

# INSPIRE POETRY FESTIVAL 2019

MONDAY 23 - SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

PERFORMANCES  
READINGS  
WORKSHOPS  
FILM  
POETRY TAKEOVER



Nottinghamshire  
County Council

delivered by



**Inspire**  
Culture | Learning | Libraries

Inspire Members' Event

# INSPIRE AGM

with special guest Andrew Graves

Thursday 17 October, 7 - 8.30pm

The Old Library, Leeming St, Mansfield, NG18 1NG

Free (Inspire members only)

Booking essential

Members of Inspire are invited to our fourth Annual General Meeting. Hear presentations covering the last year at Inspire, followed by an exciting performance from special guest Andrew Graves.

Book online at [inspireculture.org.uk/AGM](http://inspireculture.org.uk/AGM)

INSPIRE

AGM

# WHAT'S ON

Inspire presents a wide variety of brilliant cultural and community activities throughout the year with something for everyone to enjoy!

Find out what's happening on your doorstep and right across the county:

[www.inspireculture.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.inspireculture.org.uk/whats-on)

# STAY CONNECTED

## stay inspired

### SIGN UP, TAG + SHARE

[inspireculture.org.uk/emails](http://inspireculture.org.uk/emails)

 @inspireculturenotts

 @nottslibraries

 /nottslibraries

# WELCOME TO INSPIRE POETRY FESTIVAL 2019

## BRINGING POETRY TO BEESTON, MANSFIELD CENTRAL, SOUTHWELL, WEST BRIDGFORD AND WORKSOP LIBRARIES, AND THE OLD LIBRARY, MANSFIELD

Featuring celebrated poetry stars, regional favourites and cutting-edge newcomers, and with styles ranging from the formal lyric to freestyle spoken word, this year's festival promises a plethora of poetry delights at venues around the county.

We're hugely excited to welcome the much-garlanded **Patience Agbabi**, **Colette Bryce** and **Jacob Polley** for the first time, alongside multiple prize-winning young poets **Raymond Antrobus** and Birmingham-based **Nafeesa Hamid**.

**Wendy Cope** returns for Afternoon Tea, **George Szirtes** headlines **Word!**, **John Harvey** celebrates turning 80 and Notts-based **Andrew Graves** is back by popular demand!

Alongside readings and performances, we have workshops to develop your writing skills with **Deborah Tyler-Bennett**, a poetry masterclass with **Colette Bryce**, and special sessions to enhance your poetry reading enjoyment with **Jenny Swann**.

There's also a touring exhibition of heartfelt poems and beautiful photographs, a film about Keats, opportunities for open mic performers, community events at Southwell Library and a free Poetry Takeover day for everyone to enjoy.

Whether you're already a poetry reader, writer, student or teacher, or a complete newcomer, join us this September to enjoy a week of wonderful words in the welcoming surroundings of your libraries.

### BOOKING

**Tickets for events can be booked:**

**Online:**

**[www.inspireculture.org.uk/poetry-festival](http://www.inspireculture.org.uk/poetry-festival)**

**By phone via Ask Inspire:**

**01623 677 200**

**Or in person at any of the Festival libraries.**

Tickets are non-refundable except where an event is cancelled. Programme is subject to change.

### Access information

All our festival venues are accessible to wheelchair users, and full access details on all venues is available on request from Ask Inspire. Please notify us on booking if you require a wheelchair space or have any specific access needs.

Email: [ask.inspire@inspireculture.org.uk](mailto:ask.inspire@inspireculture.org.uk)

Phone: 01623 677 200

A large print version of this brochure is available on request.



[nottslibraries](#) [#inspirepofest](#)

[inspireculture.org.uk](http://inspireculture.org.uk)

### Thank you!

Thanks to our booksellers; Five Leaves and The Bookcase, Lowdham, and to LeftLion for their continued support of the festival.



Mavis Plackett and Ben Norris at Woodleigh Christian Care Home. Photo by Ben Harriott.

EXHIBITION

# VOICES AT INSPIRE POETRY FESTIVAL

MANSFIELD CENTRAL LIBRARY

Thursday 5 - Sunday 29 September

Free

*Voices* presents a thought-provoking collection of poetry created by and with people whose voices, for health, social or age-related reasons, may rarely be heard, combined with photographs of those involved.



