



## Calendar January - April 2015

JANUARY		
Saturday 10	Young Writers' Foundation Group	£80/£65 for the year
Thursday 15	Short and Sweet: Short Fiction Salon	Free
Saturday 24	Writer Networking Morning: Stafford	Free
Tuesday 27	Short Course: Towards a Poetry Collection	£110 for six sessions
FEBRUARY		
Thursday 5	Poetry by Heart - Birmingham & West Midlands Final	Free
Tuesday 10	David Lodge: / Quite a Good Time to be Born, A Memoir	£4
Thursday 12	Short and Sweet: Short Fiction Salon	Free
Monday 16 - Friday 20	Page Talk Young Writers' Week	£5 per day   £25 for the week
Saturday 21	Page Talk Young Writers' Festival	Free
Saturday 28	The Student Writers' Toolkit	£12
MARCH		
Thursday 12	Short and Sweet: Short Fiction Salon	Free
Saturday 14	Writer Networking Morning: Dudley	Free
APRIL		
Thursday 2	Jonathan Coe - Short Stories and Live Music	£10 / £8
Thursday 9	Short and Sweet: Short Fiction Salon	Free

Thanks to all Friends, Supporters & Benefactors of Writing West Midlands.

If you would like more information about our Friends scheme, please visit the Support Us page on either of our websites.

[www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org) / [www.birminghamliteraturefestival.org](http://www.birminghamliteraturefestival.org)



Writing West Midlands, Unit 204, The Custard Factory,  
Gibb St, Birmingham B9 4AA. Tel: 0121 246 2770  
[www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)

Company Registration Number: 6264124. Registered Charity Number: 1147710.  
The advertised programme is subject to change without notice where unavoidable.



## Programme of Activities January - April 2015

**SUPPORTING  
CREATIVE WRITERS AND CREATIVE WRITING  
IN THE WEST MIDLANDS.**

[WWW.WRITINGWESTMIDLANDS.ORG](http://WWW.WRITINGWESTMIDLANDS.ORG)



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

# WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

We are the region's literature development agency. We support the development of creative writing activities and participation across the West Midlands.

In this brochure you will find details of our public activities between January and April 2015. There are three main strands to our work. Look out for the symbols below.



## WRITERS

We support writers as they develop their creative careers. We run training courses and workshops, networking events and industry conferences and a writer development programme. We also signpost people towards opportunities, projects and training.

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



## YOUNG WRITERS

We work with children and young people in and out of school to develop their interest in creative writing through our Write On! programme. This work is made up of: in-school writing workshop projects; out of school creative writing clubs (Write On! Young Writers' groups); and our online Write On! Magazine. Write On! works with children and young people aged 8 - 20 and also involves teachers, parents and carers.

[www.writingwestmidlands.org/young-writers-schools](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org/young-writers-schools)



## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

We run literature events around the year. These range from book launches and short fiction open mics to a ten day festival, the Birmingham Literature Festival, which takes place each October.

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

# WELCOME

Happy New Year and welcome to Writing West Midlands' programme of events and activities for creative writers in the West Midlands.

We are starting some new projects while working hard to sustain activities and invest in writers and writing over the long term.

Our new **Young Writers' Foundation Group** is designed for young people aged 16 to 20, with four day workshops across the year. In addition we are delighted to host the Birmingham and West Midlands final of the **Poetry by Heart** competition, testing young people in performing contemporary and classic poetry. Young writers and performers will also want to take part in our third **Page Talk Young Writers' Week & Festival**, in Stafford.

Our writing industry work continues, too. **Room 204**, our writer development programme, will be recruiting again in February, and our third **Student Writers' Toolkit** takes place on 28th February. If you are a student or recently graduated come along to connect with the people and organisations who make creative writing happen.

Additionally, we have **Writer Networking sessions** happening in Stafford and Dudley in January and March, and another **short course**

on working on a first poetry collection, led by Jane Commance of Nine Arches Press.

Literature and writers in performance are important as ever. **Short & Sweet** is a new monthly opportunity for writers to test out fiction in performance. We are also looking forward to **Jonathan Coe's** performance of some of his short stories with gifted musicians in April, and we are honoured to jointly present the regional launch of **David Lodge's** memoir, **Quite a Good Time to be Born**.

