

# Sheffield POETRY FESTIVAL

2011

1 - 3 April

a series of contemporary  
poetry events in sheffield

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

My parents, theirs, my children, me:  
all were nursed by this steel-soft city.

Noel Williams, 'Hometown'



'Mother and Child' (1956-1958): made in plaster by George Fullard, cast in bronze and sited in forecourt of Upper Chapel, Norfolk St, Sheffield in 1985. Photographs by Brian Lewis.

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SHEFFIELD WRITING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



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**A series of contemporary poetry events in Sheffield**

**[www.sheffieldpoetryfestival.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldpoetryfestival.org.uk)**

**Festival Box Office: The Showroom Cinema 0114 275 7727**

**[www.showroomworkstation.org.uk/festivals/](http://www.showroomworkstation.org.uk/festivals/)**

# At a Glance

Date	Event/Writers	Venue	Time	Page
26 March	Monster Poem Fun David Harmer & Matt Black	Sheffield Central Children's Library	2.15pm	2
27 March	Broomhall Arts Walk	Clarkehouse Road	12.30pm	3
	Lynwood Garden Party - The Celebration	Lynwood Garden	2.00pm	4
29 March	Out of Place Sheffield's Tuesday Poets	Bank Street Arts	7.30pm	5
30 March	The Shoebox Experiment Joe Kriss, Kayo Chingonyi, Kevin Fegan	The Riverside	7.30pm	6
31 March	Poetry in Motion: The Word Train Ian Payne, John Gosnell, Lorraine O'Reilly, Jan Caborn, Nick Rogers and Carolyn Waudby	Caffetteria	7.45pm	7
01 April	Festival Launch	The Workstation	6.30pm	10
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02 April	Young Writers' Workshop David Harmer	Bank Street Arts	10.00am	12
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	Goat Boy and Other Journeys Susannah Gent, Fay Musselwhite	Bank Street Arts	3.00pm	16
	Water, Earth and Sky: Three Poets Elizabeth Barrett, Matthew Hollis and Maurice O'Riordan	SIA Gallery	3.30pm	17
	Geraldine Monk, Helen Mort, Ben Wilkinson	Bank Street Arts	5.00pm	18
	Yannis Told Us Kelvin Corcoran, Tria Kalistos, Maria Pavlidou, Howard Wright	Bank Street Arts	7.00pm	19
	25 Years in the North: The Party!	Bank Street Arts	8.30pm	20
03 April	Poetry and Translation George Szirtes, Simon Armitage	Humanities Research Institute	11.00am	21
	Geoff Hattersley	The Workstation	12.00noon	22
	Festival Café Lunch	The Showroom	1.00pm	23
	Making it up: The Origins and Accidents of Poetry Kelvin Corcoran joined by Peter Riley	Bank Street Arts	1.00pm	
	Laureates On Your Doorstep Ann Atkinson, River Wolton	The Workstation	1.00pm	24
	Templar Poetry Showcase Rob Hindle, Jane Weir	The Showroom	2.15pm	25
	A Poetry Reading George Szirtes, Agnes Lehoczyk	The Workstation	3.30pm	26
	The Ground Aslant: Radical Landscape Poetry Peter Riley, Mark Goodwin, Harriet Tarlo	The Showroom	4.00pm	27
	University Poetry Challenge Sheffield Hallam University v The University of Sheffield	The Workstation	5.00pm	28
	Flossie Paper Doll Linda Lee Welch and The Only Michael	The Showroom	6.00pm	29
	Matter Poets - Past and Present Various readers from Sheffield Hallam University's MA	Bank Street Arts	6.30pm	30
	The Best of Sheff Poetry Slam Tony Walsh, Stan Skinny, Joe Kriss, Sarah Thomasin	The Lescar	7.00pm	31
The Pathway Poets Writers on the creative writing MA at the University of Sheffield	The Red Deer	8.00pm	32	
06 April	MA Writers Student writers from Sheffield Hallam University	Bank Street Arts	6.15pm	8

POST HOC Installation Bank Street Arts Centre.  
1 - 9 April 10.00am - 5.00pm daily

POETRY FESTIVAL SHEFFIELD

An exhibition of **Death and the Gallant** will run at Bank Street Arts from Thursday 30th March through to Friday 8th April

# Welcome

Poetry lives and breathes in Sheffield: that's what the very first Sheffield Poetry Festival is designed to show. There are many different poetry communities here, and the Festival wants to bring them together to share each others' sense of what makes the best in poetry – as well as to provide the chance for people to experience a wider range of poetry than they might otherwise find in our streets.

Five poetry organisations, along with local writing groups and many individuals, have collaborated to bring together as many different kinds of poetic event as we can think up. Together we've created an eclectic programme, something for every poetic taste, bringing some major names into the city, whilst promoting local poets alongside them. There are performance events, readings - some a bit experimental, others more mainstream - small writers' groups and national voices. Several poetry publishers are promoting their poets, there are social activities, children's events and even a couple of slightly quirky offerings (University Poetry Challenge, anyone?).

The aim is to make the Sheffield Poetry Festival a regular event, every two years. We hope, then, that you will find plenty of events to come and enjoy – and that, with your support, we can establish the Festival as a welcome addition to the cultural life of the city.

# Monster Poem Fun

with

**David Harmer and Matt Black**

Family Activity

A message to any monsters aged 5 to 11! Bring along your grown-ups and join in this exciting family event with fabulous Monster Poems by David Harmer and Matt Black. Some monsters are big and others are hairy, some are tiny and very scary, some have sharp, revolting teeth, some are enormous, beyond belief! Write your own Monster Poems and between you all, make the biggest MONSTER POEM in all the world (well Sheffield).

David and Matt know loads about monsters and about poems. David publishes his poems with Macmillan Children's Books and works in schools and other places getting children to laugh and then to write poems. Matt publishes his poems in books by Macmillan, Hodder, Scholastic and others, writes silly and serious poems, is 54 and still dreams of playing tennis at Wimbledon.