Poet, playwright and performer Ben Norris worked with four very different groups across Nottinghamshire to develop a body of poems that express their emotions, experiences and stories. These included elderly people living with dementia, adults with learning disabilities, refugees, and people living with, or affected by, mental health issues.

The sessions, and individuals involved, were photographed by lens-based artist Ben Harriott, and the resulting works were curated into this inspiring exhibition.

With very special thanks to the groups involved: Woodleigh Christian Care Home, Mansfield; Building Bridges, West Bridgford; Bassetlaw Day Service, Worksop and Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum, Youth Project.

A printed anthology of the poems and photographs featured in the exhibition will be distributed to all Inspire libraries during Inspire Poetry Festival.

***Voices is touring Inspire Libraries until April 2020. For details visit [inspireculture.org.uk/voices](http://inspireculture.org.uk/voices)***

LAUNCH EVENT

## VOICES: ANTHOLOGY LAUNCH

MANSFIELD CENTRAL LIBRARY

Saturday 28 September, 11am

Free | Booking advised

Join us to celebrate the launch of *Voices* – the anthology based on the project and exhibition.

Gain an insight into this inspiring project and enjoy readings from poet Ben Norris.

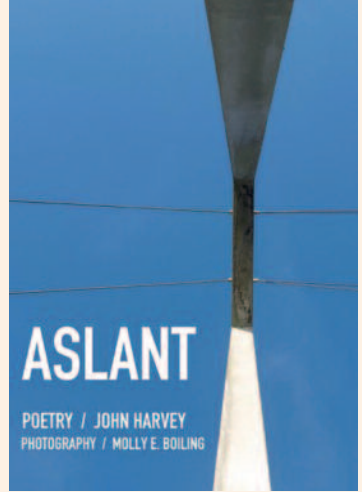
*Voices* was a community poetry project led and facilitated by writer and performer Ben Norris, with photographs by lens-based artist Ben Harriott, in collaboration with Inspire: Culture, Learning & Libraries. It was supported with funding from the National Lottery through Arts Council England.



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



Photo: Nanna De



HEADLINE PERFORMANCE

# ASLANT BUT STILL STANDING... JOHN HARVEY AT 80

BEESTON LIBRARY

7pm

£8

Booking advised

Adults (under 18s to be accompanied by an adult)

Novelist, poet, dramatist and sometime publisher, John Harvey has been a professional writer for some forty years. The first of his Charlie Resnick series, *Lonely Hearts*, was named by *The Times* as one of the 100 most notable crime novels of the last century, and in 2007 he was the recipient of the CWA Cartier Diamond Dagger for Sustained Excellence in Crime Writing. He has been awarded Honorary Doctorates by the Universities of both Nottingham and Hertfordshire.

His latest poetry collection, *Aslant*, is published by Shoestring Press.

Join him to hear a reading of his 'new and selected' poems, along with the odd anecdote, in celebration of his life in writing.

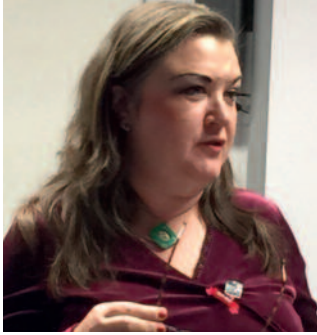
*"His insights into the minds and hearts of others – there is a tenderness here that many British poets do not risk."*

John Burnside on *Bluer Than This*

*"One of our most accomplished writers... in any genre."*

Daily Telegraph

Photo: Martyn Bennett



## WRITING WORKSHOP

### CREATING INSPIRED IMAGES WITH DEBORAH TYLER-BENNETT

**SOUTHWELL LIBRARY**

**11am – 1pm**

**£5**

**Booking essential**

**Adults**

A workshop using pictorial images with a local flavour, which Nottinghamshire-born poet and fiction writer Deborah Tyler-Bennett will provide. The workshop exercises will help you explore ideas of tone, rhythm, detail and narrative voice. Come along, be inspired, and have a go at creating a piece of work from scratch.

## COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE

### HEXAMETER FOLLOWED BY OPEN MIC

**SOUTHWELL LIBRARY**

**7.30pm**

**£3**

**Booking advised**

Hexameter is a group of six poets from Leicester, Lincoln, Nottinghamshire and Sheffield whose work has been published in national and international journals such as *Acumen*, *Dream Catcher*, *Magma* and *The North*. Join them to enjoy a selection of poetry from contemporary voices. To perform at the open mic please apply in person at Southwell library. Places limited.



