



Bilbrook Brewood Codsall Pattingham Perton



# Codsall Festival

14<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> April 2026

[codsallartsfestival.org.uk](http://codsallartsfestival.org.uk)

Registered Charity 1127064



**Grant Harrold**

CANCELLED

**The Life of a Royal Butler**

Tuesday 14th April 7.30pm  
Codsall Village Hall



Step into the extraordinary world of royal service as Grant Harrold — known affectionately as The Royal Butler — shares captivating stories from his time within the Royal Household. In this entertaining and insightful performance, Grant takes you behind the scenes of palace life, offering a rare glimpse into royal traditions, etiquette, and the day-to-day workings of some of Britain’s most iconic Royal Residences.

With warmth, wit, and his signature charm, Grant brings to life a series of amusing and touching anecdotes, transporting audiences to places like Highgrove House, Clarence House, and beyond. Whether you’re a royal enthusiast or simply curious about life behind palace doors, this unforgettable journey is filled with humour, history, and a few secrets you won’t find in any guidebook.

Following his departure from royal service, Grant launched Nicholas Veitch Limited and co-founded The Royal School of Butlers and the Royal School of Etiquette in partnership with Blenheim Palace.

Grant also serves as an Ambassador for the *British Dyslexia Association*.

**The audience will be invited to ask questions.**

*This event is produced by champions-speakers.co.uk*

**Tickets £15**

Welcome to the  
**24<sup>th</sup> Codsall Festival**

A message from our Chair



**Dear Festival-goers,**

At the time of writing this introduction to the 2026 festival your committee have finalised the programme herein.

The performances will take place in a variety of locations including Codsall Village Hall, St. Nicholas Church and Trinity Methodist Church with Perton Civic Centre accommodating the larger events and affording ample car parking and access on an even level.

On behalf of your committee, I would like to thank you for your continued support without which our varied programme again on offer would not be possible.

If you are not already supporting the festival as a patron, with its attendant advantages, and would like further information, may I suggest that you contact me or any other member of the committee. We would be delighted if you were to join us.

I look forward once again to meeting you at the various events in our 2026 programme.

With every good wish,

**John Harris**

Chairman

Codsall Community Arts Festival Association

Find us on /CodsallArts

[codsallartsfestival.org.uk](https://codsallartsfestival.org.uk)

# Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Yugen Saxophone Quartet

## Saxophone Quartet

Wednesday 15th April 7.30pm  
St Nicholas Church, Codsall



Featuring Ewan Wright, Dominic Cotta, Emily Plumb and Alicia Hillman, all alumni of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, the Yugen Saxophone Quartet was formed in 2020.

They have won many prestigious prizes.

Alicia, is a distinguished saxophonist with a Masters degree and contributes to chamber music projects and commissions.

From Wales, Ewan studied at Trinity Laban as well Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, focusing on extended saxophone techniques and contemporary repertoire; he is noted for his solo and research work.

Emily, a multi-instrumentalist from Manchester, has experience in many ensembles and has aspirations for postgraduate study.

Dominic enjoys solo and ensemble playing, performing with multiple groups and valuing chamber music participation.

Their performance will include arrangements of traditional tunes such as *Sosban Fach*, and *Danny Boy*, as well as more recent pieces. These include *Ciudades* by Guillermo Lago and *Earth Sciences* by Andrew Downes.

"There was energy, excitement, and fun, combined with mellow tones and evocative moods."

**The audience will be invited to ask questions.**

CDs will be on sale.

[bcu.ac.uk/conservatoire](https://bcu.ac.uk/conservatoire)

Tickets £12

# Lesley Smith

## Medical Historian presents Florence Nightingale

Thursday 16th April 7.30pm  
Codsall Village Hall

Lesley Smith *M.Phil, M.Univ. (Hon.), F.S.A. (Scot.)* is a medical historian holding an M.Phil in Tudor medicine. Lesley was awarded an Honorary Masters Degree in 2010 by the University of Derby for "Services to History in the Community".

Lesley is well known for her highly entertaining and informative costumed portrayals of a variety of historical characters, which she gave both at Tutbury Castle and across the UK.

