

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
WRITERS AND GROUPS
Annual Festival of Writing

NAWGFest 2021

Yarnfield Park Conference Centre
Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th September 2021

I knew nothing of NAWG, I'd never heard of it and I didn't even really take in what it was when I asked a friend going to a writing festival if she'd object if I tagged along.

I shall never forget the moment we stepped through the door and straight into a warm and friendly welcome. It was a welcome that lasted all weekend. Members of the committee sought us out, asked about our writing and told us about NAWG.

That was well over a decade ago and I haven't missed a single NAWG event since. I shall never tire of the stimulating workshops, friendly faces and happy smiles. It doesn't matter who you have lunch with or sit next to in a tutorial, you'll have a new and interesting friend.

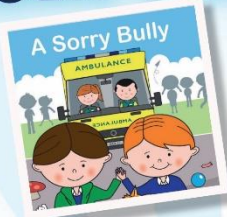
I little realised then that I'd end up first as secretary then as chairman – asked to fill both roles because I happened to be available!

I'll be at Yarnfield in September to welcome you as an old friend or a new one to our twenty-fifth annual Festival of Writing.

Chris Huck, Chairman

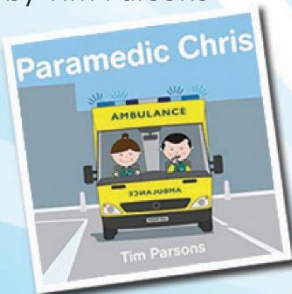
Paramedic Chris **Children's Book**

A Sorry Bully
by Tim Parsons

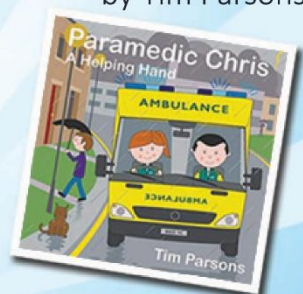


Ideal present aimed at 4-10
year old children educating
upon the work of the
Ambulance Service

Paramedic Chris
by Tim Parsons



Paramedic Chris A Helping Hand
by Tim Parsons



Available from:
amazon.co.uk

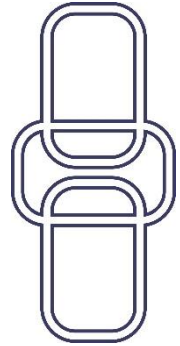
Waterstones.com

FOYLES.co.uk

Gardners.com

and other online retailers

The National Association of Writers and Groups



We are a non-profit making association established in 1995 to help writing groups and individual writers. Members include people just beginning to explore writing for pleasure, bestselling authors, and a huge range of people in between. Our members work in all sorts of genres, styles and areas. All of them are entitled to a variety of benefits including support to run writing groups, regular news and advice, access to critiques and other services at preferential rates, free entry to members-only competitions and, of course, discounts on attendance at our events – including this one.

People join a writers' group because they want to share their work and ideas in a supportive atmosphere. NAWG provides just that environment for writers across the country.

NAWGFest is our annual conference and the culmination of our writing year and we hope this brochure gives you a good idea of what is on offer. If you would like to attend, please see the form in the centre of this booklet.

You will be made very welcome whether or not you are a member and no matter where you are on your writing journey.

To find out more about us, or to join, visit our website: www.nawg.co.uk

Registered Charity No: 1059047

President: The Lord Fellows of West Stafford DL

Chairman: Chris Huck

Registered Office: Old Vicarage, Scammonden, Huddersfield HD3 3FT

Committee

Marilyn Pemberton (Treasurer)

Henry Curry (Secretary)

Liz Ashcroft Stephen Bowkett

Catherine Fitzsimons

Jennifer Margrave Simon Whaley

Patrons

Sir Alan Ayckbourn, CBE

Carol Ann Duffy, OBE

Rt. Hon. Lord Radice

Gervase Phinn

Lord Bragg of Wigton

Jilly Cooper

OBE David Lodge

Conference Location – Yarnfield Park

Yarnfield, Stone ST15 0NL

In 2021 we are moving to Yarnfield Park – a training and conference centre in Staffordshire.

