Ian Rankin
Alan Johnson Jenni Murray

• Jake Arnott • Susie Dent • Sophie Hannah
• Joanne Harris • Murray Lachlan Young
• Henry Normal • Michèle Roberts
• Lemn Sissay • Attila the Stockbroker
and more...

HLF 2017

HUDDERSFIELD LITERATURE FESTIVAL

4-19 March

Bringing words to life

COURAGE

PLUS: Library events, Majikkon, Open Mic, Poetry Slam, Polari Up North, Creative Writing Workshops, Literary Afternoon Tea and A Celebration of Pride and Prejudice

Welcome to HLF2017.
Our theme is 'Courage' – in all its forms.

This year there's even more to choose from, thanks to additional Arts Council funding and the continued support of the University of Huddersfield, Kirklees Council and our business sponsors.

As usual, there are many low-cost or free events.
Where possible we use accessible venues and some events are subtitled – look out for >>StageTEXT

Please come and support upcoming talent as well as major names – you never know, they may become your new favourites of tomorrow!

Michelle Hodgson, Festival Director

Where no **AGE GUIDANCE** *is given, U16s should be accompanied by an adult.*

Access Guides to key Festival venues can be found on our website: www.litfest.org.uk

PRE-FESTIVAL EVENTS

2-9 February	various	Celebrating Kirklees Libraries events
15 February	10.30am	Book sale
	6pm	Threadbear Theatre
3 March	6pm	HLF2017 Launch with Owen Lowery

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

4 March	10am	HLF/Stafflex Free Family Day
	11am	WORKSHOP: Getting Started in Showbiz!
	12.30pm	Talk & guided walk with Andrew White
	2pm	WORKSHOP: Liberating Poetic Chaos
	2pm	The University of Huddersfield Presents
	7.30pm	Comedy Evening with James Bran & Kate Fox
5 March	3pm	A Celebration of Pride and Prejudice
	6pm	Fine Rhyming Poetry Supper
6 March	6.30pm	Jenni Murray In Conversation
7 March	7pm	The Write Stuff/Lefty Caligari Foundation
	7pm	Polari Up North + Ending At Section 28

courage is letting go of what holds you back

8 March	4pm	FICTION AT 4: Jenn Ashworth
	7pm	Julie Summers: From Jambusters to Home Fires
	7pm	Poetic Licence: The Ms Shakespeare Project
9 March	7pm	Sophie Hannah – Agatha, Poirot and Me
	8pm	Open Mic with Talking Zebras
	8pm	Albert Poets
10 March	4pm	FICTION AT 4: David Barnett
	7.30pm	Ian Rankin In Conversation
11 March	10am	WORKSHOP: Creating a Villain
	11am	Majikkon
	12.30pm	Jake Arnott In Conversation
	2pm	Getting Started with Mark Hardie & Liz Mistry
	3.30pm	Crime Scenes with Cay Rademacher & Lone Theils
	4.30pm	Joanne Harris In Conversation
	7pm	PANEL: Memoir Writing with Ian Clayton, Diana Darke & Clover Stroud
12 March	3pm	Literary Afternoon Tea
	3pm & 7pm	Murray Lachlan Young
14 March	6pm	Lisa M Luxx: Polyphonic Scars and The 4th Brain
	7.30pm	Lemn Sissay & Kit de Waal In Conversation
	7.30pm	Ted Hughes' Gaudete
15 March	7pm	PechaKucha
	7pm	Miracle Brew with Pete Brown
	7.30pm	Ted Hughes' Gaudete
16 March	4pm	FICTION AT 4: Beth Underdown
	6pm	All You Ever Wanted to Know About Publishing
	7.30pm	Henry Normal: Staring Directly at the Eclipse
17 March	5.30pm	Grist launch
	7pm	Michèle Roberts In Conversation
18 March	10am	WORKSHOP: How to Write a Synopsis
	11am	PANEL: Short stories
	12.30pm	WORKSHOP: Short Stories with Michèle Roberts
	1.30pm	Crown of Blood, Nicola Tallis on Lady Jane Grey
	3pm	Meet the Editors
	7pm	Poetry Slam hosted by Attila the Stockbroker
19 March	3pm	Alan Johnson In Conversation

Celebrating Kirklees Libraries

The Festival is proud to champion Kirklees Libraries every year.
All tickets £2, available from the library or Kirklees Box Offices: 01484 225755; www.kirklees.gov.uk/townhalls

Thursday 2 February, 7pm
The Game's Afoot! with David Stuart Davies
Heckmondwike Library, Walkley Lane WF16 0LY
A dramatic presentation of the story of Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle.

Saturday 4 February, 2pm
Tales from a Country Show, with Victoria Benn & Jamie Roberts
Cleckheaton Library, Whitcliffe Road BD19 3DX
Funny tales of the eccentricities and passions of the locals involved in Kilnsey Show.