## FILM

### BRIGHT STAR (PG)

**MANSFIELD CENTRAL LIBRARY**

**3pm**

**£2**

**Booking available**

Written and directed by Oscar-winner Jane Campion (*The Piano*), *Bright Star* tells the story of the three-year romance between 19th-century Romantic poet John Keats and Fanny Brawne, near the end of his life.

Together they rode a wave of romantic obsession that deepened as their troubles mounted.



Photo: Nanna Dis

## HEADLINE PERFORMANCE

### POETRY CAFÉ WITH JOHN HARVEY AT 8: A CELEBRATION

**WORKSOP LIBRARY**

**6.30pm**

**£6**

**Booking advised**

**Adults (under 18s to be  
accompanied  
by an adult)**

Author of the celebrated Notts-based Charlie Resnick series of crime novels, John Harvey's latest poetry collection *Aslant* is published by Shoestring Press.

Join him to hear about his life in writing, including how a crime novelist approaches poetry, and put your own questions to John over drinks and refreshments during this relaxed Poetry Café session.

*"...a uniquely readable  
poet of great integrity."*

Andy Brown on *Bluer Than This*

HEADLINE PERFORMANCE

# WORD! POETRY FESTIVAL SPECIAL WITH GEORGE SZIRTES

BEESTON LIBRARY

7pm

£7 / £5

Booking advised

Adults (under 18s to be accompanied by an adult)

Join WORD! - one of the longest running poetry nights in the UK and former Saboteur Award Nominee - for this very special Beeston Library, Inspire Poetry Festival edition, with poet and compere Lydia Towsey, special guests - and the multi-award winning George Szirtes.

**George Szirtes** was born in Hungary in 1948. His first book of poems *The Slant Door* won the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize in 1979 and *Reel* was awarded the T.S. Eliot Prize in 2004 - a prize for which he has since been shortlisted twice.

A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, George is the recipient of an Honorary Fellowship from Goldsmiths College and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of East Anglia. He has won numerous international prizes for his poetry, and the Man Booker International Prize for his translations of novels by László Krasznahorkai. His latest work *The Photographer at Sixteen* (Maclehose Press, 2019) has attracted unanimous praise from across both the media and the literary community.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to see him in Beeston and be part of what's sure to be a truly outstanding evening.

**Praise for *The Photographer at Sixteen*  
by George Szirtes:**

*"A courageous and remarkable achievement.  
I've read no memoir that moved me more."*

Miranda Seymour, Financial Times.

To perform on the open mic, email Lydia Towsey in advance via [hello@wordpoetry.co.uk](mailto:hello@wordpoetry.co.uk). Some spots may also be available on the night.



**READING WORKSHOP**  
**EVERYTHING**  
**YOU WANTED**  
**TO KNOW**  
**ABOUT POETRY**  
**BUT DIDN'T**  
**DARE ASK**

**WORKSHOP LIBRARY**

**10.30am – 12pm**

**MANSFIELD CENTRAL LIBRARY**

**2 - 3.30pm**

**£5**

**Booking essential**

**Adults**

Join Jenny Swann as we all expose our own ignorance, misunderstandings and general confusion on the path to enlightenment. By the end, we're hoping that all of us will be the richer for sharing our unknowns and our humanity, and will come to poetry with renewed excitement and faith in our own thought-processes.

If there's a particular poem that has always stumped you, or left you blank, or made you hate it, bring it along to share and discuss!

**Find out more about our workshop leaders on page 18.**

Poetry is an adventure. Some of us set off fearful that everybody else understands what's going on in a poem, whereas we may feel confused, inadequate, bewildered even. Some poems speak to one person but not another. This workshop explores a selection of poems to see whether and how they work.

BOOK ONLINE  
**INSPIRE CULTURE.ORG.UK**  
**/POETRY-FESTIVAL**



HEADLINE PERFORMANCE

# JACOB POLLEY AND ANDREW GRAVES

WEST BRIDGFORD LIBRARY

7:30pm

£10

Booking advised

Adults (under 18s to be  
accompanied by an adult)

Our Wednesday night headline event features two hugely talented contemporary poets.

