10th - 23rd March 2016

Vince Cable
Val McDermid
Arthur Smith
Michael Portillo
Carol Ann Duffy
Wendy Cope

www.yorkliteraturefestival.co.uk
@YorkLitFest
Welcome to the 2016 York Literature Festival Programme

The 2016 York Literature Festival programme is our most diverse, and one of the best programmes we have assembled. This year, nearly all of the contributors join us for the first time, and the claim ‘there is something for everybody’ is more true than ever. High profile names, a kids programme, comedy, writing workshops, poetry, feminism, trains, graphic novels and football - it’s all here!

Please follow us on Twitter @YorkLitFest, and tell a friend about the festival. My thanks go to our headline sponsors, Baillie Gifford, and to our local partners: York St John University, St Peter’s School and Make It York for their good will and support. Thanks to the festival committee - Terry, Nick, Rob, Sally, Dave and Jenny - for their collective efforts in the last 12 months. See you in March!

Miles Salter, Festival Director

Win £500 for your poem!

York Literature Festival / YorkMix Poetry Competition 2016

In association with YorkMix, York Literature Festival’s poetry competition returns for 2016.

In just three years, the competition has grown into one of the major events on the national literary scene. Last year’s competition attracted some of the biggest names in poetry, among an entry of more than 1,800 poems.

Winning and commended poets will be invited to read their entries at a gala prize-giving on March 19 2016.

The prize-giving event will also feature a reading by judge Carole Bromley whose new poetry collection, The Stonegate Devil, has just been published.

The closing date is February 14 2016.

Prizes
First prize: £500, second prize: £125, third prize: £75.

The York prize (£50) will be awarded to an outstanding poem from an entrant with a York postcode. At the judge’s discretion, up to ten Highly Commended and up to 15 Commended poems will each win their writer a certificate.

How to enter
Poems can be on any subject. To be eligible, poems must be in English, no longer than 40 lines, and fit on a single A4 page.

They must be original and not previously published (see the full rules for criteria). Entrants must be over 18 and live in the British Isles.

To enter go to: www.yorkmix.com

Full rules can be read at: http://www.yorkmix.com/competition/rules-for-the-york-literature-festival-yorkmix-poetry-competition-2016/
Pre-Festival Event: Poetry Workshop with Lemn Sissay

Saturday 27th February | 3.30pm - 5.30pm
St. Saviourgate Unitarian Chapel, St. Saviourgate, York YO1 8NQ
Part of a collaboration between York Literature Festival and Late Music Concert Series, this pre-festival event is a great chance to work with Lemn Sissay, one of the country’s leading poets. He is the author of several books of poetry alongside articles, records, public art and plays. He was an official poet for the London Olympics. His Landmark Poems are installed throughout Manchester and London, in venues such as The Royal Festival Hall and The Olympic Park. He is an associate artist at Southbank Centre, patron of The Letterbox Club and The Reader Organisation, and inaugural trustee of World Book Night. Numbers are strictly limited, so book early to avoid disappointment. This workshop is part of a day of activities organised by the Late Music Concert Series. For more information about the day’s programme please visit www.latemusic.org
£15 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

VIP Festival Launch: York Stories

Thursday 10th March | 7.00pm - 9.00pm
Bedern Hall, Bartle Garth, York YO1 7AL
Over the years, novelists including Wilkie Collins and Kate Atkinson have set all or part of their books in York. At this special launch event for the 2016 festival, three very different novelists discuss how York has impacted on their writing. How has the city shaped their stories? What are its attractions to novelists? Linda Grant (Upstairs at the Party), Pamela Hartshone (Time’s Echo) and crime writer Leigh Russell (Murder Ring) will be in conversation with fellow novelist N E David. Ticket price includes a glass of wine and canapes. Tickets for this VIP event are strictly limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.
£10 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

Writing and the Natural World: Kathleen Jamie and William Atkins

Friday 11th March | 7.00pm - 9.00pm
Temple Hall, York St John University, Lord Mayor’s Walk, York YO31 7EX
Join us for a reading and discussion with some of the most exciting contemporary writers focusing on the natural world. Kathleen Jamie is an award-winning poet and non-fiction writer whose works include Sightlines: A Conversation with the Natural World (2012), Findings (2005) and The Treehouse (2004). Jamie’s writing combines ‘unparalleled beauty, sharpness of observation, wit, delicacy, strength of vision and rare exactness of language’ (The Daily Telegraph). William Atkins’ first book, The Moor (2014), is a travel narrative and cultural history about the English moors. He is currently working on an account of desert journeys due to be published in 2018.
FREE - book online at http://ysj-ylf16.eventbrite.co.uk

