Borderlines
Carlisle Book Festival 2017
in association with cumbrialife
SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER
EVERY WEDNESDAY THIS SUMMER HOLIDAY FROM 11AM - 3PM

Fun-filled Family Activities

- Art Venturers with free craft activities
- Clip and Climb
- Superhero training sessions
- Win prizes every week

The Lanes Shopping Centre

Bookends

is proud to be one of the partners of Borderlines Book Festival again this year.

It’s a delight to welcome so many writers and readers to Carlisle and we wish you all a happy and stimulating festival.

You’ll find us on Castle Street, just past the Cathedral and on the way to Tullie House Museum and the Castle.

Whilst in Carlisle we hope you have the opportunity to visit our bookshop, one of the largest in the North, with over 30 rooms selling new and second-hand books, CDs and vinyl, and we also have a café and garden where you can relax in between those talks and discussions.

Open Mon - Sat 9.30am - 5pm, Sunday 11.30am - 4pm

www.bookscumbria.com
‘...into its fourth year, but already beautifully formed, fast flourishing, endlessly fascinating. And now fab.’

When I was a boy in Carlisle I went to violin lessons. Goodness knows how my mother could afford it and why I went for so long when I was so useless. My violin teacher was Alf Adamson. His day job was delivering packets of Rington’s tea, door to door, in a little van.

During those five years or so, supposedly learning the violin, I did become awfully keen on classical music. I played in the Carlisle Grammar School orchestra, went up each year to the Edinburgh Festival and down to London for the Proms to see my heroes, Isaac Stern and Yehudi Menuhin.

In the 1950’s, rock came in, and then the Beatles, and that was it. I turned my back on classical music. I played in the Carlisle Grammar School orchestra, went up each year to the Edinburgh Festival and down to London for the Proms to see my heroes, Isaac Stern and Yehudi Menuhin.

Now we are going on a world tour. Ok, that’s an exaggeration. Now we are going to repeat the concert in er... Carlisle. Hurry, hurry to the details for the opening weekend....

There are over 500 book festivals in the UK each year and still growing, with more and more lovely authors telling us about their lovely books. But I don’t think there have been many so far which offer an event melding music and words with a professional author teaming up with professional classical musicians to tell us some stories.

This is a first for Borderlines, one of the nation’s newer literary festivals, now just into its fourth year, but already beautifully formed, fast flourishing, endlessly fascinating. And now fab.

Hunter Davies OBE
Honorary President
# FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

## Saturday 30th September

**Vivien Jones, Cathedral Treasures 1: Creative Writing Inspired by Old or Unusual Objects**  
11am – 1pm, Cathedral, Prior's Room, £10  
Sponsored by Architects Plus

**Judith Notley as Beatrix Potter**  
2pm, Carlisle Library, £5

## Monday 2nd October

**Diane Hinds, How to Promote Your Book**  
2pm, Carlisle Library, £4

## Tuesday 3rd October

**Neil Faulkner, A People's History of the Russian Revolution**  
7.30pm, Cakes & Ale Café, £6

## Wednesday 4th October

**Sir Chris Bonington, An Evening with Chris Bonington**  
7.30pm, Crown & Mitre Ballroom, £10  
Sponsored by Dodd Murray Limited

## Thursday 5th October

**Brindley Hallam Dennis aka Mike Smith, Triangles**  
10am – 12pm, Library Meeting Room, £10

**Alizon Robertson, Writing Crime Fiction**  
12.30 – 2.30pm, Library Meeting Room, £10  
Sponsored by The Cumberland Building Society

**Neil Adam & Judy Turner, Sing Me a Song! The Wit and Wisdom of Robert Louis Stevenson in words and music**  
7.30pm, Tullie House, £6  
Sponsored by Ashwood Design Associates

## Friday 6th October

**Darren Harper, What is the Value of Philosophy?**  
10am – 12pm, Library Meeting Room, £10  
Sponsored by The Cumberland Building Society

**Jeff Cowton, Discover the Birth and Development of a Poem from Manuscript Form**  
12.30 – 2.30pm, Library Meeting Room, £10  
Sponsored by University of Cumbria Institute of the Arts

**Iron Press, Writing Modern Ghost Stories**  
3 – 5pm, Library Meeting Room, £10  
Sponsored by Ashwood Design Associates

## Saturday 7th October

**Stephen Matthews, Carlisle in Poetry and Prose**  
10am, Tullie House, £6

**Kathleen Jones, Biography Masterclass: Real Lives – True Stories**  
10am – 1pm, Crown & Mitre Boardroom, £25  
Sponsored by Dodd and Co Accountants

**Zoe Leigh Gadd, Kinetic Reading - Live Presentation**  
10 - 11.30am, Cathedral Fratry, £7

## Events | Workshops | Poetry & Performance

**The Liverpool String Quartet and Hunter Davies, Get Back to the Beatles**  
4.30pm, Crown & Mitre Ballroom, £12  
Sponsored by Architects Plus

**Hunter Davies & Caitlin Davies, Memories of Margaret and Mum**  
8pm, Crown & Mitre Ballroom, £10

**Annie Weir, From One Writing Exercise to 85,000 Words**  
10am – 12pm, Cathedral Prior's Room, £10

**Poetry Breakfast with Malcolm Carson**  
10am – 11.30am, Tullie House Function Room, £6 (includes refreshments)

**Robin Yassin-Kassab and Leila Al-Shami in conversation with Roger Bolton, Burning Country: Syrians in Revolution and War**  
11am, Crown & Mitre Ballroom, £7

**Zosia Wand, Trust Me - Unconventional Love Story to Commercial Thriller**  
11am, Library, £4

**Steve Birkenshaw, There is No Map in Hell**  
12pm, Tullie House, £6

**Jo Baker, Austen's Longbourn to Beckett’s wartime France: Contemporary fiction and literary greats**  
1pm, Crown & Mitre Ballroom, £7

**Kim Moore, Poetry as Autobiography**  
1.30 – 3.30pm, Cathedral Prior’s Room, £10  
Sponsored by University of Cumbria Institute of the Arts
## Borderlines 2017 Carlisle Book Festival