**Jacob Polley** won the 2016 T.S. Eliot Prize for poetry for his fourth book of poems *Jackself* which was described by the judges as 'a firework of a book; inventive, exciting and outstanding in its imaginative range and depth of feeling.' A poet of the uncanny and the startlingly lyrical, Jacob's work explores his rural upbringing, the forces of tradition and history, and the power of speech as it approaches song. Born in Cumbria, Jacob now lives and works in Newcastle.

*"...one of his generation's most compelling voices, a poet building his own world for us book by book."*

Jules Smith, britishcouncil.org.uk on Jacob Polley



**Andrew Graves** regularly performs his work throughout the UK. The Nottingham poet has featured on BBC 6 Music's Cerys Matthews Show and the BBC 4 documentary *Evidently John Cooper Clarke*. His third collection *Not Dancing with Ingrid Pitt* will be published by Burning Eye Books in 2020. He has performed with the likes of Sleaford Mods, John Hegely and Henry Normal and been commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery, BBC Radio 4 and Edinburgh International Literature Festival. He recently represented the East Midlands for National Poetry Day.



Photo: Lizzie Doe



**WRITING WORKSHOP**  
**WAYS WITH WORDS**

**BEESTON LIBRARY**

**2 – 4pm**

**£5**

**Booking essential**

**Adults**

This workshop, created by published poet and fiction writer Deborah Tyler-Bennett, gets writers developing their skills via an exercise based around an object, which the writer will provide.

So, come along and have a go at writing and polishing as you go – and create a piece of new work you can be proud of!

**Find out more about our workshop leaders on page 18.**

**PERFORMANCE**

**PAPER CRANE:  
SHOWCASE**

**BEESTON LIBRARY**

**7pm**

**Free\***

**Booking advised**

**Adults (Under 18s to be accompanied by an adult)**

Join Beeston Library's newest resident poetry collective for a fantastic evening of original spoken word at Beeston Library. Weaving humour, social commentary, beauty and truth to create an eclectic tapestry of stories, this selection of new writing and performance will make you feel all the feelings!

Featuring local poets with something to say, plus a few special guests (to be announced) it's the perfect way to enjoy a Thursday evening!

\*Tickets to this showcase are free. Paper Crane Poets will hold a Pay What You Like collection after the event .

**Paper Crane workshops are held every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at Beeston Library. New members are welcome; email [leanne.moden@gmail.com](mailto:leanne.moden@gmail.com) for further details or visit [inspireculture.org.uk/papercrane](http://inspireculture.org.uk/papercrane)**

*"If I feel physically as if the top of my head were taken off, I know that is poetry."* Emily Dickinson

HEADLINE PERFORMANCE

LIVE AT THE OLD LIBRARY:

# RAYMOND ANTROBUS

THE OLD LIBRARY,  
LEEMING STREET, MANSFIELD

(British Sign Language Interpreted  
Performance)

7.30pm

£7 / £5

Booking advised

Adults (16+)

