The Principal’s Lecture Programme at Queen Ethelburga’s Collegiate
Welcome to the The Principal’s Lecture Programme at Queen Ethelburga’s Collegiate.

The aim of the programme is to provide a wide reaching, informative and engaging series of public lectures which offer suitable academic stretch and breadth across many areas of the curriculum and general interest.

Each of the lectures is held on a Sunday afternoon through the academic year, starting at 15:00 and is forty-five minutes in length, with a question and answer section immediately afterwards.

All of the lectures are open not only to students and parents affiliated to Queen Ethelburga’s, but also to members of the general public.

We look forward to welcoming you and hope you will find something of interest in our programme for the year ahead.

Louise Woodward
Enrichment Lead
TICKET INFORMATION

All lectures are free to attend and tickets are available from:
https://qelecutes.eventbrite.co.uk

Tom York
29th September 2019. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.
“Go For It - My Journey Through Acting”
https://tomyork.eventbrite.co.uk

Alex Bellos
6th October 2019. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.
“The World’s Favourite Number”
https://abellos.eventbrite.co.uk

Support Dogs - Anna Duthie
13th October 2019. 15:00 - Wedgwood Room.
“An Insight into Life with an Autism Support Dog”
https://aduthie.eventbrite.co.uk

John Bird
17th November 2019. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.
“From Poverty to Purpose”
https://jbird.eventbrite.co.uk

Paul Hughes
24th November 2019. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.
“Osama, Obama and Linguistic Nirvana”
https://phughes.eventbrite.co.uk

Simon Armitage
1st December 2019. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.
“A Poetry Reading by Simon Armitage”
https://sarmitage.eventbrite.co.uk

Deena Payne
19th January 2020. 15:00 - Wedgwood Room.
“Busting the Myths - Leading Towards a Healthy, Fitter and Happier You”
https://dpayne.eventbrite.co.uk

Dr Jaclyn Bell
22nd March 2020. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.
“Becoming an Astronaut”
https://jbell.eventbrite.co.uk

Alex Rawlings
26th April 2020. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.
“How to Speak any Language Fluently”
https://arawlings.eventbrite.co.uk

Bobby Seagull
17th May 2020. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.
“Amazing Career Choices”
https://bseagull.eventbrite.co.uk
TOM YORK

29th September 2019. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.

“Go For It - My Journey Through Acting”

LAMDA trained Tom York is best known for his role of Sam Carne, brother to Demelza Poldark (Eleanor Tomlinson), in the award-winning BBC One period drama Poldark. He returned this year for the highly anticipated fifth series. Sam is a charismatic Methodist preacher, who remains keen to save the souls of everyone he meets; he is slowly starting to integrate himself into the lives of Ross (played by Aidan Turner) and Demelza, although it is a slow process, as there is friction there due to different beliefs and ways of living their lives.

Further credits for television include his lead role of ‘Hero’ in SyFy’s fantasy drama, Olympus alongside Sonya Cassidy, Endeavour, FX series Tyrant, Midsomer Murders, Death in Paradise and comedy drama Agatha Raisin.

The talk will provide an insight into the common obstacles and the great rewards of going after what you really want to do, however difficult or competitive it may be!

Tom is also a proud ambassador for the charity CLIC Sargent. CLIC Sargent helps young people with cancer, and supports them and their families as they make their way through treatment.

Tickets are available at https://tomyork.eventbrite.co.uk
ALEX BELLOS

6th October 2019. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.

‘The World’s Favourite Number’

Alex Bellos is the author of several bestselling maths books and the inventor of the elliptical pool table. He studied mathematics and philosophy at Oxford before training as a journalist, working for various national papers before ending up as South America Correspondent for The Guardian between 1998-2003. Returning to the UK, he began to write about mathematics. His books, including Alex’s Adventures in Numberland, Alex Through the Looking Glass and Can You Solve My Problems? have sold more than half a million copies worldwide. He has a puzzle column in The Guardian and his YouTube clips have received 25 million views. Alex’s other books include Futebol: The Brazilian Way of Life and the children’s book series Football School, which explains the world through football.

Maths writer Alex Bellos was so sick of being asked for his favourite number that he started to ask everyone else the same question. More than 40,000 responses later he had a treasure trove of data. In a talk that includes mathematics, psychology and the history of science, Bellos reveals the curious patterns behind our emotional responses to numbers - what they say about us, and what’s important about them.

We shall be supporting and raising funds for the charity Macmillan at Alex’s lecture this afternoon.

Tickets are available at https://abellos.eventbrite.co.uk
SUPPORT DOGS - ANNA DUTHIE
13th October 2019. 15:00 - Wedgwood Room.
‘An Insight into Life with an Autism Support Dog’

Support Dogs is a national charity that provides, trains and supports specialist assistance dog partnerships, to increase the independence and quality of life for those affected by autism, epilepsy and physical disability. From keeping children safe to alerting their owners prior to an oncoming seizure from raising the alarm in emergencies to helping with a huge range of day to day tasks, Support Dogs transform the lives of their families.

