

1. The Society's programme for the 2026-27 season is as wide ranging as ever and attempts to both inform and entertain. It combines a broad spectrum of music with a variety of illustrated talks. The Society strives to maintain our traditional high standards of presentations and speakers.
2. As we are a Charity, we are keen to keep the price of the season ticket as low as possible for our members. One way that we do this is by encouraging sponsorship of individual presentations by local businesses, societies and individuals. The society would like to thank those who have done so in this season. Sponsorships are visible underneath each artist.
3. If you want to become a member of the society, please contact our membership secretary – Debbie Day – on 01255 421579, or email her at day797@btinternet.com. If we cannot offer membership at once, we maintain a waiting list.
4. If you are not a member but wish to attend a presentation, admission costs on night (at the door) are £15 for adults and £5 for students. Cash only at the door please.



2026/2027

**CLACTON &
NORTH EAST ESSEX
ARTS and LITERARY SOCIETY**

Registered Charity No. 801385
www.clactonartsandlits.com

**MONDAY NIGHTS AT 7.30pm
5th OCTOBER 2026 TO
1st MARCH 2027**

**THE PRINCES THEATRE
TOWN HALL, CLACTON-ON-SEA**

OFFICERS 2026/2027

Hon. President:
MAVIS STEPHENS
Hon. Treasurer:
ZABETH GILBERT
Hon. Vice President:
JOHN SNOW
Hon. Membership Secretary:
DEBBIE DAY
Hon. Programme Secretaries:
LOIS SCHATTEN. VERA HORLEY.
JOHN PARRY.
Hon. General Secretary:
JOHN SNOW

COMMITTEE

The Officers together with:
Lydia Camilleri. Julie Farrant. Eric Farrant.
Margaret Geale. Jim Martin. John Parry.
David Needham. Janet Totham. Linda Swinbourne.

ADMISSION CHARGES

SEASON TICKETS (For All 16 Performances) £68.00
SINGLE TICKETS (at the door) £15.00

Clacton Arts & Lits at The Princes Theatre on Monday Nights

5th October 2026 – 1st March 2027

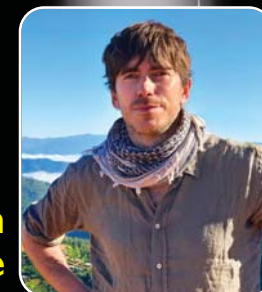
Come, See & Hear



**The Ensemble
of the band of
the Royal
Air Force
Regiment**



**Alice
Roberts**



**Simon
Reeve**

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

**Including Eric Knowles, Gospel Touch Choir
and a Pride & Prejudice performance.**

**16 Evenings of Superb
Entertainment for only**

£4.25 Per Evening!

**A season ticket for ALL 16 Performances
costs just £68. Or on the night at the door,
£15 for adults, £5 for students.**

Cash only at the door please.

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CLACTON & NORTH EAST ESSEX ARTS AND LITERARY SOCIETY

OFFERS 16 MONDAY EVENINGS OF SUPERB ENTERTAINMENT AT THE PRINCES THEATRE

5th OCTOBER 2026 – 1st MARCH 2027

October 5th – Our season opens with a rousing performance from the **BAND OF THE ENSEMBLE OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE REGIMENT**. Performing worldwide and representing the heritage of the RAF the band plays a central role in State Ceremonial events, international military shows and concerts supporting Service charities. A superb start to our year.

Sponsored by THE SQN. LDR. HARTLEY.

October 12th – This evening, we are in the fascinating company of **ERIC KNOWLES**. A popular and regular face on BBC's Antiques Roadshow and Bargain Hunt. Eric worked for Bonhams for 32 years, lectured at the V&A Museum, has the Freedom of the City of London, has written numerous books and now works as an independent valuer and lecturer.

Sponsored by a long standing member of the Society.

October 19th – Tonight we can sit back and listen to **MARK PROBERT** and his fascinating talk from his 2021 book **A JOURNEY THROUGH INDIA**. This much seasoned global traveller will take us through his near arrest on day 1, sleeping under the stars in the Thar desert and seeing the inside of an Indian jail and much much more.

October 26th – This evening, we have the pleasure of professional pianist **CORNEL OPREA**. and his **MUSICAL EVENING ACROSS EUROPE**. Classically trained, he excels in a variety of genres. His talent has taken him from playing on The Orient Express, across the globe and playing for Sir Elton John, Martin Scorsese and the Prince of Monaco to name but a few. Sit back and enjoy a beautiful melodic evening.

