

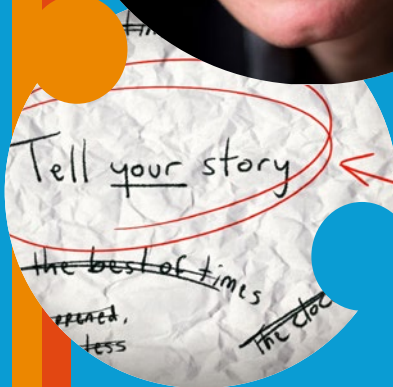
# WRITE FESTIVAL

Be inspired by words

# 23

30 AUGUST – 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

THE WORD, SOUTH SHIELDS



[www.theworduk.org/write](http://www.theworduk.org/write)



South Tyneside Council

Spread the word!

THIS IS  
SOUTH  
TYNESIDE

# WRITE FESTIVAL

*Be inspired by words* | 23



# WELCOME

Our WRITE Festival returns for its seventh year with another programme of amazing events taking place across the whole of September.

The festival celebrates the written word in all its forms and once again there will be so much to enjoy with events, workshops and performances being held at The Word, Cleadon Park, Jarrow Focus and Hebburn Central libraries.

We look forward to welcoming some new faces to the festival as well as seeing some of our favourites from previous years returning. There will be a fantastic selection of author talks including bestselling authors Nancy Revell and TM Logan. There will also be a History Wardrobe presentation, a Murder Mystery event, plus Kevin Maguire in Conversation with Martin Rowson.

For children and families, we have How to Draw Star Wars and Dr Who workshops, plus Booster Cushion Theatre performing Old McDonald and the Three Pigs Plus.

If you're a writer, aspiring writer, write for wellbeing or just for fun, we have lots of workshops for you too! Whether you want feedback on your writing or want to find out more about being published, there will be the opportunity to get tips and advice from industry insiders.

WRITE Festival is always hugely popular so make sure you book your tickets today so you don't miss out!

Delivered in partnership with:

The logo for South Tyneside Libraries & Information features three horizontal wavy lines above the text "South Tyneside" in a small, sans-serif font. Below this, the words "Libraries & Information" are written in a larger, bold, serif font, with an ampersand symbol between "Libraries" and "Information".





# PROGRAMME TIMETABLE

## Wednesday 30 August – Friday 1 September

**Dream Libraries with New Writing North Young Writers**, 10am-3pm

## Saturday 2 September

**Writers Day - An Introduction to Novel Writing and Publishing with Sixth Element Publishing**, 10.15am-4.30pm

**Flash Fiction and Short Story Taster Session with Helen Aitchison**, 1-3pm at Hebburn Central

## Sunday 3 September

**Journalling with Laura Napran**, 1.30-3.30pm

## Sunday 3 and 17 September

**South Shields Fiction Writers**, 1.45-3.45pm

## Monday 4 September

**Writing for the Stage with Alison Carr**, 10am-12noon

## Tuesday 5 September

**Liberating Histories Workshop: Feminist Magazine Now and Then**, 6-7.30pm

## Wednesday 6 September

**The Things We Remember By: A Creative Workshop with Novelist and Poet Tony Williams**, 1-3pm

**An Audience with Dominic Wilcox**, 6-7.30pm

## Friday 8 September

**From Object to Page to Stage: A Creative Workshop with Playwright May Sumbwanyambe**, 1-3pm

## Saturday 9 September

**Tell Your Story – Planning Your Novel**, 2-4.30pm

## Tuesday 12, 19, 26 September and Thursday 28 September

**Writing for Wellbeing with Helen Aitchison**, 6-7.45pm

## Wednesday 13 September

**Wednesday Heritage Club**, 2-3pm

## Thursday 14 September

**An Audience with Colin Youngman**, 6-7pm

## Friday 15 September

**Murder Mystery Night with Highly Suspect - The Death of the Great Detective**, 6-7.30pm

All events take place at The Word unless otherwise stated.