The campus is easy to access from the motorway network with plenty of free parking. For those using public transport, the nearest railway station is Stone, but we would suggest using Stoke or Stafford as trains are more frequent. As it is a rural location, there are not many buses from the station but, once the summer 2021 train timetables have been published, we will suggest appropriate trains so people can share taxis.

Accommodation is in en-suite double rooms which have all the usual facilities: tea- & coffee-making facilities, TV, hairdryer, toiletries and towels. There is no additional charge for single occupancy.



Talks, workshops and other sessions are in the main building. This takes only a minute or two to walk to from the accommodation along a flat path, most of which is covered.

All meals, apart from the Gala dinner, are served in the main building restaurant – the committee members who visited were very

impressed by the catering! – and tea and coffee are available outside our session rooms throughout the days of the conference. The bar will be open in the evenings, and there is a Costa coffee shop that is open on weekdays for anyone arriving a little early for check in.



For more details, see the Yarnfield Park website: [yarnfield park.com](http://yarnfieldpark.com)

Outline Programme

Friday

Registration (from 3 PM)
Bonus workshops
Welcome, followed by dinner
Open mic

Saturday

Workshops – Session 1
NAWG AGM
Lunch
Workshops – Session 2
Workshops – Session 3
Author readings/private writing time
Prizewinners' reception
Gala Dinner with guest speaker Samantha Tonge
Awards ceremony

Sunday

Workshops – Session 4
Talk – Kim Nash: Author, Book Blogger, Publicist
Lunch
Raffle draw
Farewell and departures (3:15 PM)
NAWGFest 2021 Timetable

Of course, there will also be breaks – giving you plenty of time to chat with other delegates, our tutors, speakers and the NAWG committee and so compare notes with other writers.

Please do bring along copies of your books to sell.

We will send details of how to do this, along with a detailed timetable, to all delegates in the summer. In the meantime, keep an eye on our website for news on the Sunday speaker and news of other things we are hoping to squeeze in!

NAWGFest 2021 TimeTable

Time	Activity
Friday	
15:00	Arrival and collect room key (set up books in bookroom - explore the new venue!)
16:00	Early-arrivers Bonus Workshop / or private writing time
17:00	Refreshments/settle into room/private writing time
18:00	Official Welcome to the 25th NAWGFest! (housekeeping, raffle launch!)
18:30	Dinner
20:00	Open Mic
23:00	Bar closes.
Saturday	
07:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:00	Day Delegate Registration
09:30	Workshop 1
11:00	Refreshments
11:30	AGM
12:30	Lunch
13:45	Workshop 2
15:15	Refreshments
15:45	Workshop 3
17:15	Refreshments / Author Readings / private writing time
18:15	Pre-dinner drinks for shortlisted competition entrants
19:00	Gala Dinner
23:00	Bar closes.
Sunday	
07:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:30	Workshop 4
11:00	Refreshments
11:30	Author Talk
12:30	Lunch
13:30	Raffle Results.
14:00	Bonus Workshop / Private Writing time.
15:00	Refreshments
15:15	Conference closes.

Bonus workshops (Friday & Sunday afternoons)

For early arrivers, there'll be an opportunity to jump straight into the creative mood with a bonus workshop. There will also be another bonus workshop Sunday afternoon, after the raffle, to send you home in the creative spirit. Details will be available on arrival.

Open mic night

Five minutes of stardom (Friday evening)

Have you a story you want to tell, a poem you want to read, a song you want to sing or a sketch you want to perform? Friday evening is the time to shine – simply sign up at Reception when you arrive. Don't be shy! You're among friends!



