

FRIDAY SEPT 5 TO SUNDAY SEPT 7

FREE FESTIVAL GUIDE

BORDER LINES

CARLISLE BOOK FESTIVAL 2014

in association with **cumbria**life



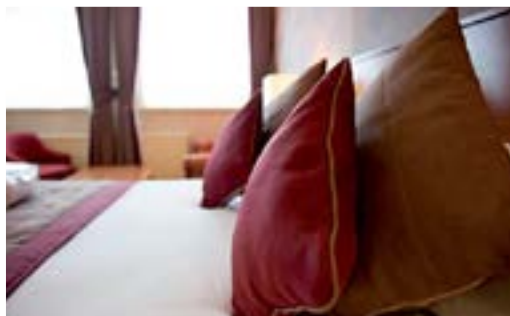
Borderlines working partners: Cumbria County Council Library Service, Bookends, Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery, The Writers' Quarter and Cumbria Life

www.borderlinescarlisle.co.uk



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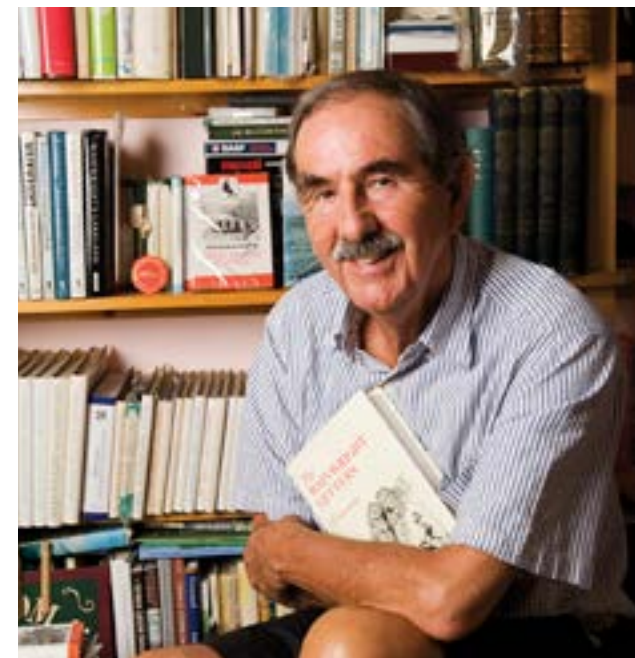
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President's welcome



'Carlisle is a wonderful city, with a long tradition in the arts and crafts, poesy and fiction. And now at long last we have our own literary festival'



I say hello, and also say goodbye to Carlisle not being seen as one of the nation's literary centres. It was, of course, well sort of, many years ago, when Wordsworth and Coleridge and Southey made Lakeland the heart of the literary universe. Now Carlisle is back in the swim, writers of words and wisdoms swarming to share their gems and experiences with us. Well done to all those who have made it happen. Why has it taken so long, when Carlisle is such an historic, wonderful city, with such a rich culture and a long tradition in the arts and crafts, poesy and fiction? Goodness knows. The Romans, when they were here, being ever so civilised, probably thought of starting a literary salon, but

never got round to it. Those pesky Picts. When the Cathedral got founded, I am sure there was a library and studious people giving instructions, if not lectures. When we got a University, I thought a proper Literary Festival would be bound to follow. And now, at long last, we have got one of our own, an annual living, breathing literary event which we hope will go on for ever, to the last syllable of recorded texting, internetting, tweeting, kindling or whatever comes along next. For we will always have words.

Hunter Davies OBE
Honorary President
Borderlines Carlisle

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in association with **cumbrialife**

Buy tickets online at www.borderlinescarlisle.co.uk
or at **Bookends Carlisle** in person or on 01228 529067

Talks and events

FRIDAY SEPT 5

Crown & Mitre

5.30pm Rory Stewart, *Borderlands*
7.30pm Hunter Davies, *Biscuits and Beatles*

SATURDAY SEPT 6

Crown & Mitre

9.30am William Ryan, Crime Writing Workshop
10am Thane Prince, *Perfect Preserves*
11.45am Paul Morley, *The North* (and almost everything in it)
1.30pm Sandra Howard, *Tell the Girl*
3.15pm Clash of the Genres: Historical novelists versus Crime Novelists
5pm Alan Johnson, *Please Mr Postman*
8pm Northern Lines: Grace Dent and Stuart Maconie in conversation

Tullie House

11am Ben Kane, *Mud Sweat and Tears*
12.10pm Meet the Roman Soldier
1pm Philip Walling, *Counting Sheep*
3pm Kathleen Jones & Neil Curry on Norman Nicholson

Waterstones

9.30am Poetry Breakfast with Malcolm Carson
11am Judith Allnatt, *Finding the Moon Field*

Carlisle Library

12pm Children's event: *Curly Tales Story Time*

SUNDAY SEPT 7 CUMBRIA DAY

Crown & Mitre

10.45am Nick Burton, *Wainwright's Way*
12.30pm Paula Day & Val Corbett, *Tree*
2.15pm David Carter, *Carlisle in the Great War*

4pm Eric Robson, *Abroad* - a journey with the sad, mad and dangerous to know

Carlisle Library

11am Catherine Hall, *Love, Loss, War and The Lakes*
1.00pm Matt Hilton and Sheila Quigley, *Writing gritty crime fiction*

Waterstones

2.45pm Michaela Robinson-Tate and Phil Rigby, *Lakeland Icons*

The Writers' Quarter

SATURDAY SEPT 6

Carlisle Library

10.00am Therapeutic Writing Workshop, with Carol Ross
11.00am Writing Local Fiction, with Ruth Sutton
2.00pm The Story Cafe, with Lisa Rossetti

