.org



JERSEY FESTIVAL OF WORDS 2023:

Celebrating the pleasure of words

When Douglas Stuart was asked in an interview recently what led him to write *Shuggie Bain*, he explained that he wrote it as a manifesto to himself – that it helped him to cross the border between the two fractured parts of his life. This is by no means the first time that I’ve heard it said that either the act of writing or the gift of reading has ‘transformed’ someone’s life, and this is an idea that will undoubtedly resonate, to varying degrees, with us all.

I myself had to overcome childhood shyness in order to fully participate in life. But whilst I was still struggling with social anxiety, there were always books. I would lose myself so completely and utterly in a story or someone else’s experience; I fell in love with words and in turn was coaxed out of my inner world.

One of our 2023 authors – **Sir Michael Morpurgo** – founded Farms for City Children with his wife, Clare, back in 1976. As a result, a huge number of



children have been given the opportunity to live and work on a rural farm for a few days – to step out of their everyday into another world. Habitually, at the end of a day on the farm, Morpurgo would tell stories around the camp fire – road-testing his ideas and stoking his audience’s imagination, passing on the pleasure of words.

It is such an honour to be part of the team that organises Jersey Festival of Words every year. One of the best bits for us all is experiencing

the buzz of hundreds of school children being entertained and inspired by a visiting author and leaving one of our events clutching a book that has been signed. Will this be the start of a lifetime of reading? Is this the beginning for a future author or poet or podcaster or historian? Have they learnt about something that might not have crossed their paths or has a new interest been sparked?

Michael Morpurgo has a special ability to captivate any audience no matter how large or small and we are thrilled to have two of his events in our programme this year as part of his 80th birthday celebrations.

We are also welcoming the Poet Laureate, **Simon Armitage**, and the incredible actress **Dame Sheila Hancock**.

We hope to have created a programme that has something for everyone – from storytelling for pre-schoolers in Millennium Park to BSL & Deaf Culture workshops in the library, a discussion on

swimming and grieving at the Lido, to a memoir about caring for a parent with dementia, plus autism and literary narrative in novel-writing, travel-writing, rapping, social media influencers, fashion for the over-fifties, a conversation with LGBTQ+ activist **Paul Burston**, and also tips on how to feel better from our wonderful patron, **Cathy Rentzenbrink**.

Warm thanks to all of our sponsors, charity partners, the Government of Jersey, the authors, interviewers, volunteers, and of course our audiences. We are also very grateful to **Kirsty Lount** of Fox Lane Books for coming across from North Yorkshire to be our bookseller this year.



Photo: Neil Spence



A special mention to our main corporate sponsor Highvern for ongoing support, and also to the Jersey Community Foundation for funds from the Channel Islands Lottery which, along with JT Community Giving, have made it possible this year to

buy books for over 400 children in Jersey, which is a fundamental part of what we do.

We hope you enjoy Jersey Festival of Words 2023!

Pippa Le Quesne,
Festival Director



Photo: Peter James Millson



Photo: Geoff Caddick



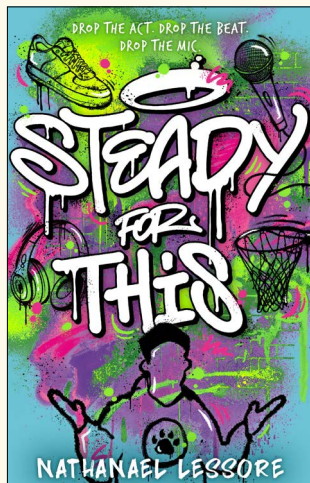
Schools Programme:

We are delighted to offer a range of free events for primary and secondary students across the Island.

WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

NATHANAEL LESSORE
STEADY FOR THIS
LES QUENNEVAIS SCHOOL
10.30-11.30
FREE FOR SCHOOLS

In this event, Lessore combines writing with rap skills as he shows how you can use all sides of creativity to express yourself and how one can complement the other. A celebration of finding your voice, creativity and rap culture, *Steady for This* handles real-world issues for contemporary teens with lightness of touch. Themes include: race, class, disability and mental health.



AMARA SAGE
INFLUENTIAL
HAUTE VALLEE SCHOOL
13.50-14.50
FREE FOR SCHOOLS

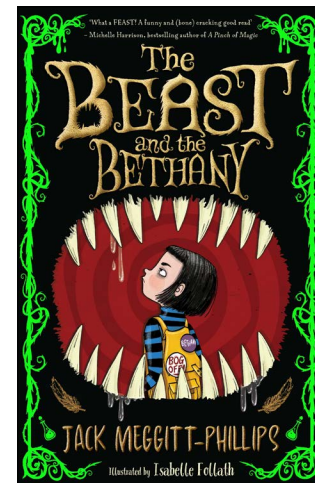
Amara Sage introduces her debut YA novel, *Influential*, a whip-smart deep dive into what it would really be like to be internet-famous at 17. Almond Brown has no friends in real life ... but 3.5 million followers online. Shooting straight to the heart of the modern-day teenage experience, both online and offline, Sage will discuss themes of social media, cancel culture, online trolling, body image and more. **BSL interpreted event**



THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

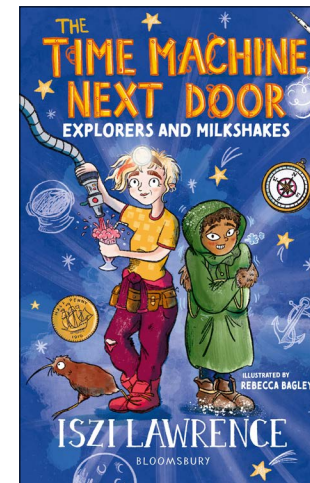
JACK MEGGITT-PHILLIPS
THE BEAST AND THE BETHANY
FREEDOM CENTRE
10.00-11.00
FREE FOR SCHOOLS

Jack's events are hugely popular with schools as he puts his amazing acting skills to good use and employs puppets for lively readings that introduce the audience to the adventures of 511-year-old Ebenezer Tweezer and orphan Bethany in his deliciously gruesome and hilarious series...



ISZI LAWRENCE
THE TIME MACHINE NEXT DOOR
FREEDOM CENTRE
12.00-13.00
FREE FOR SCHOOLS

The Time Machine Next Door is an exciting new series of quirky historical books for readers aged 7-9. Written by comedian, podcaster and children's author, Iszi Lawrence, these books bring lesser-known parts of history to life with hilarious plots, real-life characters, fascinating facts and fantastic illustrations. Perfect for Horrible Histories fans.



FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

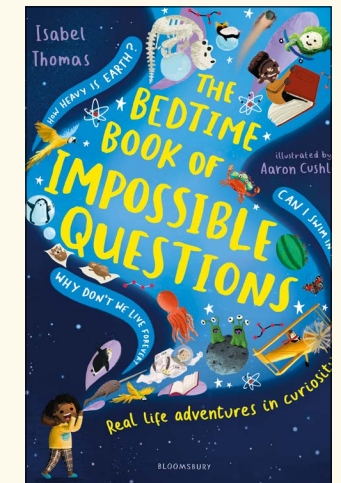
MATT GOODFELLOW
LET'S CHASE STARS TOGETHER
FREEDOM CENTRE
10.00-11.00
FREE FOR SCHOOLS

Let's Chase Stars Together is a standout new collection of contemporary poems from prize-winning poet Matt Goodfellow, author of Bright Bursts of Colour. Ideal for children aged 10+. Join National Poetry Ambassador Matt for a high-energy, inspirational performance of poems about growing up and finding your people.



ISABEL THOMAS
THE BEDTIME BOOK OF IMPOSSIBLE QUESTIONS
FREEDOM CENTRE
12.00-13.00
FREE FOR SCHOOLS

Why are bubbles always round? Could I ever touch a rainbow? Why can't I remember being a baby? Have you ever not been able to concentrate because there are SO many questions buzzing round your brain? Want to find out more? Join Isabel Thomas for her interactive event, with on-stage experiments, bugs that are edible and lots of audience participation.





The following **LIBRARY PROGRAMME EVENTS** are all **FREE** but require booking via Jersey Library's Eventbrite.

FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

JERSEY BUSINESS / LEADERS BOOK CLUB 08.00-09.00

In this session we will dive into *Four Thousand Weeks* by Oliver Burkeman. This book offers a fresh perspective on productivity and work-life balance, challenging conventional notions, and provides practical strategies to maximise our limited time and achieve meaningful success in the business world.

PENNY BYRNE / THE FACTS & THE FUN OF WRITING EDUCATIONAL FICTION / 10.30-11.30

Penny Byrne has been discovering local history through her various picture books, from Neolithic Jersey to the German Occupation. She will be talking about the fascinating stories behind these books and how they are put together and the challenges of creating 'factual' history stories.

SCREENING OF BOOKS TO MAKE YOU SMILE WITH SANDI TOKSVIG / 14.00-15.00

Celebrate the joy of reading with Sandi Toksvig. Enjoy exclusive readings and hear from special guests about the books that made them smile. This is a British Library Living Knowledge Network video from 23 April 2021.

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

TRACI O'DEA / POETRY TRANSLATION WORKSHOP 10.00-11.00

Translation is for everyone – Traci O'Dea leads a poetry workshop on translation to prove this! Attendees will read and compare translations of the same text, write translations of a poem composed in an imaginary language, and create translations of a contemporary poem (without smartphones) and compare their translations. Knowledge of another language is not required.

L'OFFICE DU JÈRRIAIS / LA MAISON CRÊPE ET SQUOUÛZIE BOOK LAUNCH / 10.30-12.00

The launch of the new book in Jèrriais of Julia

Donaldson's *A Squash and a Squeeze*. There will be some craft activities and a couple of readings of the book. A free copy of the book will be given to each family that attends. This year's translated book, *A Squash and a Squeeze*, is celebrating its 30th birthday.

HEATHER'S HOUSE OF STORIES / THE STORY KEEPER & THE BOOK GOBBLER / COMMUNICARE 14.30-15.30

A joyful interactive story show for children aged 5-11 and their grown-ups!

The Story Keeper loves the books in The Magical Library where the aisles go on for miles but reports are coming in of books with missing pages... Someone is stealing all the happy endings! Heather is thrilled to return to Jersey with this magical tale that gets right to the heart of the power of a story and the importance of our libraries.