Wednesday 8 February, 7.30pm
Flowers by the Road, with David Coldwell
Marsden Library, Peel Street HD7 6BW
Launch of the Marsden-based artist and writer's debut poetry collection.

Thursday 9 February, 2pm
Our Dementia Diary, with Rachael Dixey
Kirkburton Library, Turnshaws Road HD8 0RT
A moving account of the challenges of looking after a loved one with dementia.

Thursday 9 February, 7.30pm
Making a Living as a Writer, with John Harvey
Almondbury Library, Stocks Walk HD5 8XB
Stories and advice from 40 years of pulp fiction, crime novels and TV/radio drama.

FREE EVENTS

Book Sale

10.30am-1pm **Media Centre, 7 Northumberland Street HD1 1RL**
Bag yourself a bargain at our second-hand and nearly new book sale.

Threadbear Theatre

6pm-7pm **Media Centre, 7 Northumberland Street HD1 1RL**
Courage is stepping on stage with nothing – and trusting what comes. An evening of improvised playback theatre with Threadbear Theatre, playing back your stories and moments of courage. *www.threadbeartheatre.com*

Get Creative BBC ARTS

Wednesday 15 February

Courage Is Poetry Project

Kirklees COUNCIL

Look out for poems inspired by our theme of 'Courage' displayed in shops and businesses across Huddersfield in February and March.

Competition entries from local people will appear alongside poems by our Festival Patron Lemn Sissay (pictured), Rose Condo, Owen Lowery, Lisa M Luxx and Michael Stewart.

The Codex illuminated interactive book (www.impossible.org.uk) will also be on display.

The project, which is part of a campaign to increase footfall in Huddersfield Town Centre and celebrate local creative voices, is supported by Kirklees Council and Huddersfield District Committee.

HLF2017 Launch with Owen Lowery

Doors 6pm (Performance 6.30pm)
Brontë Lecture Theatres, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

Join us for the launch of our 2017 programme. Enjoy refreshments and a performance by poet Dr Owen Lowery.

Owen has released two acclaimed poetry collections: **Otherwise Unchanged** and **Rego Retold**. A former British judo champion, Owen suffered a spinal injury while competing and is now a tetraplegic.

Owen Lowery has a Masters and a PhD in Creative Writing from Bolton University and writes reviews for literary magazines.

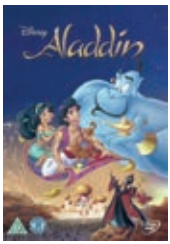
"Lowery sees lifetimes in moments, has a far-sightedness that takes each figure beyond his or her frame." The Guardian (on Rego Retold).

***Book your free place at** www.hlf2017launch.eventbrite.co.uk or call 01484 943093.*

Friday 3 March

FREE EVENT

HLF/Stafflex Free Family Day



10am-3.30pm
North Huddersfield Trust School, Woodhouse Road HD2 1DJ
A family day of free activities brought to you by STAFFLEX

No booking required.

10am	Doors open
11am-11.45am	**Storytelling: Romany Tales, with Richard O'Neill**
12.45pm-1.30pm	**Storytelling: Department of Ability, with Dan White**
2pm-3.30pm	**FILM: Aladdin (Disney, 1992, Cert U)**

FREE activities throughout the day include: face painting, colouring tables for children and adults, stalls, etc. Refreshments will be on sale, plus mobile fish and chip van.

Event open to children and adults of all ages and abilities; parents or guardians must supervise any children under 16. For information on school accessibility/parking etc, call Lorna Wright at NHTS on 01484 452100.

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courage is doing something that might not be easy

University of Huddersfield events

Harold Wilson Building, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

WORKSHOP: Getting Started in Showbiz! with Simon Crump

11am-1pm, £10 (£5 conc)
Age guidance: 16+

An introductory workshop for aspiring writers, covering getting started and training the eye, and providing tips for avoiding the dreaded writer's block.

WORKSHOP: Liberating Poetic Chaos: Emily Dickinson, with Steve Ely

2pm-4pm, £10 (£5 conc)
Age guidance: 16+

© Jodie Booth

Emily Dickinson's poetry emerges from a chaotic inner life. Participants will complete writing exercises in her style and spirit.

The University of Huddersfield presents...

FREE EVENT

2pm-5pm

2pm Anna Ralph, Reading and Q&A
3pm Stephen May, Reading and Q&A
4pm Amanda Hodgkinson In Conversation with Jodie Matthews & Simon Crump.

Free, but booking recommended at: https://uniofhuddpresents.eventbrite.co.uk

Talk & Guided Walk with Andrew White

12.30pm talk, 1.30pm walk (return time before 5pm), £3 (£1.50 conc), **Denby Dale Library, Wakefield Road HD8 8RX**

A talk on great walks of Britain from writer, film-maker and broadcaster (**Walks Around Britain**) Andrew White, followed by a medium-level, guided five-mile circular walk and talk about the area. Warm/waterproof clothes and walking boots recommended. Contact Denby Dale Library for its café opening hours.

