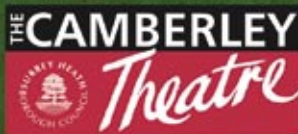




*Monday 16th, Wednesday 18th,
Friday 20th and Saturday 21st May 2011
at the Camberley Theatre and Camberley Library*

- Best local and national writers
- Subjects to suit all tastes
- Events for children
- Children's short story competition
- BIG READ debate
- Writer's workshop
- Bookmark workshop



In The Foyer

To accompany the festival, a small collection of images on the Home Front from the collection at Surrey Heath Museum will be displayed in the Theatre Foyer.

JOIN the Big Read Debate

We are encouraging residents to take part in a Big Read. If you've ever wanted to share your opinion on a book with others, and understand how other readers interpret a story, then now is your chance.



Our chosen book is *The Blasphemer* by Nigel Farndale.

Nigel Farndale is keen to know what we in Surrey Heath think about his book, saying,

"I'm delighted that The Blasphemer has been selected for The Big Read — and can't wait to find out what the readers of Surrey Heath make of it. I'm pretty sure I know what it means, but, as I'm discovering from the letters and emails people have been sending me, it is open to interpretation. According to the blurb on the back, it's a novel



that 'speaks to the heart as well as the head'. I hope, if you read it, you agree."

Come along to the **Big Read Debate at 5.30pm on Saturday 21st May at the Camberley Theatre**, and join in a debate about the book with a panel of experts – but then you're an expert too.

Sponsored by: **CAMBERLEY NEWS AND MAIL**

Welcome to the Festival

We hope this new Literary Festival enriches the cultural scene of Surrey Heath, stimulates discussion about stories and books, excites everyone in the joy of reading, and not least, entertains.

How did this come about? Well, I suggested the idea to a few people as a potential event to support the Surrey Heath Mayor's charity, and rather wonderfully they agreed to help.

So here we are, with our inaugural Festival, over two days and a couple of special events preceding the Festival days. Our hope is that it becomes a regular feature in the Borough's activities and that it gets bigger, as there are many talented locally-based authors whom we weren't able to accommodate in our schedule. We've included a number of events for children to show them that books and reading is fun.

Do join in our Festival events, and let your mind be transported.

Tim Dodds

Acknowledgements

Without the inspirational support of Trish, Steph, Lesley, Juliette, and Kay this event just would never have happened.

Festival Supporters



The festival is in aid of the Mayor's Charities including Christopher's Smile



Surrey Heath Literary Festival Box Office: 01276 707600
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Monday 16th May – Special Launch Event

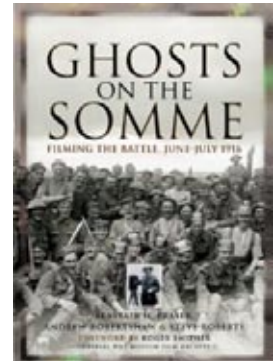
Andy Robertshaw – *Ghosts on the Somme: Filming the Battle, June – July 1916.*

Camberley Theatre: 7.30pm – 8.15pm

Adult

For many people the experience of the Great War on the Western Front is encapsulated in the grainy sepia film that accompanies a multitude of television documentaries.

What Andy Robertshaw and his team of ‘battlefield detectives’ set out to discover was where was the original material filmed, when, who were the men it shows and what was their fate? Critically how much was real and how much faked? They used techniques as varied as scientific facial recognition and lip reading hours of archives, or walking the battlefields to answer these questions and more.



Andrew Robertshaw is Curator/Manager of The Royal Logistic Corps Museum in Deepcut, being previously the Head of Education at The National Army Museum. He has regularly featured on TV and Radio and in such programmes as *Two Men in a Trench* for the BBC; Channel 4's *Time Team*.

He is currently lead historian for the series *The Trench Detectives: Finding The Fallen* series, for the Discovery Channel.

