

**The Huddersfield  
Literature  
Festival**



16TH - 20TH  
MARCH  
2011

*Readings  
Workshops  
Performance  
Song Cabaret*

*the word in action*

[www.litfest.org.uk](http://www.litfest.org.uk)

"The theme this year is adaptation. We'll be premiering a specially commissioned film of a Simon Armitage poem alongside Simon's event, as well as a number of song adaptations from a variety of poets we are celebrating. These are all unique to the festival so look out for them.

Featuring: Simon Armitage, David Peace, AL Kennedy, Melvin Burgess, Anne Fine, David Nobbs and Xanthe Gresham. It's a five day party – come and join us!"

*Michael Stewart, Festival Director*



*Photo courtesy of Daniel Burman*

"A literature festival such as this provides writers with an all-too-rare opportunity to take centre stage and enjoy the limelight for themselves. Some of them are extremely good at this... in fact, I am not sure that I should really approve!"

"It's an honour to be a Patron of The Huddersfield Literature Festival. If you have never been to a reading before make this your first time. And if you have, welcome back to a week packed with events."

*Lemn Sissay, Author and Patron*

"But of course I do. Anne Fine and Simon Armitage, for example, are not only exceptional writers but also exceptionally gifted interpreters and performers of their own.

This will be yet another wonderful Huddersfield Literature Festival."

*Professor Sir Patrick Stewart Chancellor, University of Huddersfield*



*Photo courtesy of Dominique Brewster*

*the word in action*

*Photo courtesy of Mitch Jenkins, Getty Image*

## DON'T MISS: FESTIVAL LAUNCH

**Time:** 7:30pm  
**Venue:** Sleepers  
**Price:** Free

Drinks, nibbles and music. This event will include top cabaret acts to entertain you and the official award presentations for the HLF Grist short fiction and poetry competitions. See our website for more information.

## PEEPAL TREE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**Time:** 5:30pm  
**Venue:** Sleepers Bar  
**Price:** £5/£4 concessions

Come and join us to celebrate 25 years of Peepal Tree Press, home of the best in Caribbean and Black British Writing. We'll be showcasing work from two of their top poets: Khadijah Ibrahim and Dorothea Smartt.

We are delighted to be able to premiere two unique song adaptation commissions at this event. See our website for more information and [peepaltreepress.com](http://peepaltreepress.com) With thanks to, [thebooksproject.wordpress.com](http://thebooksproject.wordpress.com)

## FILM CHALLENGE

Be involved in the Festival's 5 Day Film Challenge! See the festival website or find us on Facebook for more details.



## WRITE NOW

Showcasing, sharing and inspiring talent Write Now! Fri 18th, Sat 19th, Sun 20th At the Lawrence Batley Theatre Huddersfield.

To find out how you can submit a monologue or become part of the community cast for the Write Now Festival, contact Madeline at: [Madeline@thelbt.org](mailto:Madeline@thelbt.org).





## LYRICAL JUNCTION

FEATURING GAIA HOLMES

**Time:** 5pm

**Venue:** Sleepers Bar

**Price:** £5/£4 concessions

A live and lively performance of songs inspired by poems and poems inspired by songs. Featuring poet Gaia Holmes with musicians Dave Gill, Nancy Varo and Martin Bond. Come help us celebrate the poetry of song lyrics and the musicality of poems. [gaiaholmes.wordpress.com](http://gaiaholmes.wordpress.com)



## 'SOME GIRLS' MOTHERS'

FEATURING THE ROUTE WOMEN

**Time:** 7pm

**Venue:** Sleepers Bar

**Price:** £6/£4 concessions

Best friend or bête noir? How does the mother/daughter relationship colour women's lives? In *Some Girls' Mothers*, six authors share their stories in a performance and discussion that has provoked a level of emotional engagement unprecedented in shows of this nature. The six authors are all based in the north: Anne Caldwell, Clare Shaw, Suzanne Batty, Char March, Nell Farrell and River Wolton.



*Photo courtesy of Alfie Goodrich*

## DAVID PEAGE IN CONVERSATION

**Time:** 9pm

**Venue:** Phipps

**Price:** £8/£6 concessions

David Peage burst onto the literary scene with his ultra-violent debut novel 1974. Since then he has established himself as one of the most important British novelists around. He was named one of the Best of Young British Novelists by Granta in 2003 and is the winner of the prestigious James Tait Black Memorial Prize. He is the author of *The Damned Utd* and *The Red Riding Quartet*. Join David and festival director Michael Stewart in conversation.

## THE ROUTE WOMEN LIFE WRITING

FEATURING ANNE CALDWELL

**Time:** 1pm

**Venue:** WG/28 (West Building, University of Huddersfield)

**Price:** £6/£4 concessions

Anne Caldwell is a poet and short story writer who has just won a first collection award for her poetry book, *Talking With The Dead* (Cinnamon Press, February 2011). This workshop is aimed at writers of all levels and will explore writing about mothers, daughters and other family relationships.

