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Welcome

Welcome to the Red Funnel Isle of Wight Literary Festival 2020 – our 9th outing – but with almost unimaginable differences. This is, and will continue to be, a challenging time for everybody as we gulp and hold steady and dip into what is, for us, unexplored territory.

When the Literary Festival began to take shape all those years ago we were full of apprehension as well as excitement; luckily, we were helped then by the enthusiasm and generosity of friends who assured us that all would be well. Those friends are still with us and still encourage us and we continue to listen to their words of advice. From being very shy about asking writers to come and perform on the Island we have become, if not brassy, more self confident in feeling that what we are doing is valuable and that people like coming to the festival and are full of praise and also good advice. The aims of the festival are to expand and renew our vision and curiosity – and of course is fun! The programme continues to excite and our roll call of past speakers and performers is impressive. This digital year our landscape has changed but our enthusiasm remains undimmed. Janet Allan has dragged us into the new times and we feel very lucky to have her guiding hand.

So, again, welcome to the 2020 digital Red Funnel Isle of Wight Literary Festival and remember the words of the Master: "Be not affeared. The isle is full of noises, sounds and sweet airs that give delight and hurt not."

Victoria Orr-Ewing
President



Forward

Our 2020 Red Funnel Isle of Wight Literary Festival is our first ever to be brought to you digitally.

2020 has been a difficult year with many tragedies surrounding the Global Pandemic and in these times, more than ever, the solace found in the pages of a good book has been a very welcome diversion. Our grateful thanks to our wonderful authors whose words have educated, entertained and sustained us.

This year's festival is a capsule, but features many diverse elements which we hope you will enjoy. A special mention and thank you to Janet Allan who has spearheaded our digital endeavour.

Do join us on line this year and we look forward to welcoming you back to Northwood House for our 10th Anniversary Literary Festival in 2021.

Julia Dams
Programme Director



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Thank you

Thank you to all our platinum, gold, silver benefactors, gold friends, friends and donors who wished to be acknowledged and the many who remain anonymous. Your support ensures the success and continuation of the Literary Festival.

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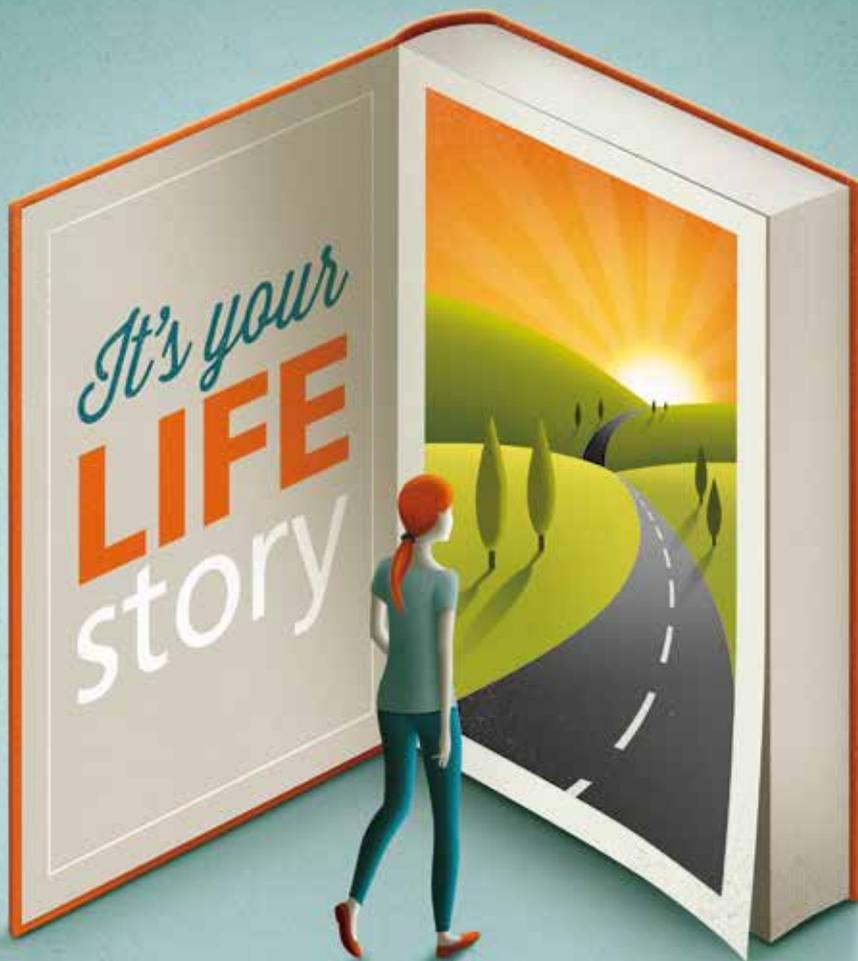
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FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER



Jeremy Irons
The Hunting of the Snark

19.00
Digital | FREE
 Page 12

Jeremy Irons reminisces about his childhood on the island and performs an inspired reading of Lewis Carroll's enigmatic poem, *The Hunting of the Snark (An Agony in Eight Fits)*. The epic nonsense poem follows the journey of a bizarre crew of nine tradesmen and a beaver searching for the mysterious Snark, who lives in the seas and might be a deadly, dangerous Boojum. *The Hunting of the Snark* is a backward poem with Carroll writing the last line of the poem in 1874 though it wasn't finished and published until 1876. *The Hunting of the Snark* and the book has an island connection because the book is dedicated to Gertrude Chataway and opens with a poem that uses her name as double acrostic. Carroll met Gertrude on the beach in Sandown in 1875.

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER



Philip Norman
Wild Thing

10.00
Digital - FREE
 Page 14



Anna Pasternak
The American Duchess

11.00
Digital | FREE
 Page 15



Sir Robin Knox-Johnston
Running Free

12.00
Digital | FREE
 Page 16

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER



Leanda de Lisle
White King

14.00
Digital | FREE
Page 16



David Rutland,
Emma Ellis
Resolution

15.00
Digital | FREE
Page 18



Katie Hickman
She-Merchants, Buccaneers
and Gentlewomen

16.00
Digital | FREE
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SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER



Nicholas Allan
An Illustrated Life

10.00
Digital | FREE
Page 20



Hunter Davies
The Beatles Lyrics

11.00
Digital | FREE
Page 21



Alan Titchmarsh
Marigolds, Myrtle and Moles

12.00
Digital | FREE
Page 22

SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER



Robin
Hanbury-Tenison
Taming the Four Horsemen:

14.00
Digital | FREE | Page 22



Joanna Trollope
Mum & Dad

15.00
Digital | FREE | Page 24



Tim Wander
Marconi On the Isle of Wight

16.00
Digital | FREE | Page 25



Write on Wight
Inspiration Island

17.00
Digital | FREE | Page 26



FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER



Jeremy Irons

The Hunting of the Snark

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Jeremy Irons reminisces about his childhood on the island and performs an inspired reading of Lewis Carroll's enigmatic poem, *The Hunting of the Snark (An Agony in Eight Fits)*. The epic nonsense poem follows the journey of a

bizarre crew of nine tradesmen and a beaver searching for the mysterious Snark, who lives in the seas and might be a deadly, dangerous Boojum. *The Hunting of the Snark* is a backward poem with Carroll writing the last line of the poem in 1874 though it wasn't finished and published until 1876. *The Hunting of the Snark* and the book has an island connection because the book is dedicated to Gertrude Chataway and opens with a poem that uses her name as a double acrostic. Carroll met Gertrude on the beach in Sandown in 1875.

Jeremy Irons won the Academy Award for Best Actor in 1990 for his performance as Claus von Bulow in *Reversal of Fortune*. He is also a Golden Globe, Emmy, Tony, and SAG award winner as well as the recipient of an Honorary César Award in 2002 and a *Premio Europa Per il Teatro*.

Irons began his formal theatre training at The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. He then joined the Bristol Old Vic Company, where he performed in many productions including: *The Winter's Tale*, *Hay Fever*, *Macbeth*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Boyfriend*. Appearances on London's West End followed with *Godspell* and Simon Gray's *The Rear Column*; at the Young Vic he played in *The Caretaker* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Irons also joined the Royal Shakespeare Company appearing in *The Winter's Tale*, *Richard II* and *The Rover*.