### Festival at a Glance

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Zosia Wand, <em>Masterclass: Getting to Grips with Structure and Plot</em></td>
<td>Crown &amp; Mitre Boardroom</td>
<td>£15</td>
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<td>2 – 5pm</td>
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<td>Brett Westwood, <em>Welcome to Wonderland</em></td>
<td>Tullie House</td>
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<td>Claire Tomalin, <em>A Life of my Own</em></td>
<td>Crown &amp; Mitre Ballroom</td>
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<td>3pm</td>
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<td>Lucy Grace, <em>Lucy, Lucy and Me</em></td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>£5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vivien Jones, <em>Cathedral Treasures 2: Creative Writing Inspired by Old or Unusual Objects</em></td>
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<td>Tullie House</td>
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<td>4pm</td>
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<td>Marie-Elsa Bragg, <em>Towards Mellbreak</em></td>
<td>Crown &amp; Mitre Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Showcase Evening of Cumbrian Poetry &amp; Prose</td>
<td>Cathedral Fratry, Free</td>
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<td>David Cross, <em>Public Sculpture of Lancashire and Cumbria</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Teague, <em>Self-Publishing Masterclass</em></td>
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<td>10am – 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sinclair McKay, <em>The Spies of Winter: The GCHQ Codebreakers who fought the Cold War</em></td>
<td>Crown &amp; Mitre Ballroom</td>
<td>£7</td>
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<td>11am</td>
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<td>Jenn Ashworth &amp; Andrew Michael Hurley, <em>Cumbria’s landscapes in fiction</em></td>
<td>Library</td>
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<td>11am</td>
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### Ticket Information

**Online** from our website Just click straight through to our safe and secure online booking system.
www.borderlinescarlisle.co.uk

**In person** From Bookends, 19 Castle Street, Carlisle, CA3 8SY, 9.30am-5.00pm Monday-Saturday; 11.30am-4pm Sunday

**By phone** For queries only call Bookends on 07412 366152 or email borderlinescarlisle@gmail.com

Please note that if tickets are posted out, there will be an administrative fee of £1.

You can purchase tickets for individual events by any of these methods, or you can treat yourself to our **Festival Venue Day Passes** which allow you to enjoy a day of talks at any of our venues, whilst making savings!

**Friday Night Crown & Mitre Pass** Two events for £17
(Liverpool String Quartet & Hunter and Caitlin Davies)

**Carlisle Library Day Pass** Three events for £10, or a Weekend Pass for £20

**Crown & Mitre Day Pass** Five events on Saturday for £35
**Tullie House Day Pass** Saturday OR Sunday Day Pass for £20

Buy tickets online at www.borderlinescarlisle.co.uk or in person at Bookends Carlisle
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Thank you to our festival partners, committee members, volunteers and chairpersons

And our sponsors & funders

Courses in Philosophy, Literature & Creative Writing
Saturday, 30th September
Carlisle Library | 2pm | £5

**Judith Notley as Beatrix Potter**

Actress Judith Notley takes on the role of Mrs Beatrix Heelis (nee Potter) and will tell us about her life and work. Please feel free to ask her about any aspect of her life and share in the unfolding Tale of Beatrix Potter as she responds to your questions.

After a career which spanned acting, teaching and directing, Judith Notley became totally absorbed by a particular woman, whose own career was just as varied as her own: Beatrix Potter. She took part in a commissioned play about her a decade ago and researched her life following that. Judith now works at the Old Laundry Theatre, Bowness, in her role as Beatrix Potter.

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Monday, October 2nd
Carlisle Library | 2pm | £4

**Diane Hinds**

**How to Promote Your Book**

Are you a self-published author in need of advice on how to devise a professional but affordable promotion campaign for your book? In How To Promote Your Book, Public Relations expert Diane Hinds will guide you through the process, covering elements such as research, targeting your audience, and creating the key message, as well as writing a press release and learning about distribution.

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Tuesday, October 3rd

Cakes and Ale Café | 7.30pm | £6

**Neil Faulkner**

**A People’s History of the Russian Revolution**

The Russian Revolution may be the most misunderstood event in modern history. Neil Faulkner sets out to debunk the accumulated myths of the last century, showing how a mass movement of millions mobilised for militant action and destroyed a regime of landlords, profiteers, and warmongers, and how that movement was subsequently destroyed by a murderous internal counter-revolution.

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Photograph: Polly Heffer

Neil Faulkner is a leading historian and archaeologist who works as a writer, editor, lecturer, field director, and occasional broadcaster. A Research Fellow at the University of Bristol, he is the author of numerous books, including *A Marxist History of the World: from Neanderthals to Neoliberals and Creeping Fascism: Brexit, Trump, and the Rise of the Far Right.*
Wednesday, October 4th  
Crown & Mitre Ballroom | 7.30pm | £10  
**Chris Bonington**  
An Evening with Chris Bonington  
Sponsored by Dodd Murray Limited

Sir Chris Bonington is Britain’s premier mountain man. To celebrate the publication of his new autobiography, *Ascent*, Chris, in conversation with Radio 4 journalist Eric Robson, will reflect on his climbing career, as well as share memories of life with his late wife Wendy, their struggles and triumphs, and her battle against a cruel disease.

Chris Bonington, the mountaineer, writer, photographer and lecturer, started climbing at the age of 16 in 1951. It has been his passion ever since. He made the first British ascent of the North Wall of the Eiger and led the expedition that made the first ascent of The South Face of Annapurna, the biggest and most difficult climb in the Himalayas at the time. His career has included nineteen expeditions to the Himalayas, including four to Mount Everest.

Thursday, October 5th  
Tullie House | 7.30pm | £6  
**Neil Adam and Judy Turner**  
Sing me a Song!  
A celebration of the wit and wisdom of Robert Louis Stevenson in words and music  
Sponsored by Ashwood Design Associates

He wrote much more than *Treasure Island* and *Kidnapped!* This is a delightful musical show arranged, performed and produced by acclaimed Australian artists Neil Adam and Judy Turner. Robert Louis Stevenson’s poetry as song, illustrated by family photos from Scotland, the USA and the Pacific will take you on a journey into the all too short life of one of Scotland’s most beloved authors.