Say Owt presents: International Women’s Week Word Riot

Friday 11th March | 7.30pm - 10.30pm
City Screen Basement Bar, Coney Street, York YO1 9QL
To celebrate International Women’s Week of events, Say Owt Slam is forgoing its usual format to bring you a collection of inspirational performers including headliner Sophia Walker, Adele Hampton, Marina Poppa, Rose Drew and Lily Luty.
Sophia Walker’s Cult Fiction
Winner Best Cast for a Spoken Word Show 2015. From Apple to the food industry, they’ve got us by the hormones. How do you avoid joining the largest cult of the 21st century? You can’t. We’re all already members. Now learn how to leave it.
Open mic
Sign-ups on the door! You (yes, you!) are invited to come and perform your poetry or tell your stories! Open to people of any (or no) gender! Please keep to 3-4 minutes and be aware of the evening’s theme.
Comperes: Henry Raby and Stu Freestone
This event is to celebrate feminism, and is entirely intersectional. Transphobia and trans-misogyny will not be tolerated.
Hosted by Henry Raby and Stu Freestone
www.henryraby.com www.facebook.com/henryrabypoetry @HenryRabyPoetry
£7 from City Screen York Box Office: 0871 902 5726
Michael Portillo is best known for his role in politics. He worked for the Conservative Party between 1976 and 1982, and entered the House of Commons in 1984. After losing his seat in 1997, he became a prominent figure in the media, before returning to the Commons between 2000 and 2005. Having now officially left politics, Michael has turned his hand to writing and broadcasting. He regularly appears on BBC 1’s This Week and Radio 4’s The Moral Maze. He has made documentaries for BBC2 including Great British Railway Journeys and Michael Becomes a Single Mum. This unique event at the National Railway Museum will see Michael talk about his remarkable career and his passion for rail travel. At the end of the evening, the audience will have the opportunity to ask Michael any questions about his life and career. Join him for the evening and discover how this very high profile political figure went on to endear himself to the general public.

Friday 11th March | 7.30pm - 9.00pm
Friargate Theatre, Lower Friargate, York YO1 9SL
York’s regular improvisation night returns to York Literature Festival with its usual mix of ridiculous games and comedic chaos. Whipped into shape by your host Paul Birch, come and enjoy an evening of improv games, off-the-cuff silliness and some seriously good laughs. There’s no script, no safety net, and lots of drama. Come along with your suggestions (literary or otherwise) and our improvisers will create comic scenes before your eyes. Now contains 70% of your recommended daily allowance of words.

£5 from Friargate Theatre: 01904 613000 or www.ridinglights.org/rhwn

York Novelists Workshop: From Ideas To Publication
Saturday 12th March | 10.30am - 12.00noon
Bennett’s Café and Bistro, 30 -32 High Petergate, York YO1 7EH
York Novelists make their York Literature Festival debut with a presentation on methods they’ve developed as a writing critique group, followed by readings and Q&A. We will show how to set up similar groups and transform novel ideas into the printed word. Find out more about the group at yorknovelists.wordpress.com

FREE - just turn up.

Saturday 12th March | 10.00am - 10.00pm
Temple Hall, York St John University, Lord Mayor’s Walk, York YO31 7EX
A day of comics, video and board games, graphic novels and other sequential art, including talks, workshops, and stalls throughout the day with Travelling Man, Little Apple Bookshop and other local writers and artists. All events are free for booking individually – sign up for as many as you like and come for the day! Cosplay not essential but encouraged.

11.00am - 12.00pm Zine Workshop
Hand-made, small-circulation ‘zines’ have a longer history than most people realise, from 18th-century political pamphlets to early 20th-century pulp sci-fi, before zine culture exploded in the 1990s. Join us for a one-hour workshop with writer, artist, and creator CJ (in collaboration with Travelling Man) introducing the fine art of zine-making for all ages. Examples, tools, and collage materials will be provided. Bring your own creativity.

12.00am-2.00pm Poetry & Comics Workshop
Chrissy Williams, co-editor of Over the Line: An Introduction to Poetry Comics (2015) and online curator of Poetry & Comics, will lead this distinctive workshop, introducing new and exciting possibilities for combining poetry and comics. Examples and materials will be provided. No art skills required, but come ready to cut, paste, doodle and scribble!