Friday 20th May

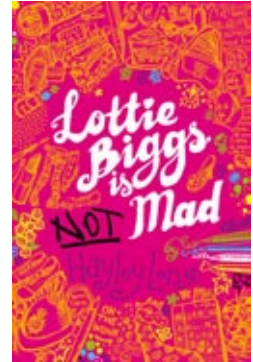
Hayley Long - *Lottie Biggs and me*

Camberley Theatre: 11am -12 noon

Children



With visual prompts and a splash of humour, Hayley Long explains how it is that she came to be a writer, who inspired her, and how she first set about creating the character of Lottie Biggs. Hayley will also read from her books and answer any questions that you have for her. Hayley warns! Her talk may contain a mention of a pair of Britney Spears' Boxer Shorts!



Louise Ellis-Barrett says about the Lottie Biggs stories, '*An unusual, touching and sensitive book. It is a brilliant read for teenage girls who may be experiencing some of Lottie's confusions as they too grow up*'. The third Lottie Biggs novel - *Lottie Biggs is NOT Tragic* is due out in August 2011.

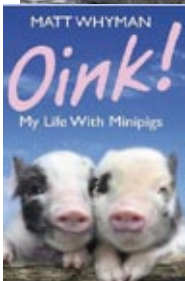


Matt Whyman - *My Life with Minipigs*

Camberley Theatre: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Adult

Matt Whyman is a bestselling novelist, also known for his work as an advice columnist for teenage magazines, but *Oink! My Life with Minipigs* is his first foray into adult non-fiction. Matt relates his hilarious experience as a house husband who enjoys the quiet life but is surrounded by the chaos that kids, pets and livestock bring. When Emma, Matt's high-flying, business-savvy wife adds minipigs, Butch and Roxi, to a household already full of bursting with children, dogs and chickens, the scene is set for domestic drama. *Oink!* tells the story of one man and his menagerie and is a cautionary tale for anyone who thinks living with pigs is the way to a simple life.



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Friday 20th May

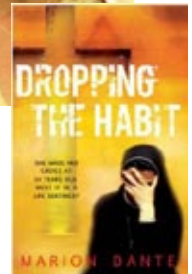
Marion Dante - *Discusses 'Dropping the Habit'*

Camberley Theatre: 2pm – 3pm

Adult

Marion Dante always knew she would be a nun. She was born in answer to prayer and she was her mother's "sin offering". From the age of 14, enclosed and indoctrinated, she started her training to become a nun. Thirty years later, Marion asks herself the question: if she drops the habit, who then will she be? Who is Marion Dante without the convent walls?

In her gripping, honest book, Marion bares her soul. She also opens the door to the convent and invites us in. In the stressful hustle and bustle of modern life, have you ever envied the ease, security and peace of a nun's life?



Sharon Cross - *Our Home Front*

Camberley Theatre: 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Children and Adult

Sharon's **illustrated talk** is a look at life in our Borough during the Second World War. Sharon begins with a review of the impact of new regulations, continuing by touching on concerns at the time on; civil defence, war work, family life, rationing, social life, salvage, sponsorship, and overseas troops, before concluding with a description of the VE Day celebrations.

Including many local anecdotes, Sharon draws on the extensive collection of images from the Museum's photographic holdings. A small selection of war-time items from the Museum collection will also be on show before and after the talk.

Sharon Cross is the Curator of Surrey Heath Museum and a popular and engaging speaker on the history, life and work of people in our borough.

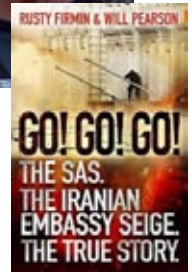
Friday 20th May

Rusty Firmin - *Discusses 'Go! Go! Go!'*

Camberley Theatre: 5pm – 6pm

Adult

Hear from someone who was in Special Air Service team of heroes that stormed the Iranian embassy in 1980. Rusty was third in command of the team of 60 crack troops, and recalls the heart-stopping moments of their most daring mission. The unforgettable drama of the six-day siege all those years ago gripped the nation and the wider world, forever defining the respect in which the SAS is held.



This is the perfect opportunity to ask Rusty, an ex-SAS officer, questions about the storming of the Embassy and about his experiences in the SAS. When are you next going to get a chance like this?

The paperback version of Rusty's book, *GO! GO! GO!* is due for release in June 2011.