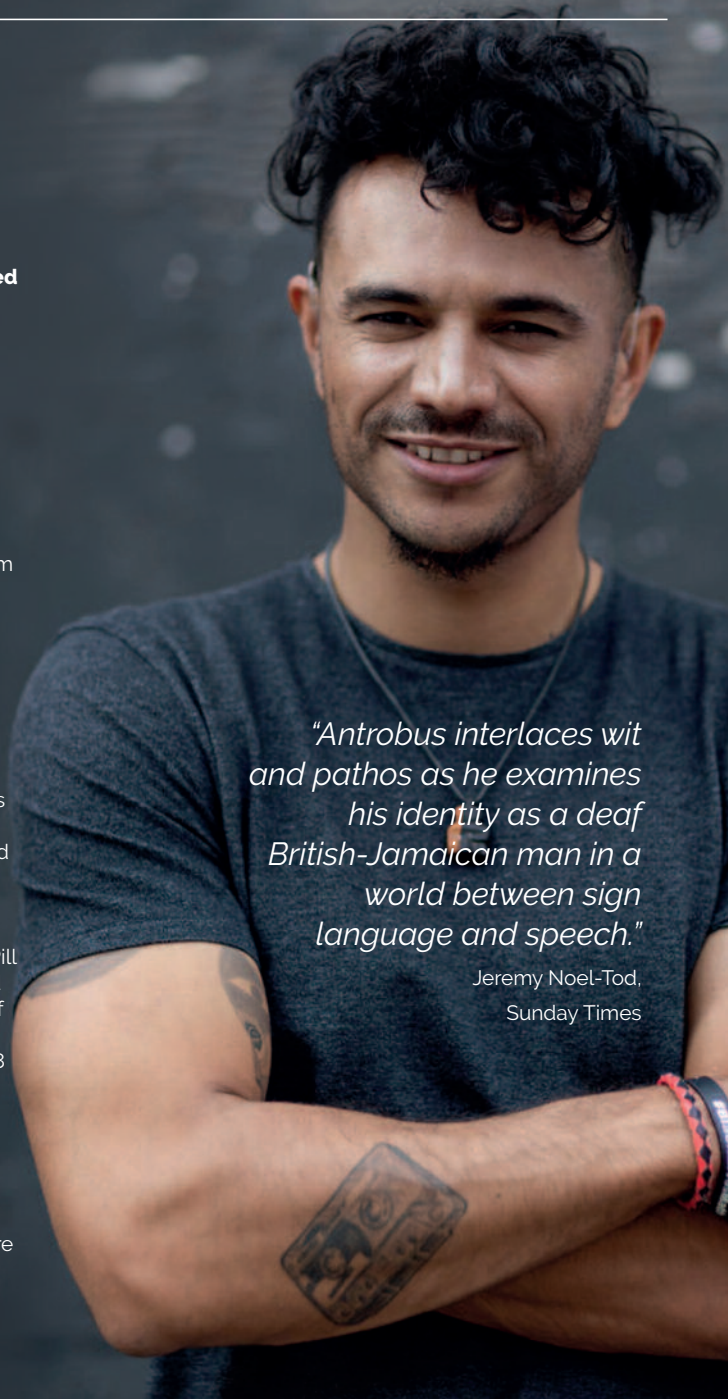
This year's Live at The Old Library festival headliner is the brilliant Raymond Antrobus whose Ted Hughes award-winning work explores wide-ranging themes from deafness and race to dementia, death and masculinity.

**Raymond Antrobus** was born in London to an English mother and Jamaican father and is the author of *To Sweeten Bitter* (Out-Spoken Press), and *The Perseverance* (Penned In The Margins) which was awarded the UK Poetry Book Society's Winter Choice in 2018 and awarded the Ted Hughes award in 2019.

He is a founding member of Chill Pill and Keats House Poets Forum and one of the world's first recipients of an MA in Spoken Word education from Goldsmiths University. In 2018 he was awarded The Geoffrey Dearmer Prize (judged by Ocean Vuong).

In 2019 he became the first ever poet to be awarded the Rathbone Folio Prize for best work of literature in any genre.

This performance will be BSL interpreted.

A portrait of Raymond Antrobus, a man with dark curly hair and a goatee, smiling slightly. He is wearing a dark grey t-shirt and has a large tattoo on his left forearm. His arms are crossed.

*"Antrobus interlaces wit and pathos as he examines his identity as a deaf British-Jamaican man in a world between sign language and speech."*

Jeremy Noel-Tod,  
Sunday Times



READING WORKSHOP  
**EVERYTHING  
YOU WANTED  
TO KNOW  
ABOUT POETRY  
BUT DIDN'T  
DARE ASK**

**WEST BRIDGFORD LIBRARY**

**10.30am – 12pm**

**BEESTON LIBRARY**

**2 - 3.30pm**

**£5**

**Booking essential  
Adults**

Poetry is an adventure. Some of us set off fearful that everybody else understands what's going on in a poem, whereas we may feel confused, inadequate, bewildered even. Some poems speak to one person but not another. This workshop explores a selection of poems to see whether and how they work.

Join Jenny Swann as we all expose our own ignorance, misunderstandings and general confusion on the path to enlightenment. By the end, we're hoping that all of us will be the richer for sharing our unknowns and our humanity, and will come to poetry with renewed excitement and faith in our own thought-processes.

If there's a particular poem that has always stumped you, or left you blank, or made you hate it, bring it along to share and discuss!

**Find out more about our  
workshop leaders on page 18.**

**BECOME A  
POETRY FESTIVAL  
SPONSOR IN 2020!**

Does your business want to support the arts and libraries? Are you seeking an association with high quality profile-raising events locally or county-wide? Could your charitable or community donation enable a young person to develop their writing talent? A range of sponsorship and bursary packages are available at affordable rates for businesses and organisations.