Finally, a few messages. While we are supported by Arts Council England and other funders, much of our income is generated by sales - tickets for events but also books and our near-legendary West Midlands Writers Tea Towels... If you value our work and want to receive manifold benefits please consider becoming a Friend, Supporter or Benefactor. If you are in a position to offer more, please consider sponsoring a Birmingham Literature Festival event or one of our twenty one Young Writers' Groups.

Wishing you a successful writing year.

## THE WRITING WEST MIDLANDS TEAM

Jonathan Davidson  
Chief Executive

Abigail Campbell  
Festival Programmer

Joanne Penn  
Projects Manager

Chris Swann  
Events Manager

Sara Beadle  
Programmes Director

Connor Evans  
Team Administrator

Hayley Frances  
Project Fieldworker

Emma Boniwell  
Relationship Manager

Olivia Chapman  
PR and Communications Manager

Cover Image: Bluebell Woods, Shropshire, West Midlands.

## STAY IN TOUCH

From time to time other events and activities may take place that we aren't able to include here. To stay in touch join our mailing list. For more details about what we do, please visit [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org).

  Tweet us @writingwestmids or find us on Facebook.

If you are a writer in the region, we'd love to hear from you.

# NEWS FROM US

From the opening of applications for our writer development programme to a new event series and an online shop, here's a selection of our news...

## ROOM 204 OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS FOR 2015-16

Room 204 is Writing West Midlands' writer development programme. Every year we select fifteen emerging writers from the West Midlands to work with us on a programme of creative career development.

Rather than a scheme that looks at improving the quality of their writing, Room 204 selects candidates based on the existing high quality of their work and their need for support.

It offers writers a year of close contact with the organisation in the form of 1-1 meetings, group networking sessions and occasional workshops, access to an information-sharing group on Facebook and a free place at Writing West Midlands' annual conference, The Writers' Toolkit.

The application process is open now and closes on Monday 16 February 2015.



**ROOM 204**

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

## SHORT & SWEET: A NEW SHORT FICTION EVENT FOR 2015

After many conversations with writers who are keen to test out new works of short fiction in front of an audience, we got together with our partners at the Library of Birmingham to design a new event. Hosted by writer and Heart breakfast presenter Rachel New, the events will be open mic. Short & Sweet will be about sharing stories – short, flash or micro fiction – anything that fits into a seven minute slot.

The events will be loosely themed, but don't let that put you off. If you've got a piece that needs airing, drop us a line to book a slot now. Email [joanne@writingwestmidlands.org](mailto:joanne@writingwestmidlands.org).

Aimed at writers needing a platform to test great new work, Short & Sweet is also a treat for audiences – come along and dip into the five guest pieces presented at each event. Full event listings are throughout this brochure.

**REWRITING THE BOOK**  
THE LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM

To book a free ticket:

[www.writingwestmidlands.org/events](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org/events)

# NEWS FROM US

## DOES CREATIVE WRITING POSITIVELY IMPACT YOUNG PEOPLE'S WELL-BEING?

Yes it does! Through 2014 we have been measuring the well-being of young people involved in our young writers' projects. Funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, we have initiated a series of questionnaires and activities to see how engagement with creative writing activities can positively influence different aspects of well-being for a young person.

Measurement of our ongoing Write On! groups will continue through to March 2015 but so far we have seen a positive difference in young writers who have taken part in the Page Talk Young Writers' Week and Festival and our Young Writers' Summer School in 2014.

- Life satisfaction increased by 15%, emotional well-being increased by 22% and self-esteem increased by 8% for

participants aged 12-16.

- Emotional well-being, self-esteem and satisfaction with friends all rose by 10-12% in participants aged 16-19.

Here's what some of our young writers had to say; *"I really enjoyed hearing other people's work and doing things I don't usually do because it's inspired me to write different things."* Young Writers' Summer School participant.

*"It's something I would recommend to everyone, even if you just want to improve your writing or make some new friends. It was by far one of the best experiences of my life and I would do it all over again if I could."* – Page Talk participant.

For more information about our work with young writers:

[www.writingwestmidlands.org/young-writers-schools/](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org/young-writers-schools/)

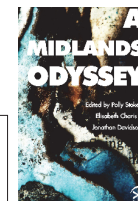
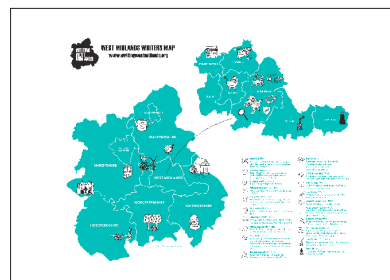
## NEW ONLINE SHOP AVAILABLE!