**Saturday, 26 March 2.15pm - 3.30pm**

Sheffield Central Children's Library

FREE - but still need to book as places are limited

For (free) tickets ring: (0114) 273 4734 (Central Children's Library)

# Broomhall Arts Walk

Drawing and Writing Adventure

Exploring Lynwood Gardens, Broomhall's urban landscape (as well as the new public art works that Art in the Park have designed and created with the local community), community green spaces, allotments and nature reserve, ending back in Lynwood gardens for a celebration event.

Led by Noel Williams we will be encouraging you to draw and write during the walk, using the local environment as inspiration. Noel will also read poems relevant to Sheffield and the area along the way, with an opportunity to exhibit your work at the celebration event.

**Sunday, 27 March 12.30pm - 1.30pm**

Meet at the Francis Newton (used to be Aunt Sally's) entrance,  
Clarkehouse Road, S10 2LA

FREE (no prebooking required)

Open to all - children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult

Wear suitable clothes for walking, and please bring a pad and pencil  
for drawing or writing.

(Will go ahead even if raining)

# Lynwood Garden Party – The Celebration

Free Entertainment, Workshops and Refreshments

We are celebrating all things creative in Broomhall - we have been working for the past six months to design new public art works from street furniture, lamppost banners, noticeboards and welcome markers - we will exhibit the work, designs and photos of the process throughout the gardens.

Explore the green space through word provoking activities and be entertained at our garden party themed event. Word activities, writing, reading and a poetry treasure hunt. Come and add to our Garden of Stones and Poetry Tree.

Sunday 27 March 2.00pm - 5.00pm

Lynwood Gardens

FREE (no prebooking required)

(If raining this will go ahead at the Broomhall Centre, Broomspring Lane)



# Out of Place

with

**Sheffield's Tuesday Poets**

Reading

Through poetry, image and song, Sheffield poets explore location and dislocation, meanings of home, exile, landscapes and their loss, how place shapes us.

Cora Greenhill has lived in Ireland, Africa, Crete and Derbyshire and is published widely. In her book *Deep in Time* her poetry often explores tensions in feeling spiritually at home in landscapes where she is culturally 'dislocated'.

Jenny Hockey publishes her work on people, places and dreams in many small magazines.

From the Sussex coast, Fay Musselwhite transfers her fascination with nature's rhythms to Sheffield's rivers, the resource responsible for the city's growth. Her poetry is in magazines.

Seni Seneviratne grew up in Leeds. Her collection *Wild Cinnamon and Winter Skin* offers a landscape of migration, love and loss, reflecting her personal journey as a woman of English and Sri Lankan heritage.

Lisa Wallace lives with her son on Sheffield's edge. She's published in *Matter* magazine amongst others.

A child of Sheffield's countryside, Noel Williams went south, came home, published widely in magazines, won prizes, is never sure where he belongs.

**Tuesday 29 March 7.30pm - 9.00pm**

Bank Street Arts - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

See: [www.tuesdaypoets.wordpress.com/](http://www.tuesdaypoets.wordpress.com/) for more on each poet

# The Shoebox Experiment

with

**Joe Kriss, Kayo Chingonyi, Kevin Fegan**

Performance

Signposts brings you the first in a new series of performance experiments.

*Night Shift* is a verse narrative, written and performed by Joe Kriss and Kayo Chingonyi, which explores nightlife and clubbing culture. This is a new piece, commissioned by Signposts. Joe Kriss and Kayo Chingonyi have performed at Tate Modern, The Roundhouse, City Hall (Sheffield) and The Big Chill. Creative writing editor for Sheffield magazine Now Then and a published poet, Joe also runs 'Word Life'. [www.myspace.com/joekriss](http://www.myspace.com/joekriss). Kayo is emerging writer in residence at Kingston University: [www.kchingonyi.wordpress.com](http://www.kchingonyi.wordpress.com).

*Blast* is a dramatic poem set in the declining steel industry of South Yorkshire, written and performed by Kevin Fegan. A redundant steelworker recounts 'years of dirt and graft, the laughter and the sweat'. *Blast* is published by Five Leaves and was originally commissioned and broadcast by BBC Radio 4 Drama and nominated for a Sony Award: 'a double-narrative about the visceral nature of steel - making and life itself' - Manchester Evening News.

Kevin Fegan has written 8 collections of poetry and over 50 plays. [www.kevinfegan.co.uk](http://www.kevinfegan.co.uk).

**Wednesday 30 March 7.30pm - 9.00pm**

The Riverside (The Shoebox) - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

Access to the venue is via stairs, we regret there is no lift access

# Poetry in Motion: The Word Train

with

**Sheffield group The Word Train: Alan Payne, John Gosnell, Lorraine O'Reilly, Jan Caborn, Nick Rogers and Carolyn Waudby**

Performance

Fresh words, fresh work from prize-winning members of The Word Train including readings from their latest anthology *Holm*.

Alan Payne was a winner in the 2009-2010 Poetry Business Pamphlet competition with his collection *Exploring the Orinoco* and previously in the Hilda Cotterill Poetry competition.

Founder member John Gosnell was highly commended in the Hilda Cotterill competition four times and his collection was long-listed in last year's Poetry Business competition.

Lorraine O'Reilly won a prize in the Bradford Writers' script writing competition in 2009 and was a runner-up in the James Kirkup Memorial Poetry Competition.

Jan Caborn is studying on the MA in Creative Writing at Sheffield Hallam University and was a writer in residence at BBC Radio Sheffield during the Year of the Artist.

Nick Rogers founded Heeley Writers in 1979 with Alan Payne and worked with South Yorkshire Writers during the eighties.

Carolyn Waudby staged an exhibition of poems for Off the Shelf 2009. Her associated collection *Dreams and Defiance* sold out. She has won prizes in the Ilkley Literature Festival and Mslexia poetry competitions and was short-listed in the first Cinnamon Press collection awards.

**Thursday 31 March 7.45pm - 10.00pm**

Caffetteria Cafe, Leopold Street - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Post Hoc

with

**Angelina Ayers, Bryan Eccleshall,  
Ian Baxter**

Family Activity

In 2010, Bryan Eccleshall hand-copied onto acetate a photograph of the space created when the Mona Lisa was stolen in 1911. He projected that image at Bank Street Arts and oil-painted directly onto the wall. This was later boarded up. All that remains visible is a plaque recording the work.