Lesley is the former Curator of Tutbury Castle in Staffordshire and retired in July 2024 after almost 25 years.

### Florence Nightingale

Born in 1820 into a rich family, Florence Nightingale was highly educated and well-travelled. She was a pioneer in social reform believing she had a vocation from God to nurse. She was also a statistician whose data collection and analysis in nursing practices brought forward new ideas that formed the foundation of modern nursing. She also brought respectability to nursing, which had not always been the case previously.

She particularly came to prominence in the Crimea War in 1854. At night she would go around the wards with a lamp, bringing comfort in the dark hours. This is how she became the "Lady with the Lamp".



"As a retired nurse I was very moved by the way you showed Florence's compassion and dedication and was especially touched by the way you honoured nurses in your audience. A very humbling touch." - March 2025, Lichfield

**Please note, this presentation is not suitable for under 16s.**

[lesleysmithhistorians.co.uk](https://lesleysmithhistorians.co.uk)

Tickets £15

## Nick Bailey

### Confessions of a TV Gardener / The Road to Chelsea Flower Show

Friday 17th April 7.30pm  
Codsall Village Hall

#### The Road to Chelsea Flower

**Show** – A fun, revealing talk tracking the highs and lows of how Nick created his main avenue garden at the world famous RHS Chelsea Flower Show and why he'll never do it again!

#### Confessions of a TV

**Gardener** – An entertaining autobiographical talk tracking Nick's gardening life across four continents with fun anecdotes and surprising revelations a plenty!



With over 30 years' experience, Nick is a leading English Plantsman and Garden Designer. He splits his time between designing gardens, horticultural consultancy, public speaking, writing and presenting BBC Gardeners' World.

"Nick's talk was packed with creative ideas and expert advice, not to mention a good dose of fun. He's a consummate professional who always delivers a great live performance."  
– BBC Gardeners' World Live – NEC Birmingham

"Nick was very engaging and filled the talks area to capacity. His talk was really well thought out and presented in his natural friendly manner making it accessible to all levels of horticultural knowledge from the amateur gardener to the trained professional." – RHS Autumn Show – Event Manager

**The audience will be invited to ask questions.**

This event is produced by [champions-speakers.co.uk](http://champions-speakers.co.uk)

[nickbailey365.com](http://nickbailey365.com)

Tickets £15

## Monmouth Male Voice Choir / Côr Meibion Mynwy

### An Evening of Song

Saturday 18th April 7.30pm  
Perton Civic Centre



Though only formed in 2012, the choir is now one of the largest in Wales with 85 members and concerts are always a sell-out. Stand out moments have included two appearances at the Royal Albert Hall as part of the London Welsh Festival of Male Choirs, singing the anthems on three occasions at the Principality Stadium prior to Wales rugby internationals, performing for the US Ambassador at Winfield House and recording at the iconic Rockfield Studios.

This community choir performs traditional male voice pieces, many in Welsh, despite having only a small number of native Welsh speakers. The audience can expect passion and Welsh hwyl but also melodious harmonies. In addition be prepared to hear popular modern numbers with a new slant, many arranged by the choir's highly talented Music Team.

"Monmouth Male Voice Choir just gets better and better. Surely you have never set the bar this high before? Rarely do you see an audience that is so engaged and so thoroughly enjoying themselves." – Kevin Thomas JP (High Sheriff of Gwent, MMVC Gala Concert 2017)

[monmvc.org.uk](http://monmvc.org.uk)

Tickets £15

## Andrew Lound

### Eyes on the Cosmos

Tuesday 21st April 7.30pm  
Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Codsall



Humankind has been fascinated by the night sky. The stars and the planets have inspired poets, writers, musicians and various forms of spiritualism. In a beautiful presentation Andrew takes the audience on an odyssey through the cosmos told through the observations by astronomers through history, from the very first telescopic views of the planets to the

latest images from the Webb Telescope. Stunning images are complimented with music and a passionate performance in costume with props. Sit back and take a voyage through the history of the cosmos.

Andrew Lound has a Masters in Astronomy and is an experienced speaker who has lectured internationally on this and other topics. He has also contributed to radio and television programmes.