Carlisle Cathedral

10.00am Words in the Cathedral, creative writing workshop
7.30pm Evening of Poetry and Prose

Tullie House

9.30am Short form fiction Writing, with Vivien Jones
10am-12pm Drop-in Creative Writing Sessions with Marilyn Messenger and the Crichton Writers
12pm Self Publishing, with Alan Cleaver
2pm Poetry Workshop with Ben Wohl
2pm-4pm Drop-in Creative Writing Sessions with Marilyn Messenger and the Crichton Writers

5.30pm: Festival opener

Rory Stewart

Borderlands, a walk through the vanished kingdom of the Middleland

Crown & Mitre Hotel Ballroom £8



Ten years after walking across Central Asia and through Afghanistan, Rory Stewart returns to Britain. He walks a thousand miles, crossing and re-crossing the English-Scottish Border. There will soon be a referendum on Scottish independence; he is a Scot living in England, and the MP for the only constituency with 'Border' in its name. He discovers that, buried beneath England and Scotland, there is another country, now lost, a Middleland with its own history and civilisation: a vanished kingdom.

Since May 2010, Rory Stewart has been MP for Penrith and The Border. In May 2014 he was elected Chair of the House of Commons Defence Select Committee.

7.30pm (with interval)

Hunter Davies

Biscuits and Beatles

Crown & Mitre Hotel Ballroom £10

It's a game of two halves for Hunter, as he has two books to talk about. In the first half he will talk about *The Biscuit Girls*, the life stories of six women, now aged between 60 and 80, who spent much of their lives as Cracker Packers at Carr's of Carlisle. It's also social history, taking us through their personal and private lives from the Eleven Plus to suspender belts and mini skirts, to council house purchases and drug related problems. The book tells us about the joy of biscuits and how Carr's gave them to the world, being the first company to manufacture biscuits as we know them today. It is hoped some of the women in the book will be with him on stage, to answer any questions.

After half-time, a complete change-around - *The Beatles Lyrics*. Hunter, who wrote the only authorised biography of the Beatles, has tracked down over 100 original manuscript versions of the Beatles songs and will show a selection of them on screen, along with the music, and will explain the background to each song and tell us the story of how The Beatles made their music, music which the world now knows.



9.30am-1.15pm (inc 15min interval)

William Ryan Crime-writing Workshop

Constructing Characters and Perfecting Plots

Crown & Mitre Hotel boardroom £25



With a mix of presentations and workshop exercises attendees will learn how to construct interesting and complex characters from scratch and then use them to

develop the plot of a crime novel—all in the space of a morning. William Ryan teaches on the Crime Writing Masters course at City University, and his practical and entertaining workshops for the Guardian and literary festivals around the country (including Crimefest, Harrogate and Iceland Noir), have been much praised by attendees - from absolute beginners to published authors. A morning with William may be just the thing to kick-start your crime writing career. Historical thriller author William Ryan writes the widely acclaimed Captain Korolev series. His novels have been shortlisted for CWA Daggers, The Theakstons Crime Novel of the Year and a number of other crime writing awards.



9.30am

Poetry Breakfast

with Malcolm Carson

Waterstones £3



Join poet Malcolm Carson for a coffee and croissant or even tea and teacake at Costa in Waterstones. This will be a relaxed and informal opportunity for you to read one of your own poems (or a short

prose piece) or to read a poem by your favourite poet. Malcolm will join in and read his own poetry as well as other favourite poems. There may be time to read more than one poem, so come prepared.

10am

Thane Prince

Perfect Preserves

Crown & Mitre Hotel Ballroom £6



Thane Prince's brand new book, *Perfect Preserves*, gives even the most unconfident cook the help needed to make perfect jams, pickles and chutneys, and offers both beginners

and more adept cooks, recipes which will ensure cupboards full of delicious treats for any time of the year. This theme is picked up in her Saturday morning talk for Borderlines, when she will talk about her career in food and offer further hints and tips for perfect preserves. Thane, the preserves judge on BBC2's The Big Allotment Challenge, will also be judging our very own



Borderlines Jam Competition, so why not enter a jar of your homemade jam and see if yours is "Best in show"! See www.borderlinescarlisle.co.uk for more information on how to enter.

11am

Ben Kane

Mud, Sweat and Tears - the quest of three authors to raise money for charity by walking Hadrian's Wall in full Roman armour

Tullie House Lecture Theatre £5

© North News and Pictures



In 2012, bestselling author Ben Kane decided to realise his dream of walking Hadrian's Wall. Naively, he decided to do it wearing full Roman military kit, including hobnailed

boots. Persuading two fellow Roman historical fiction authors - Anthony Riches and Russell Whitfield to join him, and picking two charities to support, they set out in late April 2013. Using slides, Ben will recount their amazing journey. Although not talking about his books they will be on sale after his talk, which will be presented by Ben in full Roman military gear!

...plus at 12.10pm
special children's event

Meet the Roman Soldier

Tullie House bar area Free

Where better to meet a soldier from Roman times than at the best museum in Cumbria? Younger fans of Roman history

might like to meet a real live Roman soldier. After his talk, Ben will stay to meet all those curious to find out more - how much does the sword weigh, how big is the shield, how much weight is there in all the armour? There will be photo opportunities galore, and best of all - it's free!

11am

Judith Allnatt

Finding The Moon Field

Waterstones £4

In 1914, Keswick postman George Farrell, cycles through the Cumberland fells to deliver a letter, unaware that it will change his life, breaking his heart and sending him to war and the cratered emptiness of no man's land.

Judith will talk about how her forebears inspired her novel of love and redemption and of her fascinating research: keepsakes, letters, the Alhambra cinema, and masks made at the 'tin-noses shop'.



