

wetherbyfestival.co.uk

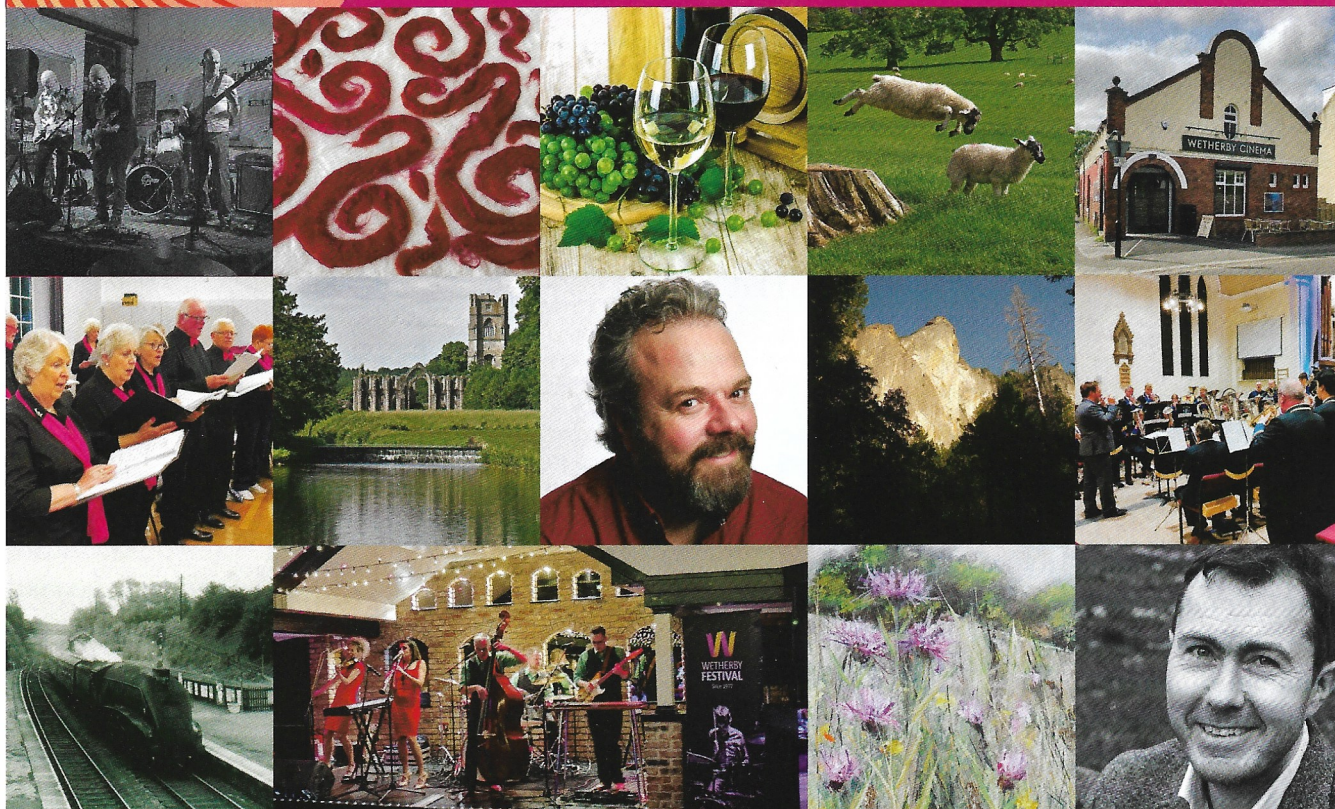
Friday 29th-September - Sunday 8th October 2023



# Welcome to our 45th Season!

We are back with a full programme that runs from 29 September to 8 October.  
We think there's something for everyone so... book your tickets and enjoy!  
Keep an eye on our website for Fringe Festival events.

You can book ONLINE NOW at the link below or in the Town Hall foyer from 18 September (10.00-12.00)  
Come and support us, enjoy and make the 45th Festival another resounding success.  
The Wetherby Festival Committee - [www.wetherbyfestival.co.uk/](http://www.wetherbyfestival.co.uk/)



COMEDY • ART • MUSIC • LITERATURE • WINE • LOCAL HISTORY • PHOTOGRAPHY • FILM • FLORISTRY





ART EXHIBITION, FRIDAY 29, SATURDAY 30  
SEPTEMBER AND SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER

## ART EXHIBITION

**Wetherby Town Hall -**  
**Friday 2.00-5.00pm, Saturday 9.30am-**  
**5.00pm, Sunday, 10.00am-4.00pm**

An exhibition by three local artists, Ailsa Read, Rachel McNaughton and Clare Dean, who work in acrylic, watercolour and mixed media. All three artists will be present and demonstrating their work during the event. In addition, there will be an exhibition of felt art by Gauhar Bisengalieva from Kazakhstan. Refreshments available. Free Entry.

FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

## CALL MY WINE BLUFF

**by Wetherby Twinning Association -**  
**St James Church Centre - 7.30pm**

A long standing Wetherby Festival favourite! Taste 6 wines, listen to the 3 'experts' describing them and let your taste buds decide which one is telling the truth. Teams of up to 8 or just come along and join a team. Wine, French bread and cheese supper included. Lots of fun and laughter guaranteed. Tickets: £14



## WETHERBY FOLK CLUB AT THE FESTIVAL

**Wetherby Rugby Club, Grange Park - 7.30pm**

Wetherby Folk Club is delighted to stage great live music at this year's Festival with three contrasting performances: Plumhall, a fine duo who constantly tour the folk world; Maddie Morris who stunned the audience with her contemporary songs at last year's 'Feast of Folk'; Iona Lane is a great addition to the event with her haunting Celtic singing. Bar available. Tickets: £12.50/£15 on the door.

**SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER**

## WETHERBY LIGHT MUSIC SINGERS

**St James Church Centre - 2.30pm**

The Wetherby Light Music Singers are a local group which has been entertaining us since 1976. They engage with a broad repertoire of music, from classics to pop songs, musicals and films. Led by Martin Hewitt, their programme includes songs by the choir as well as by soloists. There promises to be something to appeal to all musical tastes. Light refreshments available. Tickets: £7.50

**WETHERBY  
FESTIVAL**  
Since 1977



## LEEDS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**St James Church - 7.30pm**

Another long standing Festival favourite, an evening of classical music played by an outstanding orchestra founded in 1890 and still entertaining audiences all over Yorkshire. Tonight's programme: Overture from Hansel & Gretel by Humperdinck, Trombone Concertino by David and Symphony No. 1 by Brahms. The soloist is Hannah Stell on trombone. Tickets: £14 (under 16s free)

SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER

## CIVIC SOCIETY WALK

**Starting at Wetherby Bandstand at 2pm**

Join members of Wetherby Civic Society for a guided walk lasting approximately one and a half hours. See how our town developed from

the building of the castle in 1145, through the building of its bridge, the great fire of 1723, the town's sale in 1824 right up to the present day. The walk will include a visit to the Georgian Bath House and Jubilee Gardens. Tickets: free but please get one so that we know how many people wish to join the walk.



## COMEDY EVENING

**Wetherby Town Hall - 7.30 pm**

A fantastic double bill of comedians with Hal Cruttenden making his first Wetherby appearance. He is one of the country's best loved stand ups with appearances on Live at the Apollo, Have I got News for You and the Royal Variety Performance. Neil Delamere, the 'master of stand up' (The Scotsman) is on a myriad of panel shows, including The News Quiz and The Now Show and has even won Celebrity Mastermind. He is returning to Wetherby for the third time. Bar available.

Event sponsored by Ward Cllr Alan Lamb from his Members Improvement in the Community and Environment Fund (MICE). Tickets: £25.





MONDAY 2 OCTOBER

## TRANSPORT IN WETHERBY, PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

**Wetherby Methodist Church 2.00pm**

Victor Hawkins, a popular local historian, takes us through the centuries from the Vikings coming up the Wharfe to Grange Park, Roman chariots, stage coaches, railways and on to cars, coaches and lorries. The story then moves from the present into the future and what that might mean for Wetherby. Refreshments available. Tickets: Free entry but donations very welcome



## PHOENIX CONCERT BAND

**The Engine Shed - 7.30pm**

Phoenix Concert Band is a large wind orchestra with players from Leeds and the surrounding area, led by acclaimed Musical Director, Keiron Anderson. They play a rich variety of music from film and musical theatre to swing and popular classics, and perform throughout the year for local concert seasons, fundraising events and private engagements. Bar available. Tickets: £15

TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER

## PHOTOGRAPHY OF FOUNTAINS ABBEY AND STUDLEY ROYAL

**St James Church Room - 7.30pm**

Wetherby Camera Club's Festival lecture, presented by John Elvin who is a talented local photographer based in Spofforth. The talk and his images present a fresh look at many aspects of the Abbey and its grounds. Tickets: £5 (free to Camera Club members)

WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER

## BOUGHS OF HOLLY with Clair Strike

**St James Church Centre - 2.00pm**

Learn how to make a Christmas garland to decorate your staircase, fireplace or to place on your Christmas table for a beautiful centre-piece. Clair, the talented owner of local business Nicolla Florist, will show you how to create your gorgeous Christmas showstopper and how to add decorations or candles for maximum effect. Refreshments available. Tickets: £10



## LEGENDS OF THE SILENT SCREEN

**Wetherby Cinema - 2.00pm**

Sit back in your comfortable Wetherby Cinema seat, pick up your popcorn and be ready to be transported back to the Glory Days of Silent Movies, the 1920s, when movies were short and silent and belly laughs were, of course, plentiful. Three films for you, two from Laurel & Hardy and one starring Buster Keaton, taking you back to the glamorous days of the silent '20s. The films will be accompanied by Jonny Best on piano. Event sponsored by Wetherby Cinema. Tickets: £10

