

ST EDMUND'S FESTIVAL

CANTERBURY

25 JUNE - 1 JULY
2025

OPEN TO ALL

THE FESTIVAL ON THE HILL



Festival Partners

Paul Roberts

CANTERBURY

40

1984-2024



stedmundsfestival.org.uk



Paul Roberts

C A N T E R B U R Y

40

1984 - 2024

PROUD
PARTNER
OF **THE
ST EDMUND'S
FESTIVAL**

PROPERTY SOLUTIONS IN & AROUND CANTERBURY SINCE 1984

PAULROBERTSCANTERBURY.CO.UK

Welcome

Creativity remains at the heart of our school ethos. The Festival on the Hill has become a shining example of that. Thanks to the vision of Ian Swatman and the crucial support provided by our Festival Partners Paul Roberts Associates and Dave Parker of Canterbury Auction Galleries along with the important contributions from our event sponsors and friends, we can present another wonderful showcase of the creative arts.

As always, the team have sought to strike a balance between world class professional performances (such as The Bootleg Beatles and The Ronnie Scott's All Stars with outstanding pupil work (The Canterbury Tales, The Art and Design Exhibition and Canterbury Art Prize and The Pupil Cabaret) and public benefit opportunities (notably The Mark de Lisser Choir).

It is this rich combination of elements that makes our Festival unique and a constant joy to be part of.

Every year, I am humbled by the depth and breadth of creativity in our small school.

Of course, this does not exist by accident. It comes from the talent and commitment of our pupils and the dedication of our inspirational teachers.

That is a winning combination. It is the essence of St Edmund's School and will be amply demonstrated during Festival Week.

So, enjoy The Festival on the Hill and thank you for your support.

Edward O'Connor, Head



"As the St Edmund's Festival continues to lead the way in another astonishing display of home-grown talent and a brilliant programme of events, it highlights the place of creativity in all our futures."

Festival Patron: John Harle OBE
The Guildhall School, London



Photo copyright: John Millar

Thanks...

- To everyone who has made this festival possible.
- The St Edmund's staff and pupils who have worked together with such creativity, energy and enthusiasm.
- The artists who have joined us to create a professional and dynamic programme.
- Our Sponsors, Supporters and Friends who have donated generously.
- Michael Stewart for his continued support of the performing arts at St Edmund's School.

Our Media Partner:

insideKENT

celebrating the best of Kent and beyond

A list of our Festival Friends is available on the website. If you would like to become a Festival Friend and support St Edmund's Festivals, please find full details on the website.

www.stedmundsfestival.org.uk



**ST EDMUND'S
SCHOOL**
CANTERBURY

FESTIVAL PARTNERS



EVENT SPONSORS:



LILFORD | GALLERY



CORPORATE FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS:



How to book

ONLINE

Buy your tickets online at ticketsource.co.uk/St-Edmunds-Festival

There is a £1 booking fee per ticket for online bookings

For general enquiries or special assistance and wheelchair seating, email festival@stedmunds.org.uk
or call **01227 475632**

BY PHONE

For bookings with debit/credit card payment call our agent TicketSource on 0333 666 3366 Monday to Friday, 9.00AM to 7.00PM and Saturday, 9.00AM to 5.00PM (excluding bank holidays)



SCAN TO BOOK
YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Support the Festival

The St Edmund's Festival is a regular fixture in the Canterbury arts calendar. It brings creativity and culture to Canterbury as well as celebrating the talents of young people, giving them the opportunity to learn from professionals and experience public performance. To continue this work, we invite the public to support and be part of our Festival.

BECOME A FRIEND

Private and Corporate Friend packages are available offering priority booking, complimentary tickets and more.