Described by The Times as 'deeply moving', *The Moon Field* is a poignant exploration of the loss of innocence in a war that destroys everything except the bonds of the human heart.

11.45am

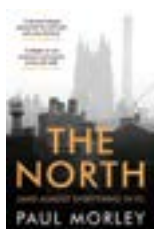
Paul Morley

The North (and almost everything in it)
Crown & Mitre Ballroom £6



Paul explores what it means to be northern and why those who consider themselves to be, believe it so strongly. He breaks up his own history with fragments of his region's own

social and cultural background. Stories of his Dad spreading margarine on Weetabix stand alongside those about northern England's first fish and chip shop in Mossley, near Oldham. And out of these lyrical memories rise many disconnected voices of the north: Wordsworth's poetry, Larkin's reflections and Formby's guitar. Morley maps the history of northern England through its people and the places they call home.



1pm

Philip Walling

Counting Sheep - a pastoral heritage of Britain

Tullie House Lecture Theatre £5



Northumbrian Philip Walling, formerly a farmer and a barrister, returns to his farming roots and celebrates the pastoral heritage of Britain. He looks to a time



when sheep were vitally important to Britain and defined our culture, topography and social history. It is a story of wool, money, merchants, farmers and shepherds. Philip meets the people of the countryside including

the mole-catchers, stick-makers, tobacco-twisters and clog-wrights. For him, these are the real people of England. Philip Walling will be in conversation with Susan Aglionby who runs a 40 hectare organic farm near Carlisle.

1.30pm

Sandra Howard

Tell the Girl
Crown & Mitre Ballroom £6

Sandra Howard's new book, her fifth novel, *Tell The Girl*, is a story that cried out to be written. She had had some unique experiences and wild old times in the Sixties, but didn't want to write an autobiography. She decided to tell them as



fiction and write this novel in which she talks about her modelling days in that fascinating decade - the personalities and



people she knew, and her friendships with Sinatra, Monroe and the Kennedys. Sandra Howard, one of the leading photographic fashion models of the 60s and 70s, will give us a glimpse into a much loved era.

3pm

Kathleen Jones and Neil Curry

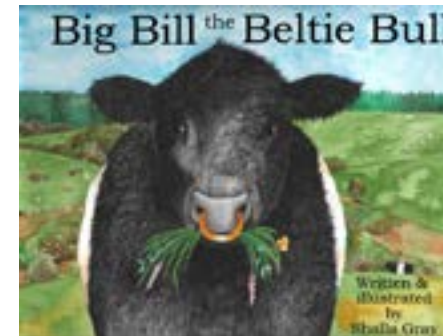
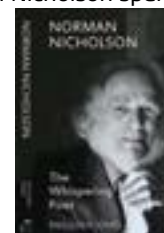
Norman Nicholson and the environment
Tullie House Lecture Theatre £5



This year is the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Cumbrian poet Norman Nicholson, so it is fitting that *Borderlines* features talks by two writers who possess insight and knowledge of both the man and his work. The poet, **Neil Curry**, will open this session, talking about Norman Nicholson's poems and reading from them.



After a short interval, **Kathleen Jones** will then talk about Norman Nicholson's passionate environmentalist beliefs, held and developed long before Rachel Carson's *'Silent Spring'* gave stark warnings about what would happen to the planet if we didn't both understand and cherish our relationship with it. Much of Norman Nicholson's poetry and prose is about the interaction between human beings and the landscape. He understood the delicate balance between making a living from it and preserving it as a living entity. Norman Nicholson spent his life observing one particular landscape and the impact of industrialisation and its subsequent decline. His controversial opinions were sometimes unpopular.



12pm

Children's Event
Curly Tales Storytime – Big Bill the Beltie Bull

with Jayne Baldwin & Shalla Gray
Carlisle Library, £2 per child, adults free

Jayne and Shalla will read from their books - *Big Bill the Beltie Bull* and *Big Bill's Beltie Bairns*. There will be games and activities including 'Pin the Tail on the Beltie' (with a magnet!), wordsearches, crosswords, colouring and puzzles, all age appropriate for the pre and early school age group. The session will last approximately one hour. Curly Tale Books is an independent publisher based near Wigtown, Galloway. Their books are delightfully produced with lovely watercolour illustrations depicting their farming tales. Children will love to learn more about these belties!



3.15pm
Clash of the Genres
Ben Kane, William Ryan, Matt Hilton, and Sheila Quigley

Historical Novelists versus Crime Novelists

Crown & Mitre Ballroom

£6

Two historical novelists take on two crime novelists in a battle of wit and repartee. Why do they write the novels they do, what makes their genre ever so slightly better and why are their readers clearly the most discerning? All of these questions and more will be answered when we listen to four authors battle it out in a panel discussion on the merits or otherwise of crime and historical fiction. Who knows what might happen? Will **Ben Kane** brandish his Roman sword as soon as there's any hint that history might lose? What will **Matt Hilton's** reaction be? He doesn't have Joe Hunter to help him out. And **Sheila Quigley** - a great thriller writer, but is this woman strong enough to take on the men? And look out for **William Ryan**, he's an expert on all the nasty dealings of the KGB. We'll all have to watch our backs. Be prepared for 60 exciting minutes in the company of four highly successful authors - anything might happen!