Judy Turner (fiddle, viola, narration) and Neil Adam (guitar/vocals) are stalwarts of the Australian and UK folk scenes, showcasing Scottish and Australian traditional music as well as their own material. Acclaimed for their fine musicality and wonderful rapport with audiences, their show on the life of Robert Louis Stevenson is an homage to a great writer by two great musicians.
Friday, October 6th
Crown and Mitre Ballroom | 4.30pm | £12
**The Liverpool String Quartet and Hunter Davies**
Get Back to the Beatles

Sponsored by Architects Plus

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the release of the iconic Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band by the Beatles, the Liverpool String Quartet, who are all members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, will play a selection of Beatles’ songs, many familiar and some less so - including *Yesterday*, *Eleanor Rigby* and *When I’m Sixty Four*. The Beatles were famously thrown out of a dinner dance at the Crown and Mitre ballroom in 1963 because they were wearing leather jackets! The Liverpool String Quartet will perform the music of The Fab Four in that very same ballroom, 54 years on. Introduced by Hunter Davies, author of the only authorised biography of the Beatles, this promises to be an entertaining hour as he provides fascinating insights, in his own inimitable style, as to how the songs came to be written.

Formed in 2010, the Liverpool String Quartet have performed extensively throughout the UK and abroad. At home in Merseyside they have a concert series at the Nordic Church, and have played at many other notable venues, including St. George’s Hall, Liverpool’s Anglican Cathedral, and the Liverpool Philharmonic’s new Music Room. The members of the quartet are Hilary Browning, cello; Jim Clark, violin; Sarah Hill, violin and Daniel Sanxis, viola. For this concert they are also joined by Michael Burke, keyboard and harmonica.

Buy Tickets for both Hunter Davies events for £17

Friday, October 6th
Crown and Mitre Ballroom | 8pm | £10
**Hunter Davies and Caitlin Davies**
Memories of Margaret and Mum

Hunter Davies is joined in conversation by his daughter Caitlin. They will talk about his wife and her mother, Margaret Forster, the Carlisle born novelist and biographer who died last year. Both authors will reflect on memories of life with Margaret and the influence she had on their writing careers. This will be the first time that Caitlin and her father have taken part in an author event together. Caitlin will also read extracts from her mother’s schoolgirl diaries, which will be published later this year.

Hunter Davies was born in Scotland, but was brought up in Carlisle. He is the author of innumerable books, fiction and non-fiction, many with a Cumbrian connection, and is also a columnist for the Sunday Times (on money), the New Statesman (on football) and Cumbria Life (on any old thing).

Caitlin Davies is a novelist, non-fiction writer, journalist, teacher and Royal Literary Fund Fellow. Her books include the memoir *Place of Reeds* and the historical novel *The Ghost of Lily Painter*. Her next non-fiction title will be *Bad Girls: A Century of Women and Crime at Holloway Prison*, and her latest novel is *Daisy Belle: Swimming Champion of the World*. 
Saturday, October 7th
Tullie House | 10am | £6
**Stephen Matthews**
**Carlisle in Poetry and Prose**

More than almost any other provincial city, merry Carlisle has been featured in literature throughout the ages. The border city has provided a Romantic setting for the Arthurian stories of Thomas Mallory and the adventurous tales of Walter Scott. Charles Dickens and Nathaniel Hawthorne gave their own very different pictures of the city and many other writers, both local and national, have portrayed Carlisle in their work.

**Stephen Matthews** is an author, publisher and bookseller. He has taken a special interest in the culture of Cumberland. His most recent books are *Beauty in the Lap of Horror*, an account of early travellers in Borrowdale, and *Josiah Relph of Sebergham, England’s First Dialect Poet*. His book on Charles Dickens’s visit to the county, *A Lazy Tour in Cumberland* was Lakeland Book of the Year in 2015.

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Saturday, October 7th
Cathedral Fratry | 10 - 11.30am | £7
**Zoë Leigh Gadd**
**Kinetic Reading – Live Presentation**

Discover a dancer’s perspective on the reader’s imagination at work. What would imagination look like if it could move? How can dance and art interact? In this highly original event Zoe Leigh Gadd explores the connection between movement, kinaesthetic responses and reading in a performance presentation. The audience will not be expected to participate physically in the event but simply to listen, experience, watch and ponder how text can be examined through physical perspectives.

Founder of Dance Ahead and a part-time lecturer at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, **Zoë Leigh Gadd** is a dance artist, researcher and choreographer with an extensive background in education and dance theatre contexts. Driven by creative collaboration, Zoë’s approach is interdisciplinary. She challenges audience reception and creative processes through varied devising methods.

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Saturday, October 8th
Tullie House Function Room | 10 – 11.30am | £6 (including refreshments)
**Poetry Breakfast with Malcolm Carson**

Enjoy a coffee and a croissant, or tea and toast (or whatever may be on the menu). Mingle with other poets and share your love of poetry. This is a relaxed and informal opportunity for you to read one or two of your own poems or short prose pieces. If you don’t write poetry yourself, just read a favourite poem. Malcolm will join in and read some of his poetry.

**Malcolm Carson** is from Cleethorpes. He studied English at Nottingham University and taught at the University of Northumbria, in Carlisle, where he now lives with his wife and three children. He has published several collections of poetry, has reviewed for *Other Poetry and Critical Survey*, and was a founder of Border Poets.
In 2011, Syrians took to the streets of Damascus to demand the overthrow of the government of Bashar al-Assad. Today, Syria is a war zone and a devastated land. *Burning Country* explores the horrific reality of life in present-day Syria, drawing on first-hand testimonies from opposition fighters, exiles lost in refugee camps, and courageous human rights activists. Robin and Leila will be interviewed by Radio 4 journalist Roger Bolton about the militarisation of the uprising, the rise of Islamism, the role of governments and the resulting unprecedented humanitarian crisis.

**Leila Al-Shami and Robin Yassin-Kassab**

both grew up in the UK with Syrian and British parents and live in Scotland. Prior to writing *Burning Country*, Leila worked for fifteen years as a human rights activist in Syria and the surrounding region. She was a founding member of Tahrir-ICN, a network that aimed to connect anti-authoritarian struggles across The Middle Eastern region. Robin Yassin-Kassab is a novelist and journalist and a frequent commentator on Syria and the Middle East. Much of their first person information comes from communicating with activists.

Author and playwright Zosia Wand will talk about *Trust Me*, an absorbing and suspenseful psychological thriller, in which a main protagonist’s relationship with her teenage stepson is put in the spotlight. The novel asks if you can ever really trust anybody, including yourself. She will also discuss how she turned an unconventional love story and an affection for her local community into a commercial thriller.