## THE HARD TRUTHS OF SELF-PUBLISHING

K B WALKER

**Time:** 1pm - 3pm

**Venue:** WG/28 (West Building, University Of Huddersfield)

**Price:** £8/£6 concessions

A workshop aiding self-publishers. We're told we all have a story in us but getting it into print is another matter. Teacher, author and speaker, K B Walker, has successfully self-published her memoir, *A Life Less Lost*, and the collaboratively written, *Reflections of Holme*.



## POETRY BUSINESS SHOWCASE

FEATURING SALLY BAKER, GERARD BENSON & SALLY GOLDSMITH

**Time:** 6pm

**Venue:** Media Centre

**Price:** £5/£3 concessions

The Poetry Business was founded in 1986 in Huddersfield and has since become one of the most vital literary organisations in the country. This event features three of their most exciting poets.

## ISIS & HEGATE: PERFORMANCE STORYTELLING

FEATURING XANTHE GRESHAM

**Time:** 8pm

**Venue:** Phipps

**Price:** £8/£6 concessions

One storyteller, two goddesses and a midlife crisis. This pair of roller-coaster performances teeter between the sharply hilarious and the devastatingly provocative, as Xanthe Gresham performs a double bill of *Isis is You Sis* and *Hecate Tango*. How do you cure an addiction to sex? How do you crack your soul's pin code? Hecate has the answers. She was chucked off Mount Olympus for refusing to hail Zeus as the one and only. Now she sits in outer space doing cosmic sudoku on our behalf. Combining performance storytelling, poetry and mythology, the energy of the great goddess of blackness and beginnings is brought back onto the dance floor.



## SIR LES PATTERSON-PRESCOTT'S POETRY APPRECIATION SOCIETY

**Time:** 9pm

**Venue:** King's Head

**Price:** Free

Sir Les Patterson-Prescott is Australia's Cultural Attaché. Come along and enjoy the fun as he hosts an open mike event. Bring a poem, a song, a stand-up routine - anything live! And let Sir Les decide who has the strangest work, the funniest work, the best performance, the best dressed performer and the much coveted most chins stroked award. Or just come along and spectate as we celebrate the world of verse and the word in action.



**ANNE FINE****CHILDREN'S & ADULTS' EVENT****Time:** 1pm/4pm**Venue:** WG/28 (West Building, University of Huddersfield)/Sleepers Bar**Price:** £8/£6 concessions/£5 for children

Anne Fine is one of today's most successful and popular children's writers. In 2001 she was appointed Children's Laureate for two years and worked to raise the profile of children's books. Film and TV adaptations of her books – including Mrs Doubtfire starring Robin Williams – have made her a household name. "Infectiously funny and highly readable." *The Independent*

Anne Fine also writes for adults to considerable critical acclaim. The 4pm event is aimed at an adult audience and will focus on her many 'sour comedies' including her latest *Our Precious Lulu*. "Fine's depiction of a cunning and manipulative character is masterful, and the conclusion is horribly satisfying."

*The Times***M Y ALAM**  
**BOOK LAUNCH****Time:** 6pm**Venue:** Sleepers Bar**Price:** £5/£3

concessions

M Y Alam is the author of two novels, *Annie Potts is Dead* and *Kilo*. He has had several short stories published and is the editor of *Made in Bradford*. This is a launch event for his eagerly anticipated sequel to *Kilo*. For more information please see our website.

**'A BIT OF A DO'****WITH DAVID NOBBS****Time:** 4pm**Venue:** Gerry's at Neaversons**Price:** £8/£6 concessions

David Nobbs has written seventeen novels, the latest being *Obstacles To Young Love*. He has written for *That Was The Week That Was*, *The Frost Report*, and *The Two Ronnies*, and is best known for his TV hits *The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin* and *A Bit of a Do*. **This is a Tea Party and the price includes refreshments.**

**HOW TO  
PRESENT  
YOUR WORK  
TO AN AGENT****Time:** 12pm - 2pm**Venue:** WG/13 (West Building, University of Huddersfield)**Price:** £8/£6

concessions

Zoë King is the head of non-fiction, estates and contracts at the Darley Anderson Agency. She has a ceaseless enthusiasm for finding, developing and selling books across the genres and rejoices in all things commercial.

**VIDEO WINNERS****PRIZE GIVING****Time:** 4pm**Venue:** Sleepers Bar**Price:** Free

A shortlist of ten films voted most popular on the five day film challenge will be screened.

