

The Hertford
Literary Festival
AT THE HERTFORD CLUB



2024
PROGRAMME



FRIDAY 5TH &
SATURDAY 6TH
JULY 2024

This year's festival is dedicated to supporting the safe return of Ukraine's kidnapped children

LOVE WHAT YOU ARE HEARING?
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY TAGGING & SHARING

#HERTFORDLITFEST24

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@HERTFORDLITFEST -US-



A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO

OUR 2024 SPONSORS



stevenoates.com



CLEARSHORE
CAPITAL



KEEP THE HERTFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL FREE AND ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

2025 SPONSORSHIP

Without the support of our sponsors providing funds and and donating their time, the Hertford Literary Festival wouldn't happen and we are forever grateful.

Next year, we're excited to offer a more comprehensive choice of sponsorship packages including advertising space in this programme, our website and across our social channels. If you are a business keen to support community events and reach an engaged, local audience then do get in touch via the website.

hertfordlitfest.co.uk/contact

A WORD FROM OUR CHAIR

Welcome!

We're delighted to introduce another outstanding line up of speakers, performers, poets and musicians. As ever, the festival promises to offer a rich tapestry of true life stories, life changing experiences and untold, personal quests for the truth.

Topics range from fascinating, local history to the future of international conflict in outer space and from the search for personal redemption through to hilarious tales of controversy and inspiring anecdotes from those who have lived quite unbelievable lives. I can't thank all our guests enough for joining us - including you. Whether on stage, behind the scenes or getting comfy under our marquee, and ready to soak up the day. Thank you all for being part of something special.



We continue to stand with Ukraine and this year, the festival is dedicated to supporting the safe return of the kidnapped children of Ukraine. Those youngsters fortunate enough to have found refuge in Hertfordshire have shown their solidarity with the children left behind and we're delighted to display their drawings inside the club, paying homage to their broken homeland.

From 7pm each night, we're thrilled to present our live poetry sessions and then join the Club's resident musician, Pat Crilly from 8pm as he hosts a line up of local, musical talent to take us through the evening.

We're proud to once again open the gates of this unique and historic venue to host a community event that continues to be free of charge, thanks to the commitment of our sponsors and volunteers. It couldn't go ahead without you and I'd like to take the opportunity, on the behalf of the Hertford Club committee, to say thank you.

I will end with an invitation to become a member of the Hertford Club and benefit from all we have to offer, not least, a unique place to relax and meet with friends. Turn to page 4 for membership details or pop into the Club and pick up a form.

Rob Bryan

Chair, The Hertford Club

Welcome To The Hertford Club



THE HERTFORD
CLUB

The place to relax and unwind in
a peaceful, historic setting

We're delighted to open our doors to the public and welcome you to our club - we hope you enjoy the festival as much as we do. If you are enjoying your surroundings and interested in membership, then do read on.

The Club has a well-stocked bar and cellar, an oak-beamed restaurant with delicious home-made meals served all week, a full-sized snooker table, and two function rooms.

As a member, you can enjoy our well maintained garden and riverside terrace whenever you choose; a peaceful location providing the perfect setting to enjoy time with a friend or colleague.

