

2019 Knutsford Literature Festival

12-16 October

Celebrating 20 Years



Cate Haste

Dan Jones



Sonia Purnell



Rachel Reeves



BIOGRAPHY, HISTORY,
ART & MUSIC,
POLITICS, ESPIONAGE

Passionate Spirit: The Life of Alma Mahler

1 Cate Haste looks beyond the men who were besotted with Alma and re-evaluates her legend and legacy

Saturday 12th October

METHODIST CHURCH,
PRINCESS STREET, WA16 6BY



2.30 pm



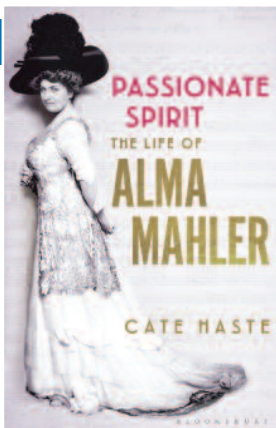
Book Signing



TICKET ESSENTIAL
(REDEEMABLE AGAINST
FEATURED HARDBACK)



REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE



Passionate Spirit brings to light one of the most misunderstood and controversial muses in history, Alma Mahler. Drawing extensively on unpublished letters and diaries that span four decades, Cate reveals a highly independent woman determined to forge her own path. A talented composer, she was remarkably creative, curious, challenging - and zealous in her pursuit of love.

Artists, architects, musicians and writers flocked to her coterie in fin de siècle Vienna. These included her various husbands Gustav Mahler, Walter Gropius (founder of the Bauhaus) and Franz Werfel. Gustav Klimt gave Alma her first kiss!. Far from being a passive muse, Alma was an active partner and collaborated with these men to enable them to reach their full potential, often at the heavy price of her own artistic fulfilment.

Passionate Spirit is an important addition to the emerging canon of work that re-considers influential women in history.

Cate is a biographer, author and documentary film-maker. Her books include: *Craigie Aitchison*, *Nazi Women*, *Clarissa Eden* and, with Cherie Blair, *The Goldfish Bowl*.

“Written in elegant, lucid prose, Haste's biography is a treasure-trove of European cultural riches and scandalous intrigue. Compelling.” *Economist*



An Afternoon with Dan Jones

2 The eminent historian introduces his latest book, *Crusaders: An Epic History of the Wars for the Holy Land*

Sunday 13th October

COTTONS HOTEL & SPA
MANCHESTER ROAD, WA16 0SU



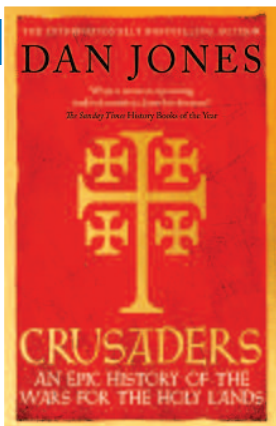
2.30 pm



Book Signing



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Dan is a master of popular narrative history, with the enviable ability to write ‘page - turners’ underpinned by authoritative scholarship.

In this, his 8th book, Dan illuminates the history of the Crusades - that sequence of religious wars fought between the late 11th century and the late medieval period. Armies from European Christian states attempted to wrest the Holy Land from Islamic rule and left an enduring imprint on relations between the Muslim World and the West.

CRUSADERS tells a tale soaked in Islamic, Christian and Jewish blood, peopled by extraordinary individuals, and characterised by both low ambition and high principle.

Known to many as the writer and presenter of television historical documentaries, Dan’s thoughtful and perceptive commentary and ability to contextualise events and characters, has contributed to a greater understanding of large swathes of our cultural heritage.

Dan is an historian, broadcaster and award - winning journalist. His books include: *The Plantagenets*, *Magna Carta*, *The Templars* and *The Colour of Time*.

“Never before has the era of the Crusades been depicted in such bright and striking colours, or their story told with such gusto.”

Amazon



Please return the booking form to:

Knutsford Literature Festival 2019
76 Glebelands Road, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 9DZ

Cheques and postal orders payable to:

Knutsford Literature Festival

Cash should not be sent in postal applications.
Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Priority Bookings:

Friends of The Festival can make priority bookings,
by post, up to Saturday 24th August 2019.

General Bookings:

Postal Bookings: Accepted from Monday 26th August 2019.

