



Sunderland Libraries

Literature FESTIVAL 2023





Literature FESTIVAL 2023

The warmest of welcomes to the Sunderland Literature Festival 2023

We are delighted to welcome you to this year's Literature Festival which brings together a vibrant mix of poets, authors, and artists. The Festival is the perfect opportunity to celebrate your love of literature, see your favourite local authors, and of course, discover new writers, filmmakers, and illustrators. We are delighted that lecturers from Sunderland University are once again contributing to the festival.

The festival provides a unique opportunity for us to present established voices in crime and fiction, alongside rising stars and self-published authors looking to raise the profile of their work. We aim to unite readers of all ages to celebrate the written and spoken word and have developed a stimulating and diverse range of events including talks, workshops, and competitions. All our events are free, and we encourage you to take advantage of this celebration of libraries and literature by joining in as many activities as possible.

We are busy as ever behind the scenes, working towards upgrading our digital infrastructure; improving our self-service model to enhance user experience and very shortly we will be sharing our brand-new library website that will completely revitalise the library offer within Sunderland.

Unless otherwise stated in the description, our events don't require booking in advance. Please check this brochure carefully for booking instructions. Don't forget to visit our website for up-to-date information (www.sunderland.gov.uk/libraries) and follow us on Facebook (Sunderland Libraries), Twitter (@SLibraries) and Instagram (@SunderlandLibraries).

We hope that you enjoy Sunderland Libraries Literature Festival 2023.

Timetable

Monday 16 October

- Author Talk, Glenda Young, City Library 10.30–11.30am
- 'Trashy Novels and Heroic Deeds' by Prof Angela Smith, Local History Library 10.30–11.30am
- Get Online Week - Wonders of the web, Washington Library 10–12noon
- Celebrating Sunderland with author Marie Gardiner - City Library 2–3pm
- 'Who's afraid of the dark?' Paranormal Sunderland with author Steve Watson - Local History Library 2–3pm
- Get Online Week - Wonders of the web, Houghton Library 1–3pm

Tuesday 17 October

- Children's Time for Rhyme, Washington Library 10–10.30am
- Get Online Week - Drop-in for assistance with Library Apps - City Library 10–12noon
- Get Online Week - Saving money tips, Houghton Library 10–12noon
- 'Where did the money go?' by genealogist Anthea Lang, Local History Library 10.30–11.30am
- Talk with Poet and Publisher, Kym Deyn - City Library 2–3pm
- 'Where the Monsters are: Spaces and Dwellers in the Beowulf manuscript' by Dr Miguel Gomes Gargamala, Local History Library 2–3pm
- Dive into the fantasy world of author M. Jae Cooper, Washington Library 2–3pm

Wednesday 18 October

- Children's Time for Rhyme, City Library 10–10.30am
- 'Very British Gangsters' by Dr George Larke-Walsh, Local History Library 10.30–11.30am
- Get Online Week - Drop-in for assistance with Library Apps, Washington Library 10–12noon
- Film screening of 'The Book Club: The Next Chapter', Arts Centre Washington 1.30pm

Thursday 19 October

- Get Online Week - Saving money tips, Washington Library 10–12noon

Friday 20 October

- 'Women of the Durham Coalfield in the 19th and 20th Century' by author Margaret Hedley, Local History Library 10.30–11.30am
- 'Influence of Culture and Politics on British Crime Fiction' by Dr Dan Ward, Local History Library 2–3pm

Saturday 21 October

- Adult Textile Workshop "Alice in Wonderland" with artist Julie Lane, Local History Library 10–12noon

Monday 23 October

- Author Talk, Frances Mackintosh, City Library 11–12noon
- 'How a Mackem lad became James Herriot' by Dr Rosie Page, City Library 1.30–2.30pm
- Local documentaries screenings and Director talk with Daniel Appleby, Local History Library 2–3pm
- Children's Workshop with author and illustrator Lauren Davis 2–3pm, Houghton Library

Tuesday 24 October

- Children's Time for Rhyme, Washington Library 10–10.30am
- Writing for Wellbeing Workshop with author Helen Aitchison, City Library 10–12noon
- Creative Writing Workshop with author Helen Aitchison, Houghton Library 1.30–3pm
- Children's workshop and interactive reading with authors and illustrators Sacha and Thomas Webborn, City Library 2–3pm
- 'Who do you think you are?' with genealogist Anthea Lang, Local History Library 10.30–11.30am
- Spooky Children Crafts, City Library and Washington Library 2.30–3.30pm

Wednesday 25 October

- Children's Time for Rhyme, City Library 10–10.30am
- Children's Workshop with author and illustrator Lauren Davis, Washington Library 2–3pm,
- 'Death at the Theatre' by author Chris Wood, Local History Library 2–3pm
- Spooky Children Crafts, Houghton Library 2.30–3.30pm

Thursday 26 October

- 'Exploring Mental Health in writing' by authors Jenna Clake and Lucy Nichols, City Library 10.30–11.30am
- 'Shipyard Stories of Sunderland' by Dr Barbara Sadler, Local History Library 10.30–11.30am
- Spooky Children's Crafts, City Library and Washington Library 2.30–3.30pm

Friday 27 October

- Adult Neurodiversity Workshop with author Lauren Osborne, City Library 11–12noon
- 'Me and My Shadow - Memoirs of a Cancer Survivor' by author John Pattison, City Library 2–3pm
- Spooky Children's Crafts, Houghton Library 2.30–3.30pm
- 'Northern Music Memories 60's' by author Ian Mole, Local History Library 2–3pm

