

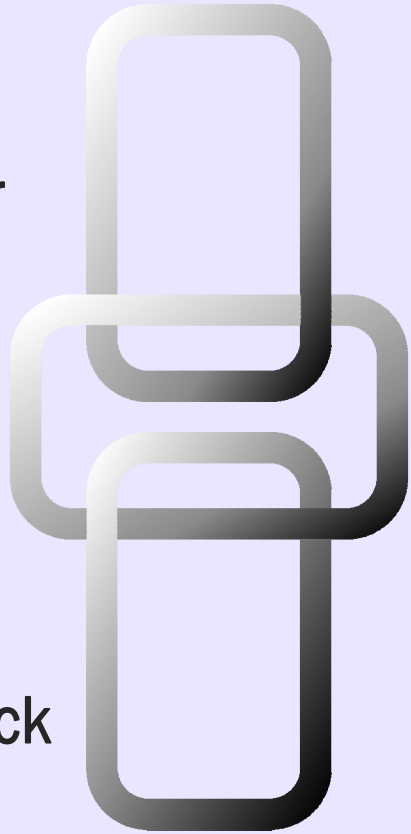
NAWGFest 2016

2nd - 4th September

2016

Conference Park

University of Warwick



Organised by the
National Association of Writers' Groups

An introduction to NAWGFest 2016 from the Chairman of the National Association of Writers' Groups (NAWG)

This is NAWG's sixth year of hosting a festival in the Midlands. This central location is accessible to many writers, countrywide. Within these pages are the exciting details of this year's NAWGFest – previously known as the Warwick Festival of Writing.

Each year we push to make your stay with us memorable and, although we have retained serious learning workshops, you will have fun as well. The Grand Raffle and the After-Dinner Sparkles have become part of our tradition, and you can attend open-to-all talks, compose a one-hundred-word story for the mini-tale competition (you will receive an entry form when you book) and linger in our Marketplace – as last year, there will be time set aside for you to browse so you can take advantage of the many items offered.



Following registration and locating your accommodation on Friday afternoon, you will have time to relax after your journey. The committee will welcome you, with tea/coffee and cakes, (4.30pm – 5.50pm) in the Fusion area of Bar Fusion; first-floor of the Rootes building.

You will stay on the same floor for your evening meal: a choice of various dishes prepared by top chefs. Later, you may relax again in Bar Fusion, meet new writing friends and renew old acquaintances. Some entertainment is being arranged but details of where, when and what are still to be confirmed.

There are twenty workshops to choose from, all of which will add to and compliment your writing skills; fun sessions; the open-to-all events and much, much more, culminating in our Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening, during which the winners of the 2016 NAWG competitions will be announced. Gervase Phinn will be entertaining us with an after-dinner talk.

B&B is available for those of you who are just coming for the Gala Dinner and Awards ceremony, but why not take up the offer of a short weekend? Full board from Saturday afternoon through to Sunday afternoon, and two workshop spots, for £170 – £150 for NAWG members. Full details are on the booking form.

You also have the option of staying on Sunday night, giving you the opportunity to wind down and explore the area on Monday morning.

The price for three days of inspiration is **£335** for non-members and **£295** for NAWG members. There should be a booking form in the centre of this brochure but, if someone else has already detached it, please download and print from the website, www.nawg.co.uk, or contact us by email: chairman@nawg.co.uk or booking-festival@nawg.co.uk

This full programme of workshops should suit all tastes. Last year, some filled up very quickly, so if you want to be sure of your first choice, **please book early, and take advantage of the £100 deposit option**. A deposit of £100 will secure your place, with the final payment of £235/£195 due before the beginning of July.

Cheques should be made payable to NAWG and accompanied by a fully filled-in **booking form**, please. We have set-up a PayPal account on the website, www.nawg.co.uk, to help make payment easier, or you may make a BACS payment straight into our bank account – Sort code: 60-22-52, Account no: 80275877, Ref: *Festival(your name)*. But we still need a fully filled-in and signed booking form, sent either by post or electronically.

Please come and join us; we are a friendly bunch and I will be there with committee members and volunteers on hand throughout the weekend to help you find your way. So don't be shy. Come, learn, talk to like-minded people and make some firm writing friends. I look forward to meeting you during the weekend.