**Zosia Wand**

was born in London and lives in Cumbria with her family. She is passionate about good coffee, cake and her adopted landscape on the edge of the Lake District. When she is not writing she runs workshops and events for other writers and readers. Her new novel, *Trust Me*, is published on 5th October, and is set in a fictionalised version of her home town of Ulverston.
**Steve Birkenshaw**  
*There is No Map in Hell*

Fell runner Steve Birkenshaw will tell how he developed from novice orienteering to elite category ultramarathons covering distances most of us wouldn’t walk in a month. His talk is accompanied by beautiful and poignant photos, and culminates in a detailed account of his record-breaking Wainwright’s round, where he ran the equivalent of two marathons a day with several thousand metres of ascent, every day for a week.

Steve Birkenshaw is a legend within the fell running and ultra-running communities, both for the extreme distances he can run and his ability to push himself to the absolute limit. He began orienteering at the age of seven and since then he has won many elite fell races. In 2014 he broke the record for completing a 300 mile continuous circuit of all 214 Wainwright fells, in just 6 and a half days.

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**Hugh Thomson**  
*One Man and his Mule*

Inspired by Robert Louis Stevenson’s *Travels with a Donkey*, Hugh Thomson takes his stubborn, cantankerous but trusty mule Jethro across England from the Lake District to the Yorkshire Moors, using old drovers’ roads and mule tracks. For centuries, mules were used to transport goods across Britain. Hugh revives that ancient tradition, using his personal experience of hiking with pack mules across the Andes. He vividly and wittily recounts the stories of the characters he meets along the way and brings to life the ancient landscape of the north.

Hugh Thomson is an author, film maker and explorer, best known for *The Green Road into the Trees*, which won the inaugural Wainwright Prize for Best Nature and Travel Writing. Hugh has led many research expeditions to Peru and is one of Britain’s leading explorers of Inca settlements. Jethro the mule has his own Facebook page and Twitter account, and following his great adventure has been adopted and rehomed in Oxfordshire.
EVENTS

Saturday, October 7th
Carlisle Library | 1pm | £4

**Jo Baker**

**Austen’s Longbourn to Beckett’s wartime France: Contemporary fiction and literary greats**

Sponsored by Ashwood Design Associates

In this Jane Austen bicentenary year, Jo Baker will talk about her novels, *Longbourn* and *A Country Road, A Tree*. She will explore the connections they have with two of literature’s iconic names, and how she has used these links as a springboard for two brand new works of contemporary fiction that have their separate, unique identities, perspectives, and themes.

**Jo Baker** is the author of six novels; her work has been translated into 21 different languages. Her most recent book, *A Country Road, A Tree*, about Samuel Beckett’s experiences during World War Two, has been shortlisted for a number of awards.

Her previous novel, *Longbourn*, about the below stairs world of the Bennet household in Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice*, was an international bestseller and is currently in development as a feature film with Studio Canal.

Saturday, October 7th
Tullie House | 2pm | £6

**Brett Westwood**

**Welcome to Wonderland**

An illustrated talk charting a year in living things, from blackbirds, beavers and beetles to tawny owls, natterjack toads and lemon slugs.

Every day of the year in every corner of the British Isles there’s something amazing to see and experience.

**Brett Westwood** is an award-winning author, producer, presenter and naturalist. His acclaimed radio series range from Tweet of the Day (winner of Best Radio Series 2014) to Brett Westwood’s Diaries as well as the weekly Natural Histories. He is also a consultant for The BBC’s Springwatch and Autumnwatch. His co-author on *Wonderland* is Stephen Moss and it is their third jointly written book.

Saturday, October 7th
Crown and Mitre Ballroom | 3pm | £7

**Claire Tomalin**

**A Life of My Own**

Sponsored by Darren Harper

One of Britain’s best biographers turns her critical eye to another fascinating literary life: her own. *A Life of My Own* is an extraordinary memoir of love, loss and literature in which Tomalin paints an intimate and insightful portrait of coming of age as a woman in the 1950s, moments of national literary history as well as periods of intense...
Claire Tomalin is a former Literary Editor at the New Statesman and the Sunday Times. She has written seven highly acclaimed literary biographies, including *Samuel Pepys*, which won the Whitbread Book of the Year Award, and in 2011 the international bestseller *Charles Dickens*. She is married to the playwright and novelist Michael Frayn.

**Saturday, October 7th**
Carlisle Library | 3pm | £5
Play Performance (60 minutes)

**Lucy Grace**

**Lucy, Lucy and me**
Sponsored by Dodd Murray Limited

Realising she is never going to follow Lucy Pevensie into Narnia, Lucy Grace searches for a new heroine. Perhaps CS Lewis’ god-daughter, Lucy Barfield, who was actually born in Carlisle, holds the key to another wardrobe? This is an intimate show about falling through the cracks and finding your way back, exploring the fragility between fantasy and reality. It is also a love letter to children’s fantasy literature.

**Lucy Grace** is a theatre maker specialising in intricate multi layered narratives that search for the transcendant in the mundane. As an actor she has performed in venues ranging from the Sydney Opera House to village halls, and now Carlisle Library! Her show premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2016 where it had a sell out run.

***** “This show will warm your heart but will also break it” Edinburgh Fringe Review

**Saturday, October 7th**
Tullie House | 4pm | £6

**Sinclair McKay**

**The Mile End Murder: The Case Conan Doyle Couldn’t Solve**

Sinclair McKay, bestselling author of *The Secret Life of Bletchley Park*, has gone back in time to re-investigate a bloody Victorian murder that became a national sensation and later puzzled Arthur Conan Doyle. In 1860, an East End landlady was found in her house, hideously killed. There had been no forced entry; no theft; and no-one had been seen going in. But did the police investigation – and widespread prejudice - lead to the wrong man being hanged? Conan Doyle was baffled; and now, McKay has turned detective to solve a mystery that shines a light in Victorian London’s dark heart.