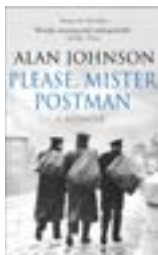
5pm
Alan Johnson

Please, Mr Postman

Crown & Mitre Ballroom

£8

Born in condemned housing in West London in 1950, with no heating, electricity or running water, Alan Johnson M.P. did not have the easiest start in life, as he described in the award-winning, memoir, *This Boy*. But by the age of 18, he was married, a father and working as a postman in Slough. This sequel to *This Boy* describes the next period in Alan's life with the same honesty, humour and emotional impact as his bestselling debut. *Please, Mr Postman* paints a vivid picture of a bygone era - Britain in the 60s and 70s was a very different country to the one we know today - and reveals another fascinating chapter in the life of one of our best loved public figures who has been the MP for Hull West & Hessle since 1997.



8pm (with interval)

Cumbria Life presents
Northern Lines:
Grace Dent and Stuart Maconie in conversation

Crown & Mitre Ballroom

£10



Two working class northerners who became successful journalists, writers and broadcasters - Carlisle's Grace Dent and honorary Cumbrian Stuart Maconie - discuss the borderlines of class, culture, language and geography that have shaped and defined them as they progressed their careers, developed their writing and tried to get their heads round what Londoners meant by supper. There will be lots of friendly banter amongst the serious talking. Although not talking specifically about their books, there will be the opportunity to meet both authors who will sign books at the end of the evening. Grace Dent writes for the Independent and Evening Standard, has written 11 teen fiction novels and has 200,000 followers on Twitter. Stuart Maconie co-presents Radcliffe and Maconie on BBC 6 Music, is the author of *Pies and Prejudice* and *The People's Songs*, and writes a monthly column for Cumbria Life.



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10.45am
Nick Burton

Wainwright's Way
Crown & Mitre Ballroom

£6



Nick Burton's illustrated talk, based on his book, *Wainwright's Way*, will provide a new insight into the legendary guidebook writer and also to the north country landscapes through which he passed, looking at some of his lesser known sketches of Lancashire and Westmorland. Nick will explore Wainwright's East Lancashire roots and his early walking expeditions in the company of Town Hall colleagues, uncovering the 1920's guidebook that actually guided him. Nick puts forward the case that Wainwright was simply following the long tradition of the 'weaver poets', working class men who sought solace on the moors as an escape from the grim reality of life in the industrial mill towns.

11am
Catherine Hall

Love, loss, war, and The Lakes: recurrent themes and local links
Carlisle Library

£4



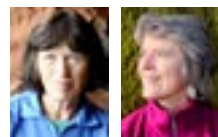
The Repercussions - Catherine Hall's most ambitious novel to date - is a sweeping narrative dealing with the psychological and emotional reality of war, as well as race, guilt, love and loss. Catherine will be talking about this, her latest title, her other work, and her links with Cumbria, including the autobiographical elements

within her award winning second novel *The Proof of Love*. Catherine Hall was born in the Lake District and worked in documentary film production and international peacebuilding before becoming a freelance writer and editor for charities specializing in human rights and development.

12.30pm
Paula Day and Val Corbett

The making of Tree
Crown & Mitre Ballroom

£6



Paula Day and Val Corbett share the stage to talk about their new book *Tree*, poems by Paula Day with photography by Val Corbett. Paula talks about the adventure of self-publishing, and gets the audience guessing with her tree riddle poems. Val shows the photos she took on the quest to find the right image to match each poem, and reflects on the rewards and challenges of collaboration. Expect a feast for the eye and ear, with vivid images of trees through the Cumbrian year.

1pm
Matt Hilton and Sheila Quigley

Northern King and Queen of the rough and tumble: writing gritty crime fiction
Carlisle Library

£4

The session has Matt and Sheila in relaxed discussion about their books and their writing regimes and methods, before inviting questions from the audience. The session ends with a fun



crime fiction quiz where participants can win signed copies of the authors' latest books. The most recent books by these two authors are *The Lawless Kind* by Matt Hilton and *Lady in Red* by Sheila Quigley.

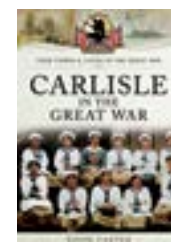
2.15pm
David Carter
Carlisle in the Great War

Crown & Mitre Ballroom

£6



Although 450 miles from the fighting in France, Carlisle was fully involved in the Great War. Citizens observed troop trains; cared for Belgian Refugees; fed wounded men on hospital trains; joined the Lonsdale Battalion; dealt with the aftermath of the Gretna rail disaster; cared for the wounded in local hospitals. Everyday life was changed by women going out to work, food shortages, the building of the Gretna munitions factory and state ownership of public houses and breweries. Beneath this, normal life continued with children going to school, local government dealing with a growing population and daily work and commerce.



2.45pm
Michaela Robinson-Tate and Phil Rigby

Lakeland Icons: People, Places and Things that make Cumbria Great

Waterstones

£4



Written by journalists Michaela Robinson-Tate and Phil Rigby, *Lake District Icons* is a fan letter to the Lake District, where the authors have worked for many years, currently for Cumbria Life. Through original research and more than 80 new photographs, they tell the story of some of the incredible people who have made the Lake District their home.

4pm
Eric Robson

Abroad - a journey with the sad, mad, bad and dangerous to know

Crown and Mitre Ballroom

£6



In his new book, Eric Robson takes a great railway journey round the Lake District in the company of writers and philosophers, heroes and villains, aristocrats and politicians, the sad, the mad, the bad and the dangerous to know. Eric and his long-suffering researcher boldly go where tens of thousands have gone before - Carlisle platform 6 to Carlisle platform 2 and against the odds make it an interesting adventure. Eric Robson is a writer and broadcaster who was in Outside Broadcasting, working on all great state events. These days he chairs Gardeners' Question Time on Radio 4 and is Chairman of Cumbria Tourism and a Deputy Lieutenant for Cumbria.



The historic quarter of Carlisle and the Library will host a variety of workshops on Saturday Sept 6th. There are limited places for these workshops, so please don't delay if you want to ensure your place.

