

# 21st. MERE LITERARY FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> 2017

**MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> NOT THE RED BARON** – Writer, actor & filmmaker, **Geoff Pridmore**, talks about his biography of display pilot, **Robin Bowes**, killed in an aerial dogfight display at Stourhead Gardens in 1995. **Grove Building 7.30pm. \*£6**

**TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup>. Mere Historical Society MORNING TALK** – **James Bradnock** on Popham, a 16<sup>th</sup> Century lawyer who made good. **Grove Building 10.15 for 10.30 a.m.** Retiring Donations

**COMMUNITY LUNCH** + coffee-time talk by **Sue Evans** on the compiling of *Merely a Festival*. (2 course Lunch £ 9.95 Book with venue on 01747 860427). **The George Inn 12.00 for 12.30pm.**

**THE UNFORTUNATE CAPTAIN PEIRCE & THE WRECK OF THE HALSEWELL**  
**Philip Browne** on one of England's most dramatic maritime disasters. **Grove Building 7.30pm \*£6**

**WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> ...AND THE RAINS CAME.** **Joyce Lewis** talks about her life as a missionary in Bangladesh as recalled in her recent book. **Grove Buildings 2.30pm.** Retiring donations.

**NOT JUST GERTRUDE JEKYLL** A talk by **Christine Stones** on women who have influenced garden design. Hosted by **Mere Gardening Club.** **Grove Building, 7.30 pm.** Retiring Donations

**THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> EVERY SECRET THING** with **Rachel Crowther.** The author talks about writing and her latest novel published this summer. **Grove Building 2.30p.m.** Retiring Donations

**FILM SHOW** Mere Film Shows & Wilts. Moviola present *Their Finest* with a stellar cast including Bill Nighy, Gemma Arterton, Richard E. Grant & Jeremy Irons. **Lecture Hall 7.30pm. \*£6**

**FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> THE WELL BELOVED: The Women in Thomas Hardy's Life and Fiction.**  
**Peter Tait** talks about his new book on Thomas Hardy. **Grove Building 2.30p.m.** Retiring Donations

**AN EVENING WITH BRIAN FREELAND.** A long and varied career touring the world with theatre companies is described in Brian's humorous autobiography. **Grove Building 7.30p.m. \*£6**

**SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup> POETRY WORKSHOP** A practical workshop on writing poetry with prize-winning poet and writing tutor, **Rosie Jackson.** Contact organiser **Grove Building 10am–12noon £10**

**CHILDREN'S EVENT** with children's author **MICHAEL WILLS. Library 2.15p.m \*Free Ticket**

**POETRY in the GROVE** Reading of the competition shortlist. **Grove Building 2.30p.m. Free**

**THE LIFE of EDWARD THOMAS** Readings by **Mere Drama Society** tell the moving story of poet Edward Thomas and his links with Wiltshire. **Lecture Hall 7.30p.m. \*£6**

**SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> AWARD CEREMONY** for 2017 **Poetry Competition** with poet **Dawn Gorman** and the local and junior section judges. **Lecture Hall 3p.m.** Book stalls from 2.30p.m. **Free**

Tickets from Aug.25<sup>th</sup> Mere Library 01747 860546 or Book with Festival Organiser 01747 860475  
Full details / Postal Booking Form on [www.merelifest.co.uk](http://www.merelifest.co.uk) & in Festival Programme available September.  
*In aid of the Mere & District Linkscheme - Reg. Charity No: 1062328*