SPONSORSHIP

By sponsoring an event, businesses are offered exciting marketing and PR benefits with brand exposure, corporate hospitality as well as top quality entertainment. Details are on the website or contact the Sponsorship Coordinator at festival@stedmunds.org.uk

GET SOCIAL



#stedsfest25

Share your favourite photos
and experiences with us online



**BEN RODDY
IS BACK!**

Snow White **and the Seven Dwarfs**

**EVOLUTION
PRODUCTIONS**

Written and directed by Paul Hendy

28 NOV 2025 - 11 JAN 2026

**MARLOWE
THEATRE**

**“YOU HAVE TO PINCH YOURSELF THAT YOU’RE NOT
SEEING SOME KIND OF AI MAGIC AT PLAY”
THE TIMES**

**“OFF THE SCALE FABULOUS!”
CHRIS EVANS, BBC RADIO 2**



image credit:
© Alamy

Bootleg Beatles

We are thrilled to announce that The Bootleg Beatles will kick off the St Edmund's Festival on the Hill 2025 with an unforgettable performance. As the world's premier Beatles tribute band, The Bootleg Beatles have captivated audiences worldwide with their authentic renditions of the Fab Four's greatest hits. Since their formation in 1980, The Bootleg Beatles have performed thousands of shows including at Glastonbury, The Royal Albert Hall, and alongside legendary artists like Oasis and David Bowie. With their uncanny attention to detail—replicating the music, costumes, and even the instruments of each Beatles era—they have won over audiences worldwide.

Their performance will take festival-goers on a journey through the timeless songs that defined a generation, making for an unforgettable start to this year's celebrations.

Over 4500 shows and over 45 years: the world's best Beatles Tribute band.

Sponsored by

**EVOLUTION
PRODUCTIONS**



Wednesday 25 June | 7.30pm



Theatre



Concert tickets:

General Admission: £35

**Pre Performance drinks in the marquee
from 6.30pm**

Canterbury Art Prize 2025

Theme: Layers

The Canterbury Art Prize, launched in partnership with The Canterbury Auction Galleries, is open to all pupils in Years 7 – 13 who attend schools in East Kent.

The theme this year is 'Layers' and can be interpreted in any way.

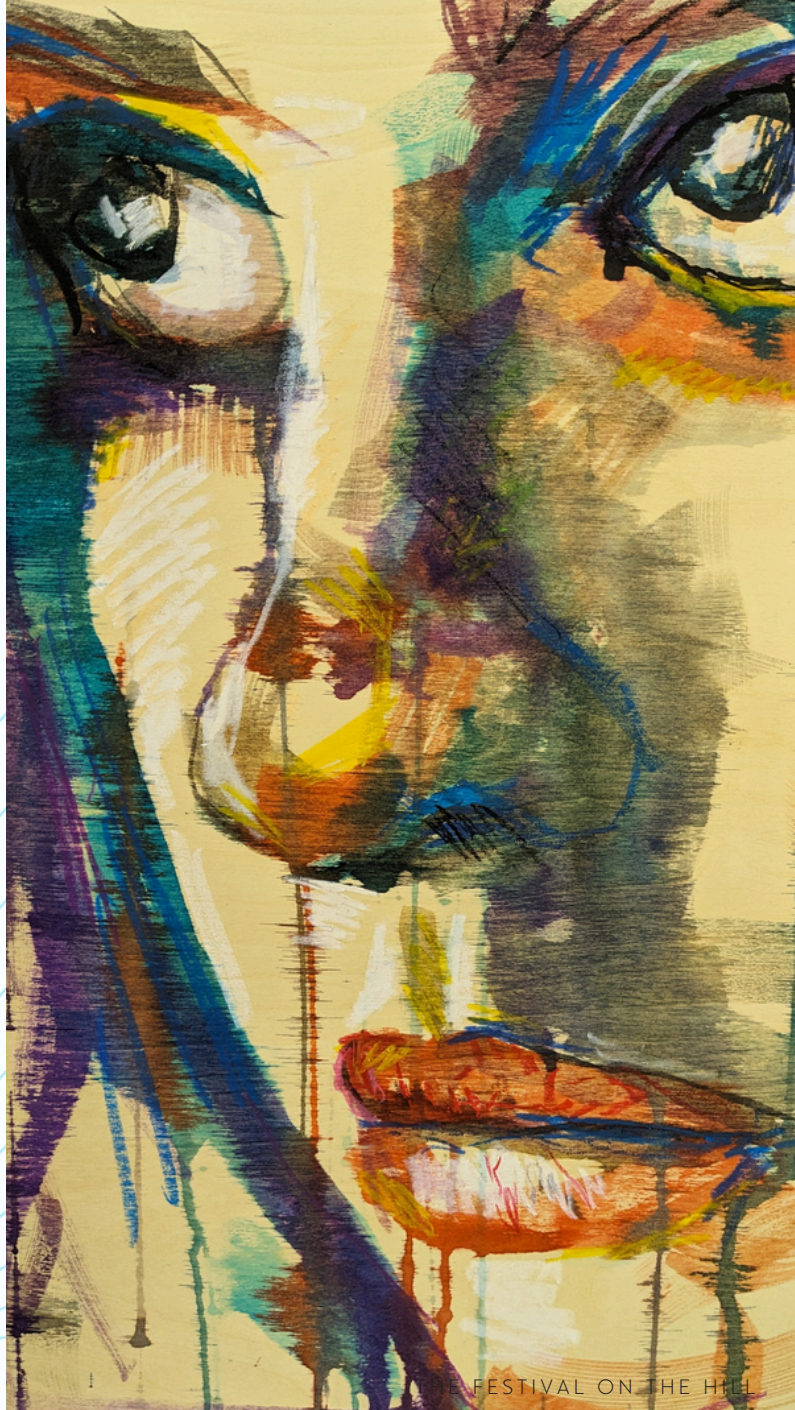
The winners will receive cash prizes and the overall winner will also receive a trophy to be presented by Dave Parker of The Canterbury Auction Galleries on 25 June, the opening night of the festival.