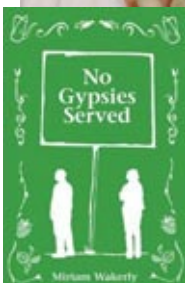
Miriam Wakerly - *Discusses 'No Gypsies Served'*

Camberley Theatre: 7pm – 8pm

Adult

Miriam's novels on the life and human relationships between Travellers and the English country people have received wide acclaim for their vivid and sensitive understanding of the world of Gypsies.

Miriam discusses her sequel to *Gypsies Stop Here*, in which the story continues, "Two years have passed since Kay successfully campaigned for the Appley Green Gypsy Site, and four years since her husband was murdered. Life in the village was going so well until the phone call and letter. Then comes the disastrous site opening."



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Friday 20th May

Simon Clark - *Monsters & Mysteries -- Welcome to the Darkside*

Camberley Theatre: 8.30pm – 9.30pm

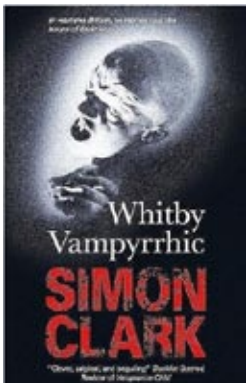
Adult

BBC TV News presenter Juliette Foster introduces Simon, inviting you to an after dusk conversation of chilling anecdotes, followed by an opportunity to ask questions.... if you dare.

Simon has been writing spine-tingling tales since he was a child. He's the author of over twenty-five books, including *Darkness Demands*, *Whitby Vampyrhic* and the award-winning *The Night of the Triffids*, which continues John Wyndham's classic novel about those man-eating, ambulatory plants. Simon is a great believer in front-line research for his spell-binding fiction. His adventures on the dark-side have been scary, exciting, occasionally hilarious, but never dull.



Simon latest novel is *Whitby Vampyrhic*, a fascinating and decidedly mature take on the vampire story. It is set in the hauntingly beautiful seaport of Whitby during World War 2, and features Beth Layne, an ambitious young actress who once appeared in a film with Cary Grant.



She's no shallow starlet, however. Beth is hired to star in a film that will champion Britain's role in the fight against Hitler. She arrives in Whitby to discover that she has been booked into an eerie old hotel down by the harbour.

Whitby Vampyrhic is rich in historical detail, and draws on Viking mythology to tell a gripping story that will linger long after the final page.

Saturday 21st May

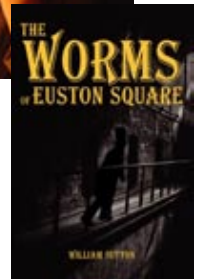
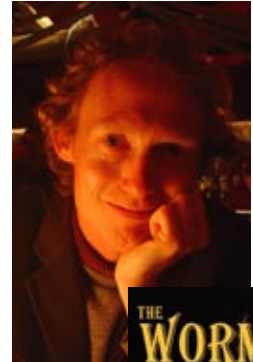
Workshop: William Sutton - *Be a Worm for the Day*

Camberley Library: 10.30am – 12 noon

Children

Have you got what it takes to survive in the Victorian Underworld? Join your very own gang of street urchins. Get to grips with disease, death and dastardly deeds (and sides of Victorian life that don't make it into the National Curriculum). You'll learn about gangs with colourful names, rhyming slang and backslang, how to avoid the poorhouse, sewers and terrible traffic, and learn how to make money without the coppers noticing. Working in groups you'll help solve the gang's problems, and finish with a Victorian singsong.

William Sutton is the author of *The Worms of Euston Square*, a mystery set in the fog of Victorian London. Besides writing plays and books, William has played cricket for Brazil, acted in the world's longest play and teaches Latin at Hall Grove School in Bagshot.



Vince Cross - *Making History*

Camberley Theatre: 11am – 12noon

Older children and Adult

Vince Cross reads from his exciting books set in the Second World War, and talks about why and how everyone should learn history. Vince has contributed to the popular *My Story* series, with subjects that range from ancient Egypt to the Second World War via seventeenth century England and nineteenth century South Africa. His treatment of the subject matter is designed to draw in children and teenagers, but over the years he's found grown-ups to be secret and enthusiastic consumers too!