These presentations which combine photography and science provide best possible spectacle, entertainment and learning.

*The audience will be invited to ask questions.*

[andrewlound.com](http://andrewlound.com)  
Tickets £10

## Codsall Dramatic Society

### Don't Dress for Dinner by Marc Camoletti

Wednesday 22nd April 7.30pm  
Thursday 23rd April 7.30pm  
Friday 24th April 7.30pm  
Saturday 25th April Matinee 2.30pm  
Codsall Village Hall

**cds**  
Codsall Dramatic  
Society  
EST 1949

## DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER

by Marc Camoletti,  
adapted by Robin  
Hawdon.



Bernard is planning a romantic weekend with his chic Parisian mistress in his charming converted French farmhouse, whilst his wife, Jacqueline, is away. He has arranged for a cordon bleu cook to prepare gourmet delights, and has invited his best friend, Robert, along too to provide the alibi. It's foolproof; what could possibly go wrong? Well...

Suppose everyone's alibi gets confused with everyone else's. An evening of hilarious confusion ensues as Bernard and Robert improvise at breakneck speed.

This boulevard comedy was a smash hit in Paris and has played in theatres all over the English speaking world.

Codsall Festival is delighted to welcome back the ever-popular performances of Codsall Dramatic Society.

This amateur production of "Don't Dress for Dinner" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.

[concordtheatricals.co.uk](http://concordtheatricals.co.uk)

[codsalldramaticsociety.co.uk](http://codsalldramaticsociety.co.uk)

Tickets £14 (Thursday & Friday)  
£12 (Wednesday & Saturday)

## The Original Panama Jazz Band

Friday 24th April 7.30pm  
Perton Civic Centre



Started in Wallasey, Wirral in 1954, the OPJB continues to play great jazz over 70 years later. The music is Dixieland / Chicago style, with a broad repertoire.

### Band line-up:

Jon Critchley: **Trumpet**  
Andrew Mackenzie: **Trombone / Vocals**  
John Padfield: **Reeds**  
Pete Robinson: **Guitar / Banjo**  
Ken Marley: **String Bass**  
Bill Buck: **Drums**

### Programme will include:

Arcadia Stomp, Midnight in Moscow, Between the Devil & The Deep Blue Sea, High Society, Special Delivery Stomp.

“There’s a great synergy between the band members; your trumpet solos are very uplifting, and your dry, self-deprecating style of presentation enhances the overall performance.”  
– *The Eagley Club, Bolton*

*For this event, seating will be at tables and you are invited to bring along a picnic. The bar will be open from 6.30pm.*

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

[f /panamajazz](#)  
[jazznorthwest.co.uk/panama.htm](http://jazznorthwest.co.uk/panama.htm)  
Tickets £12

## Reel Note Band – Gala Evening

Traditional Irish Music  
Saturday 25th April 7.30pm  
Perton Civic Centre

Codsall Festival is delighted to once again welcome Reel Note Band for an exciting and fun-filled evening of Irish music and dance.

Formed in 2000, Midlands-based Reel Note Band has been at the forefront of Irish Traditional music, having performed at the UN International



L-R back: Vince Jordan, piano accordion (bandleader); Graham Alexander, contrabass guitar/vocal; Dave Cunningham, mandolin; Noel Lenihan, flute/whistle. Front: Joanna Hocking, flute/whistle; Katie Jordan, bodhrán/piano accordion.

Maritime Organisation, Warwick, Sidmouth and Shrewsbury Folk Festivals, the Bank of Ireland, and previous Codsall Community Arts Festivals. Reel Note was the only UK band to perform at the world EXPO in Milan, representing Ireland. Members of Reel Note are previous winners of “All Ireland” fleadh cheoil titles and the band has toured in France, Italy, Denmark and UK while remaining a popular choice at home for private and corporate functions, not to mention taking a keen interest in supporting local charitable organisations. Reel Note has featured on BBC, ITV, RTE, Sky Italia, Irish TV and national and international radio and has provided music for BAFTA award-winning animation company Brothers McLeod. Reel Note are pleased to be joined in concert by members of The O’Fibbs band and the McCarthy/Felton School of Irish Dance.