To request an Inspire Poetry Festival 2020 sponsorship pack, or to arrange a discussion about opportunities, contact the festival leads at [reading@inspireculture.org.uk](mailto:reading@inspireculture.org.uk)

*"A good poem helps to change the shape of the universe, helps to extend everyone's knowledge of himself and the world around him."*

Dylan Thomas

BOOK ONLINE  
**INSPIRE CULTURE.ORG.UK**  
**/POETRY-FESTIVAL**

## HEADLINE PERFORMANCE

**PATIENCE AGBABI**

SOUTHWELL LIBRARY

7.30pm

£10

**Booking strongly advised****Adults (Under 18s to be accompanied by an adult)**

Patience Agbabi is a poet much celebrated for paying equal homage to literature and performance. Born in London to Nigerian parents and fostered in a white English family in North Wales, her work moves nimbly between cultures, dialects and voices, and between page and stage. Join us for what promises to be her striking and compelling Southwell debut.

**Patience Agbabi's** poetry has been featured on radio and TV worldwide and she has spent over 20 years celebrating the written and spoken word. Her poem, 'The Doll's House', was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best Single Poem 2014. She studied English Language and Literature at Oxford University and is a former Poet Laureate of Canterbury. The author of four books, her latest, *Telling Tales* (Canongate, 2014), is a vivid retelling of Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* for the 21<sup>st</sup> century and was shortlisted for the Ted Hughes Prize for New Work in Poetry 2014 and Wales Book of the Year 2015.

*"...honest, darkly funny and endlessly creative, she takes the sonnet, chats it up, tattoos it, gives it some motherly advice and then sends it away again."*

The List

*"The liveliest versions of Chaucer you're likely to read"*

Simon Armitage on *Telling Tales*



Photo: Marilyn Bennett

**READING WORKSHOP**

**EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT POETRY BUT DIDN'T DARE ASK**

**SOUTHWELL LIBRARY**

**10.30am – 12pm**

**£5**

**Booking essential | Adults**

Poetry is an adventure. Some of us set off fearful that everybody else understands what's going on in a poem, whereas we may feel confused, inadequate, bewildered even. Some poems speak to one person but not another. This workshop explores a selection of poems to see whether and how they work.

Join Jenny Swann as we all expose our own ignorance, misunderstandings and general confusion on the path to enlightenment. By the end, we're hoping that all of us will be the richer for sharing our unknowns and our humanity, and will come to poetry with renewed excitement and faith in our own thought-processes. If there's a particular poem that has always stumped you, or left you blank, bring it along to share and discuss!

**WRITING WORKSHOP**

**CREATING INSPIRED IMAGES WITH DEBORAH TYLER-BENNETT**

**MANSFIELD CENTRAL LIBRARY**

**10.30am – 12.30pm**

**£5**

**Booking essential | Adults**

A workshop using pictorial images with a local flavour, which Nottinghamshire-born poet and fiction writer Deborah Tyler-Bennett will provide. The workshop exercises will help you explore ideas of tone, rhythm, detail and narrative voice. Come along, be inspired, and have a go at creating a piece of work from scratch.

**For more details about workshop leaders see page 18.**

**COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE**

**FROM CHOCOLATE TO OPERA**

**SOUTHWELL LIBRARY**

**12.30 – 1.30pm**

**£3**

Southwell writer Alison Chippindale, who appeared at the Library last year with her collection *Mug Without a Handle*, returns to share her poetic observations about ageing, in an event subtitled 'Getting Older: One Woman's Experience'.

## HEADLINE PERFORMANCE

# AFTERNOON TEA WITH WENDY COPE

SOUTHWELL LIBRARY

3.30pm

£12 including tea and cake

Booking strongly advised | Adults

Wendy Cope burst onto the poetry scene with her first collection, *Making Tea for Kingsley Amis* (Faber, 1986) and rapidly established herself as one of Britain's best-loved poets. Her witty, light-hearted style and talent for parody often belie a serious intent and she has been described as a natural successor to Betjeman and Larkin. It has been seven years since her last performance at Southwell Library and we're delighted to welcome her back for an afternoon of brilliant verse and delicious cakes.

**Wendy Cope** was born in Erith, Kent. After university she worked for fifteen years as a primary school teacher in London before becoming a writer and critic. She has published five collections of poems for adults and two for children, and edited numerous anthologies. She has received a Cholmondeley Award for poetry and won the American Academy of Arts and Letters Michael Braude Award for light verse. She received an OBE in 2010. Her most recent collection, *Anecdotal Evidence*, was published last year.

