



FESTIVAL OF
**Faith &
Literature**

A literary festival with a theological slant

WELCOME - A very warm welcome to the Festival of Faith and Literature 2025. This programme contains all the essential information you need to navigate the festival and make the most of your time here. If you have any questions, please contact us at reception on site at the Cathedral west door adjacent to the main desk.

FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

- 13:30 Jane Austen Tour**
Winchester Cathedral
- 14:30 A Witness for the One Truth — Gladstone**
Michael Wheeler
Venue: Wessex
- 14:30 Fully Alive**
Elizabeth Oldfield in conversation with Cathy Rentzenbrink
Venue: Garden Marquee
- 16:00 The Eclipse of Christianity and Why it Matters**
Rupert Shortt in conversation with Nick Spencer
Venue: Garden Marquee
- 16:00 The Spirituality of Jane Austen**
Rachel Mann and Paula Hollingsworth with Michael Wheeler
Venue: Paul Woodhouse
- 17:30 Festival Evensong**
Winchester Cathedral
- 19:00 Can Truth Survive in a Digital Age?**
Sir Tony Baldry Lecture
Edward Stourton
Venue: Cathedral Quire

SATURDAY 1ST MARCH

- 10:00 Blythe Spirit: The remarkable life of Ronald Blythe**
Ian Collins with Paul Handley
Venue: Paul Woodhouse
- 10:00 Poet, Mystic Widow Wife: The extraordinary lives of medieval woman**
Claire Gilbert and Hetta Howes with Rachel Mann
Venue: Garden Marquee
- 10:00 Clear**
Carys Davies
Venue: Wessex
- 11:30 “Winter thunder and polar bears”: WH Auden, poetry and God**
Mark Oakley
Venue: Garden Marquee

11:30 Ordinary Time
Cathy Rentzenbrink with Francis Spufford
Venue: Paul Woodhouse

11:30 The Truths of the Body: Women’s history, women’s lives, women’s faith
Helen King and Jayne Manfredi with Claire Gilbert
Venue: Wessex

11:30 Literary Tour
Winchester Cathedral

13:00 Walk from Winchester Cathedral to the Hospital of St Cross
Sally Welch

13:30 Take Up The Tale: Winchester, the Round Table, and a new telling of the Arthur Story
Malcolm Guite
Venue: Garden Marquee

13:30 Memento Mori: Life, death and faith at the edges of motherhood
Chine McDonald
Venue: Wessex

13:30 Whose Truth, Universally Acknowledged?
Natalie Collins, Mark Pryce, Eddy Aigbe with Alison Webster
Event sponsored by Modern Church
Venue: Paul Woodhouse

14:30 Jane Austen Tour
Winchester Cathedral

15:00 The Truth About AI (and other tech that will change your life)
Eve Poole and Nick Spencer with Chine McDonald
Venue: Wessex

15:00 Cahokia Jazz
Francis Spufford in conversation with Mark Oakley
Venue: Paul Woodhouse

15:00 Paths in the Snow: A Literary Journey through The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
Jem Bloomfield with Malcolm Guite
Venue: Garden Marquee

16:30 Look Back, Be Still, Look Forward
Sally Welch
Venue: Garden Marquee

16:30 The Book of Days
Francesca Kay with Claire Gilbert
Venue: Wessex

16:30 Cloistered
Catherine Coldstream
Venue: Paul Woodhouse

17:30 Evensong
Winchester Cathedral

19:30 Lower than the Angels: A history of sex and Christianity
Diarmaid MacCulloch in conversation with Nick Spencer
Venue: Cathedral Quire

SUNDAY 2ND MARCH

11:00 Eucharist
Winchester Cathedral
Preacher Chine McDonald

14:00 Praying by Heart
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell
Venue: Garden Marquee

14:00 Church Going: The Curious Story of Britain’s Churches
Andrew Ziminski with Catherine Ogle
Venue: Wessex

15:30 Evensong
Winchester Cathedral

18:00 Concert by Papagena
Cathedral Quire
Venue: Cathedral Quire

Want to buy extra tickets? Most talks still have some availability – see the reception desk or visit faithandliterature.hymnsam.co.uk



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GENERAL INFORMATION

WORSHIP

At Winchester Cathedral

Friday 28th 2025 17.30 Festival **Evensong**

Saturday 1st March 2025 17.30 **Evensong**

Sunday 2nd March 2025 11.00 **Eucharist**

Preacher Chine McDonald

For a full listing of services, visit winchestercathedral.org.uk/worship

Many services are live-streamed.