“Fantastic entertainments from this talented band!”  
– *Cheryl, audience member, Birmingham*

Tickets £16



## Festival Venues

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### Codsall Village Hall

Wolverhampton Road, Codsall WV8 1PL

The Village Hall has a large car park, including five designated disabled parking bays close to the entrance.

Easily accessed male and female toilets and also a toilet for people with disabilities.

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### Perton Civic Centre

Church Road, Perton WV6 7PD

The Civic Centre has a large carpark with designated disabled parking near the entrance.

Easily accessed male and female toilets including a disabled toilet.

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### Trinity Methodist Church Hall

Histons Hill, Codsall WV8 2ER

There is good off-road car parking on site.

Easily accessed toilet facilities including an accessible toilet.

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### St Nicholas Church

Church Road, Codsall WV8 1EH

Parking in Church Road or village.

Toilets including disabled available.

Wheelchair access available.

## Sponsors

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Once again, we are pleased to welcome The Arts Society Wrekin as a sponsor.

[theartsocietywrekin.org.uk](http://theartsocietywrekin.org.uk)



We are pleased to welcome the Tipton and Coseley Building Society which has recently come to Codsall, as a sponsor.

[thetipton.co.uk](http://thetipton.co.uk)

## Lottery Support

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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/CCAFA Lottery](http://tinyurl.com/CCAFA Lottery) if you wish to provide us with a regular weekly donation.

Thank you for your support and good luck!

## Technical Support

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ALG is pleased to be providing technical support throughout this year's Arts Festival. The Festival acknowledges and thanks the whole ALG 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 stadiums and academies and enjoys a close working relationship with Birmingham Symphony Hall.

[alg-uk.com](http://alg-uk.com)

# Tickets

## Booking Information

# By Post

## Application Form

### How to buy your tickets

#### 2026 Festival Tickets are on sale from:

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 **PATRONS ONLY**

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 **GENERAL RELEASE**

#### Patrons

There is a 10% discount on all pre-booked tickets purchased throughout the Festival. This will not apply to tickets bought at the door.

#### 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.

Book online at:

[codsallartsfestival.org.uk](https://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](https://codsallartsfestival.org.uk)

**Unreserved seating at all events.** For special access or seating needs (including wheelchair), please enclose details with your application form or contact us by email or phone.

Date	Event	£	Patron £	No:	Total
Tues 14	<b>Grant Harrold</b>	£15.00	£13.50		
Wed 15	<b>Yugen Saxophone Quartet</b>	£12.00	£10.80		
Thu 16	<b>Lesley Smith</b>	£15.00	£13.50		
Fri 17	<b>Nick Bailey</b>	£15.00	£13.50		
Sat 18	<b>Monmouth Welsh Choir</b>	£15.00	£13.50		
Tues 21	<b>Andrew Lound</b>	£10.00	£9.00		
Wed 22	<b>Codsall Dramatic Society: 'Don't Dress for Dinner' by Marc Camoletti</b>	£12.00	£10.80		
Thurs 23		£14.00	£12.60		
Fri 24		£14.00	£12.60		
Sat 25	(Saturday Matinee)	£12.00	£10.80		
Fri 24	<b>Panama Jazz Band</b>	£12.00	£10.80		
Sat 25	<b>Reel Note Band</b>	£16.00	£14.40		
<b>Grand Total £</b>					

Only paid Patrons for 2026 Festival eligible for Patron ticket prices.

Tick if you are a paid Patron for 2026 Codsall Festival

I am happy to receive my tickets by email OR

Please send my tickets by post (I enclose a stamped addressed envelope)

### Your Details PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Name: .....

Address: .....

Post Code: .....

Phone number: .....

Email: .....

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



**Bilbrook Brewood Codsall Pattingham Perton**

## Why not become a patron?

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Become a patron of Codsall Festival to receive news and buy tickets with a discount.

Membership per festival costs £15.

Ideas and feedback for the festival are always welcome.

## Future events

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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

 /CodsallArts



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