Visit our new Online Shop to buy copies of *A Midlands' Odyssey*, our collection of commissioned short stories setting the Odyssey in the region, and also to join our Friends, Supporters and Benefactors scheme.

And did we mention the West Midlands' Writers Tea Towel? More items will be added as the year goes on.

To browse the shop, please visit:

[www.writingwestmidlands.org/shop](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org/shop)



# JANUARY EVENTS

## YOUNG WRITERS' FOUNDATION GROUP

Saturdays 10 January, 11 April, 27 June & 12 September, 11am - 4pm

Birmingham City University, Parkside Campus, 5 Cardigan Street, Birmingham, B4 7BD

The Young Writers' Foundation Group is a creative writing group for anyone aged 16 to 20 in the West Midlands. Meeting four times a year, it will give young writers a chance to develop their interests in creative writing across a range of styles and forms - from poetry to drama. Limited to 20 participants, each session will include a creative writing workshop, a chance to share new work and an opportunity to find out about education and career opportunities for writers.

The group will be led by Birmingham-based novelist, drama writer and workshop leader, Helen Cross. Helen is the author of three novels including the award-winning *My Summer of Love* and *Spilt Milk, Black Coffee*; both of which have been adapted for film.

@YWFGGroup

£80 PER PERSON FOR THE YEAR - bookings open until April 2015.

BOOK: 0121 245 4455 / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)

## SHORT AND SWEET: SHORT FICTION SALON

Thursday 15 January, 6 - 7.15pm

Book Box, Library of Birmingham. Centenary Square, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2ND

Writing West Midlands and the Library of Birmingham present a monthly evening of short fiction performances, discussion and networking. Expect prose fiction, imaginatively presented in bite-size seven minute portions.

The evenings are hosted by writer and Heart Breakfast presenter Rachel New, who took a crash course in creating short, snappy pieces of fiction during her ten day *One Page Wonders* residency at the Birmingham Literature Festival in 2014.

There are five short fiction open mic slots available: please email [joanne@writingwestmidlands.org](mailto:joanne@writingwestmidlands.org) to book one.

Attendance at the event is free, but please book to avoid disappointment.

FREE

Book: 0121 245 4455 / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)



The Institute of  
Creative and Critical Writing



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THE LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM



# JANUARY

## WRITER NETWORKING MORNING: STAFFORD

Saturday 24 January, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Shire Hall Gallery, Market Square, Stafford, ST16 2LD

Join Writing West Midlands staff and guest speakers for an hour of presentations and discussion about making your way in the writing industry, followed by informal networking.

Our Writer Networking events are a chance to ask questions about creative writing opportunities, including funding and residencies. Full details of speakers can be found on our website.

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

FREE

BOOK: [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)

## SHORT COURSE: TOWARDS A POETRY COLLECTION

27 January – 10 March (excl. 17 February), 6 – 8pm

Wattlewood Room, St John's Museum, Warwick, CV34 4NF

As part of a six week course, Jane Commane (poet, tutor and editor at Nine Arches Press) will guide you through the process of curating and creating a collection of your poetry. Discover the different ways to get into print, find the right shape and form for your collection, and right sort of publisher for you. Whether it's a pamphlet, book collection or mini-epic, discover how best to refine, hone and polish your poems so they can shine and show your writing at its best. Also, get plenty of practical tips on how to build up your reputation and profile as a poet, how to submit your collection, and how to structure, order and develop your collection of poems. The course will also include short one-to-one feedback sessions on individual collections with the workshop tutor.

Though the workshops won't result in the actual publication of your collection, they will equip you with all the know-how, techniques and best practices to help you make the important first steps through what can seem a daunting process. Prepare to have a few myths about poetry publishing busted, develop your poetic confidence and brush up your editing skills!

£110 FOR ALL SIX SESSIONS

BOOK: 0121 245 4455 / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)



ALCS  
protecting and promoting  
authors' rights

Staffordshire  
County Council



Nine  
Arches  
Press

# FEBRUARY EVENTS

## POETRY BY HEART - BIRMINGHAM & WEST MIDLANDS FINAL

Thursday 5 February, 7pm

Library of Birmingham, Centenary Square, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2ND

Poetry By Heart is a pioneering national competition designed to encourage pupils aged 14-18 studying in England to learn and recite poems by heart. In this regional contest organised by Writing West Midlands, young people from local schools and colleges will compete to memorise and recite three poems, chosen from the Poetry by Heart anthology spanning 600 years of poetry. Judges include Forward Prize-winning Black Country poet Liz Berry, Dr Josie Brady (University of Birmingham) and BBC Radio WM presenter Shay Grewal.