Bank Street writer in residence, Angelina Ayers, watched this process, and wrote a poem sequence derived from the work, and the questions it raised about originality, permanence and the function of the copy. This sequence, along with newly commissioned work from local writers, will be re-written by Bryan, returning the work to his hand, and projected onto the wall that conceals his earlier painting, creating an installation that examines those same issues of originality and permanence through a temporal artwork.

The installation will feature sound art by Ian Baxter, adding another facet of interaction between poetry and art.

**Friday 1 – Saturday 9 April 10.00am - 5.00pm**

Bank Street Arts

Free Entry: no need to book

In the road, men in visors  
cadge lights from men in hairnets.

- Matthew Clegg,  
'Edgelands'



'Angry Woman' (1956-1958): made in plaster by George Fullard, cast in bronze and sited in forecourt of Upper Chapel, Norfolk St, Sheffield in 1985. Photographs by Brian Lewis.

# Festival Launch

with

## **Festival Poets**

All welcome - to the “official” (though informal) Festival launch. As the hour approaches for the first event of Sheffield’s first ever dedicated Poetry Festival, the air will be humming as local and national poets start to gather. In celebration of this, a small opening ceremony will include a group of Sheffield’s finest poets bringing along a couplet (rhyming or unrhyming), inspired by the City, and these will be read out as a collective, and probably either fortuitous or random, poem.

Please come along to meet poets, meet the Festival folk that you will be seeing at events, and start to create the Festival buzz. We hope this weekend will be a time for everyone alike - poetry lovers, those new to poetry, poets, and all others, to meet, share, respond, discuss and mingle freely. Here’s a good place to start.

Free glass of wine and nibbles.

**Friday 1 April 6.30 - 7.30pm**

The Workstation - Free

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Opening Reading

with

**Simon Armitage, Nell Farrell, Ed Reiss**

Reading

The most prolific and talented poet of his generation, Simon Armitage reads from his *Selected Poems* and *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Sheffield writer Nell Farrell's brilliant first pamphlet *A Drink with Camus After the Match* is launched tonight, alongside *Your Sort*, prize-winning Bradford poet Ed Reiss's outstanding first full-length collection.

Friday 1 April 8.00pm - 9.00pm

The Workstation - £8 / £5 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Young Writers' Workshop

with

**David Harmer**

Workshop

This workshop, aimed at people between 13 to 18, will be a chance to talk about poetry, write some poetry and say some out loud. If you are a performance poet, a writer for the page, or just fancy having a go at it, please come along.

David's poems and stories appear in more than 100 books, mainly published by Macmillan Children's Books. He also has a number of collections for adults. David was a founder member of the poetry performance group Circus of Poets who recently stormed Off The Shelf in their reunion gig. When he isn't working solo, David, together with Paul Cookson, is part of the highly rated poetry duo Spill The Beans. He has performed in schools, colleges, theatres and front rooms all over the country. He also works at Sheffield Hallam University where he teaches both MA and BA Creative Writing.

'David is a very good poet and an excellent performer. I love his work.' - Gaby Morgan, Editorial Director, Macmillan Children's Books.

**Saturday 2 April 10.00am - 12.00noon**

Bank Street Arts Education Room - £4 / £3 (conc)  
Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door  
We regret that this room is only accessed by stairs.  
See page 39 for disability access information.



# The Road Not Taken

with

**Matthew Hollis**

A Talk on Edward Thomas and Robert Frost

Edward Thomas was perhaps the most beguiling and influential of First World War poets. Matthew Hollis's book *Now All Roads Lead to France* (being published in 2011) is an account of Thomas's final five years, centred on his extraordinary friendship with Robert Frost and his fatal decision to fight in the war.

The talk will focus in particular on Thomas and Frost's 'walks-talking' (as Frost called them) through Gloucestershire when they worked through their theories on the sound of sense, and when Frost triggered in Thomas the first outpouring of his verse. Their friendship became the most important of each man's life (Frost said Thomas was the only brother he ever had; Thomas that Frost was the only begetter of his verse), and was so strong that Thomas was set to join Frost in America when the war broke out. But the relationship hit a crisis over Frost's poem 'The Road Not Taken', written about and for Thomas, that became the final part in a series of acts that lead to Thomas's enlistment with tragic consequences.

**Saturday 2 April 11.00am - 12.00noon**

SIA Gallery, Furnival Building, Sheffield Hallam University - £4 / £3 (conc)  
Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Death and the Gallant

with

**Chris Jones, Paul Evans**

Reading and Exhibition

Two men move from church to church in a remote valley looking for the remnants of Catholic wall art to destroy. Chris Jones's poem *Death and the Gallant*, which has been given a contemporary visual interpretation by the artist Paul Evans, explores iconoclasm in seventeenth century English culture. The poem and paintings focus on the relationship between Brown, an old man, and the narrator as they travel towards a final reckoning. This presentation will offer a full reading of the poem by Chris and a discussion of how reflections on the English Reformation have affected the collaboration between poet and artist.

An exhibition of *Death and the Gallant* will run at Bank Street Arts from Thursday 30th March through to Friday 8th April.

*Death and the Gallant* will appear in the Longbarrow Press anthology *The Footing* (due spring 2011).

Chris Jones received an Eric Gregory Award for his poetry in 1996. He currently teaches creative writing at Sheffield Hallam University: [www.shu.ac.uk/research/hrc/sp-chris-jones](http://www.shu.ac.uk/research/hrc/sp-chris-jones). [www.chris-jones.org.uk](http://www.chris-jones.org.uk).

Paul Evans is a contemporary artist based in Sheffield. He has won a number of prestigious awards and his work has been exhibited throughout the UK, in Tokyo, and in New York.

[www.pkevans.co.uk](http://www.pkevans.co.uk) [www.origin09.org](http://www.origin09.org).

**Saturday 2 April 1.30pm - 2.15pm**

Bank Street Arts - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Lagan Press Showcase

with

**Moyra Donaldson, Martin Mooney**

Reading

Lagan Press has been publishing poetry in the north of Ireland for twenty years. It is seeking to develop links with poets and poetry audiences in the UK and is delighted to have the opportunity to participate in Sheffield's first poetry festival.