Pam Fish, Chairman

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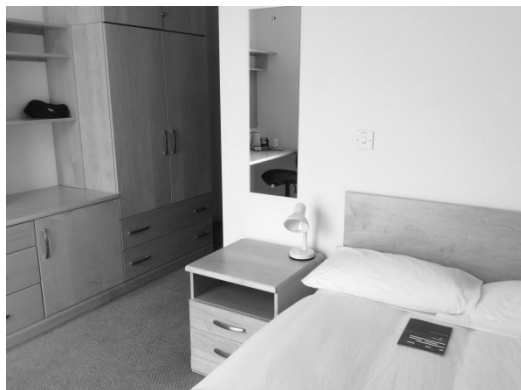
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+ 44 (0) 116 253 0203

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Conference Park – University of Warwick

Set within 700 acres of rural parkland, the University of Warwick Conference Park offers a wide range of facilities. Delegates will be able to enjoy a variety of bars, cafés and restaurants, as well as the free use of the fitness centre and indoor swimming pool.

Located in the heart of the Warwickshire countryside, yet just 10 miles from the Midlands motorway network, less than 4 miles from Coventry railway station and 11 miles from Birmingham International airport; the Conference Park is easily accessible and has car-parking on site.



Conference Park bedrooms are single bedded, en suite and are equipped with a spacious desk area, hairdryer, tea & coffee facilities, toiletries, towels and Wi-Fi internet access. They are close to the Rootes building and the Engineering and Humanities buildings where daytime events will be held on Saturday and Sunday.

The pictures show a bedroom, the concourse in the Engineering building and the exterior of the one of the Bluebell residential buildings.





Afternoon tea on Friday will be served in Bar Fusion in Rootes building, just a flight of stairs (or a lift journey) up from conference reception.

Self-service full-English breakfasts and Friday evening's two-course evening meal will be in the Rootes restaurant, and buffet lunches will be served in the Engineering building.

Workshops will be just a few steps away from Engineering, in the Humanities building. Morning and afternoon tea, coffee, fruit and biscuits will be served in the middle of workshop sessions.

And don't forget your swimsuit for a before-breakfast swim. Use of all sports facilities, which include a pool and an up-to-the minute fitness suite, is free to delegates. You will need to take a towel from your bedroom. If necessary, an additional towel can be requested from conference reception.



Provoke thought:

Read 'THE ABOMINATION'
a new e-book by K.D.Knight.
Also author of the short-story
collection
'Inspired By Greater Works of Art'.

www.kdkworkadaywriter.com

Conference Reception

Conference registration will take place in conference reception, located in the atrium of the Warwick Students' Union (next to the Rootes Building on main campus, opposite the Arts Centre). The University reception team are available to answer your questions about site and accommodation between 7.00am and 11.00pm.

Here you can also:

- Get general information.
- Arrange for secure luggage storage.
- Ask about any lost property.
- Request additional bedroom supplies such as pillows, blankets or a clock radio.

Bedroom check in/out

- Bedroom keys will be available from 3.00pm to 11.00pm at conference reception. If you plan to arrive after 11.00pm please contact us to arrange late key collection.
- Rooms need to be vacated by 9.30am on your day of departure.

To use Wi-Fi; connect your device to "Warwick Guest", and follow instructions.

Your Journey to the University of Warwick

The full address is: Warwick Conferences
Rootes Building
University of Warwick
Gibbet Hill Road
Coventry
CV4 7AL

Tel: 024 7657 4323 § Fax: 024 7657 2661 § W: www.warwickconferences.com

The University is easily accessible by road, via all major routes.

Important postcode information:

- CV4 7AL directs you to Gibbet Hill Road, the main road which runs through the University. The main campus (the Conference Park) is signposted from this road.
- CV4 8UW directs you to Kirby Corner Road.

Car Parking

Car parking is available for conference delegates in any of the Central Campus non barriered car parks. Before your visit we will send you the link to the University of Warwick car parking permit website, where you will register, download and print your permit to be displayed in your vehicle. Disabled parking spaces are available within all car parks and close to some accommodation areas, please inform us if you require a disabled car parking space (for blue badge holders only).

AUTHORS' FOUNDATION GRANTS AND AWARDS AND K BLUNDELL TRUST AWARDS

The **Authors' Foundation** gives grants to authors whose project is for a British publisher.

The K Blundell Trust gives grants to British authors under the age of 40 whose project is for a British publisher. The project must aim to increase social awareness, and can be fiction or non-fiction.

Next closing dates -
30 April 2016 and **30 September 2016**

Full details at
www.societyofauthors.org/grants-and-prizes
Full guidelines available from
www.societyofauthors.org
020 7373 6642



By Train, Bus and Taxi

- The nearest mainline rail station is Coventry, which is only four miles from the University.
- A taxi from the station to the University campus costs approximately £11. For return journeys, taxis are available on Health Centre Road, opposite Warwick Arts Centre, at most times of the day.
- The number 12 bus runs from Coventry bus station, via the train station, to the University.
- Trinity Taxis can be reached on 02476 999999.

Short stories always welcome for Scribble

(incorporating Debut), the short story magazine (Est. 1999).

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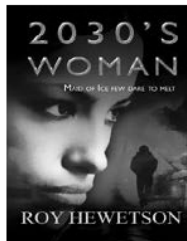
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Shops, Banks, Cafés and Bars on campus

The campus has many facilities available to all delegates. There are branches of Barclays and Santander banks, with cash machines; a large supermarket; a pharmacy; bookshop and several cafés.



Art Centre Cafe



*The soul should always
stand ajar, ready to
welcome the eestatic
experience.*

Emily Dickinson

the magazine
for women
who write

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What's new in publishing and creativity, with advice and inspiration, debate and opinion, cutting-edge poetry and prose, plus a monthly email supplement with competitions, jobs, writing exercises, news and fun

NAWG Annual General Meeting

The 2016 NAWG AGM will take place at the University of Warwick,
on Sunday 4th September 2016 at 11.45am in
Room F107 in the Engineering Building.

This meeting is an important event and all members are invited to attend. It should give you a better focus on what the Association is all about, and the advantages that it gives to all members.

This AGM must end at 12.25pm for lunch. We will keep the official business as short as possible to give time for an Open Forum, where everyone is invited to offer suggestions and ideas for taking the Association forward.

For the first time in a good few years, the committee has sufficient members for smooth running. We still need a permanent Treasurer, and if you have these or any other specific skills that you could offer us, please come forward. There is a waiting list for other posts on the committee. The August 2016 Issue of Link Magazine will publish details of how to apply should you wish to offer your services.

A poster for the Fish Annual Writing Competitions. The background is a grayscale image of water with several droplets falling and creating ripples. The text is arranged as follows: 'Fish Annual' in a large serif font at the top left; 'Writing Competitions' in a slightly smaller serif font below it; a bulleted list of categories: '• Short Story', '• Short Memoir', '• Flash Fiction', '• Poetry', and '• Young-Adult Novel'; a diagonal banner that says 'Winners will be published'; the website 'www.fishpublishing.com' and 'Details & Online Entry'; and 'Also Online:' followed by '- Writing Courses' and '- Critique & Editing Service'. A small 'fish' logo is in the bottom left corner.

Fish Annual
Writing Competitions

- Short Story
- Short Memoir
- Flash Fiction
- Poetry
- Young-Adult Novel

Winners will be published

www.fishpublishing.com
Details & Online Entry

Also Online:
- Writing Courses
- Critique & Editing Service

Members of the Board of Trustees (the committee) currently meet twice a year. Travelling expenses are reimbursed and accommodation provided if an overnight stay is necessary. NAWG funds have diminished at the same rate as our committee has grown so we have been trying to cut expenses by holding fewer meetings than the five or six a year we have had in the past.

Venues vary, but lately they have been in the Nottingham area. The present committee are nearly all able to arrive on the day of the meeting for a 10.00am start. (We have just three people who need an overnight stay.)

**Pam Fish
Chairman**

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Poetry Society membership connects you
to the transformative power of poetry

The Poetry Society is the leading poetry organisation in the UK. For over a hundred years we've been a lively and passionate source of energy and ideas, opening up and promoting poetry to an ever-growing community of people.

Our work ranges from publishing *The Poetry Review* and hosting acclaimed national poetry competitions, to developing educational work and commissioning a packed calendar of performances and readings. We're on a mission to connect people to the transformative power of poetry. Now you can join us by becoming a member.

- **Special offer*** - join today as a full member (£42/£35 cons) and we'll send a **free ee cummings tote bag**
- Visit www.poetrysociety.org.uk/membership and enter the coupon code NAWG at checkout, or call us on 020 7420 9881

THEPOETRYSOCIETY

* Offer valid until 30/9/16

Tutors/Speakers for 2016

Gervase Phinn

Guest Speaker

We welcome Professor Gervase Phinn to NAWGFest 2016. As a Patron of NAWG he is a very special guest and I would like to give a personal thank you to him for coming to speak after the Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening. His talk, **THE LIMITS OF MY LANGUAGE**, will take a light-hearted look at our rich and powerful language. (See page 23 for more details.) **Pam Fish, Chairman.**

Professor Gervase Phinn taught for fourteen years before becoming an education adviser and school inspector.

He is now a freelance lecturer, broadcaster and writer, a consultant for the Open University, honorary fellow of St. John's University, York, honorary fellow of Leeds Trinity University and fellow and visiting professor at the University of Teesside. He has numerous honorary degrees including Doctor of Letters from the Universities of Hull and Leicester, and Doctor of the University of Sheffield Hallam. He is president of the Society of Teachers of Speech and Drama and a former president of the School Library Association.



GERVASE PHINN Photograph © Richard Murphy

Gervase has published many articles and books and edited a wide range of poetry and short story collections along with many academic texts. Additionally he has published collections of his own plays, poems, picture books and short stories, including his anthologies of verse: *Classroom Creatures*, *It Takes One to Know One*, *The Day Our Teacher Went Batty*, *Don't Tell the Teacher* and *Family Phantoms*.

His books of stories for children, *What's the Matter, Royston Knapper?* and *Royston Knapper: The Return of the Rogue* were published by Child's Play and became best-sellers. His picture books *Our Cat Cuddles*, *What I Like* and *Who Am I?* are found in many a school library.

Gervase Phinn is probably best known for his best-selling autobiographical novels published by Penguin and set in the Yorkshire Dales, and his *Little Village School* series of novels published by Hodder.

NAWGFest 2016

Conference Park, University of Warwick
2nd – 4th September, 2016

Organised by the National Association of Writers' Groups

BOOKING FORM

This booking form should be used in conjunction with the NAWGFest 2016 brochure.

Please read all four pages and complete ALL relevant sections.

Contact Catherine Fitzsimons (booking-festival@nawg.co.uk or 0794 004 9188) or Pam Fish (chairman@nawg.co.uk or 01733 311 860) for further information or assistance.

Section 1. YOUR WORKSHOPS

Please use the code numbers printed alongside the workshop titles in the festival brochure to make your choices (e.g. Galton-Sat-01). There are five to choose from for each session. The numbers in each workshop will be restricted to keep groups to a workable size, so early booking is advisable. Every effort will be made to allocate you your first choice but please give alternatives in case the workshop you would like is full.

In the event of unforeseen circumstances, NAWG reserve the right to change workshops.

	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice
Saturday 2 nd Sept. 9.30am – 11.30am			
Saturday 2 nd Sept. 3.15pm – 5.15pm			
Sunday 3 rd Sept. 9.30am – 11.30am			
Sunday 3 rd Sept. 1.45pm – 3.15pm			

Section 2. ATTENDANCE OPTIONS AND COSTS

FULL DELEGATE – WHOLE WEEKEND. Full board, your choice of four workshops plus the Gala dinner on Saturday. All bedrooms are en suite single study rooms. Full use of the indoor swimming pool and fitness suite is included as well as car parking.			
Non-members	Reduced rate for NAWG members	Cost	
£335.00	£295.00	£	
NON-WRITING PARTNER FOR THE WHOLE WEEKEND. Without four workshops.			
Non-members	Reduced rate for NAWG members	Cost	
£235.00	£215.00	£	

SHORT WEEKEND. Full board from 3.00pm Saturday until 3.00pm Sunday. Includes two workshops, Gala dinner, B&B and Sunday lunch.			
Non-members	£170.00	Reduced rate for NAWG members	£150.00
			£ Cost
NON-WRITING PARTNER FOR THE SHORT WEEKEND. As above but without the workshops.			
Non-members	£140.00	Reduced rate for NAWG members	£120.00
			£ Cost

DAY DELEGATES AND OTHER OPTIONS.
 Can't make the full weekend? Joining us to celebrate at the Gala dinner, but don't want to drive home afterwards? Want to stay on to wind down and explore the area? Use the options below to build a weekend that suits you. Remember – the full weekend rate includes everything below EXCEPT B&B on Sunday night.

SATURDAY DAY. Includes two workshops, buffet lunch and one open-to-all talk. Day starts 9.00am, ends 6.00pm. (Arrive early for registration.) Gala dinner not included.			
Non-members	£110.00	Reduced rate for NAWG members	£100.00
			£ Cost

SUNDAY DAY. Includes two workshops, buffet lunch and NAWG AGM. Day starts 9.00am, ends 3.30pm. (Arrive early for registration.)			
Non-members	£100.00	Reduced rate for NAWG members	£90.00
			£ Cost

GALA DINNER AND AWARDS CEREMONY ONLY. Featuring an after-dinner talk by Gervase Phinn.			
Non-members	£50.00	Reduced rate for NAWG members	£45.00
			£ Cost

BED & BREAKFAST. Price per night. Please tick night(s) required. <i>Note: short weekend price includes Saturday, full delegate price includes Friday & Saturday.</i>		Friday	B&B only	
		Saturday	B&B only	
		Sunday	B&B only	
Non-members	£50.00	Reduced rate for NAWG members	£48.00	£ Cost

Have you secured your place by paying a deposit in 2015? If so: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • subtract your £20 deposit AND • subtract another £20 if you have booked a full weekend 	Subtract -£
TOTAL	£

There are three ways that you can make your NAWGFest payment:

1. Send a cheque made payable to NAWG to the festival bookings administrator at the address overleaf.
2. Use PayPal to make a payment on our website www.nawg.co.uk.
3. Send a BAC payment to: NatWest, Washington Town Centre Branch, NE38 7SG; sort code 60-22-52; account no. 80275877. Please use the reference: *FESTIVAL[YOURNAME]*.

Section 3. ALL ABOUT YOU

CHOICES FOR THE GALA DINNER. Please tick one box for each course. You will be seated at a table of ten people and, for ease of serving, place cards will be used.					
Starter		Main Course		Dessert	
Confit of salmon, apple and watercress salad.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crispy confit duck, sauerkraut, French style peas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dark chocolate and salted caramel delice.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Green pea, mint and chervil soup. (V)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fillet of cod, Dublin Bay prawn sauce, duchess potatoes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lemon curd tart (V)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mozzarella and sunburst tomato salad. (V)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watercress & butterbean risotto, roast beetroot. (V)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cheese platter with celery and piccalilli.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>To help us with the seating plan please indicate if you would like to make new friends or be at the same table as:</p> <p>A friend (give friend's name) _____</p> <p>A group (name the writing group) _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please do not ask to be seated next to an individual or group other than your own writing group without asking them first.</p>					

SPECIAL ACCOMODATION REQUIREMENTS. Tick appropriate box in each case.					
Accessible room	Yes	No	Downstairs room if possible	Yes	No

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS. Tick appropriate box in each case.								
Vegetarian	Yes	No	Vegan	Yes	No	Diabetic	Yes	No
Any other dietary requirement? <i>(Please describe.)</i>								

NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
Postcode:	
Telephone:	Email:
Mobile:	

You can send/transfer the full amount as shown on page 3 or secure your place now with a deposit of £100. The balance must be paid **no later than 1st July 2016**, and all bookings made after **30th June 2016** *must* be accompanied by full payment.

In all cases we must have a completed booking form.

Please tick below to show how you are paying, and the amount you have sent.

- I have enclosed a cheque, made payable to NAWG, for £ _____
- I have made a PayPal payment of £ _____
- I have made a BACS transfer of £ _____
- using the reference _____

Send completed booking form by post or email to **Catherine Fitzsimons**
NAWG Festival Bookings, 106 Melbourne Road, Coventry CV5 6JH
booking-festival@nawg.co.uk

Have you filled in all 3 sections?

CANCELLATIONS

*If you tell us **before 1st July 2016** that you are cancelling, you will receive a full refund.*

*From **1st July 2016 to 15th August 2016** refunds will carry a £30 administration fee and be calculated according to our contractual agreement with the University of Warwick.*

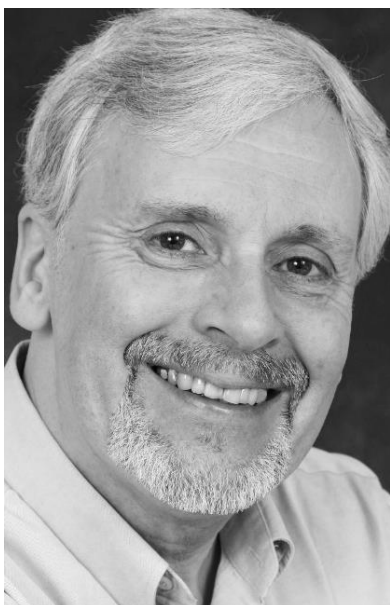
***After 15th August 2016 no refunds** will be given, even with a medical certificate. This is because our contract with the University of Warwick means we have to pay 95% of the full amount on this day and will not receive a reduction in costs should there be any cancellations.*

You are strongly advised to take out personal holiday insurance.

Della Galton

Tutor

Della Galton is a novelist, short-story writer and journalist and has been getting published for over twenty-five years. She's had over 1500 short stories published in the UK alone and she's run out of fingers to count her books on. She is also the agony aunt for *Writers' Forum* and the author of *How to Write and Sell Short Stories* and *The Short Story Writer's Toolshed*.



Stephen Booth

Tutor

Best-selling crime novelist Stephen Booth is a former newspaper journalist and the author of 16 novels featuring Derbyshire police detectives Ben Cooper and Diane Fry. He has been shortlisted for CWA Dagger awards in the UK four times and is a Dagger in the Library winner. In the USA, Stephen has twice won the award for Best British Crime Novel of the Year. His books are translated into 15 languages, and are currently in development for a TV series. Stephen also leads crime writing courses for Writing School East Midlands. His latest novel is *Secrets of Death*.

Steve Bowkett

Tutor



Steve Bowkett became interested in writing for pleasure in his early teens. He taught English at secondary level for nearly twenty years and has been a fulltime freelance author since 1994. He has visited hundreds of schools to help children to develop their imagination and writing abilities. To date he has published 76 titles, including fiction for all ages and educational books in the fields of creativity, thinking skills, emotional resourcefulness and literacy. His next book, *Jumpstart Wellbeing*, is being published by Routledge in early 2017.

Adam Strickson

Tutor

Dr Adam Strickson is a theatre director, poet, librettist, and teaching fellow in Theatre and Writing at the University of Leeds, where he has taught many successful young writers from Yorkshire, the northwest and India. His graduates have won short story competitions, been commissioned by leading theatres and had plays produced on Radio 4

In autumn 2015, Adam travelled to Taiwan to comment on the winners of an international competition for scripts describing the Chinese experience across the world. He is adapting a classic play by Tang Xianzu, *The Chinese Shakespeare*, for performances in Leeds, Edinburgh, Shanghai, Beijing and Fuzhou.



Three books of his poetry and libretti have been published and he has been poet in residence at Ilkley Literature Festival and Trinity Leeds. He has recently written prose about Greek tragedy and *Fiddler on the Roof!*

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- BA Hons English Literature
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- BA Hons English Literature and Drama Studies

We welcome you to our vibrant literary community.

www.chi.ac.uk/english

Marvin Close

Tutor

Day one of the NAWG Festival will mark the 30th anniversary of my Granny's death. She passed away at 6.17 p.m. precisely. The spooky thing is that her grandfather clock stopped at exactly the same moment. It fell on her.



Comedy, eh? It's a funny old business. From slapstick and silly, to black and satirical it comes in many forms and mediums. Personally, I've written and script-edited everything from radio sitcoms and sketch shows to comedy theatre plays like *Crazy People* about the early days of The Goons; the life story of Oliver Hardy, *The Ton of Jollity*; and the award winning black comedy, *Dorothy Parker's Dead*.

And having written and storylined over 100 hours of broadcast TV for shows like *Coronation Street*, *Emmerdale*, *Tracey Beaker* and *Doctors*, I possess all the drama skills needed to help you plot and storyline comedy and create different and exciting characters.

For the 2016 NAWG Festival of Writing I will be offering four different comedy writing workshops. All are self-contained, but if you want to attend all four, I can promise you a totally laugh-out-loud weekend.

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Weekend Courses - Presented by

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Stuart Gibbon

Guest Speaker

Stuart Gibbon is a former senior police detective who has considerable experience in crime investigation, having served with the Metropolitan and Lincolnshire forces. As a Detective Chief Inspector (DCI) in major crime he was in charge of murder and other serious crime investigations.

Stuart now advises writers on police procedures and actions as GIB Consultancy. He also talks with writing groups about 'Murder Investigation' and appears on TV and radio as a 'policing expert'.



See his website:

www.gibconsultancy.co.uk for further details.

Stuart will be speaking after lunch on Saturday on the subject of 'Murder Investigation' and the challenges facing a Senior Detective in charge of such cases. His talk will provide us, as writers, with information which will help give our crime writing authenticity.

This talk is free to all.

There is no need to book, just turn up to Engineering F107;
Saturday 3rd September
1.20pm – 2.20pm.

See page 23 for further details.

Green Ink Writers' Gym

Quality time and creative space to develop your writing



Informal, focused group sessions, combining inspiring exercises with quality time and space to write.

Writers of all genres and levels of experience will develop new material in this positive, supportive atmosphere.

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We meet monthly at Waterstones Piccadilly and the Grange Pub and Dining Room, Ealing, and run bespoke sessions across London.

www.rachelknightley.com/writers-gym

Book your place at this site or contact Rachel directly:

greenink@rachelknightley.com

07870 630 788

£12 per workshop or £30 for your first three workshops.

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The **Manchester Writing Competition** is now accepting entries for the 2016 Poetry Prize and the 2016 Fiction Prize. Both prizes are open internationally and offer the chance to win £10,000*.

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* Terms and conditions apply

Workshops

Della Galton

Saturday Morning:

Ideas and opening paragraphs (for short stories) (Galton-Sat-01)

This workshop will focus on short stories. Where do ideas come from? What makes a good opening paragraph? What is the one thing you must not do in an opening paragraph?

Saturday Afternoon:

Developing plot and character (short stories) (Galton-Sat-02)

Plot and character are intrinsically linked. There is very little time to develop either in a short story but without them your story won't work. This workshop focuses on how to develop the two in tandem.

Sunday Morning:

Writing excellent dialogue – my top tips

(suitable for short or long fiction)

(Galton-Sun-01)

No two people sound exactly the same and neither should your characters. This is a fun workshop that will help you to make sure your characters don't all sound like you.

Sunday Afternoon:

Writing the twist-ending short story

(Galton-Sun-02)

This is still one of the most popular types of story. Fun to read but difficult to write well. This workshop will focus on the types of twists there are and the dos and don'ts when writing twist endings.

Stephen Booth

Saturday Morning:

An Inspector Calls

(Booth-Sat-01)

This workshop looks at how to create a believable protagonist for your crime novel with strengths, weaknesses and motivation. And what about the antagonist? Includes use of 'The Diamond' to form a multi-dimensional character.

Saturday Afternoon:

Just answer the question

(Booth-Sat-02)

Examines the importance of controlling point of view to engage readers with a character and involve them in the story. Considers how much information you should give away in a crime novel – and how to keep some vital clues from the reader.

Sunday Morning:

Where the bodies are buried

(Booth-Sun-01)

Locations have become very important for crime fiction readers. This workshop considers how to choose the right location for your story and bring it to life. And what about background settings? How much detail should you use?

Sunday Afternoon:

You'll never get away with it

(Booth -Sun-02)

Focuses on plotting a crime novel: the ways of creating conflict, and how to carry your reader through to the end of the book. Should you stick to a three-act structure, or could there be four acts? Includes the concept of 'the midpoint'.

Steve Bowkett

Saturday Morning:

Writing ghost stories

(Bowkett-Sat-01)

The focus of this workshop will be the creation of atmosphere and tension within the context of the ghost story. The work of M.R. James will be used as an exemplar. James (1862–1936) is considered to be one of the foremost British ghost story writers. His advice to other writers was:

Two ingredients most valuable in the concocting of a ghost story are, to me, the atmosphere and the nicely managed crescendo. ... Let us, then, be introduced to the actors in a placid way; let us see them going about their ordinary business, undisturbed by forebodings, pleased with their surroundings; and into this calm environment let the ominous thing put out its head, unobtrusively at first, and then more insistently, until it holds the stage.

He also noted:

Another requisite, in my opinion, is that the ghost should be malevolent or odious: amiable and helpful apparitions are all very well in fairy tales or in local legends, but I have no use for them in a fictitious ghost story.

Saturday Afternoon:

The Mysteries technique

(Bowkett-Sat-02)

This workshop uses what is called the 'Mysteries' technique as a story-building tool. Pieces of information about a story-in-the-making are written on scraps of paper, which are then arranged and rearranged to gain new ideas and insights into plot, characters and settings. The technique will be demonstrated using a children's whodunit story before delegates have the chance to work on a plot of their own.

Sunday Morning:

Creating characters

(Bowkett-Sun-01)

Believable characters are an essential element of any short story. This workshop offers a number of tips and techniques for exploring characters in depth, including 'The Circles Game', 'The World Inside' and 'Creative Conversations'.

Sunday Afternoon:

Learn self-hypnosis to boost your creativity

(Bowkett-Sun-02)

Hypnosis is a normal and natural state of mind very similar to daydreaming. Steve is a qualified hypnotherapist who has taught hundreds of people how to enter the hypnotic state in order to tap more directly into the subconscious mind, where the roots of our creativity lie. During the workshop delegates will enjoy a session of hypnosis relaxation and then be shown how to use the hypnotic state to benefit their writing. Each delegate will receive a relaxation CD to practise the skill of self-hypnosis.

Adam Strickson

Saturday Morning:

Under the skin – poetry as 'life writing'

(Strickson-Sat-01)

Through reading, reflection and writing exercises, we will explore how poetry can be used as a form of biography to dig deeply into the lives of those we know or admire. Adam's poems tell the stories of many different people, from a Cotswold farmer to a holocaust survivor, from Laurie Lee to Joseph Shabalala of Ladysmith Black Mambazo. He will share the characteristics of his approach and invite you to celebrate or commemorate the people in your life.

Saturday Afternoon:

High heels and walking boots: dressing your characters – for writers of script, prose and poetry. (Strickson-Sat-02)

How can what she or he or wears bring a character to life? Find out how high heels, walking boots, a kagoule or a fedora can light up your character writing. We'll read some fine examples of the art and write some ourselves. You could come with a partly formed character in mind or invent one in the workshop. Or you could even bring an item of clothing to inspire you.

Sunday Morning:

Hear ye, hear ye! – beginning radio drama (Strickson-Sun-01)

There's a constant demand for radio drama and we can listen to it every day. But what makes radio drama come alive? What rivets the listener in the first five minutes, and stops the station switch radio playwrights' dread? We'll listen to some powerful opening scenes and write one ourselves. And we'll find out what makes the worst radio drama ever.

Sunday Afternoon:

'Alive in the river of light' – the poetry of water (Strickson -Sun-02)

We'll share writing about rivers from Alice Oswald, Mary Oliver, Ted Hughes and Simon Armitage, and exchange our own watery memories. Can working with water imagery help our own poetry flow? We'll explore ideas for poetic structures that reflect the nature of this slippery element. Come prepared to spend some time outdoors, rain or shine!

Marvin Close

Saturday Morning:

The Comedy Sketch (Close-Sat-01)

Using film and video clips, we'll look at all the tools and tips you need to start writing comedy sketches, for radio, TV and internet, or stage and public performance.

Saturday Afternoon:

The Comedy Monologue (Close-Sat-02)

A great short form of comedy entertainment, we'll look at a host of different approaches to coming up with ideas and structuring them for both performance and in the written form. For pointers, we'll listen to one of comedy's greatest ever monologue merchants, Bob Newhart.

Sunday Morning:

The Sitcom

(Close-Sun-01)

Where to look for inspiration, create believable characters, storyline and plot. Using examples from the likes of *Blackadder*, *Father Ted*, *Peep Show* and *Parks and Recreation*, we'll look at how laugh-out-loud moments can be dramatically structured into this classic comedy form.

Sunday Afternoon:

Selling Comedy

(Close-Sun-02)

Who to approach and how. What opportunities exist out there for sketches, monologues, sitcom ideas, comedy short stories and one liners, magazine pieces et al. This session will look in detail at the opportunities that exist for selling comedy in the UK and abroad.

Talks

Stuart Gibbon

Saturday afternoon, 1.20pm, in Engineering F107

MURDER!

This talk covers some of the challenges facing a senior detective in charge of murder cases. It includes information about initial steps, crime scenes, suspect enquiries, forensic evidence and custody procedures. Stuart delivers the talk based around a generic scenario from discovery of a body through to the arrest and detention of a suspect. Although the talk deals specifically with murder, there are similarities with other types of criminal investigation.

Stuart has had positive feedback from writers who have heard the talk. Not only does it provide the details to ensure that their procedural elements are accurate, it also gives them ideas for future work.

Gervase Phinn

Saturday evening, after the Gala Dinner, in the Sutherland Suite

The Limits of My Language

English can be such a beautiful language when used properly. However, sometimes what we say and what we write can lead to a great deal of misunderstanding and unintentional humour. Referring to his latest books, *Mangled English* and *Schooldays Are the Happiest Days of Our Lives*, Dr Gervase Phinn will take a light-hearted look at our rich and powerful language.

The Market Place Book Stall

Published authors may leave their books to be sold in a dedicated room for book sales in Engineering. There is no commission on sales for NAWG members. Delegates who are not members may sell books with a 10% charge payable to NAWG on all sales. You will be able to set your books out on Friday afternoon if you wish. The room will be locked at night.

Please note. Every copy of each book should have a piece of paper inside, stating clearly the name of the book, the author's name and the price. Books without this sheet of paper will not be accepted.

On Saturday morning from 11.30am there will be an opportunity to hear readings from NAWG members who are published authors. Should you wish to read from your book, you can register your interest at the NAWG table.

After-Dinner Sparkles

(Your four minutes of fame)

Have you or your group thought of having your 'Four Minutes of Fame' on Saturday evening after the Gala Dinner, at the After Dinner Sparkles?

Why not have a workshop before you come, to write a four-minute sketch that could be included in our impromptu concert?

Each year we try to make the After-Dinner Sparkles better organised, but it is largely up to you – the players – to let us know what you have planned to do. The Gala Dinner is timetabled to finish early, and we shall have helpers available to make this much-loved event run smoothly, so let's try to make it special this year: a true celebration of our work.

Seek out the list to register your contribution early in the weekend. It will be available on the NAWG table in the bookroom.

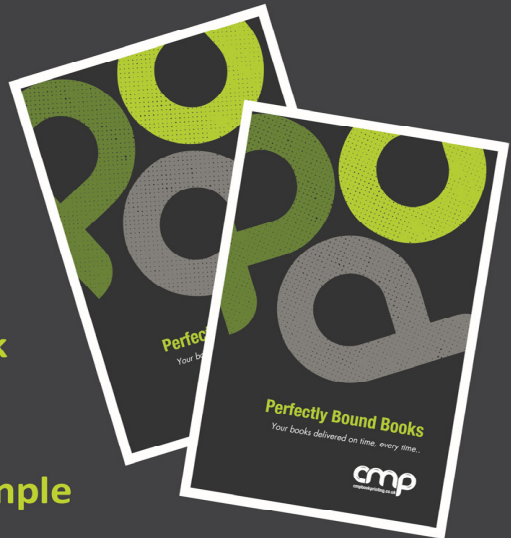
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