VISIT WWW.HERTFORD.CLUB FOR MORE INFO

£87
p/year

Membership Benefits



Space To Relax & Socialise



Use Of Garden & Terrace



15% Off Drinks



Homemade Meals All Week



Exclusive Events Schedule



Discounted Venue Hire



Bring A Non-Member

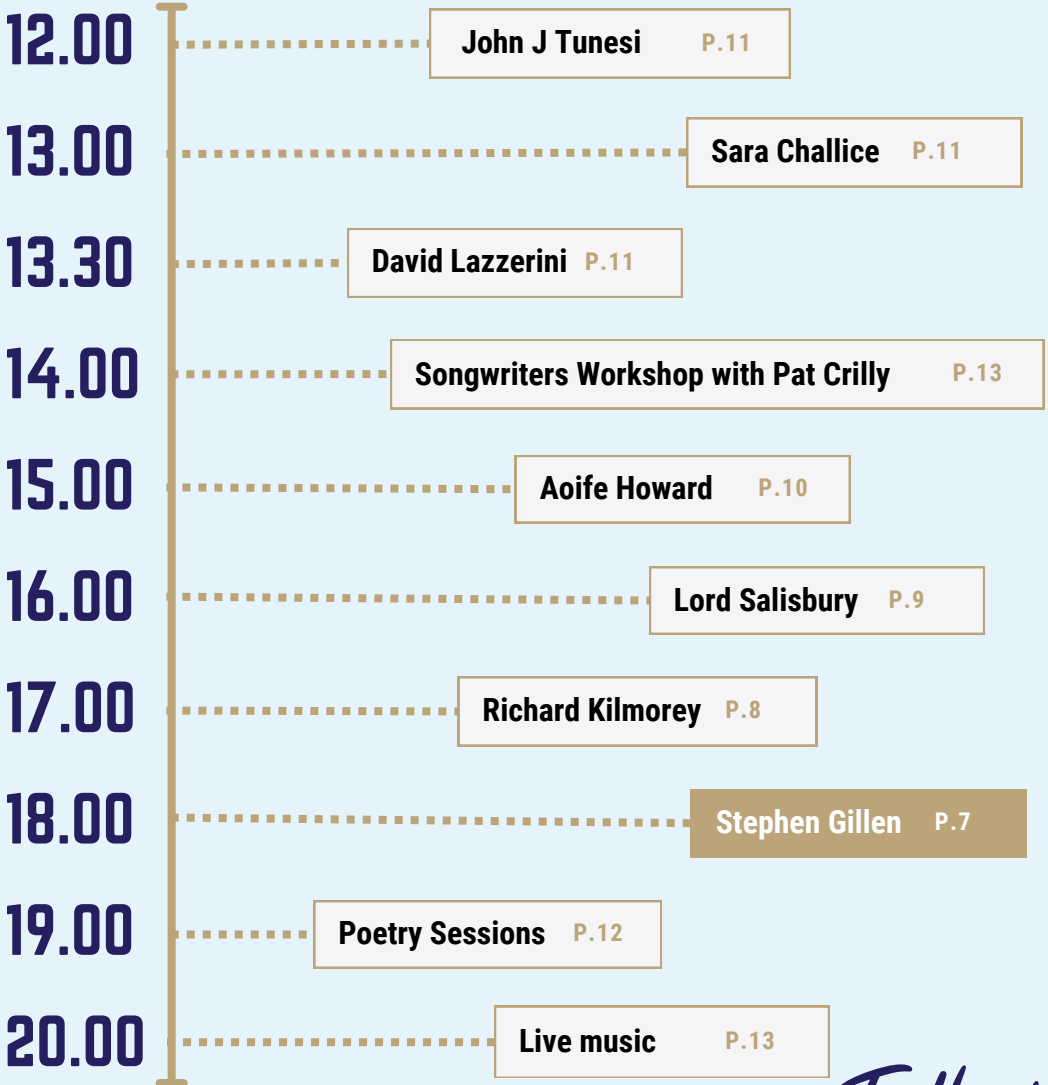


Wifi Access

Pick up a membership form from inside The Club today!

FRIDAY 5TH JULY

THE SCHEDULE



LOVE WHAT YOU ARE HEARING?
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY TAGGING & SHARING

*Follow
-US-*

#HERTFORDLITFEST24



@HERTFORDLITFEST

SATURDAY 6TH JULY



£21
all inc.



FOR EVEN MORE INFO ON ALL OUR GUESTS
PLUS LINKS TO THEIR SOCIAL PROFILES VISIT:

HERTFORDLITFEST.CO.UK

BRITISH COMEDIAN, WRITER AND ACTRESS

HELEN LEDERER

Saturday 6th July at 6pm

Not That I'm Bitter



Helen is probably best known for her role as the dippy 'Catriona' in 'Absolutely Fabulous' alongside Jennifer Saunders in all six series and more recently in 'Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie'.

Join Rick Mayston as he interviews Helen and takes a deep dive into the hilarious and alarmingly honest memoir by one of Britain's first female stand-ups of the 80s - when Alternative Comedy created a whole new generation of TV heroes.

