

## Detailed Programme

This is the detailed programme of individual shows, workshops and events that will take place over the festival weekend. For details and photos of the Performers, please refer to the website.

### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

#### Marquees:

##### Purple Marquee

###### **7.00 - 8.15pm** *Stories and Songs of Welcome* (Age A)

We welcome you to this year's festival with a showcase of artists who will be performing throughout the weekend. This is a traditional celebration of the start of the festival, and this year, we have storytellers: Sarah Liisa Wilkinson, Dave Tonge, and Colin Urwin; and musicians: Sonya Smith, and Kate Green, who will get the festival off to an exciting start.

###### **8.30 - 9.30pm** *Trading Tales – Daniel Morden and Sarah Liisa Wilkinson* (Age A)

Daniel Morden has been plying his storytelling trade for many years, but here he teams up with one of the new generation of storytellers, Sarah Liisa Wilkinson, in a fascinating double-header. How will they spark off each other? Where will their tales go? Dark and serious or light and hilarious? Whatever they produce together, you will sure to be entertained by this brilliant pairing.

###### **9.45 - 10.45pm** *Trading Tales & Tunes – Donnelly and South & Peter Chand* (Age F)

Without the use of a safety net these three artists (musicians Keith Donnelly and Lauren South, and storyteller Peter Chand) will enter the marquee with not a word between them about the material they are about to share. Banking on their repertoire, quick thinking, and an innate sense of adventure they hope to dazzle you with sheer force of will!

###### **11.00pm – 12.00am** *Old Deccan Tales – Gauri Raje* (Age 12+)

A young British girl is traveling with her father into the hills of India for summer. It is a hot, long and dull journey as the palanquin-bearers transport them into the hills to escape the summer heat. Her mother is absent, and to keep her occupied her ayah (Indian nanny) begins to tell her stories. A world comes alive within the confines of

the palanquin. She never forgets her ayah or her stories. A storytelling piece that is a journey across the world of the coloniser and the colonised to find intimacy and wonder.

## Red Marquee

**8.15 – 9.15pm** *The Trouble with Being King* – Amy Douglas (Age F, 10+)

Being King carries great rewards, but also great responsibility – and if the King sickens, so does the land. Crowns weigh heavy, and becoming King does not guarantee living happily ever after. Amy Douglas has been telling stories for many years and carries the ‘Stories of Kings’ learned from Scottish Traveller, Duncan Williamson - including ‘The Thorn in the King’s Foot’.

**9.30 - 10.30pm** *The Little Gold Ring* – Colin Urwin (Age 12+)

1588 and the Spanish Armada sets sail for England. Zago Augustin is a young mariner caught up in the tides of war. He bears a little gold ring inscribed, *No Tengo Mas que darte* - I have no more to give you. It is a gift from his lover and a reminder of their promise. Zago’s ship, laden with treasure beyond the imagination and 1300 desperate men, comes to ruin on the treacherous north coast of Ireland. Cast into the pitiless sea, Zago encounters captivating otherworldly creatures. He is offered salvation, but will he make the right choice?

The little Gold Ring is a collage of song, verse and prose which will take you on a journey of wonder and tug at your heartstrings ...

**10.45 - 11.45pm** *Singing with the Water* - Kate Green (Age F)

Since Kate Green’s first public performance on *Genevieve Tudor’s Sunday Folk* (BBC Radio Shropshire), water has been a constant flow through her work. From tales of thirsty zombies to the history of water utilities, and spanning from mid-Wales to the Sargasso, Kate will share unexpected watery stories from source to sea; combining humour, history, loss and landscape in her inimitable style.

## Family Marquee

**8.00 - 8.45pm** *Bedtime Stories and Songs with Sue Bailey*. (Age A)

A medley of interactive stories and songs, some familiar, some less so, to wrap up the day. Great for anyone aged 10 and under. PJs, mugs of hot chocolate, and teddy bears, welcome.

## Other venues:

### Orangery

#### **8.30 – 9.30pm *Singing and Story Workshop* Singing with Mr. Sef – Sef Townsend (Age F, 16+)**

A fun workshop which can be enjoyed for what it is. But it also shares material that can form the basis of many creative musical and movement activities for children right from the early years through to primary level, with ideas that can be carried forward into later years. Particularly ideal for anyone who is working with children, but Sef says that he has used these techniques himself with just as many adults as children, in countless countries, in workshops, gatherings and celebrations. Sef says that these techniques always produce lots of smiles, and lots of laughs.

Max 20. All levels, **Age 16+** Please sign up at the Box Office.

#### **9.45pm – 10.45pm *Story Round Tales for Grown Ups* led by Simon Heywood (Age 16+)**

Over the years many festival-goers have told their first story in public at FatE. If you have a tale under 15 minutes long, feel free to bring it along to the story round and gain valuable experience in the art of oral storytelling to a supportive audience. This late session is aimed at 16+ age group, so you can try out tales with more adult / grown up themes. Simon will try to get as many voices heard as is possible. No experience necessary.

### Bar

#### **6.00 – 7pm *Early Jam Sessions* – Adam Beresford-Browne and Friends (Age F)**

Who better to get the festival mood going than this collaboration of fabulous musicians? They have spent many hours jamming together, and sharing a range of traditional folk tunes, at previous FatEs, so we are delighted to have them return to us this year. The musicians in the ensemble may change for each session, but the fun and collaborative music-making will be a constant. Grab a Hobsons beer or cider,

or other tippie of your choice, and get your feet tapping and soak up those festival vibes. And – feel free to join in or just listen.

**10.45pm till late** *Midnight Sessions - Jam Away! Adam Beresford-Browne and Friends.* (Age 16+)

These late-night sessions with great musicians are a perfect way to end your day. Bring your instrument, voice, or just your presence, and bathe in the late-night FatE vibe at Hobsons Bar.

## Birchwood

**11.00pm - Midnight Firepit Story Sessions – Donnelly and South, Ailsa Dixon, Ffion Phillips, Iris Skipworth and Macsen Baglin.** (Age 16+)

Your late-night entertainment has a fine mixture of Keith Donnelly and Lauren South, performing together with our Young Storytellers from the Young Storytellers Festival Showcase. Together they will be weaving some magical and stories and songs around our atmospheric firepit.

Note: If weather conditions are not suitable (either too dry creating a fire hazard, or too wet), these sessions will move to the Family Marquee.