



The Queens READING ROOM Festival



Sunday 11th June

In association with



HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES

THE QUEEN'S READING ROOM FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 11TH JUNE

The Queen's Reading Room charity is delighted to be staging its inaugural literary festival on the 11th June 2023 at Hampton Court Palace.

Set in the stunning surrounds of Hampton Court Palace, The Queen's Reading Room Festival will be a literary event like no other.

Visitors can explore the Palace on literary themed tours and tread the floors where Shakespeare once performed with his King's Men; wander the sumptuous gardens bursting with life in summer; listen to poetry read by some of our country's finest actors, and of course enjoy shows from our headliners, including Dame Judi Dench, Gyles Brandreth, David Olusoga, Ben Macintyre and many more...

Our festival runs in two key parts: daytime, from 10am-5pm and evening from 6pm to 9.30pm. The Palace will close at 5pm and reopen at 6pm, allowing staff to clean the site and prepare for our evening performance. Visitors with tickets to both daytime events and the evening session will be allowed to stay in the Gardens ahead of the Palace reopening at 6pm.



The Royal Society
of Literature



CORNEY &
BARROW
INDEPENDENT WINE MERCHANTS-1780



A WARM WELCOME TO THE QUEEN'S READING ROOM FESTIVAL

FROM THE QUEEN'S READING ROOM CEO, VICKI PERRIN

I am delighted to welcome you to The Queen's Reading Room Festival, our inaugural literary festival celebrating poetry, literature, humour, acting, Shakespeare and history.

Since The Queen's Reading Room launched on Instagram in January 2021, we have been committed to spreading the love for literature, helping people find and connect with books which enrich their lives. Now a charity, The Queen's Reading Room is working to provide opportunities for the appreciation of literature among adults and children in the UK and around the world, seeking to close the gap between writers and readers through accessible, educational and free literary content available year-round.

The Queen's Reading Room Festival will be an opportunity to celebrate this exciting journey with all our friends and supporters, and we look forward to an unforgettable day together.

MAIN STAGE

11:00 - 12:00

AUSTENTATIOUS

13:30 - 14:30

AN EYE FOR A SPY:

ESPIONAGE WRITING IN FICTION
AND NON-FICTION WITH BEN
MACINTYRE, KEN FOLLETT, ROBERT
HARRIS AND DAVID HAREWOOD

16:00 - 17:00

REMEMBERING DAME

HILARY MANTEL - WITH THE
ROYAL SOCIETY OF
LITERATURE

WITH DAVID OLUSOGA, KAMILA
SHAMSIE, PHILIPPA GREGORY, DAME
HARRIET WALTER AND BEN MILES

20:00 - 21:30

DAME JUDI DENCH IN
CONVERSATION:
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE AND
FRIENDS

GALLERY STAGE

12:30 - 1:15

KATE MOSSE:

WARRIOR QUEENS & QUIET
REVOLUTIONARIES: HOW WOMEN
(ALSO) BUILT THE WORLD

15:00 - 15:30

THE SINISTER EVERYDAY:

THE FACT AND FICTION OF CRIME
WRITING WITH PETER JAMES

BOOK SIGNINGS

11:15 - 11:45

KATE MOSSE

12:15 - 12:45

BEN MACINTYRE, ROBERT
HARRIS AND KEN FOLLETT

13:30 - 14:00

PETER JAMES

14:30 - 15:15

KAMILA SHAMSIE, PHILIPPA
GREGORY



AUSTENTATIOUS

The award-winning smash-hit comedy, as seen in the West End and heard on Radio 4. The all-star Austentatious cast will improvise a hilarious new Jane Austen novel, inspired entirely by a title dreamt up by HM The Queen... Performed in period costume with live musical accompaniment, it's a riotous, razor-sharp show where swooning is guaranteed.

This special, short edition of Austentatious is hosted by TV and Radio broadcaster, Professor John Mullan; with Director of Jane Austen House Lizzie Dunford and a collection of some very special Austen treasures...