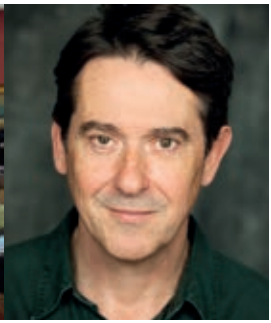
Comedy Evening with James Bran & Kate Fox

7.30pm-9.30pm, £5 (£3 conc, £1 students) **The Venue, Storthes Hall, Storthes Hall Lane, HD5 0WA**

James Bran – stand-up poet and haiku creator chronicling life, relationships and everything, *"I absolutely adored James Bran's combination of world-weary haikus given a deliciously wonky delivery."* The Huffington Post

Kate Fox – stand-up poet from Yorkshire who makes a living from being funny and Northern, sometimes on BBC R4. *"Funny and endearing with a cynicism that cuts through the whimsy."* Sunday Telegraph

Sponsored by: Michael & Beverley Blake



A Celebration of Pride and Prejudice With 'Mr Wickham' & Regency Rejigged

3pm-5pm, £10 (£8 conc)
Mechanics Hall, Peel Street, Marsden HD7 6BW

Join 'Mr Wickham' and the Regency Rejigged dancers for a celebration of all things Austen, marking the bicentenary of the author's death.

Dashing actor Adrian Lukis, who played villain Mr Wickham in the 1995 BBC TV adaptation of **Pride and Prejudice** (the one with Colin Firth and 'that' scene with the wet shirt) chats to local Jane Austen expert, Catherine Curzon. Followed by a display of dances from Jane Austen's era by Regency Rejigged.

Audience members are welcome to come in period dress. Refreshments will be on sale to raise funds for the Friends of Marsden Library.

Fine Rhyming Poetry Supper

6pm-8.30pm, £15 (£12 conc) **(includes a three-course supper)** Age guidance: 16+
Zephyr (formerly Neaversons), 4 Byram Street HD1 1BX

Come and feast on some of the best spoken word in the UK. In the spirit of the Festival theme of 'Courage', dine with three fearless poets!

© Dominic Simpson

Adele Hampton
2016 BBC Slam Champion

Rowan McCabe
the World's First Door-to-Door Poet

Rose Condo
multi-slam winning Canadian poet

JENNI MURRAY In Conversation with Dr Sarah Falcus

6.30pm-7.30pm + signing, £5 (£3 conc)
Town Hall, Corporation Street, HD1 2TA

The presenter of Woman's Hour since 1987, Dame Jenni Murray talks about her career and reveals the fascinating stories of some of the trailblazing women featured in her latest book, **A History of Britain in 21 Women**, from Boadicea and Emmeline Pankhurst to Jane Austen and Nicola Sturgeon.

Sponsored by BUTCHER RESIDENTIAL

>> StageTEXT

This event will have live subtitling by Stagetext to give deaf, deafened and hard of hearing audiences access to the event.

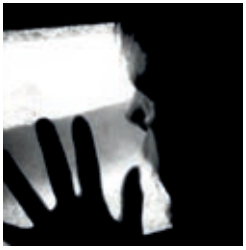
Booking
Town Hall box office: 01484 225 755
www.kirkleestownhalls.co.uk

Tuesday 7 March

FREE EVENT

The Write Stuff / Launch of the Lefty Caligari Arts Foundation

7pm-9.30pm
Heritage Quay, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH
Age guidance: 16+



A screening of the late poet and film-maker Lefty Caligari's short film **Death of a Vertical Community** and launch of a new foundation, plus performance from The Write Stuff.

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Polari Up North + Ending At Section 28

LAWRENCE BATLEY THEATRE HUDDERSFIELD INSPIRING PERFORMANCE

7pm (approx. running time 2 hours with breaks)
£8 (Kirklees Passport: £5) Age guidance: 16+
Syngenta Cellar, Lawrence Batley Theatre, Queen Street HD1 2SP

Polari Up North Entertaining, engaging and eclectic – Polari showcases top LGBT performers with universal appeal.

"Lively, funny and inspiring" Patrick Gale

Paul Burston Polari host, award-winning journalist and novelist, latest work is the critically acclaimed chilling domestic noir **The Black Path**.

Jackie Hagan an award-winning cosmic scally. A poet, comedian, live artist, playwright and community artist, who downs champagne from her glittery false leg.

Juno Dawson Queen of Teen 2014, multi-award-winning author of YA novels plus non-fiction (**This Book Is Gay, Mind Your Head**). New novel **Margo & Me**.

