# James Corden and Ruth Jones confirm Gavin & Stacey has officially ended after 17 years



James Corden and Ruth Jones, the creative forces behind the beloved sitcom *Gavin & Stacey*, have firmly announced that they have closed the chapter on their acclaimed series. Speaking at the 2025 Hay Festival of Literature and Arts, they reflected on the show's journey and its recent conclusion, providing insights into their decision to step away from the series, which has captivated audiences for nearly two decades.

Attendees were eager to discuss the sitcom, particularly in light of its sizeable Christmas Day special broadcast last year, which attracted over 12 million viewers. The emotional finale was widely praised for elegantly resolving character arcs, notably the relationship between Smithy and Nessa. Jones expressed satisfaction with the finale, affirming there was “no better way” for the story to conclude. She added, “It’s been the most glorious journey, 17 years. We’re so lucky to have the friendships that we formed and the experiences together.” Her return to writing novels highlights a new chapter in her career, with her upcoming work *By Your Side* set to explore themes of connection and community.

During their discussion, moderator Jay Hunt prompted the audience to signal their desire for additional episodes of *Gavin & Stacey*, inciting a wave of enthusiastic responses. Yet both Corden and Jones articulated a resolute stance on the show's finale. Corden remarked, “It's impossible that we could go back and carry on. We’re too proud of it.” This sentiment reflects their commitment to the integrity of the characters and narrative they nurtured.

The duo also spoke about the 25-year friendship that underpinned both their personal lives and professional collaborations. Their candid reflections not only shed light on the creative process behind *Gavin & Stacey* but also offer a glimpse into the enduring nature of their partnership. They will further explore this dynamic in their upcoming book, *When Gavin Met Stacey and Everything in Between: A Story of Love and Friendship*, which delves into the challenges and triumphs they faced in bringing the series to life.

The Hay Festival itself continues to be a significant platform for cultural dialogue, bringing together prominent figures across various disciplines to foster discussions that resonate with contemporary societal themes. Corden and Jones’s appearance is part of a broader lineup that includes well-known personalities such as Mary Trump and Michael Sheen, highlighting the festival's commitment to addressing both artistic and social narratives.

In recognition of their contributions to television, Corden and Jones were recently awarded the Judges' Award at the Royal Television Society (RTS) Programme Awards. This accolade underscores their impact on the industry, celebrating the innovative storytelling that characterised *Gavin & Stacey*.

As they prepare to embark on new creative ventures, Corden and Jones leave behind a legacy that has not only entertained millions but has also cultivated authentic connections among its audience. Their decision to conclude the series resonates with the understanding that certain stories, once told, stand as cherished memories rather than endless sequels.

## 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), [[3]](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), [[2]](https://www.womanandhome.com/life/news-entertainment/exclusive-ruth-jones-says-there-was-no-better-way-to-end-gavin-and-stacey-we-couldnt-have-done-it-differently/), [[4]](https://www.standard.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-news/ruth-jones-james-corden-grayson-perry-stephen-fry-yotam-ottolenghi-b1218857.html)
* Paragraph 3 – [[5]](https://www.comedy.co.uk/tv/news/8285/rts-programme-awards-2025-winners/), [[6]](https://www.brecon-radnor.co.uk/news/james-corden-joins-hay-festival-2025-lineup-for-surprise-gavin-and-stacey-event-777419)
* Paragraph 4 – [[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.hayfestival.com/p-23847-james-corden-and-ruth-jones.aspx), [[4]](https://www.standard.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-news/ruth-jones-james-corden-grayson-perry-stephen-fry-yotam-ottolenghi-b1218857.html)
* Paragraph 5 – [[5]](https://www.comedy.co.uk/tv/news/8285/rts-programme-awards-2025-winners/), [[6]](https://www.brecon-radnor.co.uk/news/james-corden-joins-hay-festival-2025-lineup-for-surprise-gavin-and-stacey-event-777419)