MENTORING WRITERS

A variety of services aimed at helping new and existing writers of all ages in the art and craft of writing. Our services include:

**Mentoring (1-to-1) : Reviewing and Editing of manuscripts : Workshops (1-to-1 or in groups)
Book production Advice etc**

**For further details check out our website or email us at:
contact@mentoringwriters.co.uk
www.mentoringwriters.co.uk**

NAWG Annual General Meeting

(Saturday morning)

The official notice of the 2021 NAWG AGM will be published in *Link* in advance of the meeting. As well as the usual reports from officers and presentation of accounts, the agenda is likely to include approval of revisions to the constitution to ensure we stay up-to-date with best practice for charities. As this is a major item, we are aiming to keep this meeting to official business only and would encourage as many members as possible to attend.

Who can attend and take part

- If your group holds NAWG membership, anyone in your group may attend and contribute. Your group is entitled to two votes.
- Individual members have their own vote.

Non-members are welcome as observers.

If you cannot come, but have points that you would like to be considered by the AGM or the committee, do please get in touch with the secretary.

We would also love to hear from members who have specific skills and ideas about how they might offer them to benefit the Association. You can contact any member of the committee (see page 2) at any time. If you are not sure who is the most appropriate person, use the contact form on our website.

Author readings

Showcase your writing (Saturday late afternoon)

An opportunity for people who have published work – traditionally or independently – to give a four-minute reading. Sign up when you arrive and don't forget to make sure you have brought plenty of copies to sell once you have piqued interest! (If demand is high, NAWG members will have priority.)

Gala Dinner

(Saturday evening)

The NAWG Gala Dinner is always a well-attended and fun-filled evening. Dress code is semi-formal: black tie is not expected but feel free to get your seldom-worn dinner jacket out if the fancy takes you. Otherwise, wear something smart, slip into a cocktail dress, or go for glitz – it's up to you!

The catering team will create a celebratory menu for everyone, so please let us know your dietary requirements when you book so they can prepare something scrumptious that meets your needs. You can choose to sit with people you know or make new friends – just tell us which you would prefer. Either way, you can be sure of interesting conversation.

Our speaker

Samantha Tonge lives in Manchester and is an award-winning top ten Amazon contemporary women's fiction novelist. Her bestselling debut, *Doubling Abbey*, was shortlisted for the Festival of Romantic Fiction best ebook award. In 2015, her summer novel, *Game of Scones*, hit #5 in the UK Kindle chart and won the Love Stories Awards Best Romantic ebook category. In 2018, *Forgive Me Not* heralded a new direction into darker women's fiction with publisher Canelo. In 2019 she was shortlisted for the Romantic Novelists' Association (RNA) Romantic Comedy award and her novel *Knowing You* has been shortlisted for the RNA's Jackie Collins Romantic Thriller award in 2020. She is represented by the Darley Anderson literary agency.



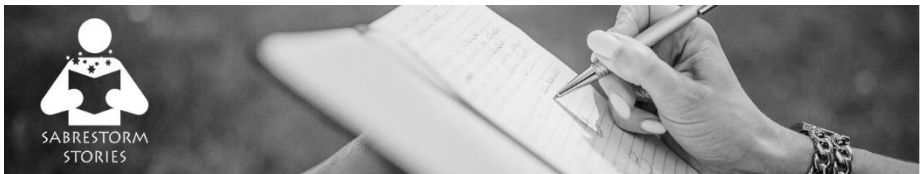
Awards ceremony

Celebrating NAWG's creative writers (Saturday evening)

Every year we run a series of writing competitions for NAWG members and the younger members of their families. This year categories include poetry, short stories, fiction in a range of genres, travel writing and memoir as well as our annual group anthology competition judged by last year's winners. If you're a member and have not got your entry/entries in yet, there may still be time – closing date is 30 April!

All those shortlisted and highly commended by our judges will be invited to a reception with our guests prior to the dinner. Our speaker will announce the winners and present trophies and certificates on the night.

There will also be a prize for the best **100-word mini tale** submitted by a person attending NAWGFest 2021. We will send details of how to enter this popular competition to you after you have booked.



Your Life, Your Story, Your Book...