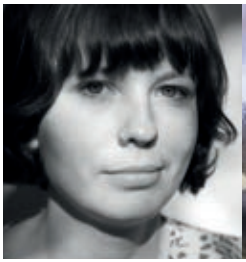
VG Lee crazy hat lady published in numerous anthologies and magazines, author of five novels – the latest being **Mr Oliver's Object of Desire**.

Paul McVeigh Bearded Irishman who likes to laugh and make other people cry – in a nice way. Writer of comedy, plays, short stories and novel **The Good Son**.

Ending At Section 28
Dance & Music Short

Choreographer and performer Bettina Carpi and composer Gary Lloyd discuss and present excerpts from their work-in-progress for a full-scale performance piece in collaboration with Alan Moore, author of **Watchmen** and **V for Vendetta**.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENTS



© Martin Figura

FICTION AT FOUR: Jenn Ashworth, Fell

4pm-5pm, £5 **(includes coffee/tea & cake)**
Café Ollo, Media Centre,
7 Northumberland Street HD1 1RL

The award-winning author of **A Kind of Intimacy** talks about her eerily beautiful, evocative and highly original fourth novel **Fell**. When Annette Clifford returns to her crumbling childhood home, stories from the past come to light through the spirits of her parents.

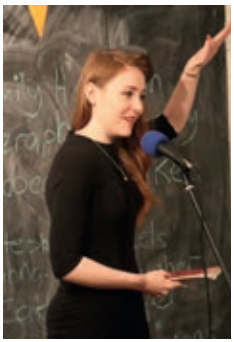
Julie Summers – From Jambusters to Home Fires

7pm-8pm + signing, £5 (£3 conc)
Diamond Jubilee Lecture Theatre, Business School,
University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

From the page to the screen – Julie Summers discusses her bestselling book **Jambusters**, which tells the story of how the Women's Institute helped with the war effort during WWII, and inspired the hugely popular ITV drama **Home Fires**.

Julie Summers is the author of 11 works of non-fiction, including **Fashion on the Ration** and **When the Children Came Home**; she also advises ITV on storylines and historical script details.

>>StageTEXT *This event will have live subtitling by Stagetext to give deaf, deafened and hard of hearing audiences access to the event.*



Poetic Licence

FREE EVENT

7pm **Magic Rock Tap, Willow Lane HD1 5EB**

The Ms Shakespeare Project presents an evening of cutting edge poetry from female writers as part of International Women's Day. Headed by award-winning poet and performer Emily Harrison, who performs selections from her "fierce and uncompromising" collection **I Can't Sleep 'Cause My Bed's On Fire**.

For more information: 01484 649823; taproom@magicrockbrewing.com

Sophie Hannah – Agatha, Poirot and Me

© Phillipa Gedge

7pm-8pm + signing £4 (£2 conc), **Diamond Jubilee Lecture Theatre, Business School, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH**

Sophie Hannah is an internationally bestselling writer of psychological crime fiction, published in 32 languages and 51 territories, and author of five poetry collections.

Here, she talks about how she came to write two new Hercule Poirot novels, **The Monogram Murders** and **Closed Casket**, with the blessing of Agatha Christie's estate, and about her standalone crime fiction, including latest novel **The Narrow Bed**.

>> StageTEXT *This event will have live subtitling by Stagetext to give deaf, deafened and hard of hearing audiences access to the event.*

Open Mic Night with Talking Zebras

8pm **Pay What You Like on the Night** **Small Seeds, 120 New Street HD1 2UD**

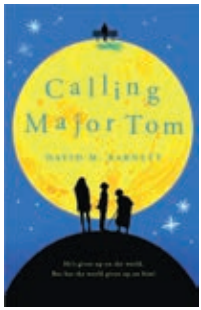
Enjoy performances from Huddersfield's Talking Zebras group, plus open mic slots in a friendly environment.
No need to book – just turn up!

Albert Poets

8pm **The Albert, Victoria Lane HD1 2QF** FREE EVENT
Age guidance: 16+

Tom Weir, Bob Horne, Natalie Rees & Ash Dickinson perform.

FICTION AT FOUR: David Barnett, Calling Major Tom



4pm-5pm, £5 **(includes coffee/tea & cake)**
Café Ollo, Media Centre, 7 Northumberland Street HD1 1RL

We all know someone like Thomas. The grumpy neighbour or work colleague who grumbles about everything. But behind his cranky exterior lies a sadness and a story.

David Barnett's latest novel is a funny, heart-warming tale of a man who has given up on the world but finds it hasn't given up on him.

IAN RANKIN In Conversation with David Barnett

7.30pm-8.30pm + signing, £7 (£5 conc)
Town Hall, Corporation Street HD1 2TA

Thirty years' ago, Ian Rankin created one of crime fiction's most celebrated characters, Inspector John Rebus.

