

BOOKING FORM

Name:

Address & postcode:

Tel No:

Email:

TARS membership number:

Option **Cost £**

Name of other in party (if applicable)

Option **Cost £**

TOTAL COST £

Room: Single / twin / double

If twin or double, sharing with:

Special dietary requirements (please outline your needs)

I have read and understood the terms and conditions of booking and enclose (please select):

The Full amount £ or
a **£100 deposit**. Balance payable by 28th February

Signed: Date:

Please make cheques payable to: **TARS Literary**, and
post to: David Middleton,
9 Merrow Avenue, Poole, BH12 1PY

Booking queries to: davidymiddleton@gmail.com
All other queries to: peterwright180@btinternet.com

Our Speakers



Paul Crisp - A longstanding and stalwart member of TARS, Paul has served on numerous regional and national committees. He has compiled books for, and remains a champion of, our own Amazon publications. A former teacher, he has a great love for PG Wodehouse as well as Ransome and all things literary.



Michelle Magorian - After training at the Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance, she became a successful actress performing in plays, musicals and one-woman shows, and an award-winning author and writer. Her work has been adapted for TV, radio and the theatre.



John Sparks - As a professional writer and photographer, Jon has specialised in landscape and outdoor subjects and is passionate about walking, cycling and climbing. His books include the sumptuous *Arthur Ransome's Lake District* (he's been a fan since he was 9 years old) although he's now concentrating on writing adult fiction.



Robert Twigger - Author of 15 books across a broad range of subjects. Robert's web site says he likes having adventures and writing about them. His Ransome influenced book *36 Islands* bears this out as, having a desire for a wilderness experience, and inspired by Wild Cat Island, he describes visiting and often sleeping on 36 islands in the lakes in the Lake District.



John Sergeant - Our new president has been a lifelong Ransome fan and spent many happy holidays learning to sail with his sons in the Lakes or Broads. Like Roger, he is also a big steam fan and is currently recording a second series of *The Big Steam Adventure*. He says he has much in common with Captain Flint, his favourite character, as we will hear in his after-dinner talk.



Kirsty Nichol Findlay - Kirsty hardly needs an introduction as she has been a TAR since its formation and has spoken at several literary weekends as well as penning *Arthur Ransome's long-lost study of Robert Louis Stevenson*. Hailing from New Zealand, she is a consultant in drama performance and is keen on poetry, music, ponies and the New Zealand rainforest, a little bit of which can be found in her Cumbrian garden.



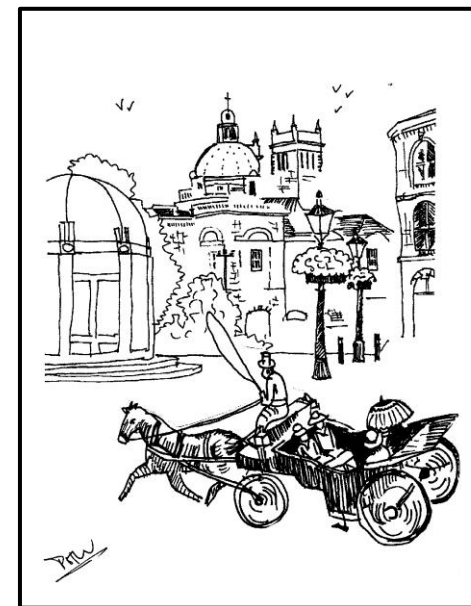
Jim Ring - Jim is an award-winning writer, film director and consultant and the biographer of Erskine Childers, author of *The Riddle of the Sands*, (as found on Captain Flint's houseboat shelves). As a 12-year-old, Jim holidayed in the Lake District setting out each day hoping to find all the locations mentioned in *S&A*, "cherishing a secret hope I would meet Nancy, Peggy, Titty, Susan, Roger and John."



Rachel Chalmers - recently elected as a TARS trustee, Rachel is a renowned clinical microbiologist and public health expert. She is an advisor to the WHO in food and waterborne disease with over 150 scientific papers published. It is, however, as a Ransome enthusiast and outdoor adventurer that she brings to the conference a talk she describes as being light-hearted about a serious topic.

The Seventeenth TARS Literary Weekend

Harrogate 2024



The Crown Hotel
19th – 21st April

Provisional Programme

Friday Evening

4:00pm – Registration opens

6:30pm – Evening Meal

8:00pm – Welcome and Introductions

Speaker:

Paul Crisp – *Aunts Great and Small* – As and GAs in Literature

9:15pm – Bar

Saturday Morning

8:00am - 9:00am – Breakfast

9:30am – Talks commence – Speakers:

Michelle Magorian – *Emergency. Calling Winter Holiday!* - Finding herself in danger, Josie swiftly draws a vital message to a friend through dancing stick-like figures, their arms in the semaphore positions they have learnt as a result of reading *Winter Holiday*.

Robert Twigger – *Arthur Ransome, swimming and my night on Wild Cat Island.*

11:15am – Coffee, Tea and Biscuits

Jon Sparks - *Swallows, Amazons and Adventure*

1:00pm – Lunch

Saturday Afternoon – Free time to enjoy Harrogate. Information on the range of visitor attractions and activities will be provided in your conference pack.

Saturday Evening

Bar

7:00pm – ***Gala Dinner***
Best Bib & Tucker, please

8:30pm – After-Dinner Speaker
John Sergeant
Captain Flint climbs aboard

Bar

Sunday Morning

8:00am - 9:00am – Breakfast

9:30am – Talks commence – Speakers:

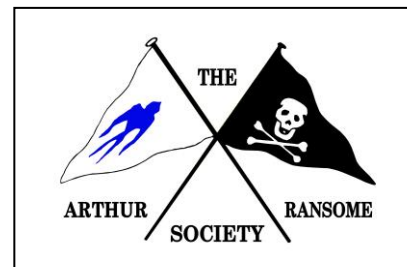
Kirsty Nichol Findlay – *Ransome and the Avant – Garde*

Jim Ring - *Arthur Ransome's Aesthetic: A personal view on Ransome as a writer.*

11:15am - Coffee, Tea and Biscuits

Rachel Chalmers - *Health, hygiene and happiness. Including an unveiling of a new role for Sinbad.*

1:00pm – Lunch.



✂ Venue – The Crown Hotel Harrogate

The Crown Hotel (3*) and its facilities may be viewed on their web site: www.crownhotelharrogate.com

All bedrooms are en-suite with options for single, twin or double occupancy. There are lifts throughout the hotel. Our conference room and all meals will be on the ground floor.

Please note there is very limited car parking on site. It operates on a first come first served basis at a current cost of £12 per night. Details of other parking options will be sent to you in advance of the weekend, including travel options for those arriving by train or bus.

Booking options – please select from the following options and fill out the form overleaf.

Option A: Full residential weekend **£295**

Option B: Part weekend **£225**
arriving Saturday after breakfast

Option C: Non-Residential. **£175**
Conference and all meals except breakfasts.

Conditions of Booking – The hotel requires a full list of attendees and payment six weeks in advance. In view of this, booking through TARS should be made before the end of February. It would also be appreciated if full payment could be made by this date, although a deposit option is available.

The Arthur Ransome Society, its servants, agents and volunteers are not under any liability whatsoever in respect of personal injury, loss or damage however caused while attending the Literary Weekend 2024.

✂ The contents of this provisional programme may be subject to change and TARS cannot be held responsible for alterations.

Bookings are accepted only on the above understanding.