Saturday 28 October

- A journey of self-publishing with author Ellie White, City Library 11–12noon
- 'Comics for girls, then and now' by Dr Mel Gibson, City Library 10.30–11.30am
- 'Discovering the Haiku Moment' with Kirsten Cliff Elliot, City Library 1.30–3.30pm
- 'Narrative, Art & Poetry' with artist Katie Sarah Carr, City Library 2–3pm
- 'What's in a Name? Street Names of Sunderland' with Stuart Miller, Local History Library 2–3pm

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Sunderland Libraries Services offer a home delivery service providing books, audio and digital items to customers who are unable to access a library themselves, either due to age, ill health, disability or long or short term mobility problems, for more information contact:

Tel: 0191 520 5553 or visit: www.sunderland.gov.uk/libraries

Adult events

Please note that the events taking place in our Local History Library (ETR) are held on the first floor and might not be suitable for those with mobility issues. Get in touch if you would like more information about access to ETR.

Author talk - Glenda Young

Monday 16 October 10.30–11.30am
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Acclaimed writer Glenda Young's bestselling family sagas are set in Ryhope in 1919 and her cosy crime are set in modern-day Scarborough.

Her cosy crime books have been shortlisted alongside Val

McDermid and Richard Osman in the Dead Good Readers Awards for Best New Crime Series. Glenda also has a unique claim to fame, she's the writer of *Riverside*, a weekly soap opera published in *The People's Friend* magazine since 2016.

Join an informal talk with Glenda and discover how the heritage and history of Ryhope and Sunderland inspire her writing.

Talk with Poet and Publisher - Kym Deyn

Tuesday 17 October 2–3pm
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



means to re-tell a story.

Kym Deyn is an award-winning poet and speculative fiction writer. Their pamphlet *Dionysia* is a set of poems exploring myth, grief, and what it

Kym has been widely published in renowned poetry magazines such as *Butcher's Dog* and *Strange Horizons* and was also one of the winners of the 2020 Outspoken Prize for Poetry.

Kym will chat about creative careers, pathways into publication and their journey from aspiring writer to editor of an independent publishing company. They will also include a reading of their poetry work.

Author Talk - M. Jae Cooper

Tuesday 17 October 2–3pm
Washington Library



M. Jae Cooper was born and raised in the Northeast of England. A traditional artist, first-time author and lover of Role Playing Games, they began writing

stories at age twelve. The foundations for

their debut novel *To Love a Daemon* began a few years later and was finally published in 2020.

Jae will be speaking about their debut novel and answering any questions for those writers considering self-publishing through Amazon. Personalised signed copies of *To Love a Daemon* and related merchandise will be available for purchase at the event.

Textile Workshop - Julie Lane

Saturday 21 October 10–12 noon
Local History Library @ETR



Julie Lane is a textile artist from Sunderland. She specialises in creating textile pictures using photo transfer onto vintage linen. She is currently in her

final year of her MA in Fine Arts (visual practice) and regularly delivers textile groups in the community. Julie's work aims to encourage social interaction and conversation.

Join Julie for this textile workshop and celebrate the history of Lewis Carroll's connection to Sunderland. This session will consist of creating an Alice in Wonderland themed item with image transfers onto vintage linen. All materials and fabrics are provided, and participants will be given a bag of fabric and embellishments to take home with them. Limited to 15 participants - please book your space by emailing Washington Library at:

washtown.library@sunderland.gov.uk

Author Talk - Frances Mackintosh

Monday 23 October 11–12noon

City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Frances Mackintosh was born in Sunderland and still lives in the city. Before being an author, she worked in local government for thirty-three years.

She studied Psychology and Criminology at Sunderland University and has used her expertise to create the psychotic serial killer Grey Trench Coat Man.

In her talk, Frances will reveal how her novel *Coming For You* was written after a lifetime of research, university studies, creative writing courses and even an interview with a real life serial killer!

Writing for Wellbeing Workshop with author Helen Aitchison

Tuesday 24 October 10–12noon

City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Newcastle based author of *The Dinner Club*, *The Life and Love (Attempts) of Kitty Cook* and *31 Days of May*. Helen also publishes non-fiction through her

business, 'Write on the Tyne' which is a non-profit organisation helping marginalised people to get into writing and tell their stories. Alongside this, Helen teaches a range of creative writing classes, mentors writers and ghost writes as part of her business.

Helen also is a journalist at Radio Gateshead, on the board of trustees at Age UK North Tyneside, and a resident agony aunt at Pick Me Up! Magazine.

Helen's workshop will include approximately 90 minutes of writing for well-being. This will involve a range of gentle, inclusive writing exercises as well as professional advice to begin your writing journey. There will also be a chance to ask Helen questions about becoming an author and to purchase signed copies of Helen's books.

Writing Workshop with author Helen Aitchison

Tuesday 24 October Time 1.30–3pm
Houghton Library



In this session, Helen will be discussing her successful and varied writing career and share creative writing tips, elements of storytelling and

writing focus advice through creative writing exercises. The event is open to anyone interested in meeting Helen and learning about the writing process, in either a professional capacity or as a leisure activity. There will also be a chance to purchase signed copies of Helen's books.

Houghton Writers' Group

Tuesday 24 October 1.30–3pm
Houghton Library

This friendly Writer's Group meet fortnightly in Houghton Library to explore various styles and genres of writing. During the meeting, the group discusses and tries their hand at writing pieces in a relaxed and non-judgemental environment.