In-Person Bookings: From Monday 9th September 2019

Tickets from **Waterstones Bookshop**

72 King Street, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6ED

Tel: 01565 621 920

Open: Monday to Saturday 9.30am – 5pm

Sunday 10.30am – 4pm

Telephone Enquiries: Monday to Friday 10.00am - 4.00pm
Call: 07804 553 171 from 2nd September.

Refunds and Admissions:

Please check your tickets as soon as you receive them.
The Festival cannot refund money, or exchange tickets, except
when an event is cancelled. The Festival reserves the right to
refuse admission and to change or amend events if necessary.



**Books will be available for purchase
at all book signing events.**

The Knutsford Literature Festival is now in its twentieth
successful year. The committee would like to thank all
Friends of the Festival and **Waterstones Bookshop**, King
Street, Knutsford for their continuing support.

Produced by **BB Design M: 07944 578 791**

www.knutsfordlitfest.org

Knutsford Literature Festival Booking Form

Please return this booking form with S.A.E. to:

Knutsford Literature Festival 2019
76 Glebelands Road, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 9DZ

Name

Address

.....

..... Post code

Tel

12 October - 16 October 2019

Date	Event no.	Event	No. tickets	Price	Total
12 Oct	1	Passionate Spirit : The Life of Alma Mahler		£5	
13 Oct	2	An Afternoon With Dan Jones - Crusaders		£10	
15 Oct	3	A Woman of No Importance		£5	
16 Oct	4	A Literary Lunch with Rachel Reeves		£30	
				Total	<input type="text"/>



A Woman of No Importance

3 Sonia Purnell reveals the astonishing double life of an American-turned-British spy in WWII

Tuesday 15th October

METHODIST CHURCH, PRINCESS STREET, WA16 6BY



2.30 pm



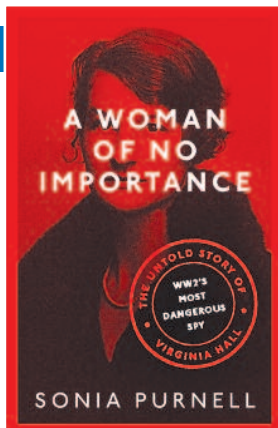
Book Signing



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Sonia tells the thrilling and previously untold story of Virginia Hall who refused to let the loss of her leg in an accident define her existence and went on to become a legend in both espionage and guerrilla warfare.

She successfully infiltrated Vichy France for Special Operations Executive long before America joined the war and she became the Gestapo's most wanted Allied agent. Helping to fan the flames of the French Resistance when it barely existed, she recruited, trained, armed, and on occasion directed the Maquis in battle with the Nazis. Her amazing steel, resolve and courage helped to change the course of the Second World War in France.

Sonia is a biographer and journalist. Her books include: *First Lady: The Life and Wars of Clementine Churchill* and *Just Boris: A Tale of Blond Ambition*.

“Well researched and fluently written. Eminently readable.”
Dominic Sandbrook - Sunday Times



A Literary Lunch with Rachel Reeves

4

Women of Westminster: A celebration of the trailblazers who changed the face of power

Wednesday 16th October

MERE GOLF RESORT & SPA
CHESTER ROAD, WA16 6LJ



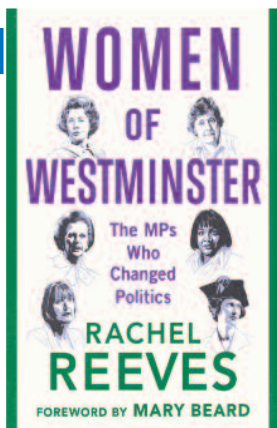
12 Noon for 12.30 pm



Book Signing



TICKET ESSENTIAL



In 1919, Lady Nancy Astor was elected as MP for Plymouth and became the first woman to take her seat in the hitherto male bastion of the House of Commons. Since then, 491 women have been elected to Parliament, but their achievements have often been overlooked and air-brushed from history.

In telling their stories, Rachel brings these forgotten women out from the shadows and reveals an alternative history of British politics from the conventionally male-dominated one.

She explores the battles fought by women MPs to bring about parliamentary and social change and exposes the hostility and abuse they are still subjected to.

But, despite Winston Churchill's outraged response to the presence of Lady Astor in the chamber - "Freeze her out" - two women Prime Ministers, a Speaker and two Home Secretaries later, they are still very much there.

Rachel Reeves is the Labour MP for Leeds West. This is her second book.

"A lively and fascinating account... engaging and informative... essential reading."

BBC History Magazine



Knutsford Literature Festival 20th Anniversary 2000 - 2019

