

BINSTED ARTS FESTIVAL



Programme of Events
8 - 10 June 2018



'Epilobium': screen print by Gilly McCadden

Celebrating the artistic, cultural and natural heritage of Binsted,
near Arundel, with a series of events in the creative arts

www.binsted.org/arts-festival

Events at a Glance

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Friday 8 June

- 3.00pm - 5.30pm **Writing workshop on protest poetry led by Mandy Pannett**
The Pool Room, Mill Ball, Binsted Lane (£10.00)
- 7.00pm - 9.00pm **Poetry evening and competition prize-giving, with readings by prize winners and the judge, Jeremy Page**
St Mary's Church, Binsted (free event)

Saturday 9 June

- 10.00am - 12.00pm **Guided walk in Binsted Woods led by Tony Whitbread**
Meet at St Mary's Church, Binsted (£5.00)
- 2.00pm - 3.30pm **D.H. Lawrence in Sussex: talk by Oliver Hawkins**
St Mary's Church, Binsted (£5.00)
- 7.30pm - 9.30pm **Seven Brides for Binsted: theatre production by Drip Action Theatre**
St Mary's Church, Binsted (£10.00)

Sunday 10 June

- 12.30pm - 2.30pm **Lassus Lamentations: consort of viols with voices**
St Mary's Church, Binsted (free event)
- 4.00pm - 5.15pm **Michael Wishart, artist: talk by Tim Hunting**
St Mary's Church, Binsted (£5.00)

For information about booking, please see inside back page.

Friday 8 June

3.00 pm - 5.30 pm

The Pool Room, Mill Ball, Binsted Lane, Binsted

Cost: £10.00

WRITING WORKSHOP ON PROTEST POETRY

Led by Mandy Pannett

The workshop will look briefly at the history of protest poetry and consider themes that are relevant to the present day, including those relating to landscape and the environment. There will be opportunities for individual writing, trying out different styles and techniques (such as ballad, song, parody, rant), writing in tones of defiance or nostalgia, and approaching a theme obliquely or head on. The workshop is also likely to touch on the issue of poetry as a way of 'making a difference', something in which Mandy is particularly interested.

Members of the group are asked to bring writing materials and, if they want to, any examples of poems, lyrics or quotations that fit the theme. The workshop is designed for writers at all levels of experience; places are limited to a maximum of 14 participants.



From 'Binsey Poplars'
felled 1879
by Gerard Manley Hopkins

My aspens dear, whose airy cages quelled,
Quelled or quenched in leaves the leaping sun,
All felled, felled, are all felled;
 Of a fresh and following folded rank
 Not spared, not one
 That dandled a sandalled
 Shadow that swam or sank
On meadow and river and wind-wandering
weed-winding bank.

Mandy Pannett lives in West Sussex where she works freelance as a creative writing teacher. She is the author of five poetry collections. Her most recent publication is 'Ladders of Glass' - a pamphlet of poems in English and Romanian parallel texts (Integral Contemporary Literature Press, 2017).

Mandy has worked as a poetry editor and has also edited anthologies for Earlyworks Press and for SPM Publications, including 'Poems for a Liminal Age' which was published in 2015 in aid of Médecins Sans Frontières. She also writes reviews for several publications. She has won prizes in many national competitions and has been the adjudicator for others.

Friday 8 June

7.00 pm - 9.00 pm

St Mary's Church, Binsted

Cost: Free

POETRY EVENING WITH COMPETITION PRIZE-GIVING

Winning entries in the Binsted Arts Poetry Competition, on the theme of 'Country', will be presented by the judge, Jeremy Page. The poems will be read where possible by the poets themselves, and Jeremy will read from his own work. There will be musical contributions, and an anthology of prizewinning and other poems entered in the competition will be available.