CARLISLE LIBRARY



10am Therapeutic Writing

Workshop with Carol Ross

Library Meeting Room

£3

Carol will lead a 90-minute workshop exploring the use of creative writing as therapy for wellbeing. Writing can help relieve stress and help you clarify and organise your thoughts and can even help change the way you think. Within the NHS, Carol delivers creative writing therapies and runs writing groups in mental health wards, psychiatric intensive care and also in the community. She is co-author and editor of *Words for Wellbeing*, an anthology of writing created by her groups.

11am Writing local fiction

The Challenge of Writing Local Fiction: learning from experience workshop with Ruth Sutton

Main Library Area

£3

In this 90-minute workshop Ruth will explore how to write stories based where we live, including research, authenticity and respect for the community. Ruth Sutton has long experience of workshops, and writing local fiction. Participants will be involved, asked to think and even to sketch a plan of something they might like to write. Six years ago Ruth Sutton started writing a trilogy set in West Cumbria *Between the Mountains and the Sed* in the first half of the 20th century, and has just completed and published the final part *Fallout*.

2pm The Story Cafe

The Power of Stories, with Lisa Rossetti

Main Library Area

£3

Sponsored by
Cumberland
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Stories are not just for kids! This is a unique event offering inspiring stories for wellbeing, sharing insights and conversations together, plus a dash of creativity! Lisa Rossetti is an accredited coach, trainer and story practitioner. She is the founder of The Story Café in Chester (*Stories for Wellbeing*), which provides a reflective environment to encourage meaningful conversations, listening & communication skills and connection with others. Her work honours the crucial role that the story has in every aspect of our lives. Join Lisa's group to find out how we connect and communicate.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL



10am-12pm Words in the Cathedral

A creative workshop with Dr Martyn Halsall, Canon David Weston and Canon Geoff Smith

Prior's Tower

£6

Dr Martyn Halsall, Canon Geoff Smith and Canon David Weston will use the Cathedral as a source of reflection and inspiration. These three Cumbrian writers will look at how an historic site can disclose its stories and become a stimulus to new writing.

Bring your notebook, pen and imagination as David shows us around the Cathedral, and Geoff and Martyn explain how they have developed new work from the Cathedral's continuing story. Be prepared to write up your own ideas! The main session will run from 10am to 12 noon, in the Prior's Tower, which will remain open for the rest of the day for you to work there. **David Weston** is the author of histories of Carlisle Cathedral and Rose Castle. **Geoff Smith** has a lifetime's interest in reading and writing poetry which has been published in various magazines and anthologies and he is the cathedral's Poet in Residence. **Martyn Halsall**, following a career in newspaper journalism, including *The Guardian*, now reviews poetry for the *Church Times*, and is poetry editor of *Third Way* magazine.

7.30pm

An evening of poetry and prose

Litcuff special event hosted by Mike Smith and Darren Harper.

The Fraternity

Free

Writers taking part in The Writers' Quarter and guest writers, Facail aig an or ('words at the edge') with their poetry and music from South West Scotland, will present an evening of the celebration of the written, spoken and sung word. Those who have attended the workshops during the day are encouraged to bring along samples of their work. All local writers are invited to join in with an Open Mic session. This is a Litcuff special event hosted by Mike Smith and Darren Harper. The Writers' Quarter aims to encourage the practice and activity of creative writing and to put local writers in touch with each other for the enjoyment of reading and writing.

TULLIE HOUSE



Events
sponsored
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10am

Small is Still Beautiful

Short Form Fiction Writing workshop with Vivien Jones

The Community Room

£3

This 90 minute workshop will focus on those aspects of the short form that make it so special: its gem-like qualities and its punch, and the technical skills of paring down to essentials. There will be a little reading, some exercises, feedback and networking. Vivien's first poetry collection was published in 2010 when she also won the Poetry London Prize. She is widely published in poetry & prose and is a member of Crichton Writers and leader of Powfoot Writers, both in S.W.Scotland. She is co-editor of *Southlight Magazine* which nurtures new writers.

12pm

Self Publishing

Workshop with Alan Cleaver

The Community Room

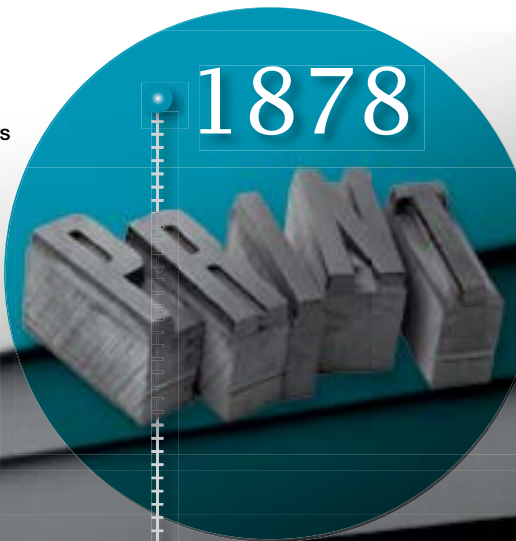
£3

Alan Cleaver will give an overview of how to publish your own book - whether by hand, through a printer or via websites such as *Blurb* or *Lulu*. During the 90 minute workshop you will hand-bind your own



We Our Printing Heritage

Established in 1878 to serve the needs of customers throughout Cumbria, today our design, print and production expertise still provides the same highly valued local service that our reputation was built upon. We have expanded into national and international markets, and now provide a comprehensive exhibition, signs and display service. *Whatever your requirements - just give us a call...*



• 2014



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booklet and learn the basic principles which apply to all aspects of the book publishing world. Alan Cleaver is a journalist living in Cumbria who has worked on both regional and national newspapers. He has a particular interest in online media and digital technology. He has self published many books ranging from hand-bound books through to e-books.

