

Shenfest

Shenington with Alkerton's Music & Literature Festival



Welcome to Shenfest 2025



We are pleased to welcome our community, together with their families and friends, to a weekend of events and to help raise funds for good causes. We hope there is something for everyone in the programme.

Our sponsors have again been very generous, providing sufficient financial support to allow us to make entry to all events **FREE**.

As our costs have already been covered any donations that you might care to give at the events (or online) will be split between Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine, BYHP (tackling the root causes of youth homelessness) and in helping to maintain our two churches.

The programme summary for Shenfest 2025, complete with timings and locations, is on the back page of this brochure. Details for each event can be found on the following pages.

Please let us know which events you plan to attend (via mark.petterson@warwickenergy.com) so we can plan the seating accordingly.

Thank you for supporting our festival – we hope you have a great time

The Shenfest Team



Shenfest Patrons

Stephen Bell, Aubrey Powell, Tamsin Waley-Cohen

London Mozart Players

7.30pm Friday June 13th



We are pleased to welcome back members of the London Mozart Players, this time a wind trio. Their repertoire for the evening will include music by Mozart, Beethoven, Ibert and Milhaud plus other short, but delectable, pieces.

Christopher O'Neal (oboe) studied at the Royal College of Music, London, and in Freiburg, Germany. He is now principal oboe and soloist with the Orchestra of St Johns, and co-principal with the London Mozart Players.

He is founder member of award-winning ensembles Capricorn and the Elysian Wind Quintet, and has been the oboist of the Fibonacci Sequence since the group's inception in 1994. His acclaimed recital CD "Oboe" with Fibonacci is frequently broadcast by Radio 3 and other classical stations worldwide.

Ian Scott (clarinet) is the Principal Clarinet of the Royal Ballet Sinfonia and studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. He has been Guest Principal with all the major London orchestras and soloist with the BBC Concert Orchestra amongst others.

He has recorded "British Clarinet Concertos" and "English Clarinet Concertos". His most recent concerto disc, "From Russia" was released by Divine Art Records and after releasing his recording of the suites from Cinderella and Romeo & Juliet for clarinet and piano.

Gavin McNaughton (bassoon) is a prominent member of the London music scene appearing as principal bassoon in many London symphony and chamber orchestras. He has held positions in BBC orchestras and for 35 years in the Academy of St Martin in The Fields.

He currently is Principal Bassoon in The Orchestra of Saint John's and now spends most of his time recording music for film and TV sound tracks such as the Marvel series, Snow White, Midsomer Murders, and Father Brown.

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Sponsors

We are extremely grateful to a number of generous villagers and local business owners who have kindly sponsored Shenfest 2025. This group includes all our sponsors, advertisers and;

The Bell
Rob and Claire Bryan
Damian Bunyan
The Clarke Family
Eastwood Farm

Alun Hindle
Helen Marsden
Sally and Finlay Scott
Liz Stevens
Mark and Vanessa Petterson

Donations

We will very happily continue to take cash and card donations at the events as per previous Shenfests but if you would prefer to make contributions electronically please use the following details:

Account Name	Shenfest
Bank	HSBC, Banbury
Sort Code	40-41-26
Account number	31452223



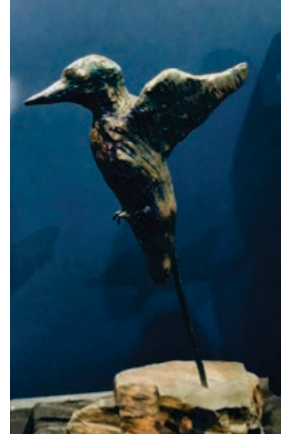
Shaughn O'Brien: Open Studio

12-3pm Saturday June 14th

After working in medicine for over 50 years, in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology, Shaughn has embarked on a second career as a sculptor.



The development of his studio at The Ox Barn has progressed a little over the past two years ago and Shaughn has kindly agreed to open his studio again for this Shenfest.

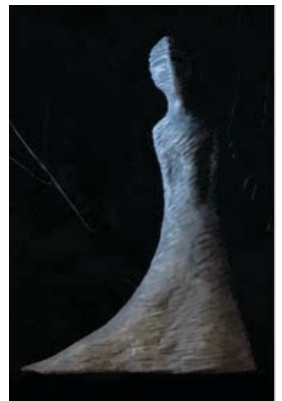


His works have already been included in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, the Medical Art Society Annual Exhibition, The Brompton, Hampstead School of Art and at the Chelsea Art Society.

Shaughn attained the Diploma in Fine Art from the Heatherley School of Fine Art, Chelsea in 2022.

You will see that he continues to explore a range of sculpture techniques including stone carving, bronzes, clay portraiture and found object assemblage, all of which, old and new, he will be showing.

Please enter the Studio via The Ox Barn on Rattlecombe Road and exit via their jitty back on to The Green.



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Little Shenfest

Ipm Saturday June 14th



Little Shenfest will again include a Bring Your Own (BYO) family picnic on The Green from noon (weather permitting of course).

Legolab, 1-3pm in the Village Hall



Simon Porter has kindly offered to run one of his acclaimed Legolabs. This is normally for 5 - 11 year olds and for up to 15 children ... but we will be flexible.

Legolab has fun challenges that will involve structured learning and team building. The Lego is provided – please do not bring your own Lego.

Simon will also be exhibiting some of his complex Lego models.

Sponsored by



Kate MacDougall

4pm Saturday June 14th

Kate MacDougall will be interviewed about her career as an author and journalist by our very own journalist, and documentary producer, Emily Lawson.