In one of only a few exclusive events to mark the anniversary, the author will talk about his writing career, including the latest Rebus novel, **Rather Be the Devil**.

Winner of four Crime Writers Association Dagger Awards, Ian Rankin has had his work translated into 22 languages. His novels have been filmed for ITV as **Rebus**.

Booking *Town Hall box office: 01484 225 755, www.kirkleestownhalls.co.uk*

>>StageTEXT *This event will have live subtitling by Stagetext to give deaf, deafened and hard of hearing audiences access to the event.*

Sponsored by: Longley Farm

CRIME DAY

Harold Wilson Building & Brontë Lecture Theatres, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

WORKSHOP: Creating a Villain, with Liz Mistry

10am-12 noon, £10 (£5 conc)

A practical workshop to develop ideas for creating a villain for a crime novel or short story (12 places only).

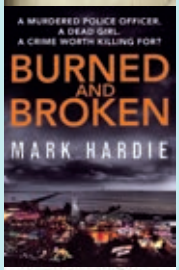
Jake Arnott In Conversation with Nick Quantrill

12.30pm-1.30pm + signing, £4 (£2 conc)

The acclaimed author of six novels, including **The Long Firm**, adapted as a BBC2 drama, talks about his latest work **The Fatal Tree**.

Set in the 1720s, it's an inventive and atmospheric story that draws on real figures and a true history of crime, punishment and rough justice.

© Crispin Hughes



Getting Started, with Mark Hardie and Liz Mistry

2pm-3pm + signing, £3 (£1.50 conc)

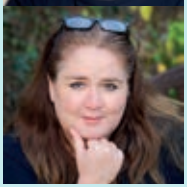
Mark Hardie studied creative writing after losing his sight in 2002. His debut novel, **Burned and Broken**, begins with the death of a policeman on Southend seafront.

Liz Mistry's debut **Unquiet Souls** introduces DI Gus McGuire in a gritty Bradford-based tale. Here, they discuss the route to writing and publishing their first novels.

PANEL: Crime Scenes, with Cay Rademacher and Lone Theils

3.30pm-4.15pm +signing, £3 (£1.50 conc)

German author Cay Rademacher (**The Wolf Children**) and Danish writer Lone Theils (**Fatal Crossing**), both published by Arcadia Books (known for high-quality translated works), discuss the ongoing hunger for international crime writing and their experience of seeing their work in translation in the UK market.



courage is roaring like a lion when you feel like a mouse

© Kyte photography

Joanne Harris In Conversation with Nick Quantrill

4.30pm-5.30pm £4 (£2 conc) + signing
Brontë Lecture Theatres, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

The bestselling writer talks about her latest novel: **Different Class.** Eccentric Latin Master Roy Straitley is shocked to find an ex-pupil returning as the new Head of St Oswald's Grammar School. Especially as he was involved with a scandal that ended with a teacher being jailed.

"Crime novel or literary novel? Categories really don't matter, readers will find themselves comprehensively gripped" The Independent

Published in more than 50 countries, Joanne Harris is the award-winning author of 15 novels, two short story collections and three cookbooks.

Sponsored by: Pennine Business Partners

Majikkon – The Huddersfield Manga, Anime & Comic Con

11am-5pm, £8 (U10: £3, U16s should be accompanied by an adult),
Huddersfield Leisure Centre, Spring Grove Street HD1 4BP

Majikkon is a celebration of not only Japanese pop-culture, fashion and games, but also Western comic book heroes and Sci-Fi shows. Visitors range from the age of five to 50 and come from all walks of life.

Stage events * Cosplay Contest * Artists' Alley * Special Guests * Creative Corner * Panels... and much more

Cosplay judges include Helen Alice (Helen Alice Cosplay) and Kenny (Kenny Cosplay Stuff), and special guests include SuperSorrell.

Pre-booking is advisable (a limited number of tickets will be available on the door at £10).

© Paul Clarke

Memoir Writing with Ian Clayton, Diana Darke & Clover Stroud

7pm, £3 (£1.50 conc) **Brontë Lecture Theatres, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH**

Many of us have real-life stories to tell, but what are the ingredients of a successful memoir? Diana Darke and Clover Stroud discuss the challenges and rewards of memoir writing with Ian Clayton.

Diana Darke's renovated historic villa is now a home to refugees. Her memoir, **My House in Damascus**, gives a unique and personal perspective of the ongoing Syrian crisis.

Clover Stroud's memoir **The Wild Other** is an uplifting story of struggle and survival, charting her journey after her mother suffers a terrible riding accident.

Ian Clayton is a writer, broadcaster and storyteller. He has published three memoirs: **Song for My Father, Bringing It All Back Home** and **Our Billie.**

MAGIC ROCK TAP

We're proud to be supporting the Huddersfield Literature Festival 2017.

