6 MAY – 23 JUNE
Simonsbath
Festival 2022
PHYLLIDA LLOYD CBE PATRON
Celebrating Music, Art, Talks and Walks on Exmoor
from May Day to Midsummer

Welcome to Simonsbath Festival

www.simonsbathfestival.org.uk

6th May – 23rd June 2022

- Book tickets online through **www.simonsbathfestival.org.uk**
- or Marian Lloyd **01643 831451**

This year will be the eleventh Simonsbath Festival where audiences will be treated to world class music and first-rate speakers. We look forward to welcoming you back after the Covid hiatus.

Since we can't be sure that we will be completely done with Covid by the time the festival takes place, the 2022 festival will be more reflective, more thoughtful, and less crowded, to give us all time and space to reconnect with what we lost during the lockdowns. We will, of course, as a minimum, comply with any Covid regulations in place at the time of performance.

All concerts and talks are held in the intimate St Luke's Church in Simonsbath with its excellent acoustics—but don't forget to bring a cushion!

Festival collaborative activities, including the **Exmoor Society walks** and **The Exmoor Running and Walking Festival** events, will be taking place as usual.

If you are not already familiar with the Simonsbath Festival you can see the programmes from previous festivals on our website.

We are particularly proud of our Affordable Tickets Policy with £10 tickets (or £15 to reserve a seat) at musical events and £5 tickets (or £10 to reserve a seat) at speaker events for adults. We give free entry to all our events to those aged 16 years and under.

Our pre-ordered light suppers (generally £5) are served during the interval.

Both tickets and light suppers can be booked via the website, by phone 01643 831451, or by email tickets@simonsbathfestival.org.uk

The Simonsbath Festival Committee
Patron Phyllida Lloyd CBE

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Cover photo: www.martynferrysphotography.com

St. Luke's Church

Friday 6 May | 7.30pm

The Albion Quartet

A joint performance in partnership with the Honeymead Festival

Photo © Steve Gullick 2019

The Albion Quartet comprises Tamsin Waley-Cohen and Emma Parker on violin, Ann Beilby on viola and Nathaniel Boyd on cello. They play on a fine collection of instruments including a Stradivarius and Guarnerius and are brought together by a shared belief in the visceral power of the string quartet.

Recent engagements from the 2017-18 season, before the pandemic, included performances at the Louvre in Paris, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Robert Schumann Gesselschaft in Frankfurt, Festival of Music in Franconia and Rhine Valley Music Festival in Germany, as well as the Hay Festival in the UK.

They were artists in residence at the Rydale Festival, exploring the chamber works of Dvorak, and are currently recording a Dvorak cycle for their label, Signum Records.

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams. A pre-booked light supper is available during interval (see booking form)

Tickets: U **£20** • Children 16yrs & under £10

St. Luke's Church

Wednesday 11 May | 7.30pm

An Evening with Charles Blanning

Charles talks about 'From Snobs to Yobs - how the Greyhound went to the dogs; an anti-social history'

Author of, and contributor to, numerous books on greyhound sport, **Charles Blanning** is acknowledged as one of its leading experts in the world. For almost twenty years he was compiler and publisher of the *Greyhound Stud Book*. In his forty years as a writer, he has contributed to leading publications like the *Racing Post*, *The Field*, the *Greyhound Star* and the *Sporting Press*. At present he writes the monthly feature, *Over My Shoulder*, for the *Sporting Press*, the Irish greyhound weekly.

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams. A pre-booked light supper is available during the interval (see booking form)

Tickets: R **£10** U **£5**
Children 16yrs & under free

St. Luke's Church

Saturday 14 May | 7.30pm

Redmond Sanders

Redmond Sanders is a young and talented baritone singer now studying at the Royal College of Music with the Pidem Scholarship under the tutelage of Tim Evans-Jones.

He sang in both chamber and chapel choir at Blundell's School, participating in choral competitions and annual tours to European cities including Vienna, Barcelona and Budapest.

Redmond was a member of Taunton Choral Society and is currently a member of the Royal College of Music Chorus and Royal College of Music Chamber Choir and is one of the four choral scholars at St. Mary's Church, Acton.

Currently at the beginning of his musical career he has already won multiple accolades including in 2021 being chosen to sing in a Royal College of Music masterclass with Brindley Sherratt.

He will be performing a varied programme from folk to opera under a general theme of 'travel' including songs by Vaughan Williams, Mozart, Brahms and other more modern/folk compositions.

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams.
A pre-booked light supper is available during the interval (see booking form)

Tickets: R **£15** U **£10** • Children 16yrs & under free

St. Luke's Church

Sunday 15 May | 11.30am

Simonsbath Festival Church Service

Join the Simonsbath Festival Committee for the festival church service and afterwards for lunch at the Exmoor Forest Inn. Reservations and payment for lunch to be made direct with Exmoor Forest Inn. Telephone 01643 831341 or email info@exmoorforestinn.com.