Sinclair McKay has written several books on Bletchley Park and codebreaking as well as histories of Hammer films, James Bond films and rambling as a pastime. He is a freelance journalist and lives in London. He is also speaking at Borderlines on Sunday at 11am in the Crown & Mitre Hotel on his most recent book on codebreakers, *The Spies of Winter* - see page 17 for this event.
**EVENTS**

**Saturday, October 7th**
Crown and Mitre Ballroom | 5pm | £10

**Marie-Elsa Bragg**
*Towards Mellbreak*

Sponsored by Dodd and Co Accountants

Marie-Elsa Bragg will be discussing her debut novel *Towards Mellbreak*, and how Cumbrian folklore, tradition, landscape and spirituality weave their way into her writing. Marie-Elsa will be in conversation with Cumbria born Dr Sue Allan, who has researched Cumbrian traditional music and dialect for over forty years.

**Saturday, October 7th**
The Fratry, Carlisle Cathedral | 7.30pm | FREE

**A Showcase Evening of Cumbrian Poetry and Prose**

Join us for an inspirational evening of poetry and prose, hosted by Kim Moore, who will also read from her own work. There will be a fantastic range of readings from some of our most exciting local writers.

The poets include:
- Katie Hale
- Martyn Halsall
- Kathleen Jones
- Jennifer Lee Tsai
- Kim Moore

The writers of prose fiction include:
- Philip Caine
- Brindley Hallam
- Dennis
- Marilyn Messenger

There will be an interval with wine and soft drinks on sale.

The second half of the evening will feature the winners of the 2017 Borderlines Poetry Competition, who will read their winning poems and be presented with cash prizes.

There will also be readings from the Dove Cottage Young Poets, introduced by Kim Moore, who is currently poet-in-residence.

This is a free event but donations are strongly encouraged in aid of local charity Nightstop who provide beds for the night for young people who need them, in moments of crisis.
**Amanda Owen**  
**The Nation’s Favourite, The Yorkshire Shepherdess**

Amanda Owen talks about her life as a shepherdess at Ravenseat, a remote Yorkshire hill farm, and traces the highs and lows of living and working on a 2000-acre farm in Swaledale, alongside her husband Clive, 1000 sheep and 9 children. She describes the age-old cycles of the farming year and the constant challenges she faces. Her stories abound with warmth and humour that bring the countryside alive.

Originally from Huddersfield, Amanda Owen was inspired by the James Herriot books to leave the town behind her and become a shepherdess in one of the most remote areas of Britain. It’s a challenging life that has almost disappeared in today’s world, but she wouldn’t have it any other way. She also finds time to present Countrywise on ITV and has 35,000 followers on Twitter.

**David Cross**  
**Public Sculpture of Lancashire and Cumbria**

Public Sculpture of Lancashire and Cumbria, is Dr David Cross’ sixth book and the 19th volume in a national series. He will talk about his fieldwork and research for it, selecting work ranging from 1000 AD to the present, and he will consider thorny questions relating to the commissioning, restoring and even demolition of works in public spaces.

Born in Barrow-in-Furness, Dr David Cross is an independent art historian, with degrees from Durham and Lancaster Universities. An honorary research fellow of University College, Durham, he has lectured and published extensively, and he is the most recent biographer of George Romney.

**Sinclair McKay**  
**The Spies of Winter**  
**The GCHQ codebreakers who fought the Cold War**

Following on from The Secret Life of Bletchley Park, Sinclair McKay uncovers how those extraordinary codebreakers faced the Cold War. Many who had achieved the seemingly impossible by breaking the Nazi Enigma codes formed a new department: GCHQ (Government Communications HQ) for codebreaking in the age of Stalin and the atomic bomb. Fascinating revelations show a story of uncovered double agents, deception and betrayals – plus James Bond and Highland Reels!
Sinclair McKay is a features writer for The Telegraph and Spectator. He is the acclaimed author of the bestselling *Secret Life of Bletchley Park*, *The Lost World of Bletchley Park*, *The Secret Life of Fighter Command* and *The Secret Listeners*. He has also written on Hammer films, the James Bond films and the pastime of rambling. He will also speak at Borderlines on his most recent book, *The Mile End Murder* - see page 15 for this event.

Sunday, October 8th  
Carlisle Library | 11am | £4  
**Jenn Ashworth & Andrew Michael Hurley**  
Cumbria’s Landscapes in Fiction  
Sponsored by University of Cumbria Institute of the Arts

Jenn Ashworth and Andrew Michael Hurley will talk about their shared fascination with the Morecambe Bay area and how its landscapes have shaped their novels, *Fell* and *The Loney*. They will read from their work and discuss the connections between the English coastline and the ghost story.

One of The Culture Show’s top 12 best new novelists, **Jenn Ashworth** was born in 1982 in Preston. She studied English at Cambridge and since then has gained an MA from Manchester University, trained as a librarian and run a prison library in Lancashire. She now lectures in Creative Writing at the University of Lancaster. *Fell* is her fourth novel.

Andrew Michael Hurley has lived in Manchester and London, and is now based in Lancashire. His first novel, *The Loney*, was originally published by Tartarus Press, a tiny independent publisher based in Yorkshire, as a 300-copy limited-edition, before being republished by John Murray and going on to win the Costa Best First Novel Award and Book of the Year at the British Book Industry Awards in 2016. His second novel, *Devil’s Day*, will be published in October 2017.

Sunday, October 8th  
Tullie House | 12pm | £6  
**Alan Cleaver**  
Fairies, boggles, dobbies and wizards  
Cumbrian folklore revealed

Nineteenth century Cumbrian writer Robert Anderson warned that fairies and boggles were so malevolent their haunts should be given a wide berth. But for the brave, Alan Cleaver reveals where to find them, what they look like and what to do if you meet a boggle, bloody redcap, freetnin or even ‘old scrat’ himself.

Author **Alan Cleaver** spends his time exploring lonnings, holy wells, corpse roads and other ancient sites in the search for Cumbria’s ‘unwritten’ history: the ghost stories, fairy tales or its strange customs and traditions. His books cover all aspects of Cumbria’s ancient past. Alan has been a working journalist all his life and lives in Whitehaven with his partner Lesley.
Sunday, October 8th
Crown and Mitre Ballroom  |  1pm  |  £7

**Jenny Uglow**

**Edward Lear: Art and Nonsense**

In this beautifully illustrated talk, Jenny Uglow explores the genius of Edward Lear, creator of *The Owl and the Pussy Cat* and *The Dong with a Luminous Nose*, revealing him as a great natural history artist, restless traveller and fine landscape painter – and a complex, funny, loveable man.