CATERING

At Winchester Cathedral

The Cathedral Café serves coffee, lunch and afternoon tea. Café opening hours as follows:

Friday 28th February 2025: 09:30 to 16:30

Saturday 1st March 2025: 09:30 to 16:30

Sunday 2nd March 2025: 09:30 to 16:00

We have a voucher for a free hot drink for early arrivals to the Friday and Saturday talks – please collect these from our festival reception desk (and are whilst stocks last).

Find out more about city centre cafés and restaurants at visitwinchester.co.uk

TOILETS

There are toilets in the Wessex building. For the Paul Woodhouse and Pavilion, the nearest toilets are in the café (marked as refectory). And in the cathedral, they're in the Fleury near the crypt (shown on the second map).

IF ATTENDING

Please note if attending one of the following, the meeting place is just inside the Cathedral main (west) door.

Friday 28th February: 13:30 Jane Austen Tour – *Winchester Cathedral*

Sat 1st March: 11:30 Literary Tour – *Winchester Cathedral*

Sat 1st March: 13:00 Walk from Winchester Cathedral to the Hospital of St Cross – *Walk with Sally Welch*

Sat 1st March: 14:30 Jane Austen Tour – *Winchester Cathedral*

FILM AND AUDIO

All talks will be filmed and audio recorded; some talks will be live-streamed.

BOOKSHOP

Church House Bookshop will be at the Festival for the duration and will be alongside our Reception desk. We will stock speaker books, Lent and Easter resources and much more author signing sessions will be confirmed at the end of individual talks. Collect your £5 off voucher at our Reception desk.



CHURCH TIMES

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CHURCH TIMES EVENTS

We run a range of festivals, webinars, day events and more – see our events section at churchtimes.co.uk/events

SOCIAL MEDIA

We will post to our accounts on X, Facebook and Instagram throughout the Festival.

Feel free to follow and tag us.

X @faithlitfest

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ig @thechurchtimes

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OTHER FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

CATHEDRAL ENTRANCE

Half price entrance to *Winchester Cathedral* is offered to all festival ticket holders. Show any Festival ticket at the entrance for the discount.