St Mary's Church, Molland

Tuesday 17 May | 10.30am

Exmoor Society Walk:

Molland Church and moor

A short insight into the medieval church of St Mary, Molland, following which there will be an optional 2½ to 3 hour circular walk to Molland Moor. Meet: St Mary's Church Molland. Please note: Livestock always present, however dogs are welcome on a tight lead.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL at www.exmoorsociety.com

Lunch can be booked at the London Inn, next to the church, subject to COVID restrictions. Tel. 01769 550269

FREE but donations to the Exmoor Society are always welcomed

St. Luke's Church

Wednesday 18 May | 7.30pm

Robin Ashburner

Fifty years a flagmaker and farmer

Since 1969 when he turned his Welsh cowsheds into a flag factory to make flags and banners for the investiture of the Prince of Wales. **Robin Ashburner** has supplied flags for royalty, historic films, television, the MOD and maritime sector—anybody and everybody!

Robin has been President of the UK Flag Institute. His heraldic and military flag knowledge is unrivalled and he advises film making companies and the UK Government on appropriate flags to use, as well as where and how they should be flown.

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams. A pre-booked light supper is available during the interval (see booking form)

Tickets: R **£10** U **£5** • Children 16yrs & under free

St. Luke's Church

Saturday 21 May
7.30pm

Under Milk Wood

★★★★★

"It's a feat of multiple characterisation, impeccable timing, vocal dexterity and precise physical control, performed with tremendous sensitivity and panache!" **THE GUARDIAN**

Guy Masterson (Richard Burton's nephew) performs his acclaimed one-man performance of *Under Milk Wood*, the much-loved masterpiece of Dylan Thomas.

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams.
A pre-booked light supper is available during the interval (see booking form)

Tickets: R **£15** U **£10**
Children 16yrs & under free

St. Luke's Church

Wednesday 1 June | 7.30pm

An evening with Tessa Traeger

Journeys with a camera: Tessa Traeger in conversation with Mark Haworth-Booth

Tessa Traeger is renowned for her photography, which embraces portraiture, still life—especially food—and landscape, including gardens. She has also photographed the remote farming communities of the Vivarais in southwestern France and her beloved North Devon. Her long career spans darkroom to digital. Her work is held in museum collections internationally and her gallery is Purdy Hicks in London.

She will be in conversation with **Mark Haworth-Booth**, Honorary Research Fellow at the Victoria and Albert Museum, who worked with Tessa on her books on the Vivarais and North Devon.

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams.
A pre-booked light supper is available during the interval (see booking form)

Tickets: R **£10** U **£5** • Children 16yrs & under free

Westermill Farm **Tuesday 7 June | 2.00pm**

Exmoor Society Walk:

Farm walk at Westermill

This walk (2 miles/3 hours with some uphill walking and uneven ground) will visit the farm buildings which are open to visiting campers during lambing season and take in meadows beside the river Exe used for sheep farming and camping, as well as an 18,000 native tree plantation with stunning views. Learn more at www.westermill.com.
Please note: Livestock always present, however dogs are welcome on a tight lead.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL at www.exmoorsociety.com

Tea and cakes provided

FREE but donations to the Exmoor Society are always welcomed

St. Luke's Church **Wednesday 8 June | 7.30pm**

An evening with Professor Susan Oosthuizen

Professor Oosthuizen is joined by Rob Wilson-North to talk about 'Landscape and Archaeology in Exmoor'

Susan Oosthuizen is Professor of Medieval Archaeology at the University of Cambridge. Her teaching and research focus on the rights of common land, and on the development of the English landscape between about 400 and 1300 AD. The author of several books and numerous papers, her volume on the *Anglo-Saxon Fenland* was published in 2017, and her highly praised book on *The Emergence of the English* was published in 2019.

Rob Wilson-North is Head of Conservation and Access at Exmoor National Park Authority.

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams. A pre-booked light supper is available during the interval (see booking form)

Tickets: R **£10** U **£5** • Children 16yrs & under free

St. Luke's Church

Friday 10 June | 7.30pm

Corvus Consort & Music on the Edge

The **Corvus Consort** is a vocal ensemble based in the UK. Founded and directed by Freddie Crowley, the group draws its members from young professionals in the early stages of their singing careers. The consort performs in a wide variety of genres and styles, from the Renaissance to the present day, with their debut recording due for release in September 2022.

Music on the Edge is a collaboration between Susie Hodder-Williams and Chris Caldwell. They have been creating landscape and nature inspired music since 2005. In August 2021, they were invited to be artists in Residence for *Strike-a-Light*, at the University of Gloucester. They also run their own music series on Dartmoor, presenting eclectic music into the heart of their community.

At the centre of the programme sits a selection of vocal music by some of Renaissance Europe's most masterful composers, which will be extended and embellished by the saxophone and flute of Chris Chadwell and Susie Hodder-Williams of Music on the Edge.