2pm

Poetry Workshop

Forming Form, with Ben Wohl

The Community Room

£3

A 90-minute workshop about writing in and experimenting with forms in poetry. This workshop will consist of sharing and composing some interesting examples of formal poetry concentrating on the traditional forms of sestinas, villanelles, and ghazals. Ben Wohl is a graduate of Cumbria University's Creative Writing Course and runs Freerange Artists which has published several local poets from the Carlisle area.

10am to 12pm
and 2pm to 4pm

Drop-in Creative Writing Sessions

with Marilyn Messenger and the Crichton Writers

The Border Galleries

Free

(Please note these sessions are free but there is a charge for visiting the Border Galleries in Tullie House Museum. The annual ticket price is £7, but entry is free to anyone with a Tullie Card)

We are all storytellers, regardless of whether or not we write down our tales, but perhaps you have always wanted to 'put pen to paper'? Come and try creative writing in these informal sessions, with local writers on hand to help get you started. Be inspired by exploring some of the fascinating artefacts in the Tullie House galleries. Fire up your imagination, rekindle memories, or write

about your own knowledge of the objects. Write as much or as little as you like, and be prepared to discover that you can indeed write! This event is a drop-in session so booking is not necessary but participants will need to register at reception on arrival.

Marilyn Messenger is a graduate of Cumbria University's Creative Writing course and a member of Facets of Fiction workshop. She has had poetry and short fiction published, and her short stories have been performed by Liars League, New York City. **The Crichton Writers**, based in Dumfries and Galloway, recently celebrated their tenth year with the publication of an anthology of various works.

WagTongues

All authors leading workshops in the different venues may be selling their own publications at their events. Pop-up bookshop WagTongues will be in the library selling the works of locally published and self-published authors. **WagTongues** is the brainchild of the Dumfries and Galloway Writers' Collective, created to sell books (commission-free) from local authors and publishers at pop-up events throughout the region.

William Ryan Crime Writing Workshop

There is another writer's workshop which takes place in the the **Crown and Mitre Hotel on Saturday from 9.30am-1.15pm**. William Ryan, author of the Korolev mysteries, published by Macmillan, and who leads The Guardian Masterclasses in crime fiction, will put you through your paces and set you on the path to a life of crime (fiction). £25. See main entry in this programme under Saturday talks.

Acknowledgements

The Writers' Quarter would like to thank all who have contributed their time, skills, goodwill, energies and venues to make The Writers' Quarter a success.



JUDITH ALLNATT is an acclaimed writer. Her first novel, *A Mile of River*, was shortlisted for the Portico Prize for

Literature; her second, *The Poet's Wife*, was shortlisted for the East Midlands Book Award. Her short stories have featured in the Bridport Prize Anthology, the Commonwealth Short Story Awards and on BBC Radio 4. Judith has lectured widely on Creative Writing for twenty years.



JAYNE BALDWIN

worked as a newspaper journalist before retraining as a yoga teacher. Her first book *West Over the Waves* was published in 2009. Since then Jayne has worked as an editor and publicist and in 2013 she started the children's publishing company Curly Tale Books with her friend and fellow writer/illustrator Shalla Gray. She is also the author of a second non-fiction book, *Mary Timney, The Road to the Gallows* and the children's book *The Belties of Curley Wee Farm*.



NICK BURTON Apart from a brief spell as a storyliner on Emmerdale, Nick Burton has spent his career working in

countryside and recreation management. For the last ten years he has been a health walks coordinator for Blackburn Council. He has written numerous walking guides to Lancashire and North-West England.



MALCOLM CARSON

Born in Cleethorpes, Malcolm Carson studied English at Nottingham University, and taught for the University of Northumbria in Carlisle, where he now lives with his wife and three sons. He has published several collections of poetry, has reviewed for Other Poetry and Critical Survey, and was a founder of Border Poets.



DAVID CARTER

retired from a long career in education during which he was a teacher and headteacher. A

secondment to work at BBC Newcastle gave the opportunity to write and produce local history and geography programmes. He went on to work in several posts with education authorities in the south-east and with Capita. He and his wife bought a cottage in Cumbria in 1999. David has written two books, a history of the *Stockbrokers' Battalion, 10th Royal Fusiliers and Carlisle 1914 -1918*.



ALAN CLEAVER

has spent his career in journalism and publishing. He has self-published a number of books ranging from hand-bound books to e-books. He lives in Whitehaven.



VAL CORBETT

is a freelance photographer based in the Lowther valley on the eastern fringes of the Lake District. Over the past 25 years she has built up an extensive photographic library of Cumbria. Her photos of gardens appear regularly in magazines. Her own recent books include *Winter in the Lake District* and *Rainy Days in the Lake District*, and she has collaborated on *Gardens of the Lake District* and *Jack's Yak*, both of which won the Lakeland Book of the Year award.



NEIL CURRY has lived for many years in Cumbria. Among his poetry collections are *Ships in Bottles*, a Poetry Society

Recommendation; *Walking to Santiago*, where he recounts a walk along the medieval pilgrim route and a new collection, *Some Letters Never Sent*. Neil edited the *Collected Poems of Norman Nicholson*, and has published books on Christopher Smart, George Herbert and Alexander Pope. His book on William Cowper will be published next year.



HUNTER DAVIES

was brought up in Carlisle, went to Durham University and edited *Palatinat*, the University newspaper.