Moyra Donaldson has published four full collections: *Snakeskin Stillettos* (1999), *Beneath the Ice* (2001), *The Horse's Nest* (2006) and *Miracle Fruit* (2010). She has been widely anthologised including *The New North* (2009), edited by Chris Agee and published by Wake Forest Press.

Martin Mooney's first collection, *Grub* (1993), was the winner of the Brendan Behan Award and was shortlisted for the Forward Poetry Prize. This was followed by *Rasputin and His Children* (2001) and *Blue Lamp Disco* (2003). His work also appears in Selina McGuinness' *The New Irish Poets* (Bloodaxe) and *Modern Irish Poetry* (Patrick Crotty, editor, Blackstaff Press). His fourth full collection, *The Resurrection of the Body at Killysaggen*, is due out in May next year.

**Saturday 2 April 2.30pm - 3.30pm**

SIA Gallery, Furnival Building, Sheffield Hallam University - £4 / £3 (conc)  
Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Goat Boy and Other Journeys

with

**Susannah Gent, Fay Musselwhite**

Reading

Susannah Gent and Fay Musselwhite bring you a short collection of vivid and often surprising stories that combine video, poetry, taxidermy and audio experiment. This collaborative project grew out of an installation by Gent which provoked a poem by Musselwhite leading to the realisation that they share a visceral interest in the current state of play between man and nature.

Taxidermy plays a central role in the telling of these real and imagined narratives, which include a trip to collect stag heads from a local deer farm's abattoir, and a story invented to explain how the recipient of one these heads arrived at the urban setting he finds himself in.

Susannah Gent is a Sheffield based artist & multi award winning film maker, best known for the feature production *Jelly Dolly* (2004).

Fay Musselwhite is a member of Tuesday Poets, reads her work regularly at Sheffield events and has poetry published in national magazines.

**Saturday 2 April 3.00pm - 3.30pm**

Bank Street Arts - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Water, Earth and Sky: Three Poets

with

**Elizabeth Barrett, Matthew Hollis and Maurice Riordan**

Reading

Elizabeth Barrett will launch her fourth collection *A Dart of Green and Blue (Arc)* as part of Sheffield Poetry Festival. It's a book bound by feeling: the central, spellbinding sequence is entitled 'Kingfisher', where the poet charts the final few months of her mother's life, and explores the instances of grieving that haunt her over the following year.

Matthew Hollis's poems are firmly rooted in a sense of place. He's particularly drawn to the boundary between land and sea. His first collection was *Groundwater (Bloodaxe)*: a meditation on watery landscapes, memory, and the transience of life. The book was short-listed for a number of prizes, including The Guardian First Book Award.

Maurice Riordan has published four collections of poetry, the most recent being *The Holy Land (Faber)*, an exploration of Irish mythology as re-imagined on his father's West Cork Farm. Maurice has a particular interest in science and poetry, publishing two anthologies on the subject, including *Dark Matter: Poems of Space* (edited with Jocelyn Bell Burnell), and he keeps returning to its scope in his work.

**Saturday 2 April 3.30pm - 5.00pm**

SIA Gallery, Furnival Building, Sheffield Hallam University - £8 / £5 (conc)  
Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Geraldine Monk, Helen Mort, Ben Wilkinson

Reading

Geraldine Monk was born in Blackburn, Lancashire in 1952, and has lived in Sheffield since 1984. Since first being published in the 1970s she has written six major collections of poetry and numerous chapbooks. Her writing has appeared extensively in both the UK and the USA. As an extension to her activities in poetry she collaborates with many musicians including Martin Archer, Charlie Collins and Julie Tippetts. A collection of essays on her poetry, *The Salt Companion to Geraldine Monk*, edited by Scott Thurston, was brought out in 2007 by Salt Publishing.

Helen was born in Sheffield and grew up in Chesterfield. She received an Eric Gregory Award in 2007 and won the Manchester Young Writer prize in 2008. Her latest pamphlet *a pint for the ghost* was selected as Poetry Book Society pamphlet choice for Spring 2010. She has taught for the Open University, and is currently the residential poet at the Wordsworth Trust in Cumbria.

Ben Wilkinson lives and works in Sheffield, has had poems and reviews appear in *Poetry Review*, *The Guardian*, *The Spectator* and *The Times Literary Supplement*. He was poetry, literature and occasional music reviewer for the 2007 and 2008 Latitude Festivals. A first pamphlet of poems, *The Sparks*, was published by Tall-Lighthouse in 2008.

Saturday 2 April 5.00pm - 6.00pm

Bank Street Arts - £4/ £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Yannis Told Us

with

**Kelvin Corcoran, Tria Kalistos, Maria  
Pavlidou, Howard Wright**

Reading with Music

Yannis Told Us takes three long poems from Kelvin Corcoran's *Backward Turning Sea* and sets them to traditional Greek music performed by accomplished multi-instrumentalists Maria Pavlidou and Howard Wright. Corcoran's lyrical poems about Greece and the retelling of myth are the ideal material for setting to music; the traditional musicianship of Pavlidou and Wright the perfect medium to let us hear the poetry in performance.

Kelvin Corcoran's work came to prominence with his first book *Robin Hood in the Dark Ages* in 1985. Nine subsequent collections have been enthusiastically received and his work has been anthologized in Britain and the USA. The sequence *Helen Mania* was made a Poetry Book Society choice in 2005. His *New and Selected Poems* is now available from Shearsman Books along with two major collections *Backward Turning Sea* (2008) and *Hotel Shadow* (2010).

Saturday 2 April 7.00pm - 7.45pm

Bank Street Arts - £4/ £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# 25 Years in the North: The Party!

Party with Readings

'Dark and true and tender is The North' (Tennyson). From its first ever issue, featuring three young poets named Armitage, Duffy and McMillan, the North has established itself as one of the most significant and entertaining literary magazines in the country. Now based in Bank Street, its Silver Anniversary party includes brilliant readings, together with nibbles, things on sticks, a not-poetry quiz and a raffle with unbelievable prizes. Tonight also sees the launch of 'Your Bard', the Poetry Festival beer, brewed by The Sheffield Brewery Company and proudly named by Ann Sansom, one of the North's editors. Wine, soft drinks and bookstall also available.

Saturday 2 April 8.30pm - 10.30pm

Bank Street Arts - £4/ £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door



# Poetry and Translation

with

**George Szirtes, Simon Armitage**

In Conversation

George Szirtes is a Hungarian poet, born in Budapest in 1948. He came to England as a refugee in 1956, was brought up in London and studied Fine Art in London and Leeds. His first book, *The Slant Door*, was published in 1979. His collections have won various other prizes including the T S Eliot Prize for *Reel* in 2005. Having returned to his birthplace, Budapest, for the first time in 1984, he has worked extensively as a translator of poems, novels, plays and essays; including those of writers Agnes Nemes Nagy, Otto Orban, Zsuzsa Rakovszky, Sándor Márai and Ferenc Karinthy.

Simon Armitage was born in 1963 and lives in West Yorkshire. He has published ten volumes of poetry including *Selected Poems* (Faber & Faber, 2001). He has a keen interest in translation: his translations include *Mister Heracles*, a version of the Euripides play *The Madness of Heracles*; and a dramatization of *The Odyssey*, broadcast on Radio 4 in 2004. The book version, *Homer's Odyssey – A Retelling*, is published by Faber and Faber (2006). He has also produced modern English versions of the great middle English poem, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (Faber & Faber, 2006).

Sunday 3 April 11.00am - 12.00noon

Humanities Research Institute - £8 / £5 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Geoff Hattersley

## Reading

Geoff Hattersley was born in South Yorkshire in 1956 and has been publishing and performing his poetry since the 1980s. His collections include *Don't Worry* (Bloodaxe Books, 1994), *On The Buses With Dostoyevsky* (Bloodaxe Books, 1998), *Harmonica* (Wrecking Ball Press, 2003), and *Back Of Beyond* (Smith Doorstop Books, 2006). As Matthew Clegg has noted, Hattersley has carved out an uncompromising position for himself in the margins of British poetry, his poetry feeds off territory that is a long way outside the familiar comfort zones. His poems have been part of syllabuses in schools, universities, and with The Open University, and have been broadcast on local and national radio. He is currently working on a new collection of poems and a volume of short stories.

Sunday, 3 April 12.00noon - 12.45pm

The Workstation - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Making it up: The Origins and Accidents of Poetry

with

**Kelvin Corcoran joined by Peter Riley**

Talk

The talk will be on two possibly contrary elements of what we can know of the origins of poetry: cultural precedence and chance experience. The question lurking here might be how poetry comes to be made up out of known and previously unknown experience. Alternatively, we might ask: is this sort of enquiry a species of apophenia? Perhaps it's an example of how poetry comes to be made up out of common interests, imagined dialogues - a form of talking to other poets, living and dead. For this discussion, Kelvin Corcoran will be joined by the poet Peter Riley.

Kelvin Corcoran's work came to prominence with his first book *Robin Hood in the Dark Ages* in 1985. Nine subsequent collections have been enthusiastically received and his work has been anthologized in Britain and the USA. His *New and Selected Poems* is available from Shearsman Books, as is his new collection, *Hotel Shadow*.

'Kelvin Corcoran has allied a strikingly individual intelligence to a genuinely musical sensibility' - The Observer.

Sunday 3 April 1.00pm - 2.00pm

Bank Street Arts - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Laureates on Your Doorstep

with

**Ann Atkinson, River Wolton**

Reading and Discussion

Grindleford: doorway to the Peak District, and home of two Derbyshire Poet Laureates – River Wolton (2007-09) and Ann Atkinson (2009-11). Their work as county laureates has taken them everywhere, from South Normanton to South Africa, and an essential part of the role has been to write poems to order.

In this event, Ann and River will show some of their work, and open a discussion exploring the following questions:

Are public poems different?

Is artistic integrity compromised when poems are specific to occasion and site?

Do we own and value these commissioned poems?

Even though some of these poems are set in stone, can they stand the test of time?

Do come and have your say.

*The laureate scheme, now in its sixth year, is run and supported by Derbyshire County Council Cultural and Community Services.*

**Sunday 3 April 1.00pm - 2.00pm**

The Workstation - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# Templar Poetry Showcase

with

**Rob Hindle, Jane Weir**

Reading

Templar poets are known for their excellent poetry published in books widely praised for innovative design and high quality. Templar Poetry has been recognised in national publishing awards.

Rob Hindle, a winner of the inaugural Templar Poetry Pamphlet Competition (2006) for *Some Histories of the Sheffield Flood 1864*, had his first Templar collection *Neurosurgery in Iraq* published in 2008. A further pamphlet, *The Purging of Spence Broughton* (2009) and an extended sequence, *Flights and Traverses* (due 2011) are published by Longbarrow.

Jane Weir is a poet and textile designer, described by Carol Ann Duffy as 'quite simply the most exciting poet... since Alice Oswald'. Her two collections are *The Way I Dressed During The Revolution* (2005), shortlisted for the Glen Dimplex New Writers' Award and *Before Playing Romeo* (2007). *Walking the Block* (2008), a poetic biography of modernist textile designers Barron and Larcher, was highly commended in the British Book Design Awards.

Sunday 3 April 2.15pm - 3.15pm

The Showroom - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office

# A Poetry Reading

with

**George Szirtes, Agnes Lehoczky**

Reading

George Szirtes was born in 1948 in Budapest and came to England as a refugee following the Hungarian Uprising in 1956. He trained as a painter in Leeds and London, and is the author of several collections of poetry, his first being *The Iron Clouds* (1975). *His Selected Poems 1976-1996* appeared in 1996, and his *New and Collected Poems* in 2008. His poetry collection *Reel* was awarded the 2005 TS Eliot Prize. *The Burning of the Books and Other Poems* was published by Bloodaxe in 2009. He has also edited poetry books, including co-editing *The Colonnade of Teeth: Twentieth Century Hungarian Poetry* (1996) and *An Island of Sound: Hungarian Poetry and Fiction before and beyond the Iron Curtain* (2004).

Agnes Lehoczky is an Hungarian-born poet and translator. She has successfully completed a PhD in Critical and Creative Writing on the work of Agnes Nemes Nagy at UEA, and now teaches creative writing at the University of Sheffield. She has two short poetry collections, *Station X* (2000) and *Medallion* (2002), published by Universitas, Hungary. Her first full collection, *Budapest to Babel*, was published by Egg Box in 2008. She was the 2009 recipient of the Arthur Welton Poetry Award and the winner of the Daniil Pashkoff Prize 2010 in poetry. She is currently working on her second collection to be published by Egg Box this year.

**Sunday 3 April 3.30pm - 4.30pm**

The Workstation - £8 / £5 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# The Ground Aslant

with

**Peter Riley, Mark Goodwin, Harriet Tarlo**

Anthology Launch

A Sheffield launch for this exciting new anthology presented by the editor, Harriet Tarlo, who will talk briefly about landscape poetry in the experimental tradition. Three contributors will then offer short readings. Peter Riley has been publishing poetry, notable for its attention to place, for over forty years, the sequence *Alstonefield* being perhaps the most notable example. His most recent books are *Excavations* (Reality Street Editions, 2004), *A Map of Faring* (Parlor Press, U.S.A., 2005), *The Llyn Writings and The Day's Final Balance* (Shearsman, 2007) and *The Derbyshire Poems* (Shearsman, 2010). In 2011 Carcanet will publish *The Glacial Stairway and other poems*. Mark Goodwin has published a chapbook and audio CD with Longbarrow Press, called *Distance a Sudden*; two collections with Shearsman Books, entitled *Else* and *Back of A Vast*; and a long narrative poem, called *Shod*, with Nine Arches Press. *Harriet Tarlo's Poems 1990-2003* are published with Shearsman Press. She has been writing walking poems, including *Nab* (Etruscan Books, 2005) and *Particles* (Lowry Press, 2008) since 1990. She also writes essays on poetry, place and environment.

Sunday 3 April 4.00 - 5.00pm

The Showroom - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# University Poetry Challenge

with the staff of

**Sheffield Hallam University  
v The University of Sheffield**

Quiz

Come along for your starters for ten and watch the brightest literature brains in the city battle it out for the honour of their institution, answering questions on everything remotely poetry – from limericks and Lennon & McCartney to advertising jingles and the Bard himself.

**Sunday 3 April 5.00pm - 6.00pm**

The Workstation

FREE - no need to pre-book



# Flossie Paper Doll

with

**Linda Lee Welch and The Only Michael**

Poems with Music

*That girl is so dramatic...*

Set in an unnamed seaside town, the 13 poems are read by Linda Lee over a backdrop of treated ambient sounds, laptop electronics and recorded voices with live instruments including guitars, melodica and zither.

Linda Lee Welch is American, but has lived most of her adult life in England. She is a prize-winning poet, novelist and musician and a lecturer in Creative Writing at Sheffield Hallam University.

As well as the novels *The Leader of the Swans* and *The Artist of Eikando*, published by Virago, she has contributed to a number of poetry journals including *Msllexia*, *The New Writer*, *Staple*, and *Ambit* and has performed regularly at the Off the Shelf festival and other spoken word events.

The Only Michael has been recording and releasing his own electronic music under various names since the mid 1990s. As half of Animat (Big Chill Recordings) and a member of the Sundaze collective, he has performed audio-visual sets at festivals, cinemas, bars, clubs and multimedia venues throughout the UK and Europe.

Sunday 3 April 6.00pm - 6.45pm

The Showroom - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office

Extracts from the sequence can be heard at -

[www.myspace.com/flossiepaperdoll](http://www.myspace.com/flossiepaperdoll)

# Matter Poets – Past and Present

with

**Katharine Towers, Tony Williams,  
Carolyn Waudby, Angelina Ayers,  
Jamie Coward, Fay Musselwhite,  
Noel Williams**

and Current Students

Reading

This programme showcases the work of the MA Writing at Sheffield Hallam University and celebrates ten years of its flagship publication, Matter.

Katharine Towers, Tony Williams and Carolyn Waudby are three MA Writing alumni who now have successful collections. Katharine Towers's pamphlet *Slow Time* won the university's Ictus prize and her collection *The Floating Man* was longlisted for the Guardian First Book Award. Tony Williams's collection, *The Corner of Arundel Lane and Charles Street* was shortlisted for the Portico Prize for Literature. Both Tony's and Katharine's collections were also shortlisted for the Aldeburgh First Collection Prize. Carolyn Waudby joint-edited the very first Matter, has a sold-out collection *Dreams of Defiance*, and was a prizewinner in Mslexia and Ilkley poetry competitions.

They'll each read a fifteen minute selection of their work, supported by short readings from current students.

The four current students who will read have work in The North, Smiths Knoll, Poetry London, Iota, Cake, Wasafiri and elsewhere, as well as poems in Matter, and have won several poetry prizes.

**Sunday 3 April 6.30pm - 8.00pm**

Bank Street Arts - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

# The Best of Sheff Poetry Slam

with

**Tony Walsh, Stan Skinny, Joe Kriss,  
Sarah Thomasin**

Poetry Slam and Live Music

Brought to you by Word Life, Speakeasy, Vox and the Shipping Forecast - Sheffield's regular open mic nights combine for one night only to present to you some of the best poets and performers from the local scene and beyond.

Featuring live music, a poetry slam and a feature slot from Tony Walsh, one of the UK's most well known performance poets. He has performed across the country appearing at festivals such as Manchester Literature Festival, Latitude, Glastonbury and too many other poetry nights to mention. The winner of the poetry slam will be decided by you the audience, to be named Sheffield Poetry Festival Slam Champion.

**Sunday 3 April 7.00pm - 10.30pm**

The Lescar - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

To book a slot and take your chance for competing in the poetry slam please email: [wordlifeuk@gmail.com](mailto:wordlifeuk@gmail.com)

# The Pathway Poets

with

**Poets from the Creative Writing MA  
at the University of Sheffield**

Reading

The poets writing on the MA creative writing pathway at the University of Sheffield working with Agi Lehoczky will be reading their poems in the genial atmosphere of this friendly real ale pub.

**Sunday 3 April 8.00pm - 9.30pm**

The Red Deer - £4 / £3 (conc)

Book tickets at The Showroom Box Office, or on the door

We regret that this room is only accessed by stairs



Build stone walls  
against the slow march of hills.  
Pace out the acreage,  
Nethergate, Uppergate, Knoll.

- James Caruth, 'Stannington'



'Running Woman', (1956-1958): made in plaster by George Fullard, cast in bronze and sited in forecourt of Upper Chapel, Norfolk St, Sheffield in 1985. Photographs by Brian Lewis.

# MA Writers

with

**Student writers from Sheffield Hallam  
University**

Reading

The MA Writing at Sheffield Hallam University runs a programme of masterclasses. Within it, student writers sometimes get together to share new work with each other and support each other's developing writing. This year we're opening this event to the general public.

Some writers are experienced, some may be reading publicly for the first time, some will be trying new things, some testing major work in progress. All the work will be new and unpublished.

This is a chance to hear future writing stars in possibly their first ever public reading. The MA has a long history of producing major national writers both in poetry (such as Frances Leviston, Katharine Towers, Tony Williams) and prose (such as Marina Lewycka and Anna Chilver).

This event mixes poetry with a leavening of prose, an excellent way to wind down after the pace of the main festival.

**Wednesday 6 April 6.15pm - 7.45pm**

Bank Street Arts - FREE

No need to pre book tickets

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<b>Angelina Ayers</b>	Post Hoc	8	1 Apr	Bank Street Arts
<b>Angelina Ayers</b>	Matter Poets: Past and Present	30	3 Apr	Bank Street Arts
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# Booking Information & Credits

## Booking Information

Tickets for all events, except 'Monster Poem Fun', are available from: Showroom Cinema Box Office, Paternoster Row, S1 2BX.

Tel: 0114 275 7727.

### Opening Hours

Mon - Fri 10.00am - 9.00pm.

Sat - Sun 10.30am - 9.00pm.

Tickets can be obtained in person, by telephone, and on-line at

[www.showroomworkstation.org.uk/festivals/](http://www.showroomworkstation.org.uk/festivals/)

All telephone and on-line sales are subject to a 50p booking fee for each transaction.

## On the day

For all events, tickets will be available at the venue **only** from 30 minutes before the event.

Payments on the day at the venue (other than The Showroom) by cash or cheque (with bankers card) ONLY.

## Ticket Prices

See each individual listing for ticket prices

Concessions apply to: senior (60+) / student / unemployed/under 16s.

## Festival Season Ticket (available only at Showroom Cinema Box Office)

For just £50 (£30 conc.) the Festival Season Ticket offers you entry to every event (except Young Writers' Workshop 2/4). Numbers are limited – so book early.

## Festival Season Tickets - Terms and Conditions

Seats for Festival Season Ticket Holders will be held at each venue until 15 minutes before each event. After this time, entry cannot be guaranteed.

## Book Sales

Books will be available for sale at most events.

## Festival Book Stall

The Festival Book Stall, run by Rhyme and Reason, will be situated at Bank Street Arts Centre on Saturday 2 April 12.00noon to late and in The Showroom (Showroom 5) on Sunday 3 April 1.30 - 7.00pm, along with displays from several poetry presses.

## Festival Lunch

The Bank Street Arts Café is open for lunch on Saturday and The Showroom Bar will be open for lunches on both days.

## Festival Beer

We are delighted that the award-winning Sheffield Brewery Company will be supplying 'Your Bard', a delicious real ale, specially for the Festival. It will be available at the 25 Years In The North Party on Saturday night (see p22).

## Networking

The Showroom Café is open for the exclusive use of Festival goers all day Sunday 3 April (11am-7pm)

## Sheffield Poetry Festival

c/o Signposts, 3rd Floor, The Circle,  
33 Rockingham Lane Sheffield , S1 4FW  
[www.sheffieldpoetryfestival.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldpoetryfestival.org.uk)

## Festival Team

Ann Atkinson, Matt Black, Jim Caruth,  
Ray Hearne, Rob Hindle, Chris Jones, Brian Lewis,  
Maire McCarthy, Adam Piette, Ann Sansom,  
Peter Sansom, Linda Lee Welch, Noel Williams,  
River Wolton

## Design

Brochure and print: David Pittaway (WEA)  
Website: John Maher

## Information

The information contained in the brochure should tell you all you need to know - but for any further queries please contact: 0114 253 6722 (answer phone).

All ticket booking enquiries should be directed to The Showroom Cinema box office: 0114 275 7727.

## Thanks

We are grateful to all our programme partners, participating artists, funders, and patrons, and our dedicated team of freelance associates and volunteers for helping us bring this Festival to life.

To the best of our knowledge, all programming information was correct at the time of going to print. The organisers reserve the right to change the advertised programme.



# The Venues

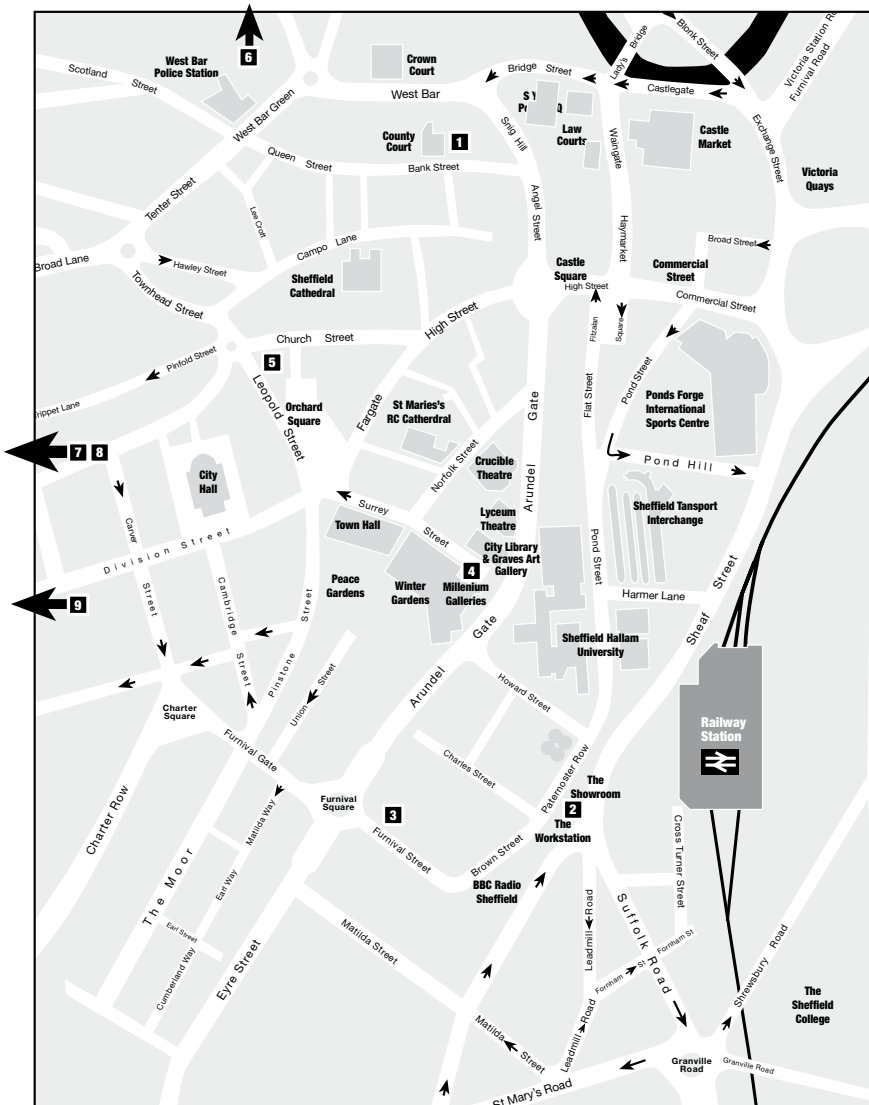
Venue	Address	Website
<b>Bank Street Arts</b>	32-40 Bank Street, Sheffield S1 2DS	<a href="http://www.bankstreetarts.com">www.bankstreetarts.com</a>
<b>Humanities Research Institute</b>	University of Sheffield, 34 Gell Street, Sheffield S3 7QY	<a href="http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/hri/events.html">www.sheffield.ac.uk/hri/events.html</a>
<b>Caffetteria</b>	1 Leopold Street, Sheffield S1 2GY	
<b>Lynwood Gardens</b>	Clarkehouse Road, Sheffield S10 2LA	<a href="http://www.lynwoodgardens.plus.com">www.lynwoodgardens.plus.com</a>
<b>Sheffield Central Children's Library</b>	Central Children's Library, Central Library, Surrey Street, Sheffield S1 1XZ	<a href="http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/find/all/centralchildrens">www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/find/all/centralchildrens</a>
<b>Sheffield Institute of Arts Gallery</b>	Furnival Building, Sheffield Hallam University, 153 Arundel St, Sheffield S1 2NU	<a href="http://www.shu.ac.uk/faculties/aces/art/gallery/">www.shu.ac.uk/faculties/aces/art/gallery/</a>
<b>Showroom 5</b>	The Showroom Cinema, 7 Paternoster Row S1 2BX	<a href="http://www.showroomworkstation.org.uk">www.showroomworkstation.org.uk</a>
<b>The Lescar</b>	303 Sharrow Vale Road, Sheffield S11 8ZF	<a href="http://www.thelescarhuntersbar.co.uk">www.thelescarhuntersbar.co.uk</a>
<b>The Red Deer</b>	18 Pitt Street, Sheffield S1 4DD	<a href="http://www.red-deer-sheffield.co.uk">www.red-deer-sheffield.co.uk</a>
<b>The Riverside (Shoebox Studio)</b>	1 Mowbray Street, Sheffield S3 8EN	<a href="http://www.pointblank.org.uk">www.pointblank.org.uk</a>
<b>The Workstation</b>	15 Paternoster Row, Sheffield S1 2BX	<a href="http://www.showroomworkstation.org.uk">www.showroomworkstation.org.uk</a>

## Access Information

Sheffield Poetry Festival warmly welcomes everyone to enjoy and take part in the events and activities of the weekend. We particularly welcome people with all forms of disabilities. When booking an event please contact the organising team on 01 14 253 6722 (answer phone) or email them at [info@signpostssouthyorks.org.uk](mailto:info@signpostssouthyorks.org.uk) to tell us about anything you'll need to be able to join in and we'll do our best to sort things out. Unfortunately, if we don't hear from you before the event, you'll appreciate we can't guarantee to provide it on the day – so get in touch as soon as possible!

We have tried to situate events in venues with full disabled access where possible. There are two exceptions. The Shoebox Studio at the Riverside is upstairs, with no lift access.

Bank Street Arts is a Grade Two Listed Building providing limited access for people with mobility impairments. Festival events (with the exception of the Young Writers' Workshop - see p15) will take place in three ground floor rooms, which although not designed or adapted to wheelchair standards, have been successfully used by wheelchair users in the past. Unfortunately the cafe is inaccessible to people with impairments who are unable to use stairs. In addition, the building doesn't house an accessible toilet. The good news is that Bank Street Arts have an arrangement with the hotel opposite for disabled people to use their disabled toilet. Access to this involves turning left out of Bank St Arts and going approximately 50m on a gently sloping pavement to the end of the road, then crossing the road at a purpose-designed crossing, with lower, but not totally lowered, kerbs (approx 3-4cms). There is then a steeper pavement for approx 7m to the hotel doors. The toilet is situated on the first floor which can be accessed by lift. There is also a coffee bar near the hotel reception desk.



- |   |  |
|---|--|
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|---|--|

For Google Map and Venue links, please check the Sheffield Poetry Festival website  
[www.sheffieldpoetryfestival.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldpoetryfestival.co.uk)

Wicker

Squat, green bulbs, bitter  
as smoke, I offer you figs  
from Sheffield's east end.

Chris Jones

