

Parracombe Arts & Literary Festival 2024



3 - 27 May

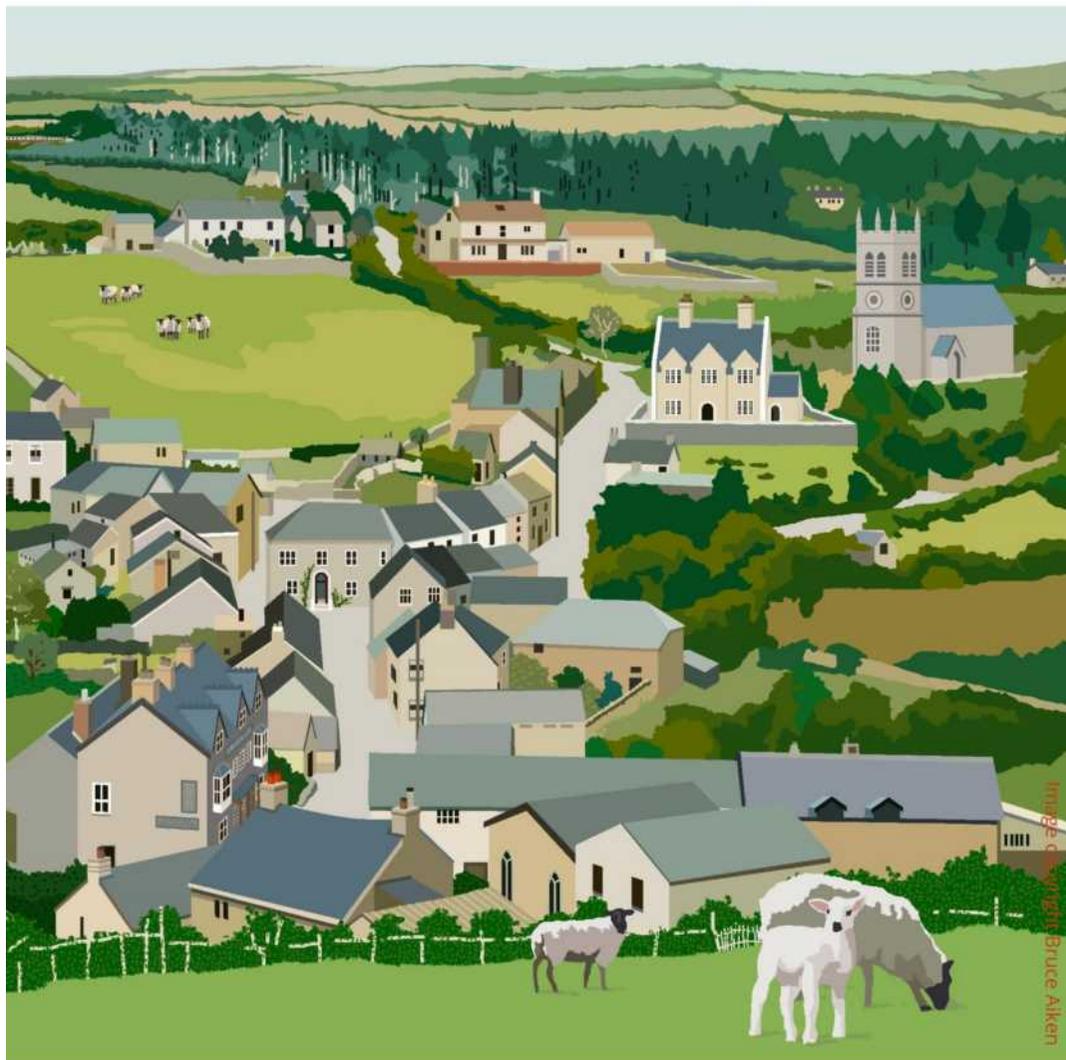


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parracombe.org.uk/festival24

Welcome.