Support Dogs has been a national pioneer in training assistance dogs for children with autism, and an international pioneer in training seizure alert dogs, giving people with epilepsy a 100 per cent warning in advance of a seizure. Work for people with physical disabilities has also grown to a similar extent.

Anna Duthie, whose family has been joined by Chester Thor, an autism assistance dog, will give a special insight into the impact of an autism assistance dog for not only her son Alex but the whole family.

We shall be raising funds for Support Dogs at this event.

Tickets are available at https://aduthie.eventbrite.co.uk
JOHN BIRD
17th November 2019. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.
‘From Poverty to Purpose’

John Bird is co-founder of *The Big Issue*, now published in 35 countries around the world and always with the same aim of helping those struggling for a break in society.

Of himself he says: ‘I am 73. I was brought up in an orphanage and served time in a young offenders’ institution. During turbulent and difficult times, I slept rough as one of London’s homeless. On reflection, I was very much a part of the problems of society.

Eventually, I realised that the only way to get out of the destructive circle into which I had grown up was to give myself a hand up, rather than wait for others to give me a hand out.

Settling down in my 20s, I began to hold down regular jobs in factories and, eventually, as a skilled printer. I never forgot the hardship and problems of my youth - and the ways in which similar deprivation afflicts thousands of others in similar positions at the bottom rung of society.

Twenty-eight years ago this year, using my experience of the print industry, I co-founded (the now world-famous) *The Big Issue*. The weekly magazine achieves its mass circulation by being sold on the streets of the UK by vendors who are homeless and vulnerably accommodated. The deal is simple, and proceeds of each copy sold are split equally between vendors and the publisher.

Thus, reflecting my own philosophy, the deprived and under-privileged are given a hand up through earning their money, rather than waiting for the hand out which may do little more than trap them in the poverty from which many crave escape.

Although strictly non-political, I have been consulted by Prime Ministers and Cabinet Ministers about how best to lift people out of poverty through harnessing their own energies. And as a newly-created, independent Crossbench Peer, I’ll continue to do this in the UK Parliament.’

The lecture will provide a detailed insight into John’s journey and the difficulties he has had to overcome throughout his life.

We shall be supporting and raising funds for the charity Children in Need at John’s lecture this afternoon.

Tickets are available at https://jbird.eventbrite.co.uk
Paul Hughes is a multi-award-winning motivational speaker, who specialises in wowing students and teachers alike about the importance of learning languages and how!

Paul is a multi-lingual (Russian, Arabic and Pashto) former Royal Air Force Aircrewman and now Managing Director of his own research company. During his military career, he predominantly served on operations that concentrated on the Middle East, North Africa and Afghanistan, including a high profile secondment to the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) in Baghdad as a Weapons Inspector and Interpreter. His wide array of experiences, coupled with a joie-de-vivre and an embracement of other cultures, has permeated institutional barriers and preconceived ideas on religion and race.

In the lecture, he will be covering how developing a Special Forces mindset to language learning will greatly improve your chances of achieving whatever you want in life (it's not just a military way of thinking and acting).

The secrets of white matter will be revealed!

We shall be supporting and raising funds for the charity The Naz and Matt Foundation at Paul's lecture this afternoon.

Tickets are available at https://phughes.eventbrite.co.uk
SIMON ARMITAGE

1st December 2019. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.

‘A Poetry Reading by Simon Armitage’

Simon Armitage is the UK Poet Laureate and was Oxford Professor of Poetry (2015-2019). His numerous accolades include an Ivor Novello Award for song-writing in the BAFTA-winning film Feltham Sings and the 2018 Queen’s Gold Medal for Poetry. Armitage has published 28 collections of poetry, including his latest, Sandettie Light Vessel Automatic, and his acclaimed translation of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. He also writes extensively for television and radio, and he is the author of two novels and the non-fiction bestsellers All Points North, Walking Home and Walking Away. His theatre works include The Last Days of Troy, performed at Shakespeare’s Globe in 2014. He was appointed Professor of Poetry at Leeds University in 2017.

Simon will deliver a poetry reading during the lecture and then open himself up to questions from the floor.

We shall be supporting and raising funds for the charity Support Dogs at Simon’s lecture this afternoon.

Tickets are available at https://sarmitage.eventbrite.co.uk
DEENA PAYNE

19th January 2020. 15:00 - Wedgwood Room.