2.00pm - 4.00pm Video Games & Story Roundtable
The evolution of video and computer game technology has been matched by the development of more complex and intricate use of narrative in games. Games designer and novelist, Gabrielle Kent; games designer and theatre maker, Hannah Nicklin; and others from the industry and the Games Design programme at York St John will lead an open discussion on the role of story in gaming.

4.00pm - 6.00pm Keynote Event: Bryan & Mary Talbot
Illustrator and writer Bryan Talbot, and writer and academic Mary Talbot, have been described by Bleeding Cool as ‘true powerhouses of the British graphic novel scene.’ Among many other prizes and plaudits, their collaboration, Dotter of Her Father’s Eyes, won the Costa Award for Biography in 2012. In this feature event, Bryan will discuss his Hugo-nominated Grandville series and the anthropomorphic tradition; and Mary will discuss the much-anticipated Red Virgin and the Vision of Utopia, due out May 2016.

7.00pm-9.00pm Fan Fic Open Mic
As the culmination of a very special day, performance poet, zine artist, and all-round entertainer Henry Raby will host this very special open mic event. Whether your taste in fan-fiction is gen-fic or dark-fic, AU or Mary Sue, bring your best drabble or little epics along to this unique night of canon-busting new work.

FREE - book online at http://ysj-ylf16.eventbrite.co.uk

York St John Con

Right Here, Write Now
Friday 11th March | 8.00pm - 9.30pm
National Railway Museum, Leeman Road, York YO26 4XJ
Michael Portillo is best known for his role in politics. He worked for the Conservative Party between 1976 and 1982, and entered the House of Commons in 1984. After losing his seat in 1997, he became a prominent figure in the media, before returning to the Commons between 2000 and 2005. Having now officially left politics, Michael has turned his hand to writing and broadcasting. He regularly appears on BBC 1’s This Week and Radio 4’s The Moral Maze. He has made documentaries for BBC2 including Great British Railway Journeys and Michael Becomes a Single Mum. This unique event at the National Railway Museum will see Michael talk about his remarkable career and his passion for rail travel. At the end of the evening, the audience will have the opportunity to ask Michael any questions about his life and career. Join him for the evening and discover how this very high profile political figure went on to endear himself to the general public.

Michael Portillo

Sunday 13th March | 10.30am - 4.00pm
York St John Con, Temple Hall, York St John University, Lord Mayor’s Walk, York YO31 7EX
A day of comics, video and board games, graphic novels and other sequential art, including talks, workshops, and stalls throughout the day with Travelling Man, Little Apple Bookshop and other local writers and artists. All events are free for booking individually – sign up for as many as you like and come for the day! Cosplay not essential but encouraged.

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FREE - book online at http://ysj-ylf16.eventbrite.co.uk

York St John Con
**Hoglets - for children aged 2 to 5**

Saturday 12th March | 10.00am - 10.50am  
Friargate Theatre, Lower Friargate, York YO1 9SL  
Join Hoglets on an exciting voyage across the seven seas. Our adventure starts with a performance by Mama Hoglet of the classic tale *The Night Pirates* followed by a pirate training course. With just the use of their imaginations, your little folks will be transformed into salty sea dogs, who can climb the rigging, fire the cannon and battle sea monsters. Songs, games, crafts and drama fun make this a truly interactive story experience, and great for children aged 2 to 5. Parents or carers must be present at all times.  
Running time approximately 50 minutes. Find out more at www.hoglets.org.uk  
£4.50 children [accompanying adults free] from Friargate Theatre 01904 613000 or from www.ridinglights.org/hoglets

**How NOT to submit your manuscript**

Saturday 12th March | 12.00noon - 2.00pm  
Friargate Theatre, Lower Friargate, York YO1 9SL  
Written a book but not sure how to get it published? Literary agents receive hundreds of submissions from writers each week. To help make your submission stand out from the crowd and give your novel the best possible start on its journey to publication, join us at the York Literature Festival where we present a two-hour session solely dedicated to the process of submitting to a literary agent. This exciting event sees Writers and Artists in collaboration with York Literature Festival for the second year, and brings together leading UK literary agents Sam Copeland, Sallyanne Sweeney and Jo Unwin who, in turn, will cover everything you need to know about how to put together a well-crafted submission package. Whether writing literary fiction, a children’s adventure story or you’re working on a non-fiction project, you’ll leave with the knowledge you need to give your manuscript the best chance of success; from tips on what agents are looking for through to advice on the covering letter, writing an attention-grabbing synopsis and the common mistakes you should avoid when submitting.  
With a Q&A session to conclude the event, this is an exciting opportunity to hear literary agents in discussion on the sorts of topics you need to perfectly pitch your work.  
£25 from writersandartists.co.uk/events to reserve your place