Working closely with our authors to build confidence and forge long-term relationships, we produce books to be proud of:

- ✓ Professional Editing and Publishing of your manuscript with Trade Distribution
- ✓ Ghostwriting – let us write your book with you
- ✓ Author Coaching – including Marketing, Author Branding, Social Media, Writing Tips and More...



Speak to Sabrestorm Stories on 07411 056687 for a no-obligation chat or visit www.sabrestormstories.com

Private Writing Time

We've labelled some timetable slots as Private Writing Time, indicating opportunities when you may wish to take yourself off somewhere quieter and do some of your own writing. There will be other activities going on at the same time, but these slots have been identified as opportunities for you to focus on your own work, without affecting the ability to attend the workshops of your choice.



Writing Contests & Courses Online:

- Short Story
- Short Memoir
- Flash Fiction
- Poetry

Also available: Editorial Services

Best submissions published in the Annual Fish Anthology

details:
www.fishpublishing.com

Fish Publishing, Durrus, Bantry, Co. Cork, Ireland.

The advertisement features a background image of a book cover titled 'Fish Anthology 2015' with a person fishing. Below the book cover are three circular images of fish. The Fish Publishing logo is on the left.

Raffle

(Drawn on Sunday afternoon)

Lots of useful and interesting prizes! In the past these have included places on Writers' Bureau courses, subscriptions to *mslexia*, and, of course, lots of lovely books. Tickets will be on sale throughout the weekend, so do bring some cash!

If you know anyone who would be willing to provide a prize that fellow writers would value, or who would be prepared to offer sponsorship, do put them in touch with us!

NAWGFest 2021 Options and pricing	Members	Non-members	Non-writing partner (see notes below)
Main festival package Includes accommodation Friday and Saturday, 4 bookable workshops and all meals (Friday dinner to Sunday lunch), including Gala dinner	£330.00	£350.00	£210.00
Short festival package Includes accommodation Saturday, 2 bookable workshops (Sessions 2 & 3 or 3 & 4), Gala dinner, Sunday breakfast and lunch on Saturday or Sunday	£180.00	£190.00	£120.00
Saturday or Sunday, day only Includes 2 workshops, lunch and refreshments	£100.00	£110.00	—
Gala dinner plus bed and breakfast	£97.00	£105.00	
Gala dinner only	£45.00	£50.00	
Dinner, bed and breakfast For an additional night	£77.00	£78.00	

Partners who do not wish to take part in the activities each day are welcome.

The non-writing partner packages include accommodation and meals but not bookable workshops or other daytime activities.

They may only be booked in conjunction with a booking from a full delegate at either member or non-member rate.

The National Association of Writers and Groups
< NAWGFest 2021 Booking Form >

Yarnfield Park Training and Conference Centre, 3-5 September 2021
 (Page 1 of 2)



MAKING YOUR BOOKING: Please complete one form per person. Make your payment in full and email your scanned completed form to treasurer@nawg.co.uk. If posting your form please print, complete and then email the treasurer for the correct postal address.

YOUR DETAILS

Name	
Address	
Tel. and / or mobile no.	
email	
NAWG members, please give the name of your writing group or write 'Individual' if you are an individual member	

YOUR ATTENDANCE Please see table on the website for what is included in each package

Main festival package		Gala dinner plus bed and breakfast	
Short festival package		Gala dinner only	
Saturday, day only		Additional night dinner, bed and breakfast	
Sunday, day only		(please state which night/s)	

YOUR WORKSHOPS

Titles for bookable workshops are shown below. Please see our website for more detail about what is covered in each session. NAWG reserve the right to change tutors or/and workshops in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