ANNE PENN / OCCUPATION TALK / 15.00-16.00

Listen to Anne, granddaughter of the author, give a brief history of Marie Sandeman and how her French handwritten manuscript came to be a book. Hear some of the horrors, heartache, and privations in the words of Marie, written as they happened. As Anne Sandeman, she taught science and was the Trident director and work-related learning manager on the Island.

MONDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

SCREENING OF STEPHEN FRY IN CONVERSATION WITH SHAPPI KHORSANDI / 10.00-11.00

Sit down with Stephen Fry and fellow comedian and author Shappi Khorsandi to explore writing across all forms – from sketch comedy to poetry, independently and in collaboration, written and performed. This is a British Library Living Knowledge Network video from 1st October 2020.

DR SETARA PRACHA / BECOME A WORDSMITH – LITERATURE WORKSHOP / 15.00-17.00

In this interactive and fun workshop, we will be

looking at the fusion of the English language from earliest times, considering the etymology of individual words and their development into the English that we speak today. Along the way we will look at examples of Anglo-Saxon riddles, restaurant menus and some poetry, all sourced from the St Helier Library shelves.

THE JERSEY WRITERS SOCIAL GROUP BOOK FAIR 17.30-20.30

Members of the Jersey Writers Social Group will be showcasing their work at the fair. This will be a great opportunity to browse and purchase books by them, as well as meet the local authors. The Jersey Writers Social Group was founded by James Sillwood soon after the Jersey Festival of Words in 2017. They are a friendly and supportive group which is free to join and open to all.

JUSTIN HUGGLER / FROM FIVE OAKS TO BAGHDAD AND KABUL / 17.30-18.30

Justin Huggler describes how his experiences working as a war correspondent in Iraq and Afghanistan inspired his writing, and why he turned to fiction to explore real-life experiences. His first novel, *The Burden of the Desert*, follows the lives of soldiers, militants and journalists in occupied Iraq, while his second, *The Return Home*, tells the story of a reporter returning to Jersey after suffering life-changing injuries in Afghanistan.

KATIE BASTIMAN / DANTE AND THE MUSIC OF THE AFTER-LIFE / 19.00-20.00

In this talk, Katie Bastiman will provide a brief introduction to Dante's 'Comedy,' followed by an examination of where music appears within the poem and why. Dante's *Divine Comedy* is one of the most significant works of literature in European history. In this great poem, Dante goes on a journey through Hell, Purgatory, and Paradise, interacting with the souls of the dead found in each realm.

TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

MALORIE BLACKMAN IN CONVERSATION WITH JACKIE KAY / JUST SAYIN' / 10.00-11.00

Jackie Kay talks to fellow author Malorie Blackman

about her autobiography. Funny, frank, and full of life lessons and deeply held convictions about society, healthcare and the arts, it is the deeply personal account of a natural storyteller who defied expectations and inspired a generation. This is a British Library Living Knowledge Network video from 23 November 2022.

SIMON NASH / THE LANGUAGE OF BUSINESS 13.10-13.50

Words really are the foundation of everything in business. The right words make all the difference to the way we deal with customers and colleagues. Simon will discuss some of the aesthetics and ethics of business communication, using examples from internal and external documents. The session will be interactive with plenty of time for questions.

JANE GILLEY / WRITING WORKSHOP / 14.00-15.30

Join author Jane Gilley for a workshop including writing exercises, the sharing of work and discussion on the pros and cons of self-publishing and mainstream publishing.

PENNY BYRNE & CAROLYN O'BOYLE / CHILDREN'S CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP / 16.30-17.30

Children's authors Carolyn O'Boyle and Penny Byrne are looking to inspire and support kids in their creative writing by co-running a writing workshop for children aged 8-11. The children will be developing their own characters with character sheets and potentially writing a final chapter to their favourite book.

DR SETARA PRACHA / BODY GOTHIC – LITERARY TALK / 18.00-19.00

Using several examples with readings and discussion, this talk focuses on recent critical forays into the field of the body gothic. This area explores our relationship with human physicality, and the ways in which authors invite us to traverse the very edges of corporeality. These texts allow readers to explore situations we will never live through ourselves. As the nights start to draw in, we remember that reading allows us to be someone else, somewhen else, somewhere else.



Further details on all events listed, including how to book, can be found at www.jerseyfestivalofwords.org. For individual enquiries email info@jerseyfestivalofwords.org

WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

LISTEN WITH MANMAN – FOR 0-4 YEAR OLDS

MILLENNIUM PARK
10.15-10.45 / FREE

Come along and listen to Manman as she reads a tale or two. Let's share the joys of words and pictures and simple stories which introduce rhythm and rhyme! Let's have some fun with books! There will be plenty of rugs with books to share and take home. Experienced teacher, mother, foster mother and grandmother, Annette Le Bail is a firm believer in the huge importance of reading and is hoping to demonstrate the joys of books for both little ones and those who read to them.

TRACI O'DEA POETRY OF PLACE WORKSHOP

JERSEY LIBRARY
17.30-18.30 / FREE

Traci O'Dea leads a poetry workshop based on place. Attendees will read place-

focused poems and write poems about real places, places from memory and imagined places.