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**Wendy Cope**

Saturday 12th March | 3.00pm - 4.30pm  
Grand Opera House, Cumberland Street, York YO1 9SW  
Wendy Cope is acclaimed for her wry, perceptive love poems and parodies. With her bittersweet, humorous verse, she has proved that poetry of uncompromising quality can be popular. Since her highly acclaimed poetry collection *Making Cocoa For Kingsley Amis* in 1986, Wendy Cope has been at the forefront of the British poetry scene. Expect ruminations on love, loss, women Bishops and Radio 4’s *The Archers*. Her archive was purchased by the British Library in 2011. This is Wendy’s debut at York Literature Festival and we are very pleased to welcome one of the UK’s most enduringly popular poets.  
£11.90 plus £4.00 booking fee. Pay in cash at Grand Opera House to avoid additional fees

**Bedtime story**

Saturday 12th March | 4.00 pm - 4.45pm  
Friargate Theatre, Lower Friargate, York YO1 9SL  
Mini Custard children’s theatre tells the tale of Peter and his little dog Alaska. Find out how their cantankerous travel machine took them back in time to solve a very big problem and change the world forever. Interactive storytelling for 3-6 year olds. Bring your favourite soft toy to enjoy the story together. Running time approximately 45 minutes.  
£4.50 children [accompanying adults free] from Friargate Theatre 01904 613000 or from www.ridinglights.org/bedtime

**Arthur Smith plus Support: Mike Barfield**

Saturday 12th March | 7.30pm - 10.00pm  
Grand Opera House, Cumberland Street, York YO1 9SW  
Wit, raconteur, playwright, grumpy old man and Leonard Cohen fan – Arthur Smith is one of a kind. Before becoming a popular performer, Arthur worked as a road sweeper, dustman, market researcher, teacher and advertised chicken burgers in supermarkets dressed as a fox. On TV, he’s been a regular critic of modern life on *Grumpy Old Men* and *The Bed Show*. His plays include the award-winning *Excess Baggage* and Radio 2’s *The Smith Lectures* and is a regular guest on *Loose Ends*. He describes himself as BBC Radio 4’s “bit of rough”. This is Arthur’s debut performance at York Literature Festival and we’re delighted to welcome him to the festival. Support comes from writer, Private Eye cartoonist and performer Mike Barfield.  
£19.90 plus £4.00 booking fee. Pay in cash at Grand Opera House to avoid additional fees
**Val McDermid in Conversation**

**Sunday 13th March | 7.00pm - 8.30pm**

St Peter’s School, Clifton, York YO30 6AB

Val McDermid is one of the biggest names in crime writing. Her novels have been translated into 30 languages, selling over 10 million copies worldwide. She has created many notable characters such as journalist Lindsay Gordon; the private investigator Kate Brannigan and psychologist, Tony Hill, who features in the successful *Wire In The Blood* TV Series. Among her many awards are the Porto Rico Prize for Fiction, the LA Times Book Prize, the Lambda Literary Pioneer Award and the Cartier Diamond Dagger. She has published 27 novels, short stories, non-fiction and a prize-winning children’s book. She is a regular broadcaster for BBC radio and lives in Edinburgh. Val will be in conversation with Festival Director Miles Salter. FREE refreshments and book signing afterwards.

£10 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

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**U A Fanthorpe: Berowne’s Book**

**Monday 14th March | 7.30pm - 9.15pm**

Quaker Meeting House, Friargate, York YO1 9RL

This event showcases U A Fanthorpe’s posthumous book of poetry and prose *Berowne’s Book* edited by her long-term partner R V Bailey and published by Enitharmon Press in 2015. U A Fanthorpe, who died in 2009, was a poet who commanded great respect in England. Her literary work was initially inspired by her time working in a mental hospital in 1974. *Berowne’s Book* captures this hospital life in its tragi-comic diversity, and occasionally shocks because so much is immediately familiar today.