Join in a meeting or contact Houghton Library for more details (call on 0191 561 6382 or email: houghton.library@sunderland.gov.uk)

Please note the session on 24 October will be with author Helen Aitchison as above.

Exploring Mental Health in Writing with authors Jenna Clarke and Lucy Nichol

Thursday 26 October 10.30–11.30am
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Jenna Clarke is a poet and writer whose two collections of poetry, *Fortune Cookie* and *Museum of Ice Cream* were nominated and

won various prizes.

Jenna's poetry criticism has appeared in illustrious magazines like Poetry London, Poetry School, and Poetry Review. Her debut novel, *Disturbance*, was published in the UK and US.

She lectures in Creative Writing at Teesside University.



Lucy Nichol is a writer with a passion for mental health awareness, music, comedy, and nostalgia. Those themes feature heavily in her three works of

fiction, *No Worries if Not!*, *Parklife* and its prequel *The Twenty Seven Club*. Her first non-fiction book, *A Series of Unfortunate Stereotypes - Naming and Shaming Mental Health Stigmas*, was published in 2018 and she has recently published her second non-fiction book entitled *Snowflake*.

Join writers Lucy and Jenna to discuss the process of writing their latest books, exploring mental health in writing and challenging harmful stereotypes around mental well-being.

Neurodiversity workshop with author and illustrator Lauren Osbourne

Friday 27 October 11–12noon
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Lauren Osbourne is a children's book illustrator from South Shields. She has illustrated three wonderful books so far and is now working on several new projects. She also has written and illustrated her own book *It's OK To Be Me*, which is all about her experiences as an autistic person. Sharing her experiences with others is very important for Lauren because all she wants is for other

autistic people to see that being yourself is something you should be proud of.

This adult Neurodiversity workshop includes an introduction to Lauren's career and her illustration work; a reading from her book, *It's OK To Be Me* and a discussion about the messages, emotions, and empathy which can be found in her writing. During the workshop, each participant will be invited to work on a self-portrait, with illustration instruction from Lauren. The author will also welcome questions from the audience on self-publishing and how to generate illustration commissions.

Author Talk - John Pattison

Friday 27 October 2–3pm
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Due to a life of difficult chronic illnesses John retired from his post as Head of Service in Haematology at South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Trust. At the age of 18, his parents were told that he would not survive, yet today, he is humbled to be one of the longest living cancer survivors in the UK.

He has recently completed his memoirs, *Me, and My Shadow - memoirs of a cancer survivor*, which he believes will provide hope and inspiration to society generally, but specifically anyone touched by a cancer diagnosis.

In his talk, John will recount his incredible life journey through his autobiography which is a brutally honest account of one teenager's struggle to understand and deal with the most feared diagnosis known to society: cancer.

A journey of self-publishing with author Ellie White

Saturday 28 October 11–12noon
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Ellie White is an Amazon best-selling self-published romance author. She was born and bred in Sunderland and is a proud Mackem!

She has written three full length novels, a novella and has

many more contemporary romance stories set in Sunderland in the pipeline.

Since the beginning of her writing career, Ellie has faced countless publishing challenges and has lived through them to tell the tale. In this talk, she'll share the lessons she's learned and, using practical advice, will explain how she now successfully self-publishes her work in a saturated market.

Author talk 'Comics for girls, then and now' by Dr Mel Gibson

Saturday 28 October 10.30–11.30am
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Dr Mel Gibson has been working with children, young people, and comics since the mid-1980s. Her book *Remembered Reading: Memory, Comics and*

Post-War Constructions of British Girlhood looks at comics for girls from the 1950s to early 2000's. Mel is currently an Associate Professor in Childhood Studies at Northumbria University and is interested in both historical and contemporary graphic novels and comics, especially titles aimed at girls.

In her talk, Dr Mel will take us on a journey through time and comic books starting from late twentieth century Britain with beloved Bunty and Jackie to today's comics including fantasy narrative Lumberjanes and superheroes like Ms. Marvel. Because she loves to share her enthusiasm for titles old and new, Mel will also bring along some comics from her own extensive personal collection for the audience to peruse.

Workshop - Discovering the Haiku Moment with Kirsten Cliff Elliot

Saturday 28 October 1.30–3.30pm
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Kirsten is a writer and librarian from New Zealand. She fell for haiku in 2007 and has been writing and publishing them, along with other Japanese short-

form poetry, ever since.

Some of her haiku have been prize-winning, hundreds have appeared in overseas journals and anthologies, and she was a featured poet in the publication *A New Resonance 8: Emerging Voice in English-Language Haiku*. Kirsten's book *Patient Property: a journey through leukaemia* was shortlisted in the Touchstone Distinguished Books Awards 2019.

Learn the basics of writing modern English-language haiku with Kirsten's tips and techniques, a shared reading and then practice writing some of your own.

This two-hour workshop includes a ginko (traditional Japanese haiku walk that helps develop your observational skills used to capture the magic of a haiku moment).

We will be walking a loop around Mowbray Park, which is accessible for those with mobility aids; however, if you can't walk far then you can still participate by sitting outside during the ginko. Suitable for ages 18+.