The winners' and shortlisted works will be displayed at the St Edmund's Festival and in the Lilford Gallery in Canterbury.

Special thanks to our Festival Partner, The Canterbury Auction Galleries, for founding and driving the Canterbury Art Prize from its inception, including providing the concept, trophy, and prizes. We also thank our sponsor, Lilford Gallery, for their ongoing support and role as a judge for the prize.

For more details and how to enter go to
www.stedmundsfestival.org.uk.

Deadline for entries: 25 April 2025



Original painting by Betty Graap

Art & Design Exhibition

CANTERBURY
ART PRIZE
2025

St Edmund's School proudly presents an inspiring exhibition showcasing the diverse and dynamic work of our Fine Artists, Ceramicists, Photographers, and Designers. Expect a stunning variety of illustrative, abstract, and expressive pieces—a true feast for the eyes.

We are delighted to welcome our Festival partner Dave Parker of The Canterbury Auction Galleries, who will present prizes to the winners of the prestigious Canterbury Art Prize. Winning and shortlisted works will be on display throughout the event and at various times throughout the festival. Please contact us for further information.

Visitors are warmly invited to the Private View, where they can meet the artists and enjoy refreshments prepared by students from St Edmund's Leiths Academy.



Wednesday 25 June | Private View &
Canterbury Art Prize Presentation from 6pm



Old Gymnasium Gallery



FREE

Sponsored by

LILFORD | GALLERY

Festival Partner



Lunchtime Concert

As part of our regular Lunchtime Concert, join us for a special festival performance where we will bring together the Senior and Junior school musicians in our wonderful chapel.



Wednesday 25 June | 1.45pm



St Edmund's Chapel



FREE (booking required)



Kinetic Circus Workshop

Kinetic Circus is back at St Edmund's Junior School, run by Paul Incredible, a seasoned performer who began his circus journey at just 14. Kinetic Circus has been inspiring and entertaining audiences since 2010. With decades of experience, Paul's workshops promise hands-on learning, laughter, and jaw-dropping performances.

Get ready for an unforgettable afternoon filled with extraordinary fun juggling, diabolo and plate spinning!



Wednesday 25 June



Festival Marquee



For Lower Junior School pupils (in school activity)





Thursday 26 June | 8.00pm
(Festival Bar open from 7pm)



Festival Marquee



Tickets:

£10 General admission

£8 child/student U18

On sale in May

See website for further details

Sponsored by



St Ed's Got Talent

A Festival Favourite Returns!

'Every year the 'must have' ticket of the festival! Join us in our amazing festival marquee as we celebrate the incredible range of diverse talents across the school.

This year the drama and music departments are once again encouraging audience participation throughout this memorable evening.