Jenny Uglow grew up in West Cumbria, and now divides her time between Canterbury and Borrowdale. Her prize-winning books include biographies of Elizabeth Gaskell, William Hogarth, Thomas Bewick and Charles II, as well as *In These Times, Living in Britain through Napoleon’s Wars* and *A Little History of British Gardening*. A recent book, *The Pinecone*, tells the story of Romantic visionary and architect, Sarah Losh of Wreay, Carlisle.

Sunday, October 8th
Crown and Mitre Edwardian Room  |  2pm  |  £6

**Andrew Liddle**

**Ruth Davidson and the Resurgence of the Scottish Conservatives**

In just six years, Ruth Davidson has risen from obscurity to become one the best known and most powerful figures in British politics. A lesbian, kick-boxing, former Territorial Army reservist, Ruth Davidson has broken the mould of both Conservative and Scottish politics. This talk will explore her extraordinary political rise, as well as what the future holds for this impressive Scottish Tory leader.

Andrew Liddle graduated from the University of St Andrews in 2012 with an MA in modern history. He is a former political journalist at the Scottish Parliament. He now works as a political adviser, and lives in Edinburgh.

Sunday, October 8th
Tullie House  |  2pm  |  £6

**Peter Brears**

**Traditional Food in Cumbria**

Cumbria is rich in the geographical and occupational range of its traditional food. The independence of Cumbrian people, their attachment to their landscape and community life, and their openness to sea-borne trade have produced an unexpected richness and variety of fare. Acclaimed food historian Peter Brears gives us a fascinating and detailed insight into the social history of the county through its food.

Peter Brears has researched and written several works on the traditional food of England and on the history of food from Tudor times to the present day. He is a former director of York’s Castle Museum and Leeds City Museums. He has carried out research at many historic venues including Hampton Court Palace, Petworth and Harewood House. He advises and works for English Heritage, the National Trust and the Royal Palaces.
### Sunday, October 8th  
**Tullie House | 4pm | £6**

**Jacob Polley**  
**Poetry Reading**

Sponsored by University of Cumbria Institute of the Arts

*Jackself* was described by judges of the T S Eliot Prize as “a firework of a book; inventive, exciting and astounding in its imaginative range and depth of feeling.” A poet of the uncanny and the startlingly lyrical, Jacob Polley’s work explores his rural upbringing, the forces of tradition and history and the power of speech as it approaches song.

**Jacob Polley** was born and grew up in Cumbria. He has published four books of poetry, winning the 2016 T S Eliot Prize for poetry for his fourth, *Jackself*. He was awarded the 2013 Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize for *The Havocs* and the Somerset Maugham Award for his first novel *Talk of the Town*. Jacob teaches at Newcastle University and lives with his family on the North East coast.

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### Sunday, October 8th  
**Crown and Mitre Ballroom | 5pm | £10**

**John O’Farrell**  
**Things Can Only Get Worse**  
19 Masochistic years in the life of a Labour supporter

Or can they change again? John O’Farrell presents the sequel to his classic memoir, *Things Can Only Get Better*. He embarks on a sometimes hilarious, sometimes heart-breaking rollercoaster ride through the last two decades, from the highs of the ’97 Labour victory to the lows (according to John himself) of Brexit, Boris and Trump, back to mixed highs following the General Election in June.

Prepare for a very amusing take on the political situation.

**John O’Farrell** is a journalist, author and comedy scriptwriter for shows such as *Spitting Image*, *Have I Got News For You?* and *Room 101*. He has written five novels, and bestselling non-fiction *Utterly Exasperated* and *Utterly Impartial History of Britain*. His books have been translated into 25 languages, and some have been adapted for Radio and TV. He has 40,000 followers on Twitter.
Sunday, October 8th  
Crown and Mitre Ballroom | 7pm | £10

**Peter Snow and Ann MacMillan**

**War Stories**

Sponsored by  
Cumberland Building Society

Join Peter Snow and his wife Ann MacMillan as they tell us movingly about the lives of over thirty ordinary people swept up by the horror of war and caught up in most extreme ordeals. They will talk about some of those people including Edward Seager in the Charge of the Light Brigade, Madeleine de Lancey in the Battle of Waterloo and more recently, Ahmad Terkawi, a Syrian chemist. All have pushed the barriers of bravery, suffering and sheer terror.

**Peter Snow** is a journalist, author and broadcaster and was on Newsnight for almost twenty years. He has also covered military matters for forty years. He presented the BBC documentaries Battlefield Britain and The World’s Greatest Twentieth Century Battlefields with his son Dan. He is the author of several books including *To War with Wellington*.  

**Ann MacMillan** was born in Wales, the great granddaughter of David Lloyd George, and grew up in Canada where she worked for CHIN Radio, Global TV News in Toronto, CTV news in Montreal and London, and for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation – from 1981 until 2013. Ann has been married to Peter for over 40 years and they have three children.
WORKSHOPS

Saturday, September 30th
Cathedral, Prior’s Room | 11 – 1pm | £10
(preceded by walk around the cathedral with historian Canon Weston at 10am)

Vivien Jones
Cathedral Treasures 1: creative writing inspired by old or unusual objects
Sponsored by Architects Plus

This is the first of two linked sessions (part 2: Saturday, October 7th) in which participants will have an opportunity to examine some of the hidden treasures of the cathedral as a stimulus for writing. In this first session participants will be encouraged to choose one object each, examine it with all their senses, use common research tools to inform their study and start to produce a single piece of new writing.

Vivien Jones has two short story collections in print and writes spoken word and award-winning drama pieces for performance. She has also published two collections of poetry – About Time, Too (Indigo Dreams 2010) and Short of Breath (Cultured Llama 2014). She regularly leads writing workshops and projects.

Thursday, October 5th
Library Meeting Room | 10 – 12pm | £10

Brindley Hallam Dennis aka Mike Smith
Triangles

As readers we’re interested in characters, but as writers we have to construct the situations that they create, or are caught up in. This workshop will explore some examples of how that might be done, as a prompt to some writing!