THE JERSEY WRITERS SOCIAL GROUP BOOK FAIR

JERSEY LIBRARY
17.30-20.30 / FREE

Members of the Jersey Writers Social Group will be showcasing their work at the fair. This will be a great opportunity to browse and purchase books by them, as well as meet the local authors. The Jersey Writers Social Group was founded by James Sillwood soon after the Jersey Festival of Words in 2017. They are a friendly and supportive group which is free to join and open to all.

CARO TOMLINSON CREATIVE WRITING: DREAMS TO REALITY

JERSEY LIBRARY
18.00-19.00 / FREE

Join MA in Creative Writing graduate Caro Tomlinson for a discussion about how to make your creative writing

dreams a reality. Utilising the skills and life experience you have accumulated already, Caro will provide insight and advice enabling you to take the plunge and live the creative life you desire.

ANDY STONARD TALES OF LA CROIX DE BOIS TRILOGY

JERSEY LIBRARY
19.00-20.00 / FREE

Andy Stonard talks about his inspiration for writing and the wonderful characters he has had the privilege of meeting and listening to across his travels. He will also discuss working with alcohol and drug users for thirty years and his friends and neighbours who, he claims, never cease to present with wonderful stories.

SIMON ARMITAGE AN EVENING WITH THE POET LAUREATE

FREEDOM CENTRE
19.00-20.00 / £15

SPONSORED BY OAKGLEN WEALTH



In this special event, Poet Laureate Simon Armitage

Photo: Peter James Millson



BERNADETTE HEMPSTEAD BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

JERSEY LIBRARY
13.00-13.45 / FREE

A 45-minute introduction to British Sign Language (BSL) and Deaf Culture. Bernadette Hempstead is an independent professional working across all areas with individuals and for teams providing professional interpretation services within a broad range of sectors including health, social care and education. This is an interactive session.

SHAUN DEENEY LOVE & CARE
FREEDOM CENTRE
18.00-19.00 / £9



Love and Care is a beautifully heartfelt and gently humorous account of a son caring for his mother who

looks back on his career, with readings from his earliest collections to his book of lyrics, *Never Good With Horses*, as well as new poems.

A recipient of numerous prizes and awards for his poetry collections, he is also Professor of Poetry at the University of Leeds. He writes extensively for television and radio and is the author of two novels and three non-fiction bestsellers. From 2015 to 2019 he was Professor of Poetry at the University of Oxford and in 2018 he was awarded the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry. **BSL interpreted event**

THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

LISTEN WITH MANMAN
MILLENNIUM PARK
10.15-10.45 / FREE

Please see Wednesday listing for event details.

has Parkinson's Dementia whilst getting to grips with his own post-divorce life. With his mother in a care home, Shaun Deeney knew he had a choice to make: leave her there, or give up his new-found freedom to care for her. A hugely timely publication, as the number of carers in the UK is significantly rising year on year.

Shaun Deeney will be in conversation with Chris Stone.

JONATHAN SOCRATES TRESPASSERS: THE CLAUDE CAHUN STORY

FREEDOM CENTRE
20.00-21.00 / £9

Jersey-born journalist and writer Jonathan Socrates wrote the script for the upcoming big-screen film *Trespassers* which charts the relationship between surrealist French photographer Claude Cahun and her step-sister and lover Marcel Moore, and their considerable resistance efforts during the Island's Occupation.

Jonathan Socrates will be in conversation with film industry art director Steve Carter discussing the script-writing process and the inspiration behind the film – the Claude Cahun story.



FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

LISTEN WITH MANMAN

MILLENNIUM PARK
10.15-10.45 / FREE

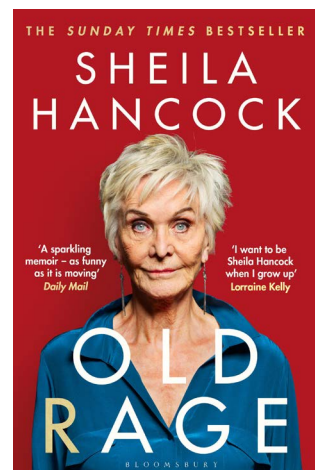
Please see Wednesday listing for event details.

SHEILA HANCOCK OLD RAGE

FREEDOM CENTRE
18.00-19.00 / £15

SPONSORED BY SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL JERSEY

In *Old Rage*, one of Britain's best loved actors opens up about her ninth decade. Funny, feisty, honest, Sheila Hancock makes for brilliant company as she talks about her life as a daughter, a sister, a mother, a widow, an actor, a friend and looks



at a world so different from the wartime world of her childhood. And yet – despite age, despite rage – she finds there are always reasons for joy.

Sheila Hancock will be in conversation with local playwright and actor Andrew Davey.

PETER JAMES STOP THEM DEAD

FREEDOM CENTRE
20.00-21.00 / £12



Photo: Sukh Dhanda

During lockdown puppies were in higher demand than ever and a wave

of illegal and dangerous dog-breeding spread across Sussex and the nation. In this latest Roy Grace thriller, the detective finds himself in a race against time to uncover the ruthless network of trafficking before it's too late.

Publishing phenomenon and 19-times Sunday Times No.1 bestselling author Peter James tells another gripping story whilst exposing a deeply sinister side of the dog trade.

Peter James will be in conversation with writer,

reviewer and festival patron Cathy Rentzenbrink.

SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

HEATHER'S HOUSE OF STORIES THE STORY KEEPER AND THE BOOK GOBLER

JERSEY LIBRARY
10.30-11.30 / FREE

Storyteller Heather Burton returns to Jersey Library with this magical tale that gets right to the heart of the power of a story and the importance of our Libraries. The Story Keeper loves the books in The Magical Library where the aisles go on for miles, full of all the stories ever written or told... but reports are coming in of books with missing pages, pictures that have disappeared... Someone is stealing all the happy endings!

A joyful interactive story show for children aged 5-11 and their grown-ups!

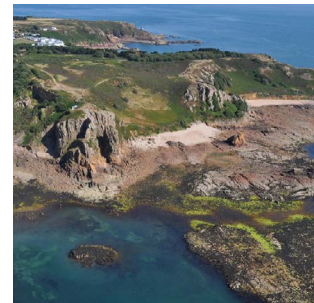
BERNADETTE HEMPSTEAD BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

JERSEY LIBRARY
11.00-11.45 / FREE

Please see Thursday listing for event details.

DR MATT POPE NEANDERTHAL ENCOUNTERS IN LA MANCHELAND

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
10.30-11.30 / £9



The publication of *Repeopling La Manche* represents the culmination of ten years research in Neanderthal archaeology from La Cotte de St Brelade. In this talk Dr Matt Pope explains how the work has allowed the exploration of the drowned Ice Age landscape of La Mancheland. He'll explore the seabed topography through the eyes of these now extinct hunter-gatherer people and consider their lives, cultures and connection with the Channel Island landscape.

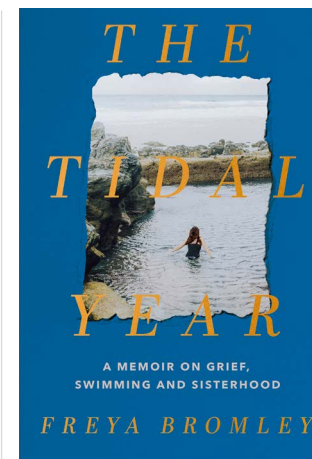
FREYA BROMLEY THE TIDAL YEAR

LIDO – HAVRE DES PAS
11.00-12.00 / £10

SPONSORED BY PORTS OF JERSEY



Following the death of her brother, Freya Bromley



challenged herself to swim every tidal pool in mainland Britain and set out on a journey of self-discovery. Join her in conversation with Festival Patron (and avid sea swimmer) Cathy Rentzenbrink, as she discusses grief, sisterhood and the healing power of wild swimming.

Freya Bromley is a writer, wild swimmer, and podcaster, and her podcast *The Tidal Year* explores the human stories behind why people swim.

PAUL DARROCH JERSEY: MYTHS AND LEGENDS

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
MARIA RITCHIE ROOM
11.00-12.00 / £6

Come on a journey into centuries of Jersey myths, from the fearsome Black Dog of Bouley Bay to the curious tale of Geoffrey's Leap. Learn of the



our fallen bridge to France. Where did these stories arise, what purpose do they serve and what do they tell us about ourselves?

CRAIG GRAHAM & MIKE STIRLING 85 YEARS OF BEANO FUN

FREEDOM CENTRE
11.00-12.00 / £9

SUPPORTED BY JT COMMUNITY GIVING



Come and join the mischief in this interactive session with two of the editors of the *Beano*, Craig Graham and Mike Stirling. Together they're in charge of making sure that everything in the *Beano* is as funny and naughty as it can possibly be! Mike and Craig will reveal their top tips for creating LOL-filled stories, share jokes from their latest boomic Little Menace's Great Escape and



take you on a behind-the-scenes tour of Beantown's greatest escapades as the comic celebrates its 85th birthday this year.

Craig and Mike have performed to Beano fans at schools across the UK and sold-out festival shows including at Hay Festival and Edinburgh International Book Festival.

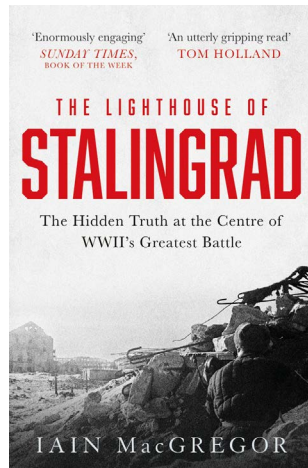
IN CONVERSATION: ROMANTIC COMEDY AUTHORS SOPHIE COUSENS AND LAURA CARTER
 JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
 12.30-13.30 / £9



Join New York Times bestselling author, Sophie Cousens and internationally bestselling author, Laura Carter,

as they discuss their upcoming romantic comedies and the world of writing for books and screen. The authors will have advance copies of their latest novels, *The Good Part* (Cousens) and *Two to Tango* (Carter) and will be signing copies after the event.

IAIN MACGREGOR THE LIGHTHOUSE OF STALINGRAD
 FREEDOM CENTRE
 13.00-14.00 / £9



Iain MacGregor's *The Lighthouse of Stalingrad* reveals new insights into the landmark battle of the Second World War. To mark the 80th anniversary, this book offers a riveting narrative, informed by both German and Russian archives, unpublished memoirs, and eyewitness testimonies from veterans and civilians alike,

providing a truer picture of how this mighty battle finally ended.

