



Bilbrook Brewood Codsall Pattingham Perton

Codsall

Festival

11th – 23rd March 2024

codsallartsfestival.org.uk

Registered Charity 1127064



Welcome to the 23rd Codsall Festival

A message from our Chair



Dear Festival-goers,

Once again it gives me great pleasure to introduce our 2024 Festival Programme. Your organising committee has taken account of the comments and suggestions of previous audiences and hope you will enjoy the variety of events ranging over the performing arts.

We are very pleased to include Codsall Dramatic Society in its 75th year and eagerly anticipate their new production. Bertie Pearce also returns by popular demand and at an earlier time to suit the attendance of children. Looking to the future we are hoping to have a Family Day as a one-off presentation during our planning year in 2025.

Until then, and with grateful thanks for your continued support, I look forward to seeing you at our forthcoming festival in March 2024.

With best wishes and do keep in touch as we update our website.

With best wishes,

John Harris

Chairman

Codsall Community Arts Festival Association

Find us on  /CodsallArts

 codsallartsfestival.org.uk

An Evening with The Lavender Girls

Vocal Harmony Duo




Monday 11th March 7.30pm
Codsall Community High School



It is with the greatest of pleasure that we welcome The Lavender Girls to open the 2024 Codsall Festival with their repertoire of well-loved songs which will appeal to everyone.

The Lavender Girls are a local vocal harmony duo, with a musical theatre background and extensive experience in live performance. They perform at venues across the country, specialising in vintage swing, pop through the decades, ABBA, themed events and weddings.



 /VocalistDuo/
 thelavendergirls@outlook.com
 Tickets £10



Dan Cruickshank

An Audience with Dan Cruickshank

Tuesday 12th March 7.30pm
Codsall Community High School

Why do history and culture, particularly architecture, matter? Why should we fight for cultural treasures and historic buildings?

Dan Cruickshank is an expert in world history and architecture and regularly appears on television, having presented numerous series on subjects as diverse as Britain's coastal fortifications, railways, and the bridges of London. Most relevantly for tonight, Dan will be discussing the global surveys *Around the World in 80 Treasures and Adventures in Architecture*.

Here Dan revisits his surveys into cultural history through architecture. Buildings give people a sense of identity and pride – particularly historic buildings and treasure houses such as Aldeburgh Moot Hall, and Aldeburgh and Ipswich Museums. These suggest longevity, continuity and civilised virtues, and it is for these reasons that historic buildings and museums are highly valued, and also why they are attacked by forces that want to undermine a people's pride, identity, sense of independence and even their will to fight.



This show is produced by
Clive Conway Productions.
cliveconwayproductions.com



The audience will be invited to ask questions.

Dan will be signing copies of his books.

 Tickets £15

Codsall Dramatic Society

Haywire by Eric Chappell

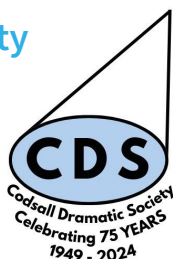
Wednesday 13th March 7.30pm

Thursday 14th March 7.30pm

Friday 15th March 7.30pm

Saturday 16th March Matinee 2.30pm

Codsall Village Hall



This play presented for Codsall Festival 2024 will be Codsall Dramatic Society's first production of its 75th Anniversary Year.

Alec Firth is having an affair with his assistant, Liz. He has organized his domestic life so that they can go to Spain on holiday without making Alec's wife Maggie remotely suspicious.

What could possibly go wrong? Plenty. On the doorstep, in dizzyingly rapid succession, are: Phoebe, Alec's mother, who has discharged herself from her old people's home; Alec's son Jamie, with a broken ankle; his daughter, heavily pregnant and not planning to marry the child's father...

This amateur production of "Haywire" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.

concordtheatricals.co.uk

 codsalldramaticsociety.co.uk

 Tickets £12 Thursday & Friday

£10 Wednesday & Saturday

New Orleans Hotshots Jazz Band

Jazz Band

Saturday 16th March 7.30pm
Perton Civic Centre



Based in the East Midlands, The New Orleans Hotshots Jazz Band was formed in 1993 by trombonist Dave Harmer. There have been numerous musicians over the years, with members being replaced as death and retirement have taken their toll. Dave is now the only remaining member of the original band.

