



FELIXSTOWE BOOK FESTIVAL

26th–28th June 2026



Books by the sea

www.felixstowebookfestival.co.uk



FelixstoweBookFest



@felixstowebook



felixstowebookfestival

SATURDAY 27 JUNE

PALM COURT Harvest House Cobbold Rd, Felixstowe IP11 7SP

©Pal Hansen



Saturday 27 June 10am-11am £15 (£12)

Dame Jacqueline Wilson *Picture Imperfect*

Millions grew up loving *The Illustrated Mum*; now find out what happens next in this joyful adult sequel.

In conversation with Mandy Morton

This event is to celebrate the publication of Jacqueline Wilson's adult novels and will contain discussion of adult themes. It is not suitable for younger readers. There will not be a book signing after the event.

Saturday 27 June 11.30am-12.30pm £15 (£12)

Sarah Perry *Death of an Ordinary Man*

This is not a book about grief: it is a book about dying, and it is a book about family, and care and love.

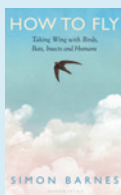
In conversation with Nicola Upson

©Sophie Davidson



Saturday 27 June 1pm-2pm £12 (£10)

Simon Barnes *How to Fly: Taking Wing with Birds, Bats, Insects and Humans*



This book brings together all aspects of aerial life - evolution, technology, religion, nature and imagination - in a celebration of the wonders of flight.

©Jillian Edelstein

Saturday 27 June 4pm-5pm £12 (£10)

Patrick Gale *Love Lane*



When *A Place Called Winter's* Harry Cane returns from Canada his arrival triggers unwelcome self-examination for the family he

abandoned. Can Harry stay and make a new life before it's too late, or will he find himself cast out again?

In conversation with Catherine Larnar

Saturday 27 June 5.30pm-6.30pm £12 (£10)

Sarah Vaughan *Based On A True Story*

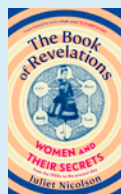


A compelling new novel about power, money and lies from the author of *Anatomy of a Scandal*.

In conversation with Ruth Dugdall

Saturday 27 June 2.30pm-3.30pm £12 (£10)

Juliet Nicolson *The Book of Revelations: Women and Their Secrets From the 1950s to the Present Day*



A beautifully written blend of memoir, first-person stories and social history that explores the changing nature of the secrets

held by three generations of women.

In conversation with Esther Freud

©Johnny Ring

©Cindy Lee Wright

©Steven Hutton, Electric Egg

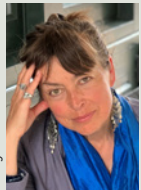
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SATURDAY 27 JUNE **CONSERVATORY Harvest House** Cobbold Rd, Felixstowe IP11 7SP

Saturday 27 June 10am-11am £12 (£10)

Jay Griffiths *How Animals Heal Us*

©Jay Griffiths



Drawing widely on scientific discoveries, history, and Indigenous knowledge this book gives a unique insight

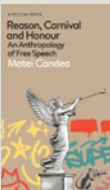
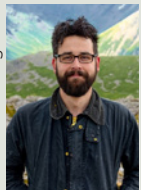
into the healing nature of our relationship with animals.

In conversation with Catherine Lerner

Saturday 27 June 11.30am-12.30pm £12 (£10)

Professor Matei Candea *Reason, Carnival and Honour*

©Alexander Bougrine



What does free speech really mean? How does our understanding of it differ around the world? Why does it divide us –

and how can we find common ground?

In conversation with Paolo Heywood

Saturday 27 June 1pm-2pm £12 (£10)

Helen Bain *The Daffodil Days*

©Sarah Weal



A mesmerising debut novel imagining a pivotal year in the marriage of Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes in a small Devonshire

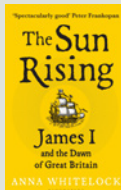
town, as brought to life by the community around them.

In conversation with Catherine Lerner

Saturday 27 June 2.30pm-3.30pm £12 (£10)

Professor Anna Whitelock *The Sun Rising: James I and the Dawn of a Global Britain*

©Zoë de T Photography



A panoramic history of the arrival of the Stuarts, and how the reign of King James I saw England reach new corners of

the globe.

In conversation with Georgy Jamieson



Saturday 27 June 4pm-5pm £12 (£10)

Sir Terry Waite

Our Festival Patron discusses his life's work.