Kate is an author and freelance journalist who specialises in the countryside, lifestyle, interiors and all things dogs.

Her first book, *London's Number One Dog Walking Agency*, was published in the UK and the US and tells of Kate's personal journey from working at Sotheby's to her literary life.



'A really lovely book for dog lovers' said **Jilly Cooper**. 'Charming, funny, heartwarming and full of dogs - what more could you want?' - **Adam Kay**, bestselling author of *This is Going to Hurt*.

Her second book, entitled *Good Things*, is a heartwarming and uplifting tale of family dynamics set in an English village. This novel was published in 2024 and is about to go into paperback.

Kate has also written for *The Telegraph*, *Country Life*, *Horse and Hound*, *Homes and Antiques* and *Period Living* amongst others.

She grew up in Shropshire, has lived in London, Edinburgh and New York, but now lives nearby to us in Oxfordshire with her husband, three children and many animals!

The Alkies (The Friends of Alkerton Church) will once again kindly be providing refreshments outside St Michael's Church, Alkerton from 3.30pm.

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Harare

7.30pm Saturday June 14th



Harare are a UK based Zimbabwean dance music group, fronted by the exuberance and charisma of Zimbabwean musician Kuda Matimba.

Harare feature a groundbreaking line-up, mixing the buzzing acoustics of the Southern African rich-toned marimba, mbira, ringing jingling guitars, swooping basslines, irresistible dance rhythms and uplifting vocals.

A virtuoso marimbist, Kuda Matimba was a member of Zimbabwe's legendary Bhundu Boys, a groundbreaking force in the African music industry, as they paved the way for more artists to reach commercial success.

Harare bring a spectacular mix of Southern African musical styles, particularly the musical styles of Zimbabwe. Kuda strongly believes in the importance of preserving one's heritage through music.

Harare's music is about social awareness, life yesterday, today and tomorrow, advice, respect, love for one another and compassion. It expresses emotions such as pain, love, wisdom and rage. Words to the songs are performed in the Shona language of Zimbabwe.

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The Fringe

9pm Saturday June 14th



Classic 1980's cover band, featuring our very own Nick Jasko

Sponsored by **CN || GLASS**

The Shenington Sloggers vs The Gold Bats

2pm Sunday June 15th



This year we will be welcoming back The Gold Bats (the P G Wodehouse Society cricket team) to play the Sloggers at Wroxton.

Sir Pelham Grenville Wodehouse, creator of Bertie Wooster, Jeeves and many other characters, was himself a player in The Authors team when it was first founded, alongside Arthur Conan Doyle and AA Milne.

This team are named after one of Wodehouse's books, The Gold Bat published in 1904, and play fixtures against the Authors and the Sherlock Holmes Society.

The Gold Bats will be looking to take revenge after last years' win for the Sloggers when the visitors fell short when chasing our 208 for 6.

Our Skipper steadied the ship with his 50 not out (after our top order batsmen fell to loanees Henry and Ronnie Hodgson) and was supported by supported by Oscar Raisbeck (35), Nick de Pennington (26) and Damian Bunyan (23).

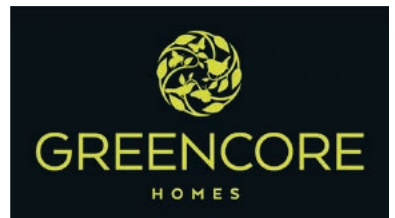
The 'Talk on the Boundary' at the tea interval will be given by Dr Nicholas Baldwin, Dean of Wroxton Abbey, on the history of the grounds and building.

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Thanks!

So many individuals and companies have helped make Shenfest 2025 happen; we'd like to thank all those that have supported us, both named and anonymous, for their generosity in time, donations and encouragement but in particular our Headline Sponsors:



Shenfest

Shenington with Alkerton's Music & Literature Festival

The 2025 Programme

Friday
June 13th

London Mozart Players

The LMP returns, this time playing a wind trio of clarinet, oboe and bassoon for pieces by Mozart, Beethoven etc.

7.30pm
Shenington Church

Saturday
June 14th

Open Sculpture Studio at The Ox Barn

Shaughn O'Brien is kindly opening his studio to us again.

12pm-3pm
Rattlecombe Rd

Little Shenfest. BYO family picnic. Lego Lab from 1pm

Kindly organised by Amanda Lewis and Simon Porter.

1pm-3pm
Green, Village Hall

'London's No1 Dog Walking Agency'. Kate MacDougall

Locally based journalist and author will tell us about her literary career and life as a writer.

4pm
Alkerton Church

Harare

An evening of joyful and energetic music and dance from the group originally from Zimbabwe.

7.30pm
Shenington Church

Sunday
June 15th

Shenington Sloggers vs Gold Bats cricket match

A match with the P.G. Wodehouse Society team.

2pm Wroxton Cricket Ground

Book talk on the Boundary - Dr Nicholas Baldwin

The Dean of Wroxton Abbey on the amazing history of this important local landmark.

3.30pm
Wroxton Cricket Ground

The Fringe **Fade to Grey** at The Bell from around 9pm on Saturday June 14th

Entry fees

FREE – thanks to our costs already being covered by the generosity of our sponsors. Donations will be requested at each event and all funds raised will go to help maintain our two fine Norman churches, fund humanitarian aid in Ukraine and to help BYHP (tackling the root causes of youth homelessness).

Places

To help us plan seating please let us know which events you would like to attend - mark.petterson@warwickenergy.com or call 670934