

FORWORDS 82, Sat 20 October 2007

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

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NEWS

-A very full bulletin as a lot of Off the Shelf events have been included. For more about Off the Shelf, call 0114 273 4716 or visit www.offtheshelf.org.uk.

-A Feeling for Narrative: Finding Your Story and Giving It Shape
Sat 3 Nov, 11.30am-4.30pm, The Circle, 33 Rockingham Lane, S1 4FW (£12/£6).

Led by Sarah Murphy, organised by Signposts, this writing workshop will experiment with a variety of techniques to help us bring our stories to light and to life. For more information or to book contact 0114 253 6722 or info@signpostssouthyorks.org.uk.

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LISTINGS

Sunday 21 October

-Linton Kwesi Johnson
8pm, Memorial Hall, Sheffield City Hall, Barkers Pool, Sheffield.
Tickets £9/£7(cons) from City Hall - tel. 0114 2233751/2/3

Outstanding performance poetry with the world's first reggae poet.
Off the Shelf

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

Every Sunday Opus entertains at the Riverside Cafe for an evening of free entertainment. The Riverside Bar is a contemporary pub offering numerous spirits, lagers & real ales; beautifully set along side the River Don. Opus bring to you a warm atmosphere suffused with many different guests and friends each week (see www.opus-productions.co.uk for details). For info and slots contact <opus-creations@hotmail.co.uk>.

Monday 22 October

-A Balkan Exchange: Bulgarian and British Writers in Translation
7.30pm, The Showroom, Paternoster Row, Sheffield.
Tickets £4/£3 (cons) from The Showroom - tel 0114 275 7727

Sharp and humorous representations of life on both sides of Europe with British and Bulgarian poets Kristin Dimitrova, Nadya Radulova, Andy Croft and W.N. Herbert. Off the Shelf

-Tales from a Paralalia Universe
7.30pm (doors 7pm), The Fusion, University of Sheffield Union of Students, Western Bank, Sheffield.
Tickets £5/£4 (cons) from Sheffield Theatres - Tel 0114 249 6000 and the University - Tel 0114 222 8777

Part travelogue, mostly poetry, a show about two very English poets Peter Hunter and David Johnson and their travels in the USA including evocative documentary film footage plus special guest American poet Mahogany Browne. Off the Shelf

Tuesday 23 October

-Poems, Prose, and Pints
7-10pm, Burton Street Bar, Burton Street, Hillsborough, S6 2HH (free).

An open mic night for creative writers to read out their words and network with others with the same interest. Come and share your work with others in a supportive and welcoming environment. More details from mike.evans@burtonstreet.org.uk.

-Think Global, Speak Local with Ray Hearne
8pm (doors 7.30pm), Coffee Revolution, University of Sheffield Union of Students, Western Bank, Sheffield.

Tickets £4/£3 (cons) from Sheffield Theatres - tel. 0114 249 6000 and the University - Tel. 0114 222 8777

South Yorkshire troubadour Ray Hearne uses poem and song to champion the local voice in a world increasingly dominated by the corporate. Off the Shelf

Wednesday 24 October

-Words Aloud: Young People Spesh

A one off Words Aloud for young people (ages 13-18) in conjunction with Sheffield Young Writers. 7.00-9.00. If you're a young person, bring yer stuff to read - usual rules apply (no more than 3 mins), or just come down and support the wealth of Sheffield young talent. Contact info@wordsaloud.org. Off the Shelf

Thursday 25 October

-John Cooper Clarke
The Boardwalk, Snig Hill, Sheffield centre (£15! contact box office for times and tickets: 0870 1451207)

In a vain attempt at bourgeois credibility, Manchester's sharp-dressed, sharp-delivering punk poet Lenny, changed his name to John Cooper Clarke and embarked on a polysyllabic excursion though Thrillsville. Clad in the slum chic of the hipster, he issued the slang anthems of the zip age in the desperate esperanto of bop. Expect a mix of hilarious anecdotes of life in a Northern town interspersed with machine-gun fast delivery of some of his best poems. 'If you think poetry is dull and boring, or posh and erudite - you haven't seen JCC!'

-Spoken Word Antics Radio Show
9-10pm, www.sheffieldlive.org

Live guests this month are Michael Greavy, Andy Hirst, and Roy Blackman. A mix of recorded sessions with writers from Sheffield and further afield, live guests, and spoken word and poetry tracks from CDs, the internet, and anywhere else they can be found. Keep an eye on www.access-space.org/antics for updates. If you miss this show it will be available as a podcast to listen to at a later date.

Saturday 27 October

-Derwent Poetry Festival (www.templarpoetry.co.uk)
2-9pm, Masson Mills, Matlock Bath (day ticket or individual tickets available)

First day of new poetry festival. Saturday features awards for and readings from winners of Templar Poetry Pamphlet Competition; Pat Borthwick, Pat Winslow, Linda Cash; Jean Sprackland, Jane Weir. For more details and tickets visit the website or call 01629 582 500.

Sunday 28 October

-Derwent Poetry Festival (www.templarpoeetry.co.uk)
12-9pm, Masson Mills, Matlock Bath (day ticket or individual tickets available)

Second day of the festival. Sunday features Mike Barlow and Derek Adams; Angela Cleland and Jim Caruth; Judy Brown and Rob Hindle; and Simon Armitage. For more details and tickets visit the website or call 01629 582 500.