For more details of the other finals in the Greater Midlands, please visit our website.

[www.poetrybyheart.org.uk](http://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk) / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)

**FREE** BOOK: 0121 245 4455 / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)



## DAVID LODGE: QUITE A GOOD TIME TO BE BORN, A MEMOIR: 1935 TO 1975

Tuesday 10 February, 6.30 – 8pm

Ikon Gallery, 1 Oozells Street, Birmingham, West Midlands B1 2HS

'I drew my first breath on the 28th of January 1935, which was quite a good time for a future writer to be born in England...' David Lodge was four when World War II began and grew to maturity through decades of great social and cultural change, giving him plenty to write about in his distinguished career.



In this memoir of his life up to the publication of his breakthrough book, *Changing Places*, David looks back over his childhood and youth, a promising career in academia, a happy marriage as well as unexpected setbacks and challenges, both professional and personal. His works have been translated into 25 languages. He is Emeritus Professor of English Literature at Birmingham and continues to live in that city. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, was awarded a CBE for services to literature and is also a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

Ikon Gallery, Harvill Secker and Writing West Midlands invite you to a fascinating conversation between David Lodge and the University of Birmingham's Dr Steve Ellis about Lodge's awaited memoir, marking the occasion of his 80th birthday.

**£4** BOOK: 0121 248 0708

# FEBRUARY

## SHORT AND SWEET: SHORT FICTION SALON

Thursday 12 February, 6 - 7.15pm

Book Box, Library of Birmingham, Centenary Square, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2ND

Writing West Midlands and the Library of Birmingham present a monthly evening of short fiction performances, discussion and networking. Expect prose fiction, imaginatively presented in bite-size seven minute portions.



The evenings are hosted by writer and Heart Breakfast presenter Rachel New, who took a crash course in creating short, snappy pieces of fiction during her ten day *One Page Wonders* residency at the Birmingham Literature Festival in 2014.

February's theme: Sweet.

There are five short fiction open mic slots available: please email [joanne@writingwestmidlands.org](mailto:joanne@writingwestmidlands.org) to book one. Attendance at the event is free, but please book to avoid disappointment.

**FREE** BOOK: 0121 245 4455 / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)

## THE STUDENT WRITERS' TOOLKIT

Saturday 28 February, 1 – 4.30pm

University of Wolverhampton, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1LY

Our third Student Writers' Toolkit is aimed at student writers or those recently graduated. The afternoon will be an excellent opportunity to network with the writing industry and pick up valuable knowledge about how professional writers sustain their creative careers.



With a keynote from *Bend It Like Beckham* author Narinder Dhani, the day also features a programme of six panel sessions and two keynotes on subjects including publishing, writing for broadcast, marketing and promoting your writing and managing money as a writer.

For more information see [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)

Supported by the University of Wolverhampton.

**£12** BOOK: [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)



# FEBRUARY

## PAGE TALK YOUNG WRITERS' WEEK & FESTIVAL

**Monday 16 - Saturday 21 February, 11am - 4pm**  
**Shire Hall Gallery, Market Square, Stafford, ST16 2LD**

Page Talk is a series of creative writing workshops and festivals for young writers aged 10-14. Giving young people the chance to explore all genres of creative writing, professional writers lead one day workshops over a week to produce work that will feature at events in a Young Writers' Festival.

The Shire Hall Gallery, a listed building situated in the heart of Stafford town centre, will provide an unusual and interesting environment for the workshops and events. National Poetry Slam Champion **Stephen Morrison-Burke**, *Doctor Who* scriptwriter **William Gallagher**, Science Fiction author **Alex Davis** and journalist **Alex Townley** will feature as lead writers.