Parracombe is an Exmoor gem. It has a Norman castle, two churches, a vibrant community shop, a school, a pub and much more. Visit during the inaugural Parracombe Arts and Literary Festival and you will also find walks and talks, dance and theatre, art and music. Ticket prices are low, and some events are free, so don't miss this chance to immerse yourself in our month of culture. Profits will go to good causes in the village.

Tickets can be purchased from the Pavilion Stores & Café, Parracombe EX31 4QL or online at:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/parracombe-community-trust

This festival is being brought to you by:
Parracombe Community Trust, with additional support from Parracombe Parish Council, Cllr. John Patrinos - North Devon Council, Lyn Lions, and Mark Asher, decorator, available on 07876 536286.



Friday 3 May 7:45pm | Village Hall | Tickets £15

ELEANOR STEAFEL: ABC OF COOKING

Eleanor Steafel is a feature writer and recipe columnist at the Daily Telegraph. Her first book, *The Art of Friday Night Dinner*, includes more than a hundred recipes for the best night of the week. Cocktail and snacks included within the ticket price.



Saturday 4 May 3pm | Village Hall | Tickets £4

ROB DURRANT: LUNDY, A GUIDED TOUR

A guided tour of the Bristol Channel's famous island of Lundy, illustrating why it is worth visiting and what to look out for when you are there. Witness the seasonal changes, including spring flowers, autumn storms and bird migration. Created from extensive filming over a five year period.



Saturday 4 May 5pm | Village Hall | Free

KEITH DENBY: LUNDY MARINE RESERVE

In 1973, the UK's first Voluntary Marine Nature Reserve was established at Lundy with a boundary extending 1km from the mean low-water mark. Keith, a diver of 30 years, tells the story of Lundy's unique marine environment and how it continues to be of vital importance today.



Saturday 4 May 7pm | Village Hall | Free

SHARON PLANT: THE PANDEMIC POETS SOCIETY

The Pandemic Poets Society: The Collaborative Process

This discussion looks at collaborations in history, to ask if the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. It will culminate in readings from the recently published *Telling Tales*, a book written by 11 members of the Lynton Library Book Club.



Sunday 5 May 3pm | Village Hall | Tickets £4

MATTIE WHITEHEAD: YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

Mattie is Senior Commissioning Editor at Little Tiger, working on children's fiction for readers aged 5 to 18. She's been in publishing for nine years and in that time has visited islands in the sky, raced on a leaf dragon and survived a haunted lighthouse, among other adventures.



Sunday 5 May 5pm | Village Hall | Tickets £4

RUTH DOWNIE: MEET THE AUTHOR

Ruth Downie is the author of eight novels featuring, Roman Army medic Gaius Petreius Ruso, a man whose desire for a quiet life is thwarted both by unwanted murder investigations and by his British partner, Tilla.



Sunday 5 May 7:30pm | Village Hall | Free

ANNIE CONSTABLE: THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

Annie is Digital Project Manager at Good Finance, a project that exists to help charities, social enterprises and community organisations navigate social investment. She will explore how to take on community assets, with a spotlight on our very own Pavilion Stores and Café in celebration of its second birthday!



Monday 6 May 3pm | Village Hall | Free

MILLENNIUM: ST PETROCK'S CHURCH

Built in the 13th century, the Grade I listed building retains Georgian interior painted texts and furnishings. Karen Farrington and Linda Tansley investigate St Petrock's and its 1,000 years of history at Churchtown.



Monday 6 May 6:30pm | Village Hall | Tickets £4

LIZ SHAKESPEARE: THE ORDEAL OF MISS LUCY JONES

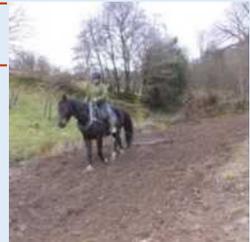
Devon, 1879. As church visitor to the poor, Lucy Jones has frequent meetings with Torrington's deeply unpopular curate, Reverend Francis. When claims are made that he and Lucy were seen acting improperly together on the Common, the people of Torrington seize the opportunity to be rid of Francis.