In conversation with Rachel Sloane

Saturday 27 June 5.30-6.30 £12 (£10)

Katie da Cunha Lewin *The Writer's Room: The Hidden Worlds that Shape the Books We Love*

©Sophie Davidson



The Brontës' study in the parsonage; Virginia Woolf's garden room; Maya Angelou writing in hotel rooms and Ernest Hemingway in Parisian cafés

- what is it that so fascinates us about the spaces where writers work?

In conversation with Nicola Upson

SUNDAY 28 JUNE

PALM COURT Harvest House Cobbold Rd, Felixstowe IP11 7SP

©Charlotte Knee Photography



Sunday 28 June 10.30am-11.30am £15 (£12)

Harriet Tyce *Witch Trial*

A dark, original and compulsive legal thriller from the bestselling author of *Blood Orange* revolves around the death of a teenager in an Edinburgh park and the trial of her two best friends charged with her murder.

In conversation with Mandy Morton

Sunday 28 June 12pm-1pm £12 (£10)

Patrick Galbraith *Uncommon Ground: Rethinking our relationship with the countryside*

©Patrick Galbraith



An extraordinary tour of rural Britain meeting farmers, Travellers, politicians, salmon poachers,

landowners, as well as activists calling for a total abolition of the right to own land to uncover the truth and fully understand our deep connection with the land.

In conversation with Catherine Larner

Sunday 28 June 1.30pm-2.30pm £12 (£10)

Robin Ince *Let the Quiet Ones Rise - poems about standing up and standing out*

©Richard Davis



An hour of stories and poems looking at how to be a better ally and how to fit in the world and be authentically you

and perhaps a story or two about why Robin had to break his own heart and resign from the show he loved, *The Infinite Monkey Cage*.

©Alison Weir

Sunday 28 June 3pm-4pm £15 (£12)

Dr Alison Weir *The Boleyn Secret*



Boleyn women. Passionate, legendary, full of secrets...

An enthralling tale of courtly intrigue that revolves around

the relationship between Anne Boleyn's niece Kate and daughter Elizabeth.

In conversation with Georgy Jamieson

Sunday 28 June 4.30pm-5.30pm £12 (£10)

Ruth Duggall *The Cate Austin Crime Series*

©Adrian Pope



Cate Austin is a probation officer, juggling the demands of the job with being a single mum.

The six-book series, set in and

around Felixstowe, raises questions of justice and redemption from a unique perspective.

Ruth will share with us Cate's journey - and her own - at this special 'homecoming' event to celebrate the relaunch of the series in the town where it was written.

In conversation with Georgy Jamieson

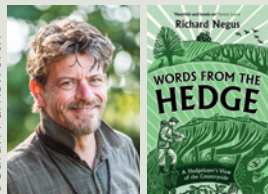
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SUNDAY 28 JUNE

CONSERVATORY Harvest House Cobbold Rd, Felixstowe IP11 7SP

Sunday 28 June 10.30am-11.30pm £12 (£10)

Richard Negus *Words From The Hedge*



A passionate evocation of the history, beauty and importance of our hedgerows, their usage and value

for wildlife habitat, nature recovery and biodiversity.

In conversation with Catherine Larnar

©Sarah Farnsworth

Sunday 28 June 1.30pm-2.30pm £12 (£10)

Blake Morrison On Memoir *An A-Z of Life Writing*



An exploration of narrative non-fiction, its challenges, ethics and charms, and its power to move and change us. From AI to ethics to politics

to sex, there is something for every reader and writer in this modern classic.

In conversation with Wendy Jones



Sunday 28 June 3pm-4pm £15

Mandy Morton Tea at 3

Join festival favourite Mandy Morton for an afternoon tea as she reads from her latest book in her No2. Feline Detective Agency series. 'The Tabby in Black' finds her feline sleuths Hettie and Tilly in a very sticky situation as they investigate a series of deaths in their local chocolate factory in the village of Catberry on the Brink.

Tea, chocolate cake and a free copy of the book are included in the ticket price.

Sunday 28 June 12m-1pm £12 (£10)

Susan Owens *Constable's Year: An Artist in Changing Seasons*



Shaped by the cycle of the natural world, a fresh look at the life and work of John Constable to celebrate the

250th anniversary of his birth in 2026.

In conversation with Nicola Upson

©Stephen Calloway

Sunday 28 June 4.30pm-5.30pm £12 (£10)

Will Stone – *Conversations With Rilke By Maurice Betz translated by Will Stone*



An intimate portrait of Rainer Maria Rilke's life and art in interwar Paris, which offers unparalleled insight into the creative process

of one of the great literary minds of the twentieth century. This book coincides with the centenary of Rilke's death in 2026.