Tutor	Session 1 - Sat AM	Session 2 - Sat PM	Session 3 - Sat PM	Session 4 - Sun AM
Jean Atkin	<i>Writing poetry playfully</i>	<i>Writing the outdoors in</i>	<i>Photographs are refugees</i>	<i>How to perform your poem excellently</i>
Della Galton	<i>Short-story writing: setting</i>	<i>Short story: Characters and Dialogue</i>	<i>Short-story: Plot</i>	<i>Short-story: Viewpoint</i>
Alison May	<i>Plot and character</i>	<i>Character and voice</i>	<i>Genre and setting</i>	<i>Editing and revising</i>
Alison Chisholm	<i>Memoirs: where to start</i>	<i>Information-gathering for autobiographical writing</i>	<i>Mini-memoirs and celebration books</i>	<i>Spreading the word: how to publish and sell your memoirs</i>
Marvin Close	<i>Creating dramatic tension</i>	<i>The art of writing dialogue</i>	<i>Plotting, planning and storylining</i>	<i>Building character</i>

Please indicate which workshops you would like to take part in by writing the surname of your first and second choice of tutor for each session in the grid below.

	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
First choice				
Second choice				

We will make every effort to allocate you your first choice of workshop but places in each session are restricted to keep groups to a workable size, so early booking is advisable.

The National Association of Writers and Groups
< NAWGFest 2021 Booking Form >

Yarnfield Park Training and Conference Centre, 3-5 September 2021
 (Page 2 of 2)



Have you any special accommodation requirements ?(e.g. downstairs room, adapted room, sharing with a particular person)? If so, please give details. <i>All rooms are double beds; there is no single supplement.</i>	
--	--

Have you any dietary requirements ?	Vegetarian		Vegan		Diabetic		Other (please describe below)	

Would you like to sit with your writing group for the Gala Dinner?	
---	--

Would you like to sit with specific individuals ? If so, please give name(s) here - but check with them first!	
--	--

If you require a **disabled car-parking space** please give:

Car make & model		Blue badge issuer
Registration number		

YOUR PAYMENT

Did you pay an **early deposit** of £20 at last year's Festival? If so, tick here and deduct £40 from your total if you have booked a full package (or £20 otherwise)

The total cost of my NAWGFest 2020 is £_____

Please indicate how you have made your payment:

I am sending a cheque, **made payable to NAWG**, (contact **Treasurer** for postal address).

I have made a payment using PayPal through the NAWG website.

You can use combinations of the 'NAWGFest 2021' payment buttons on the NAWG shop to pay amounts not shown as deposit, instalment or final payment.

<input type="checkbox"/> I have made a BACS transfer to NatWest sort code 60-22-52; account no. 80275877.		
Date paid		Reference used <small>(we suggest FESTIVAL YOURNAME)</small>

Any questions? Please contact treasurer@nawg.co.uk or if urgent call 07533 705487.
If your call is not answered, send a text message & include your name and number.

We strongly advise you to purchase personal holiday insurance.

*The venue will charge NAWG for all cancellations and therefore we will be unable to offer more than a token refund for ANY cancellations, and **no** refunds for cancellations MADE BY YOU after 5TH August 2021. However, should you need to cancel, we are happy for you to transfer your booking to someone else. **You will be REFUNDED IN FULL if changes in Covid 19 conditions mean the government restrictions change causing us or the venue to cancel our booking.***

Workshops

This year, our experienced tutors are offering workshops on writing novels, short stories, memoirs, drama and poetry. You can choose to follow one theme through the whole weekend, or mix and match working with a different tutor on each day or for each session.

Whatever you choose to do, you are sure to find help and inspiration. Just indicate your choices on the booking form.

Memoir – Alison Chisholm

Alison Chisholm has published eleven poetry collections, written short stories and humorous articles, and is a columnist for *Writing Magazine*. She's also the author of *Writing a Mini-Memoir*.