Vince Cross has a long and distinguished career as a writer and producer of children's music - his extensive recording catalogue has entertained and educated countless young people around the globe. Vince is also hosting a workshop for children of stories and music in the Theatre Studio from 12.30pm after this presentation.



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Saturday 21st May

Mridula Baljekar - 'Food Writing - from Pitch to Publication'

Camberley Theatre: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Adult

The path to see your name in print on the cover of your own book is dotted with anticipation, hope and excitement as well as disappointment, heartache and an acute feeling of possible failure. However, the key to success is perseverance. Faith in yourself and your work should be motivation enough for you to go forward on the rough ride until you reach your goal. This principle paid off for me and there is no reason why this should not work for any aspiring writer, whether in the field of fiction or non-fiction.

Mridula Baljekar is, quite simply, the queen of Indian cooking; she is a best-selling author of twenty Indian cookery books, including *Regional Cooking of India*, and her latest book *Vegetarian Cooking of India*. Her book, *Great Indian Feasts*, won both The Best Asian Cookbook in the World, and Cookery Book of the Year awards. Mridula has presented her own television series for Carlton Food Network and appeared as a guest chef on Channel 4, BBC2, UKTV Food and Sky One.



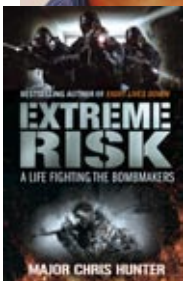
Chris Hunter - *Defeating the bomb makers*

Camberley Library: 2pm – 3pm

Adult

In the sequel to *Eight Lives Down*, Chris' latest book, *Extreme Risk*, takes a broader look at the techniques to defeat the bomb-maker; the intelligence gathering, the secretive games of verbal chess to exchange information, and the need to monitor the global network as well as the home-grown threat.

Chris was a troop commander in the Balkans and Northern Ireland before becoming a bomb disposal officer. Recipient of the Queen's Gallantry Medal, Chris endured many adrenaline-fuelled experiences pitting his wits against the world's most sophisticated bomb makers. In recent years he has worked in military intelligence.



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Saturday 21st May

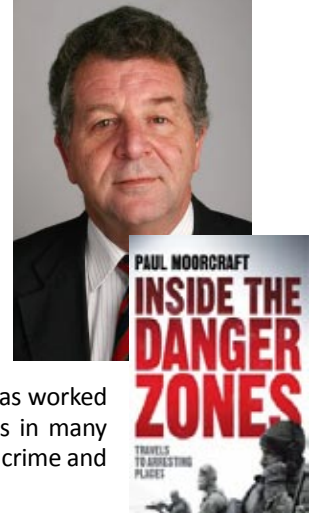
Paul Moorcraft – *So you want to be a war correspondent?*

Camberley Theatre: 2pm – 3pm

Adult

Paul offers his musings on the nature, impact and role of the war correspondent. He says the real role of a war correspondent is to act as an eyewitness; war reporters make huge personal sacrifices for their jobs, and a healthy sense of humour can be a crucial tool in diffusing potentially dangerous situations. Now that Paul is more likely to be found in an idyllic Surrey village than dodging bullets in a war-torn hell-hole in the Sudan, he's got the time and perspective to reflect on the perils of his profession.

Paul was a freelance war correspondent for *Time* magazine, the BBC and all major television channels, and in over twenty years has worked in over thirty war zones. Paul has taught journalism and politics in many universities and has authored numerous books of military history, crime and politics.



John Lenahan – *Fantasy, Magic and Shadowmagic*

Camberley Theatre: 3.30pm – 4.30pm

All ages

Shadowmagic is a fantasy adventure for young adults (although grown ups will like it too). Written by one of the most popular magicians in the country it brings a fresh approach to the genre and will have a broad appeal beyond the fantasy sections.

John Lenahan is an author, magician, and comedian. He is a popular TV magician, with a prime time BBC1 TV show called *Secrets of Magic* and also a BBC2 series *Stuff the White Rabbit*. He was the voice of the toaster in *Red Dwarf* and has made guest appearances on numerous variety shows. He has toured with Jack Dee, Lenny Henry and Victoria Wood. John became the first person in 85 years to be expelled from the Magic Circle.