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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.womanandhome.com/life/news-entertainment/exclusive-ruth-jones-says-there-was-no-better-way-to-end-gavin-and-stacey-we-couldnt-have-done-it-differently/> - Ruth Jones, co-creator of the beloved sitcom Gavin & Stacey, expressed satisfaction with the show’s finale, which aired on Christmas Day last year. After 17 years since its debut and a four-year gap since the previous episode, the final installment garnered over 12 million viewers and was praised for providing a heartfelt conclusion to the characters’ journeys. Jones stated there was no better way the show could have ended and is pleased the audience found the conclusion satisfying, particularly with the resolution of Smithy and Nessa’s relationship. Following the show's emotional finale, Jones has returned to her passion for writing novels. Her fourth book, By Your Side, is set to release on May 22nd, written in the first person and present tense. Unlike the collaborative process of writing for TV, Jones enjoys the solitary nature of novel writing and finds comfort in working from home. Despite her fame, Ruth chooses not to engage in social media and remains wary of impersonators online. Fans can read her full interview in the June issue of Woman & Home magazine, where she also discusses fashion and her preferences for a quiet, creative life.
3. <https://www.hayfestival.com/p-23847-james-corden-and-ruth-jones.aspx> - James Corden and Ruth Jones, the creators and stars of the acclaimed BBC sitcom Gavin & Stacey, are set to discuss their new book, 'When Gavin Met Stacey and Everything in Between: A Story of Love and Friendship', at the Hay Festival on May 23, 2025. In this exclusive event, they will share insights into the origins of the show, its meteoric rise, and the epic Christmas special. The duo will also reflect on their 25-year friendship and working relationship during the session, moderated by Hay Festival Global Chair Jay Hunt. The event is currently sold out, but interested attendees can add it to their wish list for potential availability.
4. <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, the creators of the beloved sitcom Gavin & Stacey, are set to discuss their new book, 'When Gavin Met Stacey and Everything in Between: A Story of Love and Friendship', at the Hay Festival this spring. Ahead of the launch of their new book, they will discuss the origins of the sitcom, its success, and its record-breaking Christmas special. Corden and Jones will also reflect on their 25-year friendship and working relationship at the festival on Friday, May 23. The BBC series follows the long-distance relationship between Gavin Shipman, who lives in Essex, and Stacey West, who resides in Wales. The book follows the Gavin & Stacey Christmas special and finale, which secured the highest Christmas Day ratings since 2008 according to the BBC, enjoying huge overnight ratings of 12.3 million.
5. <https://www.comedy.co.uk/tv/news/8285/rts-programme-awards-2025-winners/> - James Corden and Ruth Jones were honored with the Judges' Award at the Royal Television Society (RTS) Programme Awards 2025, recognizing their roles as creators and writers of the beloved BBC sitcom Gavin & Stacey. The duo received the award after the final episode of Gavin & Stacey aired on Christmas Day, following a five-year gap since the previous episode. The RTS Programme Awards ceremony took place at London's Grosvenor House Hotel, hosted by Tom Allen. The award was presented by Richard Curtis, who praised the duo's extraordinary work on Gavin & Stacey during the year. Other winners at the ceremony included The Traitors, Ant & Dec, and Jessica Gunning.
6. <https://www.brecon-radnor.co.uk/news/james-corden-joins-hay-festival-2025-lineup-for-surprise-gavin-and-stacey-event-777419> - James Corden and Ruth Jones, the creators and stars of the acclaimed BBC sitcom Gavin & Stacey, are set to discuss their new book, 'When Gavin Met Stacey and Everything in Between: A Story of Love and Friendship', at the Hay Festival on May 23, 2025. In an exclusive event, the pair will talk to Hay Festival Global Chair Jay Hunt about Gavin & Stacey’s origins, its meteoric rise, and the epic Christmas special, while also sharing insights into their 25-year friendship and working relationship. Ruth is also at the Festival to discuss her new novel, 'By Your Side', a story about finding joy in the most unlikely connections, and the importance of holding on to friendship, love, and community – especially when life gets messy. Together, James and Ruth have written 'When Gavin Met Stacey and Everything in Between: A Story of Love and Friendship', out in October this year with Bantam Books.
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0mn2mwln8lo> - James Corden, Ruth Jones, and Joanna Page have been spotted filming for the Gavin and Stacey Christmas Day special in Barry Island. Corden and Jones, dressed as their characters Smithy and Nessa, were seen with their arms around each other on Barry seafront in south Wales. Earlier on Tuesday morning, Jones was seen in a rickshaw with her co-star Joanna Page, as Stacey, in the back. Corden told BBC News it was 'wonderful' to be back in Barry. 'There's so much history over the past 17 years here,' he said. 'And I think it's an incredibly special place with really, really special people.'