-Freedom with Tanya Chan-Sam, Jack Mapanje and Rommi Smith
7.30pm, The Showroom, Paternoster Row, Sheffield.
Tickets £5/£4 (cons) from The Showroom - Tel 0114 275 7727

Three writers of African descent explore the theme of 'freedom'. Off the Shelf

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

See 21 Oct

Tuesday 30 October

-Michael Rosen
3pm, The Showroom, Paternoster Row, Sheffield
Tickets £3.50 from the Showroom - Tel 0114 275 7727

For 6 years and above. Children under 10 years must be accompanied by an adult. The Children's Laureate and award winning author and poet performs for a half-term poetry treat. Off the Shelf

-Poems, Prose, and Pints
7-10pm, Burton Street Bar, Burton Street, Hillsborough, S6 2HH (free).

See 23 Oct

Wednesday 31 October

-Voices from the Sheffield Flood
7.30pm, Quaker Meeting House, Sheffield (£4/£3)

Rob Hindle's pamphlet, Some Histories of the Sheffield Flood 1864, explores the disaster through the lives and ends of some of its victims (winner of the 2006 Templar Poetry Pamphlet Competition). Shelley Roche-Jacques's dramatic monologues draw on the everyday details in the 11 volumes of Flood Compensation Claims held at Sheffield Archives. Tickets available from 0114 273 4761 or 273 4712. Off the Shelf

-Andrew Motion
7pm, Pennine Theatre, Sheffield Hallam University City Campus, Howard Street, Sheffield.
£8/£6 (cons) from Sheffield Theatres tel 0114 249 6000

An Evening with the Poet Laureate, from acclaimed autobiography *In the Blood* as well as from his poems including newly commissioned public art piece for Sheffield, 'What If?'. Off the Shelf

Sunday 4 November

-Six Women Poets with a Kick
7.30pm, Lantern Theatre, Kenwod Park Road, Nether Edge, Sheffield (£5/£4)

Encompassing some of the hottest talent in the region (including two Bloodaxe poets) Suzanne Batty, Anne Caldwell, Nell Farrell, Char March, Clare Shaw and River Wolton are re-defining any concepts of 'Women's Poetry'. Prepare to find yourself out of your comfort zone. Tickets from 0114 249 6000. Off the Shelf

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

See 21 Oct

Tuesday 6 November

-Sticky Bun Writers with Diana Syder
7.30pm, Caffeteria (corner of Leopold St and Church St), Sheffield centre (£2).

Diana Syder will be reading from her new collection 'String' (poetry .. science .. how they connect .. 'The Day Electric Light Came to

Macclesfield' .. etc.) Enquiries to Jenny King:
ednjenny.king@btinternet.com, tel. 0114 236 6225.

-Poems, Prose, and Pints
7-10pm, Burton Street Bar, Burton Street, Hillsborough, S6 2HH (free).

See 23 Oct

Saturday 10 November

-Festival of Socialist Poetry
Part of Raise Your Banners, the Bradford festival of socialist song, to reflect the best in contemporary socialist verse, and also ask the question 'what can socialist poetry do in a seemingly apolitical society?'

1pm, the New Beehive Inn, Westgate, Bradford BD1 (free)
A themed open mic: 'Socialist Verse, Poetry for Change or Diatribe?'. Anyone is free to comment on the theme or address a poem to the issues it raises - could be a collage of opinion and poetry, or a Wimbledon of ideas with views whacked back and forth. Listeners, hecklers, socialists of all persuasions and others welcome.

5.30p, the Alhambra Studio (behind the Alhambra Theatre) (£7.50/£5)
A reading by three writers reflecting different aspects of socialist verse: Adrian Mitchell, Andy Croft, and Keith Armstrong. Tickets from Bradford Theatres: 01274 432 000.

Sunday 11 November

-Opus Unplugged: open mic + guests

8pm, Riverside Cafe, 1 Mowbray Street, Sheffield (bottom of Corporation St, over from Kelham Island). Free entry.

See 21 Oct

Tuesday 13 November

-Benjamin Zephaniah
7.45pm, Lyceum Theatre, Tudor Square, Sheffield.
Tickets £10/£8 (cons) from Sheffield Theatres - tel 0114 249 6000

The dynamic performance poet gives an increasingly rare performance.
Off the Shelf

-Spoken Word Antics
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. £2 donations.

Spoken Word Antics is an open mic without the mic, a space for all kinds of spoken word, and a friendly and informal evening. If you'd like to perform something (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. More details on access-space.org/antics, or call Robin on 0114 258 7270.

-Poems, Prose, and Pints
7-10pm, Burton Street Bar, Burton Street, Hillsborough, S6 2HH (free).

See 23 Oct

Saturday 17 November

-Moral Panic 2
3pm till the small hours, The New Beehive, Bradford (£5)

Threadbare Collective's day-long 'happening', featuring music, poetry and origami. Confirmed so far: Fonda 500, The Chartists, The Rocky Nest, The Old Whores of San Pedro, James Hodgson, The Three Ages of Cheese, The Hustling Rubes, Slumhunnies, Tom Devine, James Nash, Robin Vaughan-Williams, Oliver Mantell. Tickets available from www.threadbarecollective.co.uk. MySpace: www.myspace.com/threadbarecollective.

Sunday 18 November

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

See 21 Oct