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Saturday 21st May

Short Story Competition Award presentation

Camberley Theatre: 5pm – 5.30pm

Children and Adult

Children across Surrey Heath either living in, or attending school in the Borough have been invited to write a short story on any subject of their choice in less than 750 words. **There were two age categories; 10 years and under (years 1 to 6) and 11-14years (years 7 to 9).**

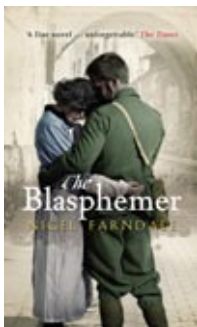
A list of finalists in each age group is agreed before the judges decide on the overall winner and the runners up. Every short story is read by the panel of judges, consisting of the Mayor of Surrey Heath, the Manager of Waterstones bookshop in Camberley, the editor of the Camberley News, an author's agent, the Marketing Manager from the Camberley Theatre, and a former Head Teacher. The awards are:

- 1st prize: an eReader for the overall competition winner
- 2nd prize: a family ticket to Cinderella for six for the runner up in each group
- 3rd prize: Waterstones goodie bag
- Winners of each group will be invited to the presentation on Saturday 21st May
- Winning story will be published in the Camberley News

JOIN the BIG READ Debate

Camberley Theatre: 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Adult



You don't have to have read our BIG READ book, Nigel Farndale's *The Blaphemer*, to be part of the discussion and debate about the book, but it will help.

Nigel Farndale says "I'm pretty sure I know what it means, but, as I'm discovering from the letters and emails people have been sending me, it is open to interpretation."

Listen to our panel of experts discuss and debate their interpretation of the book. But then, of course, you're an expert too, so here's your chance to say what it means to you.

Our panel includes *BBC TV News* presenter Juliette Foster, our MP the Rt Hon Michael Gove, Jo Lyddiatt, the reading group leader of Camberley Library, and Nick Mowat, head of Cultural and Commercial Services at Surrey Heath Borough Council.

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Saturday 21st May

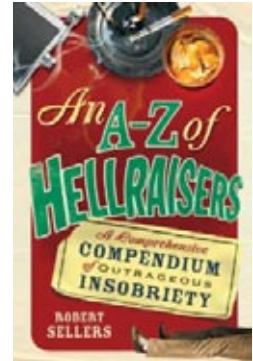
Robert Sellers – *An A-Z of Hellraisers*

Camberley Theatre: 7pm – 8pm

Adult

Listen to Robert relate the stories of some of the most outrageous, depraved, tortured and eccentric hellraisers the world has ever seen, from his compendium *An A-Z of Hellraisers*.

Robert's book is the last word on inebriated misbehaviour, and the miscreant mob in this whopper of a book, from Alexander the Great, whose drunken revelries once ended with the destruction of an entire city, to W. C. Fields, who passed critical judgement on a brass band by urinating over them from a hotel balcony.



Jeremy Poolman – *The Road of Bones*

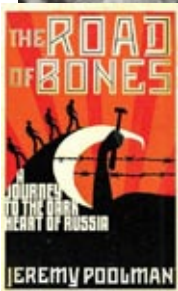
Camberley Theatre: 8.30pm – 9.30pm

Adult

BBC TV News presenter Juliette Foster introduces Jeremy, inviting you to listen to the anecdotes he collected on epic journey along one of Russia's greatest road.

Jeremy's latest book *The Road of Bones – A Journey to the Dark Heart of Russia* is a travelogue of his journey along the Vladimírka Road which starts in Moscow's Red Square and ends in Siberia. Jeremy was inspired to find out more about the road because his friend's great grand-parents were sent to a Russian Gulag. He also saw a painting entitled *Vladimírka Road* by Isaak Levitan at the National Gallery in London and determined to travel along the road himself.

For over 200 years, the route of the Vladimírka Road has been at the centre of Russia's history, having witnessed everything from the first human footsteps to the rise of Putin and his oil-rich oligarchy. Tsars, wars, famine and wealth: all have crossed and travelled this road, but no-one has ever told its story.