Iain MacGregor will be in conversation with JICAS director Sean Dettman.

ANA SAMPSON DEMYSTIFYING PUBLICITY
 JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
 MARIA RITCHIE ROOM
 13.00-14.00 / £7



Photo: Suki Dhanda

Ana has worked as a book publicist for 20+ years and is also an author, so she speaks with the experience and knowledge of both. Join her as she spills the beans on the role of the publicity department in a publishing house and how you can promote your own books – both working with your publicist and independently as a traditionally-published or self-published author.

JERSEY CHILD CARE TRUST REAL IN THE PARK – CELEBRATING EARLY LITERACY
 MILLENNIUM PARK
 13.00-15.00 / FREE

Join REAL in Millennium Park for an afternoon of activities for children, including children's story times with Heather's House of Stories and Penny Byrne, singing and signing with JCCT, the Jersey Library Book Bike, plus a variety of pre-school and craft activities.

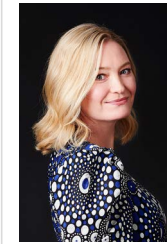
SOPHIE PAVELLE FORGET ME NOT
 JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
 14.30-15.30 / £9.00



Science communicator Sophie Pavele set out to find ten rare UK species under threat of extinction because of climate change. Her funny and insightful book *Forget Me Not* charts her low-carbon journey across Britain travelling on foot,

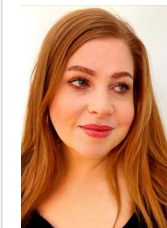
by bicycle, electric car, kayak, ferry, and train. We would love to see you, join her in conversation with local ecologist John Pinel.

HOLLY SMALE & VIKTORIA LLOYD-BARLOW AUTISM AND LITERARY NARRATIVE
 FREEDOM CENTRE
 15.00-16.00 / £9



Cassandra Dankworth is a creature of habit. She likes what she likes (museums, jumpsuits,

her boyfriend Will) and strongly dislikes what she doesn't (mess, change, her boss drinking out of her mug). Holly Smale's much-anticipated novel *The Cassandra Complex* is witty and life-affirming and draws on her own experience of being diagnosed with autism aged 39.

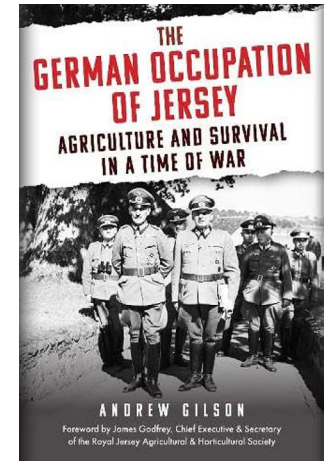


In Booker long-listed Lloyd-Barlow's *All the Little Bird Hearts*. Sunday follows an etiquette handbook and relies on her treasury of Sicilian folklore to navigate confusing social situations.

Like her protagonist, Viktoria is autistic and has also academic experience relating to autism.

In this event the two authors will be in conversation with Lucy Cotter, discussing their novels, autism and literary narrative.

ANDY GILSON THE GERMAN OCCUPATION OF JERSEY: AGRICULTURE AND SURVIVAL IN A TIME OF WAR
 JERSEY LIBRARY
 15.00-16.00 / FREE



In his book local historian Andy Gilson examines the relationship between the German Military Government and the civilian Government and civil service in Jersey, and how they had to work together to ensure the Island's survival through its farming industry.



**CATHY RENTZENBRINK
WRITING
WORKSHOP: THE
JOY AND PAIN OF
EDITING**

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
MARIA RITCHIE ROOM
17.00-18.00 / £20



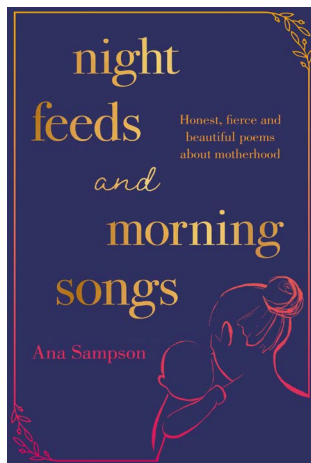
Photo: Geoff Caddick

Editing is both painful and joyous. In this session Cathy will share the strategies that help her move quickly through the pain and on to the joy. She will also demystify what exactly editing is, how it differs from writing, and how to approach it. A very useful session if you have something to edit, but helpful at any stage of the writing process.

**ANA SAMPSON
NIGHT FEEDS AND
MORNING SONGS**

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
16.30-17.30 / £9.00

Join local poet Traci O'Dea in conversation with acclaimed



anthologist Ana Sampson. This poignant collection of raw and captivating poems explores the journey of motherhood, from pregnancy to empty nests. Celebrated for her poetry anthologies, Ana's expertise shines through as she captures the mess, madness, joy, and wonder of motherhood, with gems from established poets Carol Ann Duffy and Sylvia Plath and new emerging talents Kate Baer and Liz Berry.