Wendy Cope, photo: Adrian Harvey

*"One has to go back to Byron to find a poet as consistently witty, wide-ranging, and technically outstanding as Cope."*

Los Angeles Review of Books

## POETRY TAKEOVER

BEESTON, MANSFIELD,  
SOUTHWELL,  
WEST BRIDGFORD  
AND WORKSOP  
LIBRARIES  
11am – 3pm  
Free, Just drop in

Our poetry takeover returns for 2019! Visit the library between 11 and 3 on the closing day of the festival and you're in for a poetry surprise. Have a go at giant magnetic poetry, let the little ones enjoy the children's poetry trail, create your poems from book titles using our self-serve kiosks and more.



WRITING WORKSHOP

**POETRY  
MASTERCLASS  
WITH COLETTE  
BRYCE**

WEST BRIDGFORD LIBRARY

2.30 – 4.30pm

£15

Booking essential

Adults

This year's festival brings the opportunity to enjoy a poetry masterclass led by award-winning poet and former editor of Poetry London magazine Colette Bryce.

In this workshop, conversation will focus on aspects of form and technique, with a view to fine-tuning and editing. Participants will be invited to submit a poem to Colette in advance for feedback during the session.

*"Bryce's phrasing  
is precise, her  
word-play  
sensuous, smart  
and snappy."*

The Guardian





HEADLINE PERFORMANCE

**COLETTE BRYCE AND NAFEESA HAMID**

WEST BRIDGFORD LIBRARY

7.30pm

£10

**Booking advised  
Adults (under 18s to be  
accompanied by an adult)**

West Bridgford Library's second festival headline event features two striking poetic voices.

**Colette Bryce** is the author of four collections with Picador. Her latest *The Whole & Rain-domed Universe* (2014), which draws on her experience of growing up in Derry during the Troubles, was shortlisted for the Forward and Costa prizes, and received a Ewart-Biggs Award in memory of Seamus Heaney. She received the Cholmondeley Award for Poetry in 2010 and her *Selected Poems* was a PBS Special Commendation and won the Pigott Prize for Poetry in 2018.

Colette is a freelance writer and former editor of Poetry London magazine. She lives in Newcastle upon Tyne.

**Nafeesa Hamid** is a British Pakistani poet, spoken word artist and playwright based in the Midlands. Her work focuses on issues such as mental health, domestic violence, gender, identity and culture. Nafeesa has performed at Cheltenham and Manchester Literature Festivals as part of *The Things I Would Tell You: British Muslim Women Write* (Saqi Books, 2017) - an anthology edited by Sabrina Mahfouz. Her debut collection *Besharam* was published in 2018 by Verve Poetry Press.

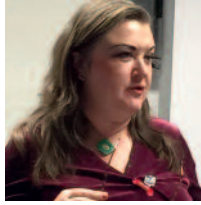
*"Besharam is an outstanding collection from Nafeesa... I think her poems are very special."* Intiaz Dharker

# FESTIVAL WORKSHOP LEADERS

The festival offers reading and writing workshops running across several libraries during the festival, led by two wonderful poets with a wealth of experience to share:

*"Poetry is language at its most distilled and most powerful."*

Rita Dove



**Deborah Tyler-Bennett** is a widely-published poet and fiction writer who has produced seven full-length poetry collections and three short story collections alongside numerous appearances in poetry anthologies and magazines. Her forthcoming volume, *Ken Dodd Takes a Holiday*, is out from King's England Press this year, and her first novel *Living In a Great Big Way* is in preparation for the same publisher. She edited *The Coffee House* anthology from Charnwood Arts over fifteen years and is a regular poetry reviewer. She has run workshops in venues including schools, galleries and museums, and is a prolific performer of her work.



**Jenny Swann** is a publisher and poetry consultant. She set up and ran Candlestick Press from 2008-2016 and now runs One Plum Poem, working on all things poetry, including producing poetry cards and poetry podcasts. Her own poetry has been published in three collections and broadcast on BBC Radio 4. She has led poetry workshops and other events at libraries in Manchester and Nottingham and in the Manchester Art Gallery, the V&A and other UK galleries.