As always, you can expect an evening full of surprises and good old-fashioned entertainment. Join our very own 'new' double act, Daisy and Joseph, as they host this wonderful show!



#stedsfest25

Festival Evensong

The Choristers of Canterbury Cathedral join together with the Choirs of St Edmund's Senior School for a special evensong to celebrate this year's Festival.



Thursday 26 June | 5.30pm



TBC



FREE (Booking Required)



Marleybrook HOUSE



Having a Wedding or Event?

Home to the UK's largest private fairground



Marleybrook House, Stourmouth Road, Preston, Canterbury, Kent. CT3 1HP.



01227 668 661 / 07387 187 177



www.marleybrookhouse.co.uk

WEDDING AND EVENT HIRE



Sing! With Mark De-Lisser

For the third year running, and back by popular demand, Mark De-Lisser returns this June for another truly exceptional day of singing —no experience required!

This is a fantastic opportunity to discover the joy of singing with world-renowned vocal coach Mark De-Lisser. One of the UK's most sought-after choral directors and vocal coaches, Mark has worked with leading artists such as Ariana Grande, Jessie J, and Beverley Knight, and on some of the nation's most beloved TV shows, including BBC's BAFTA-nominated Our Dementia Choir with Vicky McClure, Songs of Praise, and ITV's award-winning The Masked Singer.

For the afternoon session we will once again be joined by 'Bright Shadow' charity supporting people with dementia. We warmly welcome them to St Edmund's.



In support of



Friday 27 June

09.30-12.00 Junior School Workshop
13.00 Registration
13.30-15.30 Workshop
16.00 Informal Performance



Theatre



Tickets:
£10 General admission

Ceramics Workshop

with Joshua Aubrook

Renowned British ceramicist Joshua Aubrook, a St Edmunds alumnus from the class of 2015, is back again this year to host a fantastic ceramics workshop.

Specialising in clay casting, sculpting, and glaze development, Joshua brings his expertise and passion for ceramics to the classroom once more.

Aubrook holds a BA (Hons) Degree in Ceramics from the University for the Creative Arts (2018) and a Master's Degree in Ceramics from the Royal College of Art (2023). He was shortlisted for the Wales Contemporary Awards in 2022 and most recently exhibited through Bonhams in the Art of Craft auction (2023). These engaging workshops will feature tile or banquet making, interspersed with sessions on the potter's wheel, where Joshua will guide small groups through the art of 'throwing' at various intervals.

Minimum age: 15. Limited to 12 places.

All materials included.



Saturday 28 June | 9.30 - 12.30



£25



St Edmund's Art Department



A Chorister Celebration

As part of this year's Festival we aim to reach out to our St Edmund's community and celebrate 50 years of educating the choristers of Canterbury Cathedral.

Former choristers, school staff, Choir House staff and parents are invited to join us for a special performance in our school chapel, featuring our former choristers, followed by a reception in our wonderful Festival Marquee.

To register your interest in joining us for this special event please email festival@stedmunds.org.uk or igs@stedmunds.org.uk



Saturday 28 June

10.30am Registration at marquee

3.00pm Performance



Chapel



FREE





Supporting communities in Kent since 1781.

With offices in Canterbury, Tenterden,
Maidstone and Ramsgate, we provide
specialist legal services for individuals
and businesses in the South East.

Family, Wills, Probate, Conveyancing,
Tax & Estate Planning, Employment,
Property, Licensing and
Contracts & Transactions.



Call us on **01622 698000**
or email enquiries@wmlaw.uk
whitehead-monckton.co.uk

WM Whitehead Monckton

Whitehead Monckton Limited (no. 08366029), registered in England
& Wales. Registered office 5 Eclipse Park, Maidstone, Kent,
ME14 3EN. Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors
Regulation Authority under no. 608279.



Cushions
Signed and Numbered Etching
by David Hockney

LILFORD | GALLERY
3 Palace Street, Canterbury,
Kent CT1 2DY
www.lilforgallery.com

Maypole Marquee Ltd

St Edmund's Festival on The Hill



Creating Stunning Spaces
for All The Best Events
Since 1992



www.maypolemarquee.co.uk
01227 830285



HOLROYD HOWE ARE



Proud Caterers at
**ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL
CANTERBURY**

Feeding Independent Minds

FOUNDED IN 1997
HOLROYD HOWE
FEEDING INDEPENDENT MINDS

    @holroydhowe
www.holroydhowe.com

Ronnie Scott's All Stars

with very special guest Polly Gibbons

'AN AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES!'