Nottingham-based trumpeter and vocalist, Dave Leithead, is the band's most recent recruit.

Long time band members from the Derby area are ragtime pianist, Joe Nutman, vocalist and bass player, Al Harris and Kelvin Smith on clarinet. Holding it all together is drummer, Keith Chaplin, from Barrow upon Soar.

The band will play a wide variety of traditional jazz numbers including rag, blues, spirituals and 1920s classic jazz tunes.

For this event, unreserved seating will be at tables. You are invited to bring along a picnic. The bar will be open at 6.30pm.

Please note that it is not permitted to consume alcohol not purchased at the bar.

 Tickets £12

WildlifeKate

**Kate MacRae: Wildlife
Enthusiast and Photographer**



Monday 18th March 7.30
Codsall Community High School



Kate MacRae, also known as WildlifeKate, has a passion for connecting people to the nature right outside their window. She has a plethora of wildlife cameras set up around the country and livestreams these on her website, giving viewers an intimate window into their world, as well as an opportunity to learn more about them.



Kate's work has regularly featured on BBC Springwatch & Autumnwatch as well as Countryfile, The One Show and many more. She is thought to be the first to film a wild badger give birth, and this was achieved in an artificial sett she built, with internal cameras.

Her talk will excite and enthuse us all to think more about what we can do in our spaces, to encourage and support wildlife.

Kate gives presentations suitable for the whole family. As a teacher, Kate has given many talks to young and old. Her presentations are full of footage both from her own garden and further afield.

 wildlifeKate.co.uk

 [Twitter \(X\): @katemacrae](https://twitter.com/katemacrae)

 Tickets £10

Lesley Smith

Historian and Actress presents Elizabeth I

Tuesday 19th March 7.30pm
Codsall Community High School



Lesley Smith has been the Curator of Tutbury Castle in Staffordshire since 2000. She is a medical historian holding an M.Phil. in Tudor medicine and is also a Member of the Society of Medical Writers. For eight years she had her own page in the local county magazine "Staffordshire Life".

Lesley has appeared in over 130 television programmes some of

which have been broadcast to 38 countries. Lesley is also well known for her highly entertaining and informative costumed portrayals of a variety of historical characters.

There is no doubt that Gloriana had one of the most profound effects on English and European politics. The Protestant queen in the cold bed was given a matter of months on the throne by observers of the day believing she could not hope to survive. Queen Elizabeth, in fact, went on to rule England longer than any other monarch before her. Her passionate belief in the English people and her lack of martial ambition combined with a brilliant mind and outstanding political skills is why she was so hugely successful. Confounding all.

Here is a chance to meet Her Majesty at her political zenith and already an icon in the English psyche of the time.

This glittering presentation will transport the audience back to the time of Drake, Raleigh and Shakespeare on England's voyage into the Renaissance.

Please note, this presentation is not suitable for under 18s.

@ judith@tutburycastle.com

🎫 Tickets £12

Villiers Quartet

String Quartet

Wednesday 20th March 7.30pm
St Nicholas Church



Hailed as “Champions of British Music” (*The Observer*), the Villiers Quartet has become one of the most recognised quartets in the UK for the performance of British chamber music. It is the Quartet-in-Residence at the Jacqueline Du Pré Music Building at St. Hilda’s College, Oxford University.

The Villiers Quartet has been broadcast on BBC on many occasions and was the featured quartet on the score to the BBC film *Lady Chatterley’s Lover*. It has delivered residencies and research projects at many universities including Oxford and Nottingham while it has also released a wide discography of string quartet recordings on the Naxos, Somm, Lyrita, and Resonus labels.