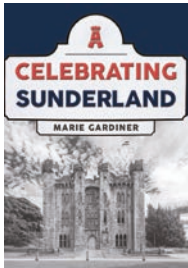
Local talks

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Author talk - Marie Gardiner

Monday 16 October 2–3pm

City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Marie is a writer and photographer, and author of three local books: *Sunderland Industrial Giant*, *Secret Sunderland*, and the newly published

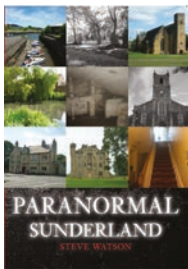
Celebrating Sunderland. She also produces documentaries under the banner of Lonely Tower Film and Media.

Join Marie for a talk about her latest book, *Celebrating Sunderland*, where you'll discover some of the people, places, and achievements that make our city a wonderful place to live in.

Author Talk - Steve Watson

Monday 16 October 2–3pm

Local History Library @ETR



Steve has investigated over 100 of the alleged most haunted buildings in the UK. His books are based on experiences or stories told to him

Steve's talk will focus on his book *Paranormal Sunderland* which takes the reader into the world of ghosts and spirits in the city, including ghostly happenings at the North East Land Sea and Air Museum and mysterious sightings at the Phoenix Lodge. These tales of haunted places, supernatural happenings and weird phenomena will delight ghost hunters and intrigue everybody who knows Sunderland and Wearside.

over many years working in the paranormal field. As he often says, "I'm not here to prove or disprove the paranormal. I just present our findings and let you decide".

Author talk 'Where did the money go?' - Anthea Lang

Tuesday 17 October 10.30–11.30am
Local History Library @ETR



Anthea is a published local history author and an experienced family historian. Formerly Local History and Heritage Manager for Gateshead

Council, she now spends her time giving talks, running adult education classes and

writing text to accompany the Alan Godfrey series of old Ordnance Survey maps, including Roker seafront 1914.

In her talk, Anthea will reveal the mystery of her own personal family history which she has spent the last 20 years investigating. If you have carried out your own family history research, then you may have experienced similar conundrums and if you haven't, this talk might encourage you to begin your own ancestry journey.

Author Talk - Margaret Hedley

Friday 20 October 10.30–11.30am
Local History Library @ETR



After retiring early from her job as a Head of Year in a Sunderland secondary school, Margaret set up a research business concentrating on carrying out family

history research for clients all over the world.

Her personal area of expertise focuses on women married to coal miners, mostly in County Durham and this research has been published in two volumes

Women of The Durham Coalfield in the 19th Century - Hannah's Story and *Women of the Durham Coalfield in the 20th Century - Hannah's Daughter*.

As well as carrying out research, Margaret has a range of presentations all related to the Durham coal mining area that she gives to interested groups.

In her talk, Margaret will present to us the incredible hard life of the women in the coal mining communities in the early twentieth century. Their everyday lives were extremely tough with a house and a family to take care of, alongside the emotional demands of the First World War.

Film Screenings and Director Talk - Daniel Appleby

Monday 23 October 2–3pm
Local History Library @ETR



Daniel is a documentary filmmaker based in Sunderland. His film, *With All the Will in the World*, made it into the official selection for in prestigious Film

Festivals in Munich and Beijing. He was nominated for BFI Network and Film Hub North's Northern Filmmakers Award 2018.

Daniel currently programmes Sunderland Film Club, a documentary-focused community cinema, based at Arts Centre Washington.

This session includes the screening of Daniel's short films (*With All the Will in the World* which retraces the closing of the last shipyard in Sunderland in 1988 and *Elegy for a Working Man* which focuses on Town End Farm working men's club). He will also explain how the films were researched and created and will welcome questions from the audience.

'How a Mackem lad became James Herriot' - Dr Rosie Page

Monday 23 October 1.30–2.30pm
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Dr Rosie Page is a retired GP from Thirsk in North Yorkshire. Her father was Alf Wight, who became famous as James Herriot, veterinary surgeon and author.

Dr Rosie Page will share her memories of her father, born in Sunderland and raised in Glasgow and how he became the most famous vet in the world who never lost his love of Sunderland, its people and its football club.

'Who do you think you are?' with Anthea Lang

Tuesday 24 October 10.30–11.30am

Local History Library @ETR



Anthea is a published local history author and an experienced family historian. Formerly Local History and Heritage Manager for Gateshead

Council, she now spends her time giving talks, running adult education classes, and

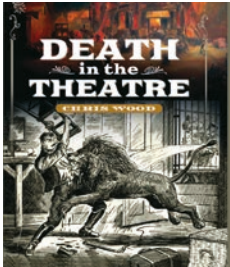
writing text to accompany the Alan Godfrey series of old Ordnance Survey maps, including Roker seafront 1914.

Many of us have watched the BBC family history series but struggle deciding where to start with our own family research? Anthea Lang has been professionally practicing genealogy for 20 years and will share her knowledge in this introductory family history talk. There will also be a chance to do some online research during the session.

Author Talk - Death at the Theatre by Chris Wood

Wednesday 25 October 2–3pm

Local History Library @ETR



Chris has always been an avid reader and loved the idea of writing a book. Having now written two, he is still just as captivated by it all.

When he is not

writing you can usually find him with his wife playing games with their five-year-old daughter, who also seems to have a fascination with books and writes new ones daily.

Chris will be delivering a talk on his book *Death in the Theatre* which includes the awful incident that became known as the town's 'blackest day' when 183 children lost their lives at the Victoria Hall Theatre.

Chris will also share a less known Sunderland story of the tragic death of a young girl at Sunderland's Lyceum Theatre back in 1865.