<p>Where to start (Session 1 – Sat 9.30)</p> <p>The joys of writing memoirs, personal and commercial. Choosing the parameters and planning the route of your memoir.</p>	<p>Information gathering (Session 2 – Sat 13.45)</p> <p>How to tease half-forgotten memories into focussed recall for autobiographical writing.</p>
<p>Mini-memoirs and celebration books (Session 3 – Sat 15.45)</p> <p>The style, approach and options for writing a collage-style mini-memoir or celebration book.</p>	<p>Spreading the word (Session 4 – Sun 9.30)</p> <p>Spreading the word. How to self-publish and sell your memoirs, including advice on turning your book into a talk.</p>

Poetry – Jean Atkin

Jean Atkin is a poet, writer and educator, based in Shropshire. She's had residencies in England and Scotland, and provided workshops and readings for schools, festivals and community organisations. She's currently Troubadour of the Hills for Ledbury Poetry Festival, and Poet in Residence for Hargate Primary, West Bromwich. She was also 2019 National Poetry Day's BBC Poet for Shropshire. Every two months, she



organises The Poetry Lounge, Ludlow's spoken-word night. She mentors emerging poets and works regularly with children and young people, often through Writing West Midlands, and is a professional member of NAWE. Her second poetry collection, *How Time is in Fields* was published in April 2019 by Indigo Dreams Publishing and launched at the Cheltenham Poetry Festival. Previous publications include *Not Lost Since Last Time* (Oversteps Books, 2013), pamphlets with Roncadora Press, Ravenglass Press and Biscuit Tin Press, and a children's novel, *The Crow House*.

<p style="text-align: center;">Writing poetry playfully (Session 1 – Sat 9.30)</p> <p>A workshop which will show you ways to write that harness both imagination and joy! We'll consider the importance of surprise in a poem. And confidence. And decision-making. Explore, experiment, write new poems and be happy.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Writing the outdoors in (Session 2 – Sat 13.45)</p> <p>A workshop which will show you ways to make writing about nature and the outdoors immediate and full of wonder.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Photographs are refugees (Session 3 – Sat 15.45)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>'Photographs are refugees from that moment'</i> <i>(Halla Beloff)</i></p> <p>Jean will provide prompts, ideas and discussion for successful writing from a photographic image.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How to be confident with a mic, and perform your poem excellently (Session 4 – Sun 9.30)</p> <p>Jean will bring in the mic, and we'll look at what to do, and not do, and practise for good performance, ending with a reading.</p>

The novel – Alison May

Alison May is a published novelist and short-story writer who also writes in collaboration, as Juliet Bell. She completed a BA (Hons) degree in Creative Writing with the University of Birmingham in 2008, and is also a qualified teacher, specialising in teaching adults. Since 2009, she has been teaching creative writing to community groups and in one-off workshops, adult education courses, and a University of Worcester undergraduate module. She also offers a manuscript critique service and individual mentoring for developing authors. Past students have gone on to achieve agent representation, publication with traditional publishers – including Avon, Headline, Bookouture and Head of Zeus – and to self-publish successfully. Her own writing ranges from romantic comedy to book-club fiction. Her most recent novels are, *All That Was Lost* (Legend Press) and *The Other Wife* (as Juliet Bell with Harper Collins HQ). She is currently Chair of the Romantic Novelists' Association.



<p style="text-align: center;">Plot and character (Session 1 – Sat 9.30)</p> <p>How do you structure a novel? How do you balance internal character arc with external story? How do you develop engaging characters who drive the plot and engage your reader?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Character and voice (Session 2 – Sat 13.45)</p> <p>How do you write different points of view? And what are the pros and cons? How do you create believable exciting dialogue? What is authorial voice and how do you find and develop yours?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Genre and setting (Session 3 – Sat 15.45)</p> <p>How do you create a world on the page? What are the expectations of your genre? How can you use (or subvert) them? Show, don't tell: and why writing tutors just can't get over repeating that.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Editing and revising (Session 4 – Sun 9.30)</p> <p>How to tackle a messy first draft. Dealing with a saggy middle. Structural and line editing techniques. Next steps to take away.</p>

Short stories– Della Galton

Della Galton is a novelist, short story writer and journalist with over 30 years' experience. She has had over 2000 short stories published around the world.

She is also the agony aunt for Writers' Forum magazine and is a qualified Adult Education tutor.