LIZZIE DUNFORD

Lizzie Dunford is the Director of Jane Austen's House. Prior to joining Jane Austen's House, she was the operations manager at Chiltern Open Air Museum and previously served in various conservation and management positions for organisations including the National Trust.





KEN FOLLETT

Ken Follett is the international best-selling author of 'The Pillars of the Earth', 'The Evening and the Morning' and 'A Column of Fire'. His books have sold 188 million copies in 80 countries and in 40 different languages. His spy thriller 'Eye of The Needle' published in 1978 remains one of the most popular and critically acclaimed works of espionage fiction.

ROBERT HARRIS

Robert Harris is the author of fifteen bestselling novels: the Cicero Trilogy, 'Fatherland', 'Enigma', 'Archangel', 'Pompeii', 'The Ghost', 'The Fear Index', 'An Officer and a Spy' (which won four prizes including the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction), 'Conclave', 'Munich', 'The Second Sleep', 'V2' and 'Act of Oblivion'. His work has been translated into forty languages and he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.





BEN MACINTYRE

Ben Macintyre is Associate Editor on The Times and author of nine bestselling books, including 'The Spy and The Traitor', 'Agent Sonya' and 'Double Cross'. 2022 saw three film and TV adaptations of his works: Operation Mincemeat starring Colin Firth and Matthew Macfadyen; SAS: Rogue Heroes with Jack O'Connell; and A Spy Among Friends with Damian Lewis and Anna Maxwell-Martin. Ben's new book is 'Colditz: Prisoners of the Castle', and tells the astonishing true story of history's most infamous prison.

DAVID HAREWOOD MBE

David Harewood is an actor, director, writer and activist, with a career spanning almost 35 years. He is best known for his roles in 'Homeland', 'Blood Diamond', 'Supergirl', 'The Night Manager' and 'Free in Deed'. In 2021 he published his first book 'Maybe I Don't Belong Here: A Memoir of Race, Identity, Breakdown and Recovery'.





KAMILA SHAMSIE

Kamila Shamsie is a Pakistani and British writer and novelist who is best known for the novel 'Burnt Shadows' and her award-winning novel 'Home Fire'. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, Kamila also writes for several publications and broadcasts on radio.

PHILIPPA GREGORY CBE

Philippa Gregory is a bestselling British historical author, writer of the award-winning 'The Other Boleyn Girl' and 'The White Queen', basis for the BBC One drama. Her latest novel, 'Dawnlands', the third volume in The Fairmile Series, was published in 2022.





BEN MILES

Ben Miles is a British actor whose career spans from theatre to film to television and radio. He starred in and co-wrote the stage adaptation of the 'Wolf Hall' trilogy, and is the narrator of the audiobook series.

DAME HARRIET WALTER

Dame Harriet Walter is an award-winning British actor, known for her many memorable roles both on stage and on screen. Having started her career acting with the Royal Shakespeare Company, she is now Associate Director.





KATE MOSSE

Kate Mosse is the international bestselling author of ten novels and short story collections, including the No 1 bestselling *The Joubert Family Chronicles* as well as the multimillion selling *Languedoc Trilogy* and No 1 bestselling Gothic fiction including *'The Winter Ghosts'* and *'The Taxidermist's Daughter'*. Her books have been translated into 38 languages and published in more than 40 countries. She has also written four works of non-fiction, including *'Warrior Queens & Quiet Revolutionaries'*, four plays and numerous essays.

PETER JAMES

Peter James is a UK No. 1 bestselling author, best known for writing crime and thriller novels, and the creator of the much-loved *Detective Superintendent Roy Grace*. With a total of 19 *Sunday Times* No. 1s under his belt, he has achieved global book sales of over 21 million copies to date, and has been translated into 38 languages.