Author Talk ‘My Music Memories of the 1960’s’ - Ian Mole

Friday 27 October 2–3pm
Local Studies Libraries @ETR



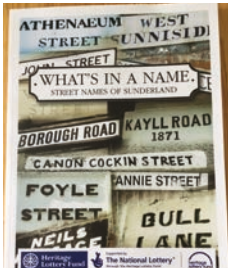
Ian was born and raised in Sunderland but has spent most of his life in London working mainly as a teacher of English to overseas students and as a tour guide. He is the London correspondent for the SAFC fanzine ‘A Love Supreme’ and the guide for the Official Shipyard Girls Walking Tour.

The talk will concentrate on the importance of music to the author and how he discovered many great bands via his brother’s small record collection, Radio Luxembourg and various BBC shows.

He’ll recall how he used his pocket money to buy records at Atkinson’s and will also share with us his live music memories with shows like The Beatles at the Empire in 1963 and later many other groups including The Who, Free and The Bonzos.

‘What’s In A Name?: Street Names of Sunderland’ with Stuart Miller

Saturday 28 October 2–3pm
Local History Library @ETR



Following a brief period at the University of Northumbria he went on to work as Project Manager and currently tutor for the Workers’ Education Association. He has written various articles and books on aspects of local, regional, and national history.

Stuart was a Senior Lecturer at the University of Sunderland then Director of Continuing Education.

Following a brief period at the

He is also a volunteer with the Wearside Field Club and the Donnison School.

This illustrated talk will cover the fascinating research process which volunteers have undertaken to uncover the origin and mysteries behind some of our familiar street names.

Stuart will present to the audience some examples of the street-names which figure in the popular book which is now in its third reprint.

LEGO coding sessions

Have you ever wanted to learn how to code?
Join us to create amazing LEGO constructions
and use code to bring them to life!

Drop in LEGO coding taster sessions are taking place at:

Houghton Library 24 October 2.30–3.30pm

Washington Library 27 October 2.30–3.30pm

After School LEGO coding clubs will launch on 1 November, ideal for children aged 5–12. Scan the QR Code below to book your place.



**Houghton
Library**



**City
Library**



education[™]

Children's activities

Children's Workshops with author and illustrator Lauren Davis

Monday 23 October 2–3pm, Houghton Library

Wednesday 25 October 2–3pm, Washington Library



Lauren Davis is a children's author and illustrator. Her first published book *The Scoliosaurus* which features a dinosaur with scoliosis and the second one

The Rainbow Snail is centred around characters living with autism and ADHD.

All of Lauren's books are close to heart and serve a purpose: to explore and raise

awareness of conditions that need more exposure in a fun way!

Lauren's sessions will focus on the making of her fourth book *Deacan and the Shiwee Shiwees* which revolves around emotions. With Lauren's guidance, children will be asked think about emotions and create their own character through the medium of drawing. Children might be in with the chance to get their character brought to life thanks to Lauren's fantastic illustrations in her next book!

Children's Workshop with authors and illustrators Sacha and Thomas Webborn

Tuesday 24 October 2–3pm

City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens



Thomas and Sacha are a husband-and-wife author and illustrator team who have just published their latest children's picture book, *Nettle and Dock!* which

explores the lifelong value of friendship and celebrates the folkloric relationship between these two abundant British plants. As artists,

musicians, and environmental educators with active imaginations, Sacha and Thomas love combining science and literacy and have taught all over the world while having a lot of fun!

Ideal for families with children aged 0–8 (but older siblings might want to come along and enjoy the fun) this workshop will consist of an interactive reading of *Nettle and Dock's* adventures accompanied with live music and forest school style craft fun!



SUNDERLAND SPOOKY STORIES

**Unleash your creative superpower
and prepare to scare this Halloween!**

“Sunderland Spooky Stories” will be back this Autumn. This 500-word story-writing competition for all the ‘brave’ kids in Sunderland aims to promote literacy, creative writing, writing resilience and, above all, have some spooky fun!

The Spooky Story competition is part of Sunderland’s Halloween programme, partnered with Sunderland Libraries Services as part of the Sunderland Libraries’ Literature Festival that happens each year in October.

The deadline for entries will be Monday, 9 October, with a winner’s presentation night on Thursday, 19 October.

The age categories are:
5-9 years, 10-13 years and 14-18 years

**Visit www.sunderlandbid.co.uk/Sunderland-spooky-stories
to find out more and submit your entry.**

This partnership activity is supported by



Time for Rhyme

City Library, every Wednesday at 10–10.30am

Washington Library, every Tuesday at 10–10.30am



Join our friendly groups and participate in singing along to nursery rhymes with musical instruments!

These groups are aimed at pre-nursery age children but are open to every child wanting to have fun.

Children's Craft Sessions

City Library, Thursday 26 October 2.30–3.30pm

Washington Library, Tuesday 24 October 2.30–3.30pm and
Thursday 26 October 2.30–3.30pm

Houghton Library, Wednesday 25 October 2.30–3.30pm and
Friday 27 October at 2.30–3.30pm



Struggling to entertain the little ones during the half-term holidays?

Get creative and join us for our fun and friendly sessions where we will be making Halloween themed spooky crafts!

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All this and more FREE with your library card www.sunderland.gov.uk/join-the-library



University talks

In partnership with the University of Sunderland.

Please note that the events taking place in our Local History Library (ETR) are held on the first floor and might not be suitable for those with mobility issues. Get in touch if you would like more information about access to ETR.