Monday 6 May 8pm | Village Hall | Tickets £4

MARTHE KILEY-WORTHINGTON: ECO FARMING

Marthe began pondering ecological farming and food production in the 1970s, having seen what devastation farm run-off caused in her father's lakes as a result of her mother's farming. Soon, she was gripped by concern about the suffering of livestock raised in intensive systems.



Friday 10 May 6:30pm | Village Hall | Free

PICKWELL FOUNDATION

The Pickwell Foundation supports charities and organisations in the UK working with displaced people and those addressing the climate emergency. It also works locally, in North Devon, and nationally, to provide support to refugees and people seeking asylum.



Saturday 11 May 11am | Village Hall | £7

WOMEN WHAT DANCE: WORKSHOP

This workshop is a fun introduction to 'Women What Dance'. You will enjoy a gentle dance warm up and learn some choreography inspired by the Women What Dance show. Suitable for all ages and ability and led by Clare China, founding member of 'Women What Dance'.



Whether it's our renowned evening meals, a light bite and coffee over lunch or a stay in our luxurious B&B rooms...

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Sunday 12 May 2pm | Village Hall | Free

LUKE AYLEN: A WORDS WORKSHOP

All-age family event, featuring a talk, reading and Q&A with Luke Aylen. He is the author of the fantasy trilogy *An Adventure in Presadia* which has been described as like 'Narnia but with more dragons'.



Sunday 12 May 4:30 pm | Village Hall | Free

RICHARD LAPPAS: BEHIND-THE-LENS

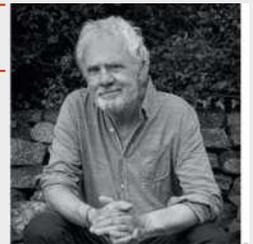
In a remarkable career spanning 40 years, Richard took some of the most iconic news photographs in the south west. Later, he wrote children's books until Parkinson's began to limit his activities. In conversation, Richard will reveal behind-the-lens secrets, and talk frankly about the effects of Parkinson's.



Sunday 12 May 6:30pm | Village Hall | £5 - In association with Beaford Arts

CHRIS CHAPMAN: AN ILLUSTRATED TALK

Documentary photographer Chris Chapman moved to Dartmoor in 1975 and began documenting aspects of Dartmoor life. His photographs reflect traditional skills and emphasise the accumulation of knowledge associated with age and customs. In this intimate illustrated talk, Chris reflects on a lifetime of documenting rural life in Devon.



Tuesday 14 May 7:30pm | Village Hall | £4

THE MAYS: AT SLATTENSLADE

Explore via photographs the farm, farming methods, and family antics of local farmers Anne and Alex May and their two small children. Anne and Alex farm together at Slattenslade Farm at Woody Bay, and at Silkenworthy Farm at Blackmoor Gate.



Wednesday 15 May 10am—4:30pm | Kentisbury Grange | Tickets £30

WRITERS' WORKSHOP: FOR THE LOVE OF WORDS

Words are powerful weapons, but mastery in choice and order can be a relentless challenge. Is it time to transform your writing skills? Learn more about better beginnings, structural devices and spare writing, and 'the big three': setting, characters and plot.

For the
Love of
words

Friday 17 May 4:30pm | St Petrock's Church | Tickets £4

MERIEL O'DOWD: DON'T LOOK UP

Meriel O'Dowd, Conservation Projects Manager for the Churches Conservation Trust, will talk about the repair of churches in Devon, Somerset and Cornwall. This will include the new vesting St Torney's at North Hill in Cornwall and discuss what works need to be undertaken to the ceiling at Parracombe church itself.



Friday 17 May to Sunday 19 May | Village Hall | Free

ART EXHIBITION

An exhibition of works by local artists.
Exhibition open from Friday 17 May 6pm to 8pm and
Saturday 18 through to Sunday 19 May 10am to 4pm.