He has always been a journalist and still writes for *The Sunday Times*, the *New Statesman*, and *Cumbria Life*. He is an author with over 70 books to his name including the only authorised biography of the Beatles and biographies of Wainwright and Wordsworth. This year he was awarded the OBE for his services to literature. He is married to the Carlisle-born novelist and biographer Margaret Forster and they live in London and Loweswater.



PAULA DAY

was born in London, the daughter of designers Robin and Lucienne Day. After reading English at Cambridge she moved to Cumbria and completed a PhD thesis on nature imagery in women's poetry. For many years she ran pioneering outdoors holidays for women from her hillside home in the Lune Valley. As well as writing, she designs gardens, and as chair of the Robin and Lucienne Day Foundation, she currently divides her time between Cumbria and Chichester.



GRACE DENT

Carlisle-born journalist and broadcaster Grace Dent took the first train to London after leaving school and never looked back. She began her career in magazines, published 11 teen fiction novels including *Diary of a Snob* and *Diary of a Chav*, and wrote her *World of Lather* TV column for *The Guardian's* Guide listings for many years. She now writes columns for the *Independent*, restaurant reviews for the *London Evening Standard*, and has made TV appearances on *Have I Got News For You* and *Charlie Brooker's Screenwipe*. She has 200,000 followers on Twitter and is the author of *How to Leave Twitter: My Time as Queen of the Universe*.



CATHERINE HALL

was born in the Lake District and worked in documentary film production and international

peacebuilding before becoming a freelance writer and editor for charities specialising in human rights and development. She is the author of three novels and now lives in London.



MARTYN HALSALL

was Carlisle Cathedral's first Poet-in Residence and is about to publish *Sanctuary*, a collection of his poetry chronicling that year. He is an ex-Guardian journalist and approached his task as a 'foreign correspondent', searching out the building's hidden stories. He is poetry editor of *Third Way* magazine and reviews poetry for the *Church Times*.



MATT HILTON

is a high-ranking martial arts expert and has been a detective and private security specialist, all of which ensure authentic action scenes in his books! Matt is currently working on the next Joe Hunter novel, as well as a standalone supernatural novel. He lives in Cumbria with his wife Denise.



SANDRA HOWARD

was one of the leading photographic fashion models of the 60s and 70s. when she also worked as a freelance journalist. She still writes for the press alongside writing popular novels. Sandra is actively involved with two charities, is a trustee the drug rehabilitation charity Addaction and is vice-president of Youth Epilepsy. She is married to the former Conservative Party leader Michael Howard and they live in London and Kent.



ALAN JOHNSON

served as Home Secretary in the Labour Government from June 2009 to May 2010. He previously

undertook a wide variety of cabinet positions, including Health Secretary and Education Secretary. He has been the Member of Parliament for Hull West and Hessle since 1997 and was most recently Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer. A former postman, in 1992 he became the youngest General Secretary in the history of the Union of Communication Workers. Alan's memoir of his childhood in London, *This Boy*, was published in 2013 to huge critical acclaim and this year it was awarded the Orwell Prize for Books.



KATHLEEN JONES

is the author of several award winning biographies including *A Passionate Sisterhood* (the wives of the Lake Poets) which won the Barclays Bank Prize for Non Fiction. She was Royal Literary Fund Fellow at Lancaster University and is also a Fellow of the English Association. *Norman Nicholson: The Whispering Poet* was commissioned to celebrate the centenary of his birth, January 8th, this year.



VIVIEN JONES

is widely published in both poetry & prose, is a member of Crichton Writers, and leader of Powfoot Writers both in SW Scotland. She is co-editor of *Southlight Magazine*.



BEN KANE has been fascinated by history all his life. After 16 years working as a vet in Northumbria, he decided to write about

ancient Rome, and was published within a few years. He is best known for the *Forgotten Legion*, *Hannibal and Spartacus Chronicles* which have featured in the *Sunday Times* bestsellers lists. His most recent book is *Hannibal, Enemy of Rome*.



STUART MACONIE is the author of *Pies and Prejudice*, *The People's Songs*, *Hope and Glory*, *Adventures on the High Teas*, and *Cider with Roadies*. He co-presents

Radcliffe and Maconie on BBC 6 Music and has appeared on and presented numerous TV programmes. A former sociology teacher from Wigan, Stuart sent some northern gig reviews to *New Musical Express* and ended up as assistant editor. He coined the phrase Britpop and has written biographies of Blur and James. A keen fellwalker with a lifelong association with Cumbria, he has a home near Penrith and has written a monthly column for *Cumbria Life* for 6 years.



MARILYN MESSENGER

graduated in Creative Writing from the University of Cumbria. Her short fiction has been published and performed, including by Liars League New York City. She also contributed chapter to *Words for Wellbeing*, the not-for-profit book edited and co-authored by Carol Ross, aimed at encouraging people to write.



PAUL MORLEY

grew up in Stockport and has worked as a music journalist, pop svenangi and broadcaster. He has written several books on music including *Words and Music: A History of Pop in the Shape of a City*. Paul also writes for numerous publications - *New Statesman*, *Sunday Telegraph*, *NME*, *The Observer* and *The Guardian*. He was a regular on *Newsnight's* Review programme and writes and directs TV arts documentaries.



THANE PRINCE

Cookbook author and cookery teacher Thane Prince has been involved with food for over 20 years. She has published ten books and spent 12 years as the cookery columnist for the *Daily Telegraph*. She opened a cookery school in Aldeburgh and she regularly appears on TV cookery programmes. Thane is regarded as the best in her field and was recently the preserves judge on BBC's *The Great Allotment Challenge*.

Author biographies



SHEILA QUIGLEY
Born in Sunderland, Sheila has lived and worked in the north east all her life. Sheila has a large family including 9 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. As well as being an international bestselling writer, she can often be found on a touchline supporting her grandsons in their pursuit of footballing excellence.