DAME JUDI DENCH

Dame Judi Dench made her first professional stage appearance in September 1957 with the Old Vic Company at the Royal Court Theatre in Liverpool, as Ophelia in 'Hamlet'. Since then, she has established a world renowned reputation for award-winning performances of Shakespeare over a career spanning six decades.

GYLES BRANDRETH

Gyles Brandreth is an author, broadcaster, entertainer, former MP and dear friend of Dame Judi Dench. His most recent book is an acclaimed biography of Queen Elizabeth II, 'Elizabeth: an intimate portrait'.





SIR DEREK JACOBI

Sir Derek Jacobi is an award-winning British actor, who has appeared in countless productions both on stage and on films and TV. He made his debut as Laertes in 'Hamlet' at the National Theatre under Laurence Olivier in 1963, and has since performed numerous other Shakespearian roles.

BEN ELTON

Ben Elton is an award-winning British performer and writer, best known for his work as a stand-up comic as well as for TV hits such as 'Blackadder' and 'Upstart Crow'. He has written multiple bestsellers, plays, musicals and films.





VICKI PERRIN

Vicki Perrin, CEO of The Queen's Reading Room, is a content producer, festival programmer and all-round bookworm. With a background in literary festivals, TV and Radio, including directing the BBC's 500 Words competition, she's passionate about making great stories accessible to everyone.

PROFESSOR JOHN MULLAN

Professor John Mullan is Lord Northcliffe Chair of Modern English Literature at UCL as well as a TV and radio broadcaster. He is a specialist in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century literature, and in 2012 published the book 'What Matters in Jane Austen?'.







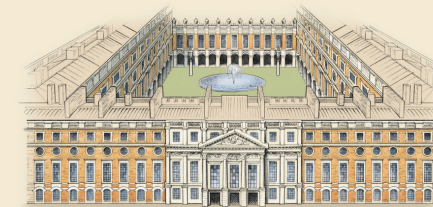
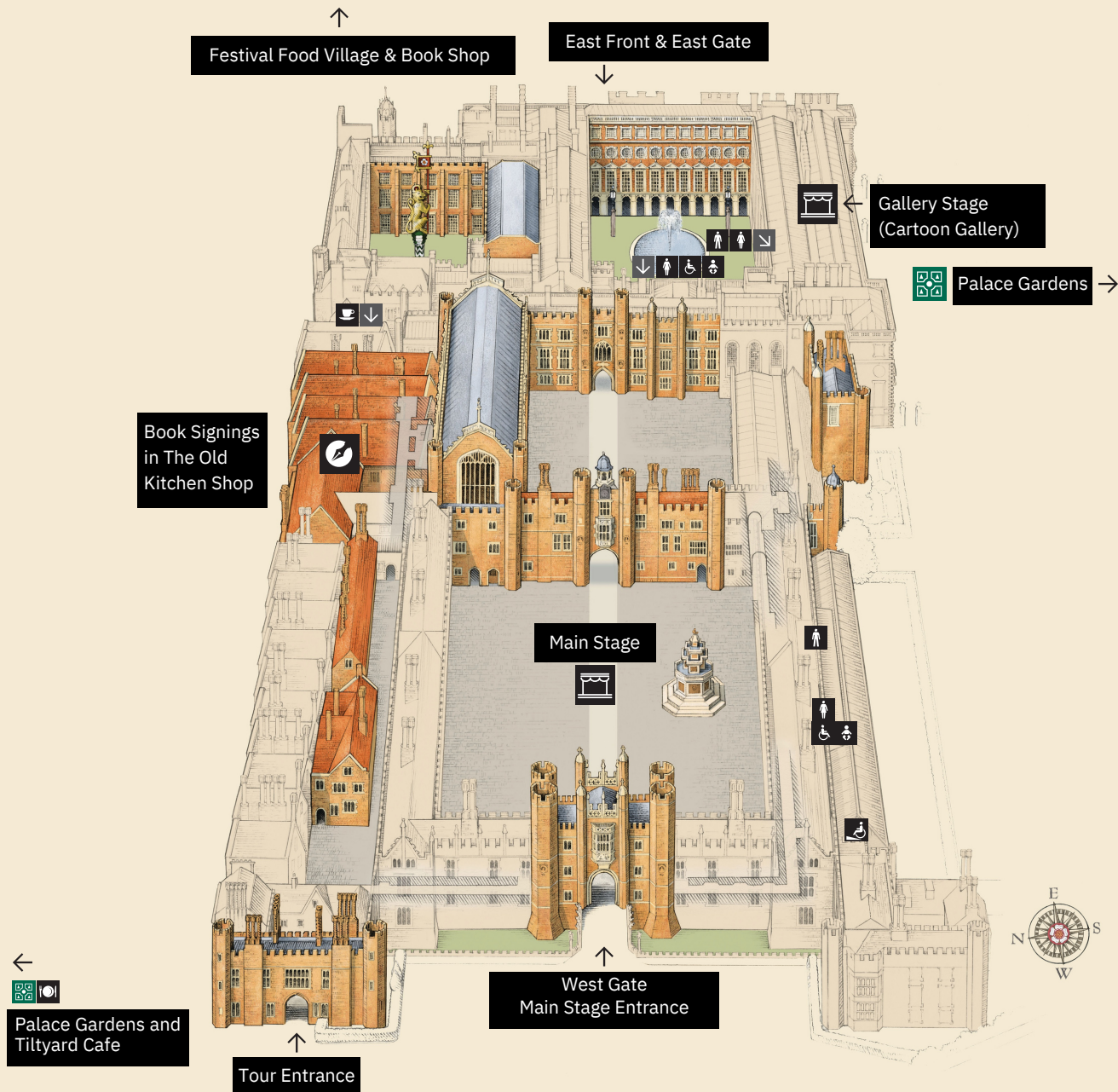
DAVID OLUSOGA OBE