Friday 17 May 9pm | Village Hall | Free

ST PETROCK'S BAT WALK: NATIONAL TRUST

Join National Trust Ranger Jack on an evening nature walk from the village hall up to St Petrock's Church, to see which wild creatures we can spot and learn more about—including bats!



Saturday 18 May 2pm | St Petrock's Church | Free

NIGEL HESTER: WILDLIFE WALK AND TALK

"We can all contribute to halting the decline in biodiversity which is evident across the British Isles." Since 1987, Nigel has lived and worked in countryside management. This walk and talk will focus on how we can make our gardens and homes as friendly for wildlife as we can.



Saturday 18 May 3pm | St Petrock's Church | Free

A WALK THROUGH ST PETROCK'S CHURCH

Join Linda Tansley and Karen Farrington to explore the medieval church of St. Petrock's. Find out more about its history and including some of the best-preserved Georgian painted texts and furnishings.



Saturday 18 May 5pm | St Petrock's Church | Tickets £4

TIM HANNIGAN: THE GRANITE KINGDOM

In 'The Granite Kingdom' Cornish author Tim Hannigan sets out on a meandering 300-mile journey on foot, from the banks of the River Tamar to his own family home near Land's End. In this illustrated talk, Tim shares stories from his journey and explores often misunderstood aspects of Cornish history.



Sunday 19 May 2pm and 7pm | St. Petrock's Church | Tickets £4

TODD GRAY: DEVON'S HISTORY

Join historian Dr Todd Gray to explore Devon's history:

2pm—Renaissance Carving in North Devon 1500-1550

7pm—Devon's Challenging History: Black Shirts and Looting

Tickets required for each event





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Monday 20 May 7pm | Village Hall | Tickets £5 - In association with Beaford Arts

WILD SWIMMING: STORIES WITH SOPHIE & MATT

Join aquatic adventurers Sophie Pierce and Matt Newbury to celebrate the launch of their new guide to North Devon and Exmoor's best swimming spots, and to share a joyful journey through the south west's most beautiful places.



Thursday 23 May 8pm | Village Hall | Free

PARRA-PHRASE: OPEN MIC PERFORMANCE

Time to dust down those rhymes, limericks and all things literary with this open mic performance event for poets, storytellers and other denizens from the world of words. We won't even turn you away if you've got an acoustic guitar. Hosted by cabaret duo Project Adorno, who will give you a Paddington Bear hard stare if you overrun your allotted five minutes. Open to all and everyone welcome. We know Parracombe's got talent - let's show it!



Friday 24 May | Christ Church | Free

RAINBOWS: FLOWER FESTIVAL

Christ Church Flower Festival: 'Rainbows'.

Open daily from 10am to 4pm from Friday 24 May through to Monday 27 May. Refreshments available.



Friday 24 May 6:30pm | Village Hall | Tickets £10

SCOTTY MILLS: NEVER GIVE IN

Having led the British Commandoes across the world as the highest-ranking black officer in the history of the Royal Marines, Scotty Mills has learned all there is to know about high performance and leadership. His book, *Never Give In: The 12 Commando Rules for Life*, was published in 2022.



Friday 24 May 8pm | Village Hall | Tickets £6

WOMEN WHAT DANCE: RACONTEUR THEATRE

Women What Dance playfully weaves together dance stories that sometimes challenge what it means to be a dancing woman. Raconteur Theatre and Dance brings together local amateur, graduate, professional and retired dancers for a show that has something for everyone.



Saturday 25 May 6:30pm | Village Hall | Tickets £4

ANNIE GARTHWAITE: MEET THE MATRIARCH

Acclaimed novelist Annie Garthwaite reveals the woman who built the House of York. Cecily Neville is one of England's greatest medieval women - matriarch of the House of York during the Wars of the Roses and mother of Edward IV and Richard III. Reading from her acclaimed novel, Annie will reveal Cecily in all her complex glory.