In 2016, he performed the role of James Tyrone in Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night* as part of the Bristol Old Vic's 250th anniversary; this production transferred to Wyndham's Theatre in London's West End in January 2018, and then traveled to BAM's Harvey Theater in New York and the Bram Goldsmith Theater in Los Angeles.



Irons has a rich and much-lauded career in television as well. He was awarded Best Supporting Actor Golden Globe and Emmy for his role in the television miniseries *Elizabeth I* (2005) alongside Helen Mirren. He went on to play Pope Alexander in the Showtime historical series *The Borgias* (2011), and portrayed Henry IV in the BBC Two series *The Hollow Crown* opposite Tom Hiddleston. Irons may be best known for his role as Charles Ryder in the cult TV series *Brideshead Revisited* (1981). Most recently he starred alongside Regina King in the HBO series *WATCHMEN*, the revamp led by Damon Lindelof.

Irons is Patron of the Prison Phoenix Trust and the Hope Foundation, and Chancellor of Bath Spa University.

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SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER



Philip Norman

Wild Thing: The Short, Spellbinding Life of Jimi Hendrix

10.00
Digital
FREE

Wild Thing is the first biography to bring together the splendour and sadness of Jimi Hendrix's brief life and to unravel the mystery of his final hours. Every guitar superstar still bows down

to Hendrix's musical genius and magical showmanship. On stage he pushed the boundaries of Sixties permissiveness, fellingating the strings of the guitar with his tongue, lying it flat and straddling it, even setting fire to it. Yet in private he was polite, shy and strangely unconfident. Philip Norman will take us from Hendrix's dreadful childhood in Seattle to his louche and glamorous life at the heart of "Swinging London" in the '60s, then back in triumph to the US and his appearance at the Woodstock festival, still regarded as one of the defining moments of the decade. After all these years of rumour and speculation, Hendrix's ghost is finally laid to rest.

Philip Norman was born in London and brought up on the Isle of Wight. He joined the *Sunday Times* at 22, soon gaining a reputation as Atticus columnist and for his profiles of figures as diverse as Elizabeth Taylor, Little Richard and Colonel



Gaddafi. Author of *Shout!*, for 40 years the definitive Beatles biography, he has also written critically-acclaimed lives of Paul McCartney, Buddy Holly, Mick Jagger, Elton John and John Lennon.



SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER

Photo credit: Pippa Hart



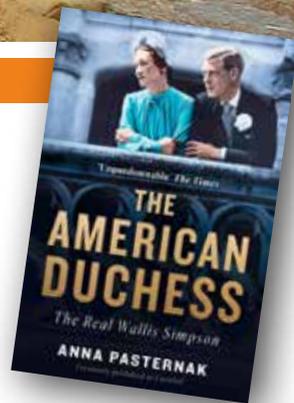
Anna Pasternak

The American Duchess: The Real Wallis Simpson

11.00
Digital
FREE

A divorced American woman, Wallis Simpson was not welcomed by 1930s Britain when she entered a relationship with King Edward VIII. Rather, she became one of the most

vilified women of the twentieth century – the opposition against her so fierce that in order to marry the woman he loved, Edward was forced to surrender his throne. He didn't pause to consider for a moment that she, not he, would be blamed for his history altering decision. Hated by the male-run establishment and the royal family for disgracing the throne, Wallis has been cemented in history as one of the most destructive forces against the British Monarchy. But was she really a conniving social climber? Or simply the love of Edward's life? In this intimate retelling of their love story, Anna Pasternak tells how twisted gossip and public distrust has always haunted women who dare to fall for an English royal. From Edward and Wallis's first meeting, through their whirlwind courtship to the drama of the abdication and their final listless years in exile, Pasternak uncovers the life and legacy of one of the most misjudged characters in British royal history.



Finally, Wallis has been given her authentic voice.

Anna Pasternak is a writer and member of the Pasternak family. Her great grandfather was Leonid, the impressionist painter and her great uncle was Boris, the Nobel prize winning novelist. She was educated at Christ Church, Oxford and is the author of a number of books, including the bestselling *Princess in Love* and most recently *Lara*, the critically acclaimed biography of Boris Pasternak's lover and muse, Olga Ivinskaya.

