



24TH – 30TH AUGUST



PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

£1

WELCOME

Please find, for your delectation, the programme for the 2026 Festival. We sincerely hope that you find a selection of events which you will enjoy and look forward to seeing you at the 45th Llandrindod Wells Victorian Festival.

BOOKING

Tickets can be booked by

Email: tickets.victorianfestival@gmail.com

(this email is to be used for all ticket related issues including enquiries)

We would prefer payment via BACs details of which will be given when ordering by the email above.

If ordering tickets or paying by cheque please send to:

The Treasurer, Caerhyn, Dyffryn Road, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 6AN

REFUND POLICY

The Festival regrets that due to working in conjunction with several outside venues it will generally not be possible to issue refunds unless we are able to resell the ticket.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

The Festival must be made aware of any dietary requirements at the time of booking where refreshments are included in the cost.

For other venues at which refreshments are available it is advisable that you check that specific requirements are catered for with the venue.

Tickets for events with catering must be booked by August 1st.

MONDAY, 24TH AUGUST

2pm Jayne's Flower Studio £20

A VICTORIAN LADY

A sedate start to the Festival as Jayne Griffiths guides in making a lovely wall hanging. This will be a silhouette of a Victorian lady which we will give a dress of dried flowers. Jayne will provide everything—including refreshments.

Tickets for this event are limited and must be booked by 1st August.



7.30pm Conservative Club Donation

AGM & FRIVOLITY

We will start off with the AGM but will then have a frivolous evening for your delectation with entertainment and games devised by Anne & Jan.



Open Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

10am–4pm

Saturday 10am–2pm

Adults £6

Children up to 16 free with a paying adult
Carers and dogs Free

TUESDAY, 25TH AUGUST

COSTUME WALKABOUT & TREASURE HUNT

An opportunity for our Festival Friends to perambulate the town, when not at event, flaunting their attire while solving the clues in our tantalizing town treasure hunt.

10am Conservative Club Donation

WALKING STICKS & CANES

A CULTURAL HISTORY

A talk by Nickolaj Thon

In the late Victorian era walking sticks and canes achieved their greatest and most widespread popularity: a gentleman needed at least three sticks for each occasion— one for daytime use, another with a silver top for evening use and a sturdy wooden stick for the country. There were 60 cane shops in the London area alone.

This talk tries to give an introduction into the social history of sticks and canes through the ages.

Arrive by 2.30pm £12

Self Drive Visit to THE GARDENS AT ROCK HOUSE, LLANBISTER

Jude Boutle and Sue Cox welcome you to their acre of informal mature hillside garden, 1000ft up with great views of Radnor Hills, wildlife ponds, bluebell meadow and laburnum arch. Jude has built all the decking herself including a delightful cabin, The Cwtch. Their garden also features in the National Garden Scheme but today they are opening up especially for us. Mr & Mrs Llandrindod will be chosen at this event.

Price includes refreshments.

Please note there is limited parking, minimal wheelchair access and some gentle slopes. Tickets for this event MUST be booked by August 1st.

7.30pm Albert Hall £20

THE SIGNALMAN & THE MURDER

Performed by Gerald Dickens

Returning to the Festival, the great great grandson of Charles Dickens will this year bring a programme of dark, brooding Victorian melodrama.

Firstly, the tale of The Signalman. In 1865 Dickens was lucky to escape with his life when he was involved in the Staplehurst rail disaster. In the months afterwards he suffered from repeated flashbacks, and the only way to rid himself of the memories was to exorcise them by writing a ghostly tale about the lonely haunted stretch of line and the signalman who oversees it. Gerald's performance is based on a reading of that story that Dickens prepared, but never performed, such was its effect on him.

In the second half, Gerald will perform a reading that Dickens did perform, to great success: Sikes and Nancy, the violent murder scene from Oliver Twist. In 1868 this performance was so brutal and so shocking that Dickens judged the success of each performance purely based on the number of ladies who fainted. Today, it has lost none of its impact.

This event is kindly sponsored by David & Jane Littler and brought to you in conjunction with The Albert Hall

WEDNESDAY, 26TH AUGUST

COSTUME WALKABOUT & TREASURE HUNT

Another opportunity for our Festival Friends to perambulate the town, when not at event, flaunting their attire while solving the clues in our tantalizing town treasure hunt.

10am Llanerch Inn £15

MANX LOG CABIN PATCHWORK WORKSHOP

Led by Susan Briscoe

Join Susan as she shows you this technique that comes from the Isle of Man in the 19th Century, but may be older. She will also guide you in constructing your own version. Easy hand sewing! Bring along scissors and needle but all other materials will be supplied to make a block approximately 7.5 inches square (materials for making one block included in the workshop price, with extra materials available to purchase). **Please note that numbers are limited for this event.**

2.30pm Pavilion £17.50

AFTERNOON TEA DANCE

Afternoon tea, introduced in the 1840s, quickly becoming a fashionable social event offering women a structured space for conversation, networking, and displaying social status. Come along and enjoy an afternoon of Victorian dancing with a lovely, included, afternoon tea provided once again by Bethan from The Walsh at Llandewi.

Victorian style costume optional

Please note that tickets for this event MUST be booked by August 1st

7.30pm Albert Hall £12

A TRIP TO THE MUSIC HALL

with Andrew McKay and Carole Etherton
(www.cranedrivinmusic.com)

A costumed Victorian musical entertainment inspired by the Good Old Days. Under the watchful eye of our chairman, our guest artistes will invite audience participation in the choruses of songs both well-known and obscure. They have many years' experience, both with stage vocals and that fine Victorian invention the concertina.