PHIL RIGBY
has been a professional press photographer for 26 years is now picture editor at CN Magazines with responsibility for three titles, including Cumbria Life. An experienced rock climber and member of the Fell & Rock Climbing Club, he has contributed to a series of specialist Lake District climbing guide.



MICHAELA ROBINSON-TATE
trained as a newspaper journalist. She has worked in newspapers, radio and magazines in north Lancashire and Cumbria since 1993 and is currently senior writer with Cumbria Life magazine. *Lake District Icons* is her first book.



ERIC ROBSON
has been in TV for over 40 years. He was a BBC outside broadcast commentator working on all the great State occasions and for 20 years he's been chairman of the much loved Gardeners' Question Time. His books include, *The Border Line*, a history of the Anglo/Scottish border and *After Wainwright*, a memoir of the years he worked with him. He's Chairman of Cumbria Tourism, a trustee of Tullie House Museum and a Deputy Lieutenant for Cumbria.



CAROL ROSS
Born in Yorkshire, Carol Ross settled in Cumbria in 1995. Carol leads writing groups for patients in mental

health wards. She writes mainly about therapeutic writing, but also enjoys writing short fiction, children's stories and poetry. Carol is editor and co-author of the not-for-profit book, *Words for Wellbeing*.



LISA ROSSETTI is a storyteller, writer and poetry therapy practitioner working with stories and creative writing for Wellbeing in health and social settings. Lisa's published writing includes a contributing chapter for Cumbria NHS Trust's *Words for Wellbeing*.



WILLIAM RYAN
Historical thriller writer William Ryan writes the widely acclaimed Captain Korolev series, set in a vividly imagined Stalinist Russia. Irish born, he was a lawyer prior to becoming a writer. His novels have been published in 18 countries (including Russia) and shortlisted for the Crime Writers Association New Blood and Historical Daggers, The Kerry Group Irish Fiction Award and The Theakstons Crime Novel of the Year.



CANON GEOFF SMITH is the current Poet in Residence at the Cathedral. He has had his poetry published in various magazines and anthologies, including *New Writing from the North* and is working on a series of poems based on 'new monasticism'. He is a radical priest-poet who blogs on political issues, often does locums abroad and rides a Harley Davidson.



RORY STEWART
read History and PPE at Oxford, joined the British Diplomatic Service with posts in Indonesia, Montenegro and Iraq. He was awarded the OBE for his services in Iraq. He wrote the bestseller, *The Places in Between* which is based on his 6,000-mile walk from Turkey to Bangladesh. Since May 2010, Rory

Stewart has been MP for Penrith and The Border. In May 2014 he was elected Chair of the House of Commons Defence Select Committee.



RUTH SUTTON
has spent most of her working life as an educator, most recently as a freelance consultant in various parts of the world. She is the author of a trilogy of books set in West Cumbria and she lives in Waberthwaite.



PHILIP WALLING
lives in Northumberland and is a former barrister and sheep farmer. He farmed Picket Howe, near Crummock Water for 10 years until he went to university which led to a 30 years in barristers' chambers in London, before he called it a day and returned to his farming roots by immersing himself in the history of sheep and the countryside, and *Counting Sheep* became a Sunday Times bestseller.



DAVID WESTON
Canon David Weston was Canon Warden at the cathedral for 11 years and is the author of *Carlisle Cathedral History*. He still looks after the cathedral's medieval library and mounts regular exhibitions of its rare books and manuscripts. His latest publication is *Rose Castle and the Bishops of Carlisle*, which grew out of his time as Domestic Chaplain to the Bishop of Carlisle.



BEN WOHL
is an American poet living in Cumbria. He studied creative writing at Cumbria Institute of the Arts. He grew up in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains in an unpopulated portion of the middle of America. He has a master in Media and Communication from the European Graduate School. He is also project manager for Freerange, in north Cumbria, who provide professional design and research services for businesses and artists.

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How to book tickets

Online To buy tickets online, visit www.borderlinescarlisle.co.uk which operates 24-hour ticket sales.

In person From Bookends, 56 Castle Street, Carlisle, CA3 8JA, 9am-5.30pm Monday-Saturday; 11.30am-4pm Sunday.

By phone Call Bookends on 01228 529067. If tickets are posted out, there will be an administrative fee of 50p.

Event information

Timings Talks usually last one hour (unless otherwise stated), with an additional 20 minutes when the author will sign books. Seating is unreserved and doors will open 20 minutes before an event.

Refunds In the event of a talk or workshop being cancelled refunds will be offered, but no other exchanges or refunds are available.

The festival bookshops in the Crown and Mitre Hotel and at Tullie House are run by Bookends, Carlisle's independent bookshop. They will stock books by those authors appearing at the festival. After each talk, there will be the opportunity to meet the author and get books signed.

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If you have any questions or would like to make any suggestions about the festival; if you want to join our email newsletter list or offer your help as a volunteer



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www.peelhotels.co.uk

Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust

Castle Street, Carlisle, Cumbria CA3 8TP 01228 618718
www.tulliehouse.co.uk

Carlisle Library

11 Globe Lane, Carlisle, Cumbria CA3 8NX 01228 227321
www.cumbria.gov.uk

Carlisle Cathedral

7 Abbey Street, Carlisle, Cumbria CA3 8TZ 01228 548151
www.carlislecathedral.org.uk

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66 Scotch Street, Carlisle CA3 8PN 01228 542300
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All our venues are accessible to people with disabilities. Venues have different levels of facilities - please contact the individual venues for more information.

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Please visit www.discovercarlisle.co.uk for maps, transport and parking information or call the Carlisle Tourist Information Centre on 01228 598596.

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