'Trashy Novels and Heroic Deeds' by Prof Angela Smith

Monday 16 October 10.30–11.30am
Local History Library @ETR



Professor Angela Smith is based in the English team at the University of Sunderland. She has published widely, specialising in the area of gender and

sexuality studies, media discourse and politeness theory. With Sunderland Culture, she manages the Rebel Women of Sunderland project.

This talk will look at how Sunderland-born Ida and Louise Cook went from opera fans to daring rescuers of Jews from Nazi Germany in the late 1930s, with the curious assistance of escapist romantic fiction novels.

‘Where the Monsters are: spaces and dwellers in the Beowulf manuscript’ by Dr Miguel Gomes Gargamala

Tuesday 17 October 2–3pm
Local History Library @ETR



context of the modern world. Alongside various qualifications, he possesses a

Dr Miguel A. Gomes Gargamala is a senior Lecturer at Sunderland University specialising in the early medieval period and its adaptations in the

bachelor’s degree in English Linguistics and Literature and an MA in Comparative Medieval Literature.

In his talk, Dr Gargamala will explore the significance of constructed and natural places, as well as of their inhabitants, in the context of Old English literature and the early medieval period. Participants will be invited to look at medieval manuscripts like the Cotton Ms Vitellius A XV and “The Beowulf manuscript”.

‘Very British Gangsters’ by Dr George Larke-Walsh

Wednesday 18 October 10.30–11.30am
Local History Library @ETR



on non-fiction and fiction film theories. Her publishing history includes books and articles on ethics in true crime, as well as the presentation of mythologies, and masculine identities in narratives about the mafia.

George S. Larke-Walsh Ph.D is a faculty member in Arts and Creative Industries at the University of Sunderland.

Her scholarly interests focus

Her latest book is an edited collection entitled *True Crime in American Media*.

In her talk, Dr Larke-Walsh will aim to explore what makes British gangsters unique. What shared characteristics do they have and how do they express their world view?

This talk invites the public to consider what constitutes a ‘very British gangster’ and will focus on a variety of examples from literature, film, ‘real life’ and provides a light-hearted examination of the genre and the characters produced or encountered in the UK.

'Influence of Culture and Politics on British Crime Fiction' by Dr Dan Ward

Friday 20 October 2–3pm
Local History Library @ETR



Dr Dan Ward is a Personal Tutor for BA (Hons) Media, Culture and Communication at the University of Sunderland. His main teaching and research interests

include television, sports, and their impact on popular culture.

In this talk, using examples from popular culture, Dr Dan Ward will explore the major influences of politics and culture on the very popular genre of crime fiction.

'Shipyard Stories of Sunderland' by Dr Barbara Sadler

Thursday 26 October 10.30–11.30am
Local History Library @ETR



Barbara is a graduate of the University of Sunderland, she holds a doctoral degree from the University of Lincoln and is now a Senior Lecturer

In her talk Dr Barbara Sadler will report on new research which is gathering oral histories from female shipyard workers and their families about their real life and works in the area around Sunderland.

This will be supported and illustrated with situations depicted in the popular work of fiction by Nancy Revell, *The Shipyard Girls*.

and course leader for BA (Hons) Film and Media at Sunderland University.

Her research interests include media history, the representations of the past on screen, media representations of identity, audience research and media production research.

'Narrative, Art & Poetry' with artist Katie Carr

Saturday 28 October 2–3pm
City Library @ETR



Katie is a multi-disciplinary artist whose practice explores the subject of narrative through painting and poetry.

She is currently completing a

fellowship with Artist Benevolence Fund at the University of Sunderland and specialises in scenarios of family events and relationships, drawn from personal found photography mixed in with references to early Renaissance Italian painters.

This workshop invites you to join Katie in exploring the use of poetry in her practice.

The audience have the opportunity to hear her talk about the connections between narrative, art, and poetry. Participants will be invited to create their own poems, which will be compiled into a digital video.

Digital events

In partnership with Get Online Week (16–22 October 2023)

Wonders of the Web

Monday 16 October 10–12noon
Washington Library

Monday 16 October 1–3pm
Houghton Library



Wonders of the Web: practice and develop your digital skills with this beginner session. The session will include using Google for

research and leisure, how to keep in touch with family and friends and how to stay safe online.

Money Saving Tips

Tuesday 17 October 10–12noon
Houghton Library

Thursday 19 October 10–12noon
Washington Library



Money Saving Tips: learn how to use online money saving tools and resources like Money Saving Expert and comparison websites.

You will also develop your skills in order to shop safely online.

BORROWBOX IS ALWAYS OPEN



Children



Young Adult



Fiction



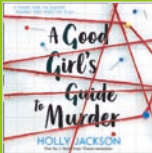
Non-Fiction



Children



Young Adult



Fiction



Non-Fiction



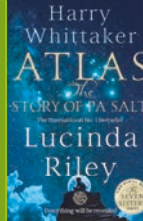
Children



Young Adult



Fiction



Non-Fiction



eMagazines



eMagazines



National newspapers



Regional newspapers



DOWNLOAD THE APP NOW

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2. Select your library service
3. Activate with your library membership
4. Borrow ePress, eBooks and eAudiobooks



BorrowBox and Library App

Tuesday 17 October 10–12noon
City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens

Wednesday 18 October 10–12noon
Washington Library



Interested to know about Sunderland Libraries' digital offer? Need a little help using BorrowBox or the Library App?

