

FORWORDS 59, Sat 7 Oct 2006

Spoken word, poetry, live literature events in the Sheffield area for the coming month. For information on forwords, listings and subscriptions, visit <http://access-space.org/forwords/>. See below for NEWS and LISTINGS.

NEWS

-Off the Shelf Festival is now running, with all kinds of readings and other literary happenings. Some events are listed below, but for full Festival listings visit the online programme at <http://www.offtheshelf.org.uk/programme.asp>.

-The Inky, Sheffield's free writers newsletter, featuring news, interviews, listings, workshops details, and more. To subscribe to the Inky, contact Geoff on 0114 263 4787 or [<signposts@lineone.net>](mailto:signposts@lineone.net).

LISTINGS

Sunday 8 October

-Opus Unplugged: open mic + guests
8pm, Riverside Cafe, 1 Mowbray Street, Sheffield (bottom of Corporation St, over from Kelham Island). Free entry.

Welcoming all manners of performance, from poets to speakers to players, every Sunday. We are also looking for local artists to exhibit each week: paintings, photographs, and the like. All is everything! Lineup tbc. For info and slots contact [<opus-creations@hotmail.co.uk>](mailto:opus-creations@hotmail.co.uk) or visit www.myspace.com/opus-hyphenproductions.

Tuesday 10 October

-Spoken Word Antics: open mic + Dianne Derby, Keith Jafrate, and Thom the World Poet
8.30pm, upstairs at the Red Deer on Pitt St, Sheffield. Turn off West St. onto Mappin St., and Pitt St. is the second on the left. £1 donations.

This month Antics features Dianne Derby and Keith Jafrate from Huddersfield's Word Hoard (www.wordhoard.co.uk/factoryworkers.htm), Thom the World Poet (more info on http://access-space.org/antics/10_oct.html), and open mic. Spoken Word Antics is a friendly and informal evening. If you'd like to perform any kind of spoken word (poetry, stories, urban fairytales, etc, things that really did or didn't happen), your own or somebody else's, just let us know on the night. For more info email [<antics@lowtech.org>](mailto:antics@lowtech.org), phone 0114 258 7270, or visit the website: <http://access-space.org/antics/>.

Wednesday 11 October

-Broomspring Writers launch Red Shoes and Wedding Trouble
7pm, The Workstation, 15 Paternoster Row, Sheffield Cultural Industries Quarter (free)

Launch of a new anthology of poetry, stories, and other writings by members of Broomspring Writers. Contributors to the book will be reading from their work, to delight and disturb. For more details contact [<broomspringwriters@yahoo.co.uk>](mailto:broomspringwriters@yahoo.co.uk).

Thursday 12 October

-Jean 'Binta' Breeze and Adrian Mitchell
7.45pm, Crucible Studio Theatre, 55 Norfolk Street, Sheffield centre (£9/£7).

A night of quality contemporary poetry with an edge with two major voices from Bloodaxe books. Jean 'Binta' Breeze grew up in Jamaica. A 'dub poet', her work uses the rhythms of reggae and explores a wide range of personal and political issues. Known for her striking stage presence, Breeze sings of sisterhood in a truly life-affirming way that helps keep the head above water even when prejudice and laundry threaten to drag it down.

Adrian Mitchell is the Godfather of popular poetry whose work spans 30 years and embraces passionate lyricism, humour, and dissent. His explosive energy, well-directed rage, and undimmed idealism show how poetry can speak directly.

An Off the Shelf event. Box office, 0114 249 6000.

Saturday 14 October

-Burngreave Bookcrossing Launch with Debjani Chatterjee
11am-12.15pm, Burngreave Library, 179 Spital Hill, Sheffield.

An event suitable for the whole family. Find out more about the Off the Shelf festival, pick up one of the books we are releasing as part of the Bookcrossing scheme, and find out what's on offer at your local library. We are also pleased to have special guest, children's author Debjani Chatterjee, who will be reading some of her stories and poems.

-Simon Armitage
6.30pm, The Showroom, Paternoster Row, Sheffield.

See <http://www.offtheshelf.org.uk/events.asp?eiID=709> for details.

-Top Shelf: Well Stacked!
8pm, The Red Deer, Pitt Street (£3/£1.50)

A reading to celebrate the poetry presses of Sheffield: Broken Compass, Cherry on the Top, Longbarrow, and West House. Readings from David Annwn, Chris Brownsword, Matt Clegg, Cliff Forshaw, Alan Halsey, Andy Hirst, Christine Kennedy, David Kennedy, and Geraldine Monk. Enquiries to Alan Halsey, [<a.halsey@westhousebooks.co.uk>](mailto:a.halsey@westhousebooks.co.uk), tel. 0114 258 6035.

Sunday 15 October

-Opus Unplugged: open mic + guests
8pm, Riverside Cafe, 1 Mowbray Street, Sheffield (bottom of Corporation St, over from Kelham Island). Free entry.