ORGANISED CRIME TO INTNL. PEACE PRIZE NOMINEE & TV PERSONALITY

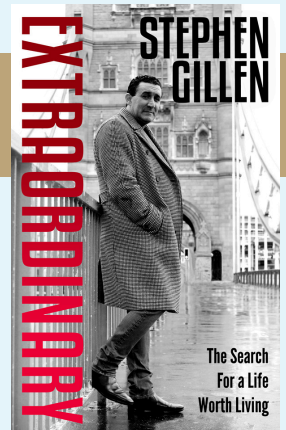
STEPHEN GILLEN

Friday 5th July at 6pm

Extraordinary: The Search For A Life Worth Living

In his early twenties, Stephen received a 17-year sentence as a "category A prisoner" serving 12 years in prison being labelled one of the UK's most dangerous prisoners. He hit rock bottom, lost everything, he learned he had to change his mind set and actions if he wants to survive.

From grim children's homes to the notorious ranks of crime gangs, Stephen joins Rick Mayston on our Garden Stage, to tell his story.

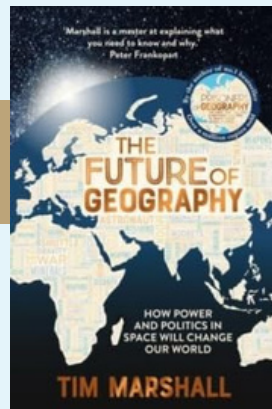


MULTI-MILLION-COPY INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLING AUTHOR

TIM MARSHALL

Saturday 6th July at 5pm
The Future of Geography

Join us as Tim talks about his latest No.1 best selling book. Space. It's the biggest geopolitical story of the coming century – new from the multi-million-copy international bestselling author of Prisoners of Geography and The Power of Geography



Tim Marshall lays bare the new geopolitical realities to show how we got here and where we're going, covering the new space race; great-power rivalry; technology; economics; war; and what it means for all of us down here on Earth. Spy satellites orbiting the Moon, space metals worth billions. Humans on Mars within our lifetimes! This isn't science fiction. It's astropolitics.

6TH EARL OF KILMOREY, SIR RICHARD NEEDHAM

RICHARD KILMOREY

Friday 5th July at 5pm
Balls Park and the Faudel-Phillips's



Richard's grandfather, Sir Lionel Faudel-Phillips was the last owner of Balls Park, the Grade I Listed mid-17th-century house in Hertford.

The estate and house are set in over 63 acres of parkland and has been claimed to have been the inspiration for Netherfield in Jane Austen's novel Pride and Prejudice.

Richard is currently writing the family history during the time they lived there, between 1880-1945 and is joining us to talk about this fascinating subject.

LOVER | FIGHTER | MEDICAL CANNABIS ADVOCATE

CARLY BARTON

Saturday, 6th July at 4pm
Professional Criminal



Carly was the first person in the UK to receive a prescription for herbal Cannabis privately since the law change in 2018. She now advocates for patient access to Medical Cannabis as director of Cancard.

Cancard is an ID card. Patients unable to afford a costly prescription are stuck in limbo and Cancard aims to bridge the gap between patients, doctors and the police. With a membership of 85,000 people Cancard has stopped arrest in almost 5000 cases and saved the tax payer 1.6 million pounds.

Join Carly as she talks about her journey to becoming a 'professional criminal.'

ROBERT GASCOYNE CECIL, 7TH MARQUESS OF SALISBURY

LORD SALISBURY

Friday 5th July at 4pm

Hatfield House: Past, Present and Future



Lord Salisbury lives in Hatfield House, home of the Cecil family since 1611 when Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury, built this fine Jacobean House adjoining the site of the Old Palace of Hatfield.

The house and surrounding park have been the setting for a huge variety of film and television productions including Harry Potter, Bridgerton and Tomb Raider.

Lord Salisbury will be joining us to talk about the history of the House and the Estate as well as setting out his hopes and aspirations for the future.