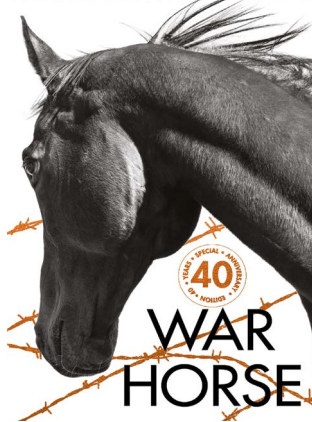
**MICHAEL MORPURGO
& BEN MURRAY
WAR HORSE
CONCERT**

FREEDOM CENTRE
18.00-19.15 / £15



To celebrate his 80th birthday and the 40th anniversary of his best-selling novel *War Horse*, Michael Morpurgo brings together words and music in this very special concert.

MICHAEL MORPURGO



Accompanied by music from the hugely successful National Theatre production, Michael will be reading an abridged version of his much-loved story. The music will be performed and sung by Ben Murray, an original Songman from the National Theatre production.

**SUSANNA MACRAE &
CLAIRE HABBERSHAW
WORDS OF WOMEN**

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
20.00-21.00 / £10

SUPPORTED BY MOMENTS
MUSICAUX JERSEY



Through the words of women in poems, letters and extracts, Susanna MacRae (soprano and Royal College of Music graduate) and pianist Claire Habbershaw (pianist and Guildhall Scholar) explore the relationship between music and literature. Readings include a



letter written by Anne Boleyn, poems by Emily Dickinson and Christina Rossetti, and an excerpt from Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*, as well as music ranging from lesser-known contemporary songs to popular classics.

**PAUL BURSTON
WE CAN BE HEROES**

FREEDOM CENTRE
20.30-21.30 / £9



Paul came out in the mid-1980s, when 'gay' still felt like a dirty word, especially in the small Welsh town where he grew up. He moved to London hoping for a happier life, only to watch in horror as his new-found community was decimated by AIDS. But even in the depths of his grief, Paul vowed never to stop fighting back on behalf of his young friends whose lives were cut tragically short. *We Can Be Heroes* is an illuminating memoir of the eighties, nineties and noughties from a gay man who only just survived them.

Paul Burston will be in conversation with Liberate CEO Vic Tanner-Davy.

SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

**MICHAEL MORPURGO
TALES OF
SHAKESPEARE**

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
10.00-11.00 / £9



Michael Morpurgo, in his inimitable warm and accessible style, introduces his wonderful collection of

Shakespeare retellings. This unmissable book, featuring stunning illustrations by ten different artists, is the perfect introduction for a new generation of readers to the magic of Shakespeare. Sir Michael Morpurgo OBE is one of Britain's best-loved writers for children. He has served as the Children's Laureate and written over 150 books with sales of 35+ million copies.

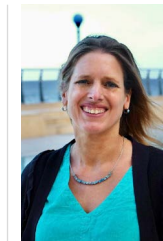
**ANTONIA WINDSOR
TRAVEL WRITING
WORKSHOP**

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
MARIA RITCHIE ROOM
10.30-13.00 / £15

SUPPORTED BY
VISIT JERSEY



Do you dream of becoming a travel writer and seeing your work published or starting your own travel blog and building an audience?

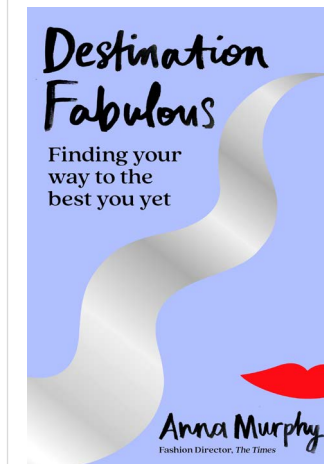


In this practical workshop, award-winning travel writer Antonia Windsor will guide you through the

basics of what makes a good article. From finding the angle, to writing a killer opening paragraph and capturing the sights, sounds and smells that bring about a sense of place.

**ANNA MURPHY
DESTINATION
FABULOUS**

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
12.00-13.00 / £9



The Times' fashion director Anna Murphy's empowering new book *Destination Fabulous* is a celebration of inner beauty, whilst offering a kind and balanced approach to ageing. Join her in conversation with Lucy Cotter as she shares natural tips for



face rejuvenation, tricks for transforming your wardrobe and advice on navigating menopause whilst embracing grey hair.

**CHRISTINE BUCKLAND
WRITING WORKSHOP:
CAPTURING
CHARACTERS**

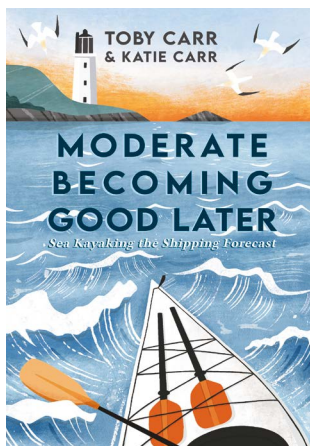
JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
MARIA RITCHIE ROOM
13.45-15.45 / £15



Christine Buckland is a teacher and writer based in Jersey. During the session, participants will engage with a variety of activities: exchanging ideas through group exploration, analysis and fictional character building. Reference will be made to TV drama and the monologue form. There will be opportunities for writing and sharing thoughts in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere. Participants must be 18+.

**KATIE CARR
MODERATE BECOMING
GOOD LATER**

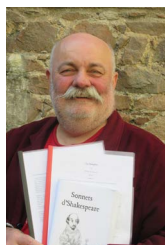
JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
15.00-16.00 / £9
No stranger to weathering a storm after living with a rare life-limiting condition, avid kayaker Toby Carr set out to explore the areas of the Shipping Forecast.