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## Saturday 16 September

**Booster Cushion presents Old McDonald and the Three Pigs Plus...**, 11am-12pm and 2-3pm

**The Celia Bryce Band**, 1-1.45pm and 2.15-3pm

## Sunday 17 September

**Inpress Day**, 10.30am-2.30pm

## Monday 18 September

**Following in the Footsteps of Catherine Cookson**, 2.15-3.15pm at Cleadon Park Library

## Wednesday 20 September

**Brenda Read Brown presents "But I Haven't Finished Yet"**, 6-7pm

## Thursday 21 September

**The Craft of the Postcard**, 10.30am-12pm

## Friday 22 September

**History Wardrobe Presents... Divine Deco**, 6-7.30pm

## Saturday 23 September

**Crime Scene Forensics Talk with Helen Pepper**, 12-1.30pm

**Practical Forensics Workshop with Helen Pepper**, 2.30-3.30pm

## Sunday 24 September

**In Conversation with Sunday Times Bestselling Author Nancy Revell**, 1-2pm

## Wednesday 27 September

**Unfolding Theatre – A Street Like This is Tour**, 6-7pm at Jarrow Focus

## Thursday 28 September

**Kevin Maguire and Martin Rowson in Conversation**, 6-7pm

## Friday 29 September

**An Audience with T.M. Logan**, 6-7pm

## Saturday 30 September

**How to Draw Star Wars with JAKe Detonator**, 11am-12pm

**How to Draw Dr Who with JAKe Detonator**, 2-3pm

**Festival Finale – Hyde Fundraiser Characters**, 10.30-3.30pm

**BUY YOUR  
TICKETS ONLINE  
TODAY OR AT  
SHOP@THE WORD**

## WEDNESDAY 30 AUGUST – FRIDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

### DREAM LIBRARIES WITH NEW WRITING NORTH YOUNG WRITERS

Wednesday 30 August - Friday 1 September  
10am-3pm

Free, booking required.  
Suitable for ages 12-19

What would you put in your dream library? Over three days join New Writing North on this flight of fantasy as you work with professional artists and writers to try a range of creative writing projects themed around your dream library.



## SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

### WRITERS DAY – AN INTRODUCTION TO NOVEL WRITING AND PUBLISHING WITH SIXTH ELEMENT PUBLISHING

Sat 2 September, 10.15am-4.30pm

£10 per person.

Suitable for ages 16+

Always wanted to write and publish your own novel? Join Gillie Hatton of Sixth Element Publishing for a full day of friendly and informal sessions introducing the basics of novel writing and publishing.

**Sixth Element**  
The home of awesome independent books

### FLASH FICTION AND SHORT STORY TASTER SESSION WITH HELEN AITCHISON

Sat 2 September, 1-3pm at Hebburn Central

£3 per person. Suitable for ages 16+

Discover your writing voice through gentle exercises aimed to create short pieces of prose. Helen will explain the elements of storytelling, the process of writing a piece from start to finish and why practice really does make perfect.

## SUNDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

### JOURNALLING FOR PERSONAL GROWTH WITH LAURA NAPRAN

Sun 3 September, 1.30-3.30pm

£3 per person. Suitable for ages 16+

Journaling is a great way to encourage hopes and dreams, offload negativity and find joy in everyday life. Join Laura Napran to find your own personal wisdom and explore paths to positivity through creative and enjoyable writing activities.

Laura Napran



## SOUTH SHIELDS FICTION WRITERS

Sun 3 & 17 September, 1.45-3.45pm

Free. Suitable for adults

Come along to this informal fiction writing group. It doesn't matter if you've written a novel or are just writing for fun; if you want to seek support, advice and feedback from other writers, then this group is for you.



## MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

### WRITING FOR THE STAGE WITH ALISON CARR

Mon 4 September, 10am-12pm

Free, booking required. Suitable for ages 16+

Join writer Alison Carr as she talks about her commitment to telling bold, entertaining stories with women at their heart for stage and non-traditional theatre spaces. Alison will also discuss her experience working with Unfolding Theatre on its production 'A Street Like This', featured as part of WRITE Festival.



Alison Carr

## TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

### LIBERATING HISTORIES WORKSHOP: FEMINIST MAGAZINE NOW AND THEN

Tues 5 September, 6-7.30pm

Free, booking required. Suitable for ages 16+

This workshop will give you a special opportunity to look through a range of magazines on loan from the Feminist Library and consider the legacies of the women's liberation movement in relation to contemporary feminist campaigns.