Magic Rock Tap: Willow Park Business Centre, Willow Lane, Huddersfield, HD1 5EB

magicrockbrewing.com

MagicRockTap

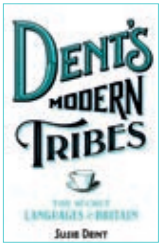
courage is walking into the fog and believing there is a better world on the other side

© Alan Strutt

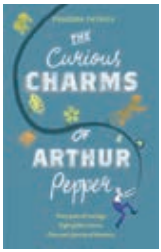
Literary Afternoon Tea with Susie Dent and Phaedra Patrick

3pm-5pm, £15 (£12)
Fixby Hall, Huddersfield Golf Club, Lightridge Road, HD2 2EP

Enjoy afternoon tea in the lovely setting of Fixby Hall with two fabulous guests.



Susie Dent is the resident word expert in Dictionary Corner on C4's Countdown. Her latest book **Dent's Modern Tribes** is a witty guide to Britain's modern tribes and the 'slanguage' they use.



Phaedra Patrick's sparkling debut novel, **The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper**, follows the story of a loveable widower who embarks on a life-changing adventure.

Sponsored by:

Sleigh & Story
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

FREE EVENT

Murray Lachlan Young

3pm & 7pm **Magic Rock Tap, Willow Lane HD1 5EB**

3pm-4pm **Modern Cautionary Tales for Children** –
A mix of poetry, stand-up comedy, storytelling, a touch of panto, and lots of fun participation for children.

7pm-8pm **An Evening with Murray Lachlan Young** –
A unique stand-up poetry / spoken word performance from one of the very best in the business. BBC6 music's resident poet presents his stunning new live show to coincide with his new collection **How Freakin' Zeitgeist Are You?** Expect flamboyant, punchy wit, brooding subtext and empathetic humour.

For more information: 01484 649823; taproom@magicrockbrewing.com

Lisa M Luxx – Polyphonic Scars and The 4th Brain

6pm-7pm, £1.50 Age guidance: 16+
Heritage Quay, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

A kid of the net-generation, Lisa M Luxx grew up online but took a break from technology on a crazy anti-net road trip around the wild landscapes near Silicon Valley. Here, she performs work from **Polyphonic Scars and The 4th Brain**, with personal stories and poetry about addiction, evolution and direct experience.

LEMN SISSAY and KIT DE WAAL – In Conversation with Amanda Huxtable

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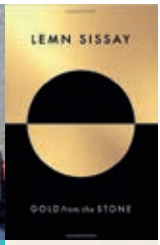

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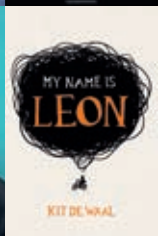

7.30pm-8.30pm + signing, £4 (£2)
Diamond Jubilee Lecture Theatre, Business School, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

What happens to the children whose parents can't look after them but no one adopts? Theatre director Amanda Huxtable leads a discussion between poet Lemn Sissay and novelist Kit de Waal, both of whom have direct experience of the care system and address the issue in their work.

Lemn Sissay is one of the nation's best-loved poets; his latest collection is **Gold from the Stone**. An official poet of the 2012 Olympics, he presented **10 Pieces** at the 2016 Proms and is a great example of the success that children raised in care can achieve.

Kit de Waal has worked in criminal and family law and advised Social Services on the care of foster children. Her debut novel, **My Name Is Leon**, tells the story of a mixed-race boy separated from his younger brother in the care system in 1980s Britain.

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improving skills, changing lives

Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 March

Obra Theatre Company: Gaudete, adapted from the work by Ted Hughes

LAWRENCE BATLEY THEATRE HUDDERSFIELD
INSPIRING PERFORMANCE

7.30pm, £10-£16 **Lawrence Batley Theatre, Queen Street, HD1 2SP**

OBRA's international ensemble interweaves the visceral language of Hughes' seminal work with intimate physicality and dynamic choreography, accompanied by a cinematic soundscape and live junkyard percussion. *See www.thelbt.org for full details.*

courage is putting yourself out there and into challenging situations

FREE EVENT

PechaKucha

PechaKucha Night™ café ollo themediacentre

7pm doors, 7.30pm performance
Café Ollo, Media Centre, 7 Northumberland Street HD1 1RL

Entertaining, moving, thought-provoking – PechaKucha is an eclectic evening of fast-paced presentations on our theme of 'Courage'. Each performer tells a story through 20 images they have selected – each automatically advancing after 20 seconds.

Free but booking recommended: https://pknhudds20.eventbrite.co.uk

Miracle Brew: Hops, Barley, Yeast, Water and the Nature of Beer with Pete Brown

7pm, £10 **(price includes 3 samples of Magic Rock beer)**
Magic Rock Tap, Willow Lane HD1 5EB Over 18s only

Beer is the world's most popular alcoholic beverage, so why do so few of us know what's in it? Award-winning writer and broadcaster Pete Brown tells stories from his new book and tastes beers that reflect the character of the four main ingredients.