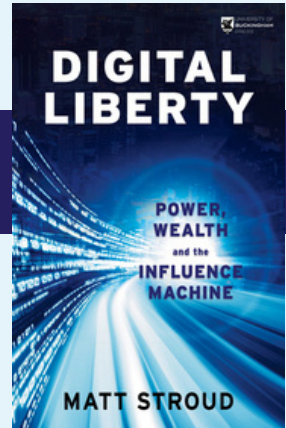
POWER, WEALTH & THE INFLUENCE MACHINE

MATT STROUD

Saturday 6th July at 2pm

Re-wiring The Matrix

Matt explores the imminent convergence of three critical drivers of our future - data, artificial intelligence, society's intricate social graph, and warns of a looming crisis that threatens to challenge the very foundations of liberal democracies.



A JOURNEY TO DISCOVER THE TRUTH ABOUT HER FATHER'S PAST

AOIFE HOWARD

Friday 5th July at 3pm

Who am i?



Aoife speaks candidly about her journey over the past year discovering her estranged fathers past, from his experiences being kidnapped and tortured by the Provisional IRA to learning of his passing.

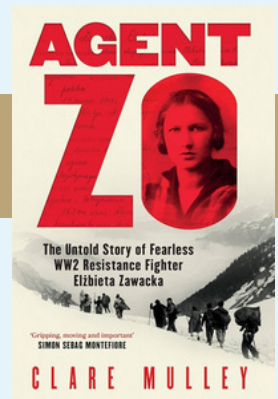
THE UNTOLD STORY OF A FEARLESS RESISTANCE FIGHTER

CLARE MULLEY

Saturday 6th July at 1pm

Agent Zo

Agent Zo tells the incredible story of courageous resistance fighter Elżbieta Zawacka, also known as Elizabeth Watson but more often as 'Zo'.



SOME STORIES ARE JUVENILE, SOME TRAGIC, SOME HAVE CONSEQUENCES.



DAVID LAZZERINI

Friday 5th July at 1.30pm
Rats in The Attic

Coming from an advertising and design background and with many years in the music business, Dave has always been involved in the creative arts. Dave will be talking about the scribbles inspired by the rats scuttering around between his ears.

AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR OF THE BOOK 'WHO CARES?'

SARA CHALLICE

Friday 5th July at 1pm
Who cares?



After giving up her career to look after her husband full-time when he became ill, Sara became unwell from the continuous stress of caring. She then found new ways to regain her health and enjoy life again. Sara joins us on the first day of the festival to share her story and the positive ethos she now lives her life by.

A GLIMPSE INTO THE HISTORY OF THE HERTFORD CLUB

JOHN J. TUNESI

Friday 5th July at 12pm (Chauncy Rooms)
The Arms Of The Tooke And Tichborne Families



Take a journey back in time to the 1500's when Lombard House, now better known as The Hertford Club, was occupied by the Tooke family. John will be giving a fascinating talk about the history of the shields on the central fireplace opposite the front door of The Hertford Club.

POETRY SESSIONS



5th & 6th July at 7pm
Daren Peary & Friends



Daren Peary

Tongue and Cheek

Daren has invited people from all walks of life to join him to perform their own (or other) poetry. Daren's own poetry is playful, imaginative, amusing and inventive. A local poet and spoken word artist Daren has been writing for over twenty years.



Joshua Seigal

I don't like poetry

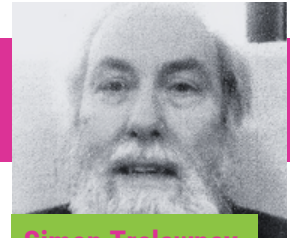
An internationally renowned poet, performer and educator.



Wilson McQueen

The four seasons

A stream of consciousness at the intersection of the senses, dreams and memory.



Simon Trelawney

Pastiche and parody

Simon is a poet and the author of Sherlock Holmes and the Ciphered List, a Holmesian pastiche.



Martina Swift

Womxn in desert spaces

An intrepid explorer of words, Martina is currently working on a collection on feminism.



Bill Clarke

Poetry and lyrics are not the same

Bill writes songs for his band but get's more across without the verse, chorus constraints.