BE A GIRL CHORISTER

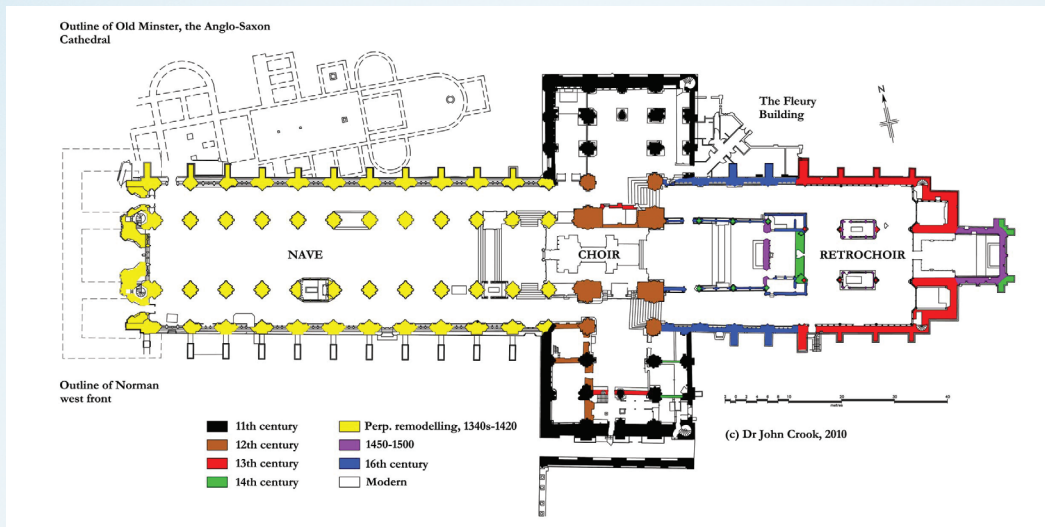
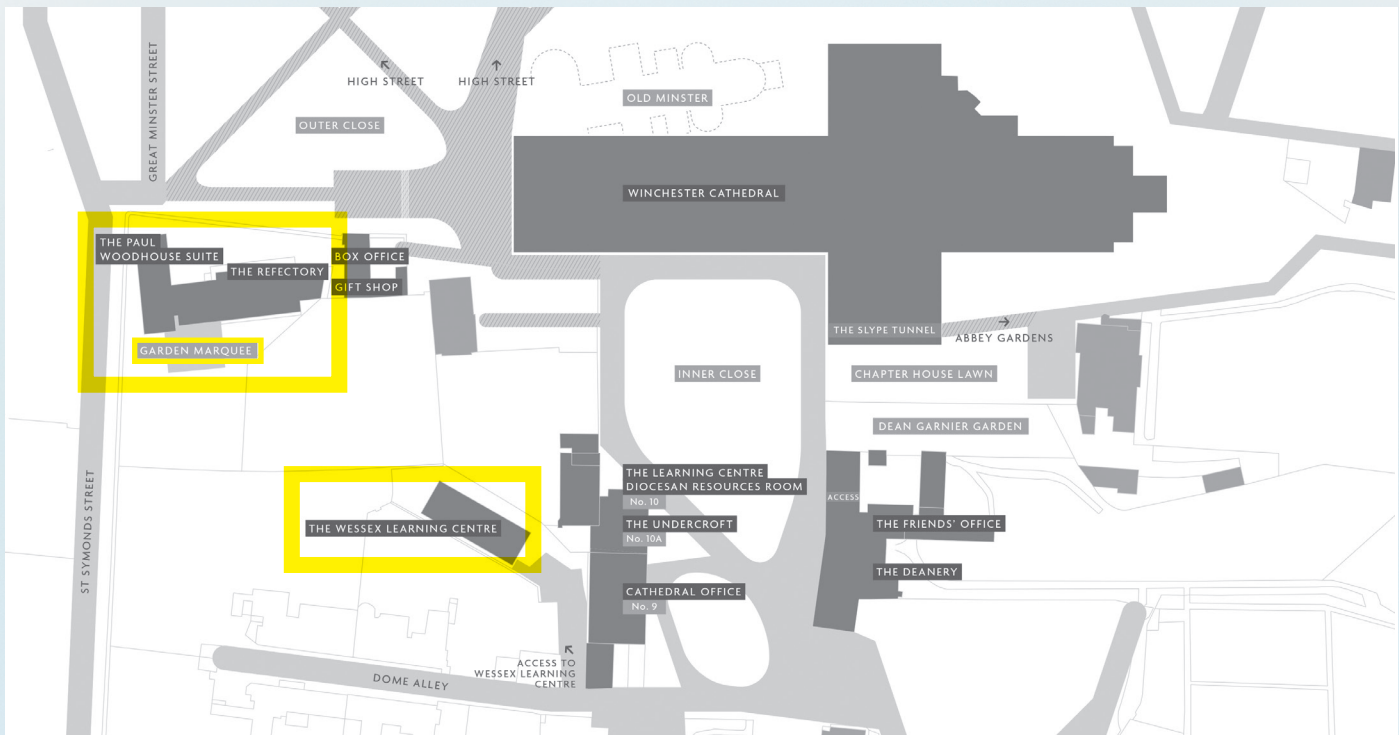
On Saturday 1st March 2025, at the Cathedral – please note this is happening throughout the day - girls will join in fun singing workshops, explore the stunning cathedral, and get a taste of the unique musical training that comes with being part of the Cathedral choir.

PHONES

Please keep phones on silent or switched off during talks

We would love to hear what you think – feedback and evaluation forms are available at the reception desk.





THANK YOU

Thank you to the wonderful organising teams, sponsors, supporters, caterers, volunteers and our fantastic speakers – and of course to you, for buying tickets, attending, and supporting the event – and helping us make Winchester the new home for the Church Times Festival of Faith & Literature. We hope to return in 2027.

A particular thank you to our founder and president, Sir Tony Baldry, whose bright idea this festival was.

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www.faithandliterature.hymnsam.co.uk