Villiers Quartet

Violin I – Katie Stillman

Violin II – Tamaki Higashi

Viola – Carmen Flores

Cello – Leo Melvin

The broad curiosity of the Villiers Quartet and its passion for teaching and performing have made it a valuable resource for students and audiences alike. Inspiration comes from the heart of the Villiers Quartet’s philosophy: to believe in the art of string quartet.

“commitment and virtuosity” – *The Sunday Times*

The audience will be invited to ask questions.

CDs by Villiers Quartet will be on sale.

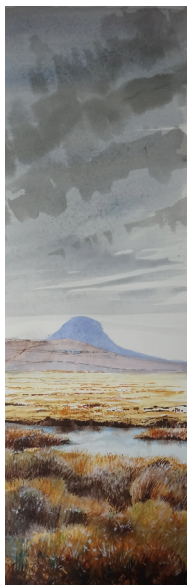
 villiersquartet.com

 Tickets £16

Keith Oram

Pictures of the Floating World

Thursday 21st March 7.30pm
Codsall Village Hall



Keith Oram is currently President of Wolverhampton Society of Artists. He taught art for 30 years and became a Head of Department. After retiring from teaching, he then went on to work for Wolverhampton Art Gallery for a further ten years.

He has published, "Tsuba in the Collection of Wolverhampton Art Gallery". He also co-wrote with Brendan Flynn, formerly Curator at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, "Wolverhampton Society of Artists 1919-2019" for the centenary of the Society.

Keith is a practising artist who has visited Japan many times. He works with sumi ink and coloured ink with Japanese brushes and hand cut bamboo pens. Keith is a Dan Grade in Judo and Iaido and has practised Yoho Niten Ichi Ryu.

His talk explores the worlds of the willow, the geisha and the flower, and the tea house courtesans.

We wish to thank The Arts Society Wrekin for its generous sponsorship of this event.

Top Image:
The Flow Country Sutherland

Bottom Image:
Imperial Summer Palace

 **Keith Oram Artist**
 wolverhamptonartsocietyofartists.co.uk
 **Tickets £12**

Bertie Pearce

A Spoonful of Magic

Friday 22nd March 7pm
Codsall Community High School



Due to popular demand, it is a delight to welcome back Bertie Pearce. Tonight promises to be a fun filled evening of magic and laughter for all the family. Bertie Pearce is a Member of The Inner Magic Circle with Gold Star. He has performed all over the world in weird and wonderful places including The Magic Castle in Hollywood, The Kulm Hotel in St Moritz, and The Bertie and Boo Café in London.

Bertie's love of people and performance ensures that there is always a new and exciting gig around the corner. Tonight, we are lucky enough to have him here, in Codsall. Bertie's wide appeal makes him accessible to singles, couples and families with children; hence the earlier start time and special children's ticket price.



"The hard part for me is balancing the serious with the flippant and magical." – Bertie Pearce

 bertiepearce.com

Please note earlier start at 7pm.

Children over the age of 5 are very welcome.

 Tickets £12 (adults) £5 (children)

Down for the Count

Gala Evening

Saturday 23rd March 7.30pm
Codsall Community High School



The Down for the Count All-Stars are a 10-piece mini big band who bring the sounds of the Swing Era back to life, with an electrifying show full of incredible energy and musicianship.

Since bursting on to the scene at Twinwood Festival in 2013, Down for the Count All-Stars have quickly earned themselves a reputation as one of the hardest swinging bands in the UK. They are constantly in demand, regularly selling out shows at Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club and Le Caveau de la Huchette, Paris. They have also been invited to support The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, performing in front of 10,000 people at the Leeds Castle Classical Concerts.

Led by musical director and pianist Mike Paul-Smith, the band have self-released multiple studio albums to positive reviews.

Down for the Count recreate classic tunes from the likes of Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong and Glenn Miller. But this is no mere nostalgia trip – Down for the Count perform each song in their own unmistakable style, breathing new life into the best vintage music.

Combine that with the band's top class instrumental solos, sublime vocal performances, and irresistible humour and joie de vivre, and you have a show that will leave you feeling uplifted and wanting more.