Advance booking only: 01484 649823; taproom@magicrockbrewing.com

FICTION AT FOUR: Beth Underdown, The Witchfinder's Sister

4pm-5pm, £5 **(includes coffee/tea & cake)**
Café Ollo, Media Centre,
7 Northumberland Street HD1 1RL

Beth Underdown talks about her remarkable debut novel, based on the life of a real witchfinder. It's 1645 – Alice Hopkins returns, husbandless and pregnant, to her brother Matthew's house in Essex. But what keeps him out late at night and why is he compiling a book of women's names?

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Publishing

6pm-7pm, £1.50 (free for students, please show student card)
Heritage Quay, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

SYP SOCIETY OF YOUNG PUBLISHERS

Bookworms often dream of being authors – but there are many other ways to work with books. Established in 1949, the Society of Young Publishers is now open to all ages. Hosted by the SYP North branch, this event will tell you all you need to know about a career in publishing.

Thursday 16 March

Henry Normal: Staring Directly at the Eclipse

7.30pm-8.30pm + signing, £5 (£3 conc)
Heritage Quay, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH
Age guidance: 16+

"The Alan Bennett of poetry" The Scotsman

Co-writer of award-winning TV shows and films such as **The Royle Family**, **The Mrs Merton Show** and **The Parole Officer**, and producer of **Gavin and Stacey**, **Moone Boy**, **Alan Partridge** and the Oscar-nominated **Philomena**, Henry returns to his first love: poetry.

Here, he showcases work from **Staring Directly at the Eclipse**, his first collection of poetry for over 20 years, including poems from his acclaimed BBC R4 programme **A Normal Family**. As well as his trademark humour, the show covers the subjects of death, loneliness, loss, human frailty and other classic conversation stoppers.

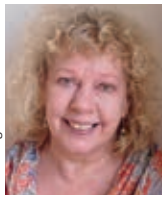
Sponsored by Ravenhall

Friday 17 March

Grist launch

FREE EVENT

5.30pm-7pm **Epicure Bar + Kitchen, 37-39 Queensgate HD1 2RD**
The launch of the latest publication of emerging poets and short fiction writers: **I. You. He. She. It.**

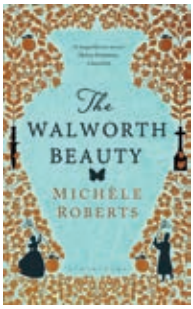


© Viv Pegram

Michèle Roberts In Conversation with Rose Condo

7pm-8pm + signing, £4 (£2 conc)
Heritage Quay, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

"Michèle Roberts is one of those writers descended perhaps as much from Monet and Debussy as Virginia Woolf or Keats… To read a book by her is to savour colour, sound, taste, texture and touch as never before." The Times



The Booker Prize-shortlisted author talks about her new novel, **The Walworth Beauty**, a haunting, sensuous tale weaving two story strands from Victorian and contemporary London.

Michèle Roberts is the author of 13 highly acclaimed novels, including **Ignorance**, **The Looking Glass** and **Daughters of the House**, which won the WHSmith Literary Award. She is Emeritus Professor of Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia.

courage is standing on your own two feet

mslexia **Mslexia is the best-selling literary magazine in the UK. It combines expert advice and information about writing with fiction, poetry and literary listings: www.mslexia.co.uk**

MSLEXIA WORKSHOP: How to Write a Synopsis with Debbie Taylor

10am-12noon, £10 (£5 conc)
Harold Wilson Building, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH
Age guidance: 16+

A foolproof method to take the pain out of writing the most difficult page a novelist has to compose. For writers who have started or completed a novel. Debbie is the Editor of Mslexia, an experienced tutor and an acclaimed novelist. *(Workshop for women only)*

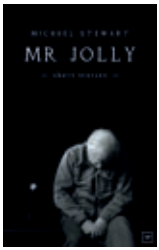
PANEL: Short Stories with Carys Bray, Tessa Hadley & Michael Stewart

11am-12noon, £3 (£1.50 conc)
Brontë Lecture Theatres, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

"Tiny windows into other worlds and other minds and other dreams" (Neil Gaiman) or "hand grenades of ideas" (Paolo Bacigalupi) - three short story writers discuss their craft.

Carys Bray is an award-winning novelist whose work has featured on BBC R4's Book at Bedtime. Stories from her collection **Sweet Home** have also been broadcast on BBC R4.

Tessa Hadley is the author of two highly acclaimed short story collections, **Sunstroke** and **Married Love**, plus six novels and, with Eric Hadley, two books of children's short stories. She is a creative writing tutor at Bath Spa University.