First time performing at The Festival on the Hill, the long serving alumni of Scotts "house band" bring a new show creating 'An Afternoon at the Movies!'

The band will play choice selection of jazzed up film favorites and will feature the world class vocalist Polly Gibbons who will interpret fabulous songs such as Moon River (Breakfast at Tiffany's) Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend (Gentlemen prefer Blonds) 'I Wanna be Loved by You' (Some Like It Hot) and a new version of the classic Dolly Parton song 9 to 5 and much more. Also on the menu, instrumentals from the likes of Henry Mancini - who would have been 100 this year, Herbie Hancock, Roy Budd and many more. Additionally, the afternoon will include a very famous piece of film music written by living saxophone legend Sonny Rollins, in Scotts club way back in 1966! Any clues?

THE BAND :

James Pearson - Piano
Alex Garnett - Saxophone
Sam Burgess - Bass
Chris Higginbottom - Drums

Sponsored by



Special appearance from our very own
St Edmund's Big Band at 2pm.
Tickets include Tea & Cake



Sunday 29 June | 2.00pm



Theatre



Tickets:

£25 General admission

£15 Child/student U18

One day Cricket

St Edmund's 1st XI vs Marylebone Cricket Club MCC

Experience a delightful day of cricket beneath the canopy of trees that border the St. Edmund's 1st XI cricket pitch, just outside the school colonnade.

Bring your own picnic. Some seating will be provided. Refreshments will be available from The Horse Box from 10:30am.

Please use Giles Lane car park for this event.



Sunday 29 June | 11am



Cricket Pitch



FREE

Sponsored by

ABBOTT
CONSTRUCTION



Abbott Construction

Trusted in construction since 1947

01227 471 206

enquiries@abbottconstruction.co.uk

abbottconstruction.co.uk

Open Mixed Tennis Tournament

We are delighted to announce the return of the St Edmund's Open Mixed Tennis Doubles Tournament! This year's matches will once again take place on our first-class courts, set within the stunning school grounds.

Open to all tennis players aged 11 and over, including adults, the tournament promises an exciting morning of friendly yet competitive play. Trophies will be awarded to the winners, so grab a partner and join us for a fantastic day of tennis!

Advance registration is essential.

To find out more and register, please go to ticketsource.co.uk/St-Edmunds-Festival



Sunday 29 June
10:00am - 12:00pm



Tennis Courts



Entry fee: £5



Sponsored by

ABBOTT
CONSTRUCTION



THE FESTIVAL ON THE HILL

Football Fest

Calling all budding footballers in Years 3 – 6!

Calling all footballers in Years 3 – 6! Come and experience a fun coaching session and mini tournament with expert staff from Starters Football Academy. (All SFA coaches have previously worked for Chelsea Football Club's Foundation Development Centre and we are delighted to be collaborating with them). Participants will learn new skills and develop their technique. All levels of expertise are welcome. Prizes and medals to be won. Space is limited to 25 children.

Advance registration is essential.

To find out more and register, please go to ticketsource.co.uk/St-Edmunds-Festival



Sunday 29 June
10:30am - 12:00pm



Astro Pitch



For pupils in Yrs 3-6: £10



Sponsored by

ABBOTT
CONSTRUCTION



**BURGESS
HODGSON**

Chartered Accountants

Burgess Hodgson

Planning for growth together

We are accountancy, tax and business experts who believe real value is about more than just money.

For more information on our services please scan the QR code



Camburgh House, 27 New Dover Road,
Canterbury, Kent CT1 3DN



01227 454627

info@burgesshodgson.co.uk

The Canterbury Tales

What better way to end this year's Festival than with Chaucer's classic, 'The Canterbury Tales', a collection of stories told by a group of pilgrims from all walks of life, as they journey from London to the shrine of Thomas Becket, in Canterbury Cathedral. Our Festival finale will be an updated recreation of the spectacle, bawdiness and humour of the fourteenth-century original. Once again in collaboration with the Music department, the Drama department will present the stories as a Tale-telling competition, with the audience invited to choose their winner. So come along, grab a tankard of ale and make merry. It's sure to be a riot of an evening.