"Awesome!!!!" – Michael Bublé

CDs will be on sale

 downfortheaccount.co.uk

 Tickets £18



codsallartsfestival.org.uk

Sponsors, Support & Grants

We appreciate the support of local business and we are grateful for the support that we have received in the past from our Parish Councils.

Once again, we are pleased to welcome The Arts Society Wrekin (theartsocietywrekin.org.uk) as a sponsor.

Up to date information is acknowledged on the website as well as on a board at the entrance to the main events.

Lottery Support

The South Staffordshire Community Lottery continues to operate and to provide commission payments to the Codsall Festival from the Lottery players who nominate us as their beneficiary. Our website provides details of how you can support us through this Lottery.

Have a look at our page, tinyurl.com/CCAFAlottery if you wish to provide us with a regular weekly donation.

Thank you for your support and good luck!

Technical Support



ALG is pleased to be providing technical support throughout this year's Codsall Festival. ALG acknowledges and thanks the whole Festival Technical Team for their hard work and dedication.

ALG provides a range of audio-visual solutions, including programming and design services to a wide range of sectors including commercial entertainment, theatres, clubs, sports stadia and academies and enjoys a close working relationship with Birmingham Symphony Hall.

alg-uk.com

Tickets

Booking Information

How to buy your tickets

2024 Festival Tickets are on sale from:

Monday 22nd January 2024 **PATRONS ONLY**

Wednesday 5th February 2024 **GENERAL RELEASE**

Buy Festival Tickets Online

The most convenient way to purchase festival tickets is online. There are no booking fees, ticket availability is up to date and it is more eco-friendly. Payment is secure and e-tickets can be downloaded for admittance to the event.

There is a 10% discount for patrons who purchase before 5th February.

Book online at:

codsallartsfestival.org.uk

Tickets By Post

You can purchase your tickets by completing the Application Form to the right. Additional Postal Application Forms are available at:


codsallartsfestival.org.uk



Please note that seating is unreserved.
Contact the Festival if you have special requirements.

By Post

Application Form

Date	Event	£	No:		Total
Mon 11	Lavender Girls	£10			
Tue 12	Dan Cruickshank	£15			
Wed 13	Codsall	£10			
Thu 14	Dramatic Society: 'Haywire' by	£12			
Fri 15	Eric Chappell	£12			
Sat 16	(Saturday matinée)	£10			
Sat 16	New Orleans Hotshots	£12			
Mon 18	WildlifeKate	£10			
Tue 19	Lesley Smith	£12			
Wed 20	Villiers Quartet	£16			
Thu 21	Keith Oram	£12			
Fri 22	Bertie Pearce	Adult	£12		
		Child	£5		
Sat 23	Down for the Count	£18			
Grand Total £					

Tickets may not be exchanged nor money refunded; under 4s not admitted – sorry!

Your Details PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Name:

Address:

Post Code:

Phone number:

Email:

Specify number of  spaces needed in auditorium

☐ I enclose a cheque payable to Codsall Community Arts Festival Association OR

☐ I have paid by bank transfer (BACS) to Account name: Codsall Community Arts; Sort code 30 99 83; Account Number; 02233683, Ref: your name

Send completed form to:

Mrs Kath Cartwright, 16 Primrose Gardens, Codsall, WV8 1PA

e: codsallartsfestival@gmail.com t: 07375 316679

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Codsall Community Arts Festival Association reserves the right to cancel any performance at any time. In this unlikely event, tickets will be refunded.



Bilbrook Brewood Codsall Pattingham Perton

Why not become a patron?

Become a Patron of Codsall Festival and become the first to receive news and buy tickets with a discount during the priority booking period.

Membership per festival costs £15.

Ideas and feedback for the Festival are always welcome.

Future events

Please look out for announcements in local magazines and on our website.

Let us know what you would like included in our next Festival.

Contact Us

T: 07375 316679

@ codsallartsfestival@gmail.com

codsallartsfestival.org.uk

[f /CodsallArts](https://www.facebook.com/CodsallArts)



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