November 2nd – We extend a very warm welcome back to freelance writer, quizmaster **CHRISTOPHER WINN** with tonight's talk **I NEVER KNEW THAT ABOUT COASTAL ENGLAND**. He delighted and amazed us before with "I never knew that about London", so look forward to another evening of genuine "well I didn't know that!".

November 9th – We are absolutely delighted to welcome back the truly beautiful voice and talent that is **CHRISTINE BOVILL**. This evening she will take us through the 1930's with **SPEAK EASY**, showcasing a decade of villains, heroes, scandals, literary giants and criminals. A perfect evening of song and stories.

Sponsored by Lesley Barlow.

November 16th – Tonight we have a wonderful evening with actor, author and playwright **BOB CRYER** and his talk **BARRY CRYER AND SHERLOCK HOLMES. TOGETHER AT LAST**. In 2013 Bob and his father Barry co-wrote the fictional diaries of Sherlock Holmes' Landlady, Mrs Hudson, which later transferred to stage and radio. Come and enjoy a light-hearted, funny and uplifting evening.

November 23rd – Tonight we have an absolute treat with **GOSPEL TOUCH CHOIR**. Their simple but beautiful vision - To Be the Most Influential Gospel Services Provider in the World. 'Touching Lives One Song At A Time'. They have performed at St James Palace, an Olympic closing ceremony and many major international venues and events. A perfectly elevating, harmonious and powerful way to end the first half of the season.

Sponsored in memory of Brian Stephens and Derek Geale.

Your Committee wish you a very Happy Christmas.

January 11th – The New Year starts with **A SPECTACULAR EVENING OF MUSIC** and entertainment, featuring brilliant soloists and duo's performing recitals and collaborations

Sponsored by a long-standing member of the Society.

January 18th – Tonight we go **AROUND THE WORLD WITH SIMON REEVE**. Adventurer, author and TV presenter, Simon has travelled to more than 130 countries making award winning documentaries. His programmes have covered conflict, conservation, politics, poverty, wildlife and much more. We may even discover how he was detained for spying for the KGB. An interesting night ahead.

Sponsored by Friends of Frinton Theatre.

January 25th – Tonight, we are treated to a unique performance of **PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**. A spell-binding evening of words and music by 3 talented actors / musicians who will take us on a journey straight to an 18th century drawing room. Not to be missed!

February 1st – This evening, we have a musical treat bringing us a **CARPENTERS EXPERIENCE** The charming voice of **MAGGIE NESTOR** and her band musicians capture the amazing talents of Richard and Karen Carpenter. To quote them, "It's Yesterday Once More".

February 8th – Tonight, expect a fantastic evening with anatomist, biological anthropologist, author and broadcaster **ALICE ROBERTS**. Alice has passionately presented over 100 TV shows on human biology, history and archaeology with her popular BBC Two "Digging for Britain" now in its 13th year. Tonight she will take us on journey to **THE ORIGINS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE**.

Sponsored by a long-standing member of the Society.

February 15th – We are delighted to welcome back the hugely talented Sophie & Emily with **AN EVENING WITH BELLA VOCI (CANTANTI)**. In October 2024 they enchanted us with Opera For Everyone. Tonight we have another beautiful mix of songs from Opera, classical and musical arias.

Sponsored by Michael & Julie Payne.

February 22nd – Tonight, we have the remarkable **LUCY LEWIS** with a talk from her book **LIGHTING THE FUSE**. The first woman to operate as a Bomb Disposal Officer with The Royal Engineers, and a further first being the first woman to be appointed University Marshal at the University of Cambridge. A talk most definitely not to be missed.

March 1st – To close out this season we end on a high with the hugely talented band **SOUND WITH US**. Whilst this talented group of musicians and dancers perform various genres from Country, Disco, and Great Gatsby, tonight they will delight us with a vibrant energy, a heartfelt charm of an **IRISH CRAIC BAND** with the ultimate foot tapping evening. Be prepared for a wonderfully uplifting end to the season.

Sponsored by Anne & David Needham.

April 19th – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

BRIAN CARLINE makes a lovely light-hearted humorous AGM return, with his talk **OUR STREET** Get ready with your "I remember that", "I'd forgotten that" and "Oh yes, we did that".