## TRANSPORT IN WETHERBY, PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

**Methodist Church - 7.30pm**

A repeat of Monday's talk, taking you from the Vikings coming up the Wharfe to Grange Park, Roman chariots, stage coaches, railways, to cars, coaches and lorries... and on into the future. Refreshments available. Tickets: free entry, but donations very welcome



THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER

## MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE NIGHT

**Wetherby Cinema - 8.00pm**

Come along for a fantastic evening of outdoor adventure, tension and drama. A packed, exciting programme with the main feature of 'Free Solo'. Rock climber Alex Honnold attempts to do what no climber has done before – ascend free solo and without safety ropes up the 3,000-foot cliff of the iconic El Capitan in California's Yosemite National Park. Winner of Best Documentary Feature at the 91st Academy Awards. Also showing two short films from the 2022 British Mountaineering Council 'Women in Adventure' film competition. Event sponsored by Wetherby Cinema. Tickets: £10



## THE SWING COMMANDERS

**The Engine Shed - Doors open 7.30pm**

Back this year by popular demand, The Swing Commanders are a spectacularly vibrant and versatile group performing an exciting mix of 1940s classics, boogie-woogie, western swing, '50s jump jazz and more. Come along for a good old-fashioned and new-fashioned swing evening. Dancing not only allowed but encouraged! Bar available. Event sponsored by Jordans Solicitors. Tickets: £15.



FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER

## LITERARY LUNCH

**The Bridge Hotel & Spa -  
12 noon for 12.30pm**

We welcome two Yorkshire-born authors to this year's Literary Lunch: Matson Taylor grew up in Yorkshire but now lives in London where he combines the roles of design historian at the V & A and novelist. His first novel, 'The Miseducation of Evie Epworth', set in Yorkshire in the 1960s, was a huge success, closely followed by the sequel 'All about Evie' which sees Evie settled in London in 1972 working for BBC Radio. Matson is currently working on his third novel which will also be a funny book about serious things.



Matson  
Taylor



Joanne  
Harris  
OBE

Joanne Harris OBE, makes a welcome return to the Wetherby Festival. Since publishing 'Chocolat' in 1999 (which became an Oscar-nominated film starring Juliette Binoche), Joanne has written 19 other novels plus novellas, short stories, screenplays, the libretto for an opera and a stage musical, not to mention three cookery books. She has also won numerous awards and honours for her writing. Her latest book 'Broken Light' was published earlier this year. Event sponsored by Hartlaw LLP. Tickets: £35.

## AN EVENING WITH DISTRICT BLUES

**St James Church Room - Doors open 7.30pm**

Four seasoned musicians came together in 2017, primarily to play the blues, but in reality no good tune is safe. So, with foot tapping tunes from many of the blues greats and a few twists, this is sure to be an electrifying evening. Bar available. Tickets: £10



SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER

## CAMERA CLUB ANNUAL PRINT EXHIBITION

**Wetherby Town Hall - 9.30am**

The exhibition gives this long-established Wetherby club an opportunity to present a wide variety of colour and mono prints, including landscapes, portraits, sport, architecture and more. Members will guide you round the exhibition, share their thoughts and give you information about their weekly programme of events and activities. Make sure you don't miss this display of a spectacular art form. Refreshments available. Tickets: Free entry



## WETHERBY SILVER BAND & THE ELYSIAN SINGERS

**St James Church 7.30pm**

The Wetherby Silver Band will be at the Festival once again performing another of their popular concerts. Since being formed in 1878 during the reign of Queen Victoria, the Silver Band has been providing superb entertainment for well over 140 years. This year, the Silver Band will be joined by the local Elysian Singers (Wetherby). Formed in 1974, this popular group of around 30 members has a wide repertoire – something for everyone. Tickets: £10

SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER

## FESTIVAL SERVICE

**St James Church - 11.00am**

We celebrate creativity and the arts at this service where you can donate harvest gifts for good causes and see who won the Scarecrow Competition.

You can book online at the link below or in person at the Festival Box Office in the Town Hall foyer from September 18 (10.00-12.00)



ALSO SPONSORED BY:

Clare's Creations • Ward Cllr Lamb's MICE Fund  
Ward Cllr Stables' MICE Fund • Jeremy & Martine Burton

## This Festival is run entirely by volunteers.

All profits go back into organising and funding the festival. As you may imagine, to plan, organise and run the Festival is a significant undertaking. Although we have a great planning team (all of us are local people doing this in a voluntary capacity) we would welcome further support, so please consider getting involved. Contact our Chair, Cindy Bentley, on [chair@wetherbyfestival.co.uk](mailto:chair@wetherbyfestival.co.uk)

[wetherbyfestival.co.uk](http://wetherbyfestival.co.uk)