Rosie has composed several poetry collections: including *Marking Time* published by Peterloo in 2004 and *Credentials* published by Oversteps in 2012. *From Me to You* published by Peterloo/ Enitharmon in 2007 was written with U A.

http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-peters-school-york-7300489187

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**Tanya Landman, Carnegie Medal Winner**

**Monday 14th March | 6.30pm - 7.30pm**

St Peter’s School, Clifton, York YO30 6AB

What kind of girl steals the clothes from a dead man’s back and runs off to join the army? A desperate one. Tanya Landman tells her story in *Buffalo Soldier*, for which she is the current winner of the CILIP Carnegie Medal. Young people of 14+ would be very welcome at this event & schools are encouraged to bring groups of pupils.

FREE from St Peter’s School - book online http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-peters-school-york-7300489187
Margaret Drabble is one of the UK’s most respected novelists. She was educated at The Mount School in York and attended Cambridge University before joining the RSC. She went on to write eighteen novels, including A Summer Bird Cage, The Millstone, The Pure Gold Baby and many more. She was made a CBE in 1980. Dame Margaret will be in conversation with Mrs Jo Lawrence, Head of English at St Peter’s. FREE refreshments and book signing afterwards. This event is in association with Writing Magazine.

£7 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

SCI-FI WORKSHOP WITH ADAM ROBERTS
Wednesday 16th March | 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Fountains Lecture Theatre, York St John University, Lord Mayor’s Walk, York YO31 7EX
Join renowned science fiction author Adam Roberts for an exclusive workshop about writing science fiction. Discover the secrets of the genre from one of its most popular contemporary figures. Adam Roberts is the author of a growing number of science fiction novels, short stories, essays and other works. His previous novels include Salt (2000), Yellow Blue Tibia (2009), New Model Army (2010) and Jack Glass (2012).

FREE - book online at ysj-ylf16.eventbrite.co.uk

WHY SCI-FI CONQUERED THE WORLD (AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STOP IT!)
Wednesday 16th March | 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Shell 037, York St John University, Lord Mayor’s Walk, York YO31 7EX
Science fiction writer and critic Adam Roberts will discuss the impact of science fiction, asking ‘Why SF conquered the World (And What You Can do to Stop It?)’ Roberts will also read from his latest novel The Thing Itself (2015).

Adam Roberts is the author of a growing number of science fiction novels, short stories, essays and other work. His previous novels include Salt (2000), Yellow Blue Tibia (2009), New Model Army (2010) and Jack Glass (2012). He has been nominated three times for the Arthur C. Clarke Award, and won both the BSFA Award for Best Novel and John W. Campbell Memorial Award in 2012. Roberts is Professor of Nineteenth Century Literature at Royal Holloway.

FREE - book online at http://ysj-ylf16.eventbrite.co.uk

PROFESSOR STEVE JONES - WHY GENETICS MATTERS
Wednesday 16th March | 7.00pm - 8.30pm
St Peter’s School, Clifton, York YO30 6AB
Professor Steve Jones is one of the UK’s most respected scientists and Emeritus Professor of Genetics at University College, London. He is also a prolific, prize-winning author and television presenter who has written on biology and evolution, making the subject widely popular in the process. His many broadcasts on radio and television, lectures and popular science books have made him one of our most recognised commentators on science. Part of the St Peter’s Science lecture series with FREE refreshments and book signing afterwards.

FREE from St Peter’s School - book online
http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-peters-school-york-7300489187
Dave and Miles’ Rumbustuous Book Quiz!
Wednesday 16th March | 8.00pm - 10.00pm
City Screen Basement Bar, Coney Street, York YO1 9QL
There will be questions on a range of topics from the worlds of literature, poetry, and more. The winning team will walk away with £80 worth of book tokens. Knowledgable teams (maximum 4 people) are welcome, but keep those smartphones switched off! Compered by Dave Nicholson (York Mix) and Festival Director Miles Salter.

£3 from City Screen Box Office

Writing The Sonnet with Lizzi Linklater
Thursday 17th March | 10.00am - 12.00noon
Room KG33, King’s Manor, Exhibition Square, York YO1 7EP
What do William Shakespeare, John Donne, Oscar Wilde, Percy Shelley, Carol Ann Duffy and Don Paterson have in common? They’ve all worked in the sonnet form. The classic 14-line structure provides a discipline for writers that can be both liberating and frustrating. This workshop led by Lizzi Linklater, Creative Writing Associate Lecturer at the University of York’s Centre for Lifelong Learning, will help you to explore, dissect and produce a sonnet. Book early, these places will go fast.

