

All are warmly invited to this year's Mercers' Lectures. Named in recognition of the links between Dauntsey's and the Mercers' Company, the lectures are a central part of our enrichment programme which encourages pupils to engage with the world outside the school gates, and to think beyond their academic curriculum.

This year we look forward to a diverse range of distinguished speakers covering adventure, history, music, sport, baking, farming and politics. The 2019/20 lecture series promises to be a highlight for the School and, I hope, for our local community.



Please reserve your free place online at: [www.dauntseys.org](http://www.dauntseys.org)

Dauntsey's

*Mark Lascelles*

Mark Lascelles, *Head Master*



The Mercers' Lectures at Dauntsey's School



Autumn 2019 - Spring 2020

All lectures are free to attend and start at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall



# Our speakers

All lectures start at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, at Dauntsey's.

Please reserve your free place online at [www.dauntseys.org](http://www.dauntseys.org)

## Amanda Owen

Wednesday  
25 September  
2019



Amanda Owen is a shepherdess, farmer's wife, mother to nine children, a passionate photographer and a Sunday Times bestselling author. Amanda and her family live on a remote, 2,000 acre hill farm in Swaledale, North Yorkshire.

Since first coming into the public eye in ITV's 2011 series 'The Dales', Amanda began documenting the fascinating story of her farming life, before publishing two best-selling books 'The Yorkshire Shepherdess' and 'A Year in the Life of the Yorkshire Shepherdess'. In 2018 Amanda and her family featured in a Channel 5 series, 'Our Yorkshire Farm'.

## Ant Middleton

Monday  
14 October  
2019



Ant Middleton is best known for his role as Chief Instructor on Channel 4's hit TV show, 'SAS: Who Dares Wins'. He has become a much-loved and admired master of survival and endurance on- and off-screen, spurred by his formidable career in the UK's elite forces, including the Marines, 9 Parachute Squadron and SBS.

His book 'First Man In: Leading From The Front' was published by HarperNonFiction and reached No. 1 on The Sunday Times Best Seller List. In 2018 Ant was filmed for a Channel 4 documentary climbing Mount Everest, an adventure which tested him further than ever before.

## Ian Robertson

Thursday  
7 November  
2019



Ian Robertson is a former BBC Rugby Commentator and Former Scotland International. He joined the BBC in 1972 and, after covering some of the greatest matches around the world for 47 years, finally hung up his microphone in 2018 and retired.

Some of Ian's most iconic on-air moments include Scotland winning the Grand Slams in 1984, against France, and in 1990, against England, plus Jonny Wilkinson dropping the World Cup goal in 2004. He has appeared regularly on BBC TV and has been the Rugby Correspondent for The Sunday Times. He has also written 30 books including the autobiographies of Bill Beaumont, Andy Irvine and Gareth Edwards.

## Alison Weir & Siobhan Clarke

Wednesday  
20 November  
2019



Alison Weir is the biggest-selling female historian in the United Kingdom. She has published twenty-three titles and sold more than 2.7 million books. She has written extensively about the Tudor period, focusing in particular on Henry VIII and the lives of his six wives.

For this event Alison will be joined by fellow historian, Siobhan Clarke, to present a lecture based on their book 'A Tudor Christmas'. Siobhan is a Guide Lecturer for Historic Royal Palaces and her second book, 'The Tudors' was published in 2019 by Carlton Books.

## Michael Portillo

Thursday  
30 January  
2020



Michael Portillo worked for the Conservative Party between 1976 and 1983 and entered the House of Commons in 1984. He was a minister for eleven years and had three positions in the Cabinet, including Secretary of State for Defence.

He lost his seat at the 1997 election and began to develop a career in the media. He returned to the Commons between 2000 and 2005, was shadow Chancellor, and contested the leadership of the party in 2001, unsuccessfully. Since leaving politics, Michael has devoted himself to writing and broadcasting.

## The Marian Consort

Thursday  
5 March  
2020

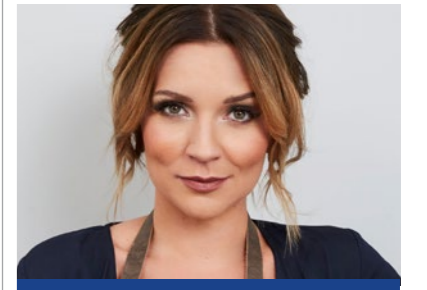


The Marian Consort is a Gramophone Award-nominated vocal ensemble, recognised for its innovative presentation of a broad range of repertoire. Led by founder and director, Rory McCleery, The Marian Consort performs across the UK, Europe and North America, and features regularly on BBC Radio 3.

The Marian Consort's repertoire encompasses music from the fifteenth century to the present day, with a particular focus on exploring lesser-known works. The group is committed to creating new music, and has commissioned leading British composers including Cheryl Frances-Hoad, Gabriel Jackson, Cecilia McDowall, and Matthew Martin.

## Candice Brown

Thursday  
23 April  
2020



Candice Brown won *The Great British Bake Off* in 2016 and, two years later, took part in ITV's *Dancing on Ice*. She started her professional life as a secondary school PE teacher but has since left the world of schools to pursue a career in baking and cooking.

Since her *Bake Off* victory, Candice has become a regular columnist for the Sunday Times *Dish* magazine, has baked on *This Morning* and has appeared as a panellist on *Loose Women*. She released her first cookery book *Comfort* in 2017 which includes a wide range of easy to make, 'no nonsense' recipes for all occasions.