Victorian-style costume is encouraged but not essential.

THURSDAY, 27TH AUGUST

Today has a gothic theme. Gothic or Victorian costume is optional at all events.

COSTUME WALKABOUT & TREASURE HUNT

A final opportunity this morning for our Festival Friends to perambulate the town, when not at event, flaunting their attire while solving the clues in our tantalizing town treasure hunt.

10am Conservative Club Donation

JACK THE RIPPER

A Talk by David Littler

One of the most notorious murderers ever known, Jack the Ripper, also known as the

Whitechapel Murderer, terrorised the slums of the East End of London in 1888. To this day the murders remain unsolved.

Join us as many of the facts and stories surrounding this legendary figure and his dark deeds are



12.30 Cycle Museum

FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL GATHERING

An opportunity for our Festival Friends to come together bringing with them their completed Treasure Hunt entries. Perhaps have a preamble around the museum.

Light refreshments will be available,

2.30pm Rock Park £17.50

GOthic THEMED AFTERNOON TEA

Come and join us at the Chalybeate Tea Rooms for a leisurely afternoon enjoying a sumptuous Welsh afternoon tea and entertainment provided by the Friends of the Festival Committee.

There will be a prize for the best gothic mask—some will be available to borrow if you don't have your own.

Please note that tickets for this event MUST be booked by August 1st

7.30pm Albert Hall £20

A PANDEMONIUM OF POE

Performed by
Don't Go Into The Cellar Theatre Company

A full-blooded gothic melodrama brought to life by Jonathan Goodwin in a show in which the audience gets to choose which Edgar Allan Poe tales are performed! 'The Black Cat', 'The Tell-Tale Heart', 'The Fall of the House of Usher' and many more!

No two performances will ever be the same!

SUPPORT THE FESTIVAL

By becoming a

FRIEND OF THE FESTIVAL

Individual Subscription: £10
Couple Subscription: £15
Contact the Chairman or Secretary
Or

Email: marina.victorianfestival@gmail.com

FRIDAY, 28TH AUGUST

10am—12 noon Celf O Gwmpas £10

WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP

Led by Hilary Groves

Learn how to use the medium of watercolour under the guidance of Hilary at this relaxed workshop. You can produce your very own piece of artwork. All materials will be provided.

Please note that tickets for this event are limited in number.

2.30pm Donation

AN AFTERNOON OF FUN AND (MORE) FRIVOLITY

An event for our regular Festival attendees as a belated celebration of the marriage of Maureen and Brian to be held (weather permitting) in their garden.

Lots of things are being planned including a costume sale rail, a tombola and tea and cake! What more could we want?

This event will host the Best Dressed Hat and Parasol Competitions.

Friends please indicate by August 1st if you plan to attend when booking tickets.

7.30pm The Pavilion £25

GRAND BALL

'Queen Victoria' invites you to a traditional Victorian Ball so don your finest costumes and come and join the splendour of this event.

Victorian style Ball costumes are essential at this event



SATURDAY, 29TH AUGUST

10am-4pm Donation

CAEBACH CHAPEL OPEN DAY

Addoldai Cymru offer you a further opportunity to visit this restored, former Independent non-conformist chapel founded in 1715 by Rev Thomas Jones of Tetbury. Someone will be on hand to tell you about the history of the chapel—maybe even some locals who will recall worshipping there.

From 12.30pm Temple Gardens

PICNIC IN THE GARDENS

Enjoy the tranquility of Temple Gardens while having a picnic—although Suffragettes may well make an appearance to shatter the peace. Enjoy the company of friends old and new on this penultimate day of our Festival.

The winner of our short story competition will be announced at this event by the judge Ruthie Alton.

Prize for the best picnic photo set up—stage a picnic scene at the event—take the photo. Let your imagination go wild! Let the judges see it—and maybe you'll win a prize!

Champagne and Strawberries.

You supply the drink—we'll supply the strawberries.

7.45pm British Legion £15

ELVIS ON STAGE

With Wynne Roberts BEM

An Elvis Tribute

Join us tonight in the presence of a different sort of royalty—as we pay tribute to the 'King' Elvis.



Wynne, a reverend, is known as 'The Welsh Elvis'. He will be covering a variety of Elvis songs particularly 60's movie songs and hits from the 70's.

There will be a prize for the best 60's/70's costume.

SUNDAY, 30TH AUGUST

11am Llanerch

CHAIRMAN'S GET TOGETHER

A chance for a 'get together' for Friends of the Festival to discuss this year's Festival and make suggestions for the next!

Lunch will be available afterwards for those that require sustenance.

12 noon-4pm Donation

CAEBACH CHAPEL OPEN DAY & SERVICE

Addoldai Cymru offer you a further opportunity to visit this restored, former Independent non-conformist chapel founded in 1715 by Rev Thomas Jones of Tetbury.



A short service will be held at 2.30pm in the presence of 'Queen Victoria'.

A Chapel Tea will follow.

As Chairman of the Festival, I would like to thank Addoldai Cymru, The Albert Hall, The British Legion, The Conservative Club, The Pavilion The Llanerch Inn & The Chalybeate Tea Rooms for hosting us during the 2026 Festival. Thanks to Ben for the music.

Many thanks to the Friends of the Festival, especially those who have led events for us and, most importantly I thank Marina, Jan, and Maureen for their hard work and commitment throughout the year.

Anne

Thank You!