£8 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

The Friargate Anthology - Launch Event
Thursday 17th March | 4.00pm - 6.00pm
Quaker Meeting House, Friargate, York YO1 9RL
York has one of the largest Quaker communities in the country and the city’s vibrant creative life is reflected in this wide-ranging anthology of prose, poetry, and illustration from York Quakers and their supporters. Contributors include best-selling crime writer Helen Cadbury (To Catch a Rabbit, Bones in the Nest), poet John Gilham (Learning to Breathe) and composer Andrew Carter. This event launches the anthology with readings from contributors and a Q&A on the experience of being published. Copies of the anthology will be on sale. In association with York Quakers, funds will go to the Quaker Meeting House Building Fund.

£5 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

John O’Farrell: There’s Only Two David Beckhams - A Football Fantasy
Thursday 17th March | 7.00pm - 8.30pm
St Peter’s School, Clifton, York YO30 6AB
Ever wasted hours debating your ‘All Time England XI’? Well now it’s 2022 and the discussion is finally over, England has eleven players as good as any of them. The unbeatable national team have reached the final of the Qatar World Cup. But one journalist is convinced there is a scandalous secret behind England’s incredible form. His lifetime’s dream is to see the Three Lions win the World Cup. But if he pursues and exposes the shocking truth, his beloved England could be sent home in disgrace. FREE refreshments and book signing afterwards.

£7 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

Student Showcase
Thursday 17th March | 7.00pm - 9.00pm
Quad South Hall, York St John University, Lord Mayor’s Walk YO31 7EX
This event will feature exciting new fiction, poetry, and other work from the students on York St John University’s BA and MA programmes in Creative Writing. This year’s showcase will also feature the results of collaboration with film and media production students, as well as a special guest host. Join us for this celebratory evening – a fun show run by the students themselves, and a fantastic chance to catch some very talented writers on the rise. You’ll be able to say you saw them first!

FREE - book online at ysj-ylf16.eventbrite.co.uk

Uncut Cords: Changing Families, Changing Carers
Friday 18th March | 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Quaker Meeting House, Friargate, York YO1 9RL
Uncut Cords is a candid and passionate new book written by seven York-based mothers of children with learning disabilities. Each chapter is themed and composed of short, self-contained stories. The book includes moments of frustration and disappointment alongside the patience and joy that are part of the carer’s life. Supporting the authors as their keynote speaker is Dame Philippa Russell, former Chair of the Government’s Standing Commission on Carers and a member of the Cross Government Programme Board for the Carers Strategy. Her son suffers from a learning disability and her grandson is on the autistic spectrum. Dame Philippa will describe her aspirations for a more caring society.

£3 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk
Poetry and Migration

Friday 18th March | 7.00pm - 8.30pm
Temple Hall, York St John University, Lord Mayor's Walk, York YO31 7EX
With migration laws, the refugee crisis, and the UK's place in the EU becoming more pressing concerns by the day, this will be a chance to reflect upon and celebrate the contribution ‘non-native’ poets have made in this country. Hungarian-born poet and translator, Ágnes Lehóczky; Nigerian-born poet, performer, and playwright, Inua Ellams; and Irish-born poet and critic John McAuliffe will read from their work and take part in an open discussion on the relationship between migration and contemporary poetry, and the status of the ‘migrant poet’.

FREE - book online at ysj-ylf16.eventbrite.co.uk

Vince Cable: After the Storm

Friday 18th March | 7.00pm - 8.30pm
St Peter's School, Clifton, York YO30 6AB
Sir Vince Cable, who was at the heart of the Coalition Government, will provide a fascinating insight into the state of the UK's politics and economics. In his new book, After the Storm, he provides a previously unreported, inside view of the coalition, and offers a carefully considered perspective on how the British economy should be managed in the future. Vince Cable grew up in York. His mother packed chocolates for Terry's and he attended Nunthorpe Grammar School (now Millthorpe School). He went on to a successful business career later becoming MP for Twickenham from 1997 and Secretary of State for Business throughout the Coalition Government. Sir Vince will be in conversation with Ben Fuller, Head of Politics at St Peter's. FREE refreshments and book signing afterwards.

£7 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

Peninne Poets 50th Birthday Party

Saturday 19th March | 1.00pm - 3.00pm
Black Swan, 23 Peasholme Green, York YO1 7PR
One of the longest lived literary groups in the country, the Pennine Poets, marks its fiftieth anniversary with the launch of an anthology of fifty poems by current members. Edited by Pauline Kirk and Nicholas Bielby, Fifty:Fifty includes well-known Yorkshire poets including Robert Powell, Julia Deakin and Andrew Boobier, plus exciting new writers. Help us celebrate with a relaxing lunchtime reading (food and bar available). With a wide range of styles and themes, there will be something for everyone.