Bring your own device, or use one of ours, to this drop-in session to explore new ways to use the library!

Pre-recorded talk with Ann Cleaves

www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuDHTTFoT2Y



both on screen and in print. Her books have now sold millions of copies worldwide.

Ann is a best-selling crime writer who has written over thirty novels and is the creator of detectives Vera Stanhope and Jimmy Perez; characters loved

In 2012 she was inducted into the CWA Crime Thriller Awards Hall of Fame and is the 2017 recipient of the CWA Diamond Dagger, the highest honour in British crime writing. Ann lives in North Tyneside.

In partnership with BorrowBox, we are delighted to be able to bring to you this online talk where Ann chatted about her writing process and inspirations as well as the important role libraries have played in her life. Interview provided by South Tyneside Library Service.

Residents helpful tips



Turn your heating down by 1°C

You could cut your heating bills by up to **10%**. Save **250g of carbon** per unit of heat if using a gas boiler. Save **340g of carbon** per unit of heat if using UK grid electricity. Save up to **£80** a year on energy bills.



Plant trees and pollinator friendly plants

500kg of carbon can be saved per **10 square metres** of trees planted in the UK.



Invest in an EV rather than petrol or diesel car

EVs emit on average more than **3 times less** CO₂ than equivalent petrol cars.



Have a 'meat free Monday'

Can save up to **4kg** of carbon a day.



Insulate your home

A detached home with solid wall insulation could save up to **2 tonnes** of carbon per year.



Reuse the shopping bags

Save **3g** of carbon per plastic bag.



Take shorter showers

Shorter showers (4 minutes or less) can save a family **230kg** of carbon a year (up to **£400**).



Invest in renewable energy generation

Air-source heat pumps in a residential setting can save more than **2 tonnes** of carbon per year.

A typical home solar PV system could save around **1.3–1.6 tonnes** of carbon per year, with an average financial saving of **£411** per year.



Recycle what you can

The average bin contains **590g** of carbon. The average Briton sends **220kg** of carbon to landfill each year.



Wash your laundry colder

Save up to **260g** of carbon per wash. Washing your laundry at **60°C** produces **590g** of carbon compared to **330g** of carbon at **30°C**.



Rethink your transport

Driving one mile less in an average UK car at **36mpg** will save you **530g** of carbon. Using the train, bus or bike can save **40–98%** of carbon compared to driving.



Grow your own fruit and vegetables

A lettuce grown in the UK produces **0.6kg** of carbon per kg of produce compared to **1.8kg** of carbon for lettuce imported from Spain.



Switch off and unplug appliances

Lighting accounts for **about 12%** of a typical residential utility bill.



Buy local where possible

A typical meal bought from a standard supermarket chain uses **4–17 times more** petroleum for transport than the same meal using ingredients from more local sources.



Fly less or not at all

Carbon savings depend on the distance and type of flight. A return from London to Hong Kong is **3.5 tonnes** of carbon per person.



Pre-recorded talk with Lesley McEvoy

Video will be uploaded to social media and library website



Lesley was born and bred in Yorkshire and has had a passion for writing all her life. For many years, Lesley developed her career as a Behavioural

Analyst/Profiler and Psychotherapist, setting up her own consultancy business and therapy practice. Lesley's work in some of

the UK's toughest prisons was where she met people whose experiences informed the themes she now writes about. Deciding in 2017 to concentrate on her writing, Lesley produced her debut novel, *The Murder Mile* and published many more since then.

Lesley will be talking about her successful crime writing career, her inspirations, and the process of becoming a published author. She will introduce the audience to her latest novel *A Deadly Likeness* published in 2023.

Lonely Tower - short films



The Lonely Tower Film and Media company has been collaborating with Sunderland Libraries Literature Festival for many years to bring to us high-quality and

fascinating local history short films. This year's selection can be accessed using the links below:

Celebrating Sunderland

<https://youtu.be/n1gCSCkEjkY>

Celebrating Sunderland - Mowbray Park

<https://youtu.be/4RzCOuP3OpA>

Celebrating Sunderland - FA Cup wins

<https://youtu.be/pNXW7wKBNlo>

Celebrating Sunderland - Hylton Castle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4tm6Xr1sgg8>

Celebrating Sunderland - Kathryn Robertson Illustrator

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zUK8CW1b3o>

Celebrating Sunderland - Martin Hulse Tyne & Wear Buildings Preservation Trust

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6R8CGsyN5ZI>

CREATIVE YOU

Free weekly arts workshops for young people aged 11-19 in the Washington area.

Young Writers Collective

Washington Town Centre Library
Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30pm, FREE

A series of exciting creative writing workshops exploring storytelling through folklore, urban legend and mythology. We will create our own mythologies and find out how to retell and adapt legends and folklore to reflect our own lives!

To find out more scan the QR code or visit www.artscentrewashington.co.uk



Creative You is supported by Sunderland City Council's Washington Area Committee. The project is based from Arts Centre Washington and led by Sunderland Culture in partnership with Washington Mind.

Arts Centre Washington events

Washington: Fact, Fiction and Folklore Writers' showcase event

Thursday 5 October

Calling all creative writers and history researchers! We're looking for a new take on a well-known Washington story or something that sheds light on a lesser-told or hidden history.

Works can be fiction, poetry, song writing, comics, drama, excerpts from a novel - we're open to all kinds of creative writing.