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER



Sir Robin Knox-Johnston

Running Free

12.00

Digital
FREE

Adventurer and record-breaking sailor Sir Robin Knox-Johnston discusses his extraordinary life with Steve Ancsell. The first man ever to complete a single-handed, non-stop circumnavigation of the world, Knox-Johnston shares stories of his early life and how he came to love the sea.

After leaving school, he immediately joined the Royal Naval Reserve before serving in the merchant navy and travelling the world. During that time, he spied for the British government in the Gulf, worked in the South African dockyards, and built his boat *Suhaili* in Bombay, before sailing home to England. In June 1968, he set sail in *Suhaili* in

the *Sunday Times* Golden Globe Race. Knox-Johnston was the only person to finish the race, completing his journey on 22 April 1969 and thus entering the record books. Once back home, he set up a hugely successful business, Clipper Ventures. He continued his sailing adventures, completing a second solo circumnavigation of the globe in 2007 - at 68, he became the oldest to complete this feat.

Sir Robin Knox-Johnston was born in 1939 and came to fame when he became the first person to complete a single-handed non-stop circumnavigation of the globe during the 1968-69 *Sunday*

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER



Leanda de Lisle

White King: The Tragedy of Charles I

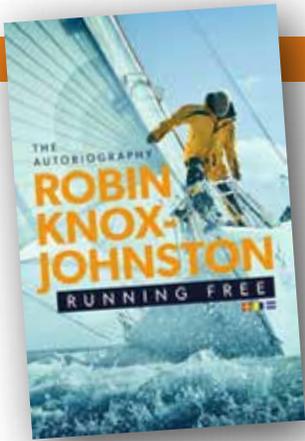
14.00

Digital
FREE

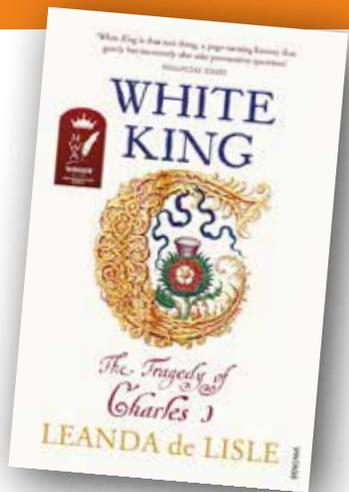
His reign is one of the most dramatic in history, yet Charles I the man remains elusive. Leanda de Lisle looks at the myths and the tragedy, an epic story of glamour, strong women, populist politicians, war and religious terror.

After reading history at Oxford university Leanda de Lisle pursued a successful career as a journalist and author. She had been a weekly columnist for *Country Life* magazine, the *Daily* and *Sunday Express*, the *Guardian* and the *Spectator*, as well as writing regularly for the *Mail* newspapers, the *Telegraph* newspapers and the *Times* newspapers. Over the

past 15 years she has written several bestselling books on Tudor and Stuart history. The latest is the award-winning biography of Charles I, *White King*, described by Andrew Marr as 'fascinating' and which the *Financial Times* describes as 'that rare thing, a page turning history that gently but insistently asks provocative questions about a period on which our ideas have become all too fixed'.



Times Golden Globe Race. He was the only one to complete the race. Knox-Johnston repeated the feat in 2007 in the Velux 5 Oceans Race, when he was oldest competitor. He continues to sail competitively and works as executive chairman of Clipper Ventures to introduce people to competitive sailing.



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SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER



David Rutland, Emma Ellis

**Resolution: Two Brothers, a
Nation in Crisis**

15.00
Digital
FREE

Based upon the detailed archives held at Belvoir Castle, and drawing on a wealth of primary research, *Resolution* charts the lives and

fortunes of two eighteenth-century aristocratic brothers – Charles and Robert Manners, orphaned sons of the celebrated Marquis of Granby and grandsons of the 3rd Duke of Rutland – against a backdrop of the American War of Independence.

Charles's life follows the preordained course of the older son waiting to inherit the dukedom, but after Cambridge University he risks being considered treasonable and aligns himself with the Whig aristocrats who oppose the war with America. His younger brother Robert enlists in the Royal Navy and takes part in all the major sea battles of the war. The young lord, seemingly pushy and arrogant at first, becomes a respected leader

– courageous, honourably ambitious, but always mindful of the welfare of his men. Both brothers, in the cause of the efforts they make for their country and in the shadow of their famous father, suffer unfortunate early deaths.