Jeremy Page has edited the bi-annual literary journal 'The Frogmore Papers' since 1983. He is the author of several collections of poems, most recently 'Closing Time' (Pindrop, 2014) and 'Stepping Back: Resubmission for the Ordinary Level Examination in Psychogeography' (Frogmore Press, 2016). His translations of the Lesbia poems of Catullus were published as 'The Cost of All Desire' by the Ashley Press in 2011. In 2015, he co-edited an anthology of life writing, 'True Tales from the Old Hill'. A novella, 'London Calling', is scheduled for publication by Cultured Llama in September. Jeremy lives in Lewes and is currently Director of the Centre for Language Studies at the University of Sussex.

Raising the Bowman

If her father had not fancied mushrooms for breakfast
she would not have gone into the woods at Binsted
to forage for the pink gilled treats
between the fallen trees.

If the early sun had not been shining
on the clearing where she knelt,
the archer may not have seen
her simple grace
and sought her hand in marriage
and she would not have borne his son.

If he had not been middle aged
he may not have been so patient with the child,
making a small bow for his play
as soon as he could walk,
bending, shaping each yew branch
as he outgrew the other.

If the boy had not grown so tall
and become a master bowman,
he would not have been a chosen one
to serve on Henry's flagship.

His mother would not have stood on Portsmouth's Hard
waving off her firstborn son
as the Mary Rose sailed on the morning tide.
She could not have guessed,
amongst the nit combs, the wooden bowls
beside his scattered arrows,
her son would lie
five hundred years
rocked gently on his bed of sand.

© Rose Bray

'Raising the Bowman' by Rose Bray was the winning poem in the 2016 poetry competition on the theme 'The Way through the Woods'.

Saturday 9 June

10.00 am - 12.00 pm

Meet at St Mary's Church, Binsted

Cost: £5.00

BINSTED'S ANCIENT WOODLAND: GUIDED WALK

Led by Tony Whitbread

Binsted Woods have been here since Domesday Book, when they supported 60 pigs. They provide a very rich habitat for wildlife, with new discoveries being made all the time. There are 13 species of bat living in Binsted Woods, a very large number of badgers, and hundreds of beetle species including some rare ones. Tony will point out some of the evidence for this biodiversity which might otherwise be missed.

The law protecting Ancient Woodland (defined as wooded continuously since 1600) has put other equally good woodland at risk. Because some parts are not designated as 'Ancient', Binsted Woods, an important part of Binsted's cultural heritage, are in danger of being cut in two by the Arundel Bypass. Tony will explain how splitting the whole area of woods and fields in two would damage their biodiversity, as well as ruining this beautiful landscape.



Binsted Woods



Dr Tony Whitbread is the Chief Executive of Sussex Wildlife Trust and is also the national spokesman on woodland issues for The Wildlife Trusts.

Saturday 9 June

2.00 pm - 3.30 pm

St Mary's Church, Binsted

Cost: £5.00

D.H. LAWRENCE IN SUSSEX: A TALE OF A LITERARY FAMILY

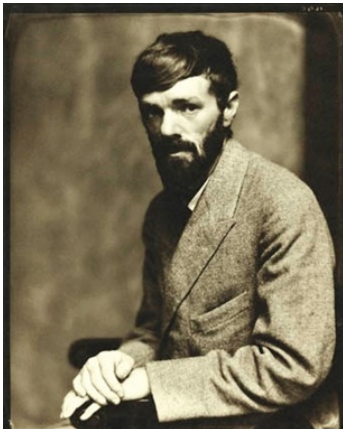
Talk by Oliver Hawkins

In the winter of 1915, D.H. Lawrence came to Sussex to complete the novel which he believed would make his fortune: 'The Rainbow'.

At their friend Eleanor Farjeon's request, the Meynell family provided him with a cottage on their Greatham estate. Wilfrid, journalist and publisher, and Alice Meynell, poet and essayist, had moved there in 1911, setting up a family commune, still maintaining links with the large literary circle they had been part of in London. Their daughter Viola, a novelist in her own right, offered to type up Lawrence's manuscript, and was further charged with modifying the content, viewed by the publishers as dangerously explicit.