Workshop details for Monday 16 - Friday 20 (11am - 4pm);

Monday – 'Bringing **Poetry** to Life'  
 Tuesday – 'An Introduction to **Journalism**'  
 Wednesday – 'Experimental **Fiction**'  
 Thursday – 'Writing a **Play in a Day**'  
 Friday – '**Performing** your Writing'

**Saturday 21 from 12pm – 4pm – Page Talk Young Writers' Festival!**

We are also offering participants the chance to complete a **Bronze Arts Award**, a nationally recognised qualification that builds creative and leadership skills in the arts.

Want to find out how you can win a FREE place? Visit  
[www.writingwestmidlands.org/page-talk/competition](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org/page-talk/competition).

[www.writingwestmidlands.org/page-talk/](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org/page-talk/)  
**@PageTalkYW**

**£5 per day / £25 for the week \***  
**BOOK: 0121 245 4455 / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)**

\* Bursaries are available. please email [hayley@writingwestmidlands.org](mailto:hayley@writingwestmidlands.org) for details.



# MARCH EVENTS

## SHORT AND SWEET: SHORT FICTION SALON

**Thursday 12 March, 6 - 7.15pm**  
**Book Box, Library of Birmingham. Centenary Square, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2ND**

Writing West Midlands and the Library of Birmingham present a monthly evening of short fiction performances, discussion and networking. Expect prose fiction, imaginatively presented in bite-size seven minute portions.

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The evenings are hosted by writer and Heart Breakfast presenter Rachel New, who took a crash course in creating short, snappy pieces of fiction during her ten day *One Page Wonders* residency at the Birmingham Literature Festival in 2014.

March's theme: Land.

There are five short fiction open mic slots available: please email  
[joanne@writingwestmidlands.org](mailto:joanne@writingwestmidlands.org) to book one.

Attendance at the event is free, but please book to avoid disappointment.

**FREE** **BOOK: 0121 245 4455 / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)**

## WRITER NETWORKING MORNING: DUDLEY

**Saturday 14 March, 10.30am - 12.30pm**  
**Abbey Room, Dudley Archive & Local History Centre, Tipton Road, Dudley, DY1 4SQ**

Join Writing West Midlands staff and guest speakers for an hour of presentations and discussion about making ones way in the writing industry, followed by informal networking.

Our Writer Networking events are a chance to ask questions about creative writing opportunities, including funding and residencies. Full details of speakers can be found on our website.

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

**FREE** **BOOK: [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)**



# APRIL EVENTS

# SUPPORT US



## JONATHAN COE - SHORT STORIES AND LIVE MUSIC



Thursday 2 April, 7 - 8.30pm

Studio Theatre, Library of Birmingham, Centenary Square, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2ND

Join us as we welcome novelist Jonathan Coe for this evening of literature and music. Jonathan grew up in Birmingham. His novels include *The Rotters' Club* and *What a Carve Up!* He has always been interested in the relationship between music and spoken word, and tonight he will be in performance with the pianist Danny Manners and flautist Theo Travis.

Danny Manners started out exploring classical music as a teenager and has been involved in improvised 'leftfield' music. He has worked with Coe before, providing the music to several audio versions of Coe's short stories. Theo Travis was born in Birmingham; he studied classical music at the University of Manchester and tours regularly with the Theo Travis Quartet, and Gong.

Jonathan will be reading texts from some of his novels, and a short story specially written for the performance with live music. In between, he will be in conversation with writer, broadcaster and patron of Writing West Midlands Stuart Maconie, about the musical tastes which formed him as a teenager and budding writer in the Birmingham of the 1970s.

£10 / £8

BOOK: 0121 245 4455 / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)

## SHORT AND SWEET: SHORT FICTION SALON

Thursday 9 April, 6 - 7.15pm

Book Box, Library of Birmingham, Centenary Square, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2ND

Writing West Midlands and the Library of Birmingham present a monthly evening of short fiction performances, discussion and networking. Expect prose fiction, imaginatively presented in bite-size seven minute portions.

The evenings are hosted by writer and Heart Breakfast presenter Rachel New, who took a crash course in creating short, snappy pieces of fiction during her ten day *One Page Wonders* residency at the Birmingham Literature Festival in 2014.

April's theme: Start.

There are five short fiction open mic slots available: please email [joanne@writingwestmidlands.org](mailto:joanne@writingwestmidlands.org) to book one. Attendance at the event is free, but please book to avoid disappointment.