Monday 1 July 7:30pm

Tuesday 2 July 2pm



Theatre



£12.50

£10

General admission
Child/ student U18

On sale in May. See website for further details

Sponsored by



Chartered Accountants



Tuesday 2 July 7:30pm



Theatre



£16.50

£14

General admission
Child/ student U18

Includes entry to firework display and
a complimentary hot dog

THE CANTERBURY TALES

Where to find us

St Edmund's School
Canterbury CT2 8HU

E Entrance: From University Road

VENUES

- Theatre**
Francis Musgrave Performing Arts Centre
- Recital Hall**
Francis Musgrave Performing Arts Centre
- Festival Marquee**
(Bar will open before each evening event)
- Cricket Pitch**
- The Old Gymnasium**
- Gallery St Edmund's Chapel**
- Art Department and Food Technology**

FREE PARKING

- P** Please use the car parks marked on the map
- P** Access via Giles Lane for Tennis Tournament, Football Fest, Cricket Match and workshops

ACCESS

The school aims to provide excellent access for our visitors. If you require wheelchair access or seating please advise the Festival Office so that we can assist you.

CONTACT US

General enquiries: festival@stedmunds.org.uk
Phone: 01227 475632
Website: www.stedmundsfestival.org.uk



**ST EDMUND'S
SCHOOL
CANTERBURY**

JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR
OPEN EVENTS
SCAN THE QR TO REGISTER



Nursery & Pre-Prep | Junior | Senior | Sixth Form

The school is owned by St Edmund's School Canterbury, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales.
Company Reg. No. 3201223, Charity Reg. No. 1056382.
Registered office: St Edmund's School Canterbury, Kent, CT2 8HU

Festival at a glance

* invitation only

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
Wednesday 25 June	Kinetic Circus Workshop*	Morning	Festival Marquee
	Lunchtime Concert by St Edmund's Choirs and musicians	1.45pm	Chapel
	Art & Design Exhibition (open throughout Festival week)	6pm	Old Gymnasium Gallery
	Exhibition Private View & Canterbury Art Prize Presentation	6pm	Old Gymnasium Gallery
	The Bootleg Beatles	7.30pm	Theatre
Thursday 26 June	Festival Evensong	5.30pm	TBC
	St Ed's Got Talent	8pm	Festival Marquee
Friday 27 June	Sing! With Mark De Lisser - Workshop followed by informal performance at 4pm	1pm - 5pm	Theatre
Saturday 28 June	Ceramics Workshop with Joshua Aubrook	9.30am-12.30pm	Art Department
	A Chorister Celebration	10.30am-4pm	Chapel
Sunday 29 June	One day Cricket - MCC vs St Edmunds XI	10.30am	Cricket Pitch
	Open Mixed Tennis Tournament	10 am	Tennis Courts
	Football Fest	10.30 - 12pm	Astro Pitch
	The Ronnie Scott All Stars and St Edmund's Big Band	2 pm	Festival Marquee
Monday 30 June	Canterbury Tales Performance	7.30pm	Theatre
Tuesday 1 July	Canterbury Tales Matinee Performance	2 pm	Theatre
	Canterbury Tales Performance and Fireworks Display	7.30pm	Theatre

Tickets available from ticketsource.co.uk.

Information in this brochure is correct at time of publication. Any changes will be announced on www.stedmundsfestival.org.uk and ticket holders will be notified.

PROUD PARTNERS OF ST. EDMUND'S FESTIVAL

The Canterbury Auction Galleries

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS SINCE 1911



*Let us make your art
perform for you*

THE CANTERBURY AUCTION GALLERIES ARE KENT'S LEADING AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS

Call us to book a valuation appointment at home or at our Canterbury saleroom. 40 Station Road West, Canterbury, Kent CT2 8AN

Telephone: 01227 763337 Email: general@tcag.co.uk Visit www.thecanterburyauctiongalleries.com