# James Corden and Ruth Jones confirm Gavin & Stacey has ended with dignity



James Corden and Ruth Jones have firmly established that their iconic sitcom, *Gavin & Stacey*, has officially run its course. Speaking at the 2025 Hay Festival of Literature and Arts, the duo, who co-created and starred in the beloved series, reflected on its remarkable journey while addressing the enduring desire among fans for more episodes. The festival, a prominent cultural event held over 11 days in Hay-on-Wye, has become a platform for leading figures in arts and media to engage with audiences, showcasing discussions that span various themes.

During a session moderated by Jay Hunt, Corden and Jones shared insights into the creation of *Gavin & Stacey*, which concluded with a one-off Christmas special last year. When asked how they determined the right time to say goodbye, Jones remarked, “Well, we have called time,” indicating that creative decisions were poignantly tied to the natural progression of the story. Corden added, “It’s impossible that we could go back and carry on… we’re too proud of it.” This sentiment speaks to a broader principle in the creative industry: recognising when a narrative has reached its optimal conclusion, despite its popularity.

The event saw an enthusiastic response from the audience when Hunt encouraged a show of hands for those wanting more episodes. However, both creators remain committed to allowing the series to rest, rather than extend its life unnecessarily. As Jones noted, “The personnel involved were also all too old now,” suggesting that time has naturally advanced beyond the characters' original arcs, reinforcing the idea that some stories are best left where they thrive.

Corden and Jones reiterated their pride in the series, expressing gratitude for the friendships forged over its 17-year timeline. Jones described the journey as “the most glorious,” reflecting on the challenges and milestones they faced together. Their bond, solidified over a quarter of a century, has profoundly shaped the sitcom, which continues to resonate with audiences.

This year, the two are set to release a book titled *When Gavin Met Stacey and Everything in Between*, providing an in-depth look at the show's inception and the trials they encountered along the way. Aimed at recounting their shared experiences, the book promises to delve into the personal and professional narratives that fuelled one of the UK's most cherished comedies.

The Hay Festival in 2025 featured a diverse lineup, including renowned figures such as Mary Trump and Michael Sheen, alongside Corden and Jones. The Independent, in partnership with the festival, hosted various panels addressing contemporary issues, further enhancing the cultural dialogue presented at the event.

Corden and Jones's final reflections on *Gavin & Stacey* encapsulate a growing recognition in the entertainment industry: the importance of knowing when to conclude a successful series with dignity. Rather than chasing the elusive continuation of popularity, they have chosen to celebrate its legacy by stepping away, ensuring that the series will remain, untouched, as a beloved part of television history.

As both creators continue to forge their paths, they leave behind a story that not only entertained but also captured the essence of friendship in an increasingly complex world. This decision may very well set a precedent for other creators grappling with similar choices, highlighting that sometimes, the best conclusion is simply a heartfelt farewell.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/james-corden-ruth-jones-hay-festival-2025-gavin-and-stacey-b2756927.html), [[2]](https://www.hayfestival.com/p-23847-james-corden-and-ruth-jones.aspx)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/james-corden-ruth-jones-hay-festival-2025-gavin-and-stacey-b2756927.html), [[3]](https://www.standard.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-news/ruth-jones-james-corden-grayson-perry-stephen-fry-yotam-ottolenghi-b1218857.html)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/james-corden-ruth-jones-hay-festival-2025-gavin-and-stacey-b2756927.html), [[4]](https://www.shropshirestar.com/showbiz/2025/03/26/james-corden-and-ruth-jones-to-discuss-new-book-at-hay-festival/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/james-corden-ruth-jones-hay-festival-2025-gavin-and-stacey-b2756927.html), [[7]](https://www.comedy.co.uk/shop/news/8184/gavin-stacey-book/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/james-corden-ruth-jones-hay-festival-2025-gavin-and-stacey-b2756927.html), [[5]](https://www.comedy.co.uk/tv/news/8285/rts-programme-awards-2025-winners/)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/james-corden-ruth-jones-hay-festival-2025-gavin-and-stacey-b2756927.html), [[6]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0mn2mwln8lo)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/james-corden-ruth-jones-hay-festival-2025-gavin-and-stacey-b2756927.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.hayfestival.com/p-23847-james-corden-and-ruth-jones.aspx> - James Corden and Ruth Jones, creators and stars of the BBC sitcom 'Gavin & Stacey', discussed their new book and the show's origins at the Hay Festival on May 23, 2025. They shared insights into the sitcom's success and their 25-year friendship during the event.
3. <https://www.standard.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-news/ruth-jones-james-corden-grayson-perry-stephen-fry-yotam-ottolenghi-b1218857.html> - Ruth Jones and James Corden, creators of 'Gavin & Stacey', discussed their new book and the sitcom's origins at the Hay Festival. They reflected on the show's success and their 25-year friendship during the event on May 23, 2025.
4. <https://www.shropshirestar.com/showbiz/2025/03/26/james-corden-and-ruth-jones-to-discuss-new-book-at-hay-festival/> - James Corden and Ruth Jones, creators of 'Gavin & Stacey', announced they would discuss their new book and the sitcom's origins at the Hay Festival on May 23, 2025. They planned to reflect on the show's success and their 25-year friendship during the event.
5. <https://www.comedy.co.uk/tv/news/8285/rts-programme-awards-2025-winners/> - James Corden and Ruth Jones received the Judges' Award at the Royal Television Society Programme Awards on March 25, 2025, in recognition of their roles as creators and writers of 'Gavin & Stacey'. The award acknowledged their contribution to British television, particularly the show's final episode that aired on Christmas Day.
6. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0mn2mwln8lo> - James Corden and Ruth Jones were spotted filming for the 'Gavin & Stacey' Christmas Day special in Barry Island. Corden expressed his joy at returning to Barry, stating it was 'wonderful' to be back in the area with such 'special people'.
7. <https://www.comedy.co.uk/shop/news/8184/gavin-stacey-book/> - James Corden and Ruth Jones announced their new book, 'When Gavin Met Stacey and Everything in Between: A Story Of Love And Friendship', set to be published on October 16, 2025. The book will detail the creation of 'Gavin & Stacey' and explore their 25-year friendship.