In conversation with Wendy Jones

©Will Stone

FELIXSTOWE BOOK FESTIVAL 2026

SATURDAY 27 EVENT PLANNER

PALM COURT	TIME	CONSERVATORY
Dame Jaqueline Wilson	10am-11am	Jay Griffiths
Sarah Perry	11.30am-12.30pm	Matei Candea
Simon Barnes	1pm-2pm	Helen Bain
Juliet Nicolson	2.30pm-3.30pm	Anna Whitelock
Patrick Gale	4pm-5pm	Sir Terry Waite
Sarah Vaughan	5.30pm-6.30pm	Katie Da Cunha Lewin

FRIDAY 26 JUNE – FESTIVAL LAUNCH EVENT



©Sarah Lee

Friday 26 June 7.30pm £15 (£13)

**Two Sisters Arts Centre,
Trimley St Mary, IP11 OSP
Blake Morrison and
the Hosepipe Band**

Scenes from a life features poems from Blake Morrison's *Afterburn* as well as his prose writing. Blake's readings are accompanied by music composed and played by members of the Hosepipe Band.

This event is a collaboration between Felixstowe Book Festival and Two Sisters Arts Centre.

Tickets available from
www.ticketsource.co.uk/felixstowebookfestival



FELIXSTOWE BOOK FESTIVAL 2026

SUNDAY 28 EVENT PLANNER

PALM COURT	TIME	CONSERVATORY
Harriet Tyce	10.30am-11.30am	Richard Negus
Patrick Gilbraith	12pm-1pm	Susan Owens
Robin Ince	1.30pm-2.30pm	Blake Morrison
Dr Alison Weir	3pm-4pm	Tea at 3 Mandy Morton
Ruth Dugdall	4.30pm-5.30pm	Will Stone

Felixstowe Book festival would like to thank our sponsors and funders:



Supporters: Library, Cuppa Cafe, Labelcraft, The Bakery, Magnum Book Services
Book stall supplied by: Red Lion Books Colchester

Please see our website for more details of the events and to check for any last minute changes to the programme or venue. www.felixstowebookfestival.co.uk

The River Orwell

Sunday 31 May on board Orwell Lady departing from Orwell Quay (IP3 0FS)



A River Trip with Nicci French

Join us on the river to hear from the writing partnership of Nicci Gerrard and Sean French. Focusing on their career, writing techniques and their latest book *What Happened That Night* (published February 2026).

Books will be available to purchase on board. There will be plenty of time to mingle, ask questions and have books signed.

Ticket price includes homemade scones served with clotted cream and jam. Licensed bar on board.

Trip is 3 hours, leaving at 2pm. Tickets £44pp. Event in conjunction with Felixstowe Book Festival.

For more information and to purchase, go to <https://orwelllady.co.uk/nicci-french/>

Hotel Coco

Saturday 16 May 9.30am-4pm at Hotel Coco £15 includes coffees, teas, biscuits.

Write Away!

A day of workshops, talks and Q&A on writing and publishing. Suitable for beginners and experienced writers.

The day will include:

A talk on publishing and Q&A by independent publishers Urban Pigs Press and novelist Virginia Betts
Mini writing workshops with Orwell Writers

A Q&A on the value of belonging to a writers' group.



Loca Bar & Restaurant

Supper by the Sea with author Oggy Boytchev



As part of our series of Pre Festival events we are delighted to offer the opportunity to have supper at Loca Bar & Restaurant on the seafront at Felixstowe

on **Wednesday 6th May** 6.30 for 7pm £36.50 per head for two course meal with Oggy who will talk about his latest book *The Istanbul Connection*.

Oggy is a former BBC journalist with more than three decades of reporting from conflict zones across the Middle East, the Balkans, and the former Soviet Union. He has worked alongside John Simpson, the BBC's World Affairs Editor, producing frontline television reports viewed by millions around the world.

www.ticketsource.co.uk/felixstowebookfestival

TO BOOK TICKETS FOR FELIXSTOWE BOOK FESTIVAL:

Tickets on sale from 1st April and can be purchased through our website...

www.felixstowebookfestival.co.uk

Tickets will be available at Felixstowe Library, between 10am and noon, every Thursday commencing 2nd April. Cash only.

BOOKING BY PHONE: Telephone **0333 666 3366** to buy tickets over the phone.

Concession prices are available to Over 65s, Students, Under 27s and Unwaged.

Disclaimer: Dates and locations correct at the time of printing. Please check our website as there may be unforeseen changes.

www.felixstowebookfestival.co.uk

T: 0333 666 3366 E: info@felixstowebookfestival.co.uk

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