At Greatham, Lawrence was happy keeping house (his wife Freda's aristocratic inclinations precluded housework), enjoying the landscape, and receiving such visitors as E.M. Forster and Bertrand Russell.

Having completed his novel, Lawrence left Sussex, but the Meynells' kindness was something he was unable to forgive, and his vengeance, in the form of a short story 'England Their England', was far-reaching.



Oliver Hawkins, Arundel resident, fourth generation Meynell and family archivist, tells the story of a sting in the tale.

Saturday 9 June
7.30 pm - 9.30 pm
St Mary's Church, Binsted
Cost: £10.00

SEVEN BRIDES FOR BINSTED: SEVEN NEW SHORT PLAYS ON A NUPTIAL THEME

Performed by Drip Action Theatre



Led by their artistic director, Bill Brennan, Drip Action Theatre Company are based in Arundel and are now in their 31st year. The company's first staged performance in 1987 was of Tom Stoppard's radio play, 'Artist Descending a Staircase', and since then their policy has been to present new and lesser-known work, usually in smaller venues, to entertain, surprise and perhaps challenge their audiences.

Five productions are staged each year, as well as the celebrated Theatre Trail in the Arundel Festival where eight short plays are performed each day in eight different venues around the town. They also tour - to London, for example, and even once to France.

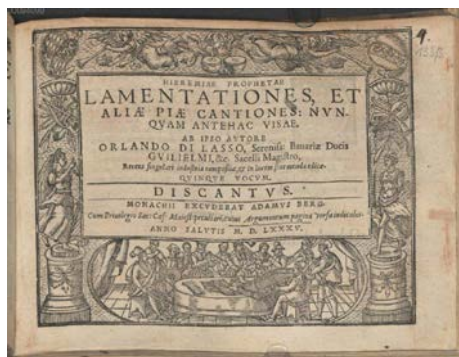
Sunday 10 June
12.30 pm - 2.30 pm
St Mary's Church, Binsted
Cost: Free

LASSUS LAMENTATIONS

Consort of viols with voices

Lamentations settings belong to the history of laments for the destruction of a place, whether by natural disaster or man-made event. Listeners can bring to the music what matters to them. Binsted may be facing the possible ruination by a bypass: come and enjoy this beautiful music in Binsted while it is still peaceful.

The Biblical Book of Lamentations, written in Hebrew, mourns the destruction of Jerusalem in the 6th century BC. Selections from the Lamentations were sung in Latin for Christian services leading up to Easter: their strong images of desolation were understood as prefiguring Christ's betrayal and crucifixion. Many leading Renaissance composers set them to music, and one of the greatest settings is by Orlando Lassus (1532-1594), a master of heart-tugging word-painting.



The consort of viols is made up of five local viol players plus three singers. Its music in last year's 'Binsted Laudate' introduced the audience to Renaissance motets on the viol. This concert is the premiere of the new edition for viol of Lassus' Lamentations, created by two of the performers.

Sunday 10 June

4.00 pm - 5.15 pm

St Mary's Church, Binsted

Cost: £5.00

MICHAEL WISHART, ARTIST

Talk by Tim Hunting

Michael Wishart (1928-1996) grew up in Binsted, part of the artistic family originating with his mother Lorna Wishart (1911-2000), a Bohemian beauty and inspiration in the 1930s and 40s to writers and artists such as Laurie Lee and Lucien Freud.

Michael's art is semi-abstract but full of feeling. In his vivid and witty memoir, 'High Diver' (1977), he wrote, 'As a child there were no quarrels, no terrors, no rages that could not be healed by running into the fields with a paint-box.' One of his obituaries describes him as spending his adult life 'in a search for profound sensation... out of time, caught between the pre-war aesthetes, the wartime Bohemians and the postwar pop generation, and influenced by all three'.