£3 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

York Literature Festival / York Mix Poetry Competition Results

Saturday 19th March | 3.30pm - 5.30pm
Black Swan, 23 Peasholme Green, York YO1 7PR
Come along and hear the results of the Poetry Competition, introduced by judge and York-based poet, Carole Bromley. Carole will read a selection of her own poetry, including pieces from her new collection, The Stonegate Devil. Free buffet and the bar will be open.

FREE - no need to book.

No More Champagne: Politicians and Their Money

Saturday 19th March | 7.00pm - 8.30pm
St Peter's School, Clifton, York YO30 6AB
David Lough and Francis Beckett discuss the fortunes of three very different politicians: Winston Churchill, Tony Blair and Clement Attlee. How did these men profit from their role as statesmen, and what were the results? Is it unrealistic to expect politicians not to take advantage of their public personas? David Lough is the author of No More Champagne: Churchill and His Money. Francis Beckett is the the co-author of Blair, Inc and author of a biography of Clement Attlee. FREE refreshments and book signing afterwards.

£7 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

Austen Society Lecture: 'Jane Austen's 'Emma' in Context' with Dr Jane Darcy, University College London

Saturday 19th March | 2.00pm - 3.00pm
Quaker Meeting House, Friargate, York Y01 9RL
In Emma, Jane Austen responds to the end of the Napoleonic wars by comically subverting the idea of danger. Emma's world is a world full of miniature dangers, a world in which Mr Woodhouse needs his physician's advice before eating wedding cake. But beneath the comedy, we are made aware of intensifying rural hardship, as the rising cost of staple food in post-war England begins to threaten day-to-day life. Under the comedy is a deepening sense of melancholy. Jane Darcy is a writer and academic. She teaches in the English department at University College London, where she holds an honorary lectureship. She has written on melancholy in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and is now working on a book on the Isle of Wight as a cultural phenomenon. Based predominantly in Yorkshire, the Northern Branch of the Jane Austen Society, established in 1999, offers it's members a range of events (5 per year) and 3 magazines, on the life, times and works of Jane Austen. This is the first time the Society has collaborated with York Literature Festival.

£8 (includes refreshments) from York Theatre Royal 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk
Family Day
Sunday 20th March | 11.00am - 4.00pm
York Explore Library and Archives, Museum Street, York YO1 7DS
Family day at York Explore: a special series of events for children, and their Dads. Tickets £3.00 per event from York Explore. To celebrate the wealth and breadth of talent York has to offer we have author events with four fantastic contributors.

11.00am - 11.45am Ros Beardshaw
Ros lives in York and is the illustrator behind many books for children, including *Just Right For Two*. Ros will talk about her pictures and provide some drawing exercises for children to try.

12.15pm – 1.00pm Sam Zuppardi
Sam lives in York and is an illustrator who works mostly in acrylic, watercolour, pencil and ink, and collage. Sam likes to create pictures that look homemade and stories that focus on things that preoccupy us when we’re little. Sam’s books for children include *Nobody’s Perfect*.

1.30pm – 2.30pm Craig Bradley
Craig Bradley (aka ‘That Poetry Bloke’) has entertained and inspired thousands of children in the last 8 years as he has travelled all over the north of England with his anarchic, hilarious, high-energy poetry routine. Don’t miss Craig’s debut at York Literature Festival!

3.00pm - 4.00pm Kjartan Poskitt
Kjartan Poskitt is a children’s author based in York. His books include the very popular *Agatha Parrot* series. Kjartan will finish the day with a fantastic, fun-filled performance.

Throughout the day there will be a bookstall run by the Little Apple Bookshop, activities all over the library including Minecraft, Lego and crafts. The library cafe will be open for drinks and snacks throughout the day.

£2 per each from York Explore 01904 552828 or call into the library to collect

Literary Walk
Monday 20th March | 10.30am - 12 noon
Museum Garden Gates, York YO1 7DR
A guided walk around York’s sites of literary merit. Discover the city that was Robinson Crusoe’s home. W H Auden was born here, and the city has inspired writers as diverse as Wilkie Collins, Susanna Clarke and Kate Atkinson. A perennial festival favourite: we run this tour every year and it is always popular. In association with Yorkwalk. This tour also takes place on 14th March. In Memory of Warwick Burton, Yorkwalk Manager, who passed away in December 2015.