David Olusoga is a British historian, writer, broadcaster, presenter and BAFTA winning film-maker. A Fellow of The Royal Society of Literature, David is the author of several books, including the award-winning 'Black and British', a children's edition of which was published in 2020.

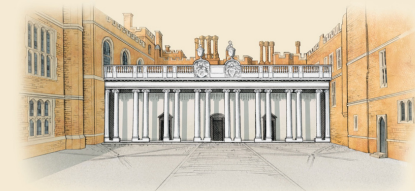
PALACE MAP

MAP KEY

-  Book Signings
-  Stage
-  Tiltyard Café
-  Accessible toilet
-  Baby Change
-  Female Toilet
-  Male Toilet
-  Level access route
-  Stairs



The East Front



The Colonnade, Clock Court

Got a ticket to an event on the Main Stage starting in the next 30 minutes? Head to the West Gate.



Got a ticket to an event on the Gallery Stage (Cartoon Gallery)? Head to the East Gate.

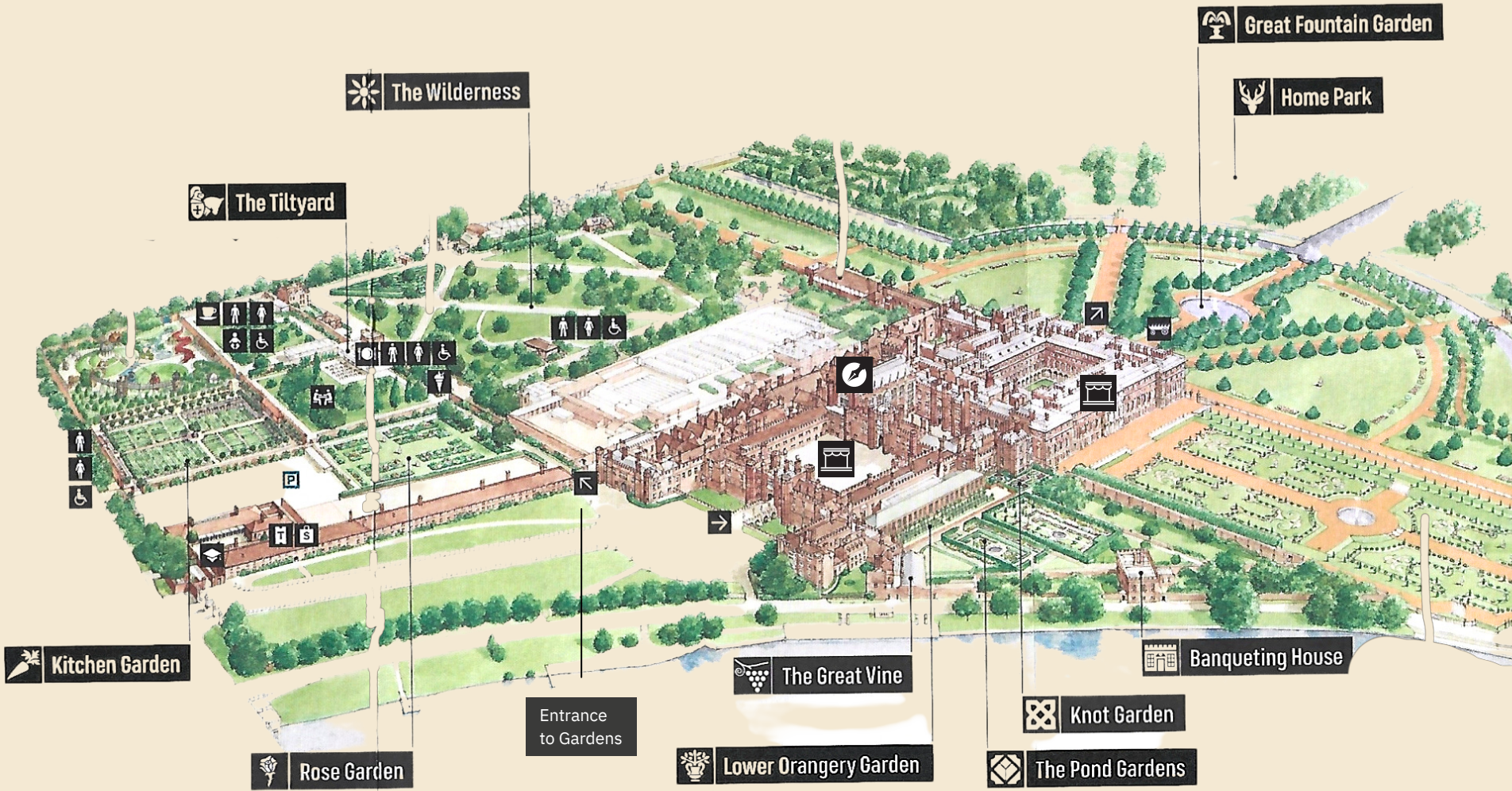
All other ticket holders will be directed to the East Front where they can enjoy the Palace & Gardens before their session starts.

Please note there are uneven surfaces around the palace. For all access needs including lifts please speak to one of our Palace Hosts.

GARDENS MAP

MAP KEY

-  Book Signings
-  Stage
-  Tiltyard Café
-  Accessible toilet
-  Baby Change
-  Female Toilet
-  Male Toilet
-  Level access route
-  Stairs





CORNEY & BARROW
INDEPENDENT WINE MERCHANTS-1780

Corney & Barrow
is proud to support the inaugural
Queen's Reading Room Festival.
Celebrating words & wine.

Old company, young team. Since 1780
www.corneyandbarrow.com
London - Edinburgh - Singapore - Hong Kong - China

@corneyandbarrow

@corneyandbarrow

@corneyandbarrow



HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES



**The Royal Society
of Literature**