Also featuring

David O 'Kelly

(Beat Poet Experience)

Tony Combeback

CJ Hooper / Impro Poet

Martyn Reid

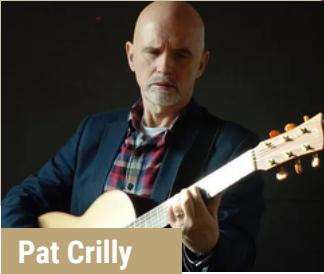
Plus open mic

(subject to timings)

SONGWRITERS SESSIONS

5th July at 2pm

Pat Crilly & Friends



Pat Crilly

Pat runs the Four Rivers Folk Club which is based in the Hertford Club and is a seasoned performer on the local folk scene. His songs reflect the places he's worked, the people he's encountered and his observations of life.

Peter will be talking about his inspirations and influences and performing his own brand of folksy uplifting tunes from his debut album Rags to Riches and some new tunes which will form the basis of his next release later in the year.



Peter Crossley

Live music from 8pm

Peter Crossley

Mel Quinn

Pat Crilly

Paul Hilder

Peter Dawson

Why Not?

Archduke

Brett Marvin and The Excels



Mike Excell

Mike's songs reflect his concerns for real world issues such as climate change and unscrupulous business practices but his songs can also reflect his childhood memories - and not forgetting his lifelong obsession with cricket.

FOOD & DRINK

Enjoy the Hertford Club's fully stocked bar
Teas, coffees, soft drinks and bar snacks served all day

The Hertford Club prides itself on its beer and real ale and keeps a well-stocked cellar. As well as real ales, the Club offers still ciders, mostly from local producers.

Each wine, from the extensive list, has been handpicked and is based solely on taste, quality and value for money.

Spirits are chosen for their quality with a selection of local spirits from the local area and surrounding counties too.



To find out more visit hertford.club

Food served throughout the festival
hertfordlitfest.co.uk/2024-festival#food



We're delighted that Hertford's very own Jerk Chicken Man will be bringing a taste of the Caribbean to the Hertford Literary Festival.
Grab a menu and order from the bar in the Club

AN EXCERPT FROM THEIR LATEST PLAY

THE INVISIBLE MEN

6th July at 3pm

The Company of Players



The Company of Players will be performing an excerpt of their new play. The Invisible Men is a fast-paced comedy, inspired by the original novel by H.G. Wells, set in present times, adapted and directed by Laura Ilinca, and will be presented as a world premiere at The Little Theatre in Hertford in 2024.

HOW TO BECOME A QUIET MANIAC

THE QUIET MAN BREAKFAST

6th July at 9.00am breakfast & 10.30am fan talk
Professor Des MacHale - Live from Cork

£21
all inc.

Join us for a sumptuous breakfast at the Hertford Club on the Saturday morning, followed by a stroll round the corner to The Quiet Man pub for a fan-based talk by film expert, Prof. Des MacHale. Enjoy the first pint (or glass) of the day while we live-stream Des from Cork, Ireland and listen to his fascinating insights on this wonderful, classic film. A must for any Quiet Man fan. **Pop into the club for details.**

INTERESTED IN SPEAKING OR PERFORMING AT NEXT YEAR'S FESTIVAL?

JOIN THE 2025 LINE-UP

If you are an author, a seasoned speaker, musician, performer or simply have a fascinating tale to tell, then we want to hear from you.

We're already planning our 2025 festival and if you'd like to join the list of guests and performers then please fill in the contact form on our website.

hertfordlitfest.co.uk/contact

Please note that while expenses can be covered, this is a free, community event and we are unable to pay speaker fees.



THE HERTFORD
CLUB



The Hertford Literary Festival

AT THE HERTFORD CLUB

In solidarity with Ukraine and in support of the children kidnapped throughout the conflict, we're honoured to display the beautiful artwork drawn by the Ukraine children now living in Hertfordshire.

[HERTFORDLITFEST.CO.UK](https://www.hertfordlitfest.co.uk)

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NEWSLETTER TO
STAY IN TOUCH**



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The Hertford Literary Festival is a not-for-profit organisation
hertfordlitfestfilms@gmail.com | www.hertfordlitfest.co.uk
Lombard House, Bull Plain, Hertford, SG14 1DT

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