Saturday 25 May 8pm | Village Hall | Ticket £6

BRONTË BEAT: PROJECT ADORNO

Comprising original songs, film, ambient sounds and spoken word, Brontë Beat explores the multi-faceted world of the Brontës through an electro-pop lens. Performed live by multimedia artists Project Adorno (aka Praveen Manghani & Russell Thompson).



Monday 27 May 7pm | Village Hall | Free

PARRACOMBE PRIZE: 2024 BOOK LAUNCH

Launch of our 2024 anthology, containing the best entries from this year's Parracombe Prize short story competition.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 June Parracombe Gardens open for the NGS 12 - 5pm. Combined admission £6, children free. Dogs on short leads welcome. Further information from NGS handbook and website.



Saturday, 20 July Beacon Down Quarry
Local Bands | Licensed Bar | Hot Food
Raising money for local charities. Gates open 6pm



Friday 1 November Parracombe Prize 2025 short story competition. Find out more at prize.parracombe.org.uk



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FESTIVAL AT-A-GLANCE

Fri 3	7:45pm	Eleanor Steafel: ABC of cooking	£15
Sat 4	3pm	Rob Durrant: Lundy, A Guided Tour	£4
	5pm	Keith Denby: Lundy Marine Reserve	Free
	7pm	Sharon Plant: The Pandemic Poets Society	Free
Sun 5	3pm	Mattie Whitehead: Young Adult Books	£4
	5pm	Ruth Downie: Meet The Author	£4
	7:30pm	Annie Constable: The Power of Community	Free
Mon 6	3pm	Millennium: St Petrock's Church	Free
	6:30pm	Liz Shakespeare: The Ordeal of Miss Lucy Jones	£4
	8pm	Marthe Kiley-Worthington: Eco Farming	£4
Fri 10	6:30pm	Pickwell Foundation	Free
Sat 11	11am	Women What Dance: Workshop	£7
Sun 12	2pm	Luke Aylen: A Words Workshop	Free
	4:30pm	Richard Lappas: Behind-the-Lens	Free
	6:30pm	Chris Chapman: An Illustrated Talk	£5
Tue 14	7:30pm	The Mays: At Slattenslade	£4
Wed 15	10am	Writers' Workshop (finishes 4:30pm)	£30
Fri 17	4:30 pm	Meriel O'Dowd: Don't Look Up	£4
	6pm-8pm	Art Exhibition	Free
	9pm	St Petrock's Bat Walk: National Trust	Free
Sat 18	10am	Art Exhibition (closes 4pm)	Free
	2pm	Nigel Hester: Wildlife Walk and Talk	Free
	3pm	A Walk Through St Petrock's Church	Free
	5pm	Tim Hannigan: The Granite Kingdom	£4
Sun 19	10am	Art Exhibition (closes 4pm)	Free
	2pm	Todd Gray: Renaissance Carving in North Devon 1500-1550	£4
	7pm	Todd Gray: Devon's Challenging History:	£4
Mon 20	7pm	Wild Swimming Stories: Sophie Pierce and Matt Newbury	£5
Thu 23	8pm	Parra-Phrase: Open Mic Night	Free
Fri 24	10am	Christ Church Flower Festival: 'Rainbows' (until 4pm)	Free
	6:30pm	Scotty Mills: Never Give In	£10
	8pm	Women What Dance: Raconteur Theatre and Dance	£6

Sat 25	10am	Christ Church Flower Festival: 'Rainbows' (until 4pm)	Free
	6:30pm	Annie Garthwaite: Meet the Matriarch	£4
	8pm	Brontë Beat	£6
Sun 26	10am	Christ Church Flower Festival: 'Rainbows' (until 4pm)	Free
Mon 27	10am	Christ Church Flower Festival: 'Rainbows' (until 4pm)	Free
	7pm	Parracombe Prize 2024	Free

The Exmoor Society presents ...



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Saturday 25 May 2024 | 10am 4pm | Nettlecombe Court, Williton

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