Mike Smith is a prize-winning writer across several genres (poetry, essays, and as Brindley Hallam Dennis, short stories). His stories have been published, broadcast and performed, often by Liars League, in London, Hong Kong, and New York. He blogs at Bhdandme.wordpress.com

Thursday, October 5th
Library Meeting Room | 12.30 – 2.30pm | £10

Alizon Robertson
Writing Crime Fiction
Sponsored by Ashwood Design Associates

According to Stephen King, the situation comes first, followed by the characters, and then you ask the question ‘what if?’ In this crime writing workshop you will be introduced to a range of situations and characters to fire your imagination. Then you will ask ‘what if?’ and create a new idea for a crime story.

Alizon Robertson is a crime fiction writer and academic based in Lancaster and Andalucia, Spain where she runs a writing retreat and fiction workshops. She has taught Creative Writing and English Literature at universities in the North West for twenty-six years and has just finished her Cumbrian based novel The Lantern Man.
**Darren Harper**

**What is the value of Philosophy?**

Formerly Philosophy was the preserve of PhDs and the intellectually precocious, until now. Using inspiration from Bertrand Russell, one of Western Philosophy’s greatest proponents, this workshop will disinter philosophy’s hermetic meaning and aid us in answering the question: what is the value of Philosophy?

**Darren Harper** is a freelance philosopher and teaches evening classes, day courses and residential courses in Philosophy. His courses aim to apply the rich historical tradition of Western Philosophy to the ethical, political and societal problems of everyday life. In his ongoing quest for the meaning of life, he is currently undertaking an MA in Philosophy at Lampeter.

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**Jeff Cowton**

**Discover the birth and development of a poem from manuscript form**

‘Composing’, ‘writing’, ‘altering’, ‘copying’ – words used by Dorothy Wordsworth to describe how her brother William’s poems were created. We shall examine a manuscript in detail to discover the birth and development of a poem. No knowledge of Wordsworth or poetry is required – just an open mind and an eye for clues!

**Jeff Cowton** is Curator and Head of Learning at The Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere. The Trust cares for Dove Cottage, the Wordsworths’ home between 1799 and 1808, where most of William’s greatest poetry was composed, and where Dorothy wrote her now famous journal of their lives in Grasmere.

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**Peter Mortimer (Iron Press)**

**Writing modern ghost stories**

Are ghost stories stuck in the 19th and early 20th century? How does an author tackle the area in 2017? Peter Mortimer and Eileen Jones, editors of Cold IRON - the 21st Century Book of Ghost Stories (IRON Press), run a workshop designed to get those (modern) creative ghostly juices flowing.

**Peter Mortimer** is a poet, playwright, editor and traveller, based since 1970 on Tyneside. He is founder/ editor of IRON Press (1973) and founder/director of Cloud Nine Theatre (1997), both highly active on the North East culture scene. More than two dozen plays have been produced and 15 books of poetry, fiction and errant journeyings published, but he promises to get it right eventually.
In this writing workshop, Annie will take you through the writing exercise that led to her writing an 85,000-word psychological thriller. She will share her writing from that exercise as well as encouraging you to read and share what you write – it may even be a novel in the making!

Saturday, October 7th  
Cathedral, Prior’s Room | 1.30 - 3.30pm | £10

**Kim Moore**  
**Poetry as Autobiography**

Sponsored by University of Cumbria Institute of the Arts

During this workshop you will look at using autobiography as the starting point for your own poetry. You will look at examples of how the story of the self can be transformed through poetry and how our own lived experiences can be used to create a poem with a wider universal appeal. Come prepared to think about memory, risk, truth, lies, reality and perspective. This workshop is suitable for beginners and more experienced writers.

**Kim Moore**’s first full-length collection *The Art of Falling* was published in 2015 by Seren and was shortlisted for the Lakeland Book of the Year Award. She won a Northern Writers Award in 2014, an Eric Gregory Award in 2011 and the Poetry Society’s Geoffrey Dearmer Prize in 2010.

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**Kathleen Jones** was born and brought up in the Lake District and currently lives in Appleby. She has published 17 books – biography, fiction and poetry – and has won several awards including the Barclays Bank Prize for biography. Kathleen was appointed as a Royal Literary Fund Fellow in 2007 and is a regular poetry performer, workshop leader and enthusiastic online blogger on the subject of ‘A Writer’s Life’.

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**Annie Weir**

**From one writing exercise to 85000 words**

Annie Weir’s first novel, *Judith Wants to be Your Friend* came about after many years of writing in secret. She decided to give writing ‘a proper go’ and completed an MA in Creative Writing at the University of Cumbria. She continues to write, and to run her own training company.
help define your story, as well as gaining skills and insight from analysing the work of other participants.

_Zosia Wand_ is an author, playwright and creative writing tutor. She was born in London and lives in Cumbria with her family. She is passionate about good coffee, cake and her adopted landscape on the edge of the Lake District. For further information go to zosiawand.com.

Saturday, June 7th  
Cathedral, Prior’s Room | 3 – 5pm | £10

Vivien Jones  
_Cathedral Treasures 2: creative writing inspired by old or unusual objects_

_Sponsored by Architects Plus_

Find out everything you need to know to get started in self-publishing in this 3-hour, beginner-friendly session with self-published author, Paul Teague. Bypass the steep learning curve and discover exactly what you need to be doing, where to list your books and how to start making sales straight away.

Sunday, October 8th  
Tullie House Meeting Room | 1.30 - 3.30pm | £10

Jenn Ashworth  
_Landscape in writing_

_Jenn Ashworth_ has a fascination with the Morecambe Bay area and its landscapes have shaped her fourth novel, *Fell*. In this practical workshop for beginners, guided by Jenn, you will explore using landscape in your writing. There will be time to try out new ideas in a supportive atmosphere, picking up tips to take home with you.

One of The Culture Show’s top 12 best new novelists, Jenn was born in 1982 in Preston. She studied English at Cambridge and since then has gained an MA from Manchester University, trained as a librarian and run a prison library in Lancashire. She now lectures in Creative Writing at the University of Lancaster.
ABOUT BORDERLINES

Festival partners
Borderlines Book Festival has been developed through partnership working between public and private enterprise: Bookends Carlisle; Cumbria County Council’s Library Service; Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery Trust and Carlisle Cathedral.

The festival is in association with Cumbria Life, which is our media partner.

Borderlines is a not-for-profit organisation - every penny goes back into the festival – and has a fully constituted steering group.