Written by Toby's sister Katie from his extensive notes and recordings after his untimely death, this book is both an epic adventure and a personal voyage of discovery – that includes old friends and new, bountiful wildlife, and the ever-present sea.
BSL interpreted event

**GERAINT JENNINGS
SHAKESPEARE,
LANGUAGE AND
JÈRRIAIS**

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
MARIA RITCHIE ROOM
16.30-17.30 / £6



Shakespeare has been an inspiration not only to writers in the English language, but also to national

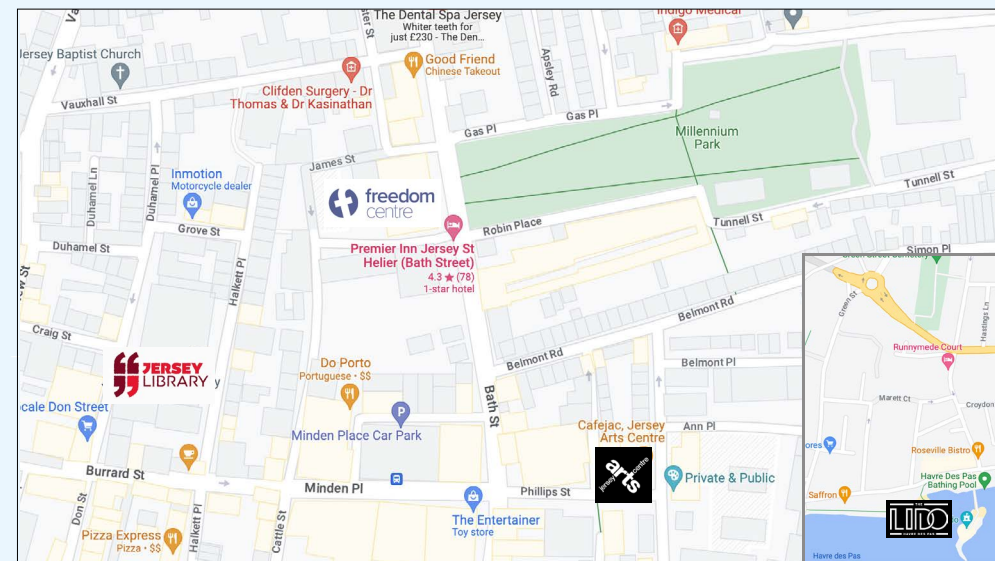
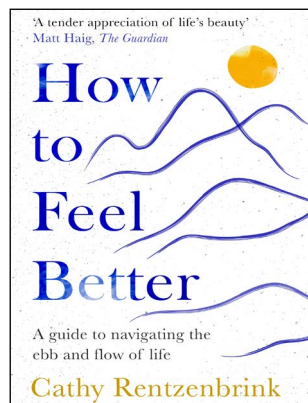
language and literary revivals of the 18th/19th centuries, including the Channel Islands.

The plays continue to be reinterpreted in post-colonial literatures. Looking at the recently completed Jèrriais translations of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Tempest* and the Sonnets, Geraint Jennings will explore the background and approaches to Shakespeare in the Islands' vernaculars.

**CATHY RENTZENBRINK
HOW TO FEEL BETTER**

JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
17.00-18.00 / £9
SPONSORED BY
LV CARE GROUP
LV COMMUNITY

In conversation with festival vice chair Paul Bisson, bestselling author Cathy Rentzenbrink shares the advice that has seen her through life's ups and downs. From etiquette for bad news to the words of wisdom she would like to pass on to her son, Cathy's book *How to Feel Better* is full of warm, gentle guidance and comfort for when you need it most, no matter what the world throws your way.



ACCESSIBILITY:
Jersey Festival of Words aims to be a fully-inclusive festival. We would like to thank Ogier for their sponsorship of this year's accessibility arrangements.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS: All Festival venues have wheelchair access and are fitted with an induction loop.

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING: The Freedom Centre and Jersey Arts Centre are fitted with induction loops. There will be a reserved area in certain events for attendees who are hard of hearing and would like to lip-read at the event. Several events will feature an accompanying BSL interpreter.

VISUALLY IMPAIRED: Programmes can be sent in

Microsoft Word format, which can be enlarged, and is more easily read by text to speech software. There will be trained sighted guides on site. If you require a sighted guide to take you to your seat please get in touch in advance to advise us of which events you are attending.

DISABLED TOILETS are available at all venues.

Should you require any form of special assistance please email info@jerseyfestivalofwords.org.

A NOTE ON THE FESTIVAL ORGANISERS

Jersey Festival of Words is run by the Jersey Literary Festival Association, a registered charity organisation. The JFLA is chaired by Jennifer Bridge and other committee members are Paul Bisson (vice-chairman), Marnie Baudains (secretary), Andy Le Seelleur (treasurer), Pippa Le Quesne (Festival director), Lauren Hallam (data officer), Chris Bright, Jo Olszewski, Alanna Rice, Lucy Layton, Richard Pedley and Jacqueline Mezez.



HIGHVERN



All festival details and ticket bookings available at
www.jerseyfestivalofwords.org