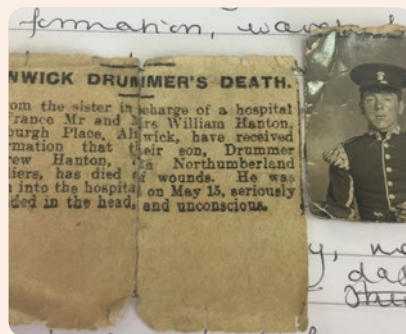
## WEDNESDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

### THE THINGS WE REMEMBER BY: A CREATIVE WORKSHOP WITH NOVELIST AND POET TONY WILLIAMS

Wed 6 September, 1-3pm

Free, booking required. Suitable for ages 14+

Come along to a free creative writing and reflection workshop where you will explore the role of small, everyday objects in how we remember and commemorate the past.

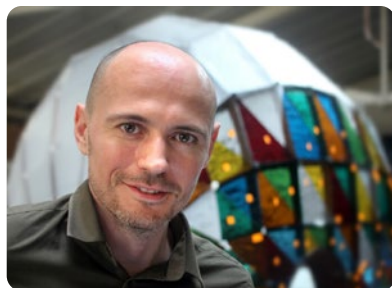


## AN AUDIENCE WITH DOMINIC WILCOX

Wed 6 September, 6-7.30pm

Free, booking required. Suitable for all ages

Dominic Wilcox works between the worlds of art, design, craft and technology to create innovative, thought provoking and surprising objects. Dominic will share his creative process and projects, the importance of thinking like a child and embracing imaginative spirit in everyday life.



Dominic Wilcox

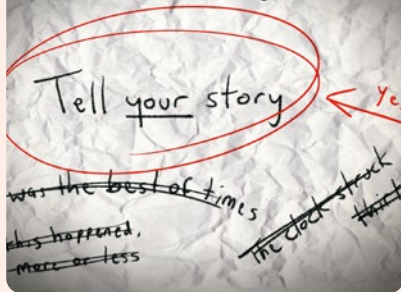
## FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

### FROM OBJECT TO PAGE TO STAGE: A CREATIVE WORKSHOP WITH PLAYWRIGHT MAY SUMBWANYAMBE

Fri 8 September, 1-3pm

Free, booking required. Suitable for ages 14+

How do you get started on writing a play or script? Come along to this free creative writing workshop to get an insight into this process! You will learn how to create a convincing dramatic character and write a short speech or scene for them.



## SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

### TELL YOUR STORY – PLANNING YOUR NOVEL

Sat 9 September, 2-4.30pm

£3 per person. Suitable for ages 16+

Do you have a great idea for a novel, but you're not sure where or how to begin?

Laura and James from Writers' Block North East will help you take that idea and turn it into a working plan, looking at character, themes, plotting and structure.

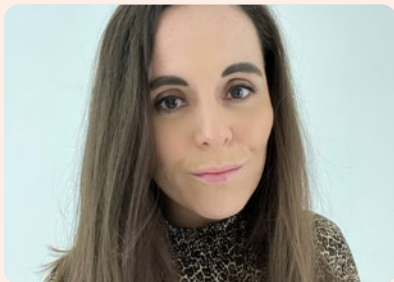
## TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

### WRITING FOR WELLBEING WITH HELEN AITCHISON

Tue 12, 19 and 26 September and Thu 28  
September, 6-7.45pm

£10 for all four sessions. Suitable for ages 16+

This four week course will take you through the art of creative writing and the positive impact it can have on your wellbeing.



Helen Aitchison



## WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

### WEDNESDAY HERITAGE CLUB

Wed 13 September, 2-3pm

£2 per person. Suitable for ages 16+

Local history talks take place at the Wednesday Heritage Club every second Wednesday of the month at The Word. In September, Ian Hudson will be talking about the fascinating history of the Tyne Piers.

## THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

### AN AUDIENCE WITH COLIN YOUNGMAN

Thu 14 September, 6-7pm

Free, booking required.  
Suitable for ages 16+

Colin Youngman will be joining us during WRITE Festival to discuss his career as an author, including his Ryan Jarrod series of detective novels as well as his standalone thriller and mystery novels.



Colin Youngman

## FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

### MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT — THE DEATH OF THE GREAT DETECTIVE

Fri 15 September, 6-7.30pm

£6 per person. Suitable for ages 18+

The Great Detective Sherlock Holmes is dead! Or is he? Join acclaimed mystery maestros Highly Suspect for a hilarious, immersive and interactive murder mystery event, which is up to the audience to solve!



## SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

### BOOSTER CUSHION PRESENTS OLD MCDONALD AND THE THREE PIGS PLUS...

Sat 16 September,  
11am-12pm and  
2-3pm

\*£2 per person.

Suitable for children aged  
3-8 and their families

Old McDonald and the Three Pigs Plus... weaves the well known story of the Three Pigs with the easy to learn rhyme Old McDonald Had A Farm. A colourful and fun interactive show full of props, pop ups and audience participation.

\*Tickets must be booked for both children and adults



Booster Cushion Theatre



### THE CELIA BRYCE BAND

Sat 16 September, 1-1.45pm and 2.15-3pm

Free, drop-in. Suitable for all ages

Enjoy live music from The Celia Bryce Band who will be performing in the Atrium at The Word. The Celia Bryce Band is Tyneside-based and features the singing and song-writing of award-winning author Celia Bryce.



SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

## INPRESS DAY

Sun 17 September, 10.15am-2.30pm

Join us for a day of events and workshops where you can learn how to get your work published from industry insiders and successful authors.

## WHAT MAKES A GOOD DEBUT

10.30-11.15am. £2 per person

Join panel, Sarah Fortune, Lucy Rose and Rebecca Robinson, to learn how to navigate writing your debut and what you can do to best position yourself for the best chances of success.

## MAKE YOUR SUBMISSION STAND OUT

11.30am-12.15pm. £2 per person

How do you make your work stand out in the slush pile? Learn what makes a submission sparkle, what common mistakes result in those dreaded rejection emails and how to pick yourself up and try again.

## MONDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

## FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CATHERINE COOKSON

Mon 18 September, 2.15-3.15pm  
at Cleadon Park Library

Free, booking required. Suitable for ages 16+

Join local authors Glenda Young and Annie Doyle as they take you into the world of saga writing and how they got there. An event not to be missed!



## THE BUSINESS OF WRITING

12.30-1.15pm. £2 per person

Find out how authors approach balancing their craft and the pursuit of creativity/storytelling with the strategic thinking needed to navigate the publishing industry. Panel includes Laura Steven, Lisette Auton, and Carmen Marcus.

## CREATIVE 'THERAPY' SURGERY WITH CARMEN MARCUS

10 minute slots from 1.30-2.30pm. £5 per session

Carmen Marcus will be hosting surgeries to analyse a short piece of writing and why you're struggling with it. Whether it's flash fiction or a segment of a short story/novel, this creative surgery will help breakdown how you can work through creative block in your writing.



Glenda Young



Annie Doyle

## WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

### BRENDA READ BROWN PRESENTS "BUT I HAVEN'T FINISHED YET"

Wed 20 September, 6-7pm

£3 per person. Suitable for ages 16+

We are all growing older, and most of us don't like it! But since we can't do anything to change it, why not laugh? A show to delight and entertain you, however advanced in life you may be.



Brenda Read Brown

## FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

### HISTORY WARDROBE PRESENTS... DIVINE DECO

Fri 22 September, 6-7.30pm

£7.50 per person. Suitable for ages 16+

Sleek, chic and super modern fashions of the 1920s showcase sensational dressmaking skills. From slinky bohemian PJs to beautiful bias-cut gowns, this show will explore a fascinating array of home-made and couture quality clothes from this dazzling decade.



## THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

### THE CRAFT OF THE POSTCARD

Thu 21 September, 10.30am-12pm

Free, booking required. Suitable for ages 16+

Come along to this creative workshop where you can design your own postcards, experimenting with basic crafting techniques. You will then write your own message, stories or poems about postcards.



## SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER



Helen Pepper

### FORENSICS DAY WITH HELEN PEPPER

**Saturday 23 September, 12-3.30pm**

**£5 per workshop. Suitable for ages 16+**

Helen Pepper will be hosting two workshops at The Word as part of WRITE Festival. Helen is a senior university lecturer in Policing, CWA Dagger judge and forensic consultant on the TV dramas *Shetland* and *Vera*.