WORKSHOPS – Wednesday 18th May

Mary B Lyons' Writer's Workshop - *Writing with confidence*

Ian Goodchild Centre: 7pm – 9pm

Adult - [Mid-session refreshments included]

If you're new to writing, or need a refresher, Mary's workshop will give you the confidence to write. Her writer's workshop describes how to get started writing short stories and plays, novels, poems, and song lyrics. She also talks and demonstrates the writing of song lyrics on an acoustic guitar.

Is there a market for new writer's work? Mary describes the huge market for articles in journals, especially if accompanied by high quality photographs. Mary also talks about the process of getting her first thriller novel, *Airshow Ilex*, published in 2010. Mary is an accomplished presenter and teacher.



Saturday 21st May

Children's Workshop - *Vince Cross entertains*

Camberley Theatre Studio: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Children

Vince hosts a workshop of fun to entertain children of all ages, with stories, music and more.

Bookmark Workshop - *Fun with Bookmarks*

Ian Goodchild Center: 2pm – 3pm

Children



This session is especially designed for children to have fun making bookmarks. Whatever they make, they get to keep. David and Janet Allen of *Essential Address* in Frimley are experts in labelling, and all things to do with parcel packaging. All materials are provided.

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE FOR CAMBERLEY THEATRE & CAMBERLEY LIBRARY

Telephone booking: **01276 707600**

Online booking: **www.camberleytheatre.biz**

Ticket prices:

Adults:	£5.00
Seniors:	£4.00
Under 16s:	£3.50
Family (min of 1 child):	£12.00
Writer's workshop:	£10.00
Children's workshop:	£3.50
Bookmark workshop:	£1.00

How to find us:



Surrey Heath Literary Festival Box Office: 01276 707600
www.camberleytheatre.biz

Festival Timetable

Monday 16th May - Official Launch

Camberley Theatre

-  **7.30pm - Andrew Robertshaw** - Curator of the Royal Logistic Corps Museum, discussing *Ghosts on the Somme: Filming the Battle, June- July 1916*



Wednesday 18th May

Camberley Theatre

- 7pm - 9pm - Mary B Lyons - Writer's Workshop:** *Writing with confidence*

Friday 20th May

Camberley Theatre

- 11am - Hayley Long** - Author of the children's book character, *Lottie Biggs*
-  **12.30pm - Matt Whyman** - Discussing *Oink! My Life with Minipigs*
- 2pm - Marion Dante** - author of *Dropping The Habit*
-  **3.30pm - Sharon Cross** - Surrey Heath Museum's Curator discussing *Our Home Front* – Memories of Local Life in World War II
- 5pm - Rusty Firmin** - Discussing *Go! Go! Go!* The Iranian embassy siege told in heart-stopping detail
- 7pm - Miriam Wakerly** - Local author discussing *No Gypsies Served*
- 8.30pm - Simon Clark** - Author of many horror novels including *Whitby Vampyrrihc*

There will be a Q & A session towards the end of this feature chaired by Juliette Foster

Saturday 21st May


Library

- 10:30am - William Sutton** - Author of *The Worms of Euston Square*. Learn about being a Victorian urchin. Limited availability, For children aged 8-12.
- 2pm - Chris Hunter** - Explains life as a bomb disposal expert in *Extreme Risk*

Camberley Theatre

- 11am - Vince Cross** - Discussing *Living in the Past* - this best-selling children's author will also be running a workshop in the theatre studio at 12.30pm
- 12.30pm - Mridula Baljekar** - Local Award-winning writer of books on Indian Cookery
- 2pm - Paul Moorcraft** - So you want to be a war correspondent?
- 3.30pm - John Lenahan** - author of the *Shadowmagic* series
- 5pm - Short Story presentation**
- 5.30pm - Big Read Debate**
- 7pm - Robert Sellers** - Author of show-business biographies and *An A-Z of Hellraisers*
- 8.30pm - Jeremy Poolman** - A travelogue of an epic journey

There will be a Q & A session towards the end of this feature chaired by Juliette Foster

 For the events with this symbol, there will be audio visuals or illustrations