Resolution offers the readers the dual pleasure of an atmospherically evoked account of life aboard ship in the eighteenth-century navy, alongside a convincing portrayal of the machinations of British politics at a time of war and national crisis. But it also offers an intimate portrait of the joys, griefs, feuds and pressures of a Georgian aristocratic family wrestling with the importance of reputation; the need to preserve the dynasty; the challenge of competing expectations; and the critical role of patronage. And,

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER



Katie Hickman

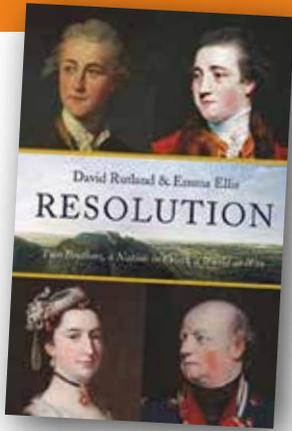
**She-Merchants, Buccaneers
and Gentlewomen: British
Women in India**

16.00
Digital
FREE

The first British women to set foot in India did so in the very early seventeenth century, two and half centuries before the Raj came into being. In stark contrast to the languid memsahibs of popular imagination, these women were tough adventurers, their voyages extraordinarily daring leaps into the unknown. Those who dared the nineteen-month sea voyage, often confined to the lowest bowels of the ship, were at risk of hurricanes, shipwreck, and even piracy. While for some it was a painful exile – in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries it could take more than three years to receive and reply to letters from home – for many others it was

an exhilarating opportunity to re-invent themselves in the often decadent and socially porous British enclaves.

While it is well-known that women went to India to find husbands, what is almost unknown is that they also worked as traders, cloth merchants, milliners, bakers, dress-makers, actresses, portrait painters, maids, shop-keepers, governesses, teachers, boarding house proprietors, midwives, nurses, missionaries, doctors, geologists, plant-collectors, writers and travellers. India was the British 'wild east', and many women succeeded in building a new and often independent life



last but not least, an extraordinary cast of characters drawn from the great and the good of the era – Fox, Chatham, Burke, Sandwich, Pitt the Younger and Wilkes to name but a few – provides a colourful panorama of the world of Georgian high politics.



for themselves. Based upon diaries, letters and memoirs, Katie Hickman reveals the life and times of hundreds of women who make their way across the sea and changed history.

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SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER



Nicholas Allan

An Illustrated Life

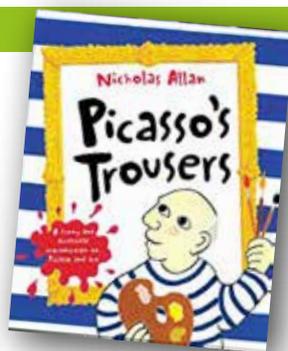
10.00
Digital
FREE

Award winning children's illustrator and author Nicholas Allan talks about his life; reads from his well-known books, *Father Christmas Needs a Wee* and *Picasso's Trousers*; performs magic tricks; and inspires with his drawings. *An Illustrated Life* is an engaging and entertaining

presentation from the Patron of the Isle of Wight Literary Festival's Youth Programme.

Nicholas Allan is the author/illustrator of over 30 children's books. When he was 12 he made a model of a galleon out of a walnut shell which was exhibited at the Royal Academy in London. Nicholas studied painting at the Slade School of Art. During this time he had his first radio play broadcasted by BBC Radio 4. He then completed an MA in Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia.

Nicholas worked as a waiter, three weeks in a publisher's office and as a part-time teacher of a life class before he published his first book, *The Hefty Fairy* (1989). Since then he has been a full-time writer and illustrator. Many of his books are bestsellers; have won awards; and have been translated into 20 languages. His books have been adapted into West End musicals, including *The Queen's Knickers*,



The Giant's Loo Roll, and *Father Christmas Needs A Wee*, the latter touring annually. He is also the author of *Hilltop Hospital*, a book that has been adapted into a BAFTA-winning television series for CITV.

Nicholas has been the Chairman of the Society of Authors' Children's Group and is currently the Patron of the Isle of Wight Literary Festival. He has made many appearances on television and radio. He is also the author of *The Complete Guide To Gatecrashing* and one novel, *The First Time*.



SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER

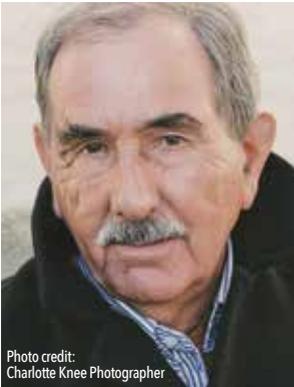


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Hunter Davies

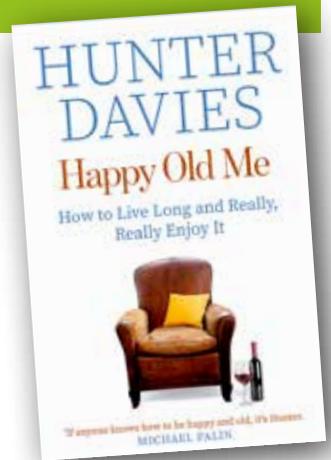
The Beatles Lyrics: The Unseen Story Behind Their Lyrics

11.00
Digital
FREE

The only authorised biographer of The Beatles and especial friend of Sir Paul McCartney, Hunter Davies shares the engaging stories behind the lyrics of The Beatles' songs. Based upon the original versions of the classic songs which were often scribbled on pieces of paper or backs

of envelopes, Davies offers a unique insight into the creative process of Lennon and McCartney – what they were thinking; how they changed their minds; and then came up with the words we all now know. Find out if *The Ticket to Ride* was actually *The Ticket to Ryde*.

Hunter Davies was at the heart of London culture in the Swinging Sixties, becoming close friends with The Beatles, especially Sir Paul McCartney. He has been writing bestselling books and widely read columns for over fifty years. He lives in London. *Happy Old Me* is the third book in Hunter's much-loved memoir series, following on from *The Co-Op's Got Bananas* and *A Life in the Day*.



SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER



Alan Titchmarsh

Marigolds, Myrtle and Moles: A Gardener's Bedside Book

12.00
Digital
FREE

Alan Titchmarsh shares his reflections on the benefits of gardening and reads poems from his latest book. Containing touching poems on the peony, the snowdrop and the sweet pea to hilarious verse on Emily the Gardener and Marigolds, this is Titchmarsh's heartfelt and entertaining celebration of his favourite space, the garden. The book is beautifully illustrated by Titchmarsh.

Alan Titchmarsh is known to millions through the popular BBC TV programmes *British Isles: A Natural History*, *How to be a Gardener*, *Ground Force* and

Gardeners' World. He has written more than 40 gardening books, three volumes of memoirs and 11 novels, including his 2008 success, *Folly*.

He was made MBE in the millennium New Year Honours List and holds the Victoria Medal of Honour, the Royal Horticultural Society's highest award. He lives with his wife and a menagerie of animals in Hampshire where he gardens organically.

SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER



Robin Hanbury-Tenison

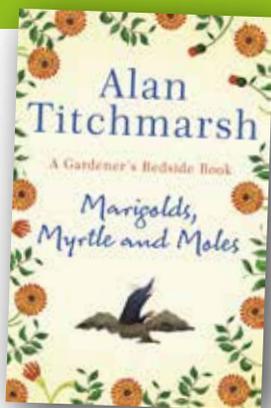
Taming the Four Horsemen: Radical Solutions to Pandemics, War, Famine and the Death of the Planet

14.00
Digital
FREE

Written before the pandemic, Robin Hanbury-Tenison offers innovative and radical solutions not only for pandemics but war, famine and the environmental challenges facing us today. The White Horse of Pestilence and Pandemics – many remote tribal societies have healthier lives than ours – what can we learn from them? The Red Horse of War – can we avoid conflict through promoting prosperity and renewable energy for all? The Black Horse of Famine – is now the time to use technology we've had since World War II to influence the weather? The Pale Horse of Death – will geoeengineering help to undo the appalling pollution we are inflicting on the planet,

especially the oceans? The lessons of *Taming the Four Horsemen* are clear. Hanbury-Tenison makes a persuasive case for implementing these transformative changes now.