**AN EVENING WITH A L KENNEDY****Time:** 8pm**Venue:** Sleepers Bar**Price:** £8/£6 concessions

A L Kennedy is the author of twelve books: five novels, five books of short stories and two books of non-fiction. Her next novel *The Blue Book* will appear in 2011.

She also writes for the stage, radio, film and TV and a number of national and international newspapers. A L Kennedy is also a stand-up comic so this promises to be a lively and very entertaining event.

**MELVIN  
BURGESS****Time:** 6pm**Venue:** Sleepers Bar**Price:** £8/

£6 concessions

Since winning the Carnegie Medal in 1997 for his ground breaking novel *JUNK*, Melvin Burgess has built up a reputation for controversial, hard-hitting books dealing with themes ranging from sex and drugs, to adaptations of Norse mythology. He is a leading voice of literature for young adults. "A writer of the highest quality with exceptional powers of insight." *The Times*

**ENCHANTED VALLEY**  
**CHILDREN'S EVENT WITH PAUL WILSON****Time:** 12pm - 2pm**Venue:** WG/28 (West Building, University of Huddersfield)**Price:** £5/£4 concessions

This is a workshop for children and adults based upon the local graphic novel by the same title. The workshop will allow you to explore a magical side of the local area complete with witches and dragons.

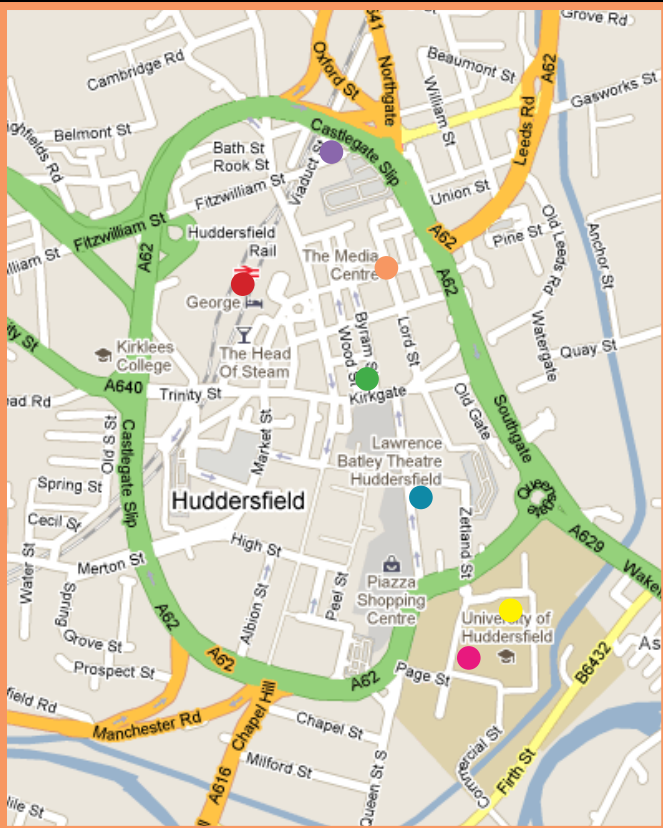
**SIMON ARMITAGE****Time:** 8pm**Venue:** Phipps**Price:** £8/£6 concessions

Simon Armitage is a playwright, novelist, memoirist, broadcaster and presenter, but is most widely known as a poet. He has published twelve collections of verse. He is Professor of Poetry at the University of Sheffield and lives in Huddersfield. In 2010 he was awarded the CBE for services to poetry. This event will focus on his new collection *Seeing Stars* and will include the première of a specially commissioned film adaptation making this a unique event. Not to be missed. This event includes a support performance by acclaimed poet Chrissy Gittins ([chrissygittins.co.uk](http://chrissygittins.co.uk)).



Photo courtesy of Revolver Photography, Huddersfield

## BOOKING & VENUES



- The Media Centre  
7 Northumberland Street  
HD1 1RL
- Gerry's at Neaversons  
Vintage English Tea Room  
4 Byram Street  
HD1 1BX
- Lawrence Batley Theatre  
Queens Square  
Queen Street  
HD1 2SP
- Sleepers Bar  
9 Viaduct Street  
HD1 5DL
- Phipps Concert Hall  
University of Huddersfield  
Queensgate  
HD1 3DH
- West Building  
University of Huddersfield  
Queensgate  
HD1 3DH
- King's Head  
Huddersfield Railway Station  
18 St. George's Square  
HD1 1JF



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brochure design  
Katy Forbes  
Illustrator | Graphic Designer  
07903 645786  
[katy\\_forbes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:katy_forbes@hotmail.co.uk)

Please note free events also require tickets as places are limited.  
Venues are subject to change.

Please contact Festival Box Office for tickets & most up to date information.

Festival Box Office: 01484 430528 | [www.theibt.org](http://www.theibt.org)