### CRIME SCENE FORENSICS TALK

**Sat 23 September, 12-1.30pm**

### PRACTICAL FORENSICS WORKSHOP

**Sat 23 September, 2.30-3.30pm**



## SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

### IN CONVERSATION WITH SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR NANCY REVELL

**Sun 24 September, 1-2pm**

**£3 per person. Suitable for ages 16+**



Nancy Revell

Bestselling author Nancy Revell will be joining us to discuss her career as an author, including her hugely popular *The Shipyard Girls* series and her new novel *The Widow's Choice*, coming in January 2024.

## WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

### UNFOLDING THEATRE – A STREET LIKE THIS TOUR

**Wed 27 September, 6.30-7.30pm at Jarrow Focus**

**Pay what you decide. \*Suitable for ages 14+**

One normal street, three different people, one massive sinkhole. *A Street Like This* takes us from the everyday to the extraordinary, in a music-filled theatre production that reminds us we've got more in common than divides us.



\*Under 14s must be accompanied by an adult

THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

## KEVIN MAGUIRE AND MARTIN ROWSON IN CONVERSATION



Kevin Maguire

Thurs 28 September, 6-7pm

£6 per person. Suitable for  
ages 16+

Journalist Kevin Maguire  
will be in conversation  
with cartoonist and writer  
Martin Rowson in an evening of  
entertainment you won't want to miss!



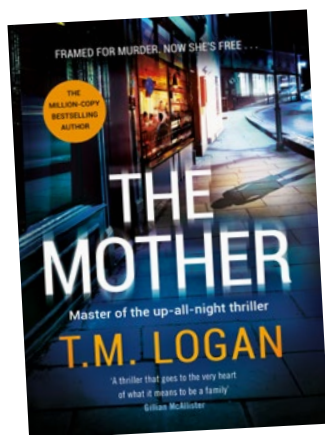
Martin Rowson

FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

## AN AUDIENCE WITH T. M LOGAN

Fri 29 September, 6-7pm

£3 per person. Suitable for ages 16+



Join us as we welcome  
author TM Logan to The  
Word to discuss his career as  
an author and his bestselling  
thriller novels, including  
his latest novel *The Mother*,  
released earlier this year.



SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER



## HOW TO DRAW STAR WARS WITH JAKE DETONATOR

Sat 30 September, 11am-12pm

**\*£2 per person. Suitable for ages 8+**

In his very interactive and lively workshop, JAKE Detonator will show you how to draw your favourite characters from the Star Wars universe, including Droids, Wookies, Bounty Hunters and more.

\*Tickets must be booked for both children and adults



## HOW TO DRAW DR WHO WITH JAKE DETONATOR

Sat 30 September, 2-3pm

**\*£2 per person. Suitable for ages 8+**

JAKE Detonator will show you how to draw some of the sci-fi icons from the ever popular TV show in its 60th year. Come along to this fun and interactive workshop!

\*Tickets must be booked for both children and adults



## FESTIVAL FINALE — HYDE FUNDRAISER CHARACTERS

Sat 30 September, 10.30am-3.30pm

**Free, drop-in. Suitable for all ages**

Hyde Fundraisers are bringing a galaxy of characters to The Word. Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Doctor Who with some monstrous invaders including Davros, creator of The Daleks. You will also travel to a galaxy far, far away with characters from Star Wars too.

# GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

**Don't miss out on your chance to attend these fantastic events. Most events require booking in advance.**

## **TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW!**

You can visit [www.theworduk.org/write](http://www.theworduk.org/write) to find out further details and book your tickets, or you can visit **Shop @ The Word** where you will be able to purchase your tickets in person. (Please note: booking terms and conditions apply).

You can also keep up-to-date with everything that is happening during WRITE Festival and throughout the year at The Word by following:

 /worduk

  @theword\_uk

Get involved in the conversation by using our hashtag:

**#WRITEFestival**

**WRITE** FESTIVAL  
*Be inspired by words*

# THE WORD OPENING TIMES

**MON – THURS:** 9am - 7pm

**FRI:** 9am - 5pm

**SAT AND SUN:** 10am - 4pm



For more information about events, performances,  
workshops, talks and creative sessions:

 [www.theworduk.org](http://www.theworduk.org)

 /worduk   @theword\_uk  0191 427 1818

The Word, National Centre for the Written Word,  
45 Market Place, South Shields, NE33 1JF

**PLEASE NOTE:** All event details are correct at the time of going to print. You are advised to check the website or speak to a member of staff. Booking terms and conditions apply.

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