Robin Hanbury-Tenison OBE, DL, is a founder and current president of Survival International, the world's leading organisation supporting tribal peoples, and was one of the first people to bring the plight of the rainforests to the world's attention. He has been a Gold Medallist of the Royal Geographical Society, winner of the Pio Manzu Award, an International Fellow of the Explorers Club, a Winston Churchill Memorial Fellow, a



Trustee of the Ecological Foundation and a Fellow of the Linnean Society.

Among his many publications are: *A Question of Survival for the Indians of Brazil*, *A Pattern of Peoples*, *Aborigines of the Amazon Rain Forest: The Yanomami*, *Fragile Eden*, *The Oxford Book of Exploration*, and his two autobiographies, *Worlds Apart* and *Worlds Within*, as well as a successful quintet of books about the long distance rides he and Louella have made across France, China, New Zealand, Spain and Albania, the latest being *Land of Eagles* (also published by I.B.Tauris).

'The doyen of British explorers.' *The Spectator*.

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SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER



Joanna Trollope

Mum & Dad

15.00
Digital
FREE

The number one bestselling author Joanna Trollope talks about her latest book *Mum & Dad* with Amber Beard. It's been 25 years since Gus and Monica left England to start a new life in Spain, building a vineyard and wine business from the ground up. However, when Gus

suffers a stroke and their idyllic Mediterranean life is thrown into upheaval, it's left to their three grown-up children in London to step in. Tackling today's social issues in a compassionate and humorous manner, Trollope's twenty-second novel is a brilliantly drawn examination of what happens when the roles of parents and children are reversed. As parents age, children grow up and families diverge, how do we look after one another?

Joanna Trollope is the author of many highly acclaimed and bestselling novels including *The Rector's Wife*, *Marrying the Mistress* and *Daughters In Law*. She was appointed OBE in 1996 and CBE in 2019, a trustee of the National Literacy Trust in 2012, and a trustee of the Royal Literary Fund in 2016. She has chaired the Whitbread and Orange Awards, as well as being a judge of many other literature prizes including chairing the BBC National Short Story Awards for 2017. She has been part of two DCMS panels



on public libraries and is patron of numerous charities, including Meningitis Now and Chawton House Library. In 2014, she updated Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* as the opening novel in the Austen Project. *Mum & Dad* is her twenty-second novel.



SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER



Tim Wander
Marconi On the Isle of Wight

16.00
Digital
FREE

In November 1897, a twenty-three year old Italian inventor visited the Royal Needles Hotel that overlooked Alum Bay on the west coast of the Isle of Wight. The young Guglielmo Marconi's proposal to rent rooms to perform his 'experiments' over the deserted winter months was warmly welcomed by the hotel's proprietors.

Marconi used some of the working capital of his newly formed Wireless Telegraph & Signal Company to convert the hotel's billiard room and install his equipment and spark transmitter. Several small ships were hired and fitted with wireless aerials and receivers while moored at the pier below.

A huge mast, 168 feet high, had to be hauled up the cliff face of Alum Bay and raised in the hotel grounds, a feat that required the help of most of the able bodied men in Totland. On Monday 6th December 1897 Marconi started his wireless experiments from the Royal Needles Hotel, including a month of private demonstrations for Queen Victoria and the Royal family using wireless stations he installed at Osborne House and on board the Royal Yacht.

Tim Wander is a Chartered Engineer who tried to retire a few years ago but somehow managed to get even busier. Today he is an historic consultant, author, lecturer and a

specialist in historic building renovation.

Wander has written many books about the early days of radio broadcasting, Marconi and several BBC radio plays. His first stage play debuted at Northwood House in November 2018. His second was accepted for a main theatre run in Chelmsford with a possible Westend transfer but was postponed due to Covid 19. In 2016 Wander took over as Consultant and Industry for Science and Industry for Chelmsford City's museum service. He is now developing plans to celebrate the various centenaries of British radio broadcasting in 2020 and 2022.

Wander lectures all over the UK (and on cruise ships) on the history and career of Marconi, early wireless and broadcasting, military history, PLUTO and the amazing history of the Isle of Wight.



SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER



Write on Wight
Inspiration Island

17.00
Digital
FREE

Prior to the digital Red Funnel Isle of Wight Literary Festival, local authors and those with an island connection were invited to submit a short video talking about their writing and sharing places on the island that inspire or feature in their books. Writers taking up the challenge include George East, Felicity Fair Thompson, Tim Flower, Mary Grand, Glenys Lloyd Williams and Bev Barber, Tim

Wander and Dan Williamson. All submissions were entered into a draw to win one day car ferry trips from our title sponsor Red Funnel and book vouchers from Medina Books.

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IWLF Patrons



MAJOR GENERAL SIR MARTIN WHITE KCVO CB CBE JP

Major General Sir Martin White, who was HM Lord-Lieutenant of the Isle of Wight until March 2019, has been a committed and enthusiastic Patron since the first Isle of Wight Literary Festival in 2012. He has played a pro-active role both in encouraging speakers to attend and with his wife, Lady White, supporting all aspects of the Literary Festival.

"The Literary Festival has become one of the most important events in our calendar for both visitors and residents alike. My thanks and admiration go to everyone involved and in particular to the many volunteers who give their time throughout the year to bring us a wide range of authors and a popular youth and schools programme."



NICHOLAS ALLAN PATRON YOUTH PROGRAMME

Nicholas Allan is the author/illustrator of many best selling picture books, including *The Queen's Knickers*, *Father Christmas Needs A Wee*, *Where Willy Went* and *Jesus' Christmas Party*. His books are translated into 20 languages and winner of many awards, including a BAFTA, The Children's Book Award, The Sheffield Book Award, and the Coventry Book Award for most loved picture book of the last 20 years.

"Becoming Patron of the Youth Programme gives me an opportunity to participate more fully in the growth of this unique festival while ensuring my regular visits to one of my favourite islands."



ALAN TITCHMARSH MBE DL VICE PATRON

"I am delighted to support the Isle of Wight Literary Festival, being a staunch supporter of island initiatives and someone who makes his living by the written word! I know from previous experience that there is a great spirit attached to the IWLF and I'm looking forward hugely to being a part of the 2019 celebrations."

DICK TURPIN VICE PATRON

We are delighted to announce that Dick Turpin, a long time supporter, has become Vice Patron of the Isle of Wight Literary Festival.

Dick served with the British Army (Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and 7th Gurkha Rifles), between 1975 and 1988. He left the Army in 1988 to pursue a career in the financial sector. He retired at the end of 2018 as a Partner of Artemis Investment Management LLP. During his time at Artemis, he was responsible for the day to day relationship with the management team of the Artemis Sailing Academy, which was based in Cowes, and Artemis Ocean Racing, which was based in Southampton.

He has a love of literature, both fiction and non fiction.



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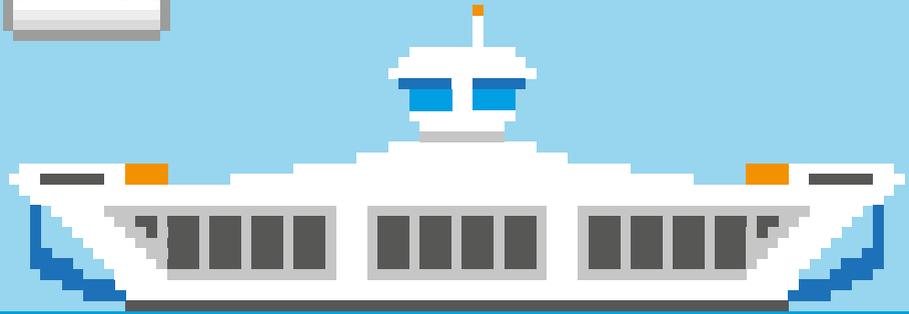
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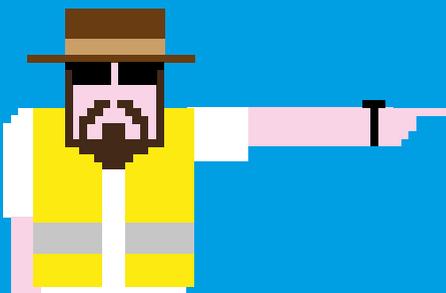
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1st June 2019 our countypress.co.uk page impressions increased **68%** on the previous June.

We now have **29,000** likes on our Facebook page and we engaged with **120,000** in one recent week - more than any other IW Facebook news page.

Our new IW County Press Camera Club has already attracted **nearly 400** members.

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