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams.
A pre-booked light supper is available during the interval (see booking form)

Tickets: R **£15** U **£10** • Children 16yrs & under free

Horner Village Car Park

Wednesday 15 June | 10.30am

Exmoor Society Walk:

Ley Hill medieval settlement

A walk (3 miles/2½ hours) with a knowledgeable leader to the deserted medieval settlement on Ley Hill, excavated during archaeological evalution work for the National Trust. There are the remains of a hamlet of seven buildings, surviving as low stony banks, though no documentary history survives. The buildings are grouped along a former route from Exford to Porlock, and are associated with a field system nearby. There are some steep climbs. NO DOGS.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL at www.exmoorsociety.com

Refreshments available at Horner Tea Rooms, subject to COVID restrictions

FREE but donations to the Exmoor Society are always welcomed

St. Luke's Church

Wednesday 15 June | 7.30pm

An Evening with Hugh Harrison

'Those dang'd furriners' (those damned foreigners)—Hugh tells of our debt to mainland European craftspeople in constructing our favourite ancient buildings

Hugh Harrison is an internationally known timber conservation expert. He lives on Exmoor and leads a specialist company of consultants, designers and contractors in the conservation and surveying of historic structural and decorative woodwork.

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams. A pre-booked light supper is available during the interval (see booking form)

Tickets: R **£10** U **£5** • Children 16yrs & under free

Pinkery Centre for Outdoor Learning

17–19 June

Exmoor Running and Walking Festival

Bunkhouse and camping accomodation available Friday and Saturday nights.

Friday 17th
Sunset Swim in Pinkery Pond and Guest Speaker.

Saturday 18th June
Exmoor Perambulation event (ticketed): 15/10 mile running or walking marathons, the route follows boundary of Exmoor Forest.

Saturday 18th June
Family friendly signposted walk around the Chains and Pinkery Pond (donations to Exmoor Rescue).

Evening: Guest Speaker and BBQ.

Sunday 19th June
Man vs. Moor Adventure Run: 5km, 10km or 10 mile
Man vs. Moor Kids: 1.5km

Further details, timings and booking at:
www.channelevents.co.uk

EXMOOR Running & Walking Festival

St. Luke's Church

Saturday 18 June | 7.30pm

Busi Mhlanga

and Shoholoza Zulu Choir

Busi Mhlanga came to Simonsbath Festival for the first time in 2016 with a 'barnstorming' performance, and we're delighted to see her return.

Busi is from Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, and was raised in the Zulu Ndebele tradition. Her grandfather was an 'inyanga' (traditional healer) and the whole family would gather together for ceremonies and celebrations where Busi would imitate the singing and dancing of her elders. After joining the popular female dance troupe of Black Umfolosi, touring Africa and Europe, she relocated to the UK where she leads troupes of gumboot dancers and has become one of the most recognised female Zulu singers.

After Nelson Mandela's death Busi was invited to lead a performance at the House of Commons during his funeral and she has frequently appeared on television.

Busi says "The way I dress sometimes, someone, somewhere will not understand. Most of the time I look overdressed with a lot of African jewellery all over me. Whatever I wear has a meaning for me – I cannot run away from who I am, what I am, where I first became."

Wine, Tea, Coffee and Ice Creams. A pre-booked light supper is available during the interval (see booking form)

Tickets: R **£15** U **£10** • Children 16yrs & under free

Withypool

Thurday 23 June | 10.30am

Exmoor Society Walk:

Hope Bourne in Withypool

A walk (3 miles/ 3½ hours) around the Withypool area following the footsteps of well-known local Exmoor artist and author **Hope Bourne** and taking in some of her favourite views.

The Exmoor Society website hosts a great deal of information about Hope Bourne and her work including her collection which she left in the care of the Society.

A moderate walk with some parts rough underfoot, and steep in places. Possible extension on to Withypool Hill.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL at www.exmoorsociety.com

Optional refreshments in Withypool Tea Rooms/Royal Oak pub or bring a picnic.

FREE but donations to the Exmoor Society are always welcomed

Become a Friend of **Simonsbath** Festival

Simonsbath Festival is a non-profit making community venture. We welcome your support by inviting you to become a Friend.

For just £15 per person, per year, Friends of Simonsbath Festival receive:

- **Advance notice of Festival Programme**
- **Priority booking for Festival events**
- **Regular Festival news and updates**

Please complete the form overleaf and:

- **Hand it to a festival volunteer at an event**
  or
- **Post it to our membership secretary:**

  Robin Ashburner BEM,
  10 Musgraves, Dulverton TA22 9ER
  Tel: 01398 323700
  Email: friends@simonsbathfestival.org.uk

We would much prefer payment by Standing Order (please see overleaf for details). **Thank you**

Simonsbath Festival logo illustration by Lucy Pearn

Simonsbath Festival Friends' application and payment form

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone number

Date

Email address

(It's really helpful for us to have your email address, please)

1. **Standing Order** (preferred method of payment)
   I will set up a Standing Order for
   £15 per person per annum in favour of
   Simonsbath Festival
   Sort Code 52-30-42, A/C 38041278

Signature

or

2. ☐ **Cheque payment** (please tick box)
   I attach a cheque for £15 per person
   made payable to **Simonsbath Festival**

or

3. ☐ **Cash payment** (please tick box)
   for £15 per person

Please hand this completed form to a Festival volunteer at an event or post to:

Robin Ashburner BEM,
10 Musgraves, Dulverton TA22 9ER

Tel: 01398 323700