'Sun through silver birch' by Michael Wishart



Tim Hunting, who knew Michael and studied his work for an MA degree, will explore the interplay between painting and image in his art and discuss how his painting may be tentatively described as either Lyrical Symbolism or Lyrical Expressionism, both possibilities that Michael Wishart himself considered. Tim is a teacher of philosophy, religion and ethics at a secondary school in Sussex, where he lives.

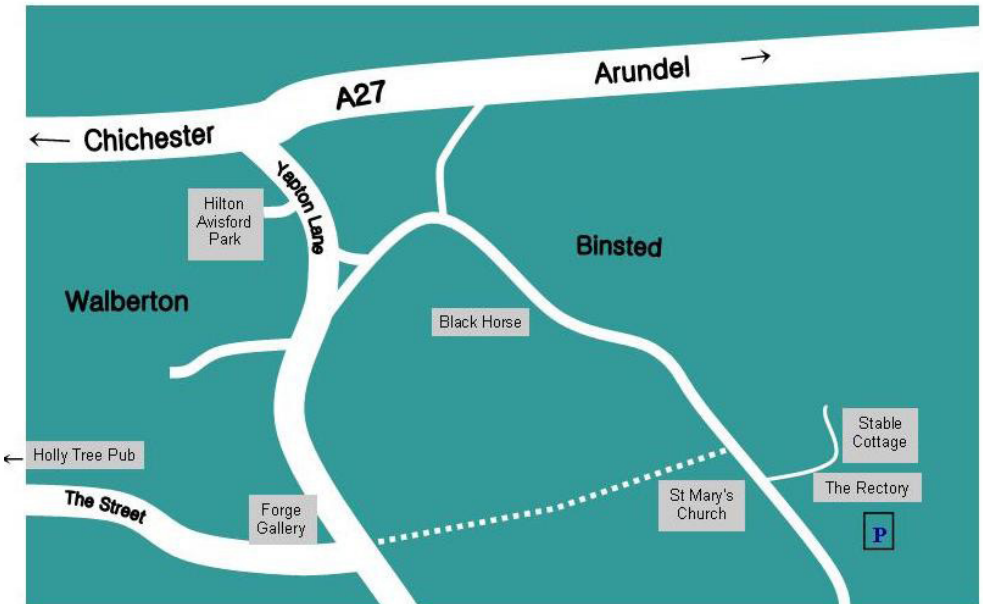
HOW TO BOOK

Places on the poetry workshop are limited so please enquire first. If you book and then cannot attend, please inform us so that someone else can be offered a place.

- The booking form can be downloaded from the website www.binsted.org/arts-festival
- Email: bafbooking@edmart.plus.com
- Phone: 01243 555778
- By post: Binsted Arts Festival, Manor Lodge, The Street, Walberton, BN18 0PJ

For events with a charge, please send a cheque made out to 'Binsted Arts'. Tickets reserved will be available at the event.

WHERE TO FIND US



St Mary's Church, Binsted, is at BN18 0LL. If coming west along the A27, take left turn signed 'Binsted'. Satnav and Google maps suggest a left turn nearer Arundel goes through to Binsted - it doesn't.

Mill Ball, Binsted Lane, Binsted is at BN18 0LJ. It is further down Binsted Lane past St Mary's Church and first on the left after the Flint Barn.

PARKING: No parking in Binsted Lane. For **St Mary's Church**, parking is at the Old Rectory, just past St Mary's Church on the left. For **Mill Ball**, turn in and park in the grounds.

The nearest train station is Barnham. There is a taxi office next to the station (01243 551753).

THANKS

The Binsted Arts Festival Committee is grateful to its generous sponsors: West Sussex County Council, Walberton Parish Council and Sims Williams Estate Agents, and to all who have helped to make the Binsted Arts Festival possible.



O let them be left, wildness and wet;
Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet.

From 'Inversnaid' by Gerard Manley Hopkins