For more information and to submit work visit www.artscentrewashington.co.uk

Screening of Book Club: The Next Chapter (12a)

Wednesday 18 October, 1.30pm

Tickets £4 (this is an Arts Centre Washington charge)

Follows the new journey of four best friends as they take their book club to Italy for the fun girls trip they never had. This special screening is supported by the Library Service

and information about how to join a local book club will be available. Stars Diane Keaton and Jane Fonda

Teenage workshop: Hone your writing with Haiku

Wednesday 25 October

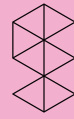
10–12 noon

Author Kirsten Cliff Elliot will take you through the basics of writing modern English-language haiku sharing tips and techniques, then we'll explore through readings and practice writing some of our own. This two-hour workshop includes a ginko, which is a traditional Japanese haiku walk that helps

develop your observational skills in order to discover and capture the magic of a haiku moment. We will be walking within the grounds of Arts Centre Washington rain or shine, if you can't walk far then you can still participate by sitting outside during the ginko.



SUNDERLAND
MUSEUM & WINTER GARDENS



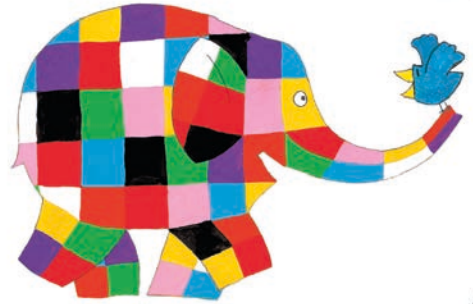
SUNDERLAND
CULTURE

ELMER

and

FRIENDS

THE COLOURFUL WORLD OF DAVID MCKEE



Elmer and Friends, the Colourful World of David McKee

11 September 2023 – 6 January
2024
10am - 4pm

Trail of Rainbows

Monday 11 September – Saturday
11 November
10am - 4pm
£1 per trail with sticker prize

Rainbow Art Space

Saturday 21 October – Saturday 6
January
Drop-in session from 10am - 4pm
Free

Please visit sunderlandmuseum.org.uk or the Museum Shop to find out more and book your place for our family activities.

Sunderland Shorts Presents.... The Colourful World of Animation

Saturday 21 October
11am – 1pm
Free, pre-booking recommended

Elmer and Friends Shadow Puppet Play

Wednesday 25 October
Sessions at 1pm and 2pm
*£2 per child, pre-booking
recommended*

Make a Rag Rug Elmer

Friday 27 October
Drop-in sessions from 11am –
12.30pm and 1.30pm – 3pm
Free

Elmer Illustration © David McKee 2023, published by Andersen Press www.elmer.co.uk


Sunderland
City Council



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

An exhibition from
seven stories
The National Centre for Children's Books

School events

Every year, Sunderland Libraries Literature Festival opens its programme to local schools with the aim of introducing as many children as possible to the world of reading and to the excitement of meeting authors in the flesh!

Please note that the following events are reserved for school classes only and are not accessible to the public.

Workshop with author Sarah Millington



Sarah is a former magazine editor and award-winning journalist with more than 20 years' experience.

She lives in Sunderland with her husband, two daughters and dog.

In her workshop, Sarah will be talking about her first children's novel, *Demelza Rice is not Very Nice* which covers important themes like the use of social media, bravery and bullying.

Workshops with author Julia Green



Julia is the award-winning author of more than 25 novels and short stories for young people, including *The Wilderness War*, *To the Edge of the*

World, and more recently *The Children of Swallow Fell*.

She has many years' experience of leading creative writing workshops for children and adults. She founded and was Course Director of the prestigious MA Writing for Young People at Bath Spa University which has launched the careers of more than 65 children's and young adult authors.

Julia is passionate about the natural world, and many of her stories are set in wild places. Her picture book *The Boy Who Sailed the World* is inspired by the real sailing adventures of one of her sons. Julia now lives on the North-East coast.

Julia will deliver two workshops aiming to show children of various ages how a story is thought about, created, polished, and then published. Julia will propose creative writing tasks and craft activities to complement her talk and allow the whole class to understand and enjoy the process of writing and reading.

Neurodiversity workshop with author Lauren Osbourne



Lauren Osbourne is a children's book illustrator from South Shields. She has illustrated three wonderful books so far and is now working her future publications!

Lauren's neurodiversity workshop will be centred around the author's book *It's OK To Be Me* which shares the themes of emotions, empathy, disability, and autism which are close to the author's heart.

During the session, the class will participate in a self-portrait drawing exercise.

She also has written and illustrated her own book *It's OK To Be Me*, which is all about her experiences as an autistic person.

List of venues

City Library @Museum and Winter Gardens

Burdon Road, Sunderland SR1 1PP

Tel: 0191 561 5660

Email: enquiry.desk@sunderland.gov.uk

Local History Library @ETR

64 Fawcett Street, Sunderland SR1 1BB

Tel: 0191 561 8439

Email: local.historylibrary@sunderland.gov.uk

Washington Library

Independence Square, Washington NE38 7RZ

Tel: 0191 561 3441

Email: washtown.library@sunderland.gov.uk

Houghton Library

74 Newbottle Street, Houghton-le-Spring DH4 4AF

Tel: 0191 561 6382

Email: houghton.library@sunderland.gov.uk

Arts Centre Washington

Biddick Lane, Fatfield, Washington NE38 8AB

Tel: 0191 561 3455

Email: acw@sunderland.gov.uk





Sunderland Libraries

Literature FESTIVAL 2023