**Plus:** This year's festival brings the wonderful opportunity to attend a poetry masterclass led by acclaimed poet **Colette Bryce** who will also be reading at one of our headline events. See page 16.

**VENUES****Beeston Library**

Foster Avenue  
Beeston  
Nottingham NG9 1AE  
Ask Inspire 01623 677 200

**Mansfield****Central Library**

Four Seasons Centre  
West Gate  
Mansfield  
Nottinghamshire  
NG18 1NH  
Ask Inspire 01623 677 200

**The Old Library**

Leeming Street  
Mansfield  
Nottinghamshire  
NG18 1NG  
Online bookings only:  
[inspireculture.org.uk/  
poetry-festival](http://inspireculture.org.uk/poetry-festival)

**Southwell Library**

The Bramley Centre  
King Street  
Southwell  
Nottinghamshire  
NG25 0EH  
Ask Inspire 01623 677 200

**West Bridgford Library**

Bridgford Road  
West Bridgford  
Nottingham  
NG2 6AT  
Ask Inspire 01623 677 200

**Worksop Library**

Memorial Avenue  
Worksop  
Nottinghamshire  
S80 2BP  
Ask Inspire 01623 677 200

Full venue details, including  
access details and locations are  
available at  
[www.inspireculture.org.uk](http://www.inspireculture.org.uk)

**BOOKING**

Tickets for events can be  
booked:  
Online:

[www.inspireculture.org.uk/  
poetry-festival](http://www.inspireculture.org.uk/poetry-festival)

By phone via Ask Inspire:  
**01623 677 200**

Or in person at any of the  
Festival libraries.

Tickets are non-refundable  
except where an event is  
cancelled. Programme is  
subject to change.

*"Poetry is  
a way of  
taking life  
by the  
throat."*

Robert Frost

BOOK ONLINE  
[INSPIRE CULTURE.ORG.UK](http://INSPIRE CULTURE.ORG.UK)  
/POETRY-FESTIVAL

# INSPIRE POETRY FESTIVAL 2019 AT A GLANCE

20

BOOK ONLINE  
INSPIRE CULTURE.ORG.UK  
/POETRY-FESTIVAL

	BEESTON LIBRARY	MANSFIELD CENTRAL LIBRARY	SOUTHWELL LIBRARY	WEST BRIDGFORD LIBRARY	WORKSOP LIBRARY	THE OLD LIBRARY MANSFIELD
5 - 29 SEPT		Exhibition <b>Voices</b>				
MON 23 SEPT	Performance <b>John Harvey</b> 7pm, £8					
TUE 24 SEPT	Performance <b>WORD!</b> with <b>George Szirtes</b> 7pm, £7/£5	Film <b>Bright Star</b> 3pm, £2	Writing Workshop <b>Deborah Tyler-Bennett</b> 11am-1pm, £5  Performance <b>Hexameter and open mic</b> 7:30pm, £3		Poetry Café <b>John Harvey</b> 6.30pm, £6	
WED 25 SEPT		Reading Workshop <b>Jenny Swann</b> 2-3:30pm, £5		Performance <b>Jacob Polley &amp; Andrew Graves</b> 7:30pm, £10	Reading Workshop <b>Jenny Swann</b> 10.30am-12pm, £5	
THU 26 SEPT	Writing Workshop <b>Deborah Tyler-Bennett</b> 2-4pm, £5  Performance <b>Paper Crane Poets</b> 7pm, Free					Performance <b>Raymond Antrobus</b> 7:30pm, £7/£5
FRI 27 SEPT	Reading Workshop <b>Jenny Swann</b> 2-3:30pm, £5		Performance <b>Patience Agbabi</b> 7:30pm, £10	Reading Workshop <b>Jenny Swann</b> 10.30am-12pm, £5		
SAT 28 SEPT	<b>POETRY TAKEOVER 11am - 3pm, Free, just drop in</b>					
		Exhibition Launch <b>Voices</b> 11am Free  Writing Workshop <b>Deborah Tyler-Bennett</b> 10.30am-12.30pm, £5	Reading Workshop <b>Jenny Swann</b> 10.30am-12pm, £5  Performance <b>Alison Chippindale</b> 12.30pm, £3  Performance <b>Wendy Cope</b> 3:30pm, £12	Poetry Masterclass <b>Colette Bryce</b> 2.30-4.30pm, £15  Performance <b>Colette Bryce and Nafeesa Hamid</b> 7.30pm, £10		