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Monday 16 October

-Burngreave Feel-Good Reading Group Special with local author Paul Adam
6.30-8pm, Burngreave Library, 179 Spital Hill, Sheffield.

Paul Adam is a writer from Sheffield, whose novel 'Enemy Within' is a pacy, intense thriller that readers just can't put down. This is your chance to meet the author and find out where he gets his ideas from.

-Chloe Poems and the Wild Women Press
7.30pm (doors 7pm), Fusion, Sheffield Uni. Students' Union, Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 (£5/£4).

Chloe Poems is a gay socialist transvestite poet. Bursting on the poetry scene in an explosion of gingham, her poetry is audacious and genuinely ground-breaking. A radical agenda bender, Ms Poems manages to make jaws drop with remarkable ease. Wild Women Press are a DIY punk-ethic poetry collective with an ethos of direct action—they do everything but the printing themselves. Experience We Are Not A Muse, a wild adventure with Gill Hands and Victoria Bennett as they launch two new titles, Byron Makes His Bed and Rilke Tattoo.
An Off the Shelf event. Box office, 0114 249 6999 (Shef. Theatres), 0114 222 8777 (Union).

Tuesday 17 October

-Sheffield Popular Arts (SPA): Sheffield Suffragettes
7-9pm, Victoria Hall, Chapel Walk, Sheffield (£2.50/£2)

Readings from a new play about the Sheffield suffragettes plus a new play by contemporary suffragette Cicely Hamilton. This is the first in a series of suffragette events organised by SPA during Off the Shelf (OTS). For details of other events in the series, visit the OTS programme and search for "suffragettes". For general info please contact Alice on 0114 272 6090 or <angeltime@btopenworld.com>.

-The Word Train presents Archipelago
7.30pm, The Showroom Cafe, Paternoster Row, Sheffield central (free).

Poems, sculpture, and photography from Sheffield poets Jan Caborn, Andrea Dow, John Gosnell, Lorraine O'Reilly, Alan

Payne, and Carolyn Waudby. For more info see <http://www.offtheshelf.org.uk/events.asp?eiID=723>.

-The Bitch Lit Tour
7.30pm, The Showroom, Paternoster Row, Sheffield central (£4/£3).

For info see <http://www.offtheshelf.org.uk/events.asp?eiID=724>.

Wednesday 18 October

-Matter 06
7pm, The Runaway Girl, 111 Arundel Street, Sheffield central (free).

Launch of this year's Matter anthology, in ass. with Sheffield Hallam MA. More details on <http://www.offtheshelf.org.uk/events.asp?eiID=734>.

-Antics on Air (radio broadcast)
10-11pm, Sheffield Live (www.sheffieldlive.org)

Featuring interviews and readings from recent Antics guests (see 10 Oct above for details), and a selection of poetry downloads from the web. To listen, go to www.sheffieldlive.org, then click on 'Listen in Live'.

Sunday 22 October

-Opus Unplugged: open mic + guests
8pm, Riverside Cafe, 1 Mowbray Street, Sheffield (bottom of Corporation St, over from Kelham Island). Free entry.

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Monday 23 October

-The Bat Detecor with Elizabeth Barratt and Robin Ireland
7.30pm, Site Gallery, 1 Brown Street, Sheffield central (£5/£4, incl. refreshments).

A collaborative performance of music and poetry by poet Elizabeth Barratt and violist Robin Ireland. More details on <http://www.offtheshelf.org.uk/events.asp?eiID=764>.

Sunday 29 October

-Mark Gwynne Jones and the Psychicbread
8pm, Memorial Hall, Sheffield City Hall, Barkers Pool, Sheffield central (£7/£5).

Fresh and original performance intertwining voice, rhythm, music, and poetry. More info on

<http://www.offtheshelf.org.uk/events.asp?eiID=791>.

Monday 30 October

-A Rough Guide to Hospital of the World with Liz Cashdan
7.30pm, Quaker Meeting House, 10 St James St, Sheffield
central (free).

Liz Cashdan reads from current and recent poetry. See
<http://www.offtheshelf.org.uk/events.asp?eiID=793>.

Tuesday 31 October

-Launch of Ellipsis 2
7.30pm, Quaker Meeting House, 10 St James St, Sheffield
central (free).

Short stories from Polly Clark, Jane Rogers, and Zoe
Lambert. More info on
<http://www.offtheshelf.org.uk/events.asp?eiID=794>.

Tuesday 7 November

-Sticky Bun Writers: Geraldine Monk
7.30pm, upstairs in the Rutland Hotel, 86 Brown Street,
Sheffield centre (2 mins from the Showroom).

Sheffield poet Geraldine Monk will read from her latest
collection, Escafeld Hangings, which is about the
imprisonment of Mary Queen of Scots at the Manor. "These
poems need to be heard, not just read", said one reviewer.
History and poetry in one! Enquiries to Jenny King,
ednjenny.king@btinternet.com or 0114 236 6225.