£6 adults, £5 for York Card and students. Just turn up and pay the guide

Carol Ann Duffy and John Sampson
Sunday 20th March | 7.00pm - 8.00pm
St Peter’s School, Clifton, York YO30 6AB
Carol Ann Duffy’s incisive poetry has the ability to stimulate, enthral, move and entertain. Her talent for voices has made her a ventriloquist for the modern age. Her collections include *Mean Time*, *The World’s Wife*, *Rapture* and *The Bees*. She became poet laureate in 2009 and is one of our most celebrated and accessible writers. It’s great to welcome her back to the festival for her third appearance. Carol Ann will be performing with the acclaimed musician, John Sampson. This event is in association with Writing Magazine.

£10 from York Theatre Royal: 01904 623568 or www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

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www.writers-online.co.uk
**Festival Wrap Party - Yorkshire Poetry Special (plus buffet!)**

**Wednesday 23rd March | 8.00pm - 10.30pm**

Black Swan, 23 Peasholme Green, York Y01 7PR

Join the festival team for a drink and a chat as celebrate the end of the 2016 festival with a fantastic line-up of spoken word talent. Compered by poet and comedian Kate Fox (who opened for Dr David Starkey in 2015), also this Poetry Special features poets from across the Yorkshire region.

**Kate Fox**
Kate is a comedian, poet, raconteur and student of all things 'Northern'. Her collaborations include working with Union Jill and she is well known for her hilarious performances, including one of the poets in residence for BBC Radio 4's *Saturday Live*.

**Ben Wilkinson**
Ben writes poetry reviews for *The Guardian* and *Times Literary Supplement*. He is completing doctoral research in contemporary poetry at Sheffield Hallam University and his collection *For Real* won the 2014 Poetry Business Competition.

**Peter Knaggs**
Peter lives in Hull, where he edits the poetry journal *The Slab*. Peter's collections include *Cowboy Hat* and *You're So Vain, You Probably Think This Book Is About You*.

**Jim Higo**
Jim lives in Hull, where he runs the *Away With Words* spoken word night. Jim has also appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe and is well known for his acerbic performance poetry.

**Steve Nash**
Steve won the 2014 Saboteur Spoken Word Award for best performer. His 2013 collection *Taking The Long Way Home* was published by Stairwell Books.

**Helen Mort**
Helen has been described as 'the new star of British poetry' by the Daily Telegraph. Her debut collection *Division Street* was shortlisted for the Costa Award and the T S Eliot Prize.

£4 pay on the door.

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**Feminism Now: Women in Contemporary Media**

**Monday 21st March | 7.00pm - 8.30pm**

Quad South Hall, York St John University, Lord Mayor’s Walk
York YO1 7EX

Amid the latest high-profile debates and incidents of online abuse and harassment, this roundtable event will focus on representations (and misrepresentations) of women in contemporary media.

Professor Karen Ross (Gender, Politics, Media: A Game of Three Sides), writer and activist Sophie Mayer (Political Animals: The New Feminist Cinema), and York-based novelist Fiona Shaw (Tell It to the Bees, A Stone’s Throw) will be joined by York St John’s Feminist Society and the Head of Media Production Jenny Kean, for an open discussion on the role of old and new media in women’s lives today.

Book free tickets online at ysj-ylf16.eventbrite.co.uk

**Austen’s Women**

**Tuesday 22nd March / Wednesday 23rd March | 7.30pm - 8.45pm (No interval)**

National Centre For Early Music, St Margaret’s Church, Walmgate, York YO1 9TL

When *Austen’s Women* came to York Literature Festival in 2014, it was an instant sell-out. Now there’s another chance to see this great show, where thirteen of Jane Austen’s heroines come to life in a bold revisiting of some of literature’s most celebrated works. Rebecca Vaughan becomes Emma Woodhouse, Lizzy Bennet, Mrs Norris, Miss Bates and nine other beautifully observed women in critical moments from Austen’s major novels, including *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility* and *Emma*. Prepare to fall in love all over again. In association with Dyad Productions. The show is on 22nd March and 23rd March.

£12 from National Centre for Early Music Box Office: 01904 658338 or www.ncem.co.uk

★★★★★

‘Truly extraordinary’ British Theatre Guide

★★★★

‘A theatrical masterpiece’ Three Weeks

★★★★★★

‘Nothing short of breathtaking’ one4review
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Thanks

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