Currently, she shares her home with a selection of rescue hounds and chickens. Her hobbies are running marathons and spending hours in the gym, but fortunately she is too busy writing to practise these far too energetic pursuits very often!



For more information about Della see www.dellagalton.co.uk

Can we help?
www.betterwrite.com
www.betterwrite.com
www.betterwrite.com
www.betterwrite.com
www.betterwrite.com
www.betterwrite.com

**Making you a
better writer**

Betterwrite
editing & proofreading

<p style="text-align: center;">The Short Story and Setting (Session 1 – Sat 9.30)</p> <p>What is a short story? The vital elements. The difference between a short story and an anecdote. How to create your short story setting? How to write an excellent opening paragraph.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Short Story and Characterisation and Dialogue. (Session 2 – Sat 13.45)</p> <p>Create a believable character your readers will love – or hate! Who are they? Hearing their voices. Some tips and tricks to stop them sounding exactly like the author.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">The Short Story and Plot (Session 3 – Sat 15.45)</p> <p>Plotting the short story. How to develop a plot from a blurb. What works. What doesn't. Writing a believable twist. Getting the end right.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Short Story and Viewpoint. (Session 4 – Sun 9.30)</p> <p>Understanding viewpoint and the part it plays in fiction. A closer look at first person, third person, second person and everything in between. How viewpoint can help you to plot.</p>

RELAX & WRITE
All-inclusive writing weekends

Excellent course leaders

Many genres

Suit all levels

Fun and informal

Tel: 01454 773579

E-mail: loisbm@aol.com

www.relaxandwrite.co.uk

Drama – Marvin Close

Marvin has written and storylined well over 100 hours of broadcast TV for shows such as *Coronation Street*, *Emmerdale*, *Tracey Beaker*, *24/7* and *Doctors*. He is a former writer-in-residence at Manchester's Library Theatre and has written seven plays for the stage. With Professor Chuck Korr, he wrote the critically acclaimed, *More Than Just A Game: Football vs Apartheid*, and *Hope*, the life story of women's football manager, Hope Powell.



He has written drama, comedy and documentaries for BBC Radio, and bedtime stories for the One Billion African literacy project. Marvin has delivered numerous writing workshops in schools, colleges, festivals and universities, including previous appearances at NAWGFest. He is currently writing, *Liberation 75* for Jersey Heritage – a short film that will mark the 75th anniversary of the end of Nazi occupation in the Channel Islands.

Creating dramatic tension (Session 1 – Sat 9.30)

Do you sometimes feel that your writing is falling flat? This session will explore ways to ensure your story or drama has effective narrative tension, as well as tension between your characters. We'll look at how to create engaging characters with different aims and goals; how to raise the dramatic stakes; and to absorb your reader so that they continue to ask questions about where the plot is going. Perhaps most importantly, the best and most effective ways of seeding and then developing explosive ideas.

The art of writing dialogue (Session 2 – Sat 13.45)

Most of the novels you read contain around 66 per cent dialogue, based on word count. So how as writers do we go about writing it well? This practical workshop will explore how dialogue can advance the plot; develop character; reveal backstory and information; and create conflict and drama. The session will also take a look at writing dialogue for theatre, TV, film and radio drama.

**Plotting, planning and storylining
(Session 3 – Sat 15.45)**

Imagine taking a car journey from London to Edinburgh for the first time. How would you plan the trip? The quickest way from A to B? A more scenic route, with a few stop-offs in between? Or would you set off with no idea of where you're going? The latter strategy would appear to be the one that could lead to the most frustration, rage and confusion. And so it is for writers who enthusiastically start a piece of work, inspired and full of ideas – but ultimately, with no real idea of how to arrive at their destination. This workshop will introduce you to the fundamentals of plotting your journey through a novel, a play, a film, to keep your confidence on track, whether it be from A to B or taking the more scenic route.