‘Busting the Myths - Leading Towards a Healthy, Fitter and Happier You’

Deena Payne has embraced many aspects of the entertainment business, having started out in 1968 as a dancer, moving on to musicals including the original cast of the West End hit *They're Playing Our Song* in 1980, playing in, and assisting, director Bob Thompson at Hornchurch repertory theatre and more recently 3 tours in the nationally acclaimed *Calendar Girls*, the award winning *Our House*, *On Tidy Endings* and *Ladies Day*. Choreography and teaching dance have also featured along the way as well as many film and TV parts but she is probably best known for playing Viv in *Emmerdale* for 18 years, from 1993 to 2011.

“In 1988 I completed a diploma course in aromatherapy and reflexology and have been running my own clinic alongside my ‘proper job’ ever since, always expanding my knowledge of ‘complementary’ therapies such as homeopathy and herbalism, adding Pilates (instructor) and gaining an advanced nutrition diploma more recently.

I have always been interested by the way we ‘tick’, health, fitness and food, always asking ‘why’ and searching for answers.

My journey, this far, has been fascinating and I am eager to pass on information to help clear a path - in this very cluttered world of diets, do’s and don’ts - to a positive more happy and vital you!

Being informed helps you make the right choices, change your habits, change your life! My talk aims to ‘Bust the Myths’ and help guide you to being a healthy, fitter and happier you!”

We shall be supporting and raising funds for the charity MIND at Deena’s lecture this afternoon.

Tickets are available at https://dpayne.eventbrite.co.uk
Dr Jaclyn Bell has a keen interest in all STEM subjects and is a proud graduate and Honorary Fellow of the University of Liverpool. In 2011 she graduated with an MSc in Mathematics Sciences, followed by a PhD in Theoretical Particle Physics in 2016. In 2017 Jackie took part in a BBC science production called *Astronauts: Do You Have What It Takes?* for which she was selected from over 3,500 applicants to take part and undertake tests similar to those used in the astronaut selection process at major space agencies. Following filming, Jackie has continued to work towards her dream and passion of space exploration. Currently based at Imperial College London, Jackie has a huge passion for communicating science and inspiring others to pursue careers in STEM fields.

Join Jackie as she talks about her unique experience, the fears she faced along the way and the steps you too can take to prepare for a career in space.

We shall be supporting and raising funds for the charity Sport Relief at Jackie’s lecture this afternoon.

Tickets are available at https://jbell.eventbrite.co.uk
ALEX RAWLINGS

26th April 2020. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.

‘How to Speak any Language Fluently’

Alex was born and raised in London. He discovered his passion for languages while on holiday in Greece one summer when he was 8, and since then has not been able to stop. He was named Britain’s Most Multilingual Student in a nationwide competition run by Harper Collins in 2012 after being tested for fluency in 11 languages.

He published his first book *How To Speak Any Language Fluently* in 2017, and his second book *From Amourette to Żal: Bizarre and Beautiful Words from Europe* in 2018. He now lives in Barcelona, where he works with Learnlife, a new type of school for the future, and also is a freelance journalist and writer.

Alex’s lecture will focus on illuminating a series of fun, stimulating and effective methods to help anyone learn languages faster. Crucial listening for anyone currently studying a language or interested in foreign travel.

We shall be supporting and raising funds for Martin House Hospice at Alex’s lecture this afternoon.

Tickets are available at https://arawlings.eventbrite.co.uk
Bobby Seagull

17th May 2020. 15:00 - King’s Theatre.

‘Amazing Career Choices’

Bobby Seagull is a school maths teacher, doctoral student at Cambridge (researching maths anxiety), an author (The Life-changing Magic of Numbers), television presenter (Monkman and Seagull’s Genius Guide to Great Britain). He also contributes regular puzzles to Radio 4, writes a column for the Financial Times and even finds time to watch his favourite - West Ham - football team lose.

Bobby comments: “I’ve always loved maths but I had no idea it would play such a big part in my life and lead to such diverse and amazing career choices”

The lecture will be about the unexpected, surprising, creative and satisfying possibilities that studying maths can open up. Across multiple industries and disciplines maths can be a point of entry that not everyone thinks of but more people should consider as a truly enabling and exciting way to forging a career.

We shall be supporting and raising funds for the charity Marine Conservation Society at Bobby’s lecture this afternoon.

Tickets are available at https://bseagull.eventbrite.co.uk
The aim of the Principal’s Lecture Programme at Queen Ethelburga’s Collegiate is to provide our students with the opportunity to learn beyond the syllabus, something universities commonly look for in applicants.

All of the lectures within the programme are free to attend and are open not only the QE community, but also to the general public.

A wonderful chance to enjoy some intellectual stimulation and challenge within a glorious and accessible setting. Should you have any access requirements, are hard of hearing or have any other special requests, please book your tickets via Eventbrite and then email lwoodward@qe.org or call 01423 333300 stating which event(s) you are attending and how many tickets you have booked.

Please either print off your ticket or display it to us on your smartphone or tablet on the evening.

There is plenty of free parking available on site accessible through Gate F

Please note you must bring your ticket with you to guarantee entry.