The steering group members are:
Chair: Gwenda Matthews (Bookends Carlisle)
Vice Chair: Helen Towers (Cumbria Library Service) Secretary: Anna Smalley (Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery Trust) Treasurer: Carolyn White (Cumbria Library Service) Helen Weston (Carlisle Cathedral); Penelope Bradshaw (University of Cumbria); Serena Field; Barrie Day; Jenny Banks; Dolly Daniel; Darren Harper

Sponsors
Borderlines is indebted to the following sponsors, funders and supporters:
Architects Plus; Ashwood Design Associates; Carlisle City Council; Crown and Mitre Hotel; Cumberland Building Society; Cumbria County Council; Cumbria Life; Darren Harper Courses; Dodd Accountants; Dodd Murray Ltd; Keirweb; Unicorn Creative; University of Cumbria Institute of the Arts

Event information
Timings Talks usually last one hour (unless otherwise stated), with an additional 20 minutes when the author will sign books. Seating is unreserved and doors will open 20 minutes before an event.

Workshops are two hours unless otherwise stated.

Refunds In the event of a talk or workshop being cancelled, refunds will be offered, but no other exchanges or refunds are available.

The festival bookshops in the Crown and Mitre Hotel and at Tullie House are run by Bookends, Carlisle’s independent bookshop. They will stock books by those authors appearing at the festival.

After each talk, there will be the opportunity to meet the author and have books signed.

Borderlines online
Website www.borderlinescarlisle.co.uk
Email borderlinescarlisle@gmail.com
Twitter @borderlinesfest

Contact us
If you have any questions or would like to make any suggestions about the festival; if you want to join our email newsletter list or offer your help as a volunteer during the festival, please email us at borderlinescarlisle@gmail.com

How to book tickets
Online at www.borderlinescarlisle.co.uk
In person From Bookends, 19 Castle Street, Carlisle, CA3 8SY, 9.30am-5.00pm Monday-Saturday; 11.30am-4pm Sunday.

For any other enquiries, please email us at borderlinescarlisle@gmail.com or call 07412 366152

Please note that if tickets are posted out, there will be an administrative fee of £1
Venues

**The Crown & Mitre Hotel**
4 English Street, Carlisle, Cumbria
CA3 8HZ
01228 525491
www.peelhotels.co.uk

**Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery**
Castle Street, Carlisle, Cumbria
CA3 8TP
01228 618718
www.tulliehouse.co.uk

**Carlisle Library**
11 Globe Lane, Carlisle, Cumbria
CA3 8NX
01228 227312
www.cumbria.gov.uk/libraries

**Carlisle Cathedral**
7 Abbey Street, Carlisle, Cumbria
CA3 8TZ
01228 548151
www.carlislecathedral.org.uk

**Cakes & Ale**
19 Castle Street, Carlisle,
CA3 8SY
01228 529067
www.bookscumbria.com

Accessibility
Most of our venues are accessible to people with disabilities. Venues have different levels of facilities – please contact the individual venues for more information.

Getting around
Please visit www.discovercarlisle.co.uk for maps, transport and parking information or call the Carlisle Tourist Information Centre on 01228 598596.

Publishers
Thank you to the following publishers for their support of the Borderlines Carlisle Book Festival:

- Alan Cleaver & Lesley Park
- Aurum Press
- Biteback
- Black Swan
- Bookcase
- Chatto and Windus
- Faber
- Doubleday
- Head of Zeus
- Hodder & Stoughton
- Iron Press
- John Murray
- Liverpool University Press
- Orion
- Pan Macmillan
- Penguin
- Pluto Press
- Preface Publishing
- Simon and Schuster
- Vertebrate Publishing
- Vintage

Buy tickets online at www.borderlinescarlisle.co.uk or in person at Bookends Carlisle
A Midsummer Night’s Dream
open-air theatre
Thursday 10 August • Talkin Tarn

Carlisle Fringe
Friday 18 - 28 August
Carlisle city centre and other venues

Cumbria Pride
Saturday 16 September • Carlisle city centre

Borderlines Carlisle Book Festival
Saturday 7 - Monday 9 October
Various venues

Fireshow
Saturday 4 November • Bitts Park

Christmas Lights Switch-On
Sunday 19 November • Carlisle city centre

Carlisle Christmas Markets
Thursday 23 November - Sunday 3 December
Carlisle city centre

Winter Wonderland & Santa’s Grotto
Saturday 16 - Thursday 21 December
Carlisle city centre

www.discovercarlisle.co.uk
15% DISCOUNT off food in the Peace & Plenty Restaurant with this advert

Crown & Mitre Hotel
Carlisle

Places to eat at our Partner Venues

Cakes & Ale Cafe
A spacious and relaxing tea room and garden with a vintage style, sells a range of hot, cold and alcoholic drinks, homemade scones and cakes and light lunches, including vegan and gluten-free options.
Open daily 9.30-4.30, Sunday 11.30am - 4pm
17-19 Castle Street, Carlisle
01228 544560

Prior’s Kitchen
Join us for breakfast, with a selection of delicious home made scones and cakes, or at lunchtime for home made soup, sandwiches, quiche, salads, jacket potatoes, and daily specials.
Carlisle Cathedral, Carlisle
01228 543251

Tullie House Garden Restaurant
Serving local cooked to order Breakfast, Lite Bites, Lunch and Homemade Cakes in a relaxed environment.
Castle Street, Carlisle
01228 818117
Neil Adam & Judy Turner  Leila Al-Shami
Jenn Ashworth  Jo Baker
Steve Birkinshaw
Sir Chris Bonington  Marie-Elsa Bragg
Peter Brears  Alan Cleaver
Jeff Cowton  David Cross
Dance Ahead  Caitlin Davies
Hunter Davies  Neil Faulkner
Lucy Grace  Darren Harper
Andrew Michael Hurley  Vivien Jones
Kathleen Jones  Andrew Liddle
Ann MacMillan  Stephen Matthews
Sinclair McKay  Kim Moore
Peter Mortimer  Judith Notley
John O’Farrell  Amanda Owen
Jacob Polley  Alizon Robertson
Mike Smith  Peter Snow
Paul Teague  Claire Tomalin
Hugh Thomson  Jenny Uglow
Zosia Wand  Annie Weir
Brett Westwood  Robin Yassin-Kassab