**Building character
(Session 4 – Sun 9.30)**

How do you build layered, three dimensional characters? This workshop will give you numerous pointers, all aimed at making your audience care about the characters you create – or hate their guts. How to draw up a 'cast list' of characters to serve what you're writing; and how then to get to know them. We'll look too, at that old 'red herring', plot vs character.

Sunday Morning Author Talk

Kim Nash: Author, Book Blogger, and Publisher Publicist!



Kim Nash is an author of uplifting, funny, heartwarming, feel-good, romantic fiction and has always wanted to write books since she was a little girl. Her latest book is Moonlight Over Muddleford Cove.

She lives in Staffordshire with son Ollie and English Setter rescue dog Roni, is Head of Publicity for publisher Bookouture (part of Hachette UK) and is a book blogger at www.kimthebookworm.co.uk.

Kim won the Romantic Novelists Association's Media Star of the Year in 2016, which she still can't quite believe. She is now quite delighted to be a member of the RNA as an author. When she's not working or writing, and in non-Covid times, Kim can be found walking her dog at Cannock Chase, reading, writing, standing on the sidelines of a football pitch cheering on Ollie, and binge watching box sets on the TV. She's also quite partial to a spa day and a gin and tonic (not at the same time!) Kim also runs a book club in Cannock, Staffs and organises local and national reader/author events.

SOLUS OR WRITING RETREAT

Join us at our fully catered retreat in the Scottish Highlands.
Our 2020 taught retreats this year include...

Crime Writing
Getting Published
'Come and Write'
Midsummer Reading Retreat
Writing Short Stories

We also run scheduled open retreats
and are available for individual or group private retreats.
For dates and details, please see our website:
www.solusorwritingretreat.co.uk
or phone us on 01349 877818

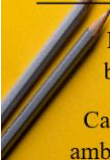



Raven'shead
Creative Writing Software

Try a free demo today!
WriteltNow.com

also for sale on Amazon

APPRAISAL SERVICE FOR CHILDREN'S AUTHORS

 I'm the author of over 80
books for children.

Can I help you fulfil your
ambition to be published?

Competitive rates.

www.childrensbookappraisals.com

Scribble (incorporating Debut)

The short story magazine

21st year

84 pages of quality fiction and other items about writing. Over £100.00 in prizes in each issue. Readers vote for best three stories. Free critiques offered on any unsuitable work for annual subscribers.

For further details please visit **www.parkpublications.co.uk**

or write to:

Park Publications, 14 The Park, Stow on the Wold, Cheltenham, Glos. GL54 1DX

Cover image: Tony Tibbenham. Photographs: **Simon Whaley**.

Design: **Catherine Fitzsimons**. Printing: **CMP (UK) Ltd**.

CMP are generous sponsors of NAWG and provide an excellent, fast and reasonably priced service. Why not, like us, make them your first choice for print jobs?

£16.99
(plus p&p)

LESS TIME SEARCHING, MORE TIME WRITING



Indie Press Guide 3rd edition

The MSLexia guide to small and independent
book publishers and literary magazines in the
UK and the Republic of Ireland

The *Indie Press Guide* provides details of over 600 literary magazines and presses. It's a must have staple for any writer and is loved and trusted by thousands of authors across the UK and the Republic of Ireland. All entries are classified by genre, with practical publication details such as:

- ▶ how to submit
- ▶ fees and prices
- ▶ production standards
- ▶ contact details

You won't find this valuable information collected together anywhere else! Now it's over to you...

**'I'VE BEEN OFFERED
PUBLICATION BY AN
INDIE PRESS WHICH
I'VE ACCEPTED. IT WAS
ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR
PUBLICATION.'**

HELEN YOUNG

mslexia

www.mslexia.co.uk
postbag@mslexia.co.uk
0191 204 8860

www.cmpbookprinting.co.uk



- Book Printing
- Self Publishing
- Anthologies
- Hard and Soft Back book production
- Free guide and sample book

CMP (uk) Limited

www.cmp-uk.com

email: paulford@cmp-uk.com

telephone: 01202 739993