Michael Stewart is a multi-award winning writer of short stories, novels, poetry, stage plays and radio plays. His collection of short fiction, **Mr Jolly**, was published in 2016.

MSLEXIA WORKSHOP: Short Story Writing, with Michèle Roberts

12.30pm-2.30pm, £10 (£5 conc)
Harold Wilson Building, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH
Age guidance: 16+

A practical workshop led by the acclaimed author and Emeritus Professor of Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia. The workshop will cover new ways of thinking about writing short stories. It will be practical and experimental, using writing exercises designed to help us find a subject and feel inspired, keep going, re-draft, and finish. *(15 places only).*

© Joey Menghini

Crown of Blood – Nicola Tallis on Lady Jane Grey

1.30pm-2.30pm + signing, £3 (£1.50 conc)
Brontë Lecture Theatres,
University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

An important retelling of the story of Lady Jane Grey, the 'Nine Days Queen', who was executed for treason aged 17.

Accomplished researcher and historian Nicola Tallis focuses on the human side of the Protestant radical and brings her story to life with fascinating everyday details of the era she lived in.

MSLEXIA PANEL: Meet the Editors

3pm-5pm, £5 (£3 conc) **Brontë Lecture Theatres,**
University of Huddersfield, Queensgate HD1 3DH

Independent publishers are the first step to literary stardom for many novelists – and for writers of short fiction and poetry they are the only game in town. To find out what they are looking for and how to submit, come along to an informal discussion with three specially invited editors: ARC Publications, Route Publishing and Comma Press. Chaired by Mslexia's Editor Debbie Taylor.

Poetry Slam, hosted by Attila the Stockbroker

7pm (running time approx. two hours), £3 (£1.50 conc)
Small Seeds, 120 New Street HD1 2UD
Age guidance: 16+

Open to all performance poets, with a top prize of £50. Loud, funny, hard hitting – bring your poems, raps and comedy to be performed live and judged by audience members. Or just come along for the entertainment.

Hosted by performance poet, musician, journalist and political activist Attila the Stockbroker, who will also perform some of his work. Attila has performed around 3,400 gigs in 24 countries, released 40 albums, seven books of poetry and an autobiography: **Argument's Yard** (2015).

Slam rules: Sign up 6.30pm, original work only (3 mins max). No racist, sexist or homophobic language. Round one: all performers, round two: top three.

courage is carrying on despite life's ups and downs

ALAN JOHNSON MP

In Conversation with Nick Ahad

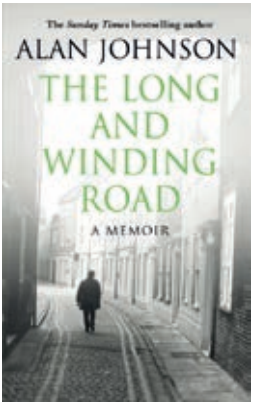
3pm-4pm + signing
£5 (£3 conc)
Town Hall, Ramsden Street, HD1 2TA

From postman to politician – and now multi-award-winning writer.

The third volume of Alan Johnson's remarkable memoir – **The Long and Winding Road** – sees the man who grew up in the condemned slums of West London enter the corridors of power. As Tony Blair famously said to him: "Oh, so you really are working class."

Following Labour's landslide election victory in 1997, Johnson served various cabinet positions in the Blair and Brown governments, including Health Secretary, Education Secretary and Home Secretary, followed by the post of shadow Chancellor until 2011.

The first installment in Alan Johnson's memoirs, **This Boy** – described by The Times as "The best memoir by a politician you will ever read" – won the RSL Ondaatje Prize and the Orwell Prize; his second, **Please Mister Postman**, won the National Book Award for Autobiography of the Year.



>> StageTEXT

This event will have live subtitling by Stagetext to give deaf, deafened and hard of hearing audiences access to the event.

Booking: Town Hall box office: 01484 225 755, www.kirkleestownhalls.co.uk

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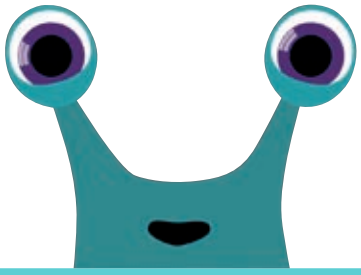
To view our short animated film **A Snail's Journey**, following the adventures of Scout the Snail, and to find out more about our **#Courageis** Project, visit: **www.litfest.org.uk**



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General information: 01484 943093
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Booking

Unless otherwise noted, booking for events is as follows:

Online www.thelbt.org
Email boxoffice@thelbt.org
By phone 01484 430528
In person LBT, Queen St, HD1 2SP
OR Visitor Info, Central Library, Princess Alexandra Walk, HD1 2SU

Please note: While we aim to present the events as detailed in this brochure, the Festival reserves the right to make changes if necessary. Please check **www.litfest.org.uk** or call 01484 943093 for updated information.

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