FREE

BOOK: 0121 245 4455 / [www.writingwestmidlands.org](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org)



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THE LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM

## SUPPORT CREATIVE WRITING AND WRITERS IN THE WEST MIDLANDS BY BECOMING A FRIEND

Writing West Midlands works with creative writers of all ages to support their development and encourage participation in creative writing activities across the region. For as little as £30 a year you can make a real contribution to creative writing and literature activities in the West Midlands.

### BENEFITS OF BECOMING A FRIEND INCLUDE:

10% off tickets for events (excluding workshops)

10% discount on food at REP Café

20% off books sold at the Birmingham Literature Festival

10% discount off total bill at Café Opus at Ikon

25% off a la carte menu at Loch Fyne (selected branches only)

25% off Nine Arches Press books

Exclusive quarterley newsletter

2 for 1 offer on tickets to the RSC viewing tower

To support the work of Writing West Midlands sign up as a Friend, Supporter or Benefactor.

To join, fill in this form or you can join online at

[www.writingwestmidlands.org/support-us](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org/support-us).

Please enter your details below in block capitals

Title	<input type="text"/>	First name	<input type="text"/>
Last Name	<input type="text"/>		
Mobile	<input type="text"/>		
Phone	<input type="text"/>		
Email	<input type="text"/>		
Twitter	<input type="text" value="@"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		
	Postcode	<input type="text"/>	

# SUPPORT US

## Level of support

### I would like to become a:

☐ Friend (£30)

☐ Joint Friend (£50)  
available for two people sharing the same address

## Want to give more?

If you are able to give a larger donation, you will help us to bring writing to even more parts of our region. Become a:

☐ Supporter (£80)

☐ Benefactor (£150+)

In order to claim your discounted tickets, we have to pass your details to our box office, The Box. Please tick if **you do not** wish us to do this.

☐

The Box may use your details to give you information about events at the Library of Birmingham. Please tick if you **do not** wish to hear about these events.

☐

The Box may pass your details on to carefully selected third parties. Please tick here if you **do not** want to hear from them.

☐

To become a Friend, Supporter or Benefactor please complete this form and send it along with a cheque made payable to Writing West Midlands to:

**Emma Boniwell, Relationship Manager, Writing West Midlands,  
Unit 204, The Custard Factory, Gibb Street, Birmingham, B9 4AA.**

If you would prefer to pay online, please visit our website to fill in an online form and pay via Credit or Debit Card, PayPal or Direct Debit.  
[www.writingwestmidlands.org/support-us](http://www.writingwestmidlands.org/support-us).

**Thank you for your support!**

Internal use only

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# COMING SOON & NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

## BIRMINGHAM LITERATURE FESTIVAL, 8 TO 17 OCTOBER 2015

Thursday 8 - Saturday 17 October

Various Birmingham city centre venues



The Birmingham Literature Festival returns with an inventive mixture of events, performances and activities. We will again be hosted by the wonderful Library of Birmingham, using not only the Studio Theatre but also interesting spaces up and down the building. We will also be working with the Birmingham Rep, Birmingham Cathedral and Ikon Gallery. The Festival will feature special international guests, including writers from Latvia and Lithuania and the wonderful Rita Dove, Pulitzer Prize for Poetry winner and a former Poet Laureate to the Library of Congress (the USA's national poet).

As ever, this will be a truly independent literature festival, finding wonderful writer and writings and giving the city and region an opportunity to share its love of literature.



**BOOKING OPENS SUMMER 2015**

## BEHIND THE SCENES @ WORCESTER MUSEUM

Saturdays 21 March, 20 June, 19 September & 5 December, 11am - 1pm  
Activities Room, Worcester Museum, Foregate Street



An innovative and exciting new series of quarterly writing/poetry workshops at Worcester City Museum and Art Gallery using different handling collections each session for inspiration and stimuli. Led by Jenny Hope and Ruth Stacey, these sessions are family-friendly with sessions aimed at both adults and children. Places can be booked in advance or you can just drop in to one of the sessions.

For more information, please visit

[www.jennyhope.co.uk](http://www.jennyhope.co.uk) / [www.poetrymaker.co.uk](http://www.poetrymaker.co.uk) / [www.ruthstacey.com](http://www.ruthstacey.com)

**£5 PER PERSON BOOK:** [jenny@poetrymaker.co.uk](mailto:jenny@poetrymaker.co.uk)

## Support Young Writers in the West Midlands

Text **WWMS15 £2 / £5 / £10** to 70070  
to donate now e